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Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 76 No. 25 • 50 cents

losaltosonline.com

WEDNESDAY • June 21, 2023

Sculpture celebrates spirits of adventurers

New artwork honors legacy of Los Altos divers killed in 2019 boat fire

By **Bruce Barton**
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Nearly four years after a horrific boat fire claimed the lives of her husband and daughter, Vicki Moore of Los Altos continues to honor their legacy. The latest memorial is a kinetic sculpture she commissioned that reflects Scott and Kendra Chan's passion for marine biology.

Moore held small dedication ceremonies May 6 for the newly installed sculpture in her poppy-filled backyard. It serves as a reminder that Scott and Kendra are still very much alive in her heart.

The new piece, "Everlasting Life," stands approximately 12 feet tall, its pieces of moving metal resembling the undulating movement of the ocean. It reaches from the bottom of the ocean to the top of the sky, from sea creatures and a kelp forest underwater to two circling birds, representing Scott and Kendra. The ocean environment also represents the area off the coast of Santa Cruz Island near Santa Barbara, where Scott and Kendra were among 34 who died in the 2019 boat fire – considered one of the most devastating maritime



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Vicki Moore reflects on her new backyard sculpture, which is inspired by her husband and daughter, Scott and Kendra Chan. Moore said she will donate the sculpture at some point to a public institution.

disasters in U.S. history. The two were part of a diving expedition.

Inspiring ideas

Moore, a passionate environmentalist, worked with acclaimed kinetic sculptor Susan Pascal Beran on a piece that is aesthetically beautiful and thought provoking. It includes some of Kendra's favorite sea creatures – a triggerfish, crab,

octopus and minnows, for example.

Moore said she contacted Pascal Beran in October 2020 as she was looking over participating artists for the Rotary Club of Los Altos' Fine Art in the Park event, held virtually that year. Moore was already an admirer of Pascal Beran's work – her first public art piece,

See **SCULPTURE**, Page 7

LA council adopts new budget amid questions over city priorities

Town Crier Staff Report

The subject of money – and what to do with it – dominated discussion at last week's Los Altos City Council meeting.

Council members June 13 signed off on a new city operating budget for 2023-2024.

The new budget's projected revenue totals \$71.11 million, \$53.67 million for the general budget. Projected expenditures are \$51.16 million. The budget guarantees maintenance of a 20% reserve fund.

Concurrently, the council adopted a new budget for capital improvement and major maintenance projects. The \$29.8 million budget funds 71 projects related to civic facilities, parks, downtown development, streets and equipment and vehicles, among the priorities.

Councilmember Neysa

Fligor lobbied for putting improved wireless access downtown, budgeted for 2024-2025, ahead of downtown lighting improvements, budgeted for 2023-2024. But the other four council members countered that public feedback indicated lighting was a higher priority.

City Manager Gabriel Engeland said the city allocated more resources in this budget to bolster the previously undermanned human resources and finance departments, and focused more on recreation, in part "so that we can keep the community center open longer."

As opposed to past years, when the city relied more on consultants because staff wasn't available, Engeland said this next fiscal year is different.

"We feel the proposed budget can be completed with the

See **LA COUNCIL**, Page 5

Online Poll of the Week



Here are the results of the latest online poll:

What do you think about the new speed humps on Cuesta Drive?

- They're just as bad as the old ones – 28 votes
- I think they're a definite improvement – they slow traffic and meet fire department needs – 28 votes
- They're even worse because people can dodge them – 32 votes

Watch for more polls at losaltosonline.com.

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Around Town



HOWARD BISCHOFF/TOWN CRIER

An unidentified artist works on a new downtown Los Altos mural last week, sponsored by the non-profit group Arts Los Altos, at the Comerica Bank building at 275 Third St. A public installation event was held June 7 for the two-wall, environmentally themed mural. For more information on Arts Los Altos, visit artslosaltos.org.



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News

Police Blotter

Battery

June 15, 6:04 a.m.: Intersection of Showers Drive and California Street, Mountain View

June 15, 2:44 p.m.: 600 block of South Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View

June 15, 11:52 p.m.: 2200 block of California Street, Mountain View

Domestic violence

June 25, 11:41 p.m.: 400 block of Moffett Boulevard, Mountain View

Elder abuse

June 13, 1:37 p.m.: 900 block of Boranda Avenue, Mountain View

June 13, 2:24 p.m.: 2400 block of Villanueva Way, Mountain View

June 14, 11:35 a.m.: 2000 block of Stonehaven Drive, Los Altos

Grand theft

June 13, 3:02 a.m.: 100 block of North Whisman Road, Mountain View

June 13, 6:26 a.m.: 100 block of North Whisman Road, Mountain View

June 13, 10:39 a.m.: 100 block of North Whisman Road, Mountain View

June 15, 9:49 a.m.: 1000 block of Holt Avenue, Los Altos

Health and safety code violation

June 13, 1:29 a.m.: Intersection of Castro and Villa streets, Mountain View

June 15, 5:09 a.m.: 200 block of Hope Street, Mountain View

Identity theft

June 13, 4:46 p.m.: 100 North Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View

Vandalism

June 15, 5:11 p.m.: 200 block of Calderon Avenue, Mountain View

— Christina Casillas

A pickleball palooza



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

A June 14 dedication ceremony for the new pickleball courts at McKenzie Park drew the entire Los Altos City Council, from left, Pete Dailey; Neysa Fligor, third from left; Jonathan Weinberg, fourth from left; Lynette Lee Eng, fourth from right; and Mayor Sally Meadows, far right. Also pictured are, from left, Joe Bassi, Dorit Perry, Dan Mitchell, John Rimbach and Joyce Rimbach. McKenzie has six pickleball courts.

Local organizations team up to support Los Altos main library expansion

Town Crier Report

Visions of Los Altos main library expansion are closer to becoming reality, as local groups and library officials have worked out ideas to extend space.

The result is a proposal to add a sizable outdoor patio and expandable doors to extend the Children's Room and the Orchard Community Room on the San Antonio Road side of the building.

"Given the space constraints for popular programs and events, this is an ideal solution without physically extending the actual building and harming the surrounding grounds," said Freddie Wheeler, member of both the Los Altos Library Commission and the Los Altos Library Endowment (LALE).

As recently as last week, LALE committed to funding the entire \$2 million cost of the project, with support from a major donor. The Chou family contributed \$500,000 through a directed grant specified to be provided through LALE.

"We are so excited to partner with the Santa Clara County Library District and the Los Altos Library to provide the funding for this project. This outdoor patio will complement the existing building design, while increasing green space and improving natural light," said Cindy Hill, president of LALE. "We have been looking for the best way to address and relieve the crowded conditions of the library to better support the community."

The library district is submitting the upgrade proposal for Los Altos City Council consider-

ation at its meeting next Tuesday.

Under the proposal, the patio area will have two access points: a sliding glass door from the Orchard Room featuring a new folding glass NanaWall system, and glass doors that open from the Children's Room.

Once completed, the area will include shade structures and provide needed space for programs and seating. Working in concert with the Los Altos History Museum's Orchard Commons Committee to restore and showcase the Heritage Orchard, apricot trees will be incorporated in the design elements, and there will be views to the surrounding orchard to take advantage of the landscape setting.

"The current plan respects the historical landmarks while creating a brand-new, safe, inviting and desirable destination," Wheeler said.

"This is a dream come true," said Rose Baiza, Los Altos community librarian. "Our programs are very popular and well attended, but we are increasingly limited by space. The outdoor patio will provide an opportunity to create overflow space, as well as more flexibility for planned events."

In the spirit of teamwork, related Los Altos organizations have come together to support the plan. The Library Commission and the Friends of the Library of Los Altos each passed unanimous motions in support of the patio project. In addition, the History Museum submitted a memorandum of understanding.

For more information, visit losaltosca.gov.

LAH urges wildfire preparation

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

After months of rain revitalized the area's emerald hills, they are now turning turn shades of gold and posing a potential fire risk. Los Altos Hills County Fire District officials encouraged community preparedness and cautioned that while fire danger is high every year, this year's season hinges on weather patterns.

From January to May, Santa Clara County experienced its 11th-wettest year to date in the past 129 years, and the county is no longer in drought, according to the National Integrated Drought Information System.

Although the rain has replenished drought-stricken plants and vegetation, vegetation fuel load for wildfires has also increased, said Denise Gluhan, LAHCFD community education and risk reduction manager.

However, Gluhan added, weather patterns will affect the wildfire season the county experiences.

The National Wildlife Coordinating Group reported that there are four critical weather elements that produce "extreme" wildfire behavior: strong wind, unstable air, low relative humidity and drought.

Mitigating measures

Los Altos Hills has taken preventive measures to mitigate the wildfire threat, Gluhan noted, including deploying goats to munch on dry vegetation and reduce the presence of potential fuel for wildfires.

"The annual prescriptive grazing program for vegetation reduction was very successful," she said. "The controlled grazing occurred for approximately 10 days in Byrne Preserve Open Space. There were 445 goats, enclosed by electric fencing, grazing on the steep hillsides. During the grazing, goats consume grasses and lower vegetation including poison oak. The goats are accompanied by herd supervisors and herding dogs."

See LAH, Page 6

News

LA COUNCIL

From Page 1

staff we have,” he said. “I do think historically we’ve been understaffed, and we think that we’ve taken good strides in the past two years to correct that.”

The city gets nearly 80% of its funding from property taxes, a utility user fee, charges for services, sales tax and licenses and permits. Property tax revenue, the largest source of revenue, is estimated to rise 2% in 2023-2024 compared to 2022-2023, generating \$33.3 million.

Utility user fees are expected to bring in \$9.78 million, including sewer services and connection fees. Charges for services, such as building inspections and environmental reviews for projects, is projected to bring in \$6.67 million.

The estimated unassigned, unrestricted general fund beginning balance is \$7.3 million, with \$240,000 in surpluses, equaling \$7.54 million.

With this funding, “The staff is proposing to fund a facility reserve for the aging city facilities and replenish the Internal Services fund and Equipment Replacement Fund,” according to a staff report.

Parks projects

In other action at the June 13 meeting, the council approved more than \$4.5 million in park-in-lieu funds for 2023-2024 parks and recreation projects. Park-in-lieu funds are funds contributed by developers in lieu of contribution of parkland.

The lion’s share of the 2023-2024 fees are budgeted for Hillview and McKenzie dog park construction, with more than \$1 million allocated for Hillview, in the civic center, and \$150,000 for McKenzie. Both have temporary parks as part of a pilot program to gauge public feedback.

Other allocations included \$600,000 for an Emergency Operations Center generator at the community center, \$600,000 for infrastructure upgrades at the Grant Park multipurpose building, \$200,000 for improving the park’s basketball courts and \$242,000 for new playground equipment at Shoup Park.

Sewer rate hikes pass

The council adopted new



CITY OF LOS ALTOS GRAPHIC

This downtown Los Altos Vision Plan map shows the site of the proposed theater.

sewer service rates over the next five years, which include 15% increases over current rates every fiscal year through 2027-2028. Fixed charges will rise to \$340.49 annually per unit in 2023-2024, rising to \$595.50 by 2027-2028. Volumetric rates, based on use, will increase to \$3.30 per hundred cubic feet (748 gallons) in 2023-2024, and rise to \$5.78 by 2027-2028.

Under state Proposition 218, residents were allowed to send letters to the city protesting the rate hikes, but only 337 were received and 6,029 were needed to meet the 50%-plus-one majority needed to overturn the rate increases.

Some residents decried the increases as excessive and burdening those residents in particular who are on fixed incomes. City officials said the figures were calculated through a consultant and verified by staff, with the rates attributed to rising costs of general sewer maintenance, improvement projects and use of the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant.

City Attorney Jolie Houston addressed the question of giving groups, such as seniors, exemptions from the increases.

“The way that Proposition 218 works is, one class of users can’t subsidize another class of users,” she said. “So, we would have to take money out of the general fund to subsidize senior rates or fixed-income rates. If we tried to do it and charge some people more to subsidize the seniors or the fixed income, that would violate 218.”

Theater MOU extended

Council members extended a memorandum of understanding in place between Los Altos Stage Company and the city to “hold” a public parking plaza

while studying the feasibility of building a downtown theater.

The action extends the MOU by a year to November 2025 for Parking Plaza 2 to be considered as a possible landing spot for a 170-seat theater. It does not prohibit current use.

Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng questioned the action, noting that reserving the land conflicted with a surplus land act that prioritized housing development. But according to Houston, there wasn’t a legal issue because a specific project has not been proposed at the site. Council members extended the MOU to give the theater group more time to work on plans.

San Antonio Road project

The council approved \$1.8 million in matching funds needed to take advantage of a \$7.3 million One Bay Area grant for making San Antonio Road more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.

The project, deemed the No. 1 bicycle infrastructure project in the city’s Complete Streets Master Plan, includes protected bike lanes, improved and landscaped medians, more visible crosswalks and other features. Marisa Lee, the city’s transportation services manager, applied for the grant, and its approval marked the largest grant the city of Los Altos has received.

Next up

The council is scheduled at next Tuesday’s meeting to consider an ordinance updating the city’s municipal code to create a stand-alone chapter on leaf blower regulations. The proposed action comes after discussions on improved enforcement of the city’s ban on gas-powered blowers.



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SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Goats help with wildfire prevention last month by eating brush at Byrne Preserve in Los Altos Hills.

LAH

From Page 4

The town also supports the county’s annual Weed Abatement Program and mails letters to town residents in early spring highlighting vegetation management to defend homes against wildfires.

Such preparation includes removing hazardous diseased, dead, damaged and dying vegetation from areas surrounding homes. Gluhan also urged residents to take advantage of LAHCFD’s Defensible Space Brushing Chipping and Debris Removal services as well as the monthly brush drop-off at Foothill College.

LAHCFD also provides residents with free home ignition zone assessments, which offer residents steps they can take to make the extended, intermediate and immediate zones of their homes more wildfire safe.

“Being wildfire prepared and individual preparedness is essential for all residents in Los Altos Hills,” Gluhan said. “Regionally, fire does not respect city jurisdictional boundaries or city limits – it will burn equally across the landscape. All homes and property must be prepared.”

In addition to creating a landscape that deters wildfire spread, Gluhan said maintaining roads for resident evacuation and fire vehicles remains a priority.

“Fire vehicles need well-

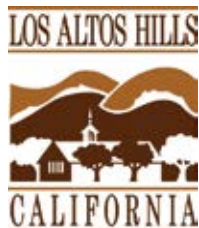
maintained roads to access areas in the event of fire,” she said. “Public and private roads need to be managed to allow larger vehicles, like fire engines, access to homes and properties. Emergency vehicle access roads, aka ‘Fire Roads,’ need to be available for first responders in the event of emergencies. These roads should not be blocked or used for private vehicle travel unless directed by officials.”

The town is currently working on a project dedicated to cleaning up Page Mill Road from the Arastradero Road intersection to Foothills Nature Preserve. The project is focused on removing dead and brown vegetation, creating a buffer space along the evacuation route to prevent rapid fire spread.

“Wildfires have been increasing in California in the past 10-plus years,” Gluhan said. “A holistic approach of working together as a whole community is needed to reduce risk in LAH and increase neighborhood safety. Residents need to be ready and prepared, and communities need to be resilient.”

For more information on preparation, visit sccfiresafe.org/prepare.

For more information on the Page Mill Road Evacuation Route Project, visit sccfiresafe.org/projects/past-projects/page-mill-rd-evacuation-route.



Town of Los Altos Hills



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ON STANDING COMMITTEES

Los Altos Hills encourages and welcomes residents to become involved in the local community, and contribute to the success of the Town. Being a member of a Town committee is a great opportunity to connect your passion with public service and use your unique skills to benefit the community.

Terms on the committees are four years. Specific information on the committees, including membership eligibility, meeting times/locations, scope of authority, current members and the application form is available on the Town’s website: www.losaltoshills.ca.gov, under “Government/Standing Committees.” The following committees currently have openings:

- Emergency Preparedness & Response (2)
- History (3)
- Environmental Design & Protection (2)
- Open Space (2)
- Finance & Investment (2)
- Library Commission (1)
- Senior Commission (2)
- Environmental Initiatives (1)
- Parks & Recreation (4)

For more information, please contact Deborah Padovan, City Clerk (650) 947-2513 or dpadovan@losaltoshills.ca.gov. The appointments are scheduled for the August 17, 2023 City Council meeting. To be considered, please submit your application by **Thursday, August 10, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.**

SCULPTURE

From Page 1

“Solar System,” is installed at the Mountain View Civic Center Plaza.

Pascal Beran said the two started with the idea of the kelp forest, but the piece kept evolving.

“That idea was their last scuba dive was off Santa Cruz Island in the kelp forest,” Moore said. “We all loved diving in there – it’s like the Serengeti underwater. It’s an incredibly diverse and critical habitat.”

Moore later came up with the idea of adding the birds.

“It ended up taking a lot longer because she kept having these great ideas and I was actually really pleased, because having the birds up above separated it, allowed me to suspend the other fish upwards and have it be a separate kind of realm of motion,” Pascal Beran said. “It was really interesting because it drew on a lot of the different kinds of techniques and technologies that I’ve worked with in different pieces.”

“I’m a visual person,” Moore

said. “I had this idea of something that would memorialize them in a visual way. But I always had in mind that it would be something that I would only be the temporary caretaker for, that it would move to some other marine center somewhere in a public place.”

“I expected it to be a mish-mash, but I was really excited myself,” Pascal Beran said. “I turned around one day when I was working on it, and I was like, ‘Oh, my God. This really does have this energy, which shoots up through to the sky, and it’s really this cohesive whole, which was very exciting for me. I’m so honored to have been given this commission.”

Giving nature

Giving – of her money, time and expertise – has long been a part of Moore’s modus operandi. Passionate about the environment, she boasts a long and varied resume of achievements.

She founded the Living Classroom nonprofit 15 years ago to bring garden-based education to the local public



SHELLY BOWERS/
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Kelp forest creatures are present in Vicki Moore’s sculpture.

schools. She currently serves as executive director. She’s worked for several nonprofits, including Greenbelt Alliance, Environmental Volunteers and the California Native Garden Foundation. Moore also is helping with Kara, a nonprofit that provides grief counseling.

She’s donated to numerous environmental organizations and established scholarships – in tribute to Scott and Kendra.

Her latest is a Science for Good Scholarship, supporting students in science and engineering fields committed to taking on environmental or societal challenges. This particular fund was inspired by Scott, a high school physics teacher who went into teaching after a career in hardware engineering. Moore said her husband was “passionate about making science relevant in the lives of his students and was keenly aware of the application of science to resolve a wide range of issues facing the world.”

There’s also a Kendra Chan Conservation Fellowship at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that Moore established. Kendra worked as a biologist for the agency.

“She’s a phenomenal person,” said Pascal Beran, who, like Moore, has interest and talents in both arts and sciences. Also, like Moore, she lost a husband.

“This could be devastating for most people and it was for me, you know, this kind of life-changing event – and she transformed it into all this positiv-

ity,” Pascal Beran said. “It was really lovely to take the journey with her. More so on this piece than any other piece, it was a collaboration – I was really inspired by her.”

Moore clearly sees Scott and Kendra in the new sculpture, “in particular when the breeze comes through,” she said. “It’s more like, there they are. Life is good, life continues, you know. It’s a joyful thing. ... Just being in these kinds of environments, being out in nature is my survival mechanism.”

Los Altos resident Pilar Parducci, who attended the May 6 dedication event, was impressed.

“I think it is a magnificent kinetic creation, and understanding the depth of the celebration of life it represents amplified its beauty,” she said. “Even though I did not have the pleasure of knowing Scott and Kendra, I was deeply moved by the story, process and journey that fed the incarnation of this tribute, and I think it is lovely that Vicki is intending, at some point in the future, to share it in a public setting.”

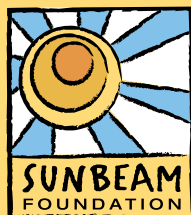
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Comment

Letters to the Editor

Cuesta speed bumps doing their job

Yay for the new speed bumps on Cuesta Drive. Most vehicles can comfortably cruise over them at steady 25, with no need to brake except for stop signs. Anyone caught weaving around the bumps faces a ticket much worse than minor speeding.

Drivers Ed taught us that the yellow diamond "15" signs are not speed limits. They are just like speed advisory signs posted at freeway connector ramps.

Of course, Cuesta is a main access road, and its residents must expect to see a few thousand cars pass each day. But why should those drivers expect to go faster than 25? How could the safe speed on narrow Cuesta be higher than that on Arboleda, with similar physical characteristics?

Richard Feldman
Los Altos

Electric blowers benefit lungs, ears

It's been quiet around our house since our gardener converted to all electric equipment. He now uses an electric mower, an electric trimmer and, best of all, an electric blower. The batteries allow him to work the entire day and then recharge them overnight.

With a California energy rebate, his cost was under \$2,000

for the purchase. The health benefits to him and to us are substantial: cleaner air for our lungs and lower decibels for our ears.

Let's concentrate on encouraging homeowners to get involved.

Jack Tooley
Los Altos

Unsafe intersection raises concern

I am writing to you regarding my concerns about high-speed traffic at the intersection of Fremont Avenue, Berry Avenue and Riverside Drive. This concerns me because the intersection is dangerous and frequently used by pedestrians, cyclists, runners and children going to and from school.

I have observed many distracted drivers coming around the bend on Fremont Avenue through the intersection at high speeds and with no signals. It is a highly trafficked area near Rancho Shopping Center.

I would like to raise community awareness about this issue facing our town, and advocate for potential solutions such as a roundabout to slow traffic down at this intersection.

I hope the city of Los Altos can take action to address this before a tragic accident occurs.

Jack Boublik-Whiteley
Los Altos

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Pictured here are Mary and John Hope, the proud new owners of this home under construction on Fallen Leaf Lane in 1953. The purchase price was just \$18,000. John was the city's first paid clerk.

Thanks, Wynne!

Other Voices

Special to the Town Crier

Principal Wynne Satterwhite recently retired from Los Altos High School after 19 years at the helm. School boards don't ever get to evaluate principals, as that is the official role of the superintendent. That said, we current and former members of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Board of Trustees who had the good fortune to work with her as principal feel compelled to remark on Wynne's excellence over these past 38 years in MVLA.

School environment:

Wynne's presence at Los Altos High has truly made it an incredible place to both work and go to school. Throughout her tenure as principal, Wynne has consistently demonstrated her unwavering dedication to her students. Her commitment to academic excellence, as well as her focus on students' social-emotional well-being, has created a safe and nurturing environment for all.

Campus culture: Wynne is at the heart of the culture at Los Altos High. Under her leadership, Los Altos has developed a positive school culture that is visible in every aspect of the school community. She has fostered a family-like atmosphere where students, staff and families feel supported and valued. Wynne has created an

inclusive environment where every student is accepted for who they are, regardless of their background or circumstances. She knows every student's name, calls them by their names, supports them and makes corrections with kindness. This has had a tremendous impact on the school community, as evidenced by the many success stories of students who have thrived under her leadership.

Operations: Navigating a complex high school campus is no easy feat, but Wynne has done so with remarkable skill and dedication. She has worked tirelessly to ensure that the school is running smoothly, managing everything from budgets and schedules to discipline and safety concerns. Her work ethic and attention to detail have made her an invaluable asset to the school, and she has inspired her staff to go above and beyond for their students.

Student impact: It is impossible to quantify Wynne's impact on the thousands of young people who have passed through the halls of Los Altos High. She has shaped countless lives and left an indelible mark on the school community. Wynne has dedicated her career to serving

the students, families and staff of Los Altos High – her impact cannot be overstated.

Broader district work:

Wynne is welcoming, open and a strong communicator. She wants board members to see her campus and walks with us to show both the bright spots and the challenges. She has supported campuswide efforts to "go green" and moved beyond words to actions. In 2021, Los Altos High was selected as a National Green Ribbon School, one of only five schools from California. This huge accomplishment, just one of so many, would not be possible without Wynne's support of her students and staff. Wynne served on many district committees to support MVLA throughout the years and has also been a mentor to those around her as they have progressed through their own careers.

Thus concludes our first-ever evaluation of an MVLA principal. Five stars in every category. As Wynne heads into retirement, please join us in saying thank you to this pillar of our community, beloved leader in our schools and amazing advocate for all of our students.

Wynne, we wish you all the best!

Co-signed by all MVLA Board of Trustees members spanning 2004-present (19 years of Wynne at Los Altos High).

Los Altos Town Crier

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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 Los Altos, 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, \$60; seniors, \$50; out of county, \$70.

Community

Los Altos youth bitten by acting bug to overcome deadly food allergies

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

It used to be that Chase Nakayama's more than 20 life-threatening food allergies were at the center of his life. Now, his life is blossoming as community outreach and acting have taken center stage.

Just last month, the Los Altos resident and 14-year-old incoming Mountain View High School student attended the Cannes Film Festival in France after appearing in two short films with the Young Actors' Theatre Camp. Both were screened at the festival.

"One of them I'm a star in – it's called 'Hiccup.' It's about this young boy (and) ... this person who's, like, giving people hiccups – and I got them," Chase said. "And it's about all his friends that help him overcome the hiccups – it's very disruptive to his daily life. So, they're able to overcome that together."

The film's theme of perseverance and support runs parallel to real life for Chase, who was really ill at a young age.

"We couldn't figure out why," said his mother, Teresa Long. "When he was

a toddler, he picked up a pair of sunglasses his older sibling had been wearing and immediately broke out in a rash that made his eyes swell shut and had trouble breathing. His sibling had been eating pistachios nuts and touched the glasses. Thankfully, a dose of Benadryl kept him breathing until we reached the hospital, where he received life-saving epinephrine. From that moment on, we have been on the allergy roller coaster."

Childhood was tough as Chase adapted to a strict food regimen and emergency plans, and people around him had to be educated on what kinds of food represented potential threats.

"The stress was nearly unbearable," Long recalled. "A simple outing to a movie, a play date or even a trip to a playground was fraught with potential life-ending, cross-contact situations."

Stage-struck

But around age 8, Chase auditioned for Peninsula Youth Theatre's "The Hobbit." He caught the acting bug.

"I always love to perform," he said. "It's always kind of been one of those



COURTESY OF TERESA LONG

Chase Nakayama participates in this year's Cannes Film Festival in May.

things that I really enjoyed."

More film work lies ahead for Chase, as well as the Young Actors' Theatre Camp. He'll be attending the three-

week summer camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains, working on "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time."

"With theater, he really found his voice," Long said. "He learned how to put himself out there and take risks."

Last year, Chase appeared in three musicals, three plays and five short films.

"This camp has enabled him to experience overnight camp in an allergy-safe environment," Long said. "For the first time, he was able to attend an overnight camp without a food chaperone. The experience truly changed his life."

"Chase and his family worked with YATC diligently through basic education and wonderful advocacy, and we made Chase's experience one of complete safety for his health and his artistic soul," said Shawn Ryan, YATC co-founding director. "It takes a special kiddo like Chase to create this amazing world of the Young Actors' Theatre Camp, and we are so grateful to have

See CHASE, Page 10

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CHASE From Page 1

Chase and the Nakayama Family as part of our CampYATC family.”

Helping others

Chase also enjoys volunteering. He volunteers at farms, feeding horses. He is currently making friends with a recovering racehorse, building trust with a rescue animal that is not used to trusting many people. Over the course of a year, he has helped transform the horse into a happy, healthy animal.

“Volunteering has taught him how it feels to be part of something collaborative, focused on a common goal and how important it is to be kind,” Long said.

Since he was 8, Chase has raised money for hurricane

victims, sent letters of support to natural disaster victims and packed food boxes for the homeless. The Town Crier ran a story in 2019 about Chase collecting toys for a holiday fundraiser for 500 kids who were victims of Northern California wildfires.

“There was an issue, and I just thought of ways to help,” he said. “We can’t fix everything in the world, but we can definitely help others.”

The food allergies have been a struggle, but they’ve helped Chase become stronger in other ways.

“Chase had to mature much earlier than he should have to have any autonomy over his life,” Long said. “Chase has had a good deal of therapy to deal with the stress, fear and anxiety that goes along with such severe allergies. His therapy was

not limited to working with a therapist, but also included volunteering to help others, equine therapy and acting.”

“There are times when everyone else gets to be eating the best croissant I’ve ever seen in my life, and I’m over here having my banana,” Chase said. “But, you know, am I going to eat a croissant and die, or do I just want to eat a banana and live? (It’s about) balancing out my choices, just understanding what the reality would be, just knowing to make the right decisions for myself.

“In the end, I try to do the right thing. And like to help people. And, you know, self-care is key, for sure. Taking care of yourself is very important because you have to be in a (condition) where you can help others.”

Community Briefs

Bloodmobile visits LAH Thursday

Fremont Hills Country Club in partnership with the Stanford Blood Center’s Bloodmobile is conducting a blood drive in honor of World Donor Day noon to 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the Fremont Hills Country Club main parking lot, 12889 Viscaino Place, Los Altos Hills.

Fremont Hills club members said they welcome “our sister clubs and the surrounding Los Altos Hills community to join us in this act of solidarity to save lives.”

Cookies and juice will be provided to those who donate.

Registered donors will be entered in a drawing to win tickets for four premium seats behind home plate at a San Francisco Giants game. Also, each registered donor will receive a \$15 eGift card, with many options to choose from.

Donors are required to register online and select a time at sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/12252. Use Sponsor Code 2582.

For eligibility requirements and more information, email Clayton Toller at ctoller@stanford.edu or visit stanfordbloodcenter.org/donate-blood.

Amateur Radio event set for this weekend

The Foothills Amateur Radio Society is scheduled to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio at Amateur Radio Field Day 11 a.m. Saturday to 11 a.m. Sunday.

The Field Day operation will be set up in a field owned by Maryknoll Residence at 23000 Cristo Rey Drive, located directly across the street from Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve in Los Altos.

Visitors are welcome to observe from noon to 7 p.m. Saturday.

FARS members will operate three radio stations during the 24 hours and attempt to make as many contacts as possible with amateur radio stations throughout North and South America.

Amateur Radio Field Day is an exercise in emergency radio communications that starts with the setup of radio stations under field conditions. Amateur radio operators erect antennas, assemble radio stations and power up electric generators in an effort to simulate conditions during an emergency.

For more information, visit fars.k6ya.org.

Garden Club spotlights growing greens

This month’s Garden Club of Los Altos meeting is scheduled 12:30 p.m. Tuesday at Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave.


The meeting will feature a talk on “Growing Leafy Greens, Herbs (and Flowers) in Small Containers,” with Christy Ross, founder of Planted Places, who previously designed living, planted walls for her clients. She migrated to planting edible greens and herbs and designed a vertical system for growing food while optimizing water use.

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

Downtown hosts summer Fun Fridays

Los Altos First Fridays and Dogma are co-hosting Sizzling Summer Fun Friday events in downtown Los Altos in June, July and August.

See BRIEFS, Page 11



City of LOS ALTOS

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

June 27, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.
In Person and Virtual
Note - This is not the Final Agenda

Members of the Public may join and participate in the Council meeting at
Telephone: 1-669-444-9171 // Webinar ID: 858 2927 8207// Passcode: 302501
<https://losaltosca-gov.zoom.us/j/85829278207?pwd=VkJpQIRJdlIbzlzQ0I3WUZMVTUZZz09>

TO PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON: Members of the public may also participate in person by being present at the Los Altos Council Chamber at Los Altos City Hall located at 1 N. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA.

TO PARTICIPATE VIA THE LINK ABOVE - Members of the public will need to have a working microphone on their device and must have the latest version of ZOOM available at this link: <https://www.zoom.us/> download. To request to speak please use the “Raise hand” feature located at the bottom of the screen.

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.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Accept the Treasurer’s Report for the Month Ended March 31, 2023
2. Adopt an Ordinance and Resolution for Sanitary Sewer Rates, and find that the approval of the ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15273 and none of the circumstances in Section 15300.2 applies
3. Adopt a Resolution accepting completion of the CIPP Corrosion Rehabilitation, Project WW01005; and authorize the Environmental Services and Utilities Department Director to record a Notice of Completion as required by law
4. Authorize City Manager to Execute Professional Services Agreement for a Full Cost Allocation Plan, Development Fee Study, and Development Impact Fee Study to Matrix Consulting Group as the most qualified responsive consultant for project total not-to-exceed \$198,885 and approve the City Manager the authority up to 10% contingency if needed, in the amount not-to-exceed \$19,888.50
5. Approve and adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with R3 Consulting Group, Inc. for On-Call Solid Waste Support Services for FY 2023/2024
6. Adopt a Resolution identifying street maintenance projects to be funded by Senate Bill 1 (SB-1) Road Repair and Accountability Act; consider finding the adoption of the resolution exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities)
7. Accept the recommended Youth Commission Interview Subcommittee appointments to the Los Altos Youth Commission for FY 23/24
8. Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the agreement with IMPEC Group for janitorial services in the amount of \$839,232 for two years on behalf of the City
9. Adopt a Resolution approving the allocation of the City’s Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding to the Hetch Hetchy Path Enhancements and Access Improvements Project
10. Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the agreement with Grassroots Ecology in the total amount of \$191,000 for a two-year term (\$95,500 per year) to manage and restore Redwood Grove Nature Preserve.
11. Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-year agreement, totaling \$225,000, for orchard maintenance with the Orchard Commons Committee

PUBLIC HEARING

12. Introduce and waive further reading of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos adding chapter 11.14 to the Los Altos municipal code creating standards for mechanical equipment, this ordinance is exempt from environmental review pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the state guidelines implementing the California environmental quality act of 1970
13. Adoption by reference the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code with certain local amendments, and find that the ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to the provisions of Section 15061(b)(3) of Division 6 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations

DISCUSSION ITEMS

14. Introduce and waive further reading of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos amending chapter 6.16 and adding chapter 11.15 to the Los Altos municipal code creating a standalone chapter for Leaf Blower Regulations, this ordinance is exempt from environmental review pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the state guidelines implementing the California environmental quality act of 1970
15. Approve Los Altos Police Department ALPR Policy #462

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



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Community

Classic car show comes to Arts & Wine Festival

By Adrienne Mitchel

Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

Car enthusiasts will rejoice at the news a classic car show is coming to downtown Los Altos.

For the first time, a classic car show will be a part of the Los Altos Arts & Wine Festival, scheduled July 8 and 9 in the downtown area.

Maria Crowder, a volunteer at the Los Altos Village Association, was inspired by the Fall Festival, a defunct Los Altos community event that included a classic car show.

"I would take my boys (to the Fall Festival) and we would go and wouldn't look at any booths, we would look at the cars," Crowder said. "Everyone I talked to about that era, they're like, 'Oh, I miss the car show.'"

Reitmeir's Werkstatt, an auto repair shop in

Los Altos since 1966, is the sponsor of the car show. Owner Jeff Reitmeir plans to bring a classic Volkswagen and a Porsche. He said looking at classic cars is a good way to reflect on history.

"Classic cars have a different sense of style – they kind of tell an era, where we were in life," Reitmeir said. "A lot of people grew up with these cars, so they have an emotional tie to them, too."

As for Crowder, a self-proclaimed "car fanatic," she'll be bringing her 1977 Porsche 911S Targa.

"I think it's fun to have something different," she said. "I'm a total car-lover geek, and I think it would just be a fun element on a hot summer day."

Crowder is looking for more classic cars to display at the event. The entrance fee for both days at the festival is \$50 and includes a light breakfast. To display your classic car, call (408) 391-7470 or email mariac@latc.com.

BRIEFS

From Page 10

Activities include pop-up live performances from eight bands around the downtown area on Fridays beginning this week.

For more information, call Jamie Lucia at (650) 823-3315 or visit losaltosfirstfriday.org.

Pioneer women focus of museum display

Illuminating the hardships, joys and lives of women pioneers in California, the exhibition "Her Side of the Story: Tales of California Pioneer Women" is set for display at

the Los Altos History Museum through July 23. The traveling exhibition from Exhibit Envoy features 30 first-person accounts collected from women who journeyed by land or sea to settle throughout California prior to Jan. 1, 1854.

The Los Altos History Museum is located at 51 S. San Antonio Road. Hours are noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. Admission is free.

For more information on Exhibit Envoy events, visit exhibitenvoy.org.

For more information on the exhibition, visit losaltoshistory.org/PioneerWomen.

Apricot STEM Fair promotes resiliency

The Los Altos History Museum's Apricot STEM Fair offers activities for all ages focusing on how STEM fields can create a more climate-resilient world. The interactive event is scheduled 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 1 in the museum's courtyard, 51 S. San Antonio Road.

The event aims to shed light on how STEM drives sustainable practices, encourage environmental stewardship and contribute to climate resilience.

For more information, visit losaltoshistory.org/events/apricot-stem-fair-3.



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Schools

Los Altos Kiwanis Club scholarships support nine first-generation students

By Jennah Pendleton
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Dozens gathered at the Neutra House Conference Center June 12 to celebrate the nine recipients of Kiwanis Club of Los Altos scholarships. The winners represented all four Mountain View Los Altos High School District schools, including, for the first time, the MVLA Adult School.

Each graduate received a \$3,200 scholarship that will fund his or her first year of tuition and supplies at any accredited institution. Many students are slated to attend Foothill or De Anza college next year. For many of the scholarship recipients, the money was hugely influential to their ability to attend college, as most are economically disadvantaged and will be first-generation college students.

“Our goal is to give students whose families haven’t gone to college before an opportunity to jump-start their education,” Kiwanis director Peter Bergsman said.

This year’s recipients are Khadiyatou Cisse and Avila Hernandez of Mountain View High; Erika Lara of Los Altos High;



JENNAH PENDLETON/TOWN CRIER

Ying Zhang, Anaiyah Talaga, Jason Angeles Arreola, Grant Mosleh, Jaime Moreno Pena Jr. and Lavina Pulu were winners of Kiwanis Club of Los Altos scholarships which will go toward funding their first years in higher education.

Anaiyah Talaga, Lavina Pulu, Jason Angeles Arreola and Grant Mosleh of Alta Vista High; and Jaime Moreno Pena Jr. and Ying Zhang of the MVLA Adult School.

Each of the scholarship winners demonstrated academic achievement and a
See KIWANIS, Page 13

MVHS student’s films aim to reduce stigma around mental health

By Prisha Mohapatra
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Local teen Aria Rani Sindledecker has done it again. For the second year in row, the Mountain View resident has won an award in C-SPAN Classroom’s Student-Cam documentary contest.

Sindledecker’s latest documentary, “Peer-to-Peer Movement: Students Saving Lives,” won second place in April. The year before, she placed first in the same contest for “Stigma-Free Nation: Pathway to Parity.”

The films – and her honorable-mention work in 2021, “Power to Save a Life” – have something in common: They all address mental health.

“I’ve been a mental health advocate and activist for three years now, and the thing is, I never stop learning about it,” the incoming Mountain View High sophomore said.

Sindledecker said her motivation for promoting mental

health stems from her mom telling her stories about her anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder from a young age. She learned from her mom that by listening to other people’s stories, one can help spread awareness about the importance of mental health.

Platform for change

The pandemic also incentivized Sindledecker, who noted that many of her peers suffered from isolation and mental health concerns.

“I use film as a platform for change, so when I win these awards, there are more eyes on these topics, and there are more eyes on my ideas as well as more eyes on these voices,” she said.

The 14-year-old’s passion for being in front of the camera started in her seventh-grade classroom when she was an anchor on the school morning announcements. Sindledecker has



COURTESY OF ARIA RANI SINDLEDECKER

Mountain View resident Aria Rani Sindledecker is a nationally recognized documentary filmmaker at just 14 years old.

also self-published two novels.

Along with all this, she has partnered with the nonprofit organization Worldreader, home to a library of more than 500 online books, to give an Anganwadi school in India access to the resources. Sindledecker donated the \$3,000 she earned from the

books and contest awards to Worldreader.

Sindledecker also finds time to intern at UC San Francisco, where she is part of a team working on confidential mental health research projects.

See FILMMAKER, Page 13

Schools Briefs

Mtn. View hosts Pride event for youth

The city of Mountain View has scheduled a Pride Month celebration for students in grades 6-12 4-6 p.m. Friday at The View Teen Center, 263 Escuela Ave.

The family-friendly event will feature a scavenger hunt, giveaways, rainbow crafts, sno-cones and rainbow snacks.

Admission is open to people of all orientations, identities, races, ethnicities and abilities.

For more information on the event, call (650) 903-6404, email theviewteencenter@mountainview.gov or visit tinyurl.com/e8h4zrrt.

MVLA Scholars seeks AVID mentors

MVLA Scholars is recruiting local residents to mentor students in the Advancement Via Individual Determination program at Mountain View and Los Altos high schools as they navigate the college admissions process.

The goal of the AVID program is to prepare underrepresented students for success in college.

In their senior year, with help from their teachers and mentors, AVID students research colleges and majors, write essays, complete college applications and apply for financial aid and scholarships. Mentors who work with juniors focus on exploring career options, researching and selecting colleges, building resumes and writing essays. The mentor program for juniors is offered only at Mountain View High.

Mentors must commit for the full school year, meeting weekly with their students at their schools during an AVID class period.

No college counseling experience is necessary; training and ongoing support will be provided by the AVID teachers, college and career counselors at each high school and the MVLA Scholars program.

The greatest need for mentors is in the program for juniors at Mountain View High.

For specific AVID class times and more information, email Dale Tritschler at daletritschler@gmail.com.

Schools

FILMMAKER

From Page 12

“I’m really fascinated by the brain and how it works,” she said. “I’m in awe of the research and studies that my mentors at UCSF are submerged in to cre-

ate new treatments for those suffering... (They) are getting to the root of the challenges such as (Lou Gehrig’s disease) and autism and someday may find the key to why they occur, (and) I really hope to be part of one of those discoveries someday.”

Aspiring to reduce the stigma surrounding youth mental health in the world today, Sindledecker hopes to help empower young people to speak up about their struggles.

“I know adults mean well, but I often think they do forget that we, the youth,

are the future,” she said. “Although our foundations may be different, we are in a youth mental health crisis, and youth do understand each other best.”

To watch her films and for more information on Sindledecker, visit ariarani.com.



JENNAH PENDLETON/TOWN CRIER

Recent MVLA Adult School graduate Jaime Moreno Pena Jr. addresses the Kiwanis Club of Los Altos at last week’s scholarship awards lunch, thanking members for their support.

KIWANIS

From Page 12

commitment to their communities in the face of adverse circumstances. Many of the students celebrated were ethnic minorities and/or spoke English as a second language.

Moreno Pena Jr. was one such student who started at the MVLA Adult School to improve his English. When he worked his way through the highest level of ESL, he thought it might be time to earn his GED alongside his father, Jaime Moreno Pena Sr., who is also enrolled at the school. While completing his GED, Moreno Pena Jr. set his sights on network administration, a line of work he plans to pursue after earning undergraduate and graduate degrees.

“Teachers are meant to be in the background – our greatest joy is to bask in the glow of our students as they ascend, and Jaime is an excellent example of that,” said MVLA Adult School English teacher Charles Smith. “And from day one, there was no needing to motivate him, needing to engage him. He took ownership of his learning and his opportunity, and what more could you ask of a student?”

Many scholarship winners

also took control of their education and showed a commitment to academic excellence while at Alta Vista, the district’s continuation school. Four of this year’s winners came from Alta Vista.

The nine recipients represent a wide range of future career paths. Some, like Moreno Pena Jr., are looking at careers in tech, while others, like Zhang and Talagah, are seeking careers in the medical field. Others are not entirely sure of their career paths, but are excited to continue their educations.

At last week’s lunch, the students thanked their families, teachers and the Kiwanis Club for helping them reach their potential as students.

“I want to say thank you to all of you, because this is one of those opportunities that you see only once in life,” Moreno Pena Jr. said.

The scholarships are made possible by Kiwanis Club fundraisers, including the annual Kiwanis Christmas Tree Lot, as well as direct donations from local residents.

To donate to next year’s scholarship fund and for more information, visit losaltoskiwanis.org.

If you have an idea for Schools or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Jennah Pendleton at jennahp@latc.com.

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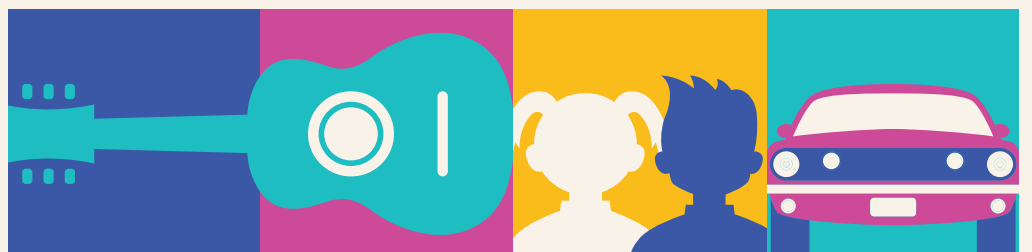


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Sports

Sports on the Side

Hills native Berger honored for golf

Los Altos Hills native James Berger, a senior on the Carleton College men's golf team, was named to the All-Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Team last month. The Gunn High graduate was ninth among MIAC players, with an average score of 75.5 this year. He posted seven top-10 results and a pair of top-two finishes, including medalist honors at the season-ending Saint John's Spring Invitational.

Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High needs a varsity coach for boys tennis; junior varsity coaches for boys soccer, girls soccer and badminton; and a diving coach. If interested, email athletic director Michelle Noeth at michelle.noeth@mvla.net. Mountain View High needs a varsity girls lacrosse coach, a JV head coach for girls volleyball and an assistant coach for cross-country. If interested, email athletic director Tim Lugo at tim.lugo@mvla.net. St. Francis High seeks varsity assistants for cross-country and girls water polo; JV head coaches for cross-country, field hockey, boys water polo and girls water polo; JV assistant coaches for field hockey, girls volleyball and boys water polo; a freshman head coach for field hockey; and a freshman assistant coach for girls volleyball. To apply and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/5fxum2ex.

City of Mtn. View offers open gym

The Mountain View Recreation Division's Teen Open Gym, free and open to the city's middle and high school students, is slated 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Whisman Sports Center, 1500 Middlefield Road. The weekly events offer youth a place to play basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer. Participants must show their student IDs at the door. For more information, call (650) 903-6331 or visit tinyurl.com/4v6n24vc.

Sprinting & serving

LA's Kasso gains attention for her work on the track and in the community

By Pete Borello
Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

Before Paige Kasso became a standout sprinter at Los Altos High, she played youth soccer. Her family soon observed, however, that a vital piece of soccer equipment was preventing the elementary school student from truly enjoying the game.

"My mom said the ball got in the way, and that I just wanted to run," said Kasso, who graduated from Los Altos June 8.

So run, she did. Kasso took up cross-country in junior high but soon changed course again.

"I got exercise-induced asthma in seventh grade," she said. "That's when I realized distance was not for me and I changed to sprints."

Excelling in races from 100 to 800 meters at Egan Junior High, Kasso had finally found her sport.

"I just like running," the Los Altos resident said. "Track is a lot of fun."

Eager to join the track and field team once she got to Los Altos High, Kasso faced another hurdle: the pandemic.

"We had only one meet my

freshman year, and my sophomore season was also shortened because of COVID," she recalled. "I spent that season trying to match my time (in the 100-meter dash) from my freshman year, and I was a millisecond off."

Motivated to improve

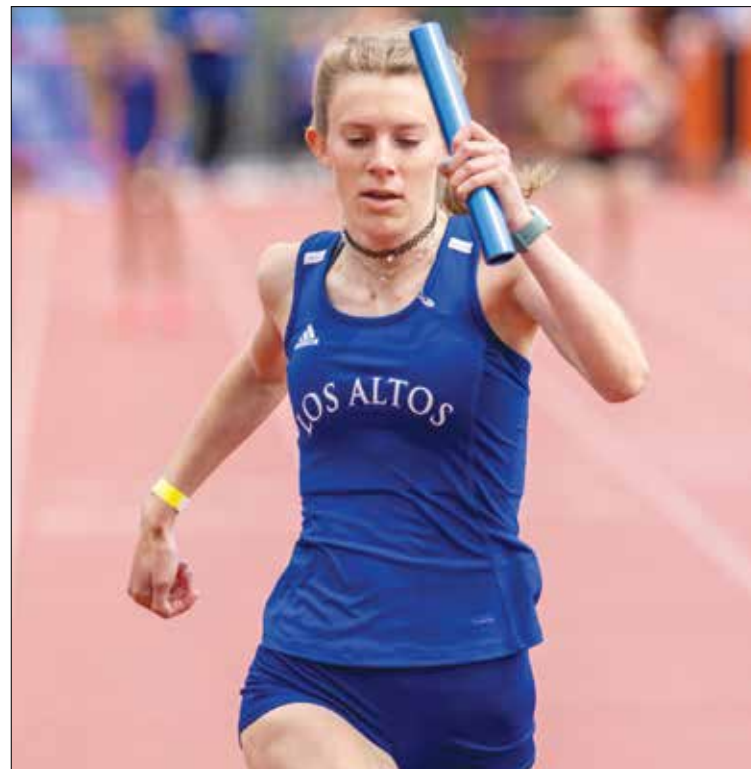
As a junior, she was more determined than ever to run the race in under 13.78 seconds.

"I came back angry and wanted to beat that time," Kasso said. "I dropped a second and kept that passion this year."

It showed. Kasso ran even faster this season, clocking a personal-best 12.54 at the CCS Top 8 meet in April, and won the 100 at the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League championships the next month.

"Paige is an inspiration, as she has worked hard and steadily improved over the years," Los Altos co-head coach Steph MacKenzie said after the league meet. "She was sixth at SCVAL last year and is now champion."

Kasso qualified for the Central Coast Section finals in the 100 and 200, running a personal-record 26.23 in the latter. While she didn't qualify for



MALCOLM SLANEY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Paige Kasso runs the anchor leg of Los Altos High's 4x100-meter relay team at last month's SCVAL championships.

the state meet in either event, she did advance as part of the Eagles' 4x100 relay team that placed second at CCS and first at the league finals.

"That was such a cool experience," Kasso said. "You get to see the best in the state run and compete against them. The stands were packed, and it's scary at first, but I told my teammates to focus on what we've been doing the entire season."

Kasso anchored the relay, which also included Megan

MacKenzie, Daniela Hughes and Ananya Vaswani. They combined to run a 49.20 – their second-fastest time of the season – to place 24th in the preliminaries.

That race marked the end of Kasso's season, but not her track career. She is bound for Linfield College in Oregon, where she plans to run for the team and major in digital art.

"I'm excited about it," Kasso said.

See **SPRINTER**, Page 15

Los Altos teen sets three state records in powerlifting and earns No. 1 ranking

By Annabelle Eaton
Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

Just months before he competed in his first powerlifting tournament early this spring, local high school freshman Austin Harrison made it his goal to set a state record. He exceeded that goal, setting three records en route to his No. 1 ranking in California.

"I was looking at the California state records and I (thought) ... I'm not too far off from this. I might as well just keep going with it," he said.

Three months later, the Los Altos resident set records in squat, bench press and deadlift in his division (age 15, 67.5 kgs) at the Make Your Own Luck Open Tournament in San Luis Obispo.

Harrison was introduced to powerlifting when his family set up a home gym in their garage during quarantine.

"(My parents) got a whole rack and set it up in our garage," he said. "That was what

made it really accessible for me to just start and then I just found out that I really liked it, so I just kept going with it."

Harrison did not start powerlifting to compete in the sport, but he is competitive by nature. The Bellarmine Prep student said he enjoyed arm wrestling with his older brother in elementary school and has tried several other sports.

"My brother played baseball for a while and I picked that up for nine years," Harrison said. "I did water polo. I played soccer. I actually did a ton of sports, but I was not really good at any of them."

Then powerlifting came along. Harrison had found his fit.

"I remember just how bad of a feeling it was to dedicate yourself to something that you wouldn't do if you didn't feel like you had to," he said. "When I started wrestling and lifting, I was so much happier to be doing something I actually love rather than just something I have to do."

See **LIFTER**, Page 15



COURTESY OF AUSTIN HARRISON

Austin Harrison of Los Altos competes in the Make Your Own Luck Open Tournament in San Luis Obispo, where he set three state records in his division.

Sports

SPRINTER

From Page 14

Scholarship for service

Kasso is also elated to receive a \$9,000 college scholarship from the late Hardy Jones' fund at Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation in recognition of her service and school projects. She grew up down the street from Dr. Jones, an orthopedic surgeon and sculptor who died in 2016, and wife Jane Bryan-Jones.

Kasso wrote a picture book about Dr. Jones, "The Man Behind the Sculptures," for her design class at Freestyle Academy of Communications Arts and Technology.

"I started tearing up," Kasso said of learning she won the scholarship. "I knew how much the book meant to (Bryan-Jones), but I didn't really realize the impact it had."

Kasso received the scholarship at the Eagle Court of Honor ceremony held June 3 at Covington School,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAIGE KASSO

Paige Kasso receives recognition at an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony, left, for her Eagle Scout project – a sensory path she installed at Covington School, right.

where she installed her Eagle Scout project over spring break. A member of Troop 201, Covington alumna Kasso created a sensory path that features hopscotch and other activities for children who follow it.

"It's a way for kids to get their energy out when they're on a break from class," said Kasso, who estimated that she spent 140 hours on the project.

Kasso's summer is shaping up to

be almost as busy as her spring. She said she will follow a trip to England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales with her design teacher and other students from Freestyle by meeting up with her parents in Ireland before visiting relatives in Norway. After spending a month there as an au pair, Kasso will return to the U.S. in time for her family's annual camping trip in Fort Bragg. Then, it's off to Linfield in mid-August.

LIFTER

From Page 14

He soon dropped wrestling, the first sport in which he found success, to focus on powerlifting.

Like wrestling, powerlifting involves weight management; competitors are divided into weight classes and by age. Only weeks before the Make Your Own Luck Open Tournament, Harrison weighed in at 156 pounds but said he wanted to get down to 148 for a better chance at setting a record.

"The entire morning of the tournament, I was spitting into a cup to lose weight," he said. "On the car drive there, I had like three hoodies on and like three sweats on – just sweating everything out. I didn't drink water for a whole day before."

Harrison made weight at 148 but hopes to compete in a higher weight class in the future and avoid some of the discomfort that comes with dropping pounds.

Harrison said his success in the sport has motivated him to keep competing – in high school and beyond.

"As far as college goes, it's not like an actual NCAA sport, but it is a growing sport, so who knows?" he said. "We'll see how big it is by then, but I hope I can compete in actual organized college tournaments."

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The magic of Mexico Oaxaca will steal your heart

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Next time you think about planning a trip to Mexico, skip the resorts in Cancun, Cabo San Lucas and Puerto Vallarta; visit Oaxaca instead.

From June 29 to Aug. 27 last year, I spent most of my time in San Andrés Huaxpaltepec, the pueblo where my dad was born and raised and where most of my family resides in the state of Oaxaca. Located in the south of Mexico, Oaxaca is known for its beautiful, indigenous textile work, artisanry and distinct gastronomy that often differs from Mexican dishes many are familiar with.

Although most of my time was spent with family, trying to perfect my tortilla-making skills and learning different recipes from my grandma, I was able to go on mini trips and adventures across different regions of the mostly tropical and subtropical state.

City sights

By far, the best time I had was spent in Oaxaca City. I was there for only a handful of days, but it was the highlight of my trip. An old city with a histori-

cal downtown area dating back to the Mexican Revolution, many of the roads near the centro are lined with bricks and rocks. The history is palpable; many of the buildings are aging but kept in good condition, and aspects of the city's past, like old waterways, are still there today.

Multiple cathedrals are within walking distance of one another, and it was hard to keep my jaw off the floor as I walked the storied halls of the Church of Santo Domingo de Guzmán, which took approximately three decades to construct before its 1608 completion. Visitors can explore the sprawling Spanish baroque church's halls and lose themselves in its beautiful art on self-guided tours.

My favorite space was the library, where thousands of historical books are stored. While the books are behind metal grids for protection, getting to see them made my heart flutter. Be sure to sign the visitor's book, also located in the library, so your trip and visit to the church are forever documented. Those looking to learn can do so while exploring, as there are multiple educational exhibits throughout the church's seemingly endless rooms and corridors, pro-



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

The streets of Oaxaca City's colorful downtown, left, are lined with with rocks and bricks. Many of the buildings date back centuries, including the Church of Santo Domingo de Guzmán, right, completed in 1608.

vided in English and Spanish, about topics ranging from the indigenous history of the area to the historical and cultural significance of dogs, specifically Xoloitzcuintles.

Overlooking the city is Monte Albán, the 1,500-year-old ruins that belonged to various indigenous civilizations across history, including Olmec, Zapotec and Mixtec groups. A stunning location, one could feel the history. I could

sit on the steps of the ancient amphitheater forever; feeling the stony rocks beneath my hands, climbing the steps and walking the grounds made me feel connected to the people who once called Monte Albán home.

Upon returning to the city, there's an abundance of delicious meals to be enjoyed. The city is also home to

See OAXACA, Page 18

People make the place. Lessons learned from a summer in Dublin

By Adrienne Mitchel

Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

“Have you ever stayed in contact for over a year with someone you met at a club on a different continent?”

That was the question Moby (or Mobi) asked me on our one-year friendiversary June 5. If you ask him how to spell his name, a nickname for Mubashar given to him by his old professor, he'll say, “Great scholars ponder over the Moby versus Mobi debate.”

For the purposes of this article, I'll stick with “Moby,” because that's the spelling printed on his Dublin City University postgrad officer jacket.

Moby is one of the most interesting people I've ever met, and we met at a nightclub in Dublin, Ireland. Well, three nightclubs actually. We kept

running into one another.

I know that sounds somewhat strange. And while I'd advise women in foreign countries to exercise caution before making friends with strangers at nightclubs, in my case, it was an excellent decision.

When I think back on my summer internship in Dublin, I think back to the people I met there and who shaped that summer into the best trip of my life. I'd argue traveling is about the people you meet.

So, let me introduce you to three people I met in Dublin who taught me lifelong lessons: Moby, Alex and Jadyn. We'll start with Moby, because I've already given him a brief introduction.

Defying expectations

I'm quick to judge a book by its cover. But if there's one thing I learned from Moby, it's

that there's usually more than meets the eye.

On the outside, Moby wears a contagious smile and terrible fashion choices that usually involve neon orange or camo print. But on the inside, he is incredibly brave, adventurous and smart.

Fluent in five languages, Moby was born in Pakistan, grew up in Dubai and studied in China before moving to Ireland for his doctorate. Even though it's unlikely he'll be granted a visa, Moby dreams of visiting the United States.

He displays unwavering optimism and finds humor in nearly all situations. When I told him that getting a job out of undergrad was proving difficult for me, he said, “My secret is if you just keep going to school, you never have to worry about that.”



ADRIENNE MITCHEL/TOWN CRIER

Adrienne Mitchel, right, remains good friends with Moby, left, a doctorate student she met at a nightclub in Dublin, Ireland.

Keeping your cool

It's no secret that I tend to panic. When things aren't going to plan, I get flustered. But I met someone in Dublin who always seemed to know exactly how to act in every situation.

Born in Dublin and fluent in Irish, Alex never got flustered (even when we showed up wearing the same outfit). Alex was born into a wealthy

See DUBLIN, Page 18



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Travel Near & Far

OAXACA

From Page 17

incredible restaurants, including the unmissable Tlayudas El Negro, where I had the best tlayuda – a large, dried tortilla topped with bean puree, quesillo, lettuce, tomato, onion and meat – of my life. Downtown Oaxaca is filled with small restaurants and food vendors; if you see a teiate stall, don't miss out – try it! Teiate is a pre-Hispanic, sweet, fermented maize drink that will have your taste buds dancing. It's a Oaxacan tradition, and if you have the chance to sample it, do it at the earliest convenience.

Warm waters

If you're set on wading in warm ocean waters, Oaxaca City may not be the best place – you'll have to take about a seven-hour trip to the coast. The long ride, which can be made by car or public bus, is more than worth it, as the state's beaches are incredible.

I had the opportunity to visit a number of beaches across the state's coast, including beaches in Puerto Escondido, the clos-

est beach town to Oaxaca City. While Puerto is nice, many of the beaches have strong waves and are preferred by surfers; if you have time, I suggest traveling two hours north to Huatulco, a popular location with beautiful beaches including Playa La Entrega, Bahía Maguey, Bahía del Organo and Bahía San Agustín. The waves are generally calmer at those beaches, and it's more than worth the travel along windy roads.

Approximately an hour or so from Huatulco are some unmissable "magical" waterfalls, the Cascadas Mágicas de Copalitilla. The water is cold, but the trek is gorgeous. I didn't get to enjoy the waterfalls as I would have liked – I had sun poisoning from my daylong yacht ride the day before – but I'll try to return the next chance I get.

You can't really go wrong when you visit Mexico – it's an incredible country with inviting people, a long history and endless beauty. But Oaxaca isn't a state to sleep on. From the coast to the mountains, it's a beautiful state that will forever have a piece of my soul. Its magic is unmissable.

DUBLIN

From Page 17

family living in South Dublin and grew up attending fancy boarding schools, so many are quick to assume that he's never faced any problems. The more time I spent with him, the more I realized how money doesn't solve everything.

The son of a public figure in the Irish government, he carefully worked to maintain a pristine image in the public space. It was clear he was unable to freely be himself.

But what was enviable about his life was the incredible loyalty of his friend group. When Alex would talk about his friends, his face would light up. It was clear his friends, ones he met as a kid in boarding school, were his ride-or-dies.

"I don't know what they'd do without me," he'd jokingly say.

Dance like no one's watching

I care a lot about other people's perception of me. But I probably shouldn't.

That's one of the biggest lessons I learned from Jadyn, the first friend I met in Dublin. I

actually met her because of her dad. While attempting to move my heavy luggage into my campus accommodations at University College Dublin, a kind man asked if I needed help (which I absolutely did).

With a dad that friendly, I figured his daughter must be, too. From Orange County, Jadyn was also interning in Dublin for the summer, so I knew she'd make the perfect friend.

Jadyn never seemed to care what anyone else thought. She'd go to pubs in Mario Kart pajamas. She'd cut up a trash bag to use as a raincoat. She'd do what she wanted when she wanted.

Jadyn taught me to do me.

So why am I writing about three people you've never met?

The point I'm trying to make is that not just spending time abroad, but spending time abroad while actively getting to know people will teach you so much about yourself. There are so many more people I met in Dublin who all taught me things that will absolutely stay with me for the rest of my life.

People make the place.

And I believe that's the true value of studying abroad.

Stepping Out

'Steel Magnolias' continues run in MV

Town Crier Report

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's new look at the comic drama "Steel Magnolias" is set to run through July 2 in Mountain View.

Robert Harling's play centers on a tight-knit group of Southern women who flock to Truvy's beauty parlor to get their hair done, dish gossip and provide strength and support through life's joys and tragedies.

TheatreWorks' production features a multicultural cast that aims to offer a deeper look at how women from various backgrounds regard the sanctity of having their hair done.

Actor/director Elizabeth Carter makes her TheatreWorks directing debut. The cast includes Jasmine Milan Williams (as Shelby), Dawn L. Troupe (as M'Lynn), Lisa Strum (Truvy), Alexandra Lee (Annelle), Marcia Pizzo (Clairee) and Nancy Carlin (Ouiser).

Harling wrote "Magnolias" as a coping mechanism to deal with the death of his sister from diabetic complications following the birth of his namesake nephew. Originally a short story intended to help his young nephew learn more



KEVIN BERNE/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Shelby (Jasmine Milan Williams, center) shares photos with the women at the beauty parlor, including, from left, Annelle (Alexandra Lee), Clairee (Marcia Pizzo), Ouiser (Nancy Carlin) and Truvy (Lisa Strum), in TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's "Steel Magnolias."

about his deceased mother and her coterie of Southern friends, it evolved into a play that enjoyed an acclaimed run Off-Broadway in 1987 before being made into a film starring Julia Roberts, Dolly Parton, Shirley MacLaine, Sally Field, Olympia Dukakis and Daryl Hannah. It has since been revived on Broadway and as a 2012 film starring Queen Latifah, Phylicia Rashad, Condola Rashad, Alfre Woodard, Jill Scott and

Adepero Oduye.

Performances are scheduled 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.

Tickets are \$30-\$95.

For tickets and more information, call (877) 662-8978 or visit TheatreWorks.org.

PYT stages free outdoor summer plays

Town Crier Report

Peninsula Youth Theatre's annual Theatre in the Park series is scheduled to begin Friday at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts' outdoor ParkStage, located adjacent to Pioneer Park.

Children in PYT's summer camp program perform 45-minute fairy tales and other children's stories 3 p.m. each Friday through Aug.

11. Admission is free.

Series opener "Stone Soup" is about a stranger new to town trying to get the selfish citizens to work together and pool their resources.

"The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood" follows June 30. It centers on Robin Hood and his band of friends and their adventures in England.

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

Final 'Sunday in the Park with George' shows set for this weekend at LA's Bus Barn Theater

Town Crier Report

Los Altos Stage Company's fifth and final production of its 2022-2023 season, "Sunday in the Park with George," is set to close Sunday at Bus Barn Theater.

Written by Stephen Sondheim (music and lyrics) and James Lapine (book), the musical was inspired by Georges

Seurat's famous painting "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte." The play merges past and present into truths about life, love and the creation of art.

The Broadway production of the musical won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was nominated for 10 Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Scenic Design.

Alex Perez directs the local

production, which stars Rob Cadwallader as George Seurat, Alycia Adame as Dot and Michael Rhone as Jules.

Performances are scheduled 8 p.m. today through Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at Bus Barn, 97 Hillview Ave.

Tickets are \$20-\$40.

For tickets and more information, call (650) 941-0551 or visit losaltosstage.org.

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

Business & Real Estate

Local business owner promotes wellness and empowerment

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Upuia Ahkiong recently changed the name of her Los Altos business from Kua Body to Kua Wellness, reflecting her hope to expand into a world-class collective of wellness professionals as she continues to uplift local women business owners.

Before founding Kua Body in 2014 in Los Altos and Pleasanton, Ahkiong worked for Google Inc. from 2004, helping create the massage program and services the tech company offered to employees. But she soon found herself called in another direction and decided to venture off alone.

“I wanted to create a massage incubator, which is de-

signed to create a massage business platform for massage therapists to grow professionally, financially, learn the business skills and also be part of a cohort or community of other massage practitioners,” she said.

Kua Body initially offered a space and resources to massage therapists, all of whom are independent proprietors, at its four-room, 106 First St. location. Ahkiong moved to a larger, 13-room location at 197 First St. earlier this month, and that, paired with the increased demand for massage therapists and wellness professionals as the pandemic wanes, influenced her to change her business model. Kua Body became Kua Wellness, and in addition to offering workshops and health-re-



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

Upuia Ahkiong, left, and team members are set to expand Kua Wellness in downtown Los Altos.

lated speakers, more wellness professionals are now part of the Kua team.

“That’s where the birth of Kua Wellness was,” she said. “It’s a multidisciplinary team

of practitioners specializing in chiropractic care, osteopathy, See WELLNESS, Page 22

State of Mind pizza shop owner takes home lessons from Seoul Food Festival

By Adrienne Mitchel
Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

Cristina and Lars Smith, owners of State of Mind Public House and Pizzeria, were traveling in Italy for the World Pizza Championship when Lars picked up an unexpected call from longtime friend Leah Scurto of PizzaLeah in Windsor.

“She called me and goes, ‘We’re going to Korea in a month,’” Lars said. “So, I turned to my wife and said, ‘Hey, I’m gonna go on another 10-day adventure next month and leave you with kids.’”

From May 30 to June 3, Scurto and Smith taught, collaborated and learned at the Seoul Food Festival. They worked alongside Michelin-starred chefs, ran a pop-up at one of the



COURTESY OF LARS SMITH

State of Mind’s Lars Smith, from left, chef Jeong Kwan and Leah Scurto of PizzaLeah bonded over food on a recent trip to Seoul.

best pizzerias in Asia and learned about Korean cuisine from Buddhist nun and celebrity chef Jeong Kwan.

“It was a really incredible opportunity to go somewhere with a different culture because there really is an exchange,” Smith said. “It wasn’t just about us showing off our pizza. It was an exchange of working with other

people and working with different ingredients in different cultures.”

The first event Smith worked at the Seoul Food Festival was the grand opening gala, which was a wine-paired fine dining event for 225 guests. Scurto, Smith and their team were tasked with making the amuse-bouche, a sea

See FESTIVAL, Page 23



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Business & Real Estate

Gotelli Farms brings cherries to State Street



SHIVAZOKAEI/TOWN CRIER

Gotelli Farms, a family-run, Lodi-based cherry farm, is a vendor at the Downtown Los Altos Farmers' Market. Town Crier Staff Report

Gotelli Farms comes to the Downtown Los Altos Farmers' Market from Lodi, where the family-run business has been growing cherries for generations.

It offers a variety of cherries, depending on the season, in-

cluding Coral, Gibraltar, Brooks, Rainier, Burlat and Bing.

Gotelli Farms workers pick the cherries when ripe and then put them in cold storage to keep them fresh.

Look for the Gotelli Farms stand 4-8 p.m. Thursdays on State Street, near Third Street.

For more information on

Gotelli Farms, visit pcfma.org/videos/gotelli-farms or send a direct message to @gotellifarms on Instagram.

For more information on the weekly Downtown Los Altos Farmers' Market, visit pcfma.org/losaltos.

Shiva Zokaei contributed to this report.

Japanese dessert shop opens in State Street Market

By Adrienne Mitchel
Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

Downtown Los Altos just got sweeter. Ikuka, a Japanese dessert shop, is now open in State Street Market. "Ikuka" is short for "imo, kuri, kabocha," the Japanese words for "sweet potato," "chestnut," and "pumpkin," which are the main flavors of the 11 desserts being offered. Shoppers can expect to see cakes, croissants, tarts, cookies, teas and even mochi breads.

"I would say the Kombucha Burnt Basque Cheesecake and the Matcha Gateau are my favorite desserts," general manager Miyuki Ozawa said. "I just think those perfectly represent my vision, and I'm just really proud of them."

Ozawa, the daughter of Orenchi Ramen and Sumika owner Kuniko Ozawa, created the concept of Ikuka, taking time off from UC Irvine to create her business.



Miyuki Ozawa

"I've always really wanted to open my own bakery," Miyuki said. "It's really fun working with my mom and being creative with her."

Ikuka opened Saturday, and Miyuki said she aims to establish an online pre-ordering system in the future.

Ikuka, located at 170 State St., is open 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays.

For more information, visit imokurikabocha.com.

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Business & Real Estate

WELLNESS

From Page 20

psychotherapy, health and fitness, fascial stretch therapy, nutrition and anything related to wellness. We're hoping to encourage other wellness practitioners – if they're looking for a space and a community to be part of, we welcome them."

Supporting independence

Working alone as a massage and wellness practitioner can be difficult, according to Ahkiong, especially for those who've never owned a private practice or are new massage therapists without much experience who haven't yet cultivated a client base.

"So you come into Kua and it's a turnkey environment," Ahkiong said. "So the space is fully equipped, fully furnished, fully stocked. And then you also have the business mentorship that I provide. I give the opportunity to learn the business skills, the marketing, the customer



ABOVE PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER; RIGHT RENDERING COURTESY OF UPUA AHKIONG

The new Kua Wellness location at 197 First St., though not completely furnished, is shown in a rendering at right. The site features 13 rooms, one of which is pictured above, dedicated to various wellness practices, including massage.

service and the opportunity to collaborate with one another."

As independent proprietors, all health professionals at Kua Wellness are their own business owners. As new wellness professionals joined the collective, Ahkiong noticed it was important for them to have their own websites, and Kua provided graphic design help.

Supporting business own-

ers, particularly those who are women, is a priority for Ahkiong. When she founded Kua, she noted that many downtown business owners were women. Inspired, she founded Women Entrepreneurs of Los Altos, now Women Entrepreneurs Launch, to organize and connect women business owners.

Ahkiong hopes Kua Wellness will be a place that cli-

ents consider a one-stop shop for wellness services. She also believes the model could spread.

"I see this type of model being replicated in other communities, because I feel it's much needed," she said. "So, I could see Kua Wellness in other parts of the United States, other parts of California, other parts of the Bay Area."

Although the new Kua Wellness location at 197 First St. is up and running, the official grand opening isn't scheduled until noon to 3 p.m. Sept. 24. Food and drinks will be served, and those interested can tour the site and meet the practitioners.

For more information, call (650) 383-5209 or visit kuawellness.com.



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Business & Real Estate

Transactions

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766 Filip Road, Nair Family Trust to S. & G. Kim for \$3,780,000
 658 N. San Antonio Road, Elefant Trust to P. & J. Xu for \$775,000
 381 San Luis Avenue, Soto Trust to 381 San Luis LLC for \$2,600,000
 1560 Wakefield Terrace, Kou & Yeh Trust to R. & A. Shah for \$3,525,000

Los Altos Hills

13332 Lennox Way, Silverman Family Trust to Odell Family Trust for \$4,017,000
 26790 Saint Francis Road, Couch Family Trust to First Serendipity LLC for \$4,137,500
 26645 Laurel Lane, Debolle Family Trust to Y. & T. Wang for \$5,600,000

Mountain View

1504 Begon Avenue, Tedford Trust to B. & J. Toll for \$2,610,000
 2467 Betlo Avenue, L. Wang to B. & J. Jung for \$2,100,000
 1359 Cuernavaca Circulo, Olesha Ventures LLC to Casa CMMJ CA LLC for \$2,258,000

505 Cypress Point Drive No. 8, Choi Family Trust to R. Pinnock for \$620,000

113 Estrada Drive, J. & M. Holladay to N. & S. Siddique for \$2,200,000

238 Hamilton Avenue, Rendle Family Trust to C. & C. Matzke for \$2,350,000

158 Holland Court, Fredrickson Trust to Q. & S. Yang for \$2,960,000

493 Magritte Way, H. Ji to Botelho Family Trust for \$1,831,000

255 S. Rengstorff Avenue No. 112, McGrory Trust to L. Ovtsinikova for \$780,000

457 Sierra Vista Avenue No. 11, Keyani Trust to Shanika Trust for \$1,075,000

1990 Silverwood Avenue, Pearson Trust to W. Li for \$980,000

727 Tiana Lane, McFall Trust to Pumiya Family Trust for \$2,225,000

510 Vincent Drive, Miller Trust to Schubert Trust for \$2,511,000

Cupertino

19956 Beekman Place, Davis Family Trust to C. & H. Cheng for \$1,800,000

19841 La Mar Drive, TJH Re Properties Iii LLC to Elite Dev &

Investment Inc. for \$1,765,000
 13119 Montebello Road, A. & M. Miao to X. & X. Deng for \$3,000,000

10082 Mossy Oak Court, Emerich Trust to K. & D. Smith for \$1,317,500

10455 Orange, Y. Chen to S. & V. Venkataraman for \$3,450,000

8105 Park Villa Circle, Diaz Trust to M. Liu for \$1,651,000

10574 Sterling Boulevard, C. & C. Chang to Y. & D. Li for \$2,050,000

11713 Westshore Court, Fidric Living Trust to M. & L. Zhang for \$2,835,000

Overall

Los Altos

Total sales: 4
 Average sale: \$2,670,000

Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 3
 Average sale: \$4,584,800

Mountain View

Total sales: 13
 Average sale: \$1,884,600

Cupertino

Total sales: 8
 Average sale: \$2,233,600

– Cal REsource

FESTIVAL

From Page 20

salt and sesame focaccia topped with foie gras mousse and drizzled with an orange compote made with citrus soju.

“There was a total of 11 Michelin stars represented in the meal,” Smith said. “I don’t have one, so that just shows you the caliber of the other chefs we were cooking with, which was really incredible.”

In addition to the grand-opening gala, Scurto, Smith and their team participated in a two-day takeover/collaboration at a highly regarded Neapolitan pizzeria in Seoul. And they also helped cater the final event of the food festival, making 100 pizzas for a picnic on a bridge over the Han River.

One of Smith’s favorite parts of the experience was having the opportunity to take a train outside of Seoul to a Korean fermented sauce factory and learn about Korean cuisine. Kwan taught Smith and others about Korean temple food, a type of Buddhist cuisine.

“She cooked lunch for us,

and talked about her philosophy not only of cooking, but of life, because they’re inseparable for her,” Smith said. “It’s something that resonated deeply with me that I will continue to think about, probably for the rest of my life.”

Now back in California from the festival, Smith is implementing lessons learned in Korea in his pizza business. He said that while working at the Neapolitan pizzeria in Seoul, he was amazed by the level of attention to detail, which served the dual purpose of consistent taste and aesthetic presentation.

“It’s not just the chefs or the owners, but just the pizza guy, the prep cook, is sitting there analyzing when the pizza comes out of the oven, ‘Is it good? Is it perfect? Do I need to trim something?’” Smith said.

He’s grateful for his experience attending the Seoul Food Festival and is excited to continue improving and expanding his State of Mind pizzeria.

For more information, visit stateofmindpublichouse.com.

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Lazar Homes, a boutique Real Estate Firm serving the Peninsula and Greater Silicon Valley, announced today that E. David Marks, a well-known and highly respected local real estate attorney, has joined the company as a Broker.



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For over 35 years, David, as a licensed attorney, has been practicing law and specializing in real estate sale disputes, transactions, and construction law, working for several firms including GCA Law Partners, LLP and Mille, Starr & Regalia. From these experiences, David has extensive practical knowledge about real estate transactions and realized how happy it made him to help people buy and sell homes. He is excited to be able to offer the full services of a broker in the purchase and sale of homes.

David continues to be involved with dispute resolution relating to real estate sales. Since 2015, he has been on the list of mediators for the California Association of Realtors. Since 2021, he has been on the Mediations and Arbitration panel for Construction, Real Estate, and Consumer matters.

David’s passions include his family and cooking. He likes to serve food to his friends and family and to make them smile. He is also a Certified Barbecue Judge for the Kansas City Barbecue Society.



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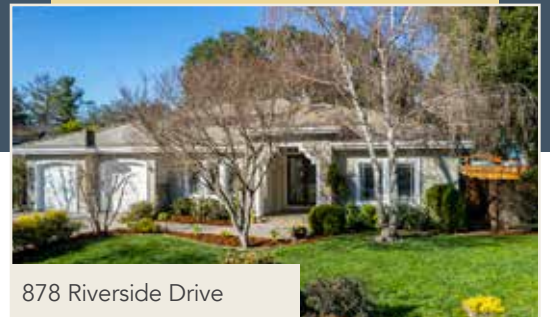
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Business & Real Estate

Be wary: Some AI services make promises, don't deliver

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Artificial intelligence is the hot new thing. It's revolutionizing medical research, challenging the art world and even helping small-business owners streamline and automate tasks.

But as with anything new and popular, scammers are quick to take advantage. When evaluating AI products for your business, be on the lookout for the following scam.

How the scam works

You receive an unsolicited call, email or text message claiming to offer AI services for small businesses. You may even stumble across a convincing-looking ad on social media or be sent one by a friend. The services sound amazing. You'll pay a reasonable amount upfront, and once the AI is set up, you can expect incredible benefits, such as automating all your marketing needs. If the return on investment sounds too good to be true, that's because it is.

If you engage with scammers offering phony AI services, you'll likely lose any money you pay them. At the very least, your business information could fall into

the hands of unscrupulous individuals and put you at risk for identity theft, business email compromise and other cons.

How to avoid the scam

To protect yourself from AI scams:

- **Research before you hire.** Get to know a company before you do business with it. This requires thorough research. Review its website and social media accounts. If anything looks unprofessional or if contact information is missing or doesn't work, steer clear. Do an internet search for reviews and complaints. Search the company name along with the word "scam" to find reports or any dishonest business practices. You can also look up companies at BBB.org.

- **Watch out for aggressive sales tactics and far-fetched promises.** These are two of scammers' most effective schemes. If someone pressures you to buy a service, telling you you'll miss out if you don't act right now, or if they promise you your business will make hundreds or thousands of dollars with little to no effort on your part, it's probably a scam.

If you have been the victim of a scam, report it at tinyurl.com/w3pbcu8.

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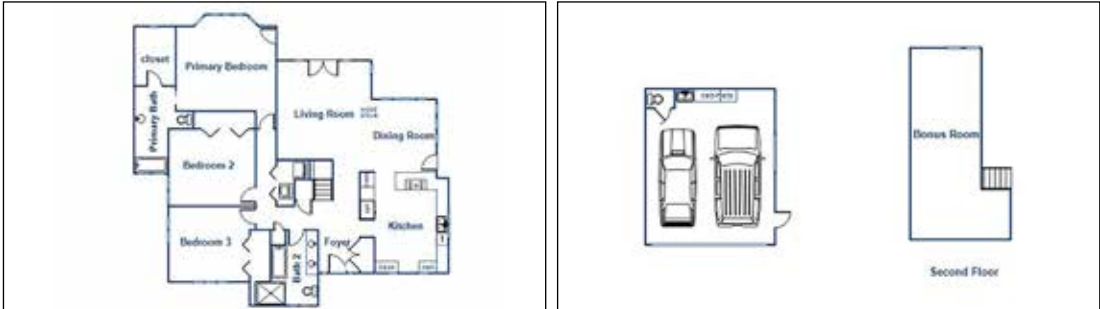


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中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224





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- Staging (including furniture, delivery, set up, and de-staging)
- Property and pest inspections
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- Real estate attorneys provided to review disclosures and answer real estate and tax-related questions
- Custom website for your home with 3D virtual tour
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- At least 600 TV commercials for selected properties
- Multiple full-page ads in newspapers such as the *Los Altos Town Crier*, *Palo Alto Weekly*, and/or *The Almanac*
- 12- or 28-page custom home brochures
- Chinese newspaper ads and radio commercials
- Advertising in India West
- We will waive the 2.5% commission normally paid to the buyer's agent if any DeLeon agent represents the buyer, or if the buyers do not have an agent

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MICHAEL REPKA, ESQ

DRE #01854880

650.488.7325

michael@deleonrealty.com



Disclaimer

- Legal services provided by the Law Offices of Michael J. Repka and its associate attorneys.
- Sellers pay a lot of commission when they sell their home—they deserve more services from their listing agents. DeLeon pays for all the above-mentioned services, and more, out of our commission when someone lists with us. Meet with Michael Repka to learn more.

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



Public Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ROSE MARIE HANSELL CASE NO. 23PR194818

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: ROSE MARIE HANSELL A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Susan M. Hansell in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Susan M. Hansell be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with full authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 08/09/2023 at 9:01am in Dept. 13 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST. SAN JOSE CA 95113 DOWNTOWN SUPERIOR COURT. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer Brown (SBN305625), Telephone: (916) 467-4500 6/21, 6/28, 7/5/23 CNS-3712119# LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER (06-21,28-23,07-05-23)

of Los Altos will hold public hearings to consider the following projects:

1. SC22-0034 - H. and Y. Ren - 239 Marich Way Design Review for a new 3,896 square-foot two-story single-family residence. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Zoning Administrator public hearing will be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 4:00 PM.

Questions can be answered by calling the Development Services Department at (650) 947-2750 or sent via email to planning@losaltosca.gov. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at ZAPublicComment@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Los Altos will hold public hearings to consider the following projects:

1. V23-0001, SC23-0003, and H23-0001 - W. Chapman - 236 Eleanor Avenue Request for Design Review and Historic Advisory Review for a 1,647 square-foot first-story and 326 square-foot second-story addition to an existing two-story house and a Variance to allow a basement 2.5 feet above grade that exceeds the maximum height limit of two feet, a 326 square-foot second-story addition on a flag lot which allows only one-story structures, a height of 26.2 feet that surpasses the maximum limit of 20 feet for flag lots, and the placement of an accessory structure in the required front yard, where such structures are not permitted. This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2. MOD23-0003 & VCMF23-0001 - M. Bryant-Neal - 1150 Riverside Drive Modification to a conditional use permit for the expansion of an animal clinic in a Commercial Neighborhood District and variance to the 50-foot separation requirement to an R1 District. The applications are considered categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it involves the use of an existing building.

The Planning Commission public hearing will be held on Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Questions can be answered by calling the Development Services Department at (650) 947-2750 or sent via email to planning@losaltosca.gov. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at PCPublicComment@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

Yvonne Dupont, Management Analyst I
PUBLISH ONCE: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 (06-21-23)

152-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF KIMIE EVA MOMOKI ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 23CV416378

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

Proposed Name: Eva Kimie Momoki

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 09/19/2023 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 05/23/2023 /s/ Jacqueline M. Arroyo Judge of the Superior Court (06-21,28-23,07-05,12-23)

151-T

Grandview restaurant FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694826

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) Grandview restaurant, (2) Mt Hamilton grandview restaurant and venue, (3) Mt Hamilton restaurant, 15005 Mt Hamilton Rd., Mt Hamilton, CA, 94140, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): GVSJ LLC, 2021 The Alameda Suite 380, San Jose, CA, 95126. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2022. /S/ Maurizio Carrubba / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/25/2023. (06-21,28-23,07-05,12-23)

149-T

T.S. No.: 200-019483 Title Order No. 91225874 APN: 167-27-069 Property Address: 235 YERBA SANTA AVENUE, LOS ALTOS, CA 94022 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/30/2017.

UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING

AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale of the Trustor's interest will be made to the highest bidder for lawful money of the United States, payable at the time of sale in cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: JOHN CLIFFORD, TRUSTEE OF THE JOYCE CLIFFORD FAMILY TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 7, 2001 Duly Appointed Trustee: PLM LOAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. Recorded 7/11/2017, as Instrument No. 23693924, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Santa Clara County, California, Date of Sale: 7/12/2023 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At the gated North Market Street entrance of the Superior Courthouse at 191 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95113 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$1,030,606.59 (estimated as of the first publication date) Street Address or other common designation of real property: 235 YERBA SANTA AVENUE LOS ALTOS, CA 94022 A.P.N.: 167-27-069 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. The following statements; NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS and NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER are statutory notices for all one to four single family residences and a courtesy notice for all other types of properties. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title

to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (916) 939-0772 or visit this Internet Website <http://www.nationwideposting.com/>, using the file number assigned to this case 200-019483. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.nationwideposting.com/>, using the file number assigned to this case 200-019483 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 6/8/2023 PLM LOAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., as Trustee Phone: 408-370-4030 5446 Thornwood Drive, Second Floor San Jose, California 95123 Elizabeth Godbey, Vice President NPP0436240 To: LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER 06/21/2023, 06/28/2023, 07/05/2023 (06-21,28-23,07-05-23)

148-T

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED proposals will be received at the office of the City Clerk, Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los

Altos Hills, California 94022, until 2:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Conference Room of said building, for construction in accordance with the project plans and specifications to which special reference is made, as follows:

Title: 2023 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Description: The work consists of 2" AC overlay, 6" ditches, Type II microsurfacing, construct AC dike, construct concrete valley gutter, pavement marking replacement, utility adjustments, and all associated work.

The work is to be completed within **THIRTY (30)** working days. At the time this contract is awarded, the Contractor shall possess a Class A license.

A bid submitted by any Contractor who is not licensed to engage in business or act in the capacity of a contractor shall be considered non-responsive and shall be rejected, except for those exceptions governed by Section 7028.15 of the Business and Professions Code.

The Town of Los Altos Hills hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability in consideration for an award.

Each bid must be accompanied by certified or cashier's check, or bidder's bond duly executed by a responsible corporate surety authorized to issue such bonds in the State of California, made payable to the Town of Los Altos Hills for an amount equal to at least ten (10) percent of the amount bid. The successful bidder shall furnish a Labor and Materials Bond and a Faithful Performance Bond.

Pursuant to Section 1770 of the Labor Code, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations has ascertained the general prevailing rate of per diem wages applicable to the work to be performed, which rates are filed in the office of the City Engineer, and copies of which are available to any interested parties on request.

The Contractor may elect to receive 100 percent of payments due under the contract from time to time, without retention of any portion of the payment by the Town, by depositing securities of equivalent value with the Town in accordance with the provisions of Sections 22300 of the Public Contract Code. All expenses of such substitute deposit shall be borne by the Contractor. Securities eligible for investment under the section shall include those listed in Section 16430 of the California Government Code or certificates of deposit of a bank or savings and loan association. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon. Such securities, if deposited by the Contractor, shall be valued by the City's Administrative

Director, whose decision on valuation of the securities shall be final.

Alternatively, upon the Contractor's request, the Town will make payment of retentions earned directly to the escrow agent. The Contractor may direct the investment of the payments into securities, and the Contractor shall receive the interest earned on the investments upon the same terms provided for securities deposited by the Contractor. Upon satisfactory completion of the contract, the Contractor shall receive from the escrow agent all securities, interest and payments received by the escrow agent from the Town, pursuant to the terms in Section 22300 of the public Contract code.

Bidders may purchase the project specifications with reduced plans and proposal forms by visiting or writing to:

City Engineer's Office Attention: WooJae Kim
Town Hall of Los Altos Hills
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, California 94022
(650) 941-7222

For a non-refundable fee of \$30 per set if picked up; or \$40 per set if mailed by regular mail with the U.S. Postal Service. Any other form of delivery will be at a cost to include the cost per set plus the delivery carrier's cost. They may also be reviewed at the various Builders Exchanges and construction service offices throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Full size plans are available for **\$5.00** per sheet.

/s/ Deborah Padovan, City Clerk
June 21, 2023
June 28, 2023
(06-21,28-23)

147-T

I FEEL YOUR PAIN MASSAGE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN696140

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: I FEEL YOUR PAIN MASSAGE, 422 South Murphy Avenue Suite #3, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Joshua Gonsalves, 13144 Montrose Street, Saratoga, CA, 95070. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/26/2018. /S/ Joshua Gonsalves / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/31/2023. (06-14,21,28-23,07-05-23)

146-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MATHEW ALEXANDER SNIDER, JR CASE NO. 23PR194637

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MATHEW ALEXANDER SNIDER, JR. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SANDRA LYNN SNIDER in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SANDRA LYNN SNIDER be appointed as personal representative to admin-

CITY OF LOS ALTOS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Administrator of the City

Public Notices

ister the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 06/22/2023 at 9:01AM in Dept. 2 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner
TRENTON M. DIEHL
DIEHL LAW FIRM, APC
404 W. PINE STREET, #7
LODI, CA 95240
(209)310-2903
(06-07,14,21-23)

(06-07,14,21,28-23)

143-T

**D2E STRATEGIC ADVISORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN696117**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: D2E STRATEGIC ADVISORS, 580 Georgia Ave, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jaya Pandey, 580 Georgia Ave, Palo Alto, CA, 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/25/2023. /S/ Jaya Pandey / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/31/2023. (06-07,14,21,28-23)

142-T

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
PETITION OF RITURAJ KIRTI &
MADHUBIKA DHAR
AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW
CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
23CV416741**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
1. Petitioner: Rituraj Kirti & Madhubika Dhar filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name:
Tanya Kirti

Proposed Name:
Mel Kirti

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 09/26/2023 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier
Date: 05/31/2023
/s/ Jacqueline M. Arroyo
Judge of the Superior Court
(06-07,14,21,28-23)

141-T

**MADURAI BIRYANI HOUSE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695443**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MADURAI BIRYANI HOUSE, 1028 E El Camino Real, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned

by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SAI MADURAI VENTURES INC., 1235 Valerian Ct Apt #2, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/11/2023. /S/ Ravichandran Ramanujam / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/05/2023. (06-07,14,21,28-23)

140-T

**Inflexio
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695928**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Inflexio, 1271 Poplar Ave #301, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Chun Kit Lai, 1271 Poplar Ave #301, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/09/2014. /S/ Chun Kit Lai / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/23/2023. (06-07,14,21,28-23)

139-T

**ARTIFICIAL TURF EXPRESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695958**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ARTIFICIAL TURF EXPRESS, 370 Umbarger Rd, San Jose, CA, 95111, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): HEAVENLY CONSTRUCTION INC, 370 Umbarger Rd, San Jose, CA, 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2013. /S/ Troy Scott / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/24/2023. (05-31-23,06-07,14,21-23)

137-T

**HEAVENLY GREENS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695959**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HEAVENLY GREENS, 370 Umbarger Rd, San Jose, CA, 95111, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): HEAVENLY CONSTRUCTION INC, 370 Umbarger Rd, San Jose, CA, 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2001. /S/ Troy Scott / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/24/2023. (05-31-23,06-07,14,21-23)

136-T

**SCOUT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695942**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SCOUT, 3485 Victor Street, Santa Clara, CA, 95054, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): UH-OH LABS INC., 3485 Victor Street, Santa Clara, CA, 95054. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/25/2023. /S/ Cameron Ball / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/23/2023. (05-31-23,06-07,14,21-23)

134-T

**PURPLE LABS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695971**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PURPLE LABS, 427 Medoc Court, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Nikki Lacey, 427 Medoc Court, Mountain View, CA, 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/23/2023. /S/ Nikki Lacey / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/24/2023. (05-31-23,06-07,14,21-23)

133-T

**SPOC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN695820**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SPOC, 2085 E Bayshore Rd #50264, Palo Alto, CA, 94303, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SPOC, 2085 E Bayshore Rd #50264, Palo Alto, CA, 94303. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/01/2023. /S/ Gregory Morawietz / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 05/18/2023. (05-31-23,06-07,14,21-23)

130-T

Datebook

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

PRESENTATIONS

“Icelandic Adventure.” John Gayler discusses the logistics of planning and implementing a self-supported trip to Iceland. Part of the Los Altos Library’s Wednesday Travel Nights series. 7 p.m. June 28. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. (650) 948-7683; scld.org.

EVENTS

Bad Art Night at the Los Altos Library. Participants will be given a time limit to create the best form of bad art they can manage and then be judged on a combination of creativity and vision. The winner receives a prize. Art supplies provided. 7 p.m. today. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. (650) 948-7683; scld.org.

EXHIBITS

“Watermedia Unbound.” Mixed media and college-theme works by members of the Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society. Through June. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. (650) 941-8073; scvws.org.

“An Artist’s Playground.” Solo art exhibit featuring acrylics and mixed media paintings by local artist Rachel Tirosh. Through September. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road. Free. (650) 941-7222; losaltoshills.ca.gov.

EXHIBITIONS

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

AUDITIONS

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

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

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

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Local ESL class. Learn the English language. Small-class size with individual attention. Materials provided. 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Union Church Campus, 858 University Ave., Los Altos. Register at Unionpc.org (search ESL).

Jazzercise Dance Mixx and Body Sculpting. Live on Zoom seven days a week. Free trial class. First 10 consecutive classes \$39. Full-time members also have free access to Jazzercise Live on-demand. (408) 505-2048; Nisaleone@sbcglobal.net.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CLUBS/GROUPS

Los Altos Art Club. 7 p.m. second Monday of each month. Apricot Room, Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. losaltosartclub.com.

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\$40
is usually all it costs to publish your Fictitious Business Name in the Los Altos Town Crier

Email legals at legals@latc.com

DATEBOOK

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InSpirit Healing Rooms. Healing service for those battling an illness or injury, or feeling discouraged. 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Union Church campus, 858 University Ave., Los Altos. Interdenominational ministry, member of the International Association of Healing Rooms. InSpiritPrayer@yahoo.com.

Los Altos Hills Club. Historic social club promoting friendship and social contacts among women residing in Los Altos Hills. Activities include luncheons, social events, book groups, bridge, card games and travel interest groups. (650) 814-9037; totequeenmichelle@gmail.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. Activities include golf and bocce ball. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael's restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. (408) 391-1078.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area. Organization promotes peace, friendship and understanding around the world through home-stays. (650) 961-3539; ffsba.org.

Assistance League of Los Altos. Nonprofit volunteer group that develops and runs programs benefiting children and others in need in nearby communities of Santa Clara County. Year-round volunteer opportunities for adults and teens. 169 State St., Los Altos. (650) 941-2410; losaltos-assistanceleague.org.

Young Adults Bible Study. For those ages 18 and up who want to grow spiritually. Read the Bible and be part of a small community. jameshugmd@gmail.com.

Sons In Retirement, Mid-Peninsula Branch 51. Open to retired men who want to make friends and participate in activities such as golf, hiking, biking, bowling and travel. Monthly luncheons with guest speakers. 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of the month. Fremont Hills Country Club, 12889 Viscaino Place, Los Altos Hills. (650) 930-0510; SIR51.org.

Los Altos Library Great Books Group. Meets 7-9 p.m. every third Tuesday. Los Altos Library, 13. S. San Antonio Road. (650) 961-7380; MVD1131@aol.com.

Mothers Uniting Mothers (MUMs). For mothers of young children interested in getting to know other moms. 9:30-11:30 a.m. every other Wednesday. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. Child-care provided. bayareamums@yahoo.com; mums.laumc.org.

OBITUARY NOTICE

BARBARA STROUT MARDESICH



August 3, 1932 - June 12, 2023

Barbara Strout Mardesich, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and cherished friend, passed away peacefully on June 12th, 2023. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Nick Mardesich, her parents, Al and Lee Strout, brother Roy, and sister Ruthie Young. Barbara is survived by her son Michael, daughter-in-law Kim, daughter Connie, grandsons Ryan and Alex Atkins. She also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, and a wide circle of friends.

Born in Belen, New Mexico, Barbara spent her first two years on the Isleta American Indian Reservation due to her father's Cherokee heritage. Her family later moved to Exeter, CA, and she attended Wilson Grammar School and Exeter Union High School. Barbara excelled academically

and athletically. She participated in many sports, lettering in swimming, softball, field hockey, basketball, and tennis. Barbara was a member of the California Scholarship Federation, Y-Teens, and the Choralines. She was involved in the school newspaper, yearbook, choir, and other activities.

Barbara attended San Jose State University where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority and Tau Gamma Honorary Recreation Sorority. Barbara continued her athletic career by pitching for the Softball Team and Diving for the SJS team. She also contributed to the Spartan Daily staff and sang in the A Cappella Choir. Barbara graduated in 1954, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Recreation.

Following graduation, Barbara began her career as a Recreation Supervisor for the City of Palo Alto and the Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Department. She created social and cultural events and oversaw the beloved Tiny Tots Program. Barbara's commitment to community service was evident throughout her life. While raising her children, she actively participated in their school activities, serving as the Outside Resource Coordinator at Montclair Elementary School and later as the Hospitality Chairman for the PTA at Homestead High School.

Barbara's passion for volunteering continued after her children's education. She worked with several charitable organizations, including the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, and St. Simon's Catholic Church Catechism group. In 1984, she had the honor of serving as the Assistant Recruitment

Officer of the International Olympic Committee's Palo Alto branch. Her duties included coordinating a program bringing past Olympians into schools to discuss the Olympic Movement.

Barbara's adventurous spirit led her and her husband Nick on countless travels, exploring over 70 countries and experiencing parts of all 50 states. Aside from her travels, Barbara had a knack for creative endeavors. She found joy in making and sending handmade cards, delighting friends and relatives with her artistic creations. She shared her gift-wrapping expertise by teaching classes for various recreation departments in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. One of her favorite projects was creating elaborately themed Christmas decorations in her home each year and inviting family and friends to share in the season.

In memory of her husband and his heritage, Barbara worked with the Sunnyvale Historical Society and the Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum to create a permanent exhibit celebrating local Yugoslav orchardists. Their work culminated in the Orchard Heritage Park Interpretive Exhibit which is on permanent display.

She leaves behind a legacy of love, stewardship, and community. Barbara's family would like to thank her caregivers, especially Ana Salazar, for the wonderful care they have given her over the last year.

A memorial service was held at St. Joseph's of Cupertino to celebrate Barbara's life. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford.

RICHARD OSGOOD



November 6, 1934 - April 23, 2023

Richard "Dick" Osgood passed away peacefully on Sunday morning April 23rd. He was born November 6, 1934 in Pleasant Ridge MI to Bruce

Osgood and Irene Marsh Osgood. He attended Albion College and earned a degree in Physics. He then received a full scholarship to attend Stanford for a Masters in Mechanical Engineering. Dick married his college sweetheart, Sue Stevens, and they moved together to California. Dick loved the Bay Area. He worked at Hewlett Packard - and knew both Bill and Dave - on the first handheld calculators. Dick was a car man through and through; his love of cars stayed with him until the very end. He raced Porsches and led the PCA in the 60's. He owned 30 plus cars throughout the years, his garage was full of trophies and mementos, and frequently abuzz with friends as they worked on engines. Every Saturday in his final years he met with a group of car guys who called themselves the Donut Derelicts. In his forties he opened his own antique clock shop on Main Street in downtown Los Altos, called The Time Period, after he developed a passion for Vienna regulators. Later, he focused his engineering energies on trains, and worked every week up at

the Portola Valley & Alpine Railroad. Dick is survived by his wife of 66 years, Sue Stevens Osgood, his daughter Shari (husband Louis), and son David (wife Vicki); his grandchildren Landon Tafoya, Geoffrey Osgood, and Alyson Osgood, and his brother John (wife Marilyn).



Making Helping Easy in June

FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW LIBRARY

During the month of June I will be collecting Book and Media items for the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

WE'RE COLLECTING:

- Paperback and hardback fiction and non-fiction books
- Books and music on CD
- Software
- DVDs and Blu-ray disks
- Computer manuals published in the last four years
- Spanish language materials

DROP OFF DONATIONS:

Monday - Friday 9AM - 4PM
161 San Antonio Road, Los Altos
If pick up is needed, contact Elizabeth

For monetary donations visit
MVLIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG/DONATE

The Friends are a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Tax I.D. is 23-7255217.



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