



Community
MV teen converts old school bus into mobile food pantry
Page 12



Sports
Mountain View names new water polo coach
Page 18



Your Health
Heart Smart: How to help in an emergency
Page 21

Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 78 No. 34 • 50 cents losaltosonline.com WEDNESDAY • August 20, 2025

We are family



PHOTOS BY S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The Los Altos Parks and Recreation Department hosted a Family Fun Day Aug. 9 at the city’s community center. The free, “Superheroes”-themed event featured arts and crafts, games, movies and a scavenger hunt. The next Family Fun Day is scheduled Dec. 13 with the theme, “Winter Wonderland.” For more information, visit losaltosrecreation.org.

Los Altos falling behind on climate action plan goals

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The city of Los Altos’ Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) was heralded as a significant accomplishment after city council approval in March 2022. The document laid out specific goals in the fight against climate change.

“Our 2022 CAAP is a comprehensive roadmap guiding Los Altos towards its ambitious goals of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below 2005 levels by 2030,” said Tania Katbi, the city’s sustainability analyst. “The plan encompasses over 60 distinct actions across multiple sectors.”

The ultimate goal is carbon neutrality by 2035 – when the

net amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere is zero.

Since CAAP’s passage, a number of factors have made it increasingly difficult for the city to accomplish CAAP goals.

Most discouraging for supporters was a 2023 federal court ruling against the city of Berkeley that nullified laws requiring all-electric appliances in new construction or major remodels. This undermined efforts to reduce methane from natural gas, a major contributor to greenhouse gases.

“Reach codes (reaching beyond state requirements) implemented in 2022 had required all electric construction for ADUs (accessory dwelling units) and most new

See PLAN, Page 4

Online Poll of the Week



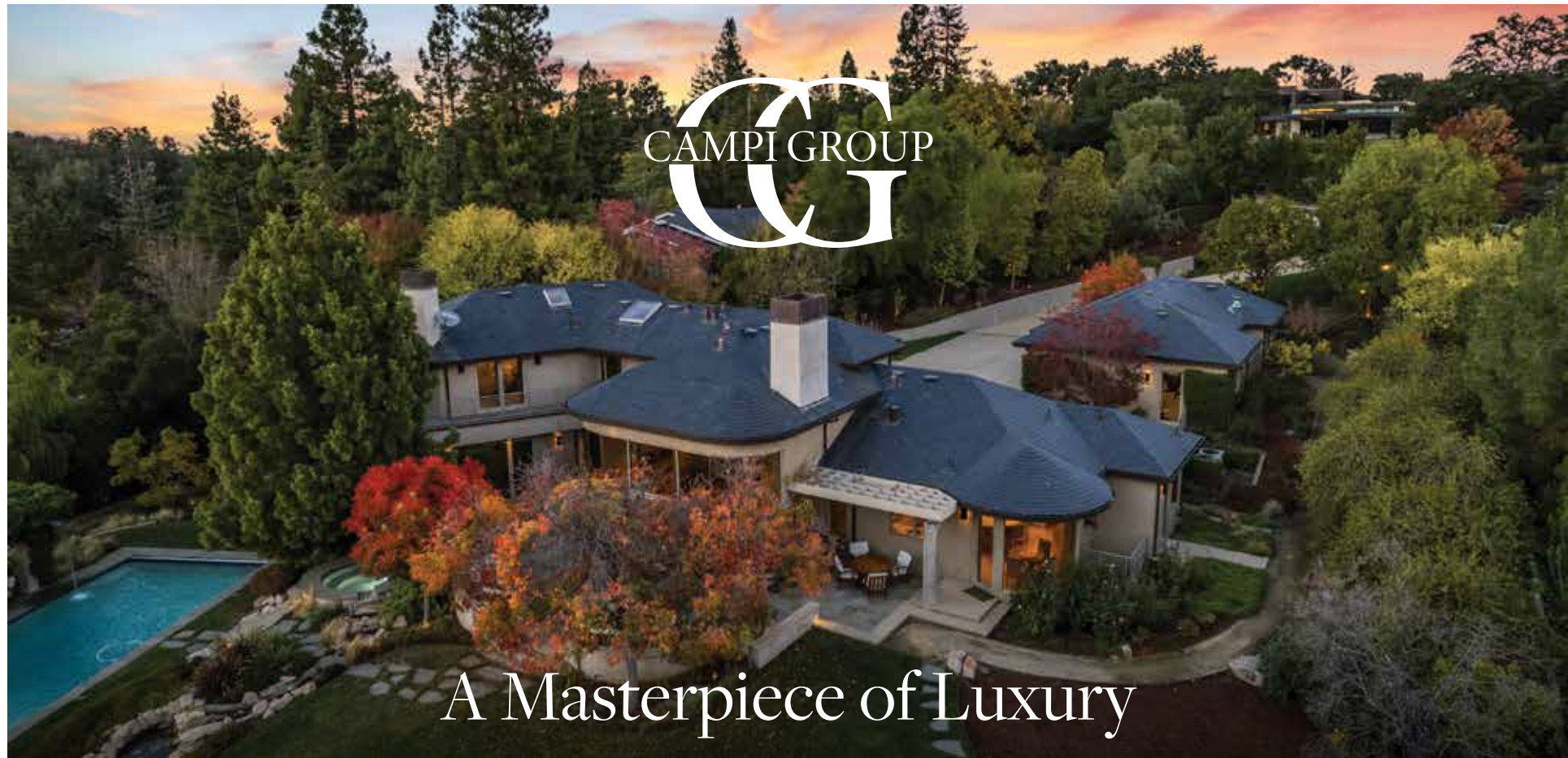
Last month, the city of Saratoga held a popular “Classic and Cool Car Show.” Should Los Altos consider a similar event?

- Yes, it would draw a crowd and help businesses.
- No, we have too many events as is.
- Maybe, but we already have a Corvette Spectacular event next month (Sept. 21) in downtown Los Altos.

Vote online at losaltosonline.com.

ALSO INSIDE – AUGUST 20, 2025

Business & Real Estate ..	24	Obituaries	39	Schools	16
Comment	8	Letters to the Editor	8	Sports.....	18
Community.....	9	News.....	4	Stepping Out.....	15
Datebook.....	38	Public Notices	38	Your Health.....	21



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Around Town

Lending hands to the leadership summit



S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Members of First Presbyterian Church of Mountain View show they're all in on their participation in the Aug. 7-8 Global Leadership Summit. The church was one of more than 350 locations across the U.S. hosting the summit. This "Ted-Talk" kind of simulcast experience featured nationally known leaders and speakers on this year's theme, "Lead Where You Are." Organizers aimed to inspire and equip individuals to lead with purpose — regardless of their role or setting. Pictured are members of the event team, from left: Lyn Martin, Wendy Nelson, Christy Tonge, Pastor Kim Dorr-Tilley, Renee Loth Cali, Lora Shirley and Cindy Newman. "The church will keep the momentum going with 'Fan Fav' videos and discussion around these leadership and organizational effectiveness experts," Dorr-Tilley said. For more information, visit FPCMV.org.



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News

New parking signs near LAHS ease up on parking restrictions

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The signs, they are a changin' again. A new set of parking signs has been installed beyond the 500-foot radius around Los Altos High School.

Continuing to address a longstanding parking and traffic problem with limited student parking, the Los Altos City Council in February approved the installation of green signs that allow two-hour parking between 8 a.m. and noon on school days.

The signs were installed in July in

preparation for the start of the new school year.

Red-lettered no-parking signs, around the immediate high school area framed by Almond Avenue, Panchita Way, Jardin Drive and Alicia Way, still dictate no parking between 8 a.m. and noon on school days. The red-lettered signs say that commercial vehicles are exempt. The new green-lettered signs do not include that wording.

"The area where the new signs went up never had commercial restrictions, nor am I aware of issues with commercial vehicle parking," said Steven Son, the

city's transportation manager. "Some of the old existing signs do have that language, and I am not sure why. I am trying not to create unnecessary regulations in the area and just trying to address parking issues that are caused by the students parking in the neighborhood."

Neighbors on the streets with the no-parking signs "wanted strict parking restrictions without any modifications," Son said. "The parking restriction for residents beyond 500 feet from the school has been mixed. Some of the residents strongly opposed any parking

See STREETS, Page 7



IMAGE AT LEFT BY BRUCE BARTON/TOWN CRIER; IMAGE AT RIGHT BY MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Residents have different parking restrictions, depending on where they live.

PLAN

From Page 1

construction," Katbi said. "Further codes would have extended that to all new construction and some major remodels."

"A huge component of the CAAP was the city's ability to require electrification in new construction," Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg said in correspondence with the Town Crier. "Two years ago, the city adopted a statute requiring just that. But, before the statute's second reading the city of Berkeley case was decided at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals essentially invalidating the proposed ordinance. Therefore, the statute never had a second reading and was not adopted into our municipal code."

Some hailed the court ruling as a victory for consumers – there are a sizable number of residents who still prefer gas stoves and gas hot water heaters.

With reach code mandates thwarted, the city had to shift gears from requiring to educating and persuading residents to go electric. Local grassroots groups such as the Electrification Collaboration and GreenTown Los Altos have helped with that education.

Changing on their own

Katbi indicated voluntary compliance has been effective.

"There has been a growing acceptance of all electric appliances, especially heat pump water heaters and we are working on other options to reduce the use of methane gas in Los Altos," she said. "These include awareness campaigns including the Living Electric Fair, held in May. The city also plans on hosting a series of seminars on the topic."

"Another approach is incentivizing electrification – the city has already implemented lower permit fees for electric appliances. We are developing a city funded incentive program to sweeten the rebates being offered for electrification by various state and federal programs. Yet another area of effort is air

quality and energy efficiency approaches to ordinances that would encourage switching to electric appliances."

Katbi added the city can also mandate electric vehicle infrastructure in new construction.

"That portion of the reach codes still stands so we have been steadily adding charging infrastructure with every new development," she said. "In addition, the current year's workplan includes the assessment of current EV charging capabilities and needs in preparation for developing an EV infrastructure masterplan."

Obstacles ahead

One other hurdle for implementing CAAP is the current federal administration's lack of support.

"Resources including funding for city staff and projects is always a challenge," said Raashina Humayun, chair of the Los Altos Environmental Commission. "The rollback of federal climate action policies is going to make it even more difficult to fund the actions needed to meet our CAAP goals. The city is working on ways to supplement the funding with a portion of permit fees being earmarked for the CAAP."

Despite CAAP's directives and some progress, a few city actions appear to contradict the plan's intentions. Earlier this year, the council rejected an environmental commission proposal for protecting birds by requiring certain building materials. Plans for a new dog park at Hillview Park have some pointing out the proposed artificial turf is not environmentally friendly.

In June, Weinberg lodged a "protest vote" against purchasing hybrid fleet vehicles for the police department. Weinberg indicated he wanted all-electric vehicles and his expectation last October, when the council approved gas-powered police "interceptor" vehicles, was that this was the last such request.

"A lot of time and energy was spent putting together the CAAP," he said at the June 24 city council meeting. "The

city of Berkeley case hurt a lot of our efforts. With respect to the CAAP, we know that we are not going to meet the goals that we set out for us."

"We are behind on several actions the CAAP recommended for the city to work on by 2025," Humayun said. "That is not to say we cannot meet our goal of carbon neutrality by 2035. It will take a sustained commitment from all of us."

Several aspects of the CAAP have been implemented, Humayun indicated. This includes increased residential awareness, in electric vehicles and energy use.

Humayun said the commission teamed with the city in hosting EV-based events such as the annual Living Electric Fair. The city also has an ordinance on the books banning plastic, disposable foodware and the council last year passed a tree protection ordinance that would ensure more and healthier tree growth.

Weinberg thinks more can be done. He said other cities have found ways to encourage electrification through incentives and otherwise reduce their GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions.

He noted that Palo Alto in February 2024 launched Spring Forward, a rebate program to encourage local businesses to participate in the Business Energy Advisor (BEA) Program. As part of the program, the city boosted all efficiency incentives by 20% for BEA customers who completed projects by May 31, 2024. In September, Palo Alto launched an emergency water heater replacement program to help residents replace their gas water heaters with a heat pump water heater during an emergency.

"There are lots of other examples from Palo Alto and our other neighbors of strategies, programs and incentives designed to reduce their carbon footprint," Weinberg said.

The city continues to add electric vehicle chargers, hosts an annual EV/home electrification show and co-hosts an electric home tour so residents can enter and view what an electric home feels like

and ask questions of the owners.

Still, Weinberg fell short of supporting all-electric as soon as possible.

"There are also legitimate questions about the ability of our grid to support electrification, and even though the city is willing to pursue environmentally friendly options, those options are sometimes prohibitively expensive or nonexistent (like police interceptors)," Weinberg said.

"To be fair, I acknowledge that the city has been laser-focused on fulfilling our obligations under the Housing Element we adopted in 2023. That was (and remains) the right thing to do, but it means that staff's bandwidth for other projects is narrowed."

Hard look at CAAP

Weinberg said the city adopted the CAAP in part because sustainability is one of the council's five strategic goals.

"I think it's time for the city to take a hard look at the CAAP, evaluate where its guidance is still valid and helpful, and amend the document as necessary to make it a more effective statement of policy," he said. "What I envision is not a simple task – it will require a new GHG inventory, the hiring of a consultant, and the commitment of our residential and business communities to protecting and improving our environment."

Earlier this month, Weinberg noted: "City staff acknowledged that council members have appropriately pointed out that we have not made as much progress on the council priority of environmental sustainability as we would have liked. This includes how we implement the CAAP and how the principles within the CAAP are applied to the operations of the city. To better support this council priority, the city is creating a new position: CAAP administrator within (the) Development Services (department). This role will help accelerate the city's sustainability and climate resilience initiatives and work towards CAAP implementation and integration with city policies and practices."

Shoup Park lapidary shop seeks new location after 60-year stay



SHAONA DAS/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Lapidary shop manager Cathy Phalen, pictured above, said shop managers are seeking 500-600 square feet of ground-floor space in or around Los Altos, following notice from the city of Los Altos to leave their longstanding Shoup Park location.

By Shaona Das

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos' longtime lapidary shop will soon be leaving Shoup Park – and not by choice. The city is terminating its lease at year's end, leaving those running the shop to find another location after 60 years in the basement of the park's Garden House.

"When I found out (the shop is) closing, I was really depressed," said instructor Steve Sholom, who teaches people how to cut and polish gems and rocks at the shop. "I love it so much."

The Peninsula Gem & Geology Society took over the lease in 2015 and merged the shop's operations with the Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society, according to PGGS president Nick Hughes. The lease had been extended through 2028, with a clause that allowed the city to terminate it early with cause, Hughes added. In this case, the cause was that the city wanted to use the space for another purpose.

"The use of the building they are located in has changed over the past several years and now requires secure storage of records," Los Altos City Man-

ager Gabriel Engeland said in a statement provided via email. "We are no longer able to host public groups in this area."

The move means the shop must find a new location, and the two gem societies are exploring their options, according to shop manager Cathy Phalen. She said they seek 500-600 square feet of ground-floor space in or around Los Altos.

The number of lapidary shops has dwindled in recent years, according to Sholom, who noted that all the similar shops serving the Peninsula have closed. Now, the nearest ones are in Santa Cruz and San Francisco.

The Los Altos shop offers workshops to the public in cutting and polishing rocks and gems, charging a fee of \$10 to maintain equipment. Phalen said it runs as a nonprofit organization, funded solely by donations and the shop fee – not contributions from the two gem societies.

"We have new students come in, and we start from scratch, teaching them the basics...", Phalen said. "But you can branch off, once you learn how to use the machines, into just about anything."

People as young as 12 years old can attend the workshops, making the shop a popular spot for families to learn together, according to Los Altos resident Melissa Lui, who is a regular there.

"There's a tremendous amount of expertise in the older folks that's being passed down, which is really nice," Lui said. "It's been amazing for me to see how much knowledge and love of this gets passed on from person to person, or parents to kids to grandkids."

For Sholom, who has been associated with the shop for a decade, it has been a special place.

"I go to the lapidary shop in order to relax. It's a time where I think about polishing rocks and forget about my worries," he said. "At the same time, it's an awesome moment to give back to people who are interested in gems and minerals and want to figure out what to do with them."

Although the shop's lease ends Dec. 31, Phalen said it will close to the public Sept. 2, giving them time to move out. Those who know of a potential space for the shop are asked to call (408) 834-5384.

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News

Midpen research team abuzz about finding rare bumblebee



PHOTO BY KARL GOHL

A more common native bee, known as a yellow-faced bumblebee, feeds on nectar from owl's clover, a native plant, in Midpen's Monte Bello Open Space Preserve.

By Chloe Eshagh

Town Crier Editorial Intern

The Crotch's bumblebee has seen a decline in population over the years along the California coast and is now a candidate for the federal endangered species list. However, there have been recent sightings of this pollinator not far from Los Altos.

A research team from the Los Altos-based Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District reported in July that it has discovered Crotch's bumblebees in Palo Alto, including Baylands Nature Preserve and the southern part of San Jose.

"This rare bumblebee is a really great example of what makes this area really special and what makes it a biodiver-

sity hotspot," said Leigh Ann Gessner, Midpen's public affairs specialist. "So, part of Midpen's role is recognizing that about our area and working to preserve and protect that biodiversity. This little rare bumble bee that probably most people have never heard of and don't know about is a part of that story."

Nate Chamberlin, wildlife intern at Midpen, said a study by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation showed a decline in abundance and range of the Crotch's bumblebee. Xerces argued that the bee warrants protection under the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Endangered Species Act because it's "likely the decline is a longer-term thing," Chamberlin added.

The native Crotch's bumblebee "is nearly endemic to California and at this point, it seems like it is only found in California," Chamberlain said. "It has historically been found all over the Central Valley, all over Southern California and all over the Bay (Area) and into Sonoma County."

The decline in numbers can be attributed to several factors, according to Chamberlain.

"Two big issues are pesticide use or pesticide overuse and habitat loss," he said. "This species is losing a lot of habitat to



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See BEES, Page 7

News

BEES

From Page 6

urbanization and agricultural expansion and kind of in line with the agricultural expansion, increased insecticide use also has impacts on bumblebees and there are some insecticides that are worse than others.”

Midpen researchers are trying to identify whether the Crotch’s bumblebees are in Midpen preserves so they can manage those areas in a way

that allows the bees to thrive, according to Gessner.

“Most people are only familiar with ambassador pollinators, such as bumblebees, monarch butterflies and European honeybees,” Chamberlin said. “All pollinators play a necessary role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem, and the more we learn about each species the better equipped we are to protect them.”

To track where Crotch’s bumblebees have been located, visit bumblebeewatch.org.

STREETS

From Page 4

restrictions in front of their property, while their next-door neighbor wanted parking restrictions.”

The unintended outcome of the four-hour no-parking rule was residents running the risk of getting a ticket for parking on the street – even briefly – in front of their homes.

That’s what happened to Jim Jolly on Panchita. He moved his vehicle onto the street to allow for delivery of a new dryer. He

said he received a ticket after being parked no more than 10 minutes.

“The signs were changed about a week ago on part of Panchita Way,” Jolly said in early August. “The new signs were installed in the direction of El Camino Real. ... There is no statement about commercial vehicles being exempt. My house is in this section, so I plan to use that in my hearing to return my \$51 fine. The city must be getting a lot of complaints about their efforts to control student parking.”

News Briefs

Group invites residents to query city about downtown parking plans

The grass-roots advocacy group Los Altos Residents has scheduled an event titled “What’s Happening with the City’s Proposed Downtown Park and Parking Options?”

The meeting is scheduled 6:30 p.m. Thursday (Aug. 21) in the Sequoia Room of the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet with project consultants and city staff.

“Find out what they have learned so far about the opinions of your fellow Los Altans,” said a flyer for the event. “Speak up so your ideas are heard and considered.”

Topics for discussion could include: How will the city replace lost parking spaces?; What other residents are thinking about the impact and

benefits of a new downtown park; Where will replacement parking spaces be located?; If there are parking structures planned, will they be above- or below-ground?; And how will the replacement parking spaces be paid for?

For more information on the city’s plans, visit losaltosdowntownpark.org/.

Workshop on lower peninsula watershed scheduled

Valley Water (also known as the Santa Clara Valley Water District) is scheduled to host a West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Planning Workshop 6:30-8 p.m. Sept. 9 in the Grand Oak Room of the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

A watershed is a collection of creeks flowing to the same location and the land area that drains those creeks. These watershed plans aim to identify problems and solutions to address the community’s concerns related to the environment, flood and other

water-related problems.

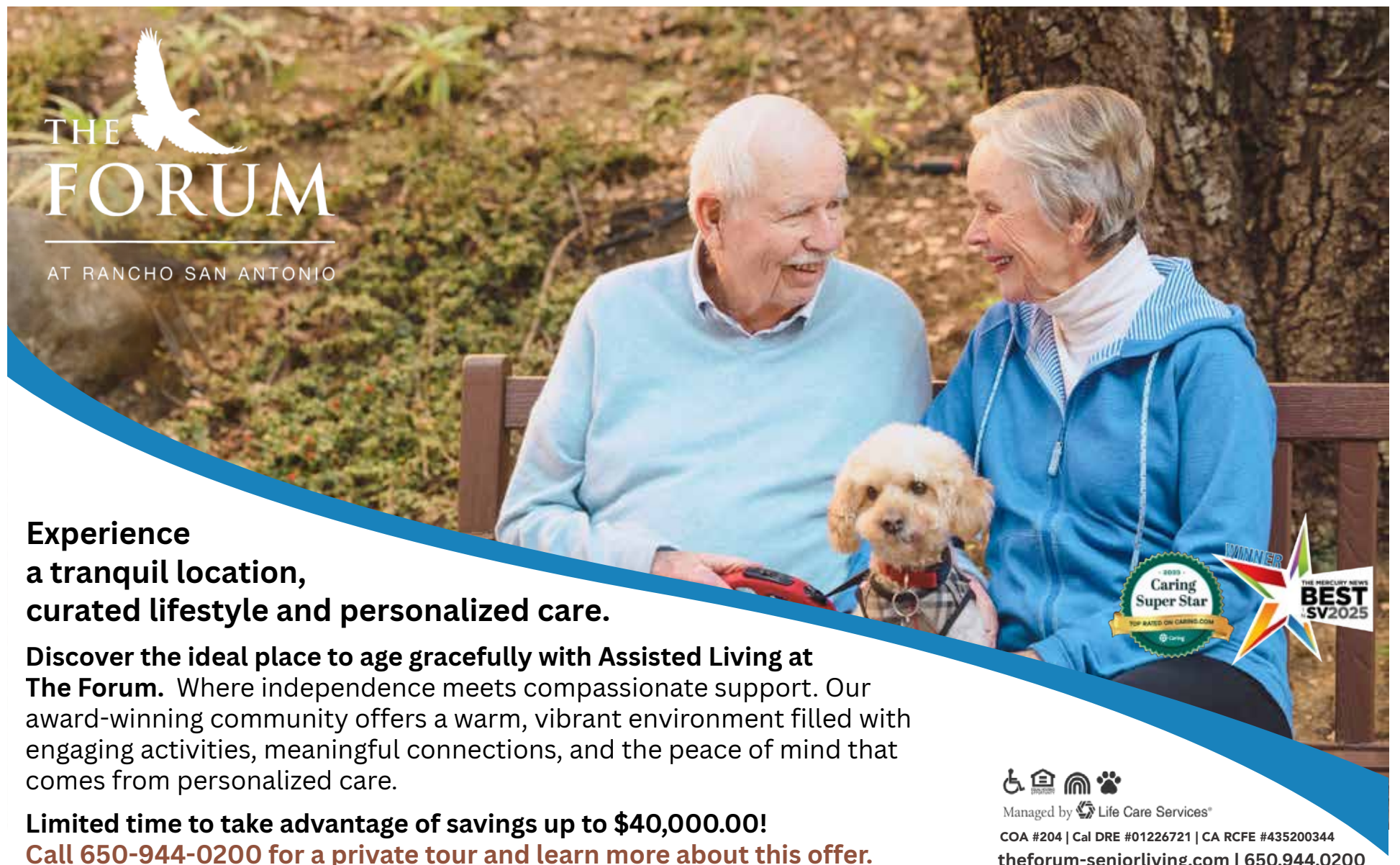
District officials said resident participation in watershed planning can help shape how the water district manages local creeks, protects against flooding and prepares for the future.

“We are currently developing plans for the West Valley and Lower Peninsula watersheds,” district officials said in a statement. “The workshop will include a staff presentation and an interactive mapping exercise.

As part of the planning process to identify environmental, flood and other water-related problems and solutions in these two watersheds, staff would like to collect residents’ ideas and concerns.

While this event is offered both remotely and in person, Zoom participation (valleywater.zoom.us/j/89716636524) will be limited to the presentation and the question-and-answer session.

For more information, visit valleywater.org/project-updates/watershed-master-plan.



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Comment

Letters to the Editor

Other side of Bullis story was missing

I write in response to the recent article reporting that a local court “dismissed” Bullis Charter School’s discrimination complaint.

The article overlooked two key points central to understanding the court’s ruling and Bullis’ ongoing commitment to equity and the law – points that I would have made had the paper contacted me prior to publication.

First, the court explicitly held that Bullis has standing to bring this suit, and it invited us to refile with additional evidence. Far from shutting the door, the court acknowledged our right to seek legal remedy and asked for more detail.

Bullis has since done exactly that in an updated filing, providing clear, compelling evidence demonstrating that the Santa Clara County Office of Education is treating Bullis differently from every other charter school it authorizes by demanding that Bullis implement illegal racial quotas in enrollment.

Second, our lawsuit is straightforward: we are asking the court simply to require the SCCOE to follow the law. Bullis’ enrollment process is racially-blind, as required under state and federal law. SCCOE is ask-

ing us to do something illegal by setting racial quotas, something no school is – or should be – required to do.

At its core, this case is about upholding the ideals of nondiscrimination and equal treatment under the law. We remain committed to these principles and to providing all our students an inclusive, enriching education. And doing so lawfully and equitably.

Maureen Israel
Executive Director, Bullis Charter School

Solve three problems

I couldn’t help connecting the police officers’ long commutes reported in the same edition with the high cost of housing (“Plans progressing for police substation at Loyola Corners,” and “Other Voices,” both in July 30, 2025).

The cost of housing is high because the supply is so low. In addition, the triangle intersection where the new police substation is planned is inefficient, confusing and owned by the city.

Los Altos could solve three problems by reconfiguring that intersection and building multi-family housing with room for the police substation.

Elaine Haight
Los Altos

Peek into the past



COURTESY OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

The Los Altos School District maintained a fleet of yellow school buses to transport students to and from school until the 1970s. Buses were parked next to the old San Antonio School at the corner of Hillview Avenue and San Antonio Road. After the buses left, the “Bus Barn” in the background was converted into a theater.

Does my cat think we’re married?

By Mike Hacker

I think I have two wives. There’s the woman I wed in a Palo Alto church 36 years ago. Then there’s the one I’ve had a relationship with for over 14 years ... with Lucy. Both relationships make my life vibrant and happy, but it’s complicated. What Lucy and I have is a “mixed marriage” – cat and human.

You could say Lucy is a “cougar.” After all, she’s older than I am, at least in “cat years.” For her age, she’s in great shape – slim and attractive, with a walk that reeks of femininity. She’s a blotchy black, orange and white long-haired calico that looks like something out of a paint-by-numbers kit.

Our family adopted Lucy from a shelter as a kitten. For a time, she treated us all the same. However, over time, Lucy came to favor me over my daughters and two-legged wife. Eventually, it became apparent that she was smitten and considered me her one-and-only.

Lucy tolerates my two-legged wife without any apparent jealousy. There are no “Fatal Attraction” scenes playing out. She’s too aloof and confident for that. By all appearances, Lucy accepts my “polygamy” as normal and culturally acceptable for a cat’s partner.

Other Voices

In our South Los Altos neighborhood, Lucy is well known for going on leash-less walks with me and my two-legged wife. Often, we encounter neighbors walking dogs who wag up to me to be petted. Lucy looks on stoically and turns a blind eye to my “affairs.” Just standing by her man and accepting his dalliances.

After evening walks, Lucy stares at my two-legged wife, wanting to be fed. If she doesn’t respond, Lucy will invoke the nuclear option – clawing the furniture. Avoiding a “cat fight,” my annoyed two-legged wife stops what she’s doing and feeds Lucy. Afterward, Lucy jumps on my lap and looks up at me adoringly in what my two-legged wife calls Lucy’s “Nancy Reagan gaze.”

Lucy demands a lot of attention. You might say she’s a FAP – Feline American Princess. She’s both needy and indecisive: let me out, let me in, let me back out, wrong door, wrong door again, I guess this one will do, let me in again, pick me up, why’d you pick me up, put me down, pet me, not like that, ... Each demand is a nagging yowl. Think Roseann Barr’s voice, but

as cat profanity.

Like all couples, we have occasional tiffs. And like some men, often I don’t have a clue what I did to cause her ire. One minute she’ll purr like a Ferrari and the next, she’ll bare her claws and draw blood. It’s the reason my friend calls her Lucifer, rather than Lucy.

She and I are on the “back nine” of our existence. For me, it’s a golf analogy; for her, it’s a nod to the number of lives she’s been allotted.

I don’t know if Lucy believes in the afterlife, but I do. If all dogs go to heaven, Lucy makes the cut, too. After all, she goes on walks. She’ll be sitting next to Saint Peter, ignoring his attempts to befriend her and giving him an occasional unprovoked swipe. She’ll wait patiently for me to arrive so that she can jump on my lap, gaze up at me for approval and wait for me to start petting her.

For now, though, we’re two souls whose lives came together without a pickup line. We’ll continue to enjoy our time together as a content twosome, sometimes lazing on a bench and listening to the birds singing our song. Till death do us part.

Hacker, of Los Altos, is a former technical writer at NASA Ames and a Hope’s Corner volunteer and board member.



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OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Wed-Fri: 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M.; Tues: 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M.

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The Los Altos Town Crier, ISSN 87504585, is published weekly every Wednesday by LATC Media Inc., 138 Main St., Los Altos 94022. Periodicals Postage Paid at 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; seniors, \$60; out of county, \$80.

Community

MV teen turns old school bus into mobile food pantry to help nonprofit

By Amalia Tormala
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Mountain View resident Sanay Jiandani has witnessed the food insecurity plaguing the Bay Area since 2021, the year he began volunteering at Martha's Kitchen.

One day last year, as Jiandani was handing out groceries alongside other volunteers at the San Jose-based nonprofit and soup kitchen, he said he noticed the line of people waiting to get their food from Martha's Kitchen was long enough to wrap around the block. Another volunteer informed him that, despite these lines, there still existed a large population of people to whom Martha's Kitchen was geographically inaccessible.

"I wanted to help find a solution to the problem of food insecurity," the St. Francis High School senior said. "I realized



FROM JIANDANI'S PROJECT WEBSITE

Sanay Jiandani stands in an old school bus he has converted into a mobile food pantry to bring accessible services to Martha's Kitchen clients.

the best way to do it (solve the problem) is to bring the food to those people in need. That was when I got the idea for a mobile food pantry."

Since April 2024, Jiandani said he has been brainstorming and working on this project, transforming it from a mere idea to a tangible entity: He

morphed a retired school bus into a mobile food pantry. The goal of this pantry, he said, was simple – aid Martha's Kitchen by delivering food to previously unreachable areas.

This was all part of his Eagle Scout Service Project. Since 2019, Jiandani has been a Life Scout with Los Altos Troop 75. Life Scouts must complete an Eagle project – an impact-centered project demonstrating leadership and benefiting the community. These projects range in size and scale, though all must contain a proposal, a plan, a fundraising application and other required forms of information for all parties involved, according to Scouting America.

Martha's Kitchen operations manager Trish Garcia said the nonprofit currently uses a fleet of large trucks to transport its food; however, weight limits and other local policies prevent

these vehicles from accessing parks and certain residential neighborhoods.

"This entire project has been super important to all of us (at Martha's Kitchen), really, because it's opening up an avenue that we haven't previously tapped into," Garcia said. "We really didn't even consider (a mobile food pantry) as an option, until Sanay came up with this idea and really knocked it out of the park."

To turn a retired school bus into a mobile food pantry, Jiandani said he needed a team; this is where he used the service of his fellow Life Scouts in Troop 75 and the Martha's Kitchen team. Garcia, he said, was continuously supporting him throughout the entire endeavor.

Jiandani said the multi-step process began with obtaining an old school bus. To do so, Jiandani and his team held

See BUS, Page 10

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City of **LOS ALTOS**

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

August 26, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

In Person

Note- This is not the Final Agenda

Members of the public are invited to participate in person at the Los Altos Council Chamber at Los Altos City Hall located at 1 N. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA. To attend virtually, please view the final agenda for details.

Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Mayor, and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Public comment will be received in person during the meeting or by written public comment submitted to publiccomment@losaltosca.gov

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Accept Quarterly Treasurer's Report summarizing treasury account balances and disbursements for April-June 2025
2. Adopt a Resolution Amending the Los Altos Fee Waiver Policy
3. Adopt a Resolution and Accept Grant Funding from the Citizens Option for Public Safety/Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (COPS/SLESF) and authorize revenue and allocate it to the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund for Fiscal Year 2025/2026
4. Review and accept the Santa Clara County Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025 (Year 4)
5. Adopt a Resolution approving Contract Amendment No. 2 with Beauchaine Consulting Group, LLC, in the amount of \$75,000, to provide continued Support for the final phase of the City's Tyler Enterprise Resource Planner (ERP) implementation
6. Review Hillview Dog Park 95% Submittals and Adopt a Resolution Authorizing Use of Public Art Funds for Art Component

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Designate a Voting Representative Delegate and Alternate to Vote on Proposed Resolutions at the CalCities 2025 Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA on October 8-10, 2025
8. Forward Main Library Design Concept to North County Library Authority (NCLA)

Agendas, Reports and associated documents for City Council items may be viewed at losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/meetings

Community

Pet of the Week



COURTESY OF PETS IN NEED

Nine-month-old Gatsby is available for adoption through Pets In Need. Gatsby, described as a "20-pound bundle of joy," came from a partner shelter in the Central Valley and now is in foster care. To adopt Gatsby or for more information, call (650) 496-5971 or visit petsinneed.org.

BUS

From Page 9

car-washing events, cookie sales and partook in direct outreach to members of the community. Ultimately, Jiandani said he raised \$14,000. He used these funds to purchase the bus, which he found on Facebook Marketplace.

The next part of Jiandani's journey was to create a schedule, a plan and a blueprint of what the final product would be. These sketches, he said, turned out to be one of the more time-intensive portions of the project. To create his final floorplan, Jiandani was to measure the dimensions of the bus's interior and exterior and get his designs approved by the Martha's Kitchen team, so as to ensure they were on par with the Food and Drug Administration regulations.

"Martha's Kitchen was helping me the entire way," Jiandani said. "I was bouncing a lot of ideas off them, just to make sure, because the thing about

the Eagle Project is it's really about how the beneficiary wants it. So, I was just showing them my designs, getting their feedback from them and using that to make my project better."

Eventually, Jiandani said the design had been approved and the bus was ready to be renovated. Alongside eight other volunteers from his troop, Jiandani spent three, eight-hour workdays completely refurbishing the school bus. According to Jiandani, the new bus is equipped with shelving, coolers, a custom-built warming cabinet and a battery to power all of its operations.

After the renovation in July, the bus remained on Jiandani's driveway until it was picked up by Martha's Kitchen on Aug. 1. Now in the hands of Garcia and the rest of the Martha's Kitchen team, this pantry-on-wheels will be promptly integrated into the organization's operations, Garcia said.

To donate to Jiandani's effort to paint the pantry's exterior, visit tinyurl.com/8jdmmhh8.

An exploration of Andean artistic identity in Cusco and Quito

By Duanni Hurd

There are many highlights of my Peru and Ecuador trip this summer. Among them: The alpacas roaming on the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu; the ceremonial feast of Pachamanca at an Ollantaytambo organic farm in the Sacred Valley; the festive parade with marching band and fireworks celebrating Fiestas Patrias at the town center of Aguas Calientes.

Cusco in Peru and Quito in Ecuador stand out artistically as two historic Andean capitals immersed in thousands of years of history.

From the flutter of prayer flags in Cusco's San Blas to Quito's iconic opulent golden church La Compañía, art, embodying indigenous roots and colonial influences, is woven into daily life.

Traveling through Cusco and Quito offers an immersion into the artistic souls of the Andean region. Both are UNESCO World Heritage sites like living museums, with shared historic foundations showcasing Andean Catholicism combining pre-Columbian indigenous traditions and Spanish Colonial influences.

Prolific art by the Cusco School possesses a unique artistic style that fuses the European artistic techniques, such as oil painting, with the indigenous Andean styles and subjects. A famous painting of the Last Supper at the Cusco Cathedral, created in 1753 by Marcos Zapata, depicts a roasted guinea pig (a local delicacy) on the table instead of the traditional European Paschal lamb or a platter.

Similarly, Syncretism is the soul of the Quito School of Art, assimilating Spanish, Italian, Moorish, Flemish and indigenous art with inherent cultural

Arts & Culture

references such as Andean flora, fauna and cosmological symbols.

Stones tell stories. Cusco, the culture capital of the Inca Empire, has a distinctive Andean Baroque style in its architecture showcasing in numerous churches adorned in elaborate and rich decoration intervened with indigenous influence.

I spent hours visiting artwork and the bell tower at the Church and Covenant of Santo Domingo, which was built on the ruins of Inca Temple Qorikancha with a distinctive mix of Inca stonework and colonial architecture style.

In the old town of Quito, the Crown of Andes, Baroque genius permeates gilded Jesuit churches showcasing exuberant ornamentation and fusion of styles mixing in indigenous symbols.

It was awe-inspiring to walk through lavishly carved facades of volcanic stones and gaze up at the dome of La Compañía Church, marveling at its combination of Christian and Islamic artistic elements, particularly visible in the geometric designs and intricate patterns.

Outside the grandeur of the magnificent historic architecture, streets, neighborhoods and town squares are full of living traditions infused with community art and indigenous crafts.

Textiles using Quechua weaving features like pallas, weave in messages and stories depicting natural subjects such as lakes, flowers, birds, llamas and heroic figures like Tupac Amaru in vibrant colors.

Cusco's ceramics featuring Inca motifs, local flora and fauna, deities and sacred animals like condors and pumas, made

for both everyday and ceremonial uses.

Quito boasts several vibrant artisan hubs such as San Antonio de Ibarra, which is particularly well-known for its exceptional wood artisans carving distinctive saint figures.

Both Cusco and Quito have a contemporary edge in its street art, demonstrating identity, history and resilience. Cusco's San Blas artisan neighborhood blends ancient Inca heritage

with vibrant Bohemian energy. Its muralism is a newer addition; murals are framed by colonial-styled blue-trimmed houses, showcasing Andean motifs, Quechua identity, Incan cosmology and contemporary local themes.

Quito's street art scene exemplifies in its La Floresta neighborhood where colorful murals are everywhere, exploring Ecuadorian identity reflecting both local heritage and global

influences. From stones of the Inca Empire to the crown of Andes, Cusco and Quito are two South American cultural capitals with distinctive artistic identities uniquely blending indigenous traditions with colonial influences. They are true pleasures to visit and explore.

Duanni Hurd is a Los Altos resident and Town Crier contributor.

The Church and Convent of Santo Domingo in Cusco is built on the ruins of Inca Temple Qorikancha.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DUANNI HURD



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Community

Los Altos man witnessed the final days of World War II in the Pacific

The momentous August of 1945

By Robin Chapman

On the evening of August 8, 1945, from an American air base on Ie Shima – now called Iejima and part of the prefecture of Okinawa – Captain William Ashley Chapman wrote to his wife back in the States: “At

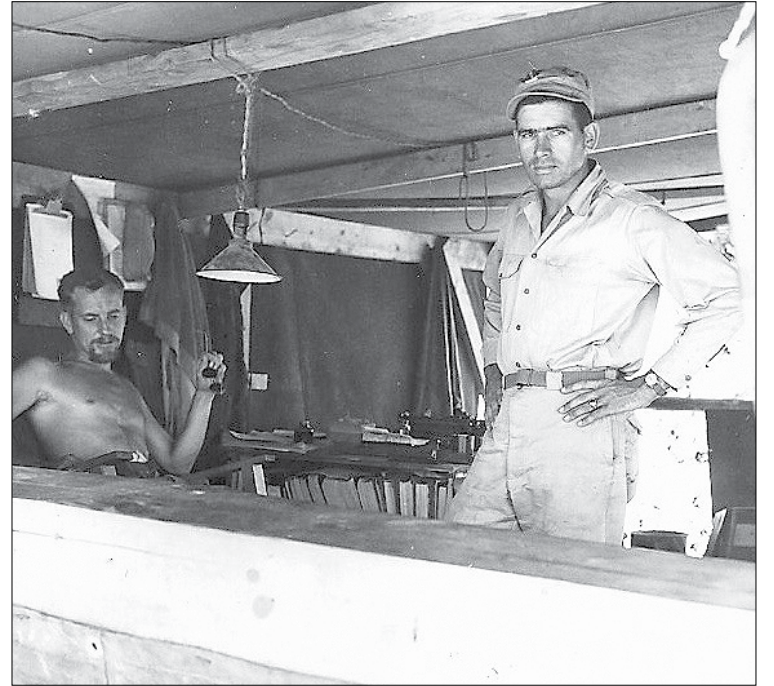


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN CHAPMAN

Capt. William Ashley Chapman on the island then called Ie Shima with an unidentified Navy pilot in 1945. He and his wife moved to Los Altos after World War II.

Santa Clara Valley Lives

this time we are hearing of the first use of the ‘Atomic Bomb.’ It seems to be destructive beyond human comprehension.” An atomic weapon was so alien to him, he put the words “Atomic Bomb” in capitals and quotes as if it were a phrase in a foreign tongue.

Capt. Chapman was my father, who served as a combat engineer in World War II. I knew little about his service in the Pacific because he hardly ever spoke about it. Then, after his death in Los Altos in 2010, I came across an old trunk in the family home. It was filled with the wartime letters my father had written my mother that she had carefully preserved.

The letters from August 1945 are especially timely as we mark 80 years since the end of World War II. The war in Europe had come to an end in

May of that year. War planners in America believed it might take an invasion of Japan’s home islands – and millions of casualties – to end the conflict. In my father’s letters, he bears witness to this momentous time.

“I sincerely hope this bomb does not have to be generally used to get them (the Japanese government) to quit,” he continued in his August 8, 1945, letter. “Atomic power can be used to a tremendous advantage in the peacetime world, and I hope it can soon be turned toward creative use rather than destruction.”

On August 11, two days after the U.S. deployed a second atomic weapon, there was still

no word of the war’s end. “Will tomorrow bring peace once again in the world,” he wrote, “or will we settle down to the routine of killing and laying waste?” On August 14, there were still only rumors to report: “We eat, drink and sleep rumors these days,” he wrote.

Finally on August 15, 1945, American soldiers all over the world learned Japan’s government had agreed to quit. “The War is Over!” my dad wrote that day, as if it were a news headline. “Faye dear, I’m going to thank heaven tonight that the war is over and this killing and destruction are at an end. Won’t it be wonderful to have

See PACIFIC, Page 13

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Community Briefs

Garden club delves into deer

“Oh, Dear! (Oh, Deer!) – Coping with Bambi in the Garden” is the topic for the Tuesday, Aug. 26 Garden Club of Los Altos program.

The speaker is Bob Hornbeck, a teacher, writer, cultivator, botanical guide, docent and lifelong learner in the field of horticulture. For this meeting, he chooses to share his current topic of interest: getting into the mind of deer. He will share vulnerable and invulnerable plants for dealing with these visitors in the garden, lawful reminders and suggestions to take away from the talk.

The Garden Club of Los Altos meets at the Los Altos Lutheran

Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos on the fourth Tuesday of each month except July, November and December. The meeting begins at 12:30 and the program at approximately 1:30. There is a \$10 fee for guests.

For more information about the club and its activities, visit thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

For Garden Club of Los Altos membership details, email GCLAmembership@gmail.com.

‘My Illustrated Poem’ exhibit at LACC

The Parks, Arts, Recreation and Cultural Commission is hosting its latest art exhibit, “My Illustrated Poem,” running through the October at Los Al-

tos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

The exhibit invites visitors to experience poetry through the eyes and brushes of local artists.

“My Illustrated Poem” focuses on the emotional world of language and visual interpretation. In response to an open call for art issued by the commission, local residents created original artworks inspired by poems –

either classic or contemporary – that spoke to them.

Each piece in the exhibit is paired with the poem that inspired it, allowing viewers to reflect on how rhythm, character and language can be translated into visual form.

Los Altos, Los Altos Hills play softball

The Los Altos Parks & Rec-

reation Department is hosting a “fun-filled day of community spirit, friendly rivalry and great softball” at the 7th annual Los Altos vs. Los Altos Hills Adult Softball Game.

The event is scheduled to start 10 a.m. Saturday (Aug. 23) at Purissima Park, 27500 Purissima Road, Los Altos Hills.

For more information, visit losaltosrecreation.org.

Save the Date

- Los Altos Farmers’ Market, 4-8 p.m. Thursdays, through Oct. 9, along State Street. Information: downtownlosaltos.org.

- Groundbreaking on 90-unit affordable housing project., 1-3 p.m., Aug. 28, 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos.

- Mountain View Arts Festival, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 7, Castro Street, downtown Mountain View. Information: mvertwine.com.

- Corvette Spectacular, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 21, Main Street, downtown Los Altos. Organized by Santa Clara Corvettes. Information: sccorvettes.org/corvette-spectacular.

- Vines & Wines, 2-5 p.m., Oct. 12, Los Altos Hills Town Hall. Information: hills2000.weebly.com.

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

PACIFIC

From Page 12

Christmas together again?” My parents had been married only a few months before his deployment and had spent just one Christmas together.

He did not get home immediately. He and his battalion were first sent to Sasebo to restore an airfield across the bay from Nagasaki. When he toured that city with another engineer, he found the devastation almost beyond description. “Anyone who had the starting of a war in mind should see Nagasaki, and I think he would change his plans,” he wrote in a letter to his parents that was quoted in his hometown newspaper.

Just days before the official end of the war in September 1945 he had written my

mother about the peace he saw ahead: “It is something we can never be thankful enough for. We must do all in our power to keep peace so that our children won’t go through these strains which seem so futile. I’m so glad the war is over.”

My parents did find the peace they sought in Los Altos, where they lived for more than 60 years. That’s why I don’t think my dad would mind my sharing his words with you. The life he lived after World War II was a sort of paradise to him which the conflict had given him the wisdom to appreciate. Though he was still a young man when I was born, he was a young man who had grown old witnessing history.

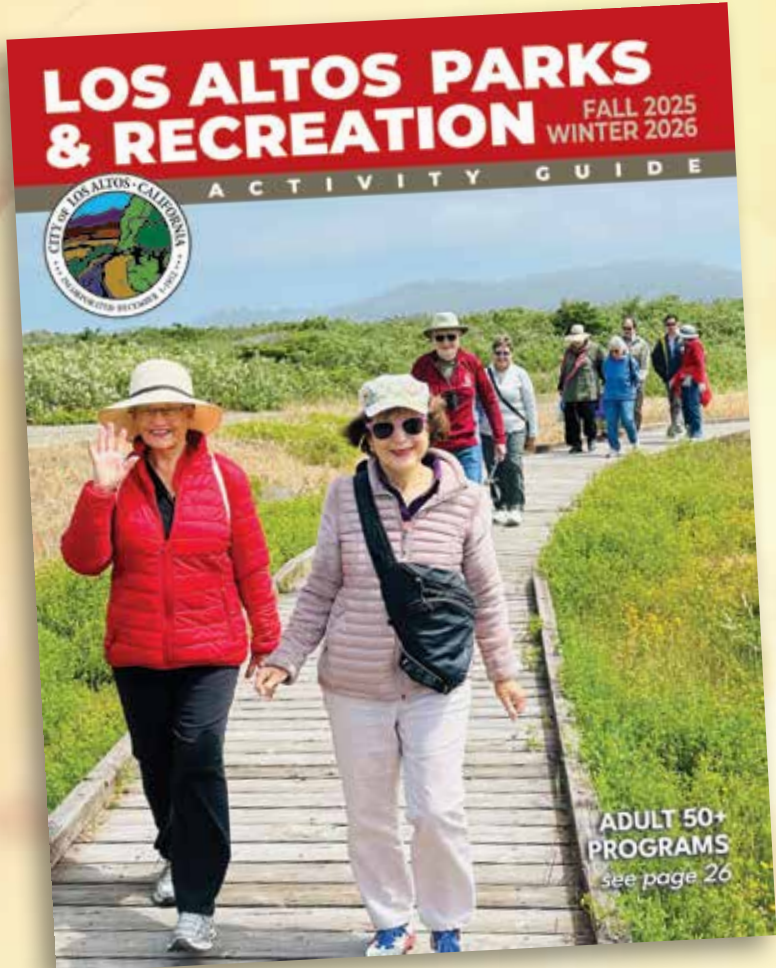
Robin Chapman is a long-time journalist, a Los Altos native, and the author of three books about California.

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Fine Art in the Park raises \$100K+ for Rotary charities

By Susie Mielke
Special to the Town Crier

The 50th Fine Art in the Park, hosted Aug. 9-10 by the Rotary Club of Los Altos, raised more than \$100,000, according to club organizers.

Proceeds from the event benefit the club's scholarships and grants to community organizations both local and abroad.

"Fine Art in the Park directly supports our club's grants for local and global projects, a real embodiment of Rotary's theme: 'Unite for Good,'" said Crysta Krames, the club's current president.

Organizers said thousands of people came to Lincoln Park to shop for art, sample food from local restaurants and enjoy live music and dance.

The Sereno Community Stage, new this year, showcased Los Altos' local talent, but fine art was the real star of the weekend.

Sculptor Michael Gustavson said, "This is a great crowd. There's a lot of interest in art." Artist Andy Krumholtz, exhibiting for the first time, was enthusiastic: "This is the best show I've ever done."

Royce Cablayan, the director of Fine Art in the Park, thanked volunteers and artists.

"Almost 200 volunteers are needed for this event, including the Boy Scouts and National Charity League," he said. "More than 150 exceptional artists participate each year. We couldn't do this without them. We are truly grateful for 50 years of support."

"Supporting real art, made by real people, matters," Krames said. "In a world of algorithms, mass production, and AI-generated stuff, original art connects us back to human creativity, emotion, and perspective. It reminds us that we value imagination, and that beauty, meaning, and craft are worth investing in."



Above, Antara Asthaayi Dance performs at the Sereno Community Stage; at left, a visitor looks over works for sale at an artist's booth. The Rotary Club of Los Altos' Fine Art in the Park raised more than \$100,000 for Rotary supported programs.

PHOTOS BY S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



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Stepping Out

A star is waiting in the wings in Palo Alto Players' 'Gypsy'

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Being a child star comes with a price; one must sacrifice one's life to entertain others and attain a lavish life, but behind closed curtains, there is a lot of suffering that one cannot begin to imagine.

Palo Alto Players will present its new take on the Broadway play "Gypsy," a story based on the life of Rose Louise Hovick, also known as her stage name Gypsy Rose Lee. Opening night is expected to be Friday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Gypsy was a famous burlesque dancer between the 1930s and the 1950s and redefined how a performer interacts with the audience. She had a brassy personality toward the public and fought for her independence at a young age.

Whitney Hisako Moore, who will be playing Gypsy Rose Lee, said that Gypsy faced a lot of abuse from her mother as a child vaudeville star. She said this role was a dream of hers and one of the most complicated roles she has experienced. The story follows her entire life, where she suffers through a traumatic childhood watching her younger sister, June, get all the attention from their mother and not believing she had any potential to succeed.

"She starts as this very neglected child, someone who is forced to play a boy to hide her sexuality," she said. "She doesn't even know how old she is. Her mom doesn't tell her. She thinks she's 10 her whole life. And then, you know, she keeps on getting these tastes of what it might mean to live a normal life and have a family and she keeps hoping for that."

Moore said when she begins to have more time on the stage, she begins love her life once she is able to build a career for herself. She said the role taught her the commitment and determination that is required for actors. There are many sacrifices that people in the entertainment business make, but there is still a balance one can achieve, she said.

"There are so many relatable elements for truly any age," she said. "We have the aspect of

wanting something so badly, yearning for this dream and the journey to see someone achieve it is so satisfying to watch. I think people in the theatre industry can relate to giving your all and wanting this so badly and finally getting that satisfaction of achieving that dream."

Janie Scott, the director of "Gypsy," said this is her first play after a year's hiatus and is excited to show this classic musical. She said she has a 12-year relationship with Palo Alto Players and has shown in more than six other Broadway revivals there.

She said this play will question one's family dynamics. The ambition of Gypsy's mother to become rich and famous pushed the family over the edge and it was not easy for them to make their own decisions. She said the first half of the play explores Gypsy's roots, but the second act will be a major shift in her character that no one will see coming.

"I think what the director certainly is concerned about, in particular, is that her two female leads are super strong performers," Scott said. "The role of June is very vocal, demanding and an acting role that not everybody can conquer. And Gypsy, the other sister, is this young, shy tomboy of a girl who's quite a happy being and then traverses all of this as she gets older."

She said that the audience does not need to know much about the show's background, but they should know a general idea of the vaudeville and burlesque era. She said the show is very much grounded in the 1920s and 1930s, applying popular slang, costumes and props. She said people will be referred to as strippers in the show, but in the context of the time, it referred to women who were "bold and the cutting edge of entertainment." She said the show will give a nostalgic reflection of American entertainment and how many performance artists were inspired by Gypsy's work.

"A lot of people take to TikTok, hoping somebody's gonna see what they do so they can become famous," she said. "That idea and drive for wanting to become famous is exactly what Rose has

going. That feeling is not specific to the 1920s. Many want their 15 minutes of fame, or whatever they're gonna maybe get and I think that's very alive and well in this story."

"Gypsy" will be performed at Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Road in Palo Alto. For more information visit paplayers.org/event/gypsy.



COURTESY OF SCOTT LASKY

Mama Rose (Caitlin Gjerdrum) explains to Louise (Whitney Hisako Moore) and Herbie (Ray D'Ambrosio) her plans to make Louise a star in "Gypsy," the Tony Award-winning classic Broadway musical lauded by critics as the best musical.

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Los Altos Town Crier

Schools

Educational antisemitism prevention bill may come soon

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

A new educational antisemitism prevention bill is on its way to the second chamber in the California State Legislature. This new bill could affect every public school, requiring each school site to hire an antisemitism prevention coordinator, new training and educational resources and to notify local educational agencies within 30 days if an incident occurred on campus.

The bill, which is called AB 715: Educational equity: discrimination: antisemitism prevention, was created in partnership with the California Legislative Jewish, Asian American, Black, Latino, LGBT and Pacific Islander Caucuses. Rick Chavez Zbur, a California State Assemblymember and a co-author of the bill, said on May 29 when the bill was introduced that antisemitism has increased by 893% over the last 10 years and that there have been many reports in various California school districts where students feel “vilification, ostracism and hate of Jewish kids and families.”

Julia Mates, the director of policy and government affairs

of Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), said this bill is aimed at protecting students against antisemitism in K-12 education. She said the bill was originally part of an ethnic studies bill, but was voted to be separate in May. The bill will be the first of its kind in the state, she said, that will provide state resources for increasing accountability in the local school sites and providing teachers training on how to talk about controversial subjects such as hate crimes and bullying.

“Antisemitism has been on the rise for several years now and then especially escalated after October 7, but it is one of those bills that is needed,” she said. “It’s something that we needed to have and there’s been a lot of compromise and people trying to work hard to get through this.”

She said the JCRC worked closely with the Jewish Caucus to ensure a strong bill was passed and to be their source of outreach to find out what is going on in local communities. She said it is important to communicate the stories of human beings and not for them to get lost in the policies. She said there are many other bills, such as the anti-Asian and LGBT hate bills, to support their learning and this bill is the first of



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

The California State Legislature is in the midst of passing an educational antisemitism prevention bill called AB715: Educational equity: discrimination: antisemitism prevention will include more antisemitism resources and provide a prevention coordinator on every campus.

its kind for Jewish people.

“This bill is specific to antisemitic hate speech that we can see what’s happening right now,” she said. “The other hate bills are important, but this bill specifically talks about school districts and enforcement.

Maya Bronicki, a Los Altos resident and the education director of the Bay Area Jewish Coalition Education and Advocacy, said that there have been many incidences of antisemitic activity within the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District

such as swastikas being drawn on Mountain View High School, a Nazi party club Instagram post being sent between people in the Los Altos High School community and teachers at

See BILL, Page 17

Los Altos School District’s state and federal fund updates

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Erik Walukiewicz, LASD’s assistant Superintendent of Business Services, said at the Aug. 4 board meeting that the district will have a total revenue of \$87,627,241. The majority of the funds will be coming from property tax (74%), parcel tax (12%), followed by state funds (5%), other local funds (4%), the Los Altos Educational Foundation (3%), federal funds (2%) and lottery tickets (2%).

He said that even though the state and federal funds don’t make up a huge percentage of their revenue, both agencies play significant roles in district services and each percentage point is approximately \$1 million.

Walukiewicz said 2.3% of the state budget will be going toward the cost-of-living adjustment funds, such as special education, mandated block grants and school nutrition programs. This year, they will also be given an additional state recovery block grant for over a million dollars to support staff and student well-being. He said the school hasn’t received the money yet for the recovery block grant, but that they will be mindful when they receive it.

He also said there will be no state funding for their transitional kindergarten programs this year. He said a few school districts this past year put in claims to state legislators to receive the TK aid, but they

See FUNDS, Page 17



SCREENSHOT FROM LASD’S AUG. 4 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Erik Walukiewicz, LASD’s assistant Superintendent of Business Services, said that there will be a few changes to the state and federal budgets this year that could affect Title I-IV and TK students.

Battle of the Books 2025



GABRIELA DE CARVALHO TELES/TOWN CRIER

Linden Tree Books hosted its first ever Battle of the Books event last Saturday at State Street Market. The participants were students from the local elementary and middle schools and the questions were based on the bookstore’s summer reading books. The winner for the Elementary Division (ages 7–10) was Team 3: Maia Montgomery, Akira Singaravelu, Jane Pierce, Rei Onuki and Sebastian (last name not provided). The winner for the Middle School Division (ages 11–14) was Team 5: Isaiah Huang, Diya Venuprakash, Helen Zhang and Reyansh Gopalakrishnan.

BILL
From Page 16

Mountain View Los Altos wearing a “Free Palestine” shirt throughout the school year. She said having this bill could be beneficial in guiding administrators in having a proper definition of what antisemitism is and encouraging students to embrace their identity. “We have kids that just don’t want to wear their Star of David necklaces anymore, don’t want to share with their classes when

there’s a Jewish holiday and they are telling their parents, ‘I don’t want to do it this year,’” she said. “We had a young girl saying, ‘I am so glad I don’t have a Jewish name, so the teacher doesn’t know that I’m Jewish because she is wearing a keffiyeh in the class.’ Kids feel that they need to hide who they are and they need to blend and their parents accept this because at the end of the day, what they want is for their children to feel comfortable.” The Town Crier reached out to MVLA representatives through

email on their response to the bill, but they did not provide a comment at this time. Bronicki said it is not just MVLA experiencing these issues. She said there have been more than 400 incidents reported in Santa Clara County since November. “We want to raise awareness and facilitate interventions early on,” she said. “We always believe that prevention is better than ‘Let’s deal with it when it gets to a very unpleasant place.’ We have seen schools where it escalated to physical violence.”

FUNDS
From Page 16

were all denied. “The good thing is we work closely with school services to keep trying to advocate for basic aid in school districts,” he said. “We do benefit from being a basic aid status, but there’s a certain thing – like this – that is an underfunded mandate and we received no funds.” According to Walukiewicz, the federal budget this year is \$1,151,131. \$844,898 will be going towards special education entitlement funds and \$83,869 is for special education discretionary funds. There will also be a Cafete-

ria fund of \$333,885 that will provide students with free breakfast and lunch. He said the other funds will support Title I-IV students who are English language learners, economically disadvantaged or from an immigrant family. Most of these funds help the staff members who teach these students. There is a lot of concern that the title funds may go away this year, he said, and the district will need to see how the funds will play out. “Given the risks of the state and federal budget changes, we should be very cautious of making any long-term commitments within these funds,” he said.

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Sports

Mountain View High appoints new girls water polo coach

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

After playing professionally in Spain and spending time as an assistant coach with the Puerto Rico Men's National Team, Francisco Vargas is excited for the new challenge of coaching the Mountain View girls water polo team.

Also a coach at West Valley Water Polo Club and previously the boys head coach at Leigh High School, Vargas is bringing his passion and decades of experience to Mountain View to rebuild the program.

"I'm going to bring everything I know about water polo and show it to the girls and get them far enough for us to be successful," Vargas said.

Vargas grew up in a water polo family, and his love for the game has always been in his blood. His father was a professional water polo player and part of the Colombian National Team, which allowed him to be recruited to play in Puerto Rico and eventually become the head coach of the Puerto Rico National Team.

"I've been around water polo since I was a kid," Vargas said. "It's been a passion and something that I grew up with, and it's been in my veins."

Vargas got his first chance to play with the Puerto Rico National Team as a high school student, sacrificing his high school years and summers to keep up with a professional program and the national team. Much of his time focused on improving stamina, cardio and weight training. After high school in 2010, he had an offer to play at West Valley College in California, but he also received a phone call asking if he wanted to play professionally in Madrid, Spain. His

parents gave him permission to go, and he stayed for seven years until 2018 and played with two teams.

"I have been in three world championships and two Central American games, and it's almost like I've visited the whole world, and it's a fun experience and it's a good sacrifice," Vargas said. "I don't regret anything that I have done."

Although he initially wanted to become a referee when he was a kid because he wanted the power to pull cards out to players and coaches, he decided to become a coach instead, helping the Puerto Rico National Team as an assistant and moving to California to help Rafael Alapont at West Valley Water Polo Club, a club water polo program in the Bay Area. Since arriving in California, he has coached a variety of teams, including a youth team with West Valley Club that went to the Junior Olympics. For the last two years, he has coached the boys water polo team at Leigh High School in San Jose. Although it's his first time coaching girls, Vargas believes he can provide the guidance needed, drawing on his experience playing professionally and coaching at the club and high school level.

"Now that I have the opportunity to be a coach and be the Mountain View High coach, I feel like I can provide them more water polo knowledge to the program and help build a better program," Vargas said.

Vargas' time at Leigh helped him adapt to the differences between NCAA vs. high school rules and the high school league dynamics, which are different than how he coached and played in Puerto Rico and Spain. His focus as practice begins is on improving the defensive side of the game, noting that goals will



COURTESY OF FRANCISCO VARGAS

New MV girls water polo coach Francisco Vargas.

come if the defense can provide the team foundation and identity. His coaching mentality is aimed at making sure the kids enjoy the game and win or lose in the right way.

"I try to make it fun," Vargas said. "I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing, but I'm still trying to control myself a little bit. I'm not a player; I'm a coach. Sometimes I get into the same intensity as the kids have in the game."

Los Altos High football team gears up for start of season

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

A year after taking over the Los Altos High football program, head coach Mark Adams believes the team's young talent is ready to take another step forward.

"It's still a program with a lot of young talent in sophomore and juniors, and we have some really good senior players but in terms of the depth of the program, we are building step by step, and foundationally, we made some progress this year in terms of the process of building a program," Adams said. "The kids have all bought in, and we are super excited."

Los Altos finished last season 3-7 overall and 2-3 in the Peninsula Athletic League El Camino Division after Adams was hired late in the summer. The Eagles threw for twice as

many yards as any other team in its league last season, with the team looking to be more balanced this year as it fully transitions to a pro-style offense.

"I think that we have the ability to continue to pass well, but if you're too predictable, that will eventually catch up with you. We feel like with this new offense we can be more effective running the ball than we were last year, and if we are able to do that, that will provide more balance and again make us harder to defend," Adams said.

While running will be more of a priority, the team's strength still lies in its receiving core, with Los Altos expected to use seven or eight receivers this season, including juniors Carter Leban and Ryan Apfelberg and senior Bill Chau. Senior all-league



GABRIELA TELES/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

The Los Altos High football team practices in preparation for the first game of the season Aug. 29.

performer Gavin Wu is back and excited to provide speed and playmaking on the outside.

"He's a senior captain and was fantastic for us last year on both offense and defense, but he's a threat every time

he gets the ball," Adams said. "Super fast and a great field

See FOOTBALL, Page 19

FOOTBALL

From Page 18

awareness when he runs with the ball. As far as the receiving core, we are really solid.”

The team will also have more offensive line depth and experience thanks to returning center Ever Cisneros and guard Paxton Pardo de Zela, while Luis Rodriguez will be an anchor for the line. The quarterback position remains undecided after the graduation of all-league quarterback Derek Hall. Junior Giancarlo Mendoza, who started several games early last season, is coming off elbow surgery, while junior Max Kremen is also receiving practice reps at quarterback.

On the defensive side, Kameron Smith and Manuel Contreras return as starting linebackers, while senior Colin Chin and Wu will be the team’s cornerbacks.

“I’d say those four names are probably the big leaders of talent coming back,” Adams said.

The Eagles are young and expected to have a significant number of underclassmen starting. On the offensive side, the team has six returning starters, with five on the defense. The team has 16 people coming back who started games last season.

Los Altos has set up challenging non-league games to open the season, including three away games against San Mateo, West Catholic Athletic League opponent Bellarmine and Milpitas. Adams hopes the tough tests will

challenge the team and raise expectations as they look to build the program. In the El Camino Division, Los Altos will compete with Fremont, Gunn, Santa Clara, South San Francisco and Terra Nova. Woodside has moved up a division after finishing second in the El Camino Division last year.

“I think the league is a little more balanced, and I think we can compete,” Adams said. “I think our youth will pay off down the road. I think we are building something that’s going to be really exciting. This year, we are going to see how far they come in terms of execution and how far we come as a team.”

Health and rotation remain key to a successful season, and Adams noted the team’s depth is more stable this year, with players committed and putting in hard work this summer.

“I think we have enough talent to have a really good year, but that’s why they play the games, you have to go do that and execute,” Adams said.

Los Altos football schedule

San Mateo vs. Los Altos 7 p.m. Aug. 29
Los Altos vs. Gunderson 7 p.m. Sept. 5
Bellarmine vs. Los Altos 7 p.m. Sept. 12
Milpitas vs. Los Altos 7 p.m. Sept. 19
Los Altos vs. Terra Nova 7 p.m. Oct. 3
Santa Clara vs. Los Altos 7 p.m. Oct. 9
Los Altos vs. Gunn 7 p.m. Oct. 16
Los Altos vs. Fremont 7 p.m. Oct. 23
South San Francisco vs. Los Altos 7 p.m. Oct. 31
Los Altos vs. Mountain View 7 p.m. Nov. 7



GABRIELA TELES/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

The Los Altos football team gets instruction during a practice.

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Your Health

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Heart smart – Know (or learn) how to help in an emergency

By Mary Larsen

Staff Writer/newsroom@latc.com

The heart is an amazing muscle, beating between 55 and 85 times per minute for most healthy adults, according to Harvard Health – and more than 2.5 billion times during an average lifetime.

But things can go wrong. Heart attacks, cardiac arrest and heart failure each affect hundreds of thousands of Americans every year.

The Cedars-Sinai blog (cedars-sinai.org/blog/heart-attack-cardiac-arrest-and-heart-failure.html) describes the differences between various heart ailments. In a nutshell, a heart attack happens when blood flow to the heart is obstructed, often by a blood clot or plaque in the arteries. Emergency surgery is required to remove the blockage and restore the blood flow.

Heart failure is usually a more chronic condition (though it can come on suddenly) in which the heart muscle is weak and can't pump as much blood as the body needs. Heart failure can also cause an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia) that can lead to cardiac arrest.

Cardiac arrest, as explained by the American Heart Association (heart.org), happens when an electrical failure in the heart causes an irregular heartbeat. The heart can't pump blood to the brain, lungs and other organs. This causes a person to lose consciousness and a pulse. The person can die if they don't receive help within minutes.

According to the Sudden Cardiac Ar-

rest Foundation, there are more than 356,000 cases of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the U.S. each year – with almost 90% of them fatal. Another almost 300,000 cases happen while hospitalized.

A survivor's story

One man's experience with full cardiac arrest – and full recovery – led him to a new mission in life: urging people to learn CPR.

In 2023, Matthew Burrows, a Los Altos native who had moved to Half Moon Bay, said he had been experiencing shortness of breath for a few weeks – “a classic symptom,” he said. Putting off seeing a doctor about his symptoms, he decided a healthier lifestyle was in order and was trying to eat better and exercise more. He was doing the latter one fateful Monday (“which I believe is statistically the highest day for heart attacks,” Burrows said) – walking down Half Moon Bay's Main Street – until his heart suddenly stopped beating and he fell to the ground at age 67.

Fortunately for Burrows, Peter Williams, the man who would save his life, was riding his motorcycle down Main Street and noticed a small crowd around a man lying on the ground. Williams said he normally took Highway 1 home, bypassing Main Street. But on this particular Monday, he chose Main.

“By the time Peter got there, I was probably there a good 10 minutes,” Burrows said. “Anyone who'd been trained in CPR would have taken action, but there was seemingly no one trained in



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTHEW BURROWS

Matthew Burrows experienced cardiac arrest in Half Moon Bay in 2023. His initial rescuer, Peter Williams, stands at left while an emergency medical team uses a defibrillator on Burrows.

CPR.

“Just to stop and take action takes a lot of courage,” Burrows continued. “Because it's easy to say you're trained, but it's a big deal. He had been trained, he'd been a ski instructor. He said that when he was doing CPR on me, I would start to come out of it and (drift) back, so it was tough. He didn't know whether to keep going – it was tough for him to judge. But I hope he feels proud of his heroic action.

“I am also incredibly grateful for the Coastside Fire Department paramedics and emergency ambulance team,” he said. “Without them – and Peter – I

wouldn't be here today.”

When the paramedics arrived, they used a defibrillator on him. Burrows remembers nothing of the fall or the rescue and has just a vague recollection of his long ambulance ride to the hospital.

“That's the (downside) of living on the Coastside – there's no emergency room,” he said. “So I recall going in and out (of consciousness) to the hospital on a very chaotic 40-minute or whatever it was drive over 92 to Mills Hospital in Burlingame.”

After a few days in the hospital,

See HEART, Page 22

Get back-to-school ready with low-cost health care for kids

StatePoint

It's back to school time and there is so much for families to do to get ready for the school year ahead, from getting school supplies to signing up for after school programs. Making sure kids have health care needs covered should be a part of those preparations.

Free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) can help children be prepared for the school year. When enrolled, kids up to age 19 have access to a comprehensive range of health services, including well-child and sick visits,

emergency visits, dental and vision care, behavioral health care and more.

If a kid needs a physical for afterschool activities, it's covered. If a child has a fever, the doctor's visit and prescriptions to get them back to school are covered. If a child has an accident, the emergency care they need to get back on their feet is covered.

When kids have health insurance, they are less likely to miss school due to sick days, less likely to be distracted by pain or vision problems, and more likely to be able to focus on learning. This leads to more participation in the classroom and a better chance of

finishing high school.

Medicaid and CHIP support students

Whether a child is learning their ABCs or getting ready to earn their high school diploma, access to health care services at any stage of schooling keeps them healthy. Having health insurance can help connect families with a consistent health care provider, which means having a doctor or practice to call for preventive treatment, annual physicals or sick visits. It can also reduce emergency room visits and hospitalizations. Medicaid and CHIP

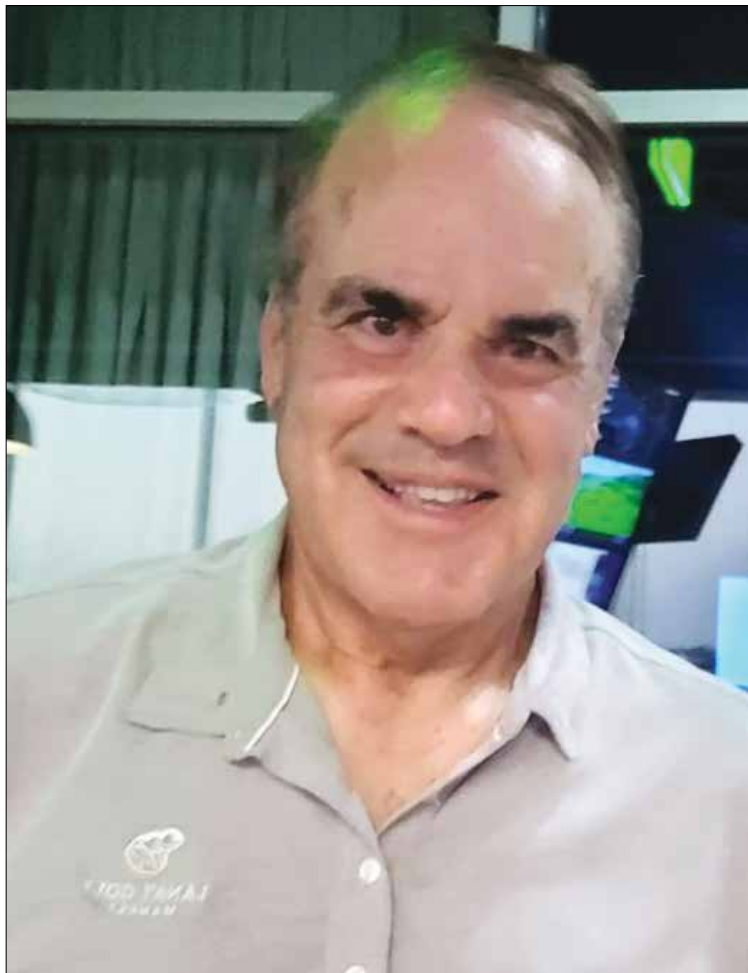
cover more than 37 million children and teens across the United States.

The ABCs of getting insured with Medicaid and CHIP

Enrollment is open year-round, meaning families don't have to wait for a special time of the year to get covered. Medicaid and CHIP eligibility varies by state, depending on family income and household size. In most states, children up to age 19 with a family income of up to \$80,000 per year (for a family of four) may qualify. Families can apply online, over the phone, by mail or in-person with

their state's Medicaid office or visit the “Find Coverage for Your Family” section on InsureKidsNow.gov. Coverage must be renewed each year and it's important for families to make sure their address, email and phone number stay up to date with their state Medicaid office so they can receive communications about important renewal information. For more information, call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669). Communities can work together to make sure children get the health care they need to succeed this school year. Information provided by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Your Health



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTHEW BURROWS

Burrows now enjoys a normal and healthy life. His words of experience: “Learn CPR.”

Have a comment

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

HEART

From Page 21

during which he had two stents put in, he was sent home, with his sister Julie there to help him.

As for the recovery process, Burrows said it was “remarkably ‘on-your-ownish.’ They want you to get moving and do what you can. So I set out to walk as much as I could and just get healthier. Over the next year or so, I lost about 40 pounds and was walking quite a bit.”

After an initial aggressive course of blood thinners, he settled into taking “the drugs that I never took but should have been taking” for high blood pressure, as well as statin pills and half an aspirin as a blood thinner.

Burrows’ advice for preventing the situation he found himself in that day on Main Street includes the following.

“Number one, leading up to it, is lifestyle, keep yourself fit, and if you do experience symptoms, act on them right away. Don’t expect them to go away on their own. See a cardiologist.

“And number two, even if you’re not experiencing symptoms, but are a certain age or are in a certain physical condition, you should probably know you’re at risk, either through your own lack of fitness or your family history. Go see a cardiologist.

“Definitely don’t wait,” he stressed. “Probably if I had not waited, I would have had a better outcome. I was extremely lucky to have been taken out of that whole situation by Peter.”

Burrows, who was certified in CPR shortly after the event, urges everyone to learn CPR and to be aware of defibrillators (AEDs) when out in public.

“The importance of learning CPR also, is that it’s not just the chance of running into a stranger on the street who needs it – it might be your loved ones or neighbors – and if you’re with older people, the odds are pretty good something’s going to happen.”

What to do

If you witness an adult experiencing cardiac arrest (procedures for children and infants are slightly different), the American Heart Association recommends the following: Check for responsiveness; shout for help; call 911; begin CPR and continue until EMS staff arrive; use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) if possible; if two people are able to help, one should start CPR immediately while the other calls 911 and finds an AED.

CPR together with the use of an AED greatly increase survival rates. CPR is intended to pump the heart to get blood flowing and circulating to organs, while the AED sends an electric shock to the heart in an attempt to restore its normal rhythm.

Sidebar: Save a life – Learn CPR

The Santa Clara County Fire Department offers regular four-hour AHA Heartsaver CPR/AED courses in various locations. Classes include instruction in adult, child and infant CPR; how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED); how to assist someone who is choking; two-year course completion card with CPR mask and gloves kit. Classes cost \$65. To view upcoming classes, visit tinyurl.com/SCCFD-CPR-AED.

The American Red Cross also offers regular training in First Aid/CPR/AED. Most classes take place in San Jose. Online options are available but require an in-person skills session for certification. Prices vary. For details, visit tinyurl.com/RedCross-CPR-AED.

Safety Training Seminars, an authorized training center of the American Heart Association, offers a wide selection of classes in Palo Alto. Hybrid online/in-person First Aid/CPR/AED classes are \$89. American Heart Association certification costs an extra \$40.

For a schedule of classes, visit tinyurl.com/STS-CPR-PaloAlto.

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Long-time Los Altos shop Cambric Limited finds new home



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SIMONNE CORNE-TREGON

Simonne Corne-Tregon, owner and founder of women's fashion store Cambric Limited, was busy last week and over the weekend as she prepped the new location of her store, 164 Main St., Suite 100, for its Monday opening. New changes she focused on included the front awning, interior designing and more. Though busy, Tregon was excited she had found a new location, as the search for a new space was long. Cambric Limited had been at 197 Second St. for more than 35 years, but she and the other business owners located in the building had to find new spots after the new building owner told them their leases would not be renewed.



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Approach with caution: Impostors target businesses and influencers

Better Business Bureau

Business owners and influencers are the targets of a tricky impostor scam that starts with an invitation to appear on a popular celebrity podcast.

While the opportunity may seem like a great way to get your name and brand in front of a large audience, this scam will attempt to steal your login credentials and lock you out of your accounts.

How the scam works

You receive an email from the "management" team of a popular celebrity podcast inviting you to be a guest on the show. The "manager" tells you that your story, experiences and insights would be perfect for their audience. For your participation, you are offered compensation of \$2,000. Sounds great, right?

If you respond to the email and agree to be a guest on the podcast, the "manager" will ask you to hop onto a call to check your technology (your web camera and audio) before the podcast, which will be held on Facebook or another social media site. This is where things take a turn.

During your tech setup, the scammer may try to gain access to your

computer and/or attempt to take your login credentials for the social media account you're using. If they are successful, you may end up locked out of your accounts.

If you frequently use the same login and password for multiple accounts, this can lead to additional problems for other accounts you hold.

The Better Business Bureau has tips for businesses to avoid podcast impostor scams:

- Be skeptical of emails with strange formatting and language. In this specific scam, the podcast invitation email may have strange formatting with your full name in bold letters in a font size much larger than the rest of the email. The email may also use very generic language that is not specific to you or your business background or story. If the email seems off, it's probably a scam. Read BBB's tips on how to spot a phony email.
- Check the email address of the invitation. Impostors will use fake email addresses that look very close to a real one. Take a good look at the email address before responding. Most official podcasts or businesses have their own

See PODCAST, Page 25

Amid financial volatility, Americans living fulfilled lives

Statepoint

Three quarters of Americans (74%) are optimistic about their financial futures despite recent market volatility and uncertainty, according to new research.

Capturing the goals, challenges and feelings of North Americans regarding their finances, research for “The Pulse of North America” report was conducted by Edward Jones and Cerulli Associates during April’s increased market volatility. An encouraging 79% of respondents indicated they are on track to achieve or have already achieved a financially fulfilled life.

“Sentiment from our own clients confirms this,” said David Gunn, principal, head of U.S. and Canada Business Units at Edward Jones. “In the half a million conversations our financial advisors have had with clients in the past five months, only a quarter of our clients highlight financial stress. This reflects the power of deep, personal, trusting relationships and holistic financial advice.”

Recent volatility impacts, but does not derail, financial fulfillment

Despite 49% of respondents indicating that inflation is a source of financial stress, Americans remain steadfast in the pursuit of financial fulfillment. They define fulfillment as having the freedom to pursue their passions (46%), make a better life for themselves and their fami-



ND3000 / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

Despite a turbulent financial landscape, Americans report living fulfilled lives.

lies (42%) and have security and protection from unforeseen events (41%).

To become more financially fulfilled, Americans are most willing to change their discretionary spending habits (45%), pay off their debt (33%) and improve their financial literacy (28%). This flexibility will help them tackle potential obstacles, including rising living costs (59%), unexpected financial setbacks (35%) and insufficient income or savings (27%). Nearly two-thirds of respondents (63%) indicated they would need to earn a \$150,000-plus salary annually to achieve financial freedom.

Americans report optimism and progress relative to personal benchmarks

When it comes to tracking financial progress, only 18% of Americans benchmark themselves against their own goals and plans rather than those of others, while 33% primarily compare themselves to their peers, 22% to their significant others and 19% to their colleagues.

Respondents indicated that they are tracking confidently against financial and other life goals, reporting that they are on par with or ahead of others when

it comes to specific objectives, such as achieving financial stability (88%), travel goals (84%), financial literacy (83%), saving for retirement (80%) and achieving homeownership (78%).

“Even with heightened market volatility and economic uncertainty, American investors have stayed the course with their portfolios and long-term plans,” added Gunn. “They are making meaningful progress by keeping the future in mind, while expressing willingness to pivot in real time with the help of a financial professional.”

The role of financial advisors in pursuing financial fulfillment

While 57% of DIY investors have a financial plan, this number increases to 77% for Americans who regularly engage with a financial advisor.

Those working with a financial advisor are doing so to manage financial risk (28%), seek a second opinion on financial decisions (26%) or based on recommendations from family members or other professionals (25%). Americans who regularly work with a financial advisor are more likely to feel optimistic about their financial future than those who manage their finances on their own (79% vs 71% respectively).

For more research insights, visit edwardjones.com/pulse.

Despite uncertainty, Americans are feeling confident about their finances, especially those who rely on professional advice.

PODCAST

From Page 24

email domain and will not use a “@gmail.com” email domain, for example. If you’re unsure of the legitimacy of the email address, do a web search for the podcast’s real contact information. You will be able to see the podcast’s email domain and can

verify if the communication is real. You can also reach out to the podcast on your own to verify the request you received.

- If you’re being offered a lot of money out of the blue, take it as a red flag. A popular scam tactic is to entice consumers or businesses with money. If you’re asked by an unknown person to do some-

thing and are told you’ll get paid to do it, take caution.

- Never let a stranger take control of your computer. It’s the classic tech support scam – a scammer will pretend to be trustworthy and attempt to take control of your computer from another location. If they are successful, they may access your files and web

browser to steal your information. Never let anyone take control of your computer. If you’re ever asked to enter a code onto your screen, call a number that appears on a pop-up, or initiate a connection to another device, stop communication with the person and shut down your computer.

- Keep your personal information to yourself. Do not give someone your login credentials for any of your accounts if they ask. For additional protection on your accounts, be sure to use strong passwords and multi-factor authentication.



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Business & Real Estate

Transactions

Los Altos

2050 Wooded Glen Drive, Miller Trust to J. & I. Nahouraii for \$3,605,000

1516 Wistaria Lane, V. & K. Byrd to E. & Y. Lee for \$3,625,000

1869 Middleton Avenue, C. Gray to Y. & Y. Li for \$3,800,000

1989 Scott Lane, E. House to K. Xiao for \$3,958,000

1533 Topar Avenue, Bechwati Living Trust to N. & V. Jalalibarsari for \$3,990,000

10605 Berkshire Drive, Haderle Trust to P. & V. Dsouza for \$4,100,000

539 Los Ninos Way, Lehmann Family Trust to Pang Family Trust for \$5,250,000

Mountain View

83 Devonshire Avenue #3, W. & B. He to Linardi Living Trust for \$890,000

217 Ada Avenue #46,

Imai Family Trust to C. & C. Chan for \$940,000

99 Sherland Avenue #A, Pharisien Living Trust to M. & S. Levine for \$965,000

457 Sierra Vista Avenue #5, R. Zhang to S. Roberts for \$1,160,000

332 Deerwood Court #1104, R. Qi to R. & J. Moore for \$1,298,000

3917 Pyramid Way, Deshpande Family Trust to S. & N. Kumar for \$1,575,000

135 Frederick Court, A. Rudolph to P. & H. Vutla for \$1,600,000

2187 Wyandotte Street, L. Santo to Wong Trust for \$1,700,000

1348 Park Drive, R. Asido to H. Liaw for \$1,750,000

138 Iris Drive, K. Chu to Y. & H. Cheng for \$1,998,000

184 Athena Court, W. Chen to T. & G. Georgiou

for \$2,200,000
747 San Clemente Way, D. Hayes to E. Lee for \$2,928,000

Cupertino

20310 Pacifica Drive, Wong Family Trust to Ponnam & Peddi Trust for \$1,959,000

22141 Wallace Drive, N. Hays to He & Chen Family LLC for \$2,325,000

1135 Elmsford Drive, Zhang Trust to D. & A. Sethi for \$3,353,000

18772 Arata Way, T. Wang to C. Kuo for \$3,520,000

10600 Larry Way, Milestone Investments to L. & C. Ng for \$4,150,000

Total Sales

Los Altos

Total sales: 7
Lowest sale: \$3,605,000
Highest sale: \$5,250,000
Average sale: \$4,046,900

Cupertino

Total sales: 5
Lowest sale: \$1,959,000
Highest sale: \$4,150,000
Average sale: \$3,061,400

Mountain View

Total sales: 12
Lowest sale: \$890,000
Highest sale: \$2,928,000
Average sale: \$1,583,700
– *Transaction information is obtained from public county records and provided by Cal REsource.*

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

Business Brief

Cryptocurrency event

If the word “cryptocurrency” elicits confusion, an event scheduled for 7 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Los Altos Library, 13 South San Antonio Road, may be a helpful opportunity to learn more about the ever-growing investment opportunity.

The event, set to be held in the Orchard Room of the library, is an entry-point opportunity for those with limited to no understanding of what cryptocurrency is.

Hosted by the Financial Planning Association of Silicon Valley, the event will provide attendees a jargonless introduction to what cryptocurrency is, why it matters and how to invest in it.

To register for the event, visit tinyurl.com/SCCLcryptotalk.

Those who wish to join the event with accessibility requests should fill out a form, scclcd.org/accessibility, no less than seven days before the event. If assistance with the form is needed, call (408) 540-3945 or email ask@sccl.org.



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COMPASS

Business & Real Estate

Why investing in a Lake Tahoe vacation home can be good

By the Rankin Richey Real Estate Team

Special to the Town Crier

Nestled in the Sierra Nevada mountains and straddling the border between California and Nevada, Greater Lake Tahoe is a natural playground that offers an array of year-round activities, making it a popular destination for vacationing. Whether you are looking for skiing and snowboarding in the winter or boating, golf, biking and hiking in the summer, Lake Tahoe has something for everyone.

The beauty of Greater Lake Tahoe is hard to overstate. With its clear blue waters, pine forests and snow-capped peaks, Lake Tahoe offers residents and visitors breathtaking views and a serene natural environment.

Greater Lake Tahoe excels with the variety of outdoor sporting activities available. In the winter, skiing and snowboarding are the primary activities, but there are also snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and ice-skating opportunities. In the summer, boating, fishing, kayaking and paddleboarding are popular water-based activities. The hiking and biking trails around the lake offer beautiful views of the surround-

ing mountains and forests.

Palisades Tahoe in Olympic Village and Alpine Meadows are two of the most popular ski resorts in Greater Lake Tahoe. The resort offers 3,600 skiable acres, 29 lifts and more than 170 trails. South Lake Tahoe is a bustling town located on the south shore of Lake Tahoe. The town offers a variety of dining, shopping and entertainment options, making it a perfect place for vacationers to unwind after a day on the mountain or on the lake. South Lake Tahoe is also home to several casinos.

The real estate market in Lake Tahoe is competitive, with limited inventory and many buyers looking for vacation homes or primary residences. The region offers a mix of traditional single-family homes, luxury properties, shared ownerships and condos. Prices vary depending on the location, size and amenities of the property. The median home price in the five different regions varies from \$775,000 to \$1.5 million. Traditionally, property owners in the Lake Tahoe area who have maintained their property and owned it for several years have benefited from the increase in property values.

Homebuyers who are looking for

a potential source of income can consider vacation rental properties, which are in high demand during the peak seasons of both winter and summer.

There are also condominium options for vacation homes in the North Lake Tahoe area. While nearly any property in the area can be rented out when not in use, there are several condominium properties that offer a way to offset the cost of the condo with high occupancy and on-site rental programs.

A fractional ownership arrangement (also known as shared ownership) offers the benefits of equity-based deeded real estate ownership, combined with the exclusivity of owning real estate in desirable locations for a fraction of the cost of an entire home. Shared ownership is a great vacation home option because you can share the cost, maintenance, upkeep and enjoyment of your vacation home and many benefits such as reducing costs, reducing hassle, increasing community and no fears of restrictions. Most people don't vacation more than three to 12 weeks per year. With shared ownership you can own your vacation home and only pay for the time you use and not for unoccupied time, and because it is a deeded

ownership, in the luxury shared ownerships selling the share could result in a potential increase in equity like a traditional full ownership home.

Using your Tahoe home as a vacation rental property through Airbnb short term rentals and ski-leases can be a great option. Airbnb provides an easy platform to share your listings and listings will receive bookings and exposure almost immediately.

Long-term seasonal leases are considered a solid way to secure a reliable income stream for a given period of time. Each step of the process is extremely straightforward – from the moment a property is listed to the moment the tenant leaves the property, there is a set procedure that does not change each season. Often people find tenants who want to rent the same place year after year, making this a reliable and predictable source of income.

The Rankin Richey Real Estate Team (Chase International CABRE# 00826938 NV S 0198227) is a father-daughter team based in Tahoe City. For more information, visit tahoelifestyleteam.com. The information contained, and the opinions expressed, in this article are not intended to be construed as investment advice.

1711 GUINDA STREET, PALO ALTO | OPEN HOUSE Sat. & Sun. 1-4 pm

Timothy Hopkins (1859-1936) was the adopted son of Mark Hopkins, one of the "Big Four" founders (Hopkins, Leland Stanford, Collis P. Huntington, and Charles Crocker) of the Central Pacific (later Southern Pacific) Railroad. When Leland Stanford, Jr., the only child of Stanford and wife Jane died aged 15 in 1884, the bereaved parents named a board of trustees for the university they

were establishing in his memory, including Hopkins, who would remain on the board his whole life. Hopkins was also delegated to acquire land adjoining the university campus for residences and a town. He arranged purchase of over seven hundred acres northeast of the campus and south of San Francisquito Creek, had the area platted, and named the streets. He named a street by Embarcadero Road "Guinda" after

the Spanish *guinda*, meaning "red cherry," supposedly because he liked the sound of it.

1711 Guinda is a spacious property at the corner of Embarcadero Road. A previous owner was Sara Ruppenthal, whom fans of the Grateful Dead will recognize as the first wife of guitarist Jerry Garcia and mother of their daughter Heather, and who also sang accompaniment.

Welcome to a beautiful Leland Manor home



The expansive living room has a fireplace and sliding glass doors leading to an inviting patio and garden. A wood staircase with a beautiful wall mural leads to a Primary bedroom. There are two bedrooms, and a den or office on the first floor.

A large kitchen with adjoining dining and breakfast areas opens onto the Rose-Azalea garden with tranquil sitting areas. The landscaping is by the late Page Sanders. In moved-in condition, freshly painted, and with gleaming hardwood floors, the house invites you to enjoy Palo Alto's unmatched living.

1711 Guinda Street lies within walking distance of Rinconada Cultural Park, with tennis courts and playgrounds; the Palo Alto Art Center; Lucie Stern Community Center; Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo; and the highly-rated Walter Hays Elementary School.

Listing Price \$4,195,000



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Perched on a tranquil hillside, this architecturally distinct home blends serene mountain living with refined comfort and access to Lake Tahoe's premier amenities.



633 SECOND CREEK DRIVE, INCLINE VILLAGE, NV 3 BR | 2 BA | \$1,750,000

Situated on a generous half-acre lot, this single-level home offers a functional and friendly floor plan perfect for full-time living or a vacation retreat.

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Real Estate Advertising Sales

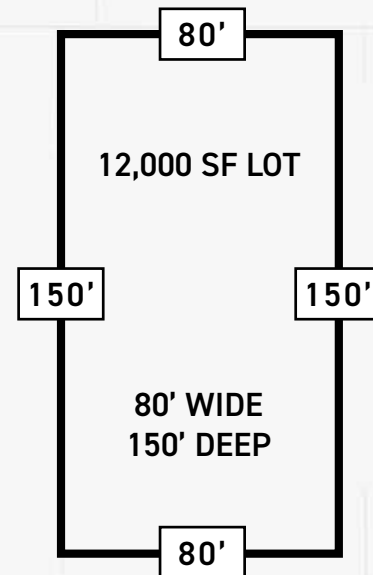
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Outstanding Opportunity in Prestigious North Los Altos



FABULOUS DEEP RECTANGULAR LOT



Sylvian Way

JUST LISTED

OPEN HOUSE: SAT & SUN | 2:00-4:00 PM

61 SYLVIAN WAY, LOS ALTOS

Listed at \$4,798,000 | 3 BD | 1.5BA | 1,171 SF | 12,000 SF LOT | 61Sylvian.com

Excellent location in premier North Los Altos neighborhood on one of the best tree-lined streets in town. With its 12,000 sq.ft. perfectly shaped rectangular deep lot, proximity to acclaimed Los Altos schools, and just half a mile to Los Altos downtown, this is truly an outstanding opportunity to live, rent, or build your dream home!



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IN REAL ESTATE

25+ YEARS
LOS ALTOS RESIDENT

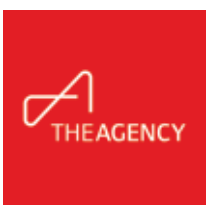
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CONTACT US TODAY

Michael Repka (DRE #01854880) **650.488.7325**

中文諮詢請聯繫

Audrey Sun (DRE #01933274) **650.785.5822**

Seller's Bill of Rights

Silicon Valley sellers deserve better – better marketing, better support, and better results. No games. No hidden agendas. Just clear, honest commitments. Our **Seller's Bill of Rights** isn't fluff – It's a promise.

- I. **Fair Deals Only** – No double-ending. Our buyers get free representation on our listings.
- II. **Legal Help** – Free access to a licensed CA attorney.
- III. **Best Marketing** – Better than any comparable listing.
- IV. **Full Exposure** – On MLS, Zillow, Redfin & more.
- V. **Massive Visibility** – Weekly ads, professional video, 3D tour, custom site.
- VI. **Design Support** – Designer + handyman guided preparation.
- VII. **Free Staging** – Always included.
- VIII. **Paid Inspections** – We cover property & pest reports.
- IX. **Flexible Listings** – Auto-expire after 39 days unless renewed by seller.
- X. **Elite Teamwork** – Full in-house team working for you.



Discover the full details about our Seller's Bill of Rights

Closed Doors May Cost You More

Don't *Trust* a Brokerage That Prioritizes Commission Over Clients

Some brokerages pressure sellers to keep listings hidden from buyers who are not represented by that same brokerage on the buy side. While this "office exclusive" approach can dramatically increase the brokerage's chances of collecting both sides of the commission, it often comes at the seller's expense – reducing exposure, limiting competition, and ultimately lowering the final sales price.

DeLeon Realty welcomes competition from all buyers, irrespective of their choice of agent. And if a buyer isn't represented, Ken DeLeon's Buyer's Team will represent them on our listings – at no cost to either the buyer or the seller. Simply put, we always put our clients' interests first.



Michael Repka | DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | Ken DeLeon | DRE #01342140 | 650.543.8501

DeLeonRealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity



1220 PAYNE DRIVE LOS ALTOS



STYLISH LIVING IN SOUTH OF EL MONTE

Set on a peaceful, tree-lined street, this bright and stylish home pairs great curb appeal with more than 2,700 total square feet of interiors. Wide-plank floors, high ceilings, and great natural light enhance the beautifully remodeled open layout, which centers around an impressive great room where the living and dining areas connect seamlessly to the backyard through a wall of glass. Just steps away, the kitchen combines form and function with sleek design and top-of-the-line Miele appliances. Three large bedrooms are joined by a detached guest house with its own bedroom and bathroom, perfect for visitors, extended family, or a private workspace. The backyard is made for entertaining, with a large patio, pergola, lawn, and even a play structure for kids. Additional features include a home office, air conditioning, and an attached garage. Parks, the Rancho Shopping Center, and Highway 85 are all nearby, with top-rated schools including Oak Avenue Elementary, Blach Intermediate, and Mountain View High just minutes away.

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

1220Payne.com
Listed at \$3,988,000

Notice to Buyers:

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

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team

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



YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



Notice to Buyers:

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YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



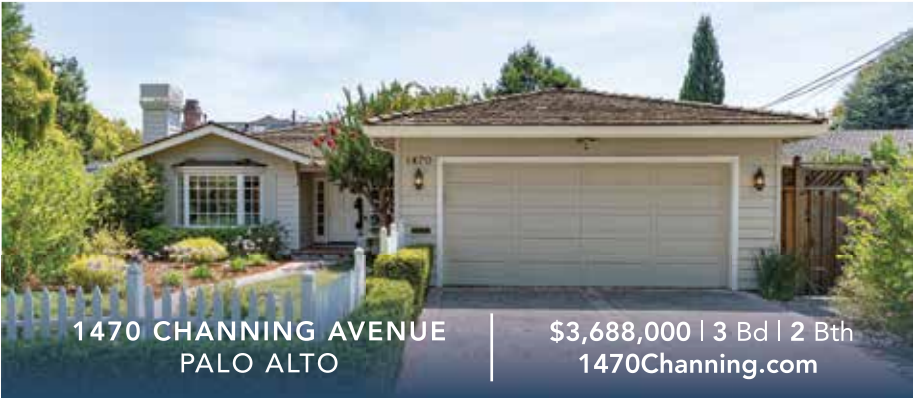
DeLeonRealty_USA



976 LAUREL GLEN DRIVE
PALO ALTO | \$8,488,000 | 6 Bd | 6.5 Bth
976LaurelGlen.com



1730 GUINDA STREET
PALO ALTO | \$3,988,000 | 3 Bd | 3 Bth
1730Guinda.com



1470 CHANNING AVENUE
PALO ALTO | \$3,688,000 | 3 Bd | 2 Bth
1470Channing.com



4163 PARK BOULEVARD
PALO ALTO | \$2,488,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
4163Park.com



5 OAK FOREST COURT
PORTOLA VALLEY | \$5,488,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth
5OakForest.com



1932 EMERSON STREET
PALO ALTO | \$9,988,000 | 6 Bd | 6 Bth
1932EmersonStreet.com



140 FARM ROAD
WOODSIDE | \$10,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
140FarmRd.com



850 ARROYO COURT
PALO ALTO | \$3,988,000 | 5 Bd | 3.5 Bth
850Arroyo.com



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



Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
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.....
JUST LISTED
.....

26545 PURISSIMA ROAD ■ LOS ALTOS HILLS

open house

SAT 8/23 ■ SUN 8/24
2-4PM



\$7,995,000

5 BEDS + OFFICE ■ 3.5 BATHS ■ GUEST HOUSE ■ 4,208 SQ FT ■ 1 ACRE LOT

A rare blend of architectural heritage and modern innovation, this Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home is framed by the masterful landscape design of Joni Janecki. Thoughtfully updated with multiple Fleetwood door systems, imported finishes, and a guest house, the single-level design offers a harmonious flow between indoors and out. Radiant heating, central air-conditioning, Level 5 smooth walls, custom lighting, and whole-home control from your phone make this residence as comfortable as it is beautiful. Served by top Palo Alto schools with Gardner Bullis Elementary option.

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1025 BORDER ROAD,
LOS ALTOS

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY | 1025BORDER.COM | \$3,986,698

SOARING CEILINGS | NUMEROUS SKYLIGHTS | LOVELY OUTDOOR SPACES
3 BEDS | OFFICE | 3 BATHS | ~2,520 SQ FT | ~17,182 SQ FT LOT | CLOSE TO TOWN



1204 EUREKA COURT,
LOS ALTOS

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY | 1204EUREKA.COM | CALL FOR PRICE

STUNNING DESIGNER HOME | DESIRABLE FLOOR PLAN | CARRARA MARBLE ACCENTS
4 BEDS | 3 FULL BATHS | ~2,251 SQ FT | ~12,348 SQ FT LOT | QUIET CUL-DE-SAC



DAVID TROYER LIC#01234450

650.440.5076 | DAVID@DAVIDTROYER.COM | DAVIDTROYER.COM

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Public Notices

**MCLENNAN CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718382**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MCLENNAN CONSTRUCTION, 649 Distel Dr, 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): Margaret Manassero, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/20/2021. /S/ Margaret Manassero / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/29/2025. (08-20,27-25,09-03,10-25)

203-T

**animo kitchen
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN717839**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: animo kitchen, 1712 E San Antonio St #40, San Jose, CA, 95116, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): animo kitchen inc, 1712 E San Antonio Street #40, San Jose, CA 95113. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Takayuki Matsumoto / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/10/2025. (08-20,27-25,09-03,10-25)

202-T

**Game Set Party
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718448**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Game Set Party, 701 Vine St, San Jose, CA, 95110, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Parija Maloo, 4355 Renaissance Dr, Apt. 206, San Jose, CA 95134. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Parija Maloo / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/30/2025. (08-20,27-25,09-03,10-25)

201-T

**TEXAMEX RESTAURANT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN717953**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TEXAMEX RESTAURANT, 181 E Tasman Drive #50, San Jose, CA, 95134, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): MAC PARK BBQ LLC, 27 University Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Faz Poursohi /

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/15/2025. (08-20,27-25,09-03,10-25)

200-T

**ENRIQUE TREE REFERRAL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718618**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ENRIQUE TREE REFERRAL, 3440 Chapala Drive, San Jose, CA, 95148, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: married couple. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Abel Enrique Pineda Herrera, 3440 Chapala Drive, San Jose, CA 95148, Iris Yessenia Bautista Martinez, 3440 Chapala Drive, San Jose, CA 95148. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/01/2025. /S/ Abel Enrique Pineda Herrera / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/07/2025. (08-13,20,27-25,09-03-25)

198-T

**BAY AREA COOLING & HEATING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718402**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BAY AREA COOLING & HEATING, 5479 Ellyridge Dr, San Jose, CA, 95123, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Nangiyalai Khairy, 5479 Ellyridge Dr, San Jose, CA 95123, Mohammad Qadir Falez, 5479 Ellyridge Dr, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/29/2025. /S/ Nangiyalai Khairy / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/29/2025. (08-13,20,27-25,09-03-25)

197-T

**SIERRA PROPERTIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718511**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SIERRA PROPERTIES, 330 Sierra Vista Ave, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a trust. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jean L.Y. Garrett Trustee, 730 Sharon Park Dr, Menlo Park, CA 94025, Stephen C Garrett Trustee, 730 Sharon Park Dr, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/01/2006. /S/ Stephen C Garrett Trustee / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/04/2025. (08-13,20,27-25,09-03-25)

195-T

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME**

The following person(s) /

registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office. New Generations International, 1905 Sherman Street, Suite 200-1652, Denver, CO 80203 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 08/28/2024 Under File No. FBN642951 Full Name of Registrant(s): New Generations, 1905 Sherman Street, Suite 200-1652, Denver, CO 80203 This business was conducted by: a corporation This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Jul. 11, 2025. Regina Alcomendras County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN717890 (08-13,20,27-25,09-03-25)

194-T

**FUEL GOOD NUTRITION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN717358**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: FUEL GOOD NUTRITION, 388 Santana Row, 2327, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Meghan K Brown, 388 Santana Row, 2327, San Jose, CA 95128. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/22/2025. /S/ Meghan Brown / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 06/24/2025. (08-06,13,20,27-25)

193-T

**RONNOCO PROPERTIES OF
PALO ALTO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718168**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) RONNOCO PROPERTIES OF PALO ALTO, (2) RONNOCO PROPERTIES OF LOS ALTOS, 25605 Fernhill Drive, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Bider David, 3000 Sand Hill Road, 1-250, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/09/2005. /S/ David Bider / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/23/2025. (07-30-25,08-06,13,20-25)

192-T

**LAWZA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN718164**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) LAWZA, (2) LAWZA BAKERY, 213 Ramona Street, Palo Alto, CA, 94301, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence ad-

dress of the registrant(s) is (are): Nawale Hinde Franklin, 213 Ramona Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Nawale Hinde Franklin / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/22/2025. (07-30-25,08-06,13,20-25)

191-T

**Enounce
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN717904**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Enounce, 272 Del Monte Ave, 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): Virentem Ventures, LLC, 272 Del Monte Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/01/2015. /S/ Donald J. Hejna, Jr. / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/14/2025. (07-30-25,08-06,13,20-25)

190-T

**ANGELS PRO CLEANING
SERVICE LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN717842**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ANGELS PRO CLEANING SERVICE LLC, 1807 Bradford Way Apt A, San Jose, CA, 95124, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): ANGELS PRO CLEANING SERVICE LLC, 1807 Bradford Way Apt A, San Jose, CA 95124. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/01/2025. /S/ Heydi Timotea Garcia / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/10/2025. (07-30-25,08-06,13,20-25)

186-T

Datebook

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

EVENTS

Los Altos Main Library. All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness**, 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic**, 7 p.m., first Monday of every month; **Bay Area Games Day**, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., third Saturday of every month. Other events: **Wednesday Travel Nights – The Kingdom of Morocco: Modernity and Antiquity**, 7 p.m., Aug. 27. Jim and Megan Allen will lead a colorful photographic tour of Morocco. Seating will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. **Kanzashi Fabric Workshop**, 6:30 p.m., Sept. 3. Sustainable artists Leila Ghasempour and Gigi Farmer will lead a demonstration, creating their own unique Kanzashi fabric flowers. Program is designed for adults and teens. All materials will be provided. **Latinx Rock From the 1950s through the 1980s**, 7 p.m. Sept. 4. For Hispanic Heritage Month, rock historian and author Richie Unterberger presents “La Bamba: Latinx in Vintage Rock, Pop, and Soul,” featuring and discussing film clips of Latinx performers from the 1950s through the 1980s, highlighting Latinx music from San Francisco and Los Angeles. **Drink What You Grow**, 7 p.m. Sept. 18. Master Gardener Monique Frappier and the Garden-to-Glass team introduce six of their favorite plants that impart desirable flavors and aromas, ideal for crafting refreshing teas, infusions, syrup and other homemade beverages. **Do Galaxies Breathe, Too?**, 7 p.m. Sept. 26. Dr. Xinnan Du from Stanford University will discuss how galactic-scale outflows and inflows impact the formation of stars. **Turning the Tide: Community Actions Against Plastic Pollution**, 7 p.m. Oct. 1. Sherry Auerbach from the Rotary Club of Los Altos will discuss how to redirect plastic packaging away from landfills. Programs are free and open to the public. Information: (650) 948-7683, scld.org.

Assistance League of Los Altos. Charitable organization benefiting youth of Santa Clara County. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Located at Third and State streets. (650) 941-2610 and assistanceleague.org/losaltos.

Kiwanis Club of Los Altos. Service organization. Meets at noon every Tuesday at Neutra House Conference Center, 181 Hillview Ave. losaltoskiwanis.org, (650) 735-1552.

Peninsula Harmony Chorus. A cappella chorus centered in Los Altos. Performs “doo-wop” music from the 1950s and 1960s. Rehearsals Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at Los Altos Lutheran Church. Information: peninsulaharmony.org.

GreenTown Los Altos. Nonpartisan group of citizens helping the communities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills become more sustainable. Information: greentownlosaltos.org.

Foothills Amateur Radio Society. Amateur radio club serving Los Altos and local area. Meets 7 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month. Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. fars.k6ya.org.

HP Retired Employees Club. Open to HP/Agilent retirees. Activities **See DATEBOOK, Page 39**

'Red Scarf'



COURTESY OF VIEWPOINTS GALLERY

Maura Carta’s “Red Scarf,” 14 x 18”, oil on wood, will be among the works in her new exhibition, “City Lights,” running through the month of September at Viewpoints Gallery in downtown Los Altos.

DATEBOOK
From Page 38

include luncheons, trips (local, regional and foreign), volunteer work and more. (408) 867-5086; hp.com/retiree.

Los Altos Las Madres Playgroups. Playgroups for moms and their babies 5 and under. Play dates in and around Los Altos. Expectant moms, new dads and other caregivers welcome. (650) 917-9914; lasmadres.org.

Quota International of Mountain View/Los Altos. Supports scholarships for hearing-impaired students. Noon first and third Thursdays of each month. Michael’s at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View. (650) 967-5404; quotamvla.org.

Rotary Club of Los Altos. Service group. 12:15 p.m. Thursdays. Garden House at Shoup Park, 400 University Ave. losaltosrotary.org.

South Bay Storytellers. 7 p.m. third Sunday of the month. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. (650) 494-1383; (650) 917-1920; southbaystorytellers.com.

Sons in Retirement, Branch 5. Small group of men who keep socially and mentally active, have lunch and hear speakers on a variety of subjects. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael’s restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. (408) 761-3941.

Morning Forum of Los Altos. Cel-

ebrating its 75th year, the Morning Forum of Los Altos offer programs of diverse and knowledgeable speakers. To subscribe and for more information, visit morningforum.org.

Midpeninsula Widows and Widowers Association. Nonprofit volunteer group organizes activities for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. Meets 1:30 to 3 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month and 7:30 to 9 p.m. the remaining Tuesdays at the Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos. More information at mpwwa1.org.

EXHIBITS

Gallery 9 Los Altos. Featuring mixed media artist Daniel Meehan in an exhibit titled, “Half Dome and Elsewhere.” Running Sept. 2-28. Artist’s reception 5-8 p.m. Sept. 5. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Located 143 Main St., Los Altos. Information: gallery9losaltos.com.

Viewpoints Gallery. Featuring “City Lights” from artist Maura Carta. Running Sept. 3-28. Artist’s reception 5-8 p.m. Sept. 5. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Information: viewpointsgallery.com.

MADSEN LLC gallery. Featuring artists Carl Hopgood, Nahyun Kim, Dennis Peak, Anki Gelb, Lucas Blok and James Moore. Located 351 Main St. Hours are noon to 3 p.m. Thursday, noon to 3 p.m. Friday (by appointment only) and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Information: apmadsen.com.

BERNIS
KRETCHMAR



1936-2025

Bernis Kretchmar, beloved philanthropist and community leader, passed away at 88 in June after a long illness. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Larry Kretchmar, MD, and family including three children, four grandchildren, countless friends and relatives and people whose lives she touched through her extensive community work.

Originally from Wisconsin, Bernis Moskowitz attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where one summer she met her future husband. Upon her graduation, the couple moved to Hanover, NH where Bernis taught high school students in Vermont, and then to Rochester, NY while Larry continued his medical residency. In 1964, the couple, now with three children, moved to the Bay Area, where Bernis would become a pivotal figure in her community.

Bernis and her family joined Congregation Beth Am, then in its first decade. An active member, she was very involved and, in the 1990s, Bernis was instrumental in launching the LGBTQ+ support group Kulanu, meaning All of Us.

Bernis was an avid gardener and raised chickens before it was trendy (she was even featured in the Town Crier for her collection of chicken art and objects.) She loved to travel and was known for running into people at every airport she set foot in.

After her kids went to college, Bernis worked for the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose as director of the Women’s Division. She also was one of three co-founders of the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival, now in its 34th year.

All told, she raised millions of dollars for philanthropy in the Bay Area, Israel and around the world. Bernis served on the board of El Camino Health’s Foundation for many years. In 2011, for El Camino Hospital’s 50th anniversary, she and Larry co-chaired the Sapphire

Soirée, raising \$500,000 for the Foundation. Bernis’ philanthropic deeds were recognized with awards including the Los Altos Community Foundation bestowing upon her and Larry the John W. Gardner Building Community Award. She attributed her philanthropic spirit to her father’s strong community involvement in Milwaukee.

In addition to her husband, Bernis is survived by her children Julie (Doug) Roston, Laurie Kretchmar, Michael Kretchmar (Chuck Thomas); and granddaughters Rachel, Molly, Chelsea and Amari. Donations in her memory may be made to Congregation Beth Am or El Camino Health Foundation. Not least, Bernis would urge you to vote in every election.



SUSAN SACHIKO
YUKIKO (YAMATSU)
YOSHIMINE



November 21, 1930-
July 31, 2025

Susan Yoshimine died peacefully on July 31, 2025 in Palo Alto, California, after a lengthy battle with the long-term consequences of pancreatic cancer and, later, advancing dementia.

Susan was born on November 21, 1930 in Shimonoseki City, Japan, the second of five children. At the age of twenty-two, she moved to the U.S., living in Chicago for a number of years, where she became a naturalized citizen. During this time, Susan worked as a model; she was featured in various publications, made public appearances for a number of companies, and was selected as Miss Japan for the 1959 Chicago International Trade Fair.

Susan moved to the greater San Jose area in the 1960s, where she reinvented herself as a highly successful business woman, and where she would remain for the rest of her life. Though she was a landlord of commercial and residential properties, her true passion was as

a restaurateur. Starting from the humble position of an “office lady” secretary making tea for her Japanese bosses at Ford Electronics in Palo Alto, she bought out the original owner of the Tempura House, expanded the space, and went on to own three eateries, including Seto Tempura House on Borregas, and Seto Deli across the street. Both were featured in various publications over the years, with Seto Tempura House receiving a Top Ten Restaurant recognition by the San Jose Mercury News. The name Seto is a reference to the Seto region around Yamaguchi prefecture (province), where Susan was raised. In addition to her passion for her restaurants, Susan was devoted to her beloved dogs and, in her younger days, greatly enjoyed international travel.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents Giro and Hisako (Oofuka) Yamatsu, her brothers Akira and Satoru Yamatsu, and her ex-husband Megumu Yoshimine. She is survived by her sister Judi Kazuko (Yamatsu) Mahaffey, her brother Tadashi Yamatsu, and numerous nieces and nephews residing in the U.S. and Japan. Her final resting place will be in the family grave plot in Japan.

Anyone wishing to make a donation in Susan’s name might consider supporting a local animal rescue or adoption center.





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