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Los Altos Town Crier

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

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WEDNESDAY • May 28, 2025

Tearing up the downtown



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Downtown pedestrians and vehicles continued to dodge construction work last week in downtown Los Altos. Get used to it: The work, done in two phases, is expected to take five months. California Water Service (Cal Water) began a water infrastructure upgrade earlier this month to improve water supply reliability and fire protection in the area. The upgrade includes replacing more than 7,060 feet of aging water main, along with replacing and installing additional fire hydrants and valves. While some parking spaces may be temporarily lost due to the construction, Cal Water officials assure that all businesses will remain accessible.

Los Altos Hills council finalizes map outlining fire risk severity areas

By Curtis Driscoll
Staff Writer/curtisid@latc.com

Los Altos Hills has adopted a new fire hazard severity map aimed at long-term wildfire mitigation efforts, although more properties will now be in higher-risk zones.

At its May 15 meeting, the council looked at two map scenarios that will recategorize properties into fire risk classification zones of no risk, moderate, high and very high. The council picked option two, which differs from option one in that it adds approximately 50 more properties to high and very high risk designations than option one, which was the minimum requirement from Cal Fire to adopt.

Being in high or very high-risk designations will lead to stricter building code require-

ments, mandatory defensible space requirements and real estate disclosure obligations. City staff said that if a wildfire damaged a structure, the new structure would have to meet new building standards when the application is filed.

The town added severity zone designations to option two for one-way or dead-end streets, properties with access and egress routes that traverse higher-risk fire zones and parcels within 1,000 feet of open space or unmanaged grassland outside the town's jurisdiction. Of the 50 properties in option two, 17 will go from moderate to high and 30 will go from moderate or high to very high, according to city staff. The affected properties for option two are on Buena Vista Drive,

See FIRE, Page 5

Main library getting makeover

A new roof, right, an interior remodel and a courtyard addition are all in the works for the Los Altos main library. See story on Page 4.

SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



Online Poll of the Week



Here are the results of the latest poll.

Which areas of Los Altos need cleaning up?

- The downtown – 9.6% (7 votes)
- Loyola Corners – 41.1% (30)
- Medians along Foothill, San Antonio – 20.5% (15)
- Civic Center – 2.7% (2)
- All of them – 17.8% (13)
- Other – 8.2% (6)

Watch for more polls at losaltosonline.com.

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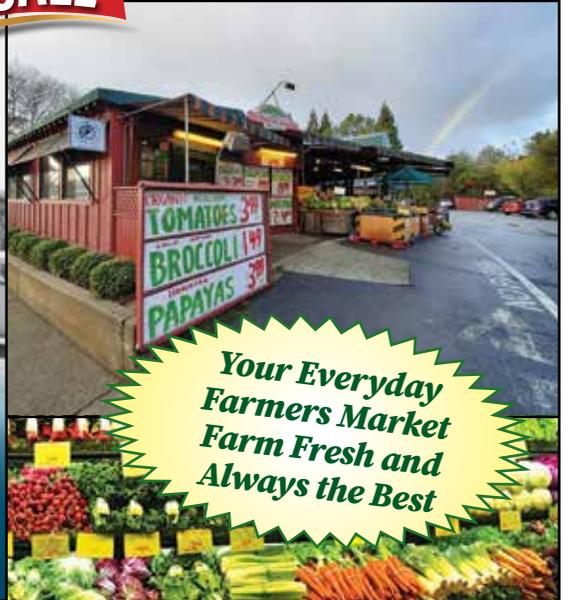
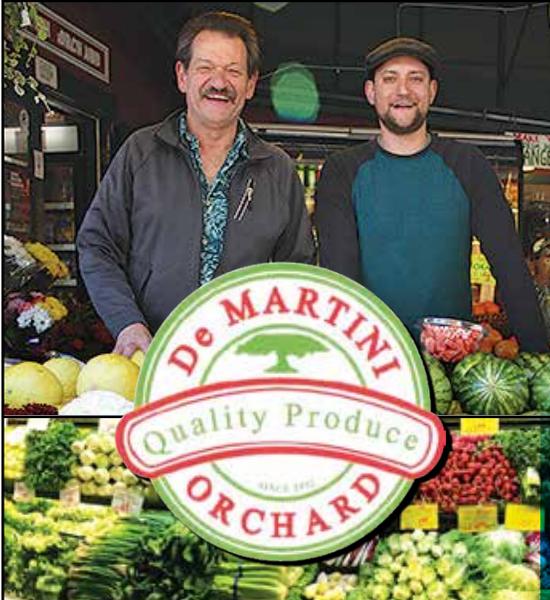
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News

Mtn. View leaders optimistic about city

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Although the economic outlook of the country may seem unstable, Mountain View city leaders assured community members May 21 that the city is going strong and its future is bright as they're "building the Mountain View of tomorrow."

Leaders made that assessment during Mountain View's first State of the City. The free event was a deviation



McCarthy

from the paid annual update, held in past years in conjunction with the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce.

The change, City Manager Kimbra McCarthy said during last week's address, was to make the annual city update more accessible. The event, at the Mountain View Community Center, was live streamed from the city's YouTube channel.

McCarthy provided insight into the city's budget and financial goals.

Currently, the city is at the end of fiscal year 2024-2025, which ends the last day of June. According to the city, the fiscal year 2024-2025 expenditures are \$547.1 million, and revenue is \$453.5 million, 58% of which is from the city's general operating fund and enterprise funds.

McCarthy said the budget is structurally balanced and stable, meaning what the city is spending is aligned with its revenues. The city also recently received the highest credit rating, which may help with future bonds.

"This past week, the city's

See CITY, Page 7



FROM LAST WEEK'S PRESENTATION BEFORE THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

Design concept 1, shown in these preliminary illustrations, emphasizes clear dividing walls and meeting rooms.

Library undergoing modernization metamorphosis

Town Crier Staff Report

Whether on the roof, outside or indoors, facility improvements are happening all over the Los Altos main library.

While the library awaits construction this summer of a new courtyard on its north side, a public feedback process is underway for a redesign of the interior.

The city of Los Altos has hired Anderson Brule Architects (ABA) of San Jose to conduct a "community engagement and design process," according to Anthony Carnesecca, assistant to the city manager.

As part of this process, ABA conducted initial feedback workshops in March in

order to gain an understanding of project background, goals and timeline; and priorities for the redesign.

Based on feedback from library staff and residents, along with the previous assessments, the architect is currently offering two conceptual design options. Once consultants have conducted this round of design feedback, the architect will finalize two design concepts that will move forward for review.

The Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Library Commission reviewed options at its May 22 meeting, followed by a May 24 open house event. A second open house is set for 3-5 p.m. today (May 28) in the library, 13 S.

San Antonio Road.

ABA consultants said feedback has been good among staff and the Friends of the Library of Los Altos, but the senior population has been "overrepresented." Consultants added that some young families with children have also participated.

Among the early findings:

- Staff is more wary of change and have a more traditional opinion of how a library should function. The public is looking for modernization.

- Opinions are mixed about the value of after-hours access with confusion between

See LIBRARY, Page 6

PG&E cautions its customers: Beware of scammers

Con artists using all means to go after potential victims

By Kaavya Mehrotra
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Scams targeting PG&E customers are on the rise in Los Altos and beyond, according to company officials. Through emails, texts, phone calls and even in-person interactions, these scammers are trying to separate PG&E customers from their money.

"What scammers are really trying to do is catch anyone at a moment when they might be a little bit distracted or stressed," said Jason King, PG&E marketing and communications representative. "... they prey on that and create a false sense of urgency to try to accurately secure funds from the victim."

According to the PG&E scams webpage, frequent scams include being asked to pay in unconventional ways such as with prepaid debit cards, gift cards and third-party mobile payment applications.

While the scammers are

reaching out to potential victims in myriad ways, King said the most common method is phone calls. He added that scammers ask customers for login information that could give them access to their money. They often use scare tactics to get the caller to comply.

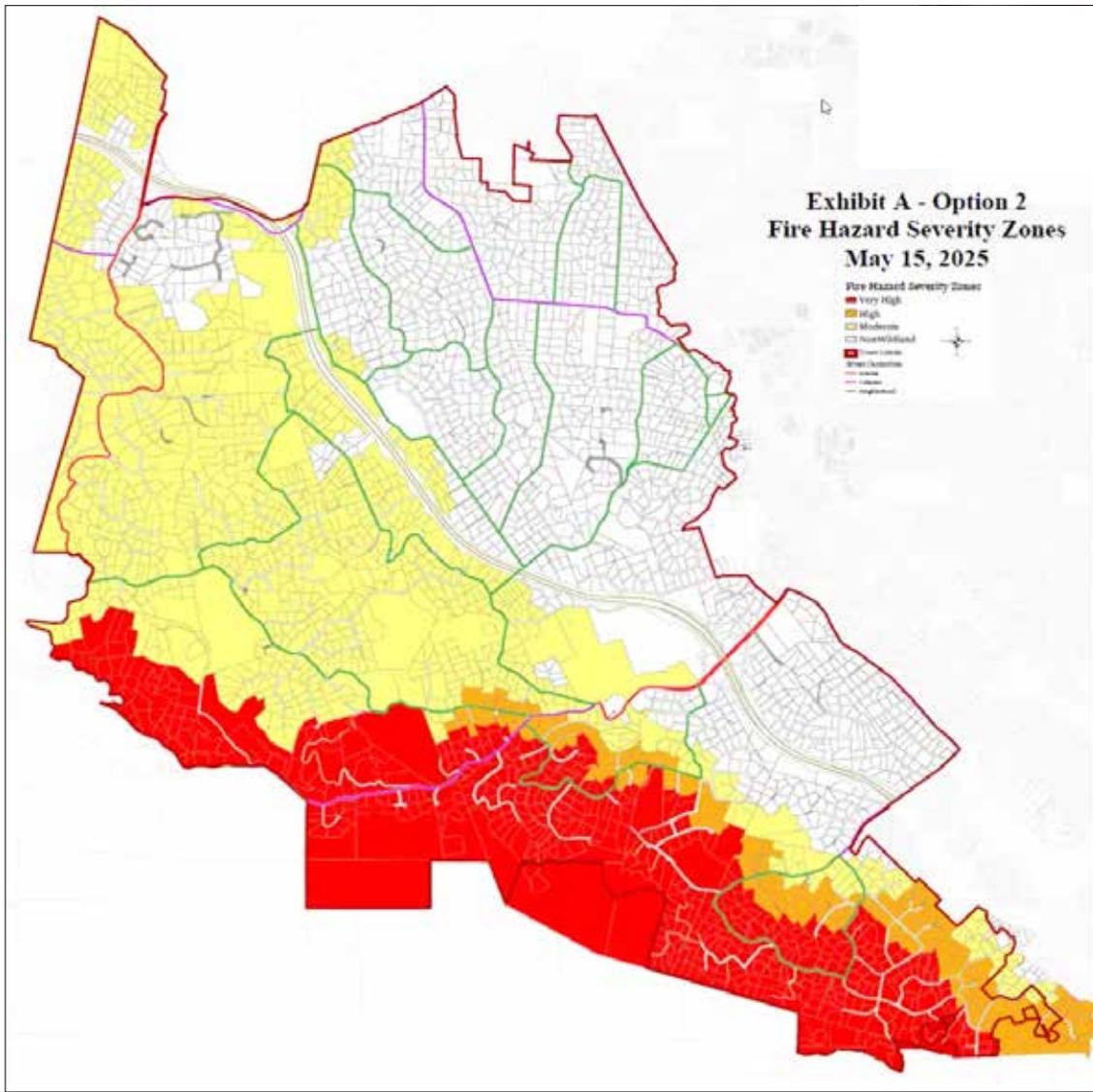
"If you ever receive a call where somebody's threatening immediate disconnection (of PG&E services) if you don't make immediate payment, and then they're asking for your personal financial information, just hang up," King said. "You can then log into (your PG&E)

account and confirm your account details and status."

According to King, PG&E is working with its investigative team and law enforcement to target scammers. To help with this effort, King urged residents to report scams.

While King did not have the number of recently reported scams, he noted that last year PG&E received 55 reports from Mountain View customers and 11 from Los Altos and Los Altos Hills residents.

To report scams and for more information, visit pge.com/scams.



SCREENSHOT FROM THE LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNCIL MEETING

Option two of the fire hazard severity map, the one picked by the Los Altos Hills City Council at its May 15 meeting.

FIRE

From Page 1

Moody Road and Court, Sherlock Road and Court, Blue Oaks Place, Tepa Way, Elise Court, Winton Way, Hillpark Lane, Arroyo Oaks and Mora Drive.

The map will help implement fire prevention strategies and inform land use planning, building codes and wildfire mitigation plans. The state in 2021 required Cal Fire to identify moderate and high fire hazard severity zones in local responsibility areas, where Cal Fire and local agencies share responsibility, like Los Altos Hills.

Some residents expressed concern that a higher hazard designation would impact property values, insurance rates and cost of compliance. Town staff noted that the Cal Fire hazard maps do not affect insurance rates or availability and instead are used for local planning decisions, with insurance companies using their risk models to determine policies. Councilmember Linda Swan said that

her conversations with insurance representatives found that the companies have even more granular maps than Cal Fire for determining insurance and are more stringent, looking at decisions parcel by parcel.

“If you have a limb overhanging (your property), they can cancel your insurance,” Swan said.

The council passed the motion 3-1, with Vice Mayor Rajiv Bhateja voting against the motion. Mayor Kavita Tankha recused herself because she lives near the affected properties. Bhateja voted against option two, noting it would impact property values. He argued the town could accomplish the same outcomes with a more local ordinance requiring people to clear properties and form defensible space.

Councilmember George Tyson said while he understood concerns about the impacts of a fire risk map on property values, the risk of a major fire was the overriding factor in trying to do as much as possible to best prepare for reducing risk.

“I am quite convinced I will

be moving towards option two,” Tyson said.

Several residents spoke about the maps and wanted option one, the minimum required by the state. Los Altos resident Walter Wilson lives on Buena Vista Drive and owns one of the 50 properties upgraded to a higher fire risk level on the map. He believes the new map did not factor in certain access routes available to residents on the road. He also noted he had to go out of state for home insurance and pays \$84,000 a year.

“What was missed having to do with Buena Vista Drive was there is an access off the middle of that road, so there’s actually three exits from my property and two for others,” he said. “So the standard that was applied, I believe, was incorrect.”

The town must adopt a map within 120 days of receiving a recommendation from the state, which sent it to the town in late February. Los Altos Hills has a deadline of June 24, 2025. The town has scheduled a secondary reading of the ordinance for June 18.



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Display

View artifacts and photographs from **Los Altos organizations and clubs** past and present, in a display in the Community Corner within the Museum’s Permanent Exhibition.



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Discover the richness and vibrancy of Native California cultures in the exhibit **The Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar**. On display through June 8, 2025.



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National Endowment for the Arts revokes TheatreWorks' federal grant

By **Brandon Roth**
Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

A late-night email from the National Endowment for the Arts sent TheatreWorks staff members into a frenzy on May 2.

The National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency

that supports and provides funds for the arts, art education and fellowships to individual actors, writers or musicians across the country, pulled out TheatreWorks' current Susan Fairbrook Core Writers Group grant for not following the current administration's stance on removing

diversity, equity or inclusion (DEI) commitments.

Giovanna Sardelli, the artistic director of TheatreWorks since July 2023, said many theaters across the country have received emails in the last few weeks from the Trump administration that said funding has been cut. Sardelli said it is not worth compromising their core values for money. She said that their application for the federal grant is different every year and the current one went toward supporting 14 local writers in various stages of their career.

"The money that was rescinded was promised a while ago," she said. "New applications basically had very complicated language that said, 'You agree to abide by all federal laws, not discriminate and adhere to all executive orders.' So as we were reading that, we went, 'Well, you can't actually do both so, so you literally cannot follow this executive order and also abide by federal law.' That's what makes it complicated."

She said the National Endowment for the Arts has a long history of supporting the arts and is one of the few federal programs in the United States that relieve art programs of their budget restraints. She said TheatreWorks is going to continue its mission and speak



TheatreWorks Founder Robert Kelley, Artistic Director Giovanna Sardelli and Interim Executive Director Phil Santora pose at TheatreWorks' "Gala 54: A Night of Disco Dreamin'" on Sunday, May 5 at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club.

with their supporters on how the company is a valuable resource in the community.

"There are some organizations that depend upon this grant for large portions of their programming, so they have lost the ability to serve their core missions," she said. "In some ways we are lucky we were not impacted. I think it is a way of silencing voices. Politicization is quite disgusting. The arts was just next, right after universities."

She said since the emails, they have been fundraising and working with donors to help the writing group. Since

the money was promised, TheatreWorks wants to honor their commitment. According to a May 8 TheatreWorks press release, they raised more than \$550,000 at their May 4 donor gala.

"We're going to continue to talk to our supporters about the work we're doing, why we're doing it and how we're doing it, so that they are aware of the kind of institution we are and the kind of support we're offering," she said. "I think that's important. And then we're going to try to be very creative about other funding sources."



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LIBRARY

From Page 4

the "limited" and "full" options.

- Comments indicated a re-configuration and enlargement of the lobby could "provide substantial benefit."
- Update wiring, power supplies.
- Create quiet meeting rooms and "spaces to gather."
- Family restrooms are "highly desired."
- Both design options offer glass dividing walls and meeting rooms.

The goal is to narrow to one proposed conceptual design by July and have the Los Altos City Council review that design by September.

The Santa Clara County Library District, which manages the Los Altos main and Woodland libraries, is partnering with the city on the project.

Meanwhile, crews are putting a new roof on the 28,000-square-foot building, with completion targeted for the end of the month.

"The previous roof needed to be replaced due to its age and condition," said commu-

nity librarian Rose Baiza. "We worked with the city to ensure that the new roof tiles match the civic center buildings. We also worked closely with the city and the contractors to ensure that the staging areas for the work and equipment did not negatively affect the surrounding civic center spaces."

The library's outdoor courtyard project, at 8,265 square feet, will accommodate another 100 guests for special events, in addition to the indoor Orchard Room.

The \$2 million project is privately funded. It ran into some controversy, with opponents questioning the public approval process, its modern look contrasting with other older buildings in the civic center and the project's encroachment into the city's neighboring orchard lands. City officials said no orchard trees were removed for the project.

Read both print and online editions of the Town Crier

Did you know that some features on losaltosonline.com do not appear in the print edition and that some items in print do not appear online? That's why you need to read both. Don't miss out on all the news about your community.

CITY

From Page 4

credit (rating) being a triple-A agency was just reaffirmed by credit agencies,” she said during the address. “So, it really allows the city to take on additional efforts, and when we need to potentially issue bonds in the future, we can do so at a much lower interest rate than most other public agencies.”

Funds from Measure G, resulting from the increase of the city’s pre-existing, voter-approved property transfer tax on homes that cost more than \$6 million, are also going to generate approximately \$8-\$9 million annually for the city, McCarthy said.

Funds will provide for city needs, including disaster and emergency response to preserving and developing affordable housing, road and sidewalk repairs, parks and open spaces, pedestrian and bicyclist safety and reaching sustainability goals.

From road and sidewalk repairs to making downtown Mountain View more appeal-

ing to visitors, city leaders are also focused on economic vitality, McCarthy said. From beautifying the Castro Pedestrian Mall to other initiatives, the city wants to help local businesses.

“It’s basically a plan that has a lot of action steps or to-do items related to making sure that we have a very economically vital base,” she said. “So that includes not just our downtown, but also our small businesses and our large corporations that are here in Mountain View.”

Creating a welcoming city not only for businesses but also for nonprofits and families is, and will continue to be, a high priority for Mountain View, Mayor Ellen Kamei said. Kamei served her first mayoral term in 2021, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and she said while the current federal administration may pose funding obstacles, the city is prepared for them.

“City Council approved \$100,000 in funding for a community for all grant program that will support qualify-



TAKEN FROM A VIDEO OF THE EVENT ON MAY 21

Mountain View Mayor Ellen Kamei said the city will continue to be welcoming to all segments of the community, and continue to recognize diversity and inclusion.

ing immigrant organizations with their outreach strategies. And we also host many events that bring our diverse community together,” she said.

“Next month, it’s really exciting to share that we’re having our first city-wide Together in Pride special event to celebrate the diversity and inclusion with

our LGBTQ plus friends, families and neighbors.”

The event, set for June 7, will also include a pride flag raising.

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Kim Gladfelter
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Comment

Letters to the Editor

AT&T neglecting Los Altos customers

As a longtime Los Altos resident, we have been relying on AT&T fiber service for internet access. Starting the afternoon of May 13, the service was disrupted, affecting north and central Los Altos.

Even after multiple calls to their customer service site, AT&T has not been able to provide the expected time frame of service restoration.

It is now May 17. Why would it take more than four days to restore the service?

AT&T is the leader in the fiber-optic data communication field. If they are genuinely concerned over their service quality to their customers, we are certain that they can pull all stops to expedite the repair.

Our request to escalate this issue and our frustration through AT&T's management chain remains dismissed. The latest reason offered pointed to the inaccessibility of managers due to the weekend. This speaks volumes.

Ron and Kim Kaneshiro
Los Altos

An AT&T representative responds: We have restored service to customers in the Los Altos area following an equipment failure. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Schools should educate, period

(State Senator) Josh Becker talks about Trump's "reckless" education cuts and about resulting chaos and confusion in the schools.

Confusion is already rampant. Schools have forgotten that their basic purpose is to educate, not to feed those entrusted to them.

Becker is pleased that two daily school meals are guaranteed (I think that even carries over into vacations). He says they have grants for kitchens to prepare school meals. If the parents can't feed their kids, how about feeding the parents, too?

The purpose of federal cuts is to balance the budget. We borrow extravagantly and have amassed a huge debt we can never repay.

When lenders awaken to this and realize the potential loss of lent capital, borrowing will come to an end. Financial realities will cause sudden and harsh reduction in federal money flow to many entities.

Which is more reckless, taking steps to balance the budget or criticizing those attempting to do it?

Jerry Clements
Los Altos

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

De Martini Orchard owner Craig Kozy admires the season's first cherries, 1992. The Kozy family purchased De Martini's 40 years ago on June 1, 1985.

Save science

Other Voices

Recent cuts to federal funding for scientific research threaten economy, culture and future of Los Altos

By Sannidhi Menon

Los Altos' strong public school system and legacy of innovation makes it a great place to be a kid. I grew up in the Los Altos/Cupertino area and spent many Sunday afternoons lost in the stacks at the Woodland Library, learning about the world around me. An internship at a local startup launched that interest into a career in research, and I'm now pursuing a Ph.D. in genetics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Federal funding cuts to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) make it much harder for young people in our community to get into science. Startups, like the one that first got me hooked on research, can get funding from the NSF's Small Business Innovation Research program. This program supports early-stage

technologies that promote the social good. In 2024, almost \$9 million in NSF funding was awarded to startups in Santa Clara County, with \$549,763 of that awarded to Los Altos-based companies. With recent federal funding cuts, those numbers have plummeted.

Aside from the imminent economic losses for the city, this means less funding to support the cutting-edge, high-risk projects that drive innovation and Silicon Valley's reputation. Federal funding supported the Valley of Heart's Delight transition to a global powerhouse of technological innovation. And beyond our county, America has had countless additional advances in health, energy and technology from NIH and NSF-funded research. We've benefitted tremendously from the nation's historic commitment to increasing knowledge and promoting technological breakthroughs.

But these are all the later applications from fundamental science. Every new drug, crop cultivar or satellite comes out of years, if not decades, of basic research. These fundamental

discoveries about how the world works are then applied in ways that change lives. Since most companies don't invest in ideas this early in development, federal funds are crucial for discovery-based science.

NSF and NIH grants also fund undergraduate and graduate programs across the country. The UC system, in particular, has greatly benefited from federal funds – UCSF was the largest public recipient of NIH money in 2024. These funds are used not only to buy chemicals and lab equipment, but also to power classrooms. They pay academic workers, which means losing these funds makes it much harder to train the next generation of scientists.

Federal agencies form the backbone of American scientific research and support the training of graduate students like myself. If you value innovation and education, contact your representatives using the 5calls.org website and app. Research, whether applied or fundamental, is a public good and one of our communities' greatest strengths. Please join us in protecting scientific progress for current and future generations.

Sannidhi Menon is a Los Altos resident.



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Community

Charles 'Chuck' Baker, 106: Piloted 35 bombing missions during WWII

Special to the Town Crier

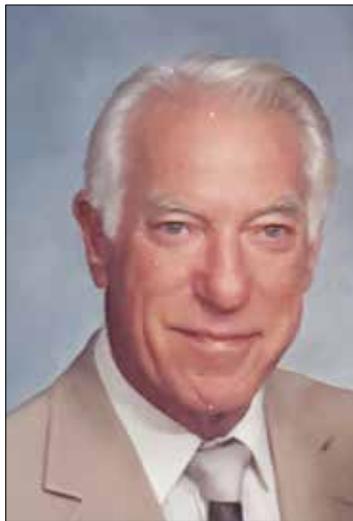
Los Altos resident and World War II flying ace Charles "Chuck" Nathan Baker died in his sleep on April 2, 2025 at the age of 106. Charles vowed to live longer than his mother, Dorothy LaPlant Baker, who died at 101, and his father, Ernest Baker, who died at 102.

In 1941, Chuck had completed two years of college when he was drafted into the Army. After a year in the Cavalry School (infantry and tanks – not horses), he requested a transfer to the Army Air Force.

In 1942 he met Donnabeth Dungan and it was love at first sight but, to be sure she was the right one, Chuck took her flying. Donnabeth had never been in an airplane. In Chuck's own words: "I turned that plane upside down, letting her hang on her seat belt looking down with

nothing between her and the Bay. We did loops, tail spins, high speed dives and tight speed pull ups. ... She took to it like a duck to water ... and I had a winner." But they decided to wait until he completed his combat tour to marry.

There was every reason to believe he might not return. As a member of the United States Eighth Army Air Force, 390th Bomb Group, Chuck piloted 11 different B17s for 35 bombing missions. Only two of those planes survived the war. Chuck was awarded the Air Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Battle Stars of the European Theater of Operations (Germany, Normandy, and Northern France), the American Defense Medal and the WWII Victory Medal. He was Honorably Discharged as a Captain from the Air Force Re-



Charles "Chuck" Baker

serve in July 1955.

His time in the military was a pivotal part of his life. He wrote two books about his WWII experiences and said, "There is seldom a day in my life that goes by that I don't fly

See BAKER, Page 12

A neighbor's memories

By Larry Nevin

Special to the Town Crier

My longtime neighbor, Los Altos resident Charles "Chuck" Baker, had been a World War II B-17 Bomber Pilot, and flew 35 missions against the Nazis without any loss of crew or aircraft, though after most missions there were a lot of bullet and shrapnel holes to patch.

He attained the rank of captain as a squadron leader, and earned two Distinguished Flying Crosses because of his exceptional skill at maintaining tight formations in battle – a key part of B-17 defense against Nazi fighter planes (I had to deduce this from studying details in

his book). When I asked him directly how he happened to win these medals, when typical missions could include hundreds of aircraft and pilots, he replied cheerfully, "I survived!"

In 2007, my wife and I visited his old airfield in East Anglia, a piece of history that the local English people have preserved to honor those American fliers who sacrificed so much to help save Great Britain in the war (their losses were proportionately higher than in any other service).

The control tower is now a museum, as is the adjacent Quonset hut. These are

See NEIGHBOR, Page 12



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Community

Partnership continues between Gallery 9 and Los Altos Art Docents



COURTESY OF KIMBERLY DICKERSON

Gallery 9 artists, above, welcome the Los Altos Art Docent Program. The students' selected work from a series of spring art shows will be displayed at the Gallery for the month of June.

Town Crier Report

Gallery 9 on Main Street will display Los Altos Art Docents' student art, selected from a series of spring art shows, from May 31 to June 29.

By presenting this exhibit of young artists to the community, Gallery 9 is supporting the future of local art education and is giving the students an opportunity to show their work in a gallery.

Along with the children's art, the artist members of Gallery 9 will have their art on display as well, including the featured artist for June, painter Jan Meyer, and her art show "Symphony of Color & Joy."

The student show opening reception is scheduled 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 31.

Los Altos Art Docents have a rich history in Los Altos schools, and have provided trained docent-led classroom lessons since its founding in the spring of 1970 by Nancy Marston and Mar-

lene Grove. Students are exposed to a variety of examples and reproductions of famous artwork as inspiration, and lessons in each medium build upon each other as students progress through elementary school. In a typical school year, the Los Altos Art Docents average 700 classroom visits, delivering over 50 unique lessons to all TK-6th grade students across the district.

Gallery 9 of Los Altos serves as the oldest art gallery in Los Altos. It was originally established in 1970 in Menlo Park by a cooperative group of nine artists – hence its name. Gallery 9 moved to Los Altos in 1973 and some of the earliest members are still with the gallery. Current membership stands about 30 and consists of a diverse group of talented local artists who work in various media, including painting, printmaking, drawing, photography, jewelry, ceramics and sculpture.

For more information, visit gallery9losaltos.com.



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Make
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Sip local wine, support local history at Los Altos museum fundraiser

Town Crier Report

Tickets are on sale through May 31 for the upcoming Los Altos History Museum fundraiser, “A Taste of History.” The museum’s signature fundraiser and auction is scheduled 6-10 p.m. June 14.

Held in the museum’s scenic garden courtyard, this new open-air experience offers an evening of casual elegance, complete with fire pits, live music by a local jazz combo, wine tastings from local wineries – including non-alcoholic options – and curated food pairings by Heirloom Catering.

The event includes both silent and live auctions, along with a special “fund-a-need” to support the museum’s educational programs, from interactive school tours to enriching adult learning experiences. Guests can bid on exclusive items donated by local businesses, all while raising a glass to education and the power of community support.

“Our new signature event will showcase the summer glory of our garden while featuring the local history of one of Los Altos’ favorite things: wine!” said Executive Director Anna Toledano. “With friends new and old, guests can enjoy celebrating a community organization like the museum in a time where we need your support, now more than ever.”

A highlight of the evening will be a presentation by Julie Bly DeVere, former interim executive director of the museum, on the history of wine in the Bay Area. “We’ll take you to a time before apricots – to when grapes grew across the Santa Clara Valley,” Toledano said.

For those new to the museum or wishing to



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Julie Bly DeVere will give a presentation June 14 on the history of wine in the Bay Area.

rediscover its roots, docents will lead guided tours of the permanent exhibition, the J. Gilbert Smith House, the current exhibit and the Los Altos Heritage Orchard.

Tickets for “A Taste of History” are \$250 through May 16, and \$275 through May 31. All proceeds will support the museum’s exhibitions, programs, events, collections and staff, with a special focus on educational programs.

The museum will be closed June 14 and 15 due to the event. To purchase tickets, visit losaltoshistory.org/TasteofHistory.

TC staff having a (bocce) ball



TOWN CRIER STAFF PHOTO

Los Altos Town Crier staff members rolled into Campo di Bocce May 12 for dinner and merriment, via a friendly competition of bocce ball. Pictured from left are: Howard Bischoff, associate publisher; Janice Fabella, Danielle Amara and Maria Crowder, advertising sales; Dennis Young, publisher; Linda Monterrey, advertising sales; Brandon Roth and Curtis Driscoll, editorial; and Christina Casillas, managing editor.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Community

NEIGHBOR

From Page 9

surrounded by some short vestiges of runway. The rest has been returned to the farmland it was before the war.

When we entered the control tower we were greeted by a young local. He asked where we were from.

“California.”

“California! What brings you here all the way from California?”

“We have a neighbor who flew from this airfield.”

“What’s his name?”

“Chuck Baker.”

(Shouting:) “Chuck Baker!? Hey guys, these people know Chuck Baker!”

Chuck wrote two books: “Memories of a Soldier/B-17 Pilot in WWII” and “Letters from a Soldier/B-17 Pilot in WWII.”

Chuck likely survived his entire crew, having lived to the age of 106. At that age, with body in decline, he still maintained his natural cheerfulness and optimism, traits that supported his own and his crew’s bravery in fierce battle.

Nevin is a Los Altos resident.



COURTESY OF LARRY NEVIN

Los Altos resident Charles “Chuck” Baker was a member of the United States Eighth Army Air Force, 390th Bomb Group, at top. Above is a portrait of Baker during World War II.

BAKER

From Page 9

another imaginary mission in my mind.”

In 1944, as soon as his combat tour ended, Chuck and Donnabeth were married. And, after he separated from active duty, they decided to start a cabinet-making business. Chuck had no experience making cabinets and Donnabeth had no bookkeeping experience but after seven years of hard work, Sequoia Mills was one of the largest cabinet-making companies in the Bay Area.

They were members of the Palo Alto Ski Club, the Oakland Yacht Club, and the Mercedes Benz “Gull Wing Group.” Charles was a charter member of the Rotary Club of San Car-

los since 1948 and a long time member of the Los Altos United Methodist Church.

Donnabeth passed away in 1999. Chuck wrote a book, “Memories,” in honor of their over 54 years together.

Chuck was blessed with enormous energy and curiosity and he loved a challenge. He had a great sense of humor. Chuck was always grateful for his wonderful life, his family and his many good friends, especially his dearest friend Marina Lewis.

His brother Gordon Baker predeceased him. Chuck is survived by his niece Diana Baker, his nephew James Baker, and Donnabeth’s nieces Jennifer Hulse Watts and Geraldine Hulse-Stephens.

Celebration of Life is being planned.

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<p>+ St. Simon Catholic Church & School</p> <p>Please check our website for links to Live Stream Mass www.stsimon.church</p> <p>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</p> <p>Fr. Brendan McGuire, Pastor 1860 Grant Road, Los Altos 94024 650-880-1401</p>	<p>UNION CHURCH</p> <p>A Community of Christ Followers Loving, Learning & Serving Together</p> <p>Worship 10AM ~ Join us in person or online ~ www.youtube.com/@unionpresbyterianchurchlos437 858 University Ave. www.unionpc.org (650) 948-4361</p>	<p>First Church of Christ, Scientist ~ striving to live what Jesus taught us ~</p> <p> 401 University Ave, LOS ALTOS</p> <p>Sunday Service 10AM-11AM Sunday School 10AM-11AM Wed. Testimony Meeting 7:30PM ~ Call-in Available for Services ~</p> <p>— READING ROOM 60 Main Street — Wed 10AM - 1PM • Thur 2PM - 4PM</p> <p>See website for details and updates ChristianScienceLosAltos.org</p>			
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Community

That wedding love chapter goes beyond weddings

By the Rev. David Moore

After Easter, our church has been looking at a fairly familiar passage. In fact, my guess is that you have heard the passage many times, but always out of context.

I may regret writing this article because I might ruin what pastors say at weddings. The passage is First Corinthians chapter 13, which is the famous love chapter. You have likely heard, and I have preached, at weddings on this passage.

It is perfect for a wedding. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Wow. Great stuff to preach at a wedding – except Paul isn't talking about a wedding.

The church in Corinth was an amazing place, a lot like where we live. Corinth was a city built on trade; it sat and sits between northern and southern Greece and between the Adriatic and Aegean Seas. Often boats would come into one port, have their wares put onto carts and then

Pastor's Perspective

put onto another ship at the other port, and by doing this they would avoid a long and dangerous trip around the south of Greece.

It was a city with all sorts of ethnicities, languages, talents, levels of income. People were in Corinth to make money; talent and knowledge was important. People in the church took that attitude into church, where it shouldn't have been.

Let me also say the people in the church in Corinth were talented people, with lots of spiritual gifts. What they were doing though, was arguing about who should be in charge of the church based on which gifts were better.

Paul tells them they have missed the point. If they have the gift on speaking in tongues, but have not love, they are a useless clanging gong. If they have the gift of prophesy, which some did, and can understand mysteries, but have not love, they are nothing.

Love is the most important thing. Gifts are important. In the prior chapter, Paul talks about how the church fits together like a body fits together, and one body

part can't say to another, "I don't need you, you're only a foot while I am an eye" – that would make as much sense as a person with the gift of teaching telling someone with the gift of hospitality that their gift doesn't matter that much.

God gifts all of His followers, and the church is not to rank gifts, but to use them all together.

This is a little bit of a six-sermon series we're working through. If you are interested, you can find the earlier sermons on our website. I will say that for Christians, Love is actually a Person, Jesus, who is kind and patient, when I fall short of that.

Jesus doesn't envy, doesn't boast, isn't proud but went to the cross to take on the penalty of the sins of anyone who wants to claim Him as Savior.

Jesus' love never fails. Mine does. I'm being changed by the presence of God in my life, but I'm not there yet. Hopefully I'm better at loving people than I was last year.

My last hope is that I haven't ruined all those wedding talks you've ever heard. If I have, I apologize.

Moore is pastor at Union Presbyterian Church in Los Altos.

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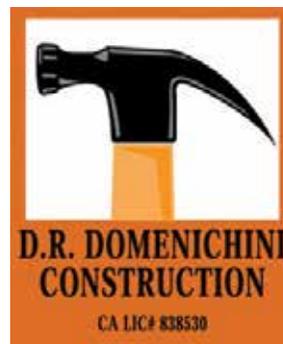
Downtown Los Altos Farmers' Market, 4-8 p.m. every Thursday along State Street, beginning May 1. Information: downtownlosaltos.org.

Los Altos Arts & Wine Festival, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 12-13, downtown Los Altos. Information: downtownlosaltos.org.

Rotary Club of Los Altos' 50th Fine Art in the Park, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Aug. 9 and 10, Lincoln Park, Los Altos. Information: rotaryartshow.com.

Mountain View Art and Wine Festival, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 7, Castro Street, downtown Mountain View. Information: mvtartwine.com.

Los Altos Festival of Lights Parade, 6 p.m. Nov. 30, downtown Los Altos. Information: losaltosparade.org.



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Community Briefs

Commonwealth Club hosts talk with Oliveseed founder

The Commonwealth Club-World Affairs has scheduled a talk with Oliveseed founder Barb Mackraz beginning 7 p.m. June 4 at the Los Altos main library.

Mackraz started a small nonprofit in Palo Alto that grew from its first library to a grassroots initiative in rural Kenya and Morocco, transforming thousands of lives.

The organization has blossomed to dozens of library and literacy projects in disadvantaged settings, such as a women’s work center with Maasai women earning an income for the first time in their lives and safe water facilities, addressing the greatest daily challenge many families face.

With individual stories, especially from youth, Mackraz will discuss how even small changes well placed can make deep, lasting impact.

Admission is free and pre-registration is not required. Doors open 6:30 p.m.

Seating capacity is limited to 100, so arrive early to ensure a seat.

For more information, visit commonwealthclub.org/peninsula-chapter.

Viva la Musica to play Mozart in Los Altos

Mozart’s Requiem is scheduled to be performed in a June 1 concert at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave.

Viva la Musica choir and orchestra perform under the baton of Shulamit Hoffmann. The quartet of soloists consists of Helene Zindarsian, soprano; Solmaaz Adeli, mezzo-soprano; Corey Head, tenor; and José Mendiola, bass. Hoffmann was formerly choir director at Los Altos United Methodist Church; Mendiola is the current director.

Mozart’s Requiem is arguably the most beloved of all choral-orchestral repertoire. In part because of the movie “Amadeus,” the music is recognized beyond classical music circles. The most famous part, the “Lacrymosa,” was featured at this year’s Oscar award ceremony.

The June 1 concert is a preview to a performance that Viva la Musica choir, including some LAUMC choristers, will give at Carnegie Hall on June 22, under Hoffmann’s baton. This is the fourth appearance of the choir at Carnegie.

The Requiem, approximately 50 minutes long, will be performed without intermission.

The concert starts at 3 p.m. Admission is free; donations to Viva la Musica are appreciated.

For more information, call (650) 346-5084 or visit vivalamusica.org.

Cellist to raise funds for quake victims

Cellist Sarah Hong of Los Altos is scheduled to perform works from Russian composers in two chamber music concerts, June 20 in Palo Alto and June 22 in San Francisco.

The concerts have Hong teaming with pianist Makiko Ooka and violinist Fumico Ando performing pieces from Rachmaninoff, Myaskovsky and Arensky.

The first concert, set for 7 p.m. at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, in Palo Alto, is a benefit for Phos, Hong’s humanitarian project. All donations from the concert will go toward ministry to children in earthquake-affected Myanmar. The second concert is scheduled 4 p.m. June 22 at Old First Church in San Francisco.

Hong started the Phos Benefit Concert Series in Palo Alto in 2014 to help support various nonprofit organizations serving children in underdeveloped countries.

For more information, visit cellistsarahhong.com.

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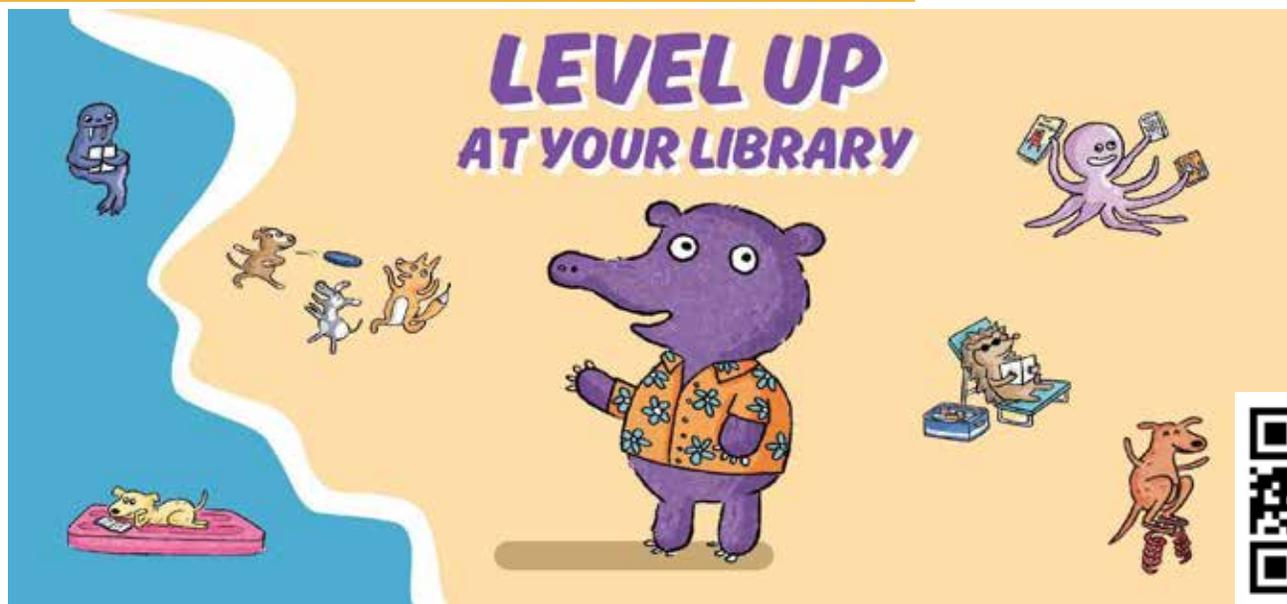
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Los Altos Library Highlights - June 2025



Join SCCLD’s Summer Reading Program “Level Up at Your Library” and get in the game this summer! Our program this year offers something for every reader, be they adults, teens, and children. All are invited to join June 1st through July 31st. It’s free and fun for all ages! Visit <https://scclld.org/summer/> to learn more.

Puzzles Page

Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

Across

1. Sun, for example
4. Corporation type
7. Say cheese!
12. Thriller writer, Child
13. Arles assent
14. Like some old buckets
15. Rented film format
16. Common evidence in trials
17. Forcibly take away
18. Michelle Wie's org.
20. Dampens
- 21. One of the first streets in Los Altos**
24. Supplement taken for colds
25. Jewish candelabrum
29. "I Like ____"
30. Eccentric
31. Slangy turndown
32. Guard
35. Bounce back, in a way
36. Legal tactic to induce criminal behavior
38. Outline clearly on a face
39. Tres y tres

40. Los Altos founder of parenting app

42. L.A. setting
43. Mr. Turkey
46. Peaks
47. "____ the glad waters of the dark blue sea": Byron
48. _____ high (elated), 2 words
49. "Voilà!"
50. "____ was saying ..."
51. Christmas film, "____ One"

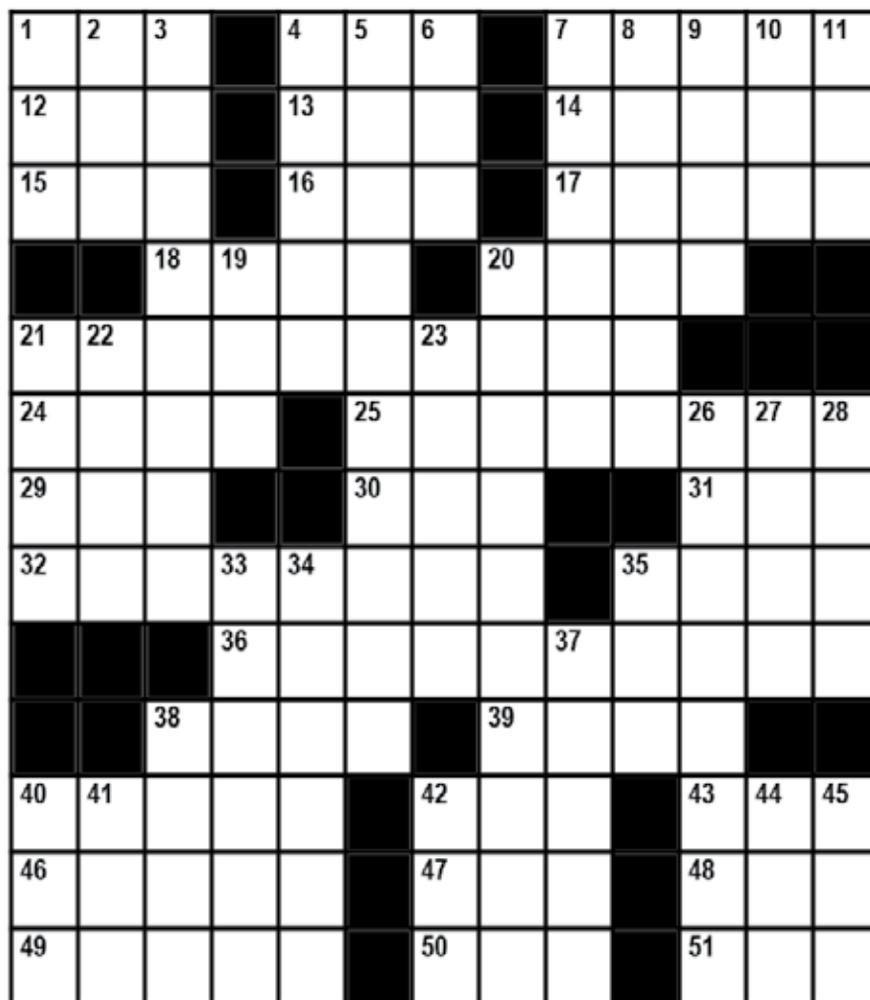
Down

1. Discontinued
2. Minister: Abbr.
3. Sheets and pillowcases, 2 words
4. Hunting cabin
5. Period of the moon's revolution, 2 words
6. Tom Clancy subject, for short
7. South African suburb
8. Joan of Arc became one
9. Turner and others
10. "____ Miserables"
11. Med. specialty, abbr.

19. Electric wire insulation
20. Lifting machines
21. "The A-Team" weapons
22. Sports apparel giant
23. Jewish dinner
26. Forebear
27. Chemistry Nobel Otto
28. Propelled
33. Tie up
34. Carve
35. Former Beatles record label
37. Bacteriology dish
38. Salinger dedicatee
40. Blackguard
41. First person in Germany
42. Blue-grass genus
44. First cardinal number
45. Crazy

- Los Altos clues bolded

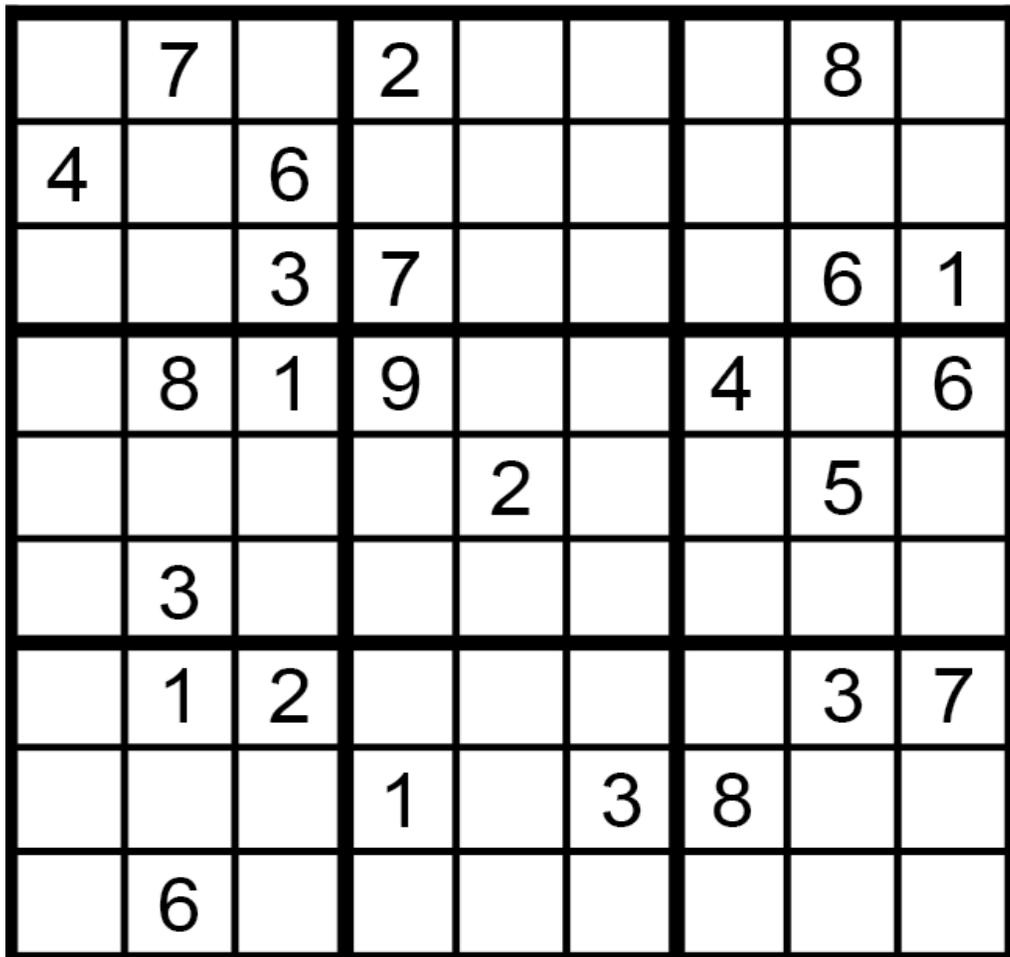
Answers on Page 43



Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

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



Find A Word



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

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Bichonfrise | Dachshund | Pomeranian |
| Bolognese | Havanese | Poodle |
| Bostonterrier | Llasaapso | Pugs |
| Chihuahua | Maltese | Shibainu |
| Chow | Pekingese | Shihtzu |

Stepping Out

'Pear Slices' offers eight showpieces from local playwrights

By **Brandon Roth**

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

A short story is all you need to hear an effective and moving piece on life.

Pear Theatre is inviting the community to their annual "Pear Slices" event, a chance for local playwrights to present eight small 10-minute shows that range through themes such as family, technology and modern politics. This event is used as a starting point for writers to experiment with their ideas and later use them for longer pieces of content.

Paul Braverman, a playwright, actor and founding member of Pear Theatre Playwrights Guild, is showcasing two new stories: "A Mysterious Demise" and "Deuce Cooper: Full House." In "A Mysterious Demise," Braverman said that it is an absurdist piece that incorporates characters from the public domain to explain the story of Humpty Dumpty. His other piece "Deuce Cooper: Full House,"

is a homage to a noir detective story. Deuce Cooper is a recurring character that Braverman has included in various other "Slices" events through the years and in this new edition to the series, Deuce and his wife Donna are watching over an assassin as his trial date nears.

He said "Slices" allows local talent to share their voices and background. He said there aren't many theaters that "generate new content" this often, allowing new artists to share their plays in the hope they would spread beyond the Bay Area. He said an average play at "Slices" will be 10 minutes, enough time to make an emotional impact on an audience.

"I've written probably 50 plays, and most of them, in some way or another, address empathy," he said. "In my longer work and in my one-act plays, that are in that sort of 30 to 50-minute range and every single one of them has empathy, and that's also been the theme of several of my short plays."



COURTESY OF TIM GARCIA

From left to right: Vanessa Alvarez, Stephen Sherwood and Dave Leon in "Deuce Cooper: Full House" by Paul Braverman. In the play, two people are assigned to keep an assassin alive as he awaits his trial.

Bridgette Dutta Portman, the playwright of "Stargazers," dives deep into the relationships of siblings and how their fractured relationship is displayed when they come together for the anniversary of

their father's death. Portman said while writing the play, she thought about her own relationship with her brother and then challenged herself to see what it would be like to be in the characters' shoes.

"Those kinds of characters are interesting and I studied psychology for a bit in college, and I think maybe that is what helps me inhabit these character breakdowns."

She said that the current administration's removal of federal funds for the public arts has made it difficult to be a playwright. She said writing is the only way she can cope with

difficult situations and using her voice will help her in this uncertain future.

"I've been involved with this theater for a long time," she said. "It's very close to my heart. I think it's a wonderful group of people to work with. I've always had a really good experience at "Slices" and there aren't all that many opportunities for playwrights to have new work presented, especially in the current climate."

To learn about "Pear Slices" and read about the other playwrights' work, visit thepear.org/slices25.

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COURTESY OF TIM GARCIA

Stephen Sherwood and Vanessa Alvarez in "A Mysterious Demise" by Paul Braverman.

To pitch a story for Stepping Out, email section editor **Brandon Roth** at brandonr@latc.com.



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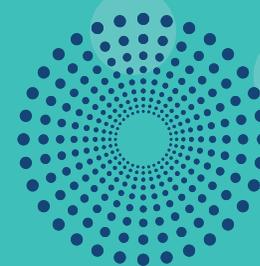
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Schools

Local student author creates book on childrens' emotions

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Students discover who they are at an early age through play, learning at school or interacting with family members in their homes. Depending on where a child is, they adapt to their surroundings, and it may be a shock to others when they seem to behave out of the ordinary in different environments.

Mailey Wang, a junior at Pinewood School, said at an early age, children's insecurities develop in elementary school and over time could turn into anxiety and confidence issues. Wang said many schools lack the necessary curriculum that can help build up children's well-being and how they manage relationship conflicts. She said many students struggle in new situations such as starting the first day of school.

"A lot of kids are overthinking a lot and getting these insecurities about the way they look, about the way they act and being scared that people aren't going to like you," Wang said. "I remember being scared when I was a kid. These issues can start anywhere, it is differ-

ent for every child."

She said many children struggle to find confidence in new settings. As time goes on, she said, children find themselves getting "shyer and shyer." This is what happened to her younger sister, who is in the second grade and struggles with self-confidence in the classroom. To her family, she was an outgoing child who was loud and liked to boss her siblings around. However, among her peers, she was reserved and unwilling to participate in class discussions.

This inspired Wang to write her first book, "Stand Strong, Josie!" a story that utilizes Social Emotional Learning (SEL), lesson plans that guide students on emotional awareness and how to stay grounded in all different types of exposures. In her book, she explores how a young girl loses her confidence and doubts her ability to run in a race. She said the book was created for her sister and other children on how to deal with internal conflicts and to persevere while under pressure.

"My sister was shy in the classroom, even with her friends, she's nervous and scared to speak up and be herself," she



COURTESY OF MAILEY WANG

Mailey Wang, a junior at Pinewood School, visited the second grade class at Pinewood School to read her book "Stand Strong, Josie!" which incorporates lessons of Social Emotional Learning curriculum. The goal of the book is to teach young kids to find their confidence and push themselves to try new things.

said. "Her teacher told my parents, out of concern, that she wanted to make sure she felt

comfortable, but my parents were just shocked because they were like, 'This is not her at all.'

That's kind of where my book

See AUTHOR, Page 19

Annual MVHS robotics club's open house inspires students to learn STEM skills

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

In Silicon Valley, having a background in mechanical, electrical and software skills will get you far. Many students at Mountain View High School, who are members of Spartan Robotics, will tell you that almost all of the alumni in their program have worked for the biggest companies in the area, such as Google and NASA.

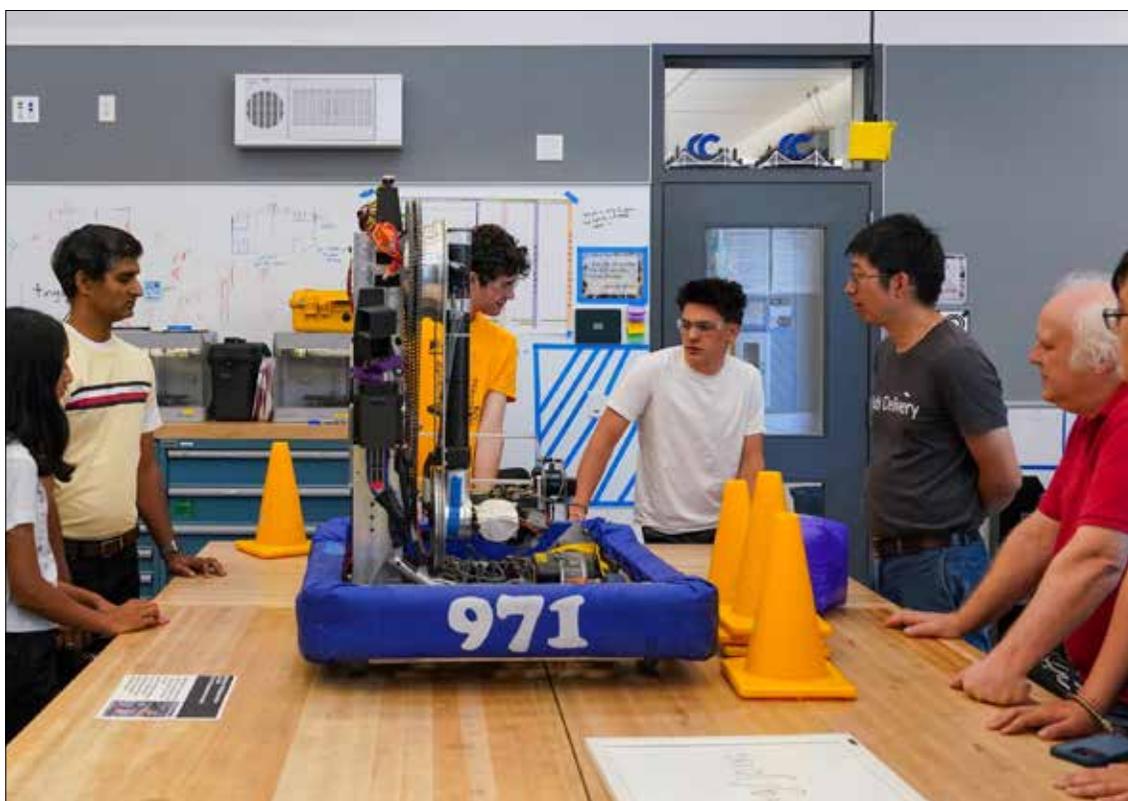
Spartan Robotics, an unaffiliated club at MVHS made up of 100 students, teaches students the process of learning the process of building robots, learning code and building leadership skills. The program was formed in 2002 and has placed and won many regional competitions since then. Every year, the club organizes an open house to encourage students and to learn about their

group, get involved and see their robots operate.

Bianca Bhat, a sophomore MVHS and the student lead of Spartan Robotics, said the upcoming open house is on Saturday, May 31 between 1-4 p.m. The event's goal, she said, is to show freshmen and incoming students what they can learn from the club. Bhat said she joined the club her freshman year and joined the rookie team where she learned fundamental skills such as mechanical engineering. She said some students join without any experience and the open house is a great place for the club to explain to the public all the technical experiences they learn.

"The open house is where we have robot demos and a preview of everything they could do," she said. "It shows how

See ROBOTICS, Page 20



COURTESY OF BIANCA BHAT

The Spartan Robotics Club, an unaffiliated club at MVHS, has more than 100 student members who learn how to build robots and software that is applicable to other fields.

Schools

Foothill awards apprentices at graduation



BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

From left, Andy Scott, staff learning and development specialist at Nokia and Travis Huynh, an apprentice at Nokia, attend the Process Technician Apprenticeship graduation at Foothill College on May 6. Foothill's apprenticeship program provided Huynh – and 14 other students and full time employees – experience to work in the semiconductor industry while also learning skills in the classroom. The program was a year-long course that was flexible around the apprentices' schedules.

AUTHOR

From Page 18

started. I wanted to make sure that she was able to realize that no one was ever judging her. She can always be herself no matter what, and people will love her for her.”

Wang said she is an advocate for the SEL curriculum, hoping more classrooms can adopt lesson plans and games so that they can spread positivity. Alongside her book, she created an SEL activity called “Snowball Fight” which is an interactive way for students to learn about their peers and themselves. She said the game instigates conversations that help students realize “who they are inside.”

She said when the opportunity comes she hopes to write a new book. For now, she is still promoting her first book by visiting local classrooms and bookstores. She said it is important to prioritize children finding their confidence at a young age and the best time to implement these lessons are ages 5-12.



COURTESY OF MAILEY WANG

Wang's SEL lesson is a game-based activity, teaching students to build confidence among their peers. The goal is to write a paper that describes their favorite personal trait and then crumple across the room for another student to read the positive message. Teachers are encouraged to ask students what they discovered about themselves through the lesson.

“I think the biggest thing for me is just getting it out there, and then getting people who are supportive of my project to spread the word,” she said. “That would mean a lot to me. I'm also going to be going to more classrooms, different elementary schools. I recently

visited the second-grade class at Pinewood. I hope to do some readings at libraries, but everything is still up in the air.”

To support Wang's work and to read her book, visit [amazon.com/Stand-Strong-Josie-Mailey-Wang/dp/B0F73FR-1MX](https://www.amazon.com/Stand-Strong-Josie-Mailey-Wang/dp/B0F73FR-1MX).

To pitch a story for Schools, email section editor
Brandon Roth at brandonr@latc.com.

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ROBOTICS From Page 18

robotics augments the high school experience. Students get a chance to build a full-fledged, industrial-sized robot and the process helps to make new connections through robotics. We have people who know the CEO of big companies and it's a good opportunity to get involved with STEM in your high school career."

She said for most of the year, the students are preparing for their robot competitions. The club has a rigorous schedule commitment in this time, upwards of up to 40 hours per week. They meet three times a week, sometimes working into the late hours on weekends. In their off-season, from May to late December, they meet twice a week where they refine their leadership skills and train people without experience to become "industrial, corporate level" engineers.

She said a lot of the software they are using is incorporated with big companies such as John Deere's tractors. All of their coding relates to the

many industries where many of the students want to end up. She said their mentors are also encouraging in giving them advice on their designs, but they just assist from a distance. All the students, she said, do the hard work and build the robots within the six periods that are needed for their competition in April.

"We annually compete in FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC), and at FRC, you battle against a bunch of other robots," she said. "We're consistently one of the best robots in the area. So it means that their are a lot of the opportunities on our team that advances people on our team. It's our job to make sure that everyone has a chance to learn and grow on this team."

She said many students will also benefit from the club by developing their teamwork skills and collaborating with others on the importance of adapting and strategizing to unplanned issues.

To learn more about the program and to see their latest awards, visit spartanrobotics.org.

Schools Briefs

MVHS senior Naisha Sara John named 2025 National Merit

The Mountain View Los Altos High School District announced that Mountain View High School Senior Naisha Sara John has been awarded a prestigious \$2,500 corporate-sponsored National Merit Scholarship. This recognition places her among the top 2,500 students nationwide selected from more than 15,000 finalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship program.

"Naisha's achievement highlights her exceptional academic performance, leadership and dedication throughout her high school career," said Eric Volta, MVLA superintendent. "Her accomplishment is a shining example of our students' talent and hard work. We are immensely proud of her and look forward to her continued success."

Now in its 70th year, approximately 830 high school students have won corporate-sponsored National Merit Scholarship awards, financed by 120+ cor-

porations, company foundations, and individual donors who have established endowments with the NMSC.

Recipients can use their awards at any regionally-accredited U.S. college or university of their choice.

Naisha's award was sponsored by the Siemens Corporation, which produces and markets electrical and electronic systems, instruments and components for medicine, science, and industry.

"I am honored and humbled to receive a National Merit Scholarship, which I plan to use to pursue Diplomacy and World Affairs at Occidental College," Naisha shared. "Thank you so much to my family and the community here at MVHS for giving me the space to study, explore and dance to my heart's content. I will work to carry that kindness forward, wherever I go."

"Naisha embodies the spirit of our Spartan community – resilient, dedicated and inspir-



Naisha Sara John

ing," said Mountain View High School principal Kip Glazer. "Her recognition is well-deserved, and we celebrate her achievement wholeheartedly."

The National Merit Scholarship Program, established in 1955, honors students who demonstrate exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Recipients are chosen based on a combination of academic record, standardized test scores, extracurricular activities, leadership roles and personal essays.

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Sports

Homestead bests Los Altos gymnastics in CCS playoffs

By Shaona Das
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Separated by just 0.050 points, Homestead High edged Los Altos for the Central Coast Section championship last week in South San Francisco.

The Mustangs earned a score of 148.350, while the Eagles posted a 148.300 May 21 at Gymtowne Gymnastics. Mountain View placed third, totaling 142.850.

“They did really well,” Los Altos coach Sarah Wallace said of her team. “It was gonna be close, but they all competed really well and did their best for what they were doing.”

A week earlier, Los Altos beat Homestead 148.800-146.700 to claim its first Santa Clara Valley Athletic League title in six years. Mountain View also finished third last week.

Los Altos freshman Libby Lyon, the all-around champion at the SCVAL meet, tied for fourth in that category at CCS. She earned a score of 38.000, despite a fall on bars, thanks largely to winning floor and placing second on vault.

“It was really fun,” Lyon said of competing at CCS. “The community and the atmosphere here is so fun, and it’s such an uplifting place to be. CCS was definitely an experience, and I’m very excited to have that experience again next year.”

CCS marked only Lyons’ fourth high school competition because she joined the team late due to her club season.

Although she started gymnastics 11 years ago, Lyon knows there is still room for improvement.

“I think I just need to gain a



SHAONA DAS/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Members of the Los Altos High gymnastics team celebrate after getting second place at the Central Coast Section championship May 21 in South San Francisco.

little more confidence, have a little more fun. Stop stressing so much, and just let loose and have fun here,” Lyon said.

Since Los Altos graduated

several key gymnasts last year, Lyon has been a valuable member of the team, according to Wallace.

“(Lyon) works really hard,

so it’s fun to coach her. She has super dynamic routines,” said Wallace, who also coaches the Mountain View squad. “She’s See GYMNASTICS, Page 23

Lancers fall in state volleyball playoffs to Clovis East

By Curtis Driscoll
Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

The St. Francis boys volleyball team lost to Clovis East 3-0 in the CIF state championships Tuesday.

The No. 3 seed Timberwolves hosted and swept the No. 6 seed Lancers (25-19, 25-20 and 25-19) in the first round, with both teams playing well coming into the state tournament but Clovis East making more plays during the pivotal moments, St. Francis head coach Jonah Carson said.

“That’s obviously a strong team; they had an interesting start to their season, some ups and downs in terms of their win-loss record, but they got really hot at the end,” Carson said. “They had a really good environment. A lot of people showed up, they brought a lot of good energy, they played hard, so I felt it was like a battle of two teams that had peaked at the right time. I thought we were playing some really good volleyball – obviously we ended up in the CCS championship match.”

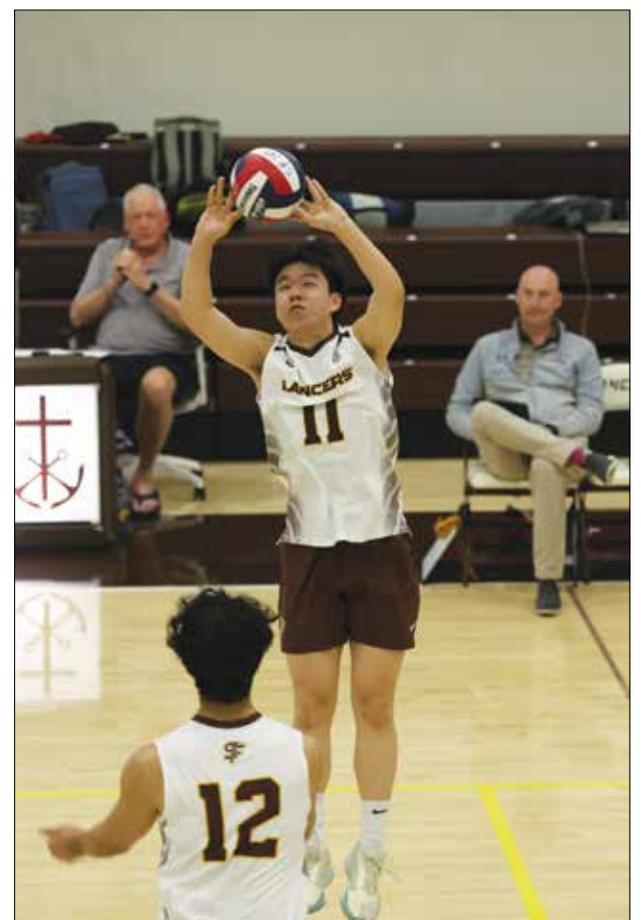
Clovis East (26-11) moves on to the semifinals and faces No. 2 seed Harker in the Northern California bracket Friday (after the Town Crier early print deadline). St. Francis (24-15) qualified for the state playoffs after reaching the Central Coast Section Open Division finals Saturday against Archbishop Mitty, falling 3-1 in the CCS championship game. St. Francis reached the CCS finals by beating Bellarmine and Los Gatos. Despite the loss, the team has

maintained its status as a consistent contender over the years and going far in the CCS playoffs the last few seasons. The Lancers reached the CCS semifinals last year and made the state championships.

“This senior group has continued that legacy, so I’m really proud of what they accomplished and what they’ve been a part of,” Carson said. “Being in the championship match and having those opportunities is pretty incredible, but what I’m most grateful for is the way this group of seniors and this whole team has grown as a culture.”

St. Francis also finished second in West Catholic Athletic League (WCAL) play at 9-3, playing its best volleyball later in the season after a tough start to the year in the win-loss column while at the Best of the West Boys Volleyball Invitational in San Diego in March and dealing with injuries. The Lancers were 2-6 at the start of the season, including an opening league loss to Archbishop Mitty, the eventual WCAL champion. Despite the poor record, Carson noted that the focus early on is on the process of playing good volleyball and testing themselves against the best competition in order to be ready at the end of the regular season.

“You don’t spend a lot of time looking at the win or the loss, you spend a lot of time evaluating performance, how we are doing technically, how we are doing tactically, so the conversations are really about, where are we there, where can we be good, where can we be a little bit better,” Carson said.



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis’ Timothy Cho during a game this season.



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Sports

Egan 8th-grade girls win track title



COURTESY OF STEVE APFELBERG

The Egan eighth grade girls 4x100 champions at the 2025 Silicon Valley Middle School Track and Field Championships May 20. From left to right, Egan track coach John Parker, Caroline Mortimore, Marina Etkin, Julia Halpin and Isha Peruri.

Town Crier Report

The Egan Junior High eighth-grade girls won a team championship at the 2025 Silicon Valley Middle School Track and Field Championships May 20 at Westmont High School.

Egan went against more than 30 middle schools from three leagues: the San Jose Middle School Athletic League, West Valley Athletic League and Valley Athletic League (VAL).

The girls qualified for the Silicon Valley Championships (county meet) after winning the May 13 and 14 VAL league track meet at Crittenden Middle School. Fifteen Egan track and field athletes placed high enough in the VAL league meet to earn spots in the county meet, led by the eighth-grade girls and seventh-grade boys, with both groups winning team titles at the VAL meet, according to Egan track middle distance coach Steve Apfelberg.

The Egan seventh-grade boys earned third place in the county team competition thanks to several high finishes and a county track record in the 4x100 relay with a time

of 48.48, Apfelberg said. To qualify for the county meet, the athletes first had to be in the top three in their school in an event to make it into their league track meet, and athletes must finish in the top five in an individual event or top two in a relay in the league meet.

"My fellow coaches and I are proud of all the student athletes who participated in track and field this season," said Apfelberg. "Their hard work at practice paid off with a lot of 'personal bests' at the end of the season. Just qualifying for the county track and field meet is quite an accomplishment, so to send 15 athletes and have them do so well against talented competition is super impressive."

Apfelberg noted that many individual athletes had performances of note:

Eighth-grade girls

Caroline Mortimore – first place in long jump, first place in 4x100 relay, second place in 100-meter dash.

Isha Peruri – first place in triple jump, first place in 4x100 relay, second place in long jump.

Julia Halpin – first place in

4x100 relay, second place in 800-meter run, second place in 4x400 relay, fourth place in high jump.

Lily Meltz – second place in 4x400 relay, fourth place in 65-meter hurdles, fifth place in 800 meter-run

Emily Hejret – fifth place in 65-meter hurdles

Marina Etkin – first place in 4x100 relay

Audrey Littlewood – second place in 4x400 relay

Stella Walton – second place in 4x400 relay

Eighth-grade boys

Desmond Leung – fifth place in long jump, sixth place in high jump

Seventh-grade boys

Jackson Clement – first place in 4x100 relay, second place in 100-meter dash, second place in high jump

Macabee Lee – first place in 4x100 relay, second place in long jump, third place in high jump, sixth place in 100-meter dash

Nate Giesselman – first place in 4x100 relay

Aiden Nam – first place in 4x100 relay

Andrew Kim – sixth place in high jump

Sports Brief

Los Altos grad wins New England track event



COURTESY OF SAM PLAYER

Los Altos High grad Tessa Player had success at the New England Track and Field Championships.

Tufts University sophomore Tessa Player, a 2023 graduate of Los Altos High, won the heptathlon at the 2025 New England Division III Track and Field Championships May 3 in New London, Connecticut.

Player was in fourth place after five events when she reeled off wins and personal bests in both the javelin (37.45m) and 800 meter (2:30.93) events to overtake runner-up Rose Jenkins of Bowdoin by 55 points. Player's

winning total of 4,257 points shattered the Coast Guard Academy facility record for the heptathlon, previously established in 2008 by Marlee Berg of Westfield State at 3908 points.

A biology major from Mountain View, Player already ranks fifth all-time in Tufts school history in both the heptathlon and javelin events and also ranks ninth in the indoor pentathlon. She was a co-captain in both track and basketball for the Eagles.

GYMNASTICS

From Page 21

really good, and she still has room for improvement, getting all of her skills, continuing to work routines.”

Los Altos has a young group overall that still has experience thanks to most of the team's participation in club gymnastics. The Eagles had five fresh-

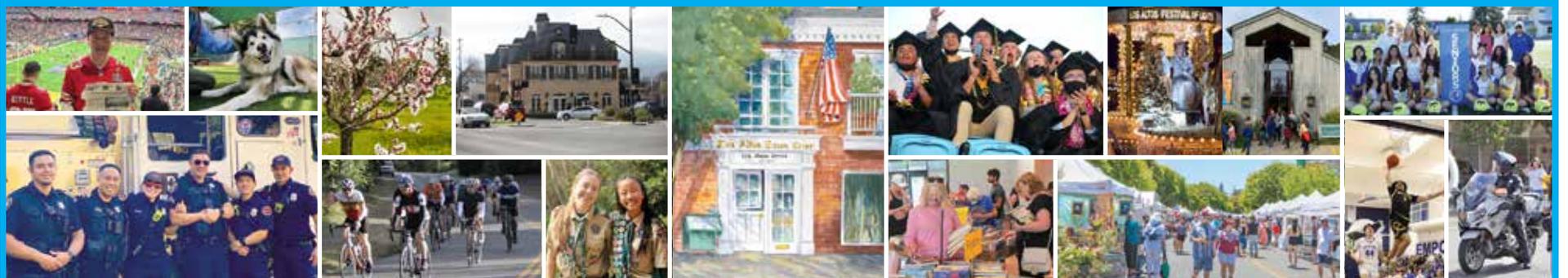
men and two sopomores this year, along with two juniors and one senior.

Beyond Lyon, Tabs Lee placed sixth all-around for Los Altos with a 37.900. Rowan Barcelona led Mountain View with an all-around score of 37.200, good enough for eighth place. St. Francis' Brooke Bonner posted an all-around score of 38.000, tying Lyon for fourth.



COURTESY OF SARAH WALLACE

The Los Altos and Mountain View gymnastics teams and coaching staffs at the CCS championships May 21 at Gymtowne Gymnastics in South San Francisco.



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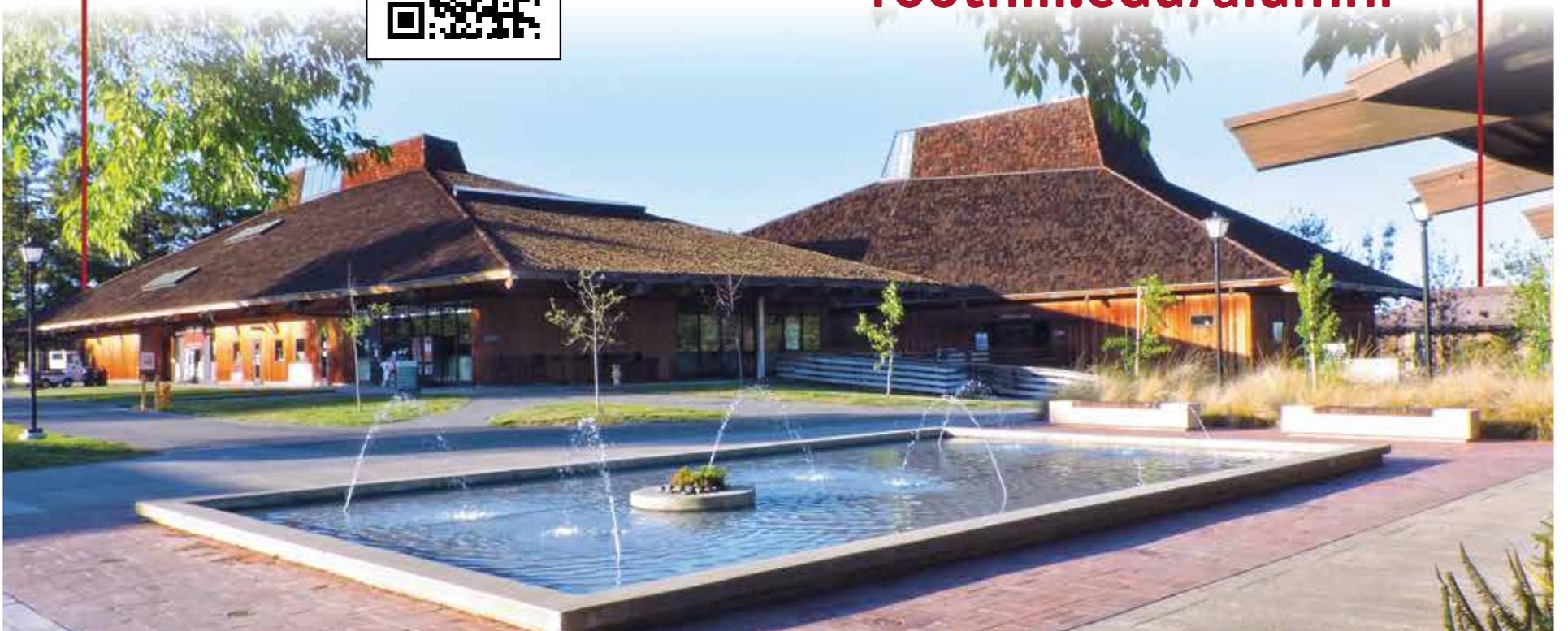


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Los Altos residents sponsor hands-only CPR training kiosk

Town Crier Report

In 2015, Los Altos' Bill Brennan, president and CEO of Credo, was visiting potential customers in Tokyo, Japan, when a woman who was walking ahead of him collapsed without warning. Stunned, Brennan stopped and tried to help, holding her but feeling powerless to do more. Despite paramedics arriving swiftly, they could not revive her, and she died of cardiac arrest.

The weight of that moment deeply impacted Brennan, moving him to act. Within a week of returning to California, he completed a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification course, determined never to feel helpless again.

The tragedy also inspired Bill and his wife Laurie Brennan to help others learn the life-saving skill. Now, with Silicon Valley technology company Credo, the Brennan family is sponsoring a hands-only CPR training kiosk provided by the American Heart Association (AHA), the third installed in California. The kiosk is



NERISSA ITCHEON / SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

From left, Bill Brennan and the Chian family pose with the CPR kiosk.

located on the first floor at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford in Palo Alto.

"Hands-only CPR is simple to learn and can be quickly taught to almost anyone, empowering them to save a life," Brennan said. "We have learned that even imperfect CPR is better than none at all."

Every year, more than 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of a hospital, and more than 20% occur in public places.

The hands-only CPR kiosk will help empower people to learn and practice CPR skills and understand how they can immediately help a person who has experienced a cardiac emergency.

To date, the hands-only CPR kiosks have been used to train more than 600,000 people.

Los Altos resident and Homestead High School student Ryan Chian was also at the recent kiosk launch and ribbon cutting. He shared his own moving sur-

vivor story about collapsing from cardiac arrest on a local basketball court and being saved by two lifeguards who performed CPR on him.

Chian is also an AHA student volunteer as a member of the Youth Leadership Council.

The kiosk features a touch screen with a video that provides an overview of hands-only CPR, followed by a practice session and a 30-second test using a manikin, or a rubber torso. The kiosk then gives feedback about the depth and rate of compressions and proper hand placement – factors that influence the effectiveness of CPR. The training can be done in about five minutes in English or Spanish with closed captioning.

"Cardiac arrest remains a leading cause of death in the United States, and survival depends on immediately receiving CPR from someone nearby," said Liza Mudd, American Heart Association Bay Area SVP executive director. She said while certified CPR training will always be best, the kiosk can still help people save lives.

Approximately 90% of all cardiac arrest victims die, often because bystanders don't know how to start CPR or they're afraid they'll do something wrong, according to the American Red Cross.

"Bystander CPR, especially if administered immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival, which is why the hands-only CPR education available at the kiosk is so valuable," said Justin Lee, M.D., board member for the American Heart Association Greater Bay Area.

There are two simple steps for hands-only CPR. Call 911 if you see a person collapse, then push hard and fast in the center of the chest to the beat of a song that has at minimum 100 beats per minute, such as Adele's "Rolling in the Deep" or the Bee Gees' "Stayin' Alive." For children and infants, CPR also requires breaths. For more on CPR with breaths, visit heart.org/nation.

For more information on the hands-only CPR campaign and to learn how to save a life, visit heart.org/handsonlycpr.

Relieving chronic pain with Regenerative Shockwave Therapy

By Kim Gladfelter

Chronic pain is one of the most significant barriers to living a full, active life. Whether it stems from an old injury, overuse or a degenerative condition, pain that lingers for months or years can severely affect mobility, mood and overall wellbeing. For millions of people, this daily discomfort becomes a quiet burden, limiting activities, disrupting sleep and diminishing quality of life. Fortunately, advances in regenerative therapies offer new hope for those suffering from persistent musculoskeletal conditions.

Many sources of chronic pain are related to joint and soft tissue disorders. Overuse, injury or arthritis can often cause knee pain, which can significantly limit walking, climbing stairs and participating in physical activities. Plantar fasciitis is a common condition involving inflammation of the thick tissue (fascia) that runs across the bottom of the foot,

leading to stabbing heel pain, especially with the first steps in the morning. Achilles tendonitis is inflammation of the Achilles tendon, typically due to overuse, which can cause pain, swelling and stiffness at the back of the heel.

Tendinopathy is a broad term encompassing painful conditions in tendons due to degeneration or injury, often seen in the elbow, knee and shoulder. Shoulder pain can be caused by rotator cuff issues or joint inflammation, and shoulder pain can stem from repetitive stress or injury. Frozen shoulder is characterized by stiffness and pain, and it often severely restricts the range of motion. Shoulder impingement occurs when the shoulder tendons get pinched against bones during arm movement, causing irritation and pain.

In addition to these soft tissue issues, osteoarthritis – a degenerative disease where cartilage between joints breaks down – is a leading cause of chronic joint pain. It commonly affects the knee,

Mindful Movement

shoulder, hip and hand, leading to joint stiffness, swelling and pain from the gradual breakdown of cartilage.

Many people are now turning to regenerative shockwave therapies as non-invasive solutions to heal pain at the source. Here's a breakdown of the three major modalities used in regenerative shockwave therapy and how they target different types of chronic pain:

- Radial Pulse Wave therapy targets tissue depths up to 6 centimeters, making it ideal for treating surface-level injuries and soft tissue pain. It stimulates repair in tendons, ligaments and muscles, and is especially effective for conditions involving scars, adhesions and pelvic floor dysfunction, which can include bladder, bowel or sexual issues. Beyond pain relief, this therapy also enhances circulation and collagen production, which

contributes to tissue regeneration and overall healing. It's even used for body sculpting and other aesthetic benefits in specific treatment areas.

- Focused Shock Wave therapy penetrates deeper – up to 12.5 cm – delivering high-energy waves directly to joints, bones and deep soft tissue. This makes it highly effective for treating calcifications, tendonitis, impingement and frozen shoulder, especially when physical or occupational therapy does not provide as much resolution as hoped. This therapy produces microtrauma in the target tissue, stimulating a robust healing response. It's an excellent option for anyone dealing with localized, deep-seated pain that hasn't responded to other non-surgical treatments.

- Electromagnetic-Transduction Therapy (EMTT) is cutting-edge technology that uses electromagnetic fields to reach even deeper – up to 18 cm – mak-

See SHOCKWAVE, Page 26

Being transgender under a transphobic presidential administration

By Susie Driscoll

With a torrent of anti-transgender bills and executive orders since President Donald Trump's election, those in the transgender community are working to keep their heads above water. Veronica Esposito, a marriage and family therapist, journalist and transgender advocate, shared her experience in her field and as a transgender woman.

"In California, before the Trump administration, we did not feel so directly attacked by government," she said. But Esposito said transgender people are having more adverse experiences after Trump's election.

"People are getting medical care at an increased pace, stockpiling hormones. People have genuine fears about having access to that stuff (being) cut off," she said.

Esposito said she's feeling the weight of these concerns. She's still helping clients but noticed more challenges recently, including more hopelessness among those in the community and slower progress. This hopelessness is not helped by rapidly spread misinformation, particularly around transgender participation in sports. Studies like that of the Canadian Centre of Ethics in Sport in 2021 provide evidence that transgender people (particularly transgender women) lack any particular biological advantage in sports. Esposito said despite this, myths are perpetuated by hate groups.

"There's such a relentless drive to

dehumanize us," she stated. Other myths include transgender people coming after women or children, but Esposito stated this is far from the truth.

"I'm just a person," she said. "I just want to have a life like everyone else."

Esposito also said anti-trans talking points against transgender women using women's bathrooms are often misguided and there is evidence that transgender women are at the most risk of being targeted in bathrooms. Esposito also noted efforts to protect cisgender women – women whose gender aligns with their sex assigned at birth – have created the opposite effect.

"We have a lot of cisgender women assigning themselves as the gender police," she said. "You are starting to see a lot of stories in the media of cisgender women getting harassed and (into) fist fights ... because someone has decided that (those cisgender women's) presentation isn't correct for their sex."

She also described myths that there are no transgender children or children don't know what they want.

"I guarantee you if there was any way to have persuaded me otherwise or beat it out of me, or converted me into a cisgender person, it would have happened because gosh, everyone tried so hard to do that to me," she said.

Medically transitioning through hormones or surgery is important to many transgender people, Esposito said. Gender dysphoria – distress and

Authentically You

discomfort one feels when their gender identity doesn't align with their sex assigned at birth, according to Mayo Clinic – is like other maladies, Esposito said. If people can do something to make parts of their body feel better, they will. Esposito shared her experience working with youth who medically transitioned.

"I can attest to how much their lives change when adults start to believe them, when they start to get this medical care," she said. Medical transition can also help socially, she added.

"When I was early in my transition I would present as female and I was not passing for a cisgender woman at that point and people stared at me every single day," she said. "... That's not a small thing to go through, to experience that for years of your life."

Many raise concerns about transgender people later regretting surgery or taking hormones. Esposito states this has not been the experience for her or her clients.

"I've talked to people whose surgeries did not go as they hoped. I've talked to people who have transitioned and lost their families, lost their jobs, people who have been unhoused," she said. "No one's ever regretted it."

What people do regret, she said, was not transitioning sooner.

"I'm one of those people. I do feel

the pain of all of those lost years. There's nothing I can do but grieve those years," she said.

Many assume gender diversity is a modern phenomenon. Esposito said gender diversity has existed globally throughout history. Archaeologists found evidence of people not matching categories of male or female in the earliest human settlements. Given humans' long history of gender diversity, Esposito noted the transgender community needs empathy and curiosity from others, not judgment. Instead of questioning transgender people, she recommends others reflect on if her existence ever directly harmed them. Despite discrimination against her, Esposito celebrated her gender transition.

"It's crazy that I can be living through this whole legislative hurricane of hatred for me. I mean 800 anti-trans bills in this year alone ... this is really awful to be living through," she said. "And I'm still so much happier now than before I transitioned."

Esposito noted although many clients feel hopeless and demoralized since Trump's inauguration, she also witnessed them finding their courage and resilience. People are not taking this legislation lying down.

To learn more, contact Esposito at veronicaespositotherapy@gmail.com.

Susie Driscoll, LMFT, is a licensed psychotherapist. For information on her practice, email susie@kindwithincounseling.com.

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SHOCKWAVE

From Page 25

ing it ideal for chronic joint pain, osteoarthritis, herniated discs and bone injuries. EMTT reduces pain and inflammation and helps stimulate cell regeneration and collagen production at a cellular level. Unlike mechanical wave therapies, EMTT affects cell membrane permeability and improves metabolism. This can significantly enhance the body's repair capabilities, even in degenerative conditions like knee or shoulder osteoarthritis.

It is best to use all three therapies together. Mechanical and electromagnetic stimuli activate cellular pathways that promote regeneration, angiogenesis (formation of new blood vessels) and collagen synthesis. Targeted application to tendons, ligaments and joints induces a healing response, often involving mesenchymal stem cells and

fibroblasts that rebuild damaged tissue. The result? Improved mobility, reduced pain and a return to active living without surgery or long recovery times.

Living with significant chronic pain is not something anyone should accept as permanent. Shockwave therapy may offer a powerful, non invasive solution.

By targeting the root of the problem – not just the symptoms – these therapies help restore function, mobility and quality of life. If chronic pain is keeping you from doing what you love, it may be time to explore these innovative treatments and step back into a life of movement and ease.

Kim Gladfelter is the owner, physical therapist and Pilates instructor at PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness, 1000 Fremont Ave., Suite 108, Los Altos. For more information, call (650) 887-6046 or visit physiofitpt.com.

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Your Home

I'm too overwhelmed: What to do when clutter is too much

By Lyn Rogers

"It always seems impossible until it's done."
– Nelson Mandela.

Do you look around your home or office and think, "I wish I could wave a magic wand and make all the clutter disappear?" Or that you could wake up in the morning and everything would be magically organized and look amazing? We all have those dreams and they are doable if you ask the right questions about your belongings.

Start with one small category at a time, not the whole room. You'll be overwhelmed from the start if you make the project too big to finish quickly, and you'll give up. Finishing one shelf is so much easier than thinking you will reorganize the whole pantry at once.

Start by separating the category into groups: much loved, detested and meh. The detested items should go immediately into a donation box and into your trunk. Much loved items can return to the cupboard, closet or shelf from which they



PHIMWILAI/ADOBE STOCK

Breaking down one big project to many smaller ones can help when feeling overwhelmed.

came. Meh things are items that you can live without, but need to give a second look, just in case.

Are foods open and recently eaten, or are they stale? Are unopened foods loved by your family, or would you be happier donating the items to the local food pantry? Are you saving foods because they

were a gift and you felt guilty into keeping them? Have you checked expiration dates?

Clothes need to be sorted into their own groups: I look amazing in this, way too big/small, outdated and eww. The last two categories should be added to your donation box and into your trunk. Clothes that are more than two sizes

too small or large need to find a new home, especially if you haven't worn them within the past year. Stained and threadbare clothes can be recycled.

Did you inherit furniture that isn't your style, but could be useful to someone in need? Home decor that belongs to a bygone era? Household items that require too much work

Conquering Clutter

to care for, such as china that needs to be hand-washed only? Take pictures of items with happy memories attached for your scrapbook. Offer as many other items as you can to family, then friends, then donate the rest to benefit the community.

Irreplaceable items should be honored and treasured in memory boxes, acid-free albums, beautiful jewelry boxes and air-tight bins. Or maybe you've put off sending the special tea cup set to your favorite niece. Now is the time to gift your heirlooms to family and friends, so you can share in their joy upon receiving them.

Always remember that baby steps are still steps.

You've got this.

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

There is always room for tomatoes

By Melinda Myers

Special to the Town Crier

Nothing beats the flavor of fresh-from-the-garden tomatoes. Keep them close at hand by growing one or more in containers on your patio, balcony or front steps.

Any tomato can be grown in a pot, but determinate varieties are shorter and more compact, making them a bit easier to manage in a container. They produce fruit in a relatively short period of time, making them great choices for preserving as well as using fresh. Look for a D or determinate on the plant tag, seed packet or in the catalog description.

Indeterminate tomatoes, often designated with an I, are usually much taller and continue to grow, flower and produce fruit until frost kills the plant or you pinch out the growing tip. These are usually staked or grown in wire cages to save space, reduce pest problems and make harvesting easier. Many new containers have built-in trellises or creative gardeners craft their own, making it easier and more attractive to grow these bigger plants in pots.

Semi-determinate varieties are in

between these two. They are compact like determinates, often trailing but produce fruit throughout the growing season like indeterminate varieties.

You can now find compact varieties often sold as miniature and dwarf plants that grow well in small 4-inch to 8-inch pots. They are a great option for those with limited space, gardening on balconies, indoors in a sunny window or just about anywhere. Kitchen Mini tomatoes, Heartbreakers, Red Velvet and Micro Tom Thumb are just a few.

Grow one tomato per container for maximum productivity. Use a 5-gallon or bigger container for large varieties and at least a two to three gallon or similar size pot for smaller varieties. Some research suggests growing tomatoes in a pot that is at least 14 inches but preferably 20 inches wide will yield greater results. Adding flowers and herbs to the container boosts the beauty and diversity of your container garden but will reduce the number of tomatoes produced.

Growing tomatoes in containers also allows you to start the season earlier. Just move the planter inside when the weather is harsh and back outside when the weather is warm and sunny.



COURTESY OF MELINDAMYERS.COM

If gardening space is limited, grow tomatoes in hanging baskets or containers.

As the weather turns cold at the end of the growing season, cover the planter or move it into a frost-free location as needed. Some gardeners even move a pot or two inside to finish off the tomato season.

Plant tomatoes in a container with

drainage holes and fill it with a quality potting mix. Reduce the time spent watering with a self-watering pot that has a reservoir to hold water and extend the time between watering. Further

See TOMATOES, Page 29

Boost your outdoor enjoyment by managing ticks and mosquitoes

By Melinda Myers
Special to the Town Crier

Summer is synonymous with fun outdoor activities like barbecues, lawn games, hikes and gardening. But it can also mean unwanted pests like mosquitoes and ticks. Employing a few preventative strategies can help minimize the annoyance and reduce the risk of tick- and mosquito-borne diseases.

Start by creating a landscape that is less inviting to mosquitoes and ticks. Reduce mosquitoes' daytime resting spaces by keeping your garden weeded. Removing weeds and managing neglected garden spaces will make your landscape less inviting to these pests.

Evaluate drainage patterns in your landscape. Improve drainage by amending the soil in garden beds with organic matter. Consider adding a rain garden to capture water run-off from the roof and hard surfaces, putting it to work in a garden filled with beautiful flowers for you and pollinators to enjoy. Water collected in these gardens drains within 24 to 36 hours and doesn't provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Drain water from toys, buckets or any object that can hold water and serve as a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Remember to clear debris from gutters so the water flows freely through the gutter and out the downspout.

Change the water in birdbaths at least once a week. Make it part of your routine whenever you water container gardens. Or you can install a small pump to keep the water moving, which prevents mosquito breeding.

Toss a Mosquito Dunk (summitresponsiblesolutions.com) in birdbaths, rain barrels and water features. This certified organic insecticide only kills the larvae of mosquitoes, black flies and fungus gnats. It won't harm bees, butterflies, birds, pets or people.

Help reduce the tick population in your landscape by keeping the grass mowed and removing brush, groundcovers, firewood piles and bird feeders



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Time spent outdoors doesn't have to be ruined by ticks and mosquitoes.

near your home or where your family frequents. Consider creating a tick-safe area where your family frequents and limit time spent in tick-infested areas. Widen pathways, properly prune trees to increase light, exclude deer and discourage rodents to reduce the risk of exposure. Place children's swing sets away from the woods and cover the soil with woodchip mulch. Eliminate invasive barberry, honeysuckle and buckthorn that create a tick-friendly habitat.

Wear light-colored clothing to more easily spot ticks before they move onto your skin. Loose fitting, light-colored clothing is also less attractive to mosquitoes. Wear long pants and tuck them into socks and tuck your shirt into your pants. Ticks often gain access through pant legs or shirt-tails and crawl up, looking for a place to settle in and feed.

Consider spraying your clothing with an insecticide labeled for repelling and killing ticks and mosquitoes. Select an insecticide spray like Summit Green Armor Insect Repellent labeled for use on clothing. Read and follow label direc-

tions and let your clothing dry before wearing it.

Remove and check your clothing for ticks anytime you have been outdoors. Showering within two hours of spending time outdoors can greatly reduce your risk of Lyme and possibly other tick-borne diseases. Always conduct a tick check, paying special attention to your underarms, belly button, in and around your ears, hair, behind your knees and around your waist.

Keep mosquitoes away when hosting a party, gardening, or relaxing outdoors. Use a fan to create a gentle breeze that keeps weak-flying mosquitoes away from you and your guests. Some gardeners even take a small fan into the garden while weeding.

Citronella oil and scented candles have some mosquito-repelling properties. Scatter the candles in outdoor spaces within a few feet of where family and friends gather for some short-term relief.

A combination of these strategies will help minimize your exposure to these biting insects so you can better enjoy the outdoors this summer.

TOMATOES

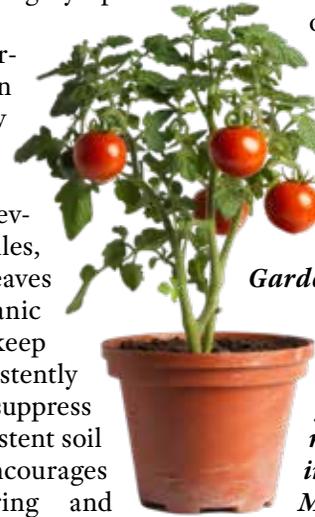
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reduce the need to water by adding an organic, sustainable soil amendment like certified organic Wild Valley Farms' wool pellets (wildvalleyfarms.com) to the potting mix. Made from wool waste, this product reduces watering by up to 25%.

Water thoroughly when the top few inches dry out. Mulch the soil with evergreen needles, shredded leaves or other organic mulch to keep the soil consistently moist and suppress weeds. Consistent soil moisture encourages more flowering and

fruiting, while reducing the risk of blossom end rot, cracking and misshapen fruit.

Harvest tomatoes when fully colored or leave them on the plant a few more days for an even sweeter flavor. You'll enjoy the convenience of harvesting fresh tomatoes right outside your door for use in salads, sauces and other favorite recipes.



Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books and hosts the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. She is also a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. For more information, visit MelindaMyers.com.

Have a comment or idea? Reach out

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



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Business & Real Estate

Poppy Bank to open first Los Altos location next month

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Poppy Bank is opening its first Los Altos location sometime in mid-June, and CEO Khalid Acheckzai said the bank will bring excellent customer service and a number of different banking products and services to Main Street.

As the golden-petaled name may suggest, the California-based bank has multiple locations across the state of California. The bank first opened in downtown Santa Rosa in 2005, Acheckzai said, and during a time when high-profile banks are shuttering, Poppy has “continued to grow and thrive.”

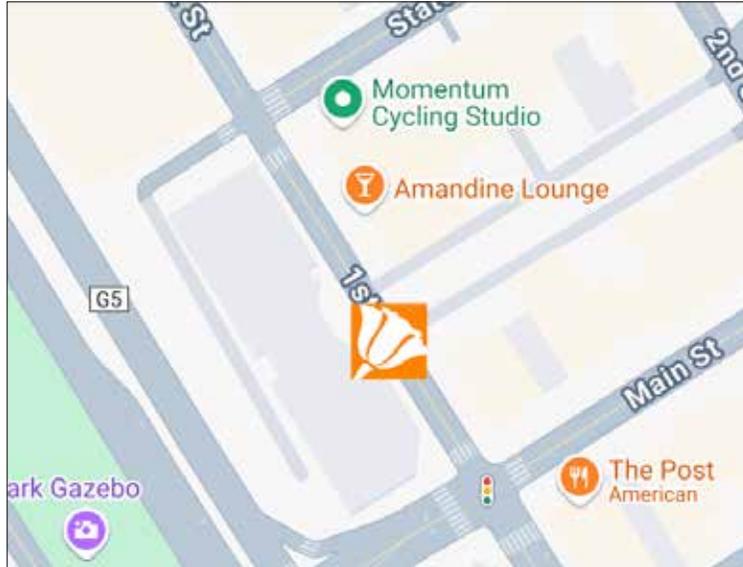
“Poppy Bank has reached \$7 billion assets and has been named among the fastest growing companies by Inc. 5000,” Acheckzai stated in an email. “By the end of 2025, we will have 45 branches throughout

California.” Poppy branches can be found as far north as Sacramento and as far south as San Diego. The bank also offers loan services in Nevada, Arizona and Texas. Poppy is currently in the process of opening two new local locations: one in San Jose and the other at 400 Main St., Suite 180 in Los Altos. The choice to open in Los Altos was based on the city’s personality, Acheckzai said.

“We chose Los Altos as it is a vibrant community and has much to offer,” Acheckzai said. “We believe that the presence of a strong and established community-focused bank like Poppy Bank can add to the appeal of Los Altos and enhance its economic prosperity.”



Acheckzai



SCREENSHOT OF POPPY BANK GOOGLE MAPS LOCATION

Poppy Bank is scheduled to open at 400 Main St., Suite 180 in Los Altos next month. The bank offers personal and business services.

The decision to open the new branches was taken to increase the bank’s reach, Acheckzai said. It’s also part of the bank’s “rapid nationwide expansion,” he said but the bank “remains steadfast in its commitment to serving the local communities

and maintaining its personal relationships with clients.” Acheckzai emphasized the importance of opening a brick-and-mortar bank as many other banks shutter physical bank branches while encouraging their clients to bank online.

“While Poppy Bank offers excellent online banking services, we know that it cannot take the place of face-to-face interaction,” he said. “At every branch, Poppy Bank’s employees go above and beyond to provide personalized service and warm hospitality to support our clients and their financial goals. We are excited to extend our services to Los Altos and to build relationships in this community.”

Among personal and business banking products, Poppy offers deposit products, cash management services and automated clearing house processing. Business lending includes commercial loans, USDA and US Small Business Administration loans, construction, commercial and real estate loans and lines of credit, Acheckzai said.

“We have built a reputation

See BANK, Page 31

The predictable unpredictability of Los Altos’ seasonal days on market

By Alex Wang

Los Altos’ real estate market reveals a fascinating rhythm when we examine how long homes stay on the market throughout the year. The data tells a compelling story: Homes selling in just five days in February 2025 compared to 36 days in January – a dramatic 86% decrease in selling time in a single month.

What we’re seeing in Los Altos is not random fluctuation but a predictable seasonal pattern that local agents who know the market can help their clients navigate.

The September surge

The first significant spike occurs in

September, when average days on market (DOM) jumps to 33 days – more than triple June’s brisk eight-day average. This pattern emerges from several factors unique to our community:

First, Los Altos’ school-centric families are typically focused on getting children settled into the new academic year by September, temporarily shifting attention away from home searches and home sales. With our schools consistently ranking among California’s best, these first weeks of the school year often take priority over real estate decisions.

Second, inventory from July and August – traditionally slow months when many Los Altos residents are travel-

Realtor Field Notes

ing – tends to carry over into September, creating a surplus. This summer inventory accumulation is particularly pronounced in our community, where school calendars strongly influence when families are in town and actively participating in the market.

The January peak and the February plunge

Even more dramatic is January’s peak (36 DOM), followed by February’s remarkable efficiency (five DOM). This whiplash-inducing pattern ap-

pears connected to several factors.

One hypothesis worth considering, especially for readers working in tech: January’s slowdown may coincide with tech companies’ quarterly evaluation periods, when potential buyers are focused on year-end performance reviews and bonus calculations. I welcome feedback from tech professionals on whether this pattern aligns with their experience.

Perhaps more definitively, January experiences a “holiday hangover” effect as listings that remained unsold during the slow holiday season continue to accumulate days on market. Many sellers

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Business & Real Estate

MARKET

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opt to keep homes listed during November and December when buyer activity traditionally slows, resulting in a pool of stale inventory by January.

The February correction occurs as fresh listings hit the market and newly-motivated buyers enter simultaneously, creating increased competition for limited inventory.

North Los Altos properties, particularly those in top school attendance areas, see the most dramatic compression in DOM during this period.

While this pattern holds true across Los Altos, subtle differences exist between neighborhoods. Country Club and Highlands areas tend to see slightly longer DOM figures year-round compared to North Los Altos, while South of El Monte properties show more consistent DOM throughout the seasons.

What this means

These predictable cycles create some possible strategic

opportunities:

For sellers:

- Listing in February through May maximizes your chances for a quick sale.

- If you must sell around July, August, September or during the holidays, prepare for a potentially longer process and price accordingly.

- “Pre-Spring” marketing for a January listing can help your property stand out.

For buyers:

- January, the holidays and the end of summer may offer more negotiating leverage and less competition, though possibly with less inventory to choose from.

- Consider properties that have lingered into September, as motivated sellers may be more flexible.

For long-term planning:

- Los Altos’ seasonal patterns have remained consistent despite broader market changes, demonstrating the area’s enduring appeal and stability.

- These patterns tend to be more pronounced in Los Altos than neighboring communities, reflecting our market’s

unique characteristics.

Looking ahead, I anticipate these seasonal rhythms will continue through 2025, though possibly with less dramatic swings if mortgage rates stabilize as predicted. The unique combination of school quality, limited inventory and tech industry employment cycles that drives these patterns remains firmly in place.

While we can observe these seasonal patterns, it’s worth noting that individual properties still sell based on their unique features and market positioning. Understanding these cycles gives both buyers and sellers valuable context, but each home’s story remains distinctive in our diverse Los Altos neighborhoods.

This analysis is based on MLS Listings data for Los Altos from June 2024 through May 2025.

Alex Wang is a Los Altos resident, local realtor, and founder of Rainmaker Real Estate. For neighborhood-specific insights or questions about your property, text or call 650-800-8840 or visit AlexWang.com.

BANK

From Page 30

for responding quickly to loan requests, turning applications around expeditiously, and efficiently closing loans in a streamlined manner,” he said. “Above all, we excel in offering excellent, personalized service to our clients.”

But what he said sets Poppy Bank apart from other banks is its commitment to the ethos it was founded on: innovation, integrity and security. It’s also dedicated to making a positive impact on the communities the bank serves—specifically, the bank has been proactive with its philanthropic contributions and was deemed a “top corporate philanthropist” by the San Francisco Business Times. Recipients of donations include the American Heart Association, Council on Aging and various Sonoma County nonprofits.

“We understand that non-profit organizations are the backbone of our communities, and we are especially passionate about supporting organizations that address homelessness, food insecurity, and equitable education,” Acheckzai said. “Throughout the areas we serve, Poppy Bank has provided support to nonprofits through sponsorships and donations, tailored banking products, creative lending and in-kind services.”

Poppy Bank is also being recognized by out-of-state, nationwide organizations for its service, he said. It’s been named one of the best-performing banks nationwide by American Banker, ICBA and S&P Global, Acheckzai said. The bank also received a five-star rating from Bauerfinancial.

For more information on Poppy Bank, visit poppy.bank.

If you have an idea for Business & Real Estate or would like to comment on its content, email editor Christina Casillas, christina@latc.com.



1908 SILVERWOOD AVE.

MOUNTAIN VIEW | \$798,000
2 BEDROOMS | 1.5 BATHROOMS
984 +/-SF

Stunning End Unit Townhome with Private Patio!

Beautifully private remodeled end unit with no common walls (984+/-sf) 2 bedroom & 1.5 designer baths townhome with an open floor plan, including a large primary suite! It features Plantation shutters, inside washer and dryer & new flooring throughout. It is located in one of the most private areas of Silverwood Village with a large patio & close to all commutes!

Enjoy cooking in the custom kitchen with abundant cabinetry, granite countertops, new electric range & high-end stainless appliances with an open dining area adjacent to the large living room with views of the beautiful patio and stunning flowers. Ideal for entertaining!

Recent upgrades include new hardwood flooring and carpet, newer washer, dryer & water heater, custom paint inside and out & beautiful flowers on the private patio! Low HOAs (\$607) includes water and garbage! Close to nationally ranked Los Altos High & all easy commutes to Google, Apple & Stanford! Perfect for a first time buyer or investor!

Top ranked schools: Theuerkauf, Crittenden Middle & Los Altos High!

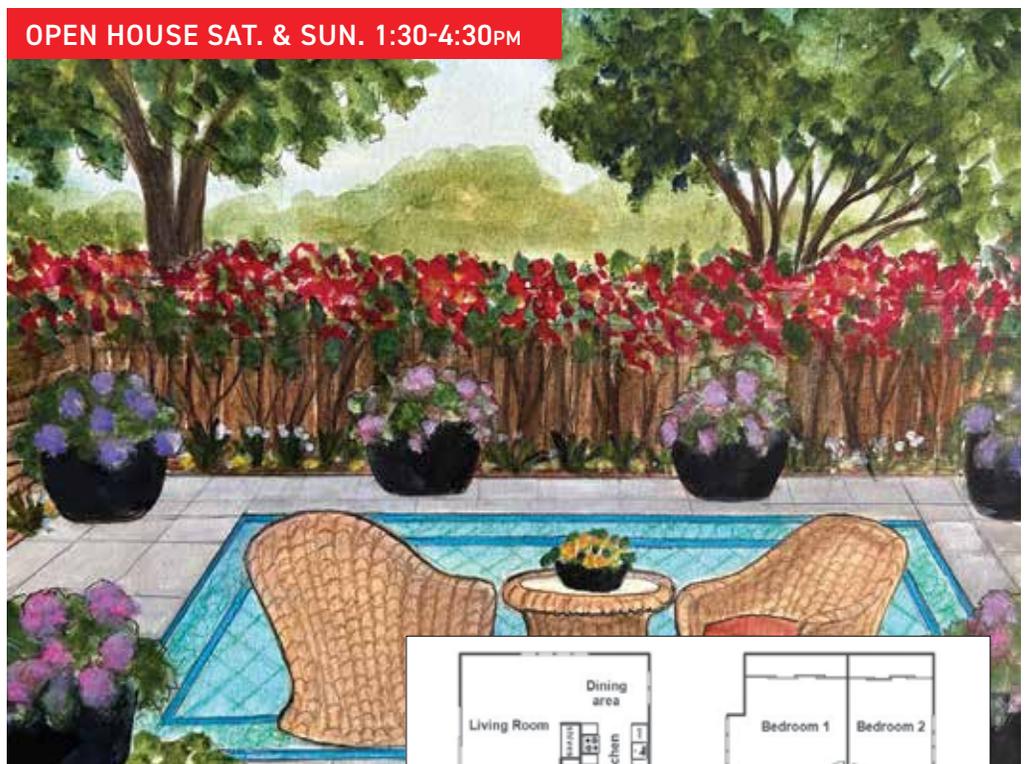
SELLER IS WILLING TO OFFER CONCESSIONS!



LYNN NORTH

L.NORTH@THEAGENCYRE.COM
650.703.6437 | DRE. #01490039

OPEN HOUSE SAT. & SUN. 1:30-4:30PM



Offered at \$798,000
1908Silverwood.com



160 MAIN STREET | LOS ALTOS, CA 94022

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LUXURY REAL ESTATE AT LYNNNORTH.COM



Seller's Bill of Rights



At DeLeon Realty, we believe sellers deserve better. Better marketing, better support, and better results, without any Realtor® games or hidden agendas. Further, sellers should not be coerced or persuaded to offer their homes only to buyers represented by that listing brokerage (where they would get double commission) – whether in advance of all the other interested buyers or instead of them.

This *Seller's Bill of Rights* lays out what you can expect from us, in plain terms. These aren't nice-to-haves or vague promises. They're real, concrete commitments we make to every seller with whom we work.

I. The Right to Fair Representation

DeLeon Realty will never accept commission from both sides of any transaction. We will also provide and fully compensate a qualified agent to represent any unrepresented buyers on DeLeon listings at no cost to the buyer OR the seller.

II. The Right to Legal and Tax Guidance

DeLeon sellers will have access to a licensed California attorney to address any legal issues or tax questions related to the sale of their home, free of charge.

III. The Right to Industry-Leading Marketing

DeLeon sellers will receive more marketing and better marketing than any other comparable property on the market (excluding other DeLeon listings).

IV. The Right to Maximum Exposure

All DeLeon listings will be featured on the MLS, Zillow, Redfin, and other top platforms, unless the seller opts for an unrecommended off-market strategy with full understanding that it will likely yield a lower price due to reduced exposure and competition.

V. The Right to Print and Digital Visibility

Your home will appear in at least one newspaper advertisement every week it's on the market and will include a custom video, 3D tour, and professional photography, all featured on a dedicated micro website specific to your home.

VI. The Right to Guided Preparation

Every DeLeon seller benefits from access to an experienced interior designer and handyman to oversee the home preparation process, including selecting a stager whose vision aligns with the property and marketing strategy.

VII. The Right to Complimentary Staging

DeLeon sellers will never pay for staging – ever.

VIII. The Right to Covered Inspections

All property and pest inspections arranged by DeLeon are covered at no cost to the seller.

IX. The Right to Flexibility

Listing agreements automatically expire 39 days after the home goes live on the MLS, unless the seller chooses to extend. We believe listing agents should have to earn that extension.

X. The Right to a Team That Works for You

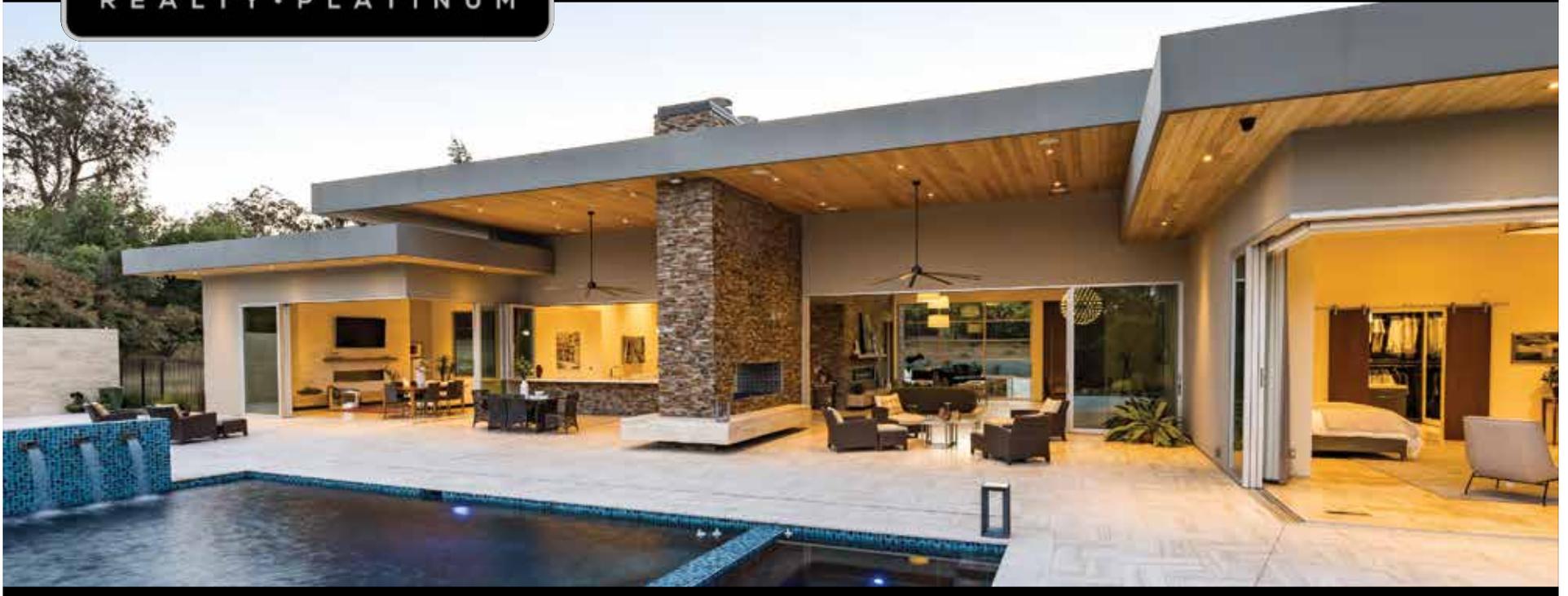
Michael Repka, and our sellers, benefit from the most robust group of professionals in the real estate industry, all working in unison to achieve the best result possible. From interior designers, handymen, and a licensed contractor, to highly specialized marketing professionals, and attorneys, DeLeon Realty delivers a level of service and results unattainable by any individual agent or small team.

If you are thinking of listing your home, meet with Michael Repka to learn how a recent court case and massive settlement has brought down the cost to sell a home.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880
650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
DELEON REALTY, INC. | DRE #01903224
Equal Housing Opportunity



26270 PURISSIMA ROAD
LOS ALTOS HILLS



A MASTERPIECE OF DESIGN, DETAIL, AND TRANQUILITY

Designed by acclaimed San Francisco firm AE3 Partners and built in 2020, this architectural masterpiece blends mid-century inspiration with a crisp, modern sensibility. Every feature and finish is top-of-the-line: travertine floors, African mahogany-paneled ceilings, and dramatic ledger stone walls create a rich material palette, while striking fireplaces and soaring spaces add warmth and dimension. Walls of glass disappear in multiple rooms, dissolving the boundary between inside and out. At the heart of the home, a sculptural kitchen pairs imported French cabinetry with twin islands wrapped in thick slabs of Calacatta Borghini marble. Beyond, the grounds unfold like a private resort, with a saltwater pool and spa, a full outdoor kitchen with grill and pizza oven, and a two-way fireplace connecting a pair of patios designed for long conversations and late summer evenings.

Set on more than two gated acres, accentuated by redwood groves and steeped in calm, the property provides total privacy and room to grow. The main home features four en suite bedrooms, including a serene primary suite with a spa-like bath, wine fridge in the closet, and floor-to-ceiling glass that opens outdoors. A detached guest house with a full kitchen adds flexibility for longer stays or seamless poolside entertaining. Behind the scenes, solar panels, six Tesla PowerWalls, and numerous smart systems bring modern ease, while a 4-car garage with two EV outlets and a dedicated charger will delight auto enthusiasts. And though the setting feels a world apart, downtown Los Altos, top-rated schools, and major commute routes are all just minutes away.

OPEN HOUSE WITH LIVE MUSIC
SAT & SUN 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

26270Purissima.com

Notice to Buyers:

Although a good buyer's agent can add significant insight and value, you are not required to use one to purchase a DeLeon listing. If you would like to submit an offer to us directly, please contact the DeLeon Buyer's Team at **650.543.8528** and we will waive 100% of the buyer's-side commission.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty_USA



176 ENCINAL AVENUE
ATHERTON

\$21,888,000 | 8 Bd | 10.5 Bth
176Encinal.com



26270 PURISSIMA ROAD
LOS ALTOS HILLS

5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
26270Purissima.com



2822 KIPLING STREET
PALO ALTO

\$3,988,000 | 4 Bd | 4 Bth
2822Kipling.com



86 RITTENHOUSE AVE
ATHERTON

\$4,488,000 | 5 Bd | 3 Bth
86Rittenhouse.com



128 CORNELL ROAD
MENLO PARK

\$3,988,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
128Cornell.com



12355 STONEBROOK COURT
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$9,988,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth
12355StonebrookCt.com



5 OAK FOREST COURT
PORTOLA VALLEY

\$5,788,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth
5OakForest.com



695 N CALIFORNIA AVE
PALO ALTO

\$3,988,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth
695NCalifornia.com



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
MORE DETAILS OR VISIT US
AT **DELEONREALTY.COM**



Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822
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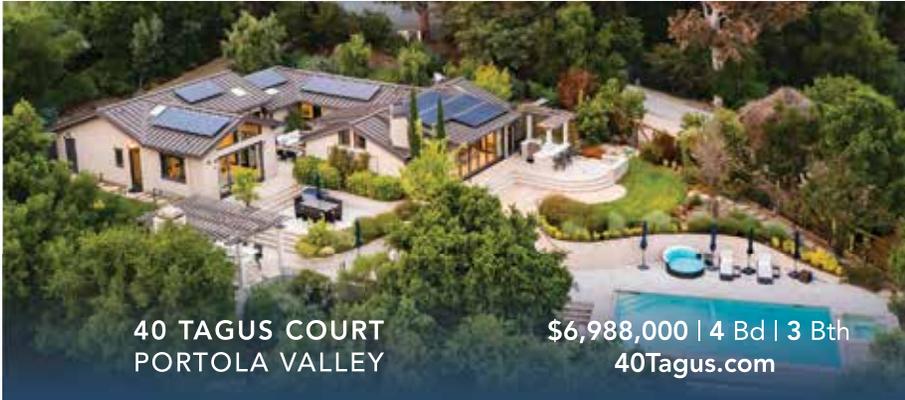




YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty_USA



40 TAGUS COURT
PORTOLA VALLEY

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



835 LA HONDA ROAD
WOODSIDE

\$7,988,000 | 5 Bd | 7 Bth
835LaHonda.com



590 MILITARY WAY
PALO ALTO

\$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
590Military.com



8 REYNA PLACE
MENLO PARK

\$8,988,000 | 4 Bd | 7 Bth
8Reyna.com



638 MOUNTAIN VIEW AVE
MOUNTAIN VIEW

\$2,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
638MountainView.com



28500 MATADERO CREEK LN
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$9,798,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth
28500MataderoCreek.com



1715 BAY LAUREL DRIVE
MENLO PARK

\$7,988,000 | 4 Bd | 4.5 Bth
1715BayLaurel.com



1080 COTTON STREET
MENLO PARK

\$8,988,000 | 7 Bd | 8.5 Bth
1080Cotton.com



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MORE DETAILS OR VISIT US
AT **DELEONREALTY.COM**



Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822
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SUMMER SPLASH

BIG EXPOSURE. HOT MARKET. LIST WITH DELEON.

DeLeon Realty's Annual Summer Promotion

This July, take advantage of a unique opportunity to stand out in a low-inventory market and reach highly motivated buyers.

Our Summer Splash listings are backed by Silicon Valley's most extensive marketing campaign - including TV, radio, Chinese media, social platforms, and direct mail - all designed to drive traffic and maximize results.

Discover Summer Splash Seller Benefits

- Premium placement in the Summer Splash section of The DeLeon Insight (50,000+ homes)
- Multi-page booklet mailed with The Almanac and Palo Alto Weekly
- Targeted online and social media exposure
- Ads in multiple local and Chinese newspapers
- Marketing outreach to global buyers
- Summer-themed entertainment at select open houses

Sign up to list your home with us by May 31 to participate!

SIGN UP TODAY!

Call **650.488.7325** or Email michael@deleonrealty.com

Learn more about the Summer Splash Promotion, Please Visit:
DeLeonSplash.com or Scan the QR



Michael Repka DRE #01854880 | **650.488.7325** | michael@deleonrealty.com
DELEON REALTY, INC. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity

JUST LISTED

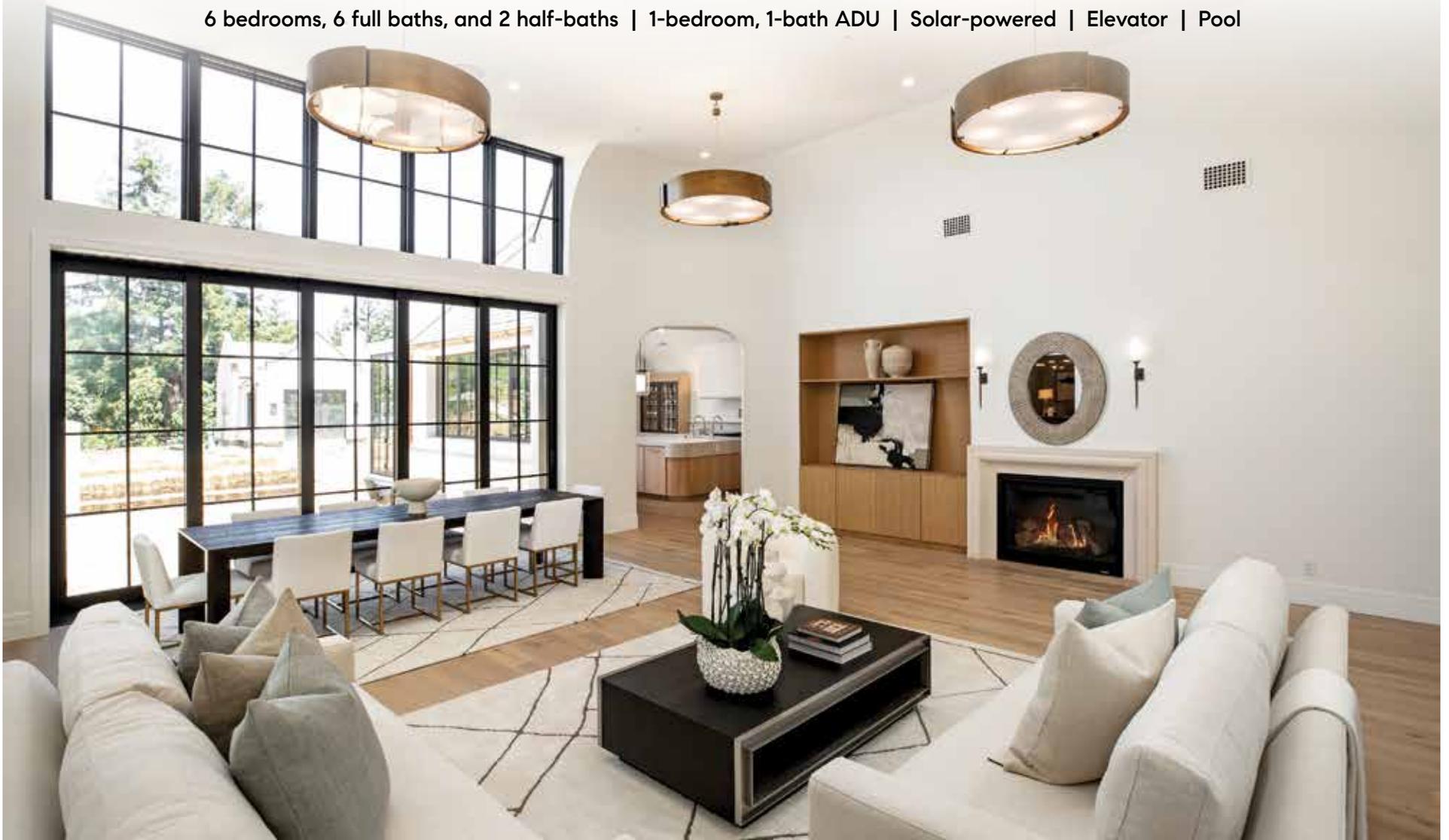


26321 ALEXANDER PLACE, LOS ALTOS HILLS

Offered at \$19,995,000 | 26321Alexander.com



Just completed modern French masterpiece | Just over one acre | Approximately 12,891 total square feet
6 bedrooms, 6 full baths, and 2 half-baths | 1-bedroom, 1-bath ADU | Solar-powered | Elevator | Pool



KATHY BRIDGMAN

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kathy@kathybridgman.com
kathybridgman.com
License #01189798

COMPASS

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ed@sereno.com
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CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Build Your Dream Home on 1.26 Acres

In a Rarely Available Close-In Area of the Hills

JUST LISTED 27121 W FREMONT ROAD, LOS ALTOS HILLS*

OPEN | SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2:00 – 4:00 PM



- Once in a lifetime opportunity to build the estate home of your dreams
- Cherished and rarely available part of Los Altos Hills
- Property spans approximately 1.26 acres of level land (APN/Parcel ID: 175-32-061)
- Possibility of a subdivision using SB-9 (buyer to consult City of Los Altos Hills for confirmation)
- Feels miles away yet is just minutes from the Village of Los Altos
- Excellent Palo Alto schools

Offered at \$5,995,000 | www.WFremont.com

*For direction purposes only.

sereno
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INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.



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jen@sereno.com
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in California**

Based on 2024 *RealTrends*
Rankings by Sales Volume

Your home is where our heart is



FABULOUS FLOOR PLAN WITH PANORAMIC BAY VIEWS

13038 VISTA DEL VALLE CT,
LOS ALTOS HILLS

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY | 13038VISTADELVALLE.COM

IDEAL SINGLE-LEVEL DESIGN | VIEWS FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO THE SOUTH BAY
4 BEDROOMS | 3.5 BATHS | STUNNING STONE DETAILS | FABULOUS GREAT ROOM
FORMAL LIVING AND DINING ROOMS | LARGE VIEW DECK | DETACHED STUDIO
FRONT YARD WITH LOVELY PATIOS AND LAWN | EASY ACCESS TO COMMUTE ROUTES

OFFERED AT \$3,998,000



DAVID TROYER LIC#01234450

650.440.5076 | DAVID@DAVIDTROYER.COM | DAVIDTROYER.COM

INTERO
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

JUST LISTED!
OPEN SAT SUN 1:30-4:30PM

225 Live Oak Lane, Los Altos

THE OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR!



225 Live Oak Lane represents an incredibly rare opportunity to build in one of the most coveted locations in all of North Los Altos. Just a few blocks from the village and top rated schools the approximately 16,836 square foot lot is ready to make your dreams come true. The current home 2 bed 2 1/2 bath approx 1,810 square feet has been unoccupied for over 20 years and is not habitable in its current condition and is being sold as lot value.

OFFERED AT \$4,998,000 | 225LIVEOAK.COM



RYAN GOWDY
408.309.8660
ryan.gowdy@theagencyre.com
License# 01322889

LOS ALTOS NATIVE & Consistently
Ranked Among **Top Local Agents!**



All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

Public Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE No. 25-3311-SCL

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED October 28, 2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On JUNE 18, 2025 at 10:00 am, at the gated North Market Street entrance of the Superior Courthouse, 191 N. First Street, San Jose, Ca. 95113, The Foreclosure Company, Inc., as Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States) the following described property situated in the County of Santa Clara, State of California, described more fully within said Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation of the real property described above is purported to be: 27920 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills, Ca. 94022 APN: 351-01-044 The undersigned disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation shown here. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding in a foreclosure sale under a lien secured by the property, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (408) 374-7204 or visit www.foreclosureco.com or www.nationwideposting.com and check Trustee's Sale #25-3311-SCL. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligations secured by and pursuant to the Power of Sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Jean Warren Gillon, as Trustee of the Jean Gillon Revocable Trust U.A.D. December 30, 2006, as Trustor, Recorded on November 4, 2022 as Instrument Number 25396507 of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Santa Clara County. At the time of the initial publication of this Notice, the amount due to satisfy the obligation secured by the subject Deed of Trust, estimated costs, expenses, fees and advances is \$408,293.59. To verify the opening bid call (408) 374-7204, before the sale date. The Foreclosure Company, Inc., as Trustee, 827 Cedar Street, Santa Cruz, California 95060 Date: May 20, 2025 By: Christina Leigh, Foreclosure Officer This office is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose; whether that information is obtained verbally or in writing. NPP0474701 To: LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER 05/28/2025, 06/04/2025, 06/11/2025 (05-28-25,06-04,11-25)

140-T

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

FOR

Lower Arena Improvements at Westwind Community Barn Project

1. BID OPENING. Bids will be received by the City Clerk of the Town of Los Altos Hills, California, until **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2025**, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked on the outside **"Bid For Lower Arena Improvements at Westwind Community Barn Project"**.

2. WORK DESCRIPTION. The scope of work in this project is to remove existing wood fences, fence posts, concrete post bases, and sprinkler heads, install new wood fence, fence posts, and concrete post bases, install new gates, install new communication conduits, pull boxes, and control wires, install new sprinkler heads, riser pipes, shutoff valves, and solenoid valves, regrade an ex-

isting drainage swale, replace an existing culvert, install an underdrain system; and doing all other work as shown and described in the contract documents with the title of **Lower Arena Improvements at Westwind Community Barn Project** dated **5/19/2025** and on file in the office of the Public Works Director. The Engineer's Estimate for the project, including the add alternate, is \$220,000. The project Plans and Specifications/Contract Documents can be downloaded from the Town of Los Altos Hills website at <https://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/Bids.aspx>.

3. WORKING DAYS. Work under this Contract is to be completed in **THIRTY (30)** working days. **Work shall start no earlier than August 11, 2025.**

4. CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE. **Class "B"** Contractor's License is required for bidders to bid on this project. A **Class "C-36"** Contractor's License is required for plumbing work. No bid will be accepted from a Contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with Chapter 9, Division 3 of the Business and Professional Code.

5. BID DEPOSIT. A Bid Deposit equals to at least ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid shall be placed in the sealed proposal. The Bid Deposit shall be in one of the following forms: cash, cashier's check, or certified check payable to the Town, or bidder's bond in favor of the Town executed by an authorized surety company.

6. PERFORMANCE BONDS. Performance guaranty bonds as set forth in Section 4-2 of the Special Provisions will be required from the successful bidder.

7. TOWN'S RIGHT TO REJECT BIDS. The right is reserved, as the interest of the Town may require, to reject any or all bids, or to waive any informality or minor irregularity in the bids.

8. PRE-BID METING. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 3, 2025** at the Town of Los Altos Hills Town Hall located at 26379 Fremont Road in the Town of Los Altos Hills. This meeting is to inform bidders of project requirements and subcontractors of subcontracting and material supply opportunities. This meeting includes field visit to construction sites. Bidder's attendance is **optional**.

9. GENERAL PREVAILING WAGE RATES. Pursuant to Section 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing wage rates in the county, or counties, in which the work is to be done have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project, available from the California Department of Industrial Relations' Internet web site at <http://www.dir.ca.gov>

10. OBTAINING THE PROJECT PLANS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. (a) A full set of plans and Contract Documents are available for inspection without charge at the office of the Public Works Department, Town of Los Altos Hills, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. (b) Complete sets of said Contract Documents may be purchased at fifty- dollars (\$50.00) per set and are obtainable from the office of the City Engineer/Public

Works Director, Town of Los Altos Hills, Public Works Department, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, California 94022. No refund will be made of any charges for sets of Contract Documents. An additional charge of \$10.00 will be made for each set of Contract Documents sent by regular mail with the U.S. Postal Service.

11. OBTAINING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SPECIFICATIONS. The State of California Department of Transportation Standard Specifications and Standard Plans may be purchased at the State of California Department of Transportation Publication Distribution Unit, 1900 Royal Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95819; Telephone: (916) 445-3520; Fax: (916) 324-8997.

12. WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS. Any bid may be withdrawn at any time prior to the time fixed in the public notice for the opening of bids only by written request for the withdrawal of the bid filed with the Director of Public Works. The request shall be executed by the bidder or his/her duly authorized representative. The withdrawal of a bid does not prejudice the right of the bidder to file a new bid. Whether or not bids are opened exactly at the time fixed in the public notice for opening bids, a bid will not be received after that time nor may any bid be withdrawn after the time fixed in the public notice for opening of bids.

13. RELIEF OF BIDDERS. As stated in the California Public Contract Code Sections 5100 to 5110, inclusive (State Contract Act) concerning relief of bidders and in particular to the requirement therein, that if the bidder claims a mistake was made in his/her bid, the bidder shall give the Public Works Director written notice within five (5) days after the opening of the bids of the alleged mistake, specifying in the notice in detail how the mistake occurred.

14. DISQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS. More than one proposal from an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or combination thereof under the same or different names will not be considered. Reasonable grounds for believing that any individual, firm, partnership, corporation or combination thereof is interested in more than one proposal for the work contemplated may cause the rejection of all proposals in which such individual, firm, partnership, corporation or combination thereof is interested. If there is reason for believing that collusion exists among the bidders, any or all proposals may be rejected. Proposals in which the prices obviously are unbalanced may be rejected.

15. PREVIOUS DISQUALIFICATION, REMOVAL OR OTHER PREVENTION OF BIDDING. A bid may be rejected on the basis of a bidder, any officer of such bidder, or any employee of such bidder who has a proprietary interest in such bidder, having been disqualified, removed, or otherwise prevented from bidding on, or completing a federal, state, or local project because of a violation of law or a safety regulation.

16. RESPONSIBILITY FOR VERIFYING CONTRACT ADDENDA. All bidders shall verify if any addenda for this project have been issued by the Town of Los Altos Hills. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that all requirements of Contract addenda are

included in the bidder's proposal.

17. ESCROW FOR SECURITY DEPOSIT IN LIEU OF RETENTION. Pursuant to the California Public Contract Code Section 22300, for monies earned by the Contractor and withheld by the Town to ensure the performance of the Contract, the Contractor, may, at its option, choose to substitute securities meeting the requirements of said California Public Contract Code Section 22300.

18. SHORING AND BRACING. Pursuant to the provisions of the California Labor Code Section 6707, each bid submitted in response to this Notice to Bidders shall contain, as included in each bid item, adequate sheeting, shoring, and bracing, or equivalent method, for the protection of life and limb in trenches and open excavation, which shall conform to applicable safety orders. By listing this sum, the bidder warrants that its action does not convey tort liability to the Town, Engineer, and their employees, agents and subconsultants.

19. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (DIR) REQUIREMENTS. This Contract will be subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations, pursuant to Labor Code section 1771.4. Under California Labor Code section 1771.1, as amended by SB 854, a contractor may not bid, nor be listed as a subcontractor, for any bid proposal submitted for public work on or after March 1, 2015, and contracts entered into on or after April 1, 2015, unless the contractor and its subcontractors are registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to section 1725.5 of the Labor Code. The Bidder and its Subcontractors must be registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to section 1725.5 of the Labor Code, subject to limited legal exceptions under Labor Code section 1771.1.

Dated: May 20, 2025
/s/Arika Birdsong-Miller, City Clerk
(05-28-25,06-04-25)

139-T

HW ARCHITECTURE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716380

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HW ARCHITECTURE, 205 Rayos Del Sol Dr, San Jose, CA, 95116, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Hao Wang, 205 Rayos Del Sol Dr, San Jose, CA 95116. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/19/2025. / S / Hao Wang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/19/2025. (05-28-25,06-04,11,18-25)

138-T

T.S. No.: 19-2961 Loan No.: *****6943 APN: 124-13-054 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/17/2016. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEED- ING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: JUDITH S. DECKER AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: Prestige Default Services, LLC Recorded 10/25/2016 as Instrument No. 23475869 in book , page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Santa Clara County, California, Date of Sale : 6/18/2025 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale : At the Gated North Market Street entrance of the Superior Courthouse, 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$951,375.51 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1 8 5 1 B R Y A N T S T PALO ALTO California 94301-3710 A . P . N . : 1 2 4 - 1 3 - 0 5 4 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged

to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. All checks payable to Prestige Default Services, LLC. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (949) 776-4697 or visit this Internet Website <https://prestigepostandpub.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 19-2961. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (949) 776-4697, or visit this internet website <https://prestigepostandpub.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 19-2961 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.

Date: 5/16/2025
Prestige Default Services, LLC
1920 Old Tustin Ave.
Santa Ana, California 92705
Questions: 949-427-2010
Sale Line: (949) 776-4697
Patricia Sanchez Foreclosure
Manager
PPP#25-003244
(05-28-25,06-04,11-25)

137-T

Unify Center FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716358

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Unify Center, 765 Story Road, Ste 200, San Jose, CA,

Public Notices

95122, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Lisa Lam Paterson, 1230 Montclair Way, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/11/2003. /S/ Lisa Patterson / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/16/2025. (05-28-25,06-04,11,18-25)

136-T

JAG TAX PREPARATION & BOOKKEEPING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716229

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: JAG TAX PREPARATION & BOOKKEEPING, 900 N San Antonio Red, Suite 106, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): JAG TAX & BOOKKEEPING, INC., 900 N San Antonio Rd, Suite 106, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/01/2022. /S/ Juanita A. Gonzales / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/13/2025. (05-28-25,06-04,11,18-25)

135-T

BBMCKEE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716332

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BBMCKEE, 419 Offenbach Place, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Beth Miller Bo, 419 Offenbach Place, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/08/2025. /S/ Beth Miller Bo / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/16/2025. (05-28-25,06-04,11,18-25)

134-T

RPG CONSTRUCTION SOLUTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716267

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RPG CONSTRUCTION SOLUTION, 2240 Barlow Ave, San Jose, CA, 95122, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Rene Plancarte, 2240 Barlow Ave, San Jose, CA 95122. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Rene Plancarte / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa

Clara County on 05/14/2025. (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

133-T

PANDA AUTO DETAIL LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716009

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PANDA AUTO DETAIL LLC, 301 Acalanes Dr Apt. 52, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): PANDA AUTO DETAIL LLC, 301 Acalanes Dr Apt. 52, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/24/2024. /S/ Brayana Pena / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/06/2025. (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

132-T

EL KING TIRES LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716010

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: EL KING TIRES LLC, 2281 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): EL KING TIRES LLC, 2281 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose, CA 95128. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/21/2025. /S/ Reynol Dominguez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/06/2025. (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

131-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF CARLOS GUTIERREZ ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV465139

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

Proposed Name: a. Carlos Gutierrez Tagle

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 08/05/2025 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First

Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 05/07/2025 /S/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

130-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF SU JEN JENNY YANG ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV465657

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Su Jen Jenny Yang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Su Jen Jenny Yang

Proposed Name: a. Su Jen Jenny Chang

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 08/12/2025 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 05/13/2025 /S/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

129-T

HAIR X DIANA NICOLE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716078

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HAIR X DIANA NICOLE, 420 Toyon Avenue, San Jose, CA, 95127, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Diana Nicole Stallings, PO Box 32703, San Jose, CA 95152. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/01/2019. /S/ Diana Stallings / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/07/2025. (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

128-T

DensityAI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN716179

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: DensityAI, 2570 W El Camino Real, Suite 410, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Density AI, Inc., 2570 W El Camino Real, Suite 410, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Robert Hood / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/12/2025. (05-21,28-25,06-04,11-25)

127-T

Osmena Pearl FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715805

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Osmena Pearl, 197 1st St, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jennifer Yvonne Ruiz, 197 1st St, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/28/2015. /S/ Jennifer Yvonne Ruiz / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/29/2025. (05-14,21,28-25,06-04-25)

124-T

WEAR BLUE TREE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715972

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) WEAR BLUE TREE, (2) AOKI DESIGN, 3628 Mona Way, San Jose, CA, 95130, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Wes Aoki, 3628 Mona Way, San Jose, CA 95130. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2025. /S/ Wes Aoki / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/05/2025. (05-14,21,28-25,06-04-25)

123-T

Slon Exterior Care FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715814

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Slon Exterior Care, 1931 Old Middlefield Way, Suite 216, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Slon, Inc., 1931 Old Middlefield Way, Suite 216, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed

above on: 01/04/2025. /S/ Ivan Nikolaev / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/29/2025. (05-14,21,28-25,06-04-25)

122-T

San Jose Endodontics FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715961

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: San Jose Endodontics, 1680 Westwood Dr. Ste D, San Jose, CA, 95125, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): David Chow DDS APC, 1680 Westwood Dr. Ste D, San Jose, CA 95125. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/01/2024. /S/ David Chow / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/02/2025. (05-14,21,28-25,06-04-25)

121-T

JUNK KING PENINSULA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715790

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: JUNK KING PENINSULA, 407 California Ave Suite 2, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): FLAGSHIP JKBY INC, 2108 N St Ste N, Sacramento, CA 95816. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/15/2024. /S/ Michelle Chin / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/28/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

116-T

KHLOE SPORTS LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715638

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KHLOE SPORTS LLC, 1820 Nelson Dr, Santa Clara, CA, 95054, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): KHLOE SPORTS LLC, 1820 Nelson Dr, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/10/2025. /S/ Liced Natalia Vargas / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/21/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

115-T

LUCY'S PRO CLEANING SERVICES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715721

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LUCY'S

PRO CLEANING SERVICES, 1902 Rock St Apt C, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Lucila Hernandez, 1902 Rock St Apt C, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/25/2025. /S/ Lucila Hernandez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/24/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

114-T

SEMPERFIGI.COM FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715729

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SEMPERFIGI.COM, 159 Hardy Avenue, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): James Robert Mc Cormick, 159 Hardy Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ James Robert Mc Cormick / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/24/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

113-T

TRICKYBIT SYSTEMS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715762

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) TRICKYBIT SYSTEMS, (2) TRICKYBIT.COM, (3) TRICKY BUSINESS, 4142 Baker Ave, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): James D Mackraz, 4142 Baker Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ James D Mackraz / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/25/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

112-T

Sirat Prison Project FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715496

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) Sirat Prison Project, (2) Kisa Family, 4415 Fortran Ct., San Jose, CA, 95134, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Imamia Education Center Inc., 4415 Fortran Ct, San Jose, CA 95134. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/01/2024. /S/ Amir Mithani / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/16/2025. (05-07,14,21,28-25)

111-T

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

Then look no further than the Los Altos Town Crier. The Town Crier's unmatched service can take care of your Fictitious Business Name Statement, Notice of Probate, Name Change and much more.

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



Datebook

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

EVENTS

Los Altos Main Library. All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness**, 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic**, 7 p.m., first Monday of every month. **Bay Area Games Day**, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., third Saturday of every month. Other events: **Wednesday Travel Night: Focus on Cuba**, 7 p.m. today (May 28). Photographer Harlan Crowder offers a visual tour of the Caribbean's "most fascinating island." **Bike Repair**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday (May 30). Bike Repair Mobile, a free bicycle repair clinic, offered on a drop-in basis, will address a wide range of common bicycle malfunctions, including flat tires, brake issues and shifter problems. **Teen Watercolor Workshop: Sugary Sweets**, 4 p.m. June 3. Join this teen watercolor workshop and dive into the colorful world of sugary sweets. All supplies are provided. First-come, first-served basis. For ages 13-18 only. **The San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers**, 7 p.m. June 3. The fiddlers bring to life the rich history and infectious energy of this beloved musical tradition. **Art With Drawn2Art.**, 6:30 p.m. June 11. Join local Drawn2Art instructors as they walk participants through a step-by-step drawing of a chess piece. Program is designed for adults and teens. **Sound Bath Meditation**, 7 p.m. June 18. Experience the melodies and tones of world instruments such as singing bowls, gongs, flutes, rattles and drums. **Wednesday Travel Nights: Death Valley Hot Spots**, 7 p.m. June 25. Join presenter John Trudeau for a photographic tour of the "hot spots" in Death Valley. **No Fuss Meal Prep**, 4 p.m. June 29. A guest chef will offer practical solutions for busy individuals and families. **Indian Dance Performance by Pagrav Dance Studio**, 1 p.m. June 29. Live Indian music and dance performance by Pagrav Dance Studio. Programs are free and open to the public. No registration necessary. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. 650-948-7683. Information: scclcd.org.

Crossword Answers

1	O	2	R	3	B		4	L	5	L	6	C		7	S	8	M	9	I	10	L	11	E
12	L	E	E				13	O	U	I				14	O	A	K	E	N				
15	D	V	D				16	D	N	A				17	W	R	E	S	T				
			18	L	P	G	A				20	W	E	T	S								
21	U	22	N	I	V	E	R	23	S	I	T	Y											
24	Z	I	N	C				25	M	E	N	O	R	26	A	H	S						
29	I	K	E					30	O	D	D				31	N	A	H					
32	S	E	N	T	33	I	N	E	L				35	E	C	H	O						
				36	E	N	T	R	A	P	M	E	N	T									
			38	E	T	C	H			39	S	E	I	S									
40	R	41	I	S	H	I			42	P	S	T			43	T	O	44	M				
46	A	C	M	E	S				47	O	E	R			48	O	N	A					
49	T	H	E	R	E				50	A	S	I			51	R	E	D					

Sudoku Answers

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

Find A Word Answers

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

OBITUARY NOTICE

ANNE (MOLLOY) RULLO



September 28, 1955 –
May 11, 2025

Anne Elizabeth Rullo was born on September 28, 1955, in Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania, to Georgia and Garry Molloy. She lived a life defined by quiet strength, fierce love, and extraordinary talent. Anne passed away peacefully at home on May 11, 2025, surrounded by the family she cherished.

She met her husband, Robert Rullo, while they were both students at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). Together they built a life rooted in love, humor, and deep devotion to family. They raised four children—Stephanie, Joanna, Richard, and Anneli—and became proud grandparents to Charles, Henry, and George.

Anne was a brilliant, beautiful, multifaceted woman. As an ICU nurse, she cared for her patients with skill, poise, and confidence. As a mother, she channeled her energy into nurturing her children. Her care was constant—helping with homework, cheering from the sidelines, packing lunches, being a sounding board, and making holidays feel magical. She somehow made everything look effortless, though it never was.

She had a gift for presence. No matter how much was on her plate, she showed up with warmth, dignity, and intention. She poured love into every dinner she made, every trip she planned, and every home improvement project she completed. And when life presented new challenges—like multiple cross-country moves or raising a daughter with Down Syndrome—

she rose to meet them with grace and determination.

Her son, Richard, remembers how, after Anneli's birth, Anne never missed a game for her older children, even though Anneli, then immunocompromised, had to be kept away from crowds. Anne found a way: watching from the farthest corner of the bleachers with Anneli swaddled in a bright pink blanket, never letting any of her children feel forgotten.

Anne's power was never loud, but it was unmistakable. She led by example, instilling strength, compassion, and resilience in those she loved. She taught through action, demonstrating how a full life is built not on achievement for its own sake, but on love and devotion to others.

She chose to give the best of herself to her family, and we are so lucky that she did.

Her family learned so much from her—responsibility, grace, and love—about how to be in this world. Her absence is immeasurable, but so is the gift of having been loved by her.

She is survived by her husband, Robert; her children, Stephanie, Joanna (with Chris and their son, Charles), Richard (with Mary Catherine and their sons, Henry and George), and Anneli; her siblings Deborah, Kathryn, James, and Mary; and by all those whose lives she touched with her brilliance, her care, and her deep and abiding love.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations in Anne's memory to the National Down Syndrome Society.



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