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# Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 79 No. 02 • 50 cents

losaltosonline.com

WEDNESDAY • January 14, 2026

## Mtn. View resident to turn 106



TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID YANCEY; RIGHT PHOTO COURTESY OF DEVIK SCHREINER

**Longtime Mountain View resident Elzene Yancey is about to celebrate another remarkable milestone – her 106th birthday.** Born Jan. 16, 1920, Yancey is proud of the significance of her birth date: On that day prohibition began, and later that year, the 19th Amendment – granting women the right to vote – was ratified. In addition to teaching, raising two sons and working with her husband, during WWII, she worked in an airplane factory in Kansas City, in charge of cafeterias. Yancey has long been active in the community and church (she has been a member of Los Altos United Methodist Church for 63 years) and volunteer work, as well as extensive world travel. According to housemate Devik Schreiner, “From meeting Eleanor Roosevelt to attending a parade for Charles Lindbergh, Elzene Yancey has seen it and done it all with class.” Yancey will celebrate with family and friends at a birthday dinner at Chef Chu’s. A longer article on Yancey appeared in the Town Crier in 2024, on the occasion of her 104th birthday – to read more about her interesting life, visit losaltosonline.com.



## Neysa Fligor reflects on nearly 8 years on Los Altos City Council

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

**N**eysa Fligor joined Los Altos City Council to make the community she resides in better; looking ahead, she’s hoping to bring the lessons learned with her to the Santa Clara County Assessor’s Office.

Although the votes have yet to be certified by the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters, she’s preparing to shift gears from Los Altos City Council to the Santa Clara County Assessor’s Office after her apparent success in the assessor’s seat run-off election Dec. 30.

As of Jan. 12, Fligor is winning over opponent Rishi Kumar with just over 65% of counted votes. Kumar has received 34.84% of counted votes. Although before the Town Crier’s print deadline, her resignation is effective after the Jan. 13 Los Altos City Council meeting.

Fligor moved to the city of Los Altos in 2010. Before she joined the City Council in 2018, she served on numerous boards as her way of public service, which she said was her way of giving back to the community in a lasting way.

“If everybody has an opportunity to do that, they should take full advantage of giving back to the community,” she said in a phone call. “Because I think that’s what makes us a

strong community for generations to come.”

Fligor was elected to the City Council in 2018; she said she received



Fligor

the most votes for that election and her second bid for council in 2022, which she said is rare. She said she pushed for policies she was passionate about – as a mother to two young children, she said ensuring safe routes to school was a priority.

“One of my priorities was safer routes to school,” she said. “I had young kids, and as someone who believes in walking and biking to school, especially in a city like Los Altos, it was very important to me to ensure that we had the right street improvements that would accommodate our kids to be able to bike or walk to school. And so when I ran in 2018 it was an opportunity to serve the community, but it was also an opportunity for me to work on issues I really cared about.”

During Fligor’s tenure, she worked on a number of projects and policies that she said will benefit the local community for years to come. The city of Los Altos had already been working on solidifying plans for a new community center when

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# Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fundraiser 2025



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

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Total Donors .....	138
Total \$\$ to date.....	\$193,636.00

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Provides summer camperships for underprivileged families.

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# Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fundraiser 2025

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The Town Crier Holiday Fundraiser is a donor advised fund of the Daffy Charitable Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Daffy Charitable Fund nonprofit tax id 86-3177440.

# Around Town

## Pet of the Week: Meet Roscoe



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETS IN NEED

Meet Roscoe! At just 11-months old, the charming Roscoe is equal parts smart and sweet. This handsome boy loves a good game of fetch, enjoys long sniffy walks, and is always up for playtime, especially if sticks are involved. Roscoe has a gentle heart and is still building his confidence, but his loving personality shines through. He comes fully equipped with floppy ears, endless affection and top-tier snuggles. All that's missing is someone to share them with. Come meet Roscoe at the Redwood City shelter and see if he's the one you've been waiting for. For more on Roscoe, visit [tinyurl.com/meetroscoe](http://tinyurl.com/meetroscoe).

### Correction

In the story, "Los Altan of the Year: Bruce Barton," which ran in the Jan. 7 issue of the Town Crier, a quote provided by former publisher Liz Nyberg was misattributed to current publisher Dennis Young. The Town Crier regrets this error.



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**161 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos** | +/- 700 SF; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor office suites with elevator; quiet location with lots of natural light and beautiful garden setting.  
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# News

## MV fire dept. rescues pets in residential fire



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROBERT MAITLAND  
The MV Fire Department responded to a fire last week.

By Giuseppe Ricapito  
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Firefighters rescued two dogs from a house fire during an early morning blaze in Mountain View last week.

Smoke and fire were reported at a single-family residence on the 700 block of San Pablo Drive near Highway 101 at 5:38 a.m. Jan. 7, prompting a quick response from crews. Firefighters confronted flames in the garage at 5:45 a.m., extinguishing them with a hose. Crews also performed an overhaul of the garage, cutting open the walls and the ceiling to ensure the fire did not spread further in the home or to the neighboring homes.

The residents of the home – four adults and three children – were uninjured and evacuated before the arrival of the firefighters. They were reunited with their dogs during the firefight.

The family was also provided with a \$250 gift card, courtesy of an aid program from the California Professional Firefighters Union. The American Red Cross coordinated temporary housing due to the smoke damage and disconnection of utilities. The damage to the structure and contents was estimated at \$50,000.

The Mountain View Police Department provided traffic control for three hours on scene. Representatives of the city's building department also responded to the scene.

## Los Altos studying options for new police station

By Julia Baum  
Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

A study examining multiple options for a new or renovated police station is underway, city officials announced at a Jan. 9 meeting of the Los Altos Community Coalition, where residents and civic leaders discussed emergency preparedness and the condition of the city's public safety facilities.

Jon Maginot, assistant city manager, told the Town Crier in an email that the study is expected to be presented to the council in late spring or early summer and will include rough cost estimates for each option.

"The current station is in need of major repairs and is functionally outdated," Maginot said, adding that the more than 50-year-old building "does not currently meet the needs of our police department."

While the city has not estimated how long the building can continue operating in its current condition, officials said the station's limitations are increasingly tied to broader concerns about emergency response and resilience.

Emergency preparedness framed much of the meeting's discussion, including wildfire and earthquake risks. Maginot noted that although only a small portion of Los Altos lies within a designated wildfire zone, much of the city borders high-risk areas in the surrounding hills, meaning a major fire could impact the city.

According to Maginot, the police station



HOWARD BISCHOFF/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The city of Los Altos is currently looking into options for the aging Los Altos Police Station, Jon Maginot, assistant city manager, told the Los Altos Community Coalition Friday.

study is evaluating four scenarios: "tear down and rebuild, renovate, renovate and expand, or renovate and build a new stand-alone building." Once the study is complete, the city council will determine next steps.

Residents questioned why funding is available for other city projects, such as park improvements, while police facilities remain outdated. Maginot explained that the city receives revenue from multiple sources, some of which are legally restrict-

ed to specific uses.

"The funds that are being used or planned for the downtown park, those are dedicated in-lieu park funds," Maginot said. "We can't use those funds for a new police station."

Robin Abrams, who moderated the meeting, said understanding those financial restrictions is important as public discussion continues.

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## REFLECTION

From Page 1

Fligor was elected to City Council, but she was proud to be one of the three yes-votes to move the project forward. She was also the one to cut the red tape when the community center opened during her mayoral term in 2021. Fligor also worked with the chamber of commerce and Los Altos Hills to start the annual Veterans Day Celebration, which is now in its fifth year.

Most recently, she was pleased by the City Council approving bike lane additions to the Los Altos sections of El Camino Real – she was one of the three necessary "yes" votes to get the lanes added – and the approval and current building of the all-affordable 330 Distel Circle residential development.

"I was on the council subcommittee that worked directly with the County of Santa Clara and (then-supervisor) Joe Simitian to really move that housing development forward," Fligor said. "It's a huge accomplishment for our city to be able to have a 100% affordable housing development that will just allow our community to be richer in so many different ways."

Her skillset – informed by years of service, including experiences on local boards and commissions, years as an attorney with the

Santa Clara County Counsel and legal counsel at Hewlett-Packard Company – are what informed her leadership and collaboration styles.

Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg, elected to City Council in 2020, worked with Fligor since they served on the Los Altos Parks and Recreation Commission prior to their council elections. He said he wouldn't be on council without Fligor's support and encouragement.

"While we don't always agree on policy issues, I deeply respect her careful preparation, attention to detail and thoughtful analysis on every issue," Weinberg stated in an email. "Neysa always puts residents and the needs of our community first. She was a fantastic mayor in 2021 and consistently brought a high standard of professionalism to the city council."

Councilmember Sally Meadows said that Fligor's positivity and persuasive nature were beneficial on council, not only because she could connect well with her colleagues, but also with residents.

"Neysa is unfailingly cheerful. I don't recall ever seeing her in a bad mood, even in the most difficult situations or in the rare instances where she can't persuade her colleagues to come around to her position," Meadows stated in an email. "She is able to connect with almost

everybody she meets, which is why she elicits such strong support in our community and beyond. We are fortunate she has served our city so well over the past seven years and that she will continue doing so as our new county assessor."

Fligor has been in the Santa Clara County Assessor's Office for quite some time already, serving as special assistant and most recently assistant assessor. She noted the Santa Clara County Assessor's role is much different than her previous roles on Los Altos City Council.

While the council is a collaborative legislative body and the assessor's role is an executive administrative role, she's seen the impact being responsive, thoughtful and listening has on the community one serves and will bring that collaboration with her.

"You engage with them when they give you feedback, and you factor that into your decisions – all those things that you do as a council member in serving the community are things you I will continue to do in the assessor's office," Fligor said. "It's something that I can tell you many of my supporters from Los Altos, many of the people who have supported me over the years, that's one of the things they've said."

Although her new office is based in San Jose, Fligor said she will continue to reside in Los Altos.

## Hope's Corner hires first executive director John Riemenschnitter

By Giuseppe Ricapito  
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Longtime Hope's Corner volunteer John Riemenschnitter has been hired as the community service organization's first executive director.

Riemenschnitter, who served as president of the board of directors since November of 2023, said his hiring aligned with an effort to expand services in laundry, hunger and personal health.

"We will continue to look for ways to serve our community as a whole and even different demographics who are in need of food. We really want to expand and broaden our impact in Mountain View and the surrounding community," he said in a phone interview.

Riemenschnitter is the co-founder and former leader of The Highway Community, which has a church on Miramonte Avenue, from 2000-2023.

He began his service as a volunteer at Hope's Corner in 2020, just before the start of the pandemic, spurred to assist the unhoused living in their cars. Volunteering every Saturday morphed into Riemenschnitter running the Wednesday meals. He took a seat on the board in 2023.

"I committed for eight weeks, and now I've done it for more than five years. It's just evolved very organically," he said. "One of [the] things I love about Hope's Corner is that it's built on volunteers. That's a heartbeat we really want to preserve."

Hope's Corner, founded in 2011, is located at 748 Mercy St., Mountain View. The organization has an annual budget of approximately \$763,800, a staff of eight part-time employees and nearly 1,000 volunteers.

Hope's Corner began serving free meals on Saturdays in downtown Mountain View in 2011 as an all-volunteer joint ministry between Los Altos United Methodist and Mountain View Trinity Churches. It was incorporated as an independent nonprofit in 2015 and serves meals and provides shower and laundry services on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. The organization also offers meal deliveries to unhoused Mountain View residents living in vehicles on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

From January through September 2025,



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOPE'S CORNER

**John Riemenschnitter, a longtime volunteer at Hope's Corner in Mountain View, was named the organization's first executive director.**

Hope's Corner provided 1,594 unique individuals with services (not including deliveries or off-site services). Of the guests who participated in the meal program in 2025, 63% were adults, 34% were seniors and 3% were youth. Of those, 53% were unhoused.

First up in the new year is the expansion of laundry resources – the Hope's Corner site is upgrading from one washer and dryer to at least four washers and dryers, he said.

Riemenschnitter sees his hiring as a testament to Hope's Corner augmenting their social role – but also the concern that need in the community is growing.

"It is indicative of an ongoing need that has gone beyond the pandemic," he said. "Our guests don't have to qualify for services. We serve not only the unhoused community, but also anyone can come to get a meal."

Founding board member Leslie Carmichael said the board staff were excited for Riemenschnitter to take on the role.

"After we had worked for weeks to create a job description that addresses Hope's Corner's needs for an executive director at this stage in its evolution, we realized we had the perfect candidate right under our noses," she said.

safety facilities, including the city's two fire stations. A facilities study conducted several years ago identified maintenance needs at both locations, and Maginot said the current budget includes funding for repairs, including roof work at the Almond Avenue station.

Community members also raised concerns about housing for first responders, noting that many police officers and city employees live far from Los Altos, which could limit response times during an emergency. Maginot said the city has not discussed housing subsidies but continues to look for ways to support employees.

Maginot encouraged residents to provide feedback through an online questionnaire on the city's website, saying public input will help guide future budgeting and infrastructure decisions.

## STATION

From Page 4

"There are swim lanes that you can't get out of, either in terms of where the revenue is collected or how it's spent," Abrams said, adding that residents can help clarify those distinctions when concerns arise.

Officials also provided an update on the city's Emergency Operations Center, which has been largely completed at the community center. Maginot said the EOC was intentionally separated from the police station to allow for regular community use while still enabling rapid conversion during emergencies.

"We hopefully will only use the emergency operations center maybe once every 10 years," Maginot said.

The meeting briefly touched on other public



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## News

### Mtn. View gears up for Super Bowl, World Cup

By Giuseppe Ricapito  
Staff Writer/giusepperr@latc.com

Mountain View is readying for major sporting events launching into the Bay Area in 2026 – the Super Bowl and the World Cup – with a plan to generate local economic activity.

A presentation outlining the efforts was given at the Dec. 16 Mountain View City Council meeting – which did not require a vote. The council later voted unanimously to pass the consent calendar portion of the agenda, which appropriated \$295,000 to the community development department and \$30,000 to the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce for the activation activities.

Super Bowl LX and Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup 2026 both include games at the nearby Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara in 2026. The Super Bowl will take place on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026. The FIFA World Cup has games scheduled for June 13, June 16,

June 19, June 22 and June 25 in the group stage portion of the tournament, and the Round of 32 qualifying match on July 1.

City officials are anticipating significant travel to the Bay Area as well as members of the public seeking to participate in events nearby or on the periphery of the games. The sport activation plans are intended to act upon Mountain View's convenient transit access to the stadium as well as proximity for lodging and commerce.

"We see this as an opportunity to really market Mountain View, market our downtown, market our businesses and really establish ourselves as a key destination for our visitors and sports fans," said Amanda Rotella, economic vitality manager for the city.

The planned activation for the Super Bowl will focus on a one-day event in the downtown on Feb. 7, the day before the match. The concept is still being developed, but will focus on drawing visitors to downtown with games, live music, decals and decorations

on the 100 through 300 blocks of Castro Street. The city is also reaching out to private businesses to assist with their plans in order to market the events to the public.

For the World Cup, the city plans to undertake a similar promotional plan, such as with decorations installed in the same areas of Castro Street about one week prior to the start of the tournament. Staff is evaluating the potential to decorate bollards in a soccer-style wrap and install mural decals, among other ideas.

The plan also includes the potential for public watch parties. The number of World Cup games has narrowed the city focus to a small number of games, potentially during the World Cup Final game, on July 19, 2026.

"We are encouraging communities such as Mountain View to come together and to bring people into places where they already celebrate," said Ruth Shikada, VP of government and external affairs for the Bay Area Host Committee during the meeting.

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## Mountain View approves controversial rezoning along Miramonte Avenue

By Giuseppe Ricapito

Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Mountain View officials have approved the rezoning of commercial offices on Miramonte Avenue to mixed use despite a neighborhood effort to stop it.

The City Council approved updating the zoning of the sites during a meeting on Dec. 16 with a 6 to 1 vote. Councilmember John McAlister cast the dissenting vote.

The changes update the zoning of 1702 and 1704 Miramonte Ave. and 777 Cuesta Drive from commercial office to neighborhood mixed use, which allows up to 30 units per acre of development. The areas, currently surrounded by mostly single-family homes, are currently used as dental and medical offices.

Councilmember Chris Clark noted that approval would align the city's housing plan with state mandates and preserve some level of local control over the possibility of housing development.

"Putting mixed use in there instead of pure residential or pure commercial allows us the greatest level of flexibility," he said. "It provides a pathway to preserve the existing businesses while recognizing that housing is already allowed

there."

The zoning changes are prescribed as part of the city's Housing Element, a planning document which guides new housing growth. The state-mandated housing target dictates that the city must develop more than 11,000 new units through 2031. The Environmental Planning Commission voted unanimously at a meeting Nov. 5 to recommend to the City Council passage of zoning updates. The sites now have the possibility for housing or redevelopment to be proposed there, though city officials have noted that no development plans have currently been put forward.

Kristen Lenart, a nearby neighbor, and her supporters have argued that the area is not viable for rezoning. They recommended that city officials remove the intersection from the list of potential housing sites and find alternatives.

"We're asking the City Council to see these issues from a more holistic view. Every decision has an impact," Lenart said at the meeting.

The neighborhood group has garnered 1,175 petition signatures in support of the effort to void the zoning plan. The petition said that the state's density bonus law could increase development beyond the zoning restrictions, and



GABRIELA DE CARVALHO TELESTOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Commercial offices, including the building above, were approved for rezoning Dec. 16. also presented concerns related to traffic, student safety and the elimination of small businesses at the sites.

McAllister, the lone dissenting vote, said the city should take more onus in protecting Mountain View residents from housing-related mandates.

"We're saying we can't push back, we can't push back. Sometimes, we need to," he said.

According to the city's Housing Element, the parcel size at 1702 Miramonte is 0.75 acres. It was not included in the city's prior Housing Element from 2015

to 2023 and is zoned for 15 units priced for the city's moderate income level. The site currently includes a one-story dental office built in 1955.

Councilmember Pat Showalter sought to acknowledge the efforts of the community group and noted that local elected officials should seek out more mechanisms to avoid a "one size fits all" housing policy.

"I think we are very, very concerned about what's the best way to maintain the maximum amount of local control," she said.



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# Comment

## Letters to the Editor

### O'Keefe needs constructive approach

I read the article describing the opposition by some Los Altos Hills residents to exploring O'Keefe Preserve as part of meeting state mandates to increase affordable housing. I can't comment on the merits of these claims because I don't know the details. However, the opposition follows a familiar pattern.

Across the region, housing proposals often trigger organized resistance, accusations of impropriety, threats of litigation and even personal attacks on local officials – typically from residents who voice support for more housing in theory. Similar dynamics in other communities, including Portola Valley, have contributed to prolonged city government turmoil and costly legal disputes.

If Los Altos Hills residents continue to block every attempt to produce required affordable housing, the likely outcome is not preservation of the status quo, but the loss of local control. Menlo Park, after delays in state housing mandate compliance, is now dealing with the consequence. They are grappling with a proposed builder's remedy project that includes mixed-use towers approaching 450 feet adjacent to single-family home neighborhoods.

I hope our town can work in a constructive way towards a solution that balances state-mandated housing requirements with local values and interests.

**Mike Salameh**  
Los Altos

### LASD lacks transparency

I am a parent at Santa Rita Elementary and I am writing because families at our school are deeply concerned and increasingly alarmed by the lack of transparent engagement from the Los Altos School District.

Over the past year, parents have repeatedly raised serious, unresolved issues involving student safety, supervision, staffing gaps, special education supports, facilities and resourcing. These are not isolated complaints. They are systemic problems that directly affect the safety and learning of our children.

Rather than addressing these concerns through open, community-wide dialogue, the district and board have emphasized one-on-one meetings as the primary response. While individual conversations may be appropriate for student-specific matters, they are not sufficient for addressing systemic failures. Providing information privately fractures understand-

ing, limits accountability and undermines trust.

Parents are now sharing and comparing communications from the board and district. Seen together, these messages feel less like genuine engagement and more like an effort to manage concerns quietly in hopes that we will stop asking for the supports we need and deserve.

Community meetings are not about confidential student information. They are about transparency, discussing data, priorities, timelines and accountability in a shared public forum. Families should not have to rely on public comment and escalation to get attention or resources.

The Los Altos School Board exists to serve the community. Santa Rita families urgently need open engagement, clear accountability and immediate action.

**Jessica Mullen**

Santa Rita Parent, Los Altos

### Letters to the Editor

You can email your letters to [christinac@latc.com](mailto:christinac@latc.com). Letters should be no more than 200 words. Include a phone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

## Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

The Palo Alto Times published this photo of Helen Foerster in 1961. She helped found the Federated Woman's Club of Los Altos in 1957. The club was dedicated to community improvement, youth development and social connection. One of its signature projects was raising funds to build the Los Altos Youth Center in the early 1960s.

## Mayor Dailey's outgoing message

By Pete Dailey

Dear neighbors,

Thank you all so much for the opportunity to serve as the 62nd mayor of the city of Los Altos. Service to you has been the honor of a lifetime.

First and foremost, thank you to the residents of Los Altos. You elected me to represent you and you have taught me more than I ever imagined. Chiefly, that I still have much more to learn. Thank you to the city staff. You are bright and dedicated and beautiful people. Thank you to my wonderful colleagues on council. Each of you have shown what it means to lead and to give of yourself in service to your community.

### Other Voices

I am immensely grateful to several wonderful institutions too. Thank you, Foothill Community College, the best in the country and a shining example of excellence in Los Altos. Thank you, Los Altos School District, for inviting me into various classrooms to engage with the young people in our community. In a difficult year, I was lucky to be inspired and renewed by our kids and teachers. Thank you to all our school districts for your teamwork on some challenging issues.

Thank you, Los Altos Mountain View Community Founda-

tion. You have been one of the most effective force multipliers. Thank you to the service organizations and clubs in the city, like Rotary and Kiwanis for events like the Pet Parade and Fine Art in the Park that are so woven into the fabric of our community culture.

Thank you, everyone involved with the arts in Los Altos. Whether it's a play, a mural, a show or a gallery, Los Altos is a place for the arts and I'm thrilled to see the wider region begin to find out.

I have many more to thank.

With deepest gratitude,

*Pete Dailey*



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The Los Altos Town Crier, ISSN 8750-6585, is published weekly every Wednesday by LATC Media Inc., 138 Main St., Los Altos 94022. Periodicals Postage Paid at Palo Alto, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Los Altos Town Crier, 138 Main St., Los Altos, CA 94022. The Los Altos Town Crier is an adjudicated newspaper of general circulation for Santa Clara County. Decree No. 328150. Yearly subscription rates in advance: within county, \$70; sections, \$66; out of county, \$80.

# Community

## A midwife's perspective on women's healthcare

By Ann Hepenstal  
Special to the Town Crier

Learn more about the history of women's health over the years at a free talk at noon Friday, Jan. 16 at the Los Altos Community Center.

The Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, invites community members to attend a free presentation by Lin Lee, RN, CNM, entitled "A midwife's perspective on birth control and women's health standards, 1775 to Today."

As celebrations begin for America's 250th birthday, DAR is hearing a lot about the actions that led to the American Revolution and about the battles. Lee will share her perspective about the challenges ordinary women faced in managing their health and fertility, from Revolutionary times and throughout American history. Lee has cared

for patients throughout their reproductive lives and beyond in three different countries. This experience gives her a unique perspective on the history of women's healthcare in the United States.

Lee is a resident of Los Altos and has been a midwife since 1981, practicing in England, Beijing and California. She co-founded Bay Area Maternity (BAM) at El Camino Health, the Bay Area's first hospital-based midwifery practice owned and operated exclusively by Certified Nurse Midwives. She helped secure funding for Bay Area Maternity to expand access to midwifery care across the region. During her career, she became one of the U.K.'s first clinical specialists in midwifery. BAM's work has been recognized with the Blossom Birth Award for Excellence in Women's Health, and Lee strives daily to bring a sense of normalcy and compassionate



Lin Lee, left, a midwife and Los Altos resident, is scheduled to give a talk on the current state of women's healthcare Friday.



LEFT, PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. RIGHT, FIZKES/ADOBE STOCK

care to pregnancy, childbirth and women's health.

The Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, founded in 1950, focuses on education, local historic preservation projects, genealogy research, a Foothill College scholarship fund, environmental conservation, service to veterans and other commu-

nity projects. The chapter has planned multiple programs to celebrate America's 250th birthday in 2026. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, non-political, volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, education and historic preservation. Any woman 18 years or older is

eligible to join if she can prove lineal descent from a supporter of the American Revolution (through military service, financial donations such as donativos at the California presidios, food supply, government service or other support).

Register at [bit.ly/CNMJan16](https://bit.ly/CNMJan16). Visit [losaltos.californiadar.org](https://losaltos.californiadar.org) to learn more.



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## Community

# New mural, 'Los Hills,' installed on State Street



COURTESY OF ARTS LOS ALTOS

San Francisco-based artist Brian Barneclo works on his new piece "Los Hills."

By Ginny Strock

Arts Los Altos has installed a vibrant new mural at 260 State St. on the side wall of Right at Home and Calligraphy Wines, facing MF Maximum Fencing Club. The mural, entitled "Los Hills," was painted by San Francisco artist Brian Barneclo. The inspiration for this mural began with Barneclo's hike around Redwood Grove and up to the top of the Jesuit Retreat Center. After the hike, and looking at a map of Los Altos, he began to envision painting the mural as a bird's-eye view of a hill enclosing various shapes. As one looks at the mural, each shape on the hill, defined by bold white lines, represents a different segment of Los Altos, including residential neighborhoods, farmland and natural spaces. He calls the style of this mural, "pop-folk or folk-modern."

Barneclo grew up in Indiana and studied fine art at the

University of Indiana. Pop art and street art have had a substantial influence on the evolution of his artistic style. He moved to San Francisco in 1996, where he started as a sign painter. Soon, he progressed to commissioned murals and has adorned the walls of many San Francisco restaurants and businesses with his jazzy, colorful works. His work there is inspired by life in San Francisco.

In 2011, he completed a massive 600-foot by 40-foot mural, entitled "Systems," at Seventh and Townsend. In 2019, he installed a 110-foot mural in the concourse of the Chase Center when the Golden State Warriors' arena opened as part of its initial art collection.

Arts Los Altos had a very successful 2025. There were several downtown mural installations: "Pie In The Sky" by Morgan Bricca on the storefront of GK Pastry; "The Interconnectedness of Life" mandala by Swati Rastogi, with

community participation, at the Los Altos Arts & Wine Festival last July, in collaboration with LAVA, on the Third Street side of the State Street Market; and a re-installation of the vividly lit benches, "Luminous Waveforms," by Phil Spitler and Victoria Heilweil, at Village Park at the corner of Edith Avenue and San Antonio Road.

Arts Los Altos had a couple of speaking engagements to discuss and inspire community groups about "Why Public Art Matters." You can do a self-guided walking tour of the public art downtown with newly designed maps located at each installation. 2026 promises to be equally exciting with unique public art, events and collaborations. The next free, public art walking tour will be on First Friday, Feb. 6. Meet your guide at 169 State St., in front of the "Mandahlia" sculpture at 5 p.m. To learn more about Arts Los Altos, visit [artslosaltos.org](http://artslosaltos.org).

Did you resolve to work out more in the New Year? Don't forget to exercise your mind!

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# Community

## Los Altos Troop 31 welcomes new Eagle Scouts

By Rosheen Golden



COURTESY OF ROSHEEN GOLDEN

From left, scouts including Yannis Mihopoulos, Joseph Tadros, Marcus Williams and Trevor Crane all became eagle scouts. Not pictured are Jack Blatnik and Caleb Bren.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest achievement attainable in the Scouts BSA program. Since its inception in 1911, only 4% of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process, which includes completing seven ranks and 21 merit badges. Scouts hold leadership positions in their troop and have completed many hours of community service, including their Eagle Scout project. Troop 31 has announced six new Eagle Scouts.

For Jack Blatnik's Eagle project, he built a pergola structure behind his church. Anchored in the ground and made out of redwood, it stands at about 10 feet tall with a lattice pattern at the top. It's meant to serve as a community gathering area where people can connect and support each other. Jack is currently a freshman at Northeastern University in Boston.

Caleb Bren's project involved

building a 62-foot section of redwood fence to complete the perimeter fence at Deer Hollow Farm. The fence was made of redwood and hog wire fencing and stands approximately six feet tall. Deer Hollow Farm is a nonprofit organization in the local community that helps shelter animals and is a working homestead farm. Caleb chose this project because he knew it was a key part of the Los Altos community. Caleb learned leadership and woodworking skills and had the opportunity to serve others. Caleb will be a junior at Los Altos High School.

Trevor Crane's project involved cleaning up the picnic area and surrounding areas at the Palo Alto Baylands. He also redesigned and built a new ADA-compliant picnic table with benches. Trevor knows this upgrade will

allow all park goers to sit and enjoy the wonderful view and beautiful wildlife. He is a freshman at Colorado School of Mines.

Yannis Mihopoulos also managed his Eagle project at Deer Hollow Farm. He demolished and rebuilt a 48-foot section of fencing surrounding the duck and geese pond, using durable natural redwood. He was thrilled to give back to an organization and community that had meant so much to him growing up. Yanni is a freshman at Western Michigan University.

Joseph Tadros built a small semi-portable homeless shelter alongside the nonprofit organization Simply Shelter. The unit is equipped with enough space to supply a home to someone, along with room to keep their items safe. The home comes with a solar

See SCOUTS, Page 12

Have a comment or idea? Reach out if you have an idea for Community or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Christina Casillas at [christinac@latc.com](mailto:christinac@latc.com).



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## Community

### SCOUTS

From Page 11

panel to power a small hand fan, an iPhone charger and a light. Simply Shelter strives to make communities of these in areas with high homelessness rates in order to whittle down the homeless crisis. So far, Joseph's shelter has been home to two individuals: a young woman and a U.S. veteran. These shelters allow people to call someplace home and get the help they need.

Marcus Williams' project was for the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO). AYSO has a shed for equipment at Bubb Elementary School. Marcus replaced the roof shingles, made repairs to the sides of the shed and repainted the shed. Additionally, he added storage on the outside to give the shed more functionality. AYSO benefited from this project, as previously they had to rent a storage unit for \$300 a month, which they no longer have to do. Marcus is a student at Mountain View High School.

Los Altos Troop 31 meets at the Los Altos Lutheran Church on El Monte Avenue.

### Los Altos Rotary tackles climate crisis with summit showcasing solutions

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos Rotary Club, known for its historic global health work, addressed the existential challenge of climate change by hosting its second annual Climate Change Action Summit Jan. 10.

Reaching the scale and determination of its past global efforts, the Rotary Club presented a solutions-oriented platform designed to empower attendees with tangible tools and blueprints. Moving beyond theoretical discussions, the event showcased reproducible projects – concrete, practical and scalable solutions designed to mitigate pressing environmental issues. Summit speakers presented methods that address the root causes of degradation, customized for each community. The ultimate goal was to move from conversation to community action, proving that



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER  
**Los Altos Rotary hosted a Climate Action Summit Saturday.**

collective effort can bring about profound, lasting environmental change.

The event emphasized collaboration by fostering partnerships across individuals, communities, businesses, nonprofits and government entities. Areas of focus included habitat restoration, food waste diversion, ion battery collection and mineral recovery, advancing zero-waste practices and supporting vital pollinator populations.

**“This initiative removes a barrier that too often holds people back,” said Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga. “The Passport Equity Fund is a powerful, practical way to expand opportunity, ensuring every child and family feels safe, supported, and connected.”**

## Expand Access to a U.S. Passport

The Passport Equity Fund helps young people in our community access a U.S. passport, regardless of their family's immigration status or financial circumstances.

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# Stepping Out

## Hershey Felder brings his latest one-man show to Mountain View

By Dorie Xie  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

One-man show star and playwright Hershey Felder returns to TheatreWorks Silicon Valley this week for the world premiere of his new show, “The Piano and Me.” The play is slated to run Saturday, Jan. 17 through Feb. 8 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing

Arts, 500 Castro St. “The story is how a child of European immigrants, who doesn’t fit in anywhere, finds his place through music,” Felder said. “I’m telling how my career was built and created, and how it led to a lifetime of characters on the stage.”

In “The Piano and Me,” Felder plays both himself and the people he met who made his acting and playwriting

career possible. Intertwined with his characters, Felder will perform classical piano pieces related to his experiences and stages of life, including works by composers Mozart, Beethoven and Chopin.

“I didn’t have to go on a fishing expedition for the music, because it was inherent to the story itself,” Felder said. “When I talk about a specific piano lesson, the music is from

that piano lesson. When I talk about something with my grandparents, that was music I played.”

Felder is no stranger to occupying a stage solo for hours at a time. In his more than 30-year career, Felder has performed more than 6,000 shows – most of them self-written one-man plays, including his 2016 TheatreWorks debut “Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin.”

“Ten years ago, our founding artistic director Robert Kelley heard about Hershey Felder, this virtuoso on the piano,” TheatreWorks artistic director Giovanna Sardelli said. “He invited Hershey to perform here, and I think Hershey knew he was really showing up to a place that values and respects him as an artist.”

“The Piano and Me” will be Felder’s sixth show at TheatreWorks. A world premiere, Sardelli said, this is an “honor” for the community.

“Now he’s ready to tell the story of why those composers matter to him, how he found the music, what they’ve meant to him personally,” Sardelli said. “I hope people realize how special this is, because it’s truly extraordinary to be gifted a world premiere from Hershey.”

Felder said each rehearsal and live performance of his new show will be an opportunity to revise lines and delivery to better captivate audiences – a skill he said he’s developed throughout his one-man show career.

“The story must be told economically so it’s not overloaded with things that will bore people, that it actually communicates an idea,” Felder



PHOTO COURTESY OF HERSHEY FELDER PRESENTS

Pictured is Felder in “Hershey Felder: Rachmaninoff and the Tsar.”

said. “There’s a rope between us – myself and the audience. They pull on it if they’re interested and they let go if they’re not, and I feel that connection.”

Despite changes that might be made on the fly, Felder hopes the play’s central idea remains.

“I just want the audience to take away that I’ve been honest in telling the story, and it’s sometimes very hard to share,” Felder said. “A lot of it is laughing at myself and my circumstances, and at the same time, being mesmerized by these great composers who gave me a voice in the world.”

For times, tickets (\$34-\$115) and more information, visit [tinyurl.com/OneManHershey](http://tinyurl.com/OneManHershey).



PHOTO COURTESY OF HERSHEY FELDER PRESENTS

Hershey Felder’s “The Piano and Me” is inspired by Felder’s own musical muses. Pictured is Felder as Tchaikovsky.

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# Schools

## Homestead High School grad wins Nobel Prize

By Maya Dutt

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Homestead High School graduate Fred Ramsdell was deep in the mountains of Montana, reconnecting with nature when the Nobel Prize committee announced he had won a Nobel Prize.

With his phone in airplane mode, Ramsdell didn't find out he had won until his wife reached him later that day.

"I didn't even know it was the weekend they gave out Nobel Prizes," Ramsdell said. "I didn't believe it when my wife told me (I had won). I said, 'No I didn't.' She said, 'I have 200 text messages that said you did.' I was absolutely shocked. I never anticipated it."

Ramsdell, a 1979 alumnus of Homestead, was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine alongside Mary E. Brunkow and Shimon Sakaguchi on Oct. 10.

Together, they were recognized for their pioneering work in peripheral tolerance, a branch of medicine that focuses on preventing autoimmune diseases. Specifically, he and his team had identified the cell that prevents antibodies from perceiving human tissue as a threat. Additionally, they found a way to take these cells from healthy people and put them back in those with autoimmune diseases, according to Ramsdell.

The Seattle resident said this was a culmination of hard work and passion many years in the making.

Ramsdell said his love for science was cemented in his high school years, thanks to his science teacher. He said he always loved to figure out how things worked, specifically related to the human body.

Because he could not afford a four-year college, Ramsdell said he attended Foothill College, then transferred to UC San Diego to finish his undergraduate degree. While he was there, he took a class in immunology and fell in love with the subject.

"There was so much we didn't understand, and they were just developing tools that would let us unlock how this whole system works," Ramsdell said. "I



COURTESY OF FRED RAMSDELL

**Homestead High School graduate Fred Ramsdell was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine Oct. 10, along with Mary E. Brunkow and Shimon Sakaguchi. They were recognized for their pioneering work in peripheral tolerance.**

wanted to understand how it worked. And once you know how it works, then you can try to manipulate it to treat various people's diseases."

After pursuing a Ph.D. at UCLA, he moved to the National Institutes of Health in Maryland for postdoctoral training. Ramsdell said he was so strapped for money he qualified for food stamps as a graduate student. Additionally, juggling research and spending time with his wife, Laura O'Neill – whom he met at Homestead – proved to be challenging, Ramsdell said.

"I missed a bunch of dinners," Ramsdell said. "I annoyed her at times because I wasn't around or paying attention, but she was always supportive of what I tried to do. Her own career kept her busy, and she leaned into it."

In the lab, Ramsdell was considerate of his team and often checked in on colleagues to make sure they were doing well, according to Tom Cox, a friend and scientist on his Nobel Prize-winning team.

"At least once a week, he would come down to the lab and talk with us to see how things were going," said Cox, who

graduated from Homestead in 1978. "He's a joy to work with. It was a very collaborative and insightful (environment). I'd just come find him if I found some data that was interesting, and that really just helped drive the energy in the lab."

When Ramsdell won the prize, he invited Cox to come with him – a gesture toward their longstanding friendship.

"The fact that he just invited me to be one of his 14 guests was life affirming," Cox said. "It is so refreshing and joyous to see a country that celebrates discovery and science. The recognition of science and accomplishments in the human race is amazing."

Ultimately, Ramsdell said he is grateful for his education, as it helped to achieve the success he has found today.

"My education set me up to be successful and I know I didn't appreciate that at the time," Ramsdell said. "I had good teachers at every level and I had good opportunities at every level. High school was stressful for me, but my memories are all good. It just ended up being a really good environment for us to be successful."



L to R: Fred Ramsdell, President; Robin Daughters, Treasurer; Ri-Chee Chou, Vice President; Judy Dallenbach, Secretary. Not Pictured: Bob Brigham, Secretary; Odette DeSousa, Advisor.

COURTESY OF FRED RAMSDELL

Homestead High School graduate Fred Ramsdell, left.

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# Sports

## Los Altos girls basketball gets late winner over Mtn. View

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

It was a night to remember for the Eagles and guard Ella McFarlane, with the senior hitting the game-winner against Mountain View Friday and scoring her 1,000th point in the first half.

Tied 31-31 with 19 seconds left in the fourth quarter, McFarlane drove to the basket and hit a midrange shot for the eventual game winner with 12 seconds left, finishing the game with a team-leading 23 points. McFarlane was not open for a three-point shot, forcing her to drive inside to make a contested shot.

"I drove, and it was open, and I was like, 'I have to make this,'" McFarlane said.

McFarlane made the shot and scored the last six points for Los Altos, all in the fourth quarter, finishing 9-19 from the field. The rivalry game featured both teams playing aggressive defense and up-tempo styles, leading to

turnovers and fast-break opportunities throughout, with eight lead changes starting in the second quarter.

Los Altos coach Brittany Taylor described the game as competitive chaos, noting it had many ups and downs and came down to the wire, much like previous games in the season. She praised the team for making defensive adjustments and getting transition buckets.

"It's a competitive game, big rival day," Taylor said. "Mountain View brought a very tough, physical game against us, which is great."

Mountain View kept the game close thanks to timely shots and a swarming defense, trailing 20-10 at half-time and having a 28-27 lead going into the fourth quarter. The teams traded buckets in the fourth before McFarlane made the game-winning shot. Taylor noted that the visiting Eagles have played a lot of close games this season and have built experience to



KELLEN SCANLON/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

The Los Altos girls basketball team pulled out a close victory against rival Mountain View Friday 33-31 to move to 10-2 on the season and 2-0 in SCVAL De Anza Division league play.

weather tense moments.

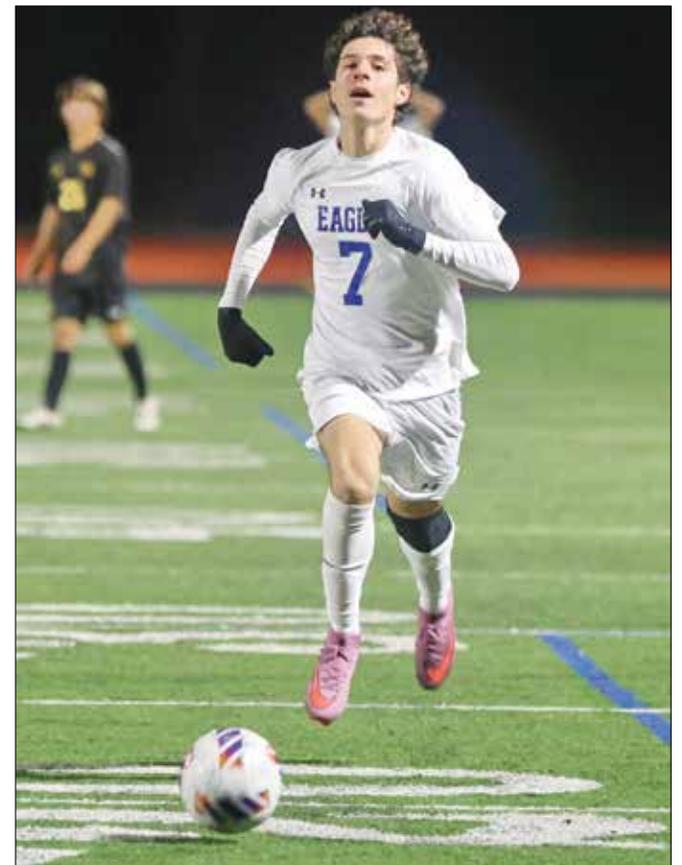
"Our team continues to surprise me in our resilience and just being able to win tough games," Taylor said.

McFarlane has been on the varsity team since her freshman year and needed 12 points to reach 1,000 Friday night, and she made it her

goal to reach it after seeing other players reach the milestone in previous years.

See BASKETBALL, Page 17

## Mountain View boys soccer remains undefeated in win over Los Altos



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The Mountain View soccer team beat Los Altos 3-0 Tuesday in the second game of the SCVAL De Anza Division league season for both teams. Mountain View (7-0-2) remains undefeated after beating Los Gatos Thursday and is 3-0 in league play, while Los Altos (6-2-1) beat Homestead Thursday 3-2 for its first league win of the season.

# Sports



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos guard Ella McFarlane scored 23 points Friday in the win over Mountain View, passing 1,000 points for her career as a varsity player.

## BASKETBALL

From Page 16

“My freshman and sophomore stats were good but not amazing, so I had to lock in for junior and senior year to reach this benchmark, so I’m really glad,” McFarlane said.

Los Altos is now 10-2 and 2-0 in SCVAL De Anza Division league play, hosting Fremont today at 7 p.m.

“Overall, we’ve processed each week, kept our competitiveness, the girls are getting better,” Taylor said of the season. “Each night, it’s a different player who steps up outside of Ella, so it’s nice to see that we have a lot of versatility on our roster.”

Los Altos guard Taylor Ware finished with six points for the Eagles, while Mountain View guard Fiona Lee led the Spartans with 15 points. Emilia Cornfors-Gurovski had nine points for the Spartans. Mountain View plays at Monta Vista today at 7 p.m.

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



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## Prep Sports Summary

### Girls soccer

The St. Francis girls soccer team (6-0) beat Presentation 7-1 Wednesday.

Mountain View (7-3) lost 8-1 to Los Gatos Thursday.

Los Altos (6-3) beat Homestead 2-1 Thursday.

### Basketball

The Mountain View boys basketball team beat Los Altos 62-54 Saturday. The Spartans are 7-7 on the year, while the Eagles are 3-9.

The St. Francis boys basketball team (7-5) lost to Sacred Heart Cathedral 47-39 Friday.

The Pinewood girls basketball team (10-0) beat Salesian College Preparatory 55-38 Saturday.

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# Open Enrollment

## FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR



# Camps

## Hidden Villa offers a variety of summer camps for kids

Town Crier Report

Registration for summer camps has begun and general registration for Hidden Villa summer camps is underway.

Hidden Villa offers numerous summer camps for kids, and more than 700 children in grades K-12 participated in Hidden Villa Summer Camp in 2025. The Hidden Villa Summer Camp program has taken place on the 1,600-acre organic farm and wilderness preserve in Los Altos Hills since 1945 to help inspire a deeper appreciation and respect for nature, food and others.

### Hidden Villa Day Camp

The Hidden Villa Day Camp allows kids in kindergarten to fourth grade in fall 2026 to participate in a variety of activities, including hiking, swimming, arts and crafts, exploring nature and time with farm ani-

mals, according to the Hidden Villa website. Campers entering third and fourth grade have the option of spending Thursday night to Friday at Hidden Villa. Each day begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m., with extended care from 8-9 a.m. and 4-5 p.m. There are seven sessions total lasting five days each, with session one June 15-19, followed by June 22-26, June 29-July 3, July 6-10, July 13-17, July 20-24 and July 27-31. Cost is \$865.

### Overnight: Bay to sea backpacking

Older high school students have the chance to backpack in beautiful parts of the Bay Area, averaging five miles a day. Kids entering 10th-12th grade will learn how to read a map and camp as part of basic wilderness skills covered in the two-week program. The session starts June 15. Cost is \$2,200.

See CAMPS, Page 19



COURTESY OF HIDDEN VILLA

Hidden Villa offers various summer camps for kids on its 1,600-acre organic farm and wilderness preserve in Los Altos Hills.

## With unmet need high, America rallies for afterschool programs

Statepoint

Afterschool programs give children and youth a safe place to connect and learn after the school day ends, and research shows that programs boost students' academic achievement and help them engage with their communities. They help children succeed in school and in life by providing homework help, mentors, healthy snacks and meals, exposure to STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and other skills, college and career prep and more.

That's why a million people rallied for afterschool programs at 8,000 events across the country last fall for Lights On Afterschool 2025, an annual celebration of afterschool programming. In Alabama, students and families enjoyed a spooky science lab with hands-on experiments, eerie activities and hair-raising fun. In California, families joined

a Día de los Muertos celebration to honor culture, community and afterschool programs with a book giveaway, food trucks, arts and crafts and student performances. In Idaho, students picked apples for a local food bank at an orchard. In Massachusetts, middle and high school students helped younger children at a read-a-thon.

For the second year in a row, superstar USHER served as honorary chair of Lights On Afterschool. From Niagara Falls to Washington's Frederick Douglass Bridge to Caesars Superdome in New Orleans and elsewhere, buildings, bridges and other landmarks were lit up in yellow and blue in October to show support for afterschool programs.

"Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and give working families peace of mind that their children are supervised

and learning after the school day ends," said Jodi Grant, executive director of the Afterschool Alliance, the nonprofit that organizes Lights On Afterschool. "But three in four kids whose parents want afterschool programs for them are being left behind because their families cannot afford or access programs."

A 2025 study commissioned by the Afterschool Alliance found that the parents of 29.6 million children, more than half the school-age kids in the country, want afterschool programs for their children – but less than 7 million are currently enrolled. Ninety-five percent of parents with children in afterschool programs are satisfied with the program their child attends.

Yet despite the high unmet need, Lights On Afterschool came amid Trump administration cuts to federal educational spending and proposals



COURTESY OF STATEPOINT

Afterschool programs provide mental and physical health benefits for kids to connect and learn after the school day ends.

to end federal support for afterschool programs.

"We need more funding from government at all levels, businesses and philanthropy to make afterschool programs available to all," Grant added.

"Every child deserves access to a quality afterschool program."

To learn more about afterschool programs and Lights On Afterschool, visit [afterschoolalliance.org](https://afterschoolalliance.org).

# Camps

## CAMPS

From Page 18

### Overnight: Community camp

For fourth through seventh graders, daily animal chores and activities like swimming, archery, arts and crafts and hiking provide lots of fun on a 12-day overnight camping adventure. Camp sessions for fourth and fifth graders are June 29-July 10, while sixth and seventh graders have two sessions as options, running from June 15-26 and June 29-July 10. Cost is \$2,050.

### Overnight: Counselors in training

Those entering 12th grade have the opportunity to serve as counselors, with two weeks of on-the-job training under mentorship, designing and implementing large-group activities. Students will learn public speaking skills, develop activities and work with others as part of the training program from June 29-July 10, accord-

ing to the Hidden Villa website. Those who complete the training will join Hidden Villa staff as paid counselors for two one-week camps, from July 13-17 and July 20-24, and will receive \$580 per week. The cost for the training is \$945, and an application is required for the program.

### Overnight: Farm & wilderness camp - 12 days

A three-day backpacking expedition to Black Mountain, caring for farm animals and activities like swimming, archery, sports and high rope are just some of the activities for eighth to 10th graders at the farm and wilderness camp. Camp sessions are June 15-26, June 29-July 10 and July 13-24, costing \$2,050 and running for 12 days, according to the Hidden Villa website. Those interested in a shorter experience can also sign up for the five-day July 27-31 option for \$1,025.

*For more information, visit [hiddenvilla.org/registration](http://hiddenvilla.org/registration).*

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### 2026 Sessions

Monday - Friday

- Week 1: 06/08 - 06/12
- Week 2: 06/15 - 06/19
- Week 3: 06/22 - 06/26
- Week 4: 07/06 - 07/10
- Week 5: 07/13 - 07/17
- Week 6: 07/20 - 07/24
- Week 7: 07/27 - 07/31
- Week 8: 08/03 - 08/07

# Food & Wine

Food and Wine is published once a month. For advertising information, email [sales@latc.com](mailto:sales@latc.com).

## Turkey Chili: Layering savory flavors and healthy habits

By Christine Moore

I've been thinking about layers lately. How they both protect and reveal. How they can add simplicity and depth to our days. Layers, I reckon, make life more interesting.

It's a relevant time of year to consider layers. Layering is the preferred method of dressing in January as we stack coats over sweaters over shirts. Even in-season produce are donning layers: think the allium and brassica veggie families. Or citrus.

To boot, science-backed research reveals a successful way to add healthy habits – a common desire as we start the year – is to layer new behaviors atop old ones. For example, say you're a morning coffee drinker looking to start a meditation practice. By adding meditation to your coffee-drinking habit, you're far more likely to achieve your goal. So, when it came to choosing a recipe to share with you, my new-and-improved turkey chili recipe made perfect sense.

A warm and nourishing bowl of complex flavors, jam-packed with healthy ingredients, this chili is ideal for winter dinners. And, because I

made my first-ever mole creating the recipe, the revised version of a family favorite helps me stack into my daily cooking a resolution to learn new methods.

I'm convinced that I've successfully layered the habit of mole making into my life. It absolutely elevated my chili recipe and has me excited to find other ways I can use the traditional Mexican sauce to build layers of flavor.

### Healthy new year turkey chili

Welcome at football parties and cozy evenings, chili has been devoured for generations.

In my version, I swapped beef out for ground turkey to maximize the health benefits years ago. But all chili recipes offer goodness. Onions and chili peppers are both immunity-boosting, inflammation-fighting, heart health-helping, antioxidant-packed vegetables.

While chilis are often seasoned using chili powder, I was thrilled with how the mole elevated my well-worn recipe. Using cocoa powder and dried guajillo and ancho peppers (available at most grocery stores), the mole was quick to



CHRISTINE MOORE/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Layers of flavors, including mole, contribute to this turkey chili's appeal.

come together. The mildness of the peppers means they add complexity and richness without bringing too much heat.

Toppings are critical to a good bowl of a chili. To the more commonly used cheese, sour cream and green onions,

we add avocado, pico de gallo, sliced radishes and lime. Pickled jalapenos and a choice of hot sauces allow all to individualize the heat level.

### Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons avocado oil

- 1 large white onion, finely chopped
- 2 green bell peppers, chopped
- 1 jalapeno pepper, finely chopped

See CHILI, Page 21

## Post-holiday sugar high: 5 sugar-intake tips to prevent cavities in 2026

Statepoint

Holiday celebrations often feature lots of great food and drinks, including sweet treats to indulge in. But too much sugar in your diet can weaken your teeth, leaving your smile vulnerable to cavities. After a sweet holiday season, follow these five sugar intake tips so you can prevent cavities and improve your oral and overall health in 2026.

- Restore the balance. If your holiday season was filled with candy canes, hot cocoa and cookies, now is the time to revive a balanced diet with a variety of healthy foods from each of the five major food groups. Fill your plate with whole grains, fruits, vegetables, lean proteins and low-fat dairy foods.

- Sugary beverages like soda and juice should be served sparingly, as healthier options like water and plain milk have far more nutritional value. "Water is the best

beverage for your teeth," said American Dental Association (ADA) dentist Mirissa Price, D.M.D. "Not only does water help wash away cavity-causing bacteria and weaken the acids in your mouth, but water with optimal levels of fluoride strengthens your teeth against cavities.

- Be picky if it's sticky and watch out for starch. You might think dried fruit is a healthy choice, but raisins and dried cranberries often stick to your teeth, giving the bacteria in your mouth more time to feast on the natural sugars. Meanwhile, starchy foods like chips and cakes often get trapped between your teeth where cavities also form. "If you choose these foods, pair them with water, and make sure to brush and floss thoroughly," Price said.

- Resolve to maintain your dental routine. Speaking of brushing and flossing, it's important to keep up with your dental care routine no matter what your diet looks like. That means

brushing your teeth twice daily with fluoride toothpaste and cleaning between your teeth once a day. Choose dental products with the ADA Seal of Acceptance and see your dentist regularly for valuable check-ups. Appointments can fill up fast after the holidays, so schedule them far in advance to avoid delays.

- Timing matters. Instead of eating sweets on their own, pair them with meals or eat them shortly after mealtimes. During a meal, your mouth releases more saliva, which is another tool in the fight against tooth decay, canceling out acids and washing away food from teeth and gums. Saliva also contains minerals to repair weakened teeth. For snacks between meals, choose a healthy option like fruit, vegetables or cheese.

"If you find yourself enjoying a sweet treat apart from a meal, chewing sugar-free gum with the ADA Seal of Acceptance after can increase saliva and may

help counter acidity," said Dr. Price.

- Set a good example. It's no surprise that most kids also want to enjoy a sweet treat now and then, but remember that cavities are the most common chronic childhood disease. Provide children with foods and drinks that are healthy and low in sugar, remind them about regular at-home dental care, and set a good example by modeling all the tips above.

- To learn more about how nutrition affects your teeth, visit [MouthHealthy.org/nutritionsimpact](http://MouthHealthy.org/nutritionsimpact). For help keeping your child's dental routine on track, visit [MouthHealthy.org/calendar](http://MouthHealthy.org/calendar) to download a free 12-month brushing and flossing calendar.

"Making choices to keep your mouth healthy doesn't stop you from enjoying good food," said Dr. Price. "Finding a balance is key, and the start of a new year is a great time to focus on healthy behaviors to benefit your dental and overall health."

# Food & Wine

## CHILI From Page 20

- 2 garlic cloves, peeled
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1 heaping tablespoon unsweetened, cocoa powder
- 3 dried guajillo peppers
- 2 dried ancho peppers
- 2 lbs. ground turkey, preferable thigh meat
- 1-14.5 oz. can diced, fire-roasted tomatoes
- 2-14.5 oz. cans kidney beans, low sodium
- 1-14.5 oz. can pinto beans, low sodium
- Sea salt and ground black pepper to taste

### Directions

Boil a kettle of water. Place dried guajillo and ancho peppers in a bowl or pot. When water has come to a boil, pour over dried peppers so they are submerged. Cover with a plate or lid and allow to soak for eight to 10 minutes.

Next, heat a large Dutch oven or similar over medium heat. Add avocado oil. When oil begins to shimmer, add on-

ions. Season with salt and sauté for five minutes. Add the bell and jalapeno peppers. Season again with salt and sauté for additional five minutes, stirring now and again.

While vegetables cook prepare the mole. Add cocoa powder, garlic cloves, cumin, oregano, guajillo and ancho chilis and one cup of soaking water to a blender. Blend until smooth. Note: Be sure to remove the stems of the guajillo and ancho chilis before blending. Set mole aside while you cook the meat.

Remove vegetables from the Dutch oven. Add turkey and cook until browned, seasoning with salt and pepper.

Add vegetables back to the pot. Add the fire-roasted tomatoes, mole, beans and one cup of water to the pot. Bring everything to a simmer. Cook for 30 minutes. Taste and add salt and pepper as needed. Enjoy over rice, baked potatoes or beside cornbread.

*Christine Moore is a Mountain View resident. To read more food and drink tips from her, visit [writeyum.com](http://writeyum.com).*

## Take pastries to greater heights in 2026

Family Features

Whether you can't quite give up on the holiday treats or the festivities are continuing into 2026, these Easy Lemon Blueberry Bars offer a light, fruity bite. The melted white chocolate drizzle is just what gatherings with loved ones call for. Visit [Culinary.net](http://Culinary.net) for more delicious desserts to enjoy this year.



COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES

### Easy Lemon Blueberry Bars

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy."

#### Ingredients

- 1 stick butter, melted
- 1 box lemon cake mix
- 2 eggs
- 1/3 cup fresh blueberries

These Lemon Blueberry Bars are sweet, fruity – and easy.

- 2/3 cup white chocolate chips, divided
  - 1/3 cup chopped pecans
- Heat oven to 350 F.

In bowl, combine butter, cake mix, eggs, blueberries, 1/3 cup white chocolate chips and pecans. Butter a 7-by-11-inch pan and

spread mixture evenly into pan. Bake 30-35 minutes.

Let cool then melt remaining white chocolate chips and drizzle over bars.

Tip: If melted white chocolate chips are too thick, add a little oil before drizzling.

### Have a comment or idea? Reach out

If you have an idea for Food & Wine or would like to comment on its content, email Christina Casillas at [christinac@latc.com](mailto:christinac@latc.com).



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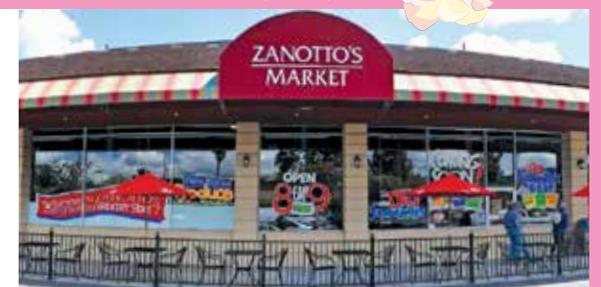
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# Business & Real Estate

## New Los Altos store Growing Ivy offers gifts, essentials

By Julia Baum

Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

A new children's retail store that opened six weeks ago on State Street in downtown Los Altos is adding another family-oriented business to an area that continues to attract young families and independent retailers.

Growing Ivy, owned by Wendy Ye, specializes in clothing, shoes, gifts and everyday essentials for babies and children, with most items geared toward newborns through age 5. The store also carries a smaller selection for children up to age 10. The shop – which bears the name of Ye's daughter – features a small play area for children and a curated mix of neutral and pastel-hued products that includes bathing items, accessories such as hair bows, and handmade goods, including plush toys from a maker in Sunnyvale and select items sourced from Europe and Japan.

Ye said she chose the State Street location after spending time in the area and noticing the high volume of families and child-focused businesses nearby.

"The first time I visited this location, I thought this might be the best location, because I saw many children with families," Ye said, and realized there might be an opportunity to "provide some additional products for the parents and families here."

A former business and financial reporter, Ye said the idea for Growing



MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Patrons peruse myriad items at Growing Ivy, a new children's store in Los Altos.

Ivy emerged after she became a mother and struggled to find children's stores that met her expectations.

"When I became a mom in 2024, I was looking for shops for my own daughter," she said, and ended up searching far beyond her own backyard for the items she wanted. After traveling to more than 50 countries with her daughter, Ye uncovered "a lot of great products ... we think that we can fill a gap here for the Bay Area parents and families."

The store aims to function as a one-

stop destination for parents, offering more than just apparel.

"I just want to make it easy for parents to shop, because when you become a parent, your time becomes very valuable," Ye said. "They can buy the most important things or essentials they need for their kid."

In addition to retail, Growing Ivy positions itself as a community space. The store includes a children's play area, and Ye plans to host parenting workshops and discussions.

"Many kids do enjoy their time here, especially on rainy days," she said. "I do feel the space is not big enough ... but we think we'll find more ways."

Scott Hunter, executive director of the Los Altos Village Association, said the opening reflects broader demographic shifts in the area.

"It's not the first children's store that we have in town," Hunter said. "But certainly, I think it reflects the growing amount of younger families that we have in the area."

Hunter added that family-oriented businesses contribute to downtown vitality.

"It adds to the vibrancy of downtown to have ... customers of all ages," he said.

Customers are already discovering the store organically. Lisa Forte, a local business owner who stopped in while shopping for her granddaughter, said the physical retail experience stood out.

"Coming in and seeing product, feeling product and supporting local is huge," Forte said. "The presentation makes a difference ... it was delightful to walk in."

As downtown Los Altos continues to see relatively low vacancy rates, Growing Ivy adds a niche, child-focused concept to the mix – one Ye hopes will grow alongside the families it serves.

"I think building trust and getting a lot of good feedback are the most important metrics I'm looking for and I'm trying my best to do that."

## The latest expert thinking on setting retirement spending limits

By Artie Green

In 1994, Bill Bengen, an obscure financial planner in southern California, came up with a simple guideline his retired clients could use for determining a safe (minimum) withdrawal rate from their savings. Based on historical data, he calculated that an individual starting retirement should be able to spend up to 4% of their investment assets for a period of 30 years without running out of money. The portfolio allocation that maximized this return was about 60% stocks and 40% bonds. His research was a breakthrough in helping retirees plan for the financial risk of longer retirement lifespans. The 4% safe withdrawal rate has evolved into a rule-of-thumb across the financial planning industry.

Since that time, there has been extensive follow-on research attempting to confirm as well as improve on Bengen's seminal work. Among other things, researchers have discovered the following:

- The 4% safe withdrawal rate does not take taxes into account, making it

### Nest Egg Briefs

potentially overly optimistic for those in higher marginal tax brackets.

- The returns experienced early in retirement will weigh disproportionately on the final outcome. This is known as sequence of returns risk and depending on market performance during the early years of retirement, could significantly impact your safe withdrawal rate in future years.

- The relationship between bond yields and stock prices (to each other and relative to their historical averages) can impact the optimal allocation model supporting the safe withdrawal rate.

- Slowly changing your portfolio allocation model from conservative at the start of retirement to more aggressive in the latter years can improve the overall average withdrawal rate.

- In other countries, safe withdrawal rates have been considerably lower than in the U.S.

Recently Bengen came out with a new book, "A Richer Retirement: Supercharging the 4% rule to Spend More and Enjoy More," in which he has increased the minimum safe withdrawal rate to 4.7%.

He explained that over the past 100 years, the average safe rate was actually closer to 7%. There was only one case study from his research who was forced to limit withdrawals to as low as 4.7%. He considers 4.7% to be a stingy ultra-conservative spending policy for a retiree.

The one thing that could impact the 4.7% withdrawal rate is inflation, which Bengen calls the greatest enemy of retirees. Not, as he puts it, simply one bad year, but when it occurs over a protracted period with the inflation rate exceeding 7% or 8%, such as what happened during the 1970s. That's when you'd likely have to breach the safe rate and cut well back on spending.

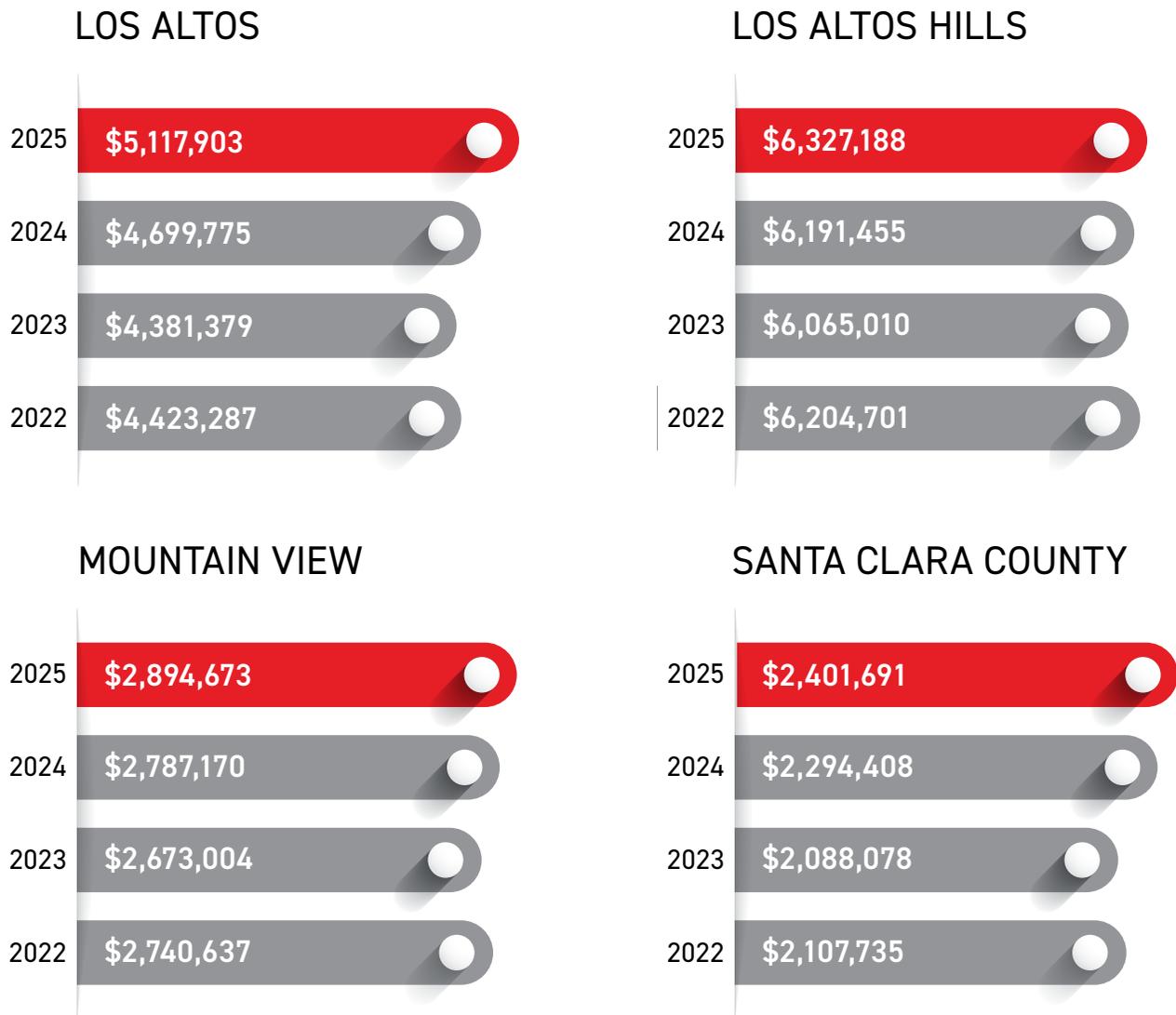
How can you use this information for your own retirement planning? It's certainly helpful to have a simple guideline for quickly determining the possible

likelihood of insolvency during retirement. But relying on it is no substitute for creating a comprehensive retirement plan specific to your own family's savings and spending goals. The latter utilizes many detailed assumptions about your future and I have found that the more detailed the plan, the more accurate it turns out to be.

If withdrawing 4.7% (or less) of your savings should cover your spending and charitable goals for the rest of your life, congratulations. But don't stop there. Spend the time to put together as thorough a plan for your retirement as you can. You may discover opportunities you'd never thought of before. And you'll feel a lot more confident about being able to achieve them.

*Los Altos resident Artie Green is founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, visit [cognizantwealth.com](http://cognizantwealth.com). Information about the firm can also be found in its Form ADV Part 2, which is available upon request by calling 877-977-2555 or by emailing [compliance@perigonwealth.com](mailto:compliance@perigonwealth.com).*

# MARKET UPDATE



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Data based on single-family home sales only per the Multiple Listing Service

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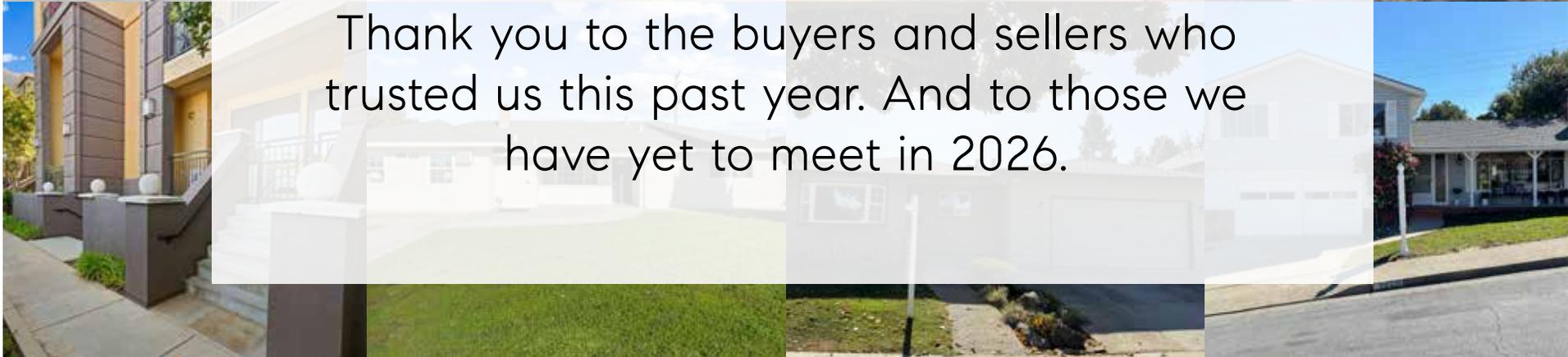
- My grandmother was one of the first residents, moving here in January 1973.
- My parents purchased a Creekside home in 1995, and I have been a resident since 2009.
- I own a Creekside home, and I have over 40 years of experience in real estate. As a third-generation REALTOR® who grew up in Los Altos, this community is deeply personal to me.



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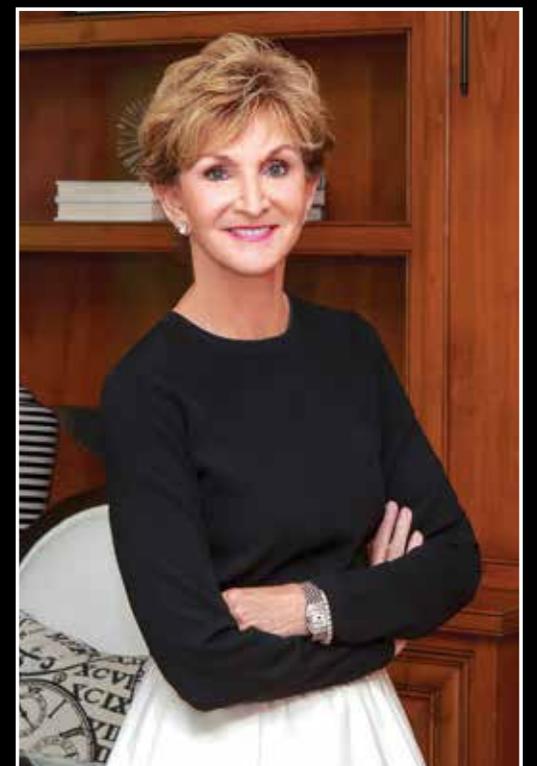


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# Public Notices

## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

### 999 Fremont Ave Police Department Remodel Project CF-01006

CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY,  
CALIFORNIA

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

The project includes demolition of the existing wall as shown on the plans, construction of new walls to create dorm rooms, extending the fire suppression system, and upgrading the existing building's electrical, mechanical, and HVAC systems.

### 2. Location of Work: 999 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos, CA

**3. Contract Documents:** Bids must be submitted on PlanetBids only. A copy of the plans (half-size) and specifications shall be obtained from the office of the City Engineer, City Hall, 1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California, 94022, for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 or visit the City's bids and vendor management portal hosted by PlanetBids to download the PDF file(s) (<https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/71685/portal-home>). Copies may also be inspected at the office of the City Engineer. To the extent required by Public Contract Code section 20103.7, the City will also make the Contract Documents available for review at one or more plan rooms.

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

Pursuant to Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors or subcontractors bidding on public works projects must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

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

This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

**5. Pre-bid Site Review:** A NON-MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference and Site Walk will be held at 999 Fremont Ave on the following date(s) and time(s):

**January 22, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.**

It is highly recommended that each prospective bidder should attend the Pre-Bid Site Walk. The City will not provide another opportunity to visit the building beyond the date and time identified. Bids WILL be accepted from all Bidder including those who did not attend the site walk.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**February 3, 2026 at 2:00 pm**

The PlanetBids contract ID for this project is (CF-01006). The Bidder's PlanetBids vendor identification number may also be necessary for the Bidder's Security.

Each Bid received before the Bid submittal due date will be automatically opened and unsealed by PlanetBids at the time of the Bid deadline. Bids received after the Bid submittal due date will be rejected. Bids shall be valid for sixty (60) calendar days after the Bid opening date. Bid results (not verified) will be published.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dated: December 18, 2025

/s/ Steven Son, P.E.  
Public Works Manager  
(01-14,21-26)

**007-T**

### DI WANG ZZY MANAGEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722421

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: DI WANG ZZY MANAGEMENT, 390 Hacienda Ct, 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): Di Wang, 390 Hacienda Ct, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/24/2025. / S / Di Wang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/29/2025. (01-14,21,28-26,02-04-26)

**006-T**

### GL MANAGEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722298

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GL MANAGEMENT, 171 Main St, #558, 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): Lizhen Wu, 171 Main St, #558, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/01/2025. / S / Lizhen Wu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/23/2025. (01-07,14,21,28-26)

**005-T**

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DANA DALE HAVILAND CASE NO. 25PR201604

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DANA DALE HAVILAND. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ROBERT RAGER in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ROBERT RAGER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as fol-

lows: 02/05/26 at 9:01AM in Dept. 2 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner JANET L. BREWER - SBN 74181 LAW OFFICE OF JANET L. BREWER 4 MAIN ST., STE. 20 LOS ALTOS CA 94022 Telephone (650) 325-8276 1/7, 1/14, 1/21/26 CNS-3998995# LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER (01-07,14,21-26)

**003-T**

### PULL & BREW EQUIPMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722303

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PULL & BREW EQUIPMENT, 4546 El Camino Real B10, #611, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): WALNUT HILL ENTERPRISES LLC, 4546 El Camino Real B10, #611, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Christopher Helmich / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/23/2025. (01-07,14,21,28-26)

**002-T**

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: KAREN RENEE MAZZOCCO CASE NO. 25PR201547

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of KAREN RENEE MAZZOCCO. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by RICHARD AUSTIN in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANN-SOPHIE ELISABETH TAYLOR be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 01/30/2026 at 9:00AM in Dept. 7 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner ELIZABETH E. COMEAU 516 W Shaw Ave Ste 200 Fresno, CA 93704 (619) 381-1162 (01-07,14,21-26)

**001-T**

### Ideal Self Care LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722143

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Ideal Self Care LLC, 998 La Mesa Terrace, Unit H, 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): Ideal Self Care LLC, 998 La Mesa Terrace, Unit H, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Kristina Lo / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/17/2025. (12-31-25,01-07,14,21-26)

**307-T**

### Axios Sports Medicine FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN721835

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Axios Sports Medicine, 1386 Sydney Dr., Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jason Frederick Chiropractic Inc, 1386 Sydney Dr, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/05/2023. /S/ Jason Frederick / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/05/2025. (12-24,31-25,01-07,14-26)

**306-T**

### GROUPVINE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722089

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GROUPVINE, 26030 Elena Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): THE GROUPEY, INC, 26030 Elena Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/26/2006. /S/ David Beyer / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/15/2025. (12-24,31-25,01-07,14-26)

**305-T**

### LILY'S DREAM FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN721993

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LILY'S DREAM, 1919 Fruitdale Ave Apt L807, 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): CASPIAN SEA LLC, 1919 Fruitdale Ave Apt L807, San Jose, CA 95128. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/11/2025. /S/ Omar Omarov / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/11/2025. (12-24,31-25,01-07,14-26)

**303-T**

# \$40

is usually all it costs to publish your Fictitious Business Name in the Los Altos Town Crier Email [legals@latc.com](mailto:legals@latc.com) by 2pm on Thursday

*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 [christinac@latc.com](mailto:christinac@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. **Other events: Paintings Exhibit**, through Jan. 30. Eileen Logsdon Bugée's paintings in acrylic, watercolor and gouache will be on display at the Los Altos Library for the month of January. **The Growth of Cosmic Behemoths**, 7 p.m. Jan 15. Dr. Devontae Baxter will share insights into current theoretical and observational understanding of the densest environments in the early universe, and discuss the next-generation observatories poised to significantly advance research in this area. **UC Master Gardeners: Winter Care for Roses**, 7 p.m. Jan. 21. Are you not sure what to do after your roses have finished blooming? If so, join Laura Westley at the Los Altos Library to learn the basics on how to prune roses and other perennial bushes in the winter. Program will include a live pruning demonstration and is free and open to the public. Program is designed for adults and teens. No registration necessary. Information: 650-948-7683, [scld.org/events](http://scld.org/events). **Key/Zipper Felt Fob Craft**, 2 p.m. Jan. 31. Join local crafts artist Deidre at the Los Altos Library to create a cute key/zipper felt fob. All materials will be provided. Program is designed for adults and teens. No registration necessary. Information: For more information, visit [scld.org/events](http://scld.org/events). **Silicon Valley Reads: Art With Drawn2Art**, 6:30 p.m. Feb. 3. Come join instructors from Drawn2Art studio for this fun Silicon Valley Reads-themed art program. This program is designed for adults and teens. **Mixed Media Valentines**, 6:30 p.m. Feb. 5. Join local artist Kristina Eng for a relaxed, creative worksop focused on watercolor and mixed media. Using simple shapes, bright colors, and easy techniques, participants will create a handmade Valentine, galentine, or parentine to share or keep as a positive affirmation. Program is designed for adults and teens. All supplies will be provided. No registration necessary.

## ADA HAU



August 1, 1938 – December 28, 2025

Ada Hau went home peacefully to the Lord on December 28, 2025. She was surrounded by loving family members who recounted stories of our beloved mommy and grandma and prayed over her moments before she made her final breath.

Ada, was a champion swimmer as a teenager in Shanghai, China, her birthplace. Later she moved to Hong Kong where she won the annual walk-a-thon race where she raced around the entire island. While there, she met her husband, Jonathan Hau. They later moved to the Bay Area with their two sons, Benny and Robin. After moving to Los Altos, they had their third child, Heidi.

Anyone who met Ada knew that her faith in Jesus Christ was her first priority. She gave generously of her time, wisdom and finances to bring the word of God to all those around her. She tirelessly volunteered her time for organizations such as Gideons International, The Salvation Army, El Camino Hospital and her long-time church Bridges Community Church (previously known as First Baptist Church of Los Altos).

She is survived by her children, Benny, Robin and Heidi and their families. A memorial service will be held at the Family Center at Bridges Community Church on Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 11am.

Her children kindly request that, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Gideons International or The Salvation Army.



## RAEANNA LOUISE BURKHART



November 6, 1939 – December 19, 2025

Los Altos Hills, California, native Raeanna Louise Burkhart passed away peacefully, after a brief illness, on December 19th, 2025, at the age of 86 in Lihue, Kauai. Rae, as she was known, was born on November 6th, 1939 in Palo Alto, California. Her father, Alton, owned the Los Altos Supply feed store located on First Avenue; her mother, Elsie (née McCart), was the business' bookkeeper. In addition, they were prominent apricot orchardists on their Los Altos Hills land along La Paloma Road. Rae graduated from Mountain View High School and San Jose State University, after which she had a long career in administration with the Hewlett-Packard Company in Palo Alto.

Raeanna and husband, Paul Zappella, lovingly restored the Los Altos Hills farm house in which Rae grew up, with her sisters Caroline (Snell) and Elaine (Cantwell). Rae and Paul were avid vegetable gardeners, advertising the day's availability of vegetables and eggs on an apricot tray alongside of the road. During the summer apricot season, Rae also helped her father with the drying of apricots: cutting, lifting trays, scrapping, and packaging. Not only did they process their own production in the iconic wood barn situated amongst apricot trees on the family property, but also that of neighbors who wanted their apricots to be dried.

In 1985, she married James Charles Carter, Jr, an engineer and project manager in the medical division at Varian, also in Palo Alto. Not long afterwards, both retired from the electronic industry and left Silicon Valley to build their dream home in Princeville on their beloved Hawaiian island of Kauai. She became keenly interested in Hawaiian culture, its people, traditions, and flora. Rae quickly became involved in numerous community activities, especially at Wai'oli Hui'ia Church in

Hanalei where she was also a mission docent. Rae and Jim lovingly guided their hānai children to adulthood. After moving closer to Lihue, Rae became a tour guide at the Grove Farm Museum. During this time, she developed numerous friendships at the Regency Hule'i'a and her church ohana (family) at Calvary Chapel Lihue.

In fact, Raeanna made friends wherever she went, and was deeply loved by young and old. Her family consisted of intimate friends on Kauai and across the mainland. In addition to the many lives she touched, including those of her hānai and step-children, she is survived by her nephew Robert Snell of Huntsville, Alabama, and niece Shari Nafus (née Snell) of Decatur, Texas.

A service of remembrance and celebration of life will be held at Calvary Chapel, Lihue, on January 16th, 2026, followed by a private interment at Kauai Veterans Cemetery, Hanapepe.

## ROLLAND REGNERY, JR.



March 26, 1946 – December 15, 2025

Rolland Regnery passed away peacefully in Rancho Mirage, CA, after living with Alzheimer's for several years. He was born in Miami Shores, Florida, to Mega and Reg Regnery. He attended Los Altos Schools and after graduating from Stanford joined the Peace Corps, serving in Bolivia before returning to the States and teaching ESL. He attended UC Davis Vet School and was a compassionate animal caregiver and a gifted surgeon. He was predeceased by his parents and siblings Frank and Helen. He is survived by his wife Roxanne, sister Charlotte, children Dawnelise and Noah, grandchildren Serafina and Manny, as well as his nieces and nephews. Rolland will be missed by his family and friends.

## JOCELYN OLINGER

July 18, 1947 – December 19, 2025

Jocelyn was born on July 18, 1947, in Brooklyn, New York, to Dr. Alan Olinger and Nadine Olinger. She spent her formative years in California, attending Holy Cross High School in Mountain View. She went on to earn her Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Irvine, and later received a Master's degree in Art History from Georgetown University.

Jocelyn was first married to Delos Brown, with whom she shared seven years of marriage. She later married David McGrath, and together they made their home in Melbourne, Australia, where Jocelyn lived for more than forty years. David and Jocelyn raised two daughters, Vanessa and Stephanie. Jocelyn was an adored partner to Tony, with whom she spent meaningful time with in Elsternwick in recent years.

Jocelyn was a devoted mother and grandmother. She was especially delighted by the recent birth of her twin grandchildren, Miranda and Darcy, born to her daughter Vanessa.

She was the middle sister of Linda Olinger and Annette Keenan, and she also leaves behind many beloved nieces, nephews, and grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Jocelyn will be remembered for her intellect, her love of art and learning, and her deep devotion to family. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.



# OBITUARY NOTICE

## YOUNG HWA KIM



October 11, 1938 –  
January 1, 2026

Young Hwa Kim was a dedicated father and husband whose commitment to providing for his family was only equaled by his willingness to enjoy life. He loved the outdoors and mountain climbing, lost himself in classical music, loved Korean TV & dramas, devoured books constantly, and loved to spend time with his friends.

His life spanned two distinct cultures and two wars. His childhood was rooted in World War 2 in what is now North Korea. He endured through a foreign occupation where he had to bear physical abuse. In his early teens, he and his family escaped from what is now North Korea to South Korea, walking for days with little to their name.

Despite his overwhelming childhood, Young Hwa Kim maintained an optimism born of his genuine love for the people around him. After the war, he served in the South Korean military and earned a Bachelors in Foreign Languages. He married Young Il Kim in 1973. He eventually found his calling in starting and operating businesses. His first business was in textiles in South Korea. After his son, Hyung Jin Kim, was born, he and his wife moved to the United States to give their only child the best opportunity to thrive.

In the United States, he embraced every opportunity available to him. He quickly discovered McDonald's where he found a lifelong addiction to their coffee. He owned several small businesses, the last of which was a baseball batting cage in Los Angeles. His interest in baseball was born of his shared love of the sport with his son. He always welcomed every customer with a smile and always offered an ear when they needed it. And he spent an inordinate amount of time sharpening his mastery of the game of Go.

Young Hwa Kim eventually moved from the Los Angeles area to Los Altos in the 2010's. His life and his health blossomed when he welcomed his two grandsons soon after. He called them his "best friends" and their bond reflected that. He was there for their first words, their 100-day celebration, their baseball games, and especially when they were down.

People were enthralled by Young Hwa Kim's ability to tell a story, and they were awed by how hard he worked to ensure a comfortable life for his family. He was lavishly generous, never held a grudge, offered a second chance to everyone, and always tendered a genuine smile. He had a brilliant mind, an open heart, and he always had a hug ready when one needed it the most.

Young Hwa Kim passed away on January 1, 2026.



## JEANNE WATERS STRONG



August 10, 1925 –  
November 27, 2025

Jeanne Waters Strong, beloved mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully after a century on earth, on November 27, 2025, in Los Altos. Her warmth, spirit, and kindness touched the lives of all who knew her.

Born on August 10th, 1925, the only child to Lyman and Bess Waters, Jeanne was raised in San Carlos and Burlingame. Jeanne demonstrated resilience and determination throughout her life, including climbing Half Dome in Yosemite as a teenager and overcoming polio as a college student. She attended Cal before transferring to Stanford where she earned her degree in Psychology. Fulfilling a childhood dream, Jeanne earned her Private Pilot's license in the early 1960s, and flew to numerous locations with her family around northern California to the delight of her sons and to the mild consternation of her husband.

Jeanne became a professional genealogist, meticulously researching and self-publishing six books chronicling different branches of her family's history and working for numerous private clients. She became an enthusiastic anglophile through frequent travels to the U.K. and Europe with her beloved husband, Ted, capturing memories that enriched her deep appreciation for heritage and adventure. Jeanne also interviewed Ted about his WW II army experiences and published his story, preserving family history for generations to come.

Her love of dance—ballroom with Ted and thirty-five years of aerobic classes—was matched by her commitment to health and joy in movement. She enjoyed family trips to "the cabin" at Lake Tahoe where she gamely joined in her husband's (and sons') obsession with skiing in the winter, playing tennis in the summer, and entertaining countless friends and family. Jeanne was also a lifetime bridge player, her strategic mind and convivial personality making her a favorite at every table.

A true lifelong learner and community advocate, Jeanne was an early adopter of recycling, passionate about environmental stewardship.

Family was always at the heart of Jeanne's world. She raised two sons, Dave and Don with incredible patience, kindness and love and shared her life with her beloved husband Ted through 63 years of marriage.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ted Strong in 2011. She is survived by her two sons Dave (Sharon) and Don (Kati), four grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and a host of dear friends, all of whom will carry forward her memory with love and gratitude. Her enduring presence will be deeply missed, but her example will continue to inspire those she leaves behind.

Jeanne will be interred at Alta Mesa Cemetery, beside Ted. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a charity of choice in Jeanne's memory.

Jeanne Waters Strong's life reminds us of the power of kindness, the importance of family, and the lasting impact of a generous heart. She will be remembered always with love and affection.



## KATIE CLANCY



March 3, 1944 –  
December 7, 2025

To know Katie Clancy was to love her.

On December 7, 2025, Katie passed away peacefully at her home in Palo Alto, where she lived for 51 years. She was 81.

Katie was born on March 3, 1944, in Montreal, Canada to William and Hazel Sinclair. She was the youngest of three daughters, attended Montreal High School and graduated with honors from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Nursing School. In 1966, Katie moved to California and worked as an ICU nurse at Stanford Hospital, caring for the first adult heart transplant patients. There she met the love of her life Tom Clancy, a young neurosurgical resident. Together they moved to Washington, D.C. to work at the National Institutes of Health and were married in 1969.

Returning to Palo Alto, Katie and Tom built a full and vibrant life as they raised their two daughters. The doors to the "casa" were always open, their home a gathering place full of laughter and love. In 1980, the family embraced adventure wholeheartedly, spending a year sailing down the coast of Mexico on a 40-foot sailboat. During her lifetime, Katie circled the globe several times. She loved traveling with family and friends and the connections she made with people and cultures wherever she went.

Katie enjoyed tennis, golf and skiing in Breckenridge. After the passing of her husband, Katie's strength and optimism carried her forward as she devoted herself to her daughters and the lifelong friendships she cherished. Her spirit of courage, warmth, and saying yes to life will live on in those who knew her.

Katie is survived by her daughters, Jeannie Clancy and Heather Clancy; nephews Chris Trider and Rob Gile; nieces Jessica, JeanAnne, and Irene Donnell, and Julie Bagley (Tom Bagley); and her brother-in-law, Robert Gile. She

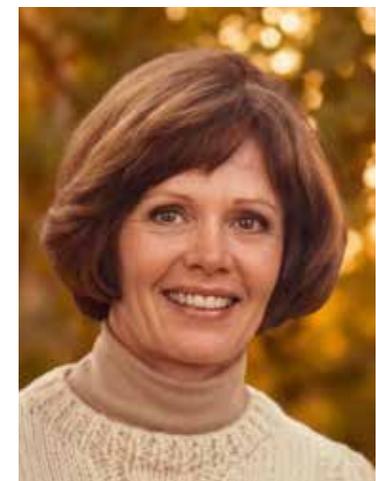
was predeceased by her husband, Thomas Clancy, and her sisters, Mary Gile and Jean Donnell (James Donnell).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Katie's memory to Heart Fit or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), supporting causes she championed through her own remarkable journey. Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at the age of 24, Katie always remembered what her doctor told her, "Live your life not your disease" and she did so fully.

A Celebration of Life will be held on January 18, 2026.



## MYRNA HAYES



January 1, 1941 –  
December 26, 2025

Myrna Hayes, a devoted spouse, mother, grandmother, and longtime member of the Los Altos community, passed away peacefully on December 26th.

Born and raised in Utah, Myrna spent the past 52 years in Los Altos, which she called home. Over those five decades, she became a familiar face in the neighborhood, an active community member, and a dear friend to many.

Myrna was the beloved wife of Patrick Hayes, with whom she shared her life until his passing in 2001. Together, they built a home defined by kindness and love.

As a mother, Myrna provided a nurturing and caring childhood for her three sons, Smith, John & Brooks. She also leaves behind six grandchildren who were the lights of her life: Peyton, Patrick, Henry, Lawrence, Hazel, and Leo.

Myrna's absence will be deeply felt not only by her family but by the Los Altos community she loved so dearly. Services were held at Alta Mesa Memorial on January 9th.



**JUST LISTED  
OPEN SAT & SUN  
1:00 – 4:00PM**

**11052 Canyon Vista Drive | Cupertino | \$2,298,000 | 11052CanyonVistaDrive.com**

**WELCOME TO THIS FABULOUS ATTACHED, SINGLE-LEVEL HOME** in the exclusive gated community of Rancho Deep Cliff. Ideally situated adjacent to the Cupertino Foothills, the home enjoys a peaceful, private, and tranquil setting. The community supports an active lifestyle with amenities including onsite tennis courts, gym, pool, spa, and clubhouse, all just minutes from your front door. This remarkable residence also offers access to award-winning Cupertino schools and is conveniently located to wineries, parks, and a wide array of recreational opportunities.

2 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus den and screen-covered atrium for 2,119 +/- sf of living space

Set on a 3,828 +/- sf lot in the beautiful gated Rancho Deep Cliff Community of 61 homes and 17 acres

Recently remodeled kitchen and bathrooms with recently installed bamboo floors

Plantation shutters and French doors

Amenities include clubhouse with fitness center, kitchen, 2 tennis courts, pool, and spa

Sought-after Cupertino schools: Stevens Creek Elementary, John F. Kennedy Middle, and Monta Vista High (Buyer to verify enrollment)

HOA dues of \$1,015/month (Buyer to verify)



**Tranquil Single-Level Living in the Rancho Deep Cliff Community**



**JUDY &  
CINDY**



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**THE BOGARD-TANIGAMI TEAM**

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