



### Schools

Los Altos students collecting produce for Hope's Corner  
**Page 12**



### Sports

Local teens host tennis clinics for Parkinson's research  
**Page 14**



### On The Road

Ford Maverick XLT makes improvements – at a cost  
**Page 17**

# Los Altos Town Crier

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

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losaltosonline.com

WEDNESDAY • August 6, 2025

## Market street crowd



PHOTOS BY MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Long gone are the days when downtown Los Altos closed its collective doors at 5 p.m. The crowded farmers market last Thursday on State Street proves that point. People of all ages crowd the market, above, looking at choices ranging from fresh produce, right, to gourmet dog food. The market, hosted by the Los Altos Village Association, operates 4-8 p.m. every Thursday.



## Local law enforcement leaders say ALPR info safe from the feds

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

As the use of automated license plate readers (ALPRs) and their data use comes under intense scrutiny, Los Altos Police Chief Saskia Lagergren said information – especially related to hot-button topics, like immigration or abortion – are not being shared with the federal government.

The Town Crier received inquiries from the public about Los Altos' policies after reporter Arden Margulis of the Almanac – which covers Portola Valley, Menlo Park, Atherton and Woodside – last week reported that Atherton Police Department failed to follow its own search request-approval policies. Not only were agencies being allowed to access data without including a reason, but the police commander had not reviewed

every search request (as the policy requires) since the beginning of the year.

The city of Los Altos' 15 Flock Safety-operated ALPRs went live in 2024. In the last 30 days, 346,082 vehicles have been detected and 66 searches have been made by agencies with which the department is sharing data.

Los Altos' ALPR data-sharing policy explicitly highlights that no agencies can use the data for federal immigration enforcement, including Customs and Border Patrol or Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), according to the data access agreement. It also could not be used in aiding the investigation or criminalization of people seeking gender-affirming or reproductive health care.

See ALPR, Page 4

## Join Los Altos Rotary Club's 50th Fine Art in the Park festivities

By Gina Haney and Patricia Rohrs  
Special to the Town Crier

The Rotary Club of Los Altos is hosting the family-friendly 50th annual Fine Art in the Park, scheduled 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (Aug. 9-10) at Lincoln Park in downtown Los Altos.

The club's long-running fundraiser features more than 150 juried artists showcasing exceptional work in painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, pho-

tography, glass, textiles, wood and more. Preview artists' portfolios at [rotaryartshow.com](http://rotaryartshow.com).

There's also plenty of food and drink on hand – and did we mention entertainment?

At the Sutter Health Main Stage, bands will perform jazz, rock and blues, according to the following schedule:

### Saturday

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: The Charged Par-

ticles jazz trio plays Latin, Afro-Cuban, fusion salsa and Brazilian styles.

1-3 p.m.: The Wanderers is a Bay Area party band focusing on rock and pop classics.

3-5 p.m.: Hands of Time brings classic rock to the party.

### Sunday

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Fully Funded cranks out classic rock.

1-3 p.m.: Wild Child performs an

eclectic mix of R&B, country and pop.

3-5 p.m.: Crossing Dana closes out with rock and R&B.

A second stage, The Sereno Community Stage, will feature performances by 19 talented community groups, among whom will be students performing Irish dancing, taekwondo and jazz. Students from local dance studios are expected to participate.

See PARK, Page 7

### ALSO INSIDE – AUGUST 6, 2025

Business & Real Estate .. 20	News..... 4	Public Notices ..... 29
Comment ..... 8	Obituaries ..... 31	Schools ..... 12
Community..... 9	On The Road ..... 17	Sports..... 14
Datebook..... 30	Pet of the Week ..... 11	Stepping Out..... 16



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# Around Town

## A night at the movies in the hills



COURTESY OF EMINA MAHIC/TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

The Los Altos Hills Youth Commission hosted a Movie Night at the Park this past Friday (Aug. 1) at Purissima Park. Participants brought blankets and lawn chairs to watch the featured movie. Organizers screened Disney's island adventure, "Moana 2," in keeping with a tropical theme for the event. Event attendance was "decent," observed Emina Mahic, recreation services supervisor. "We had a Mister Softee ice cream truck and a taco truck. We served hot cocoa, popcorn and trinkets for the kids."



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# News

## Library interior remodel plans to be reviewed

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Library Commission is set to get an update Thursday (Aug. 7) on an estimated \$8.8 million interior remodel of the main library.

The project, intended to maximize the limited space in the 28,000-square-foot library, features a lot of glass to convey openness, and features enclosed areas for private study and meetings. The Friends of the Los Altos Library also have an enclosed space.

“After the previous round of community engagement, the architects have finalized a preferred design concept,” said Anthony Carnesecca, assistant to the city manager for Los Altos. “This design concept will be more refined and specific as the architect completes full construction drawings for the improvements.”

The work has been years in the making, as discussion has shifted from expansion to the current remodel effort.

Library commissioners will review the preferred design concept from Anderson Brule Architects, the same firm that designed the Los Altos Community Center.

According to Los Altos city staff, the design proposal is intended to: increase library effectiveness in its services; improve and update infrastructure; and incorporate community feedback, which included three public events in May.

Friends of the Library mem-

bers suggest the current plans don't give them enough space to work. Some also have questioned the comfortability with gender-neutral restrooms, preferring traditional ones. The restroom issue seemed to spark the most notable discussion, but the report concluded: “Input was generally supportive of family restrooms.”

Family restrooms are intended for those with young children as opposed to non-gendered, which anyone can use. The restrooms are recommended for the children's area.

Other needs expressed included a flexible, large community room and a need to reduce the current collections size to accommodate space.

Plans also call for updates and improvements to the library's HVAC, electrical and plumbing systems.

Members of the local Electrification Collaboration said they would be at Thursday's meeting to lobby for conversion of the library's furnace to a heat pump.

After the commission reviews the proposal at Thursday's meeting, the project will move forward to the Los Altos City Council for its approval.

Following the current design analysis in step one, architects will draw up designs in step two, draw up construction documents in phase three, and then put the project out to bid for construction. Work is targeted to begin September 2026 and finish November 2027, said Stephen Fitzgerald, deputy county librarian for the Santa Clara County Library District.

## ALPR

From Page 1

The data use must also abide by state law, specifically the California Values Act, which limits local and state authorities' cooperation with federal immigration officials.

Lagergren said that prior to a California agency user logging into the Flock Safety system taking action, they must click “accept.” It reads, “By accepting, you are agreeing that you will not use any Flock Safety technology (software, hardware, or otherwise) to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes.”

Lagergren also noted that Flock restricted search access for California agencies a few weeks ago after concerns about sharing information with federal agencies.

“For a search to be conducted in the Flock system, a user has to enter a reason for the search. This can be either a case number or incident number or it can be a description of the type of investigation. If a user enters a description of the type of investigation for which the search is being run, the Flock system will not allow a user to conduct a search if they used certain keywords to describe the type of investigation (ex: ‘Immigration,’ ‘ICE,’ etc.)”

While some authorities search the Los Altos Police Department directly, she said many local ALPR systems are searched in what are called “network audits.” These are when the whole Flock camera network is searched, usually related to just one specific license plate.

“It is typical and most common for officers to search statewide rather than selecting only certain networks when they search for a particular license plate since this would be extremely tedious to do,” she said. “It also logs the number of networks that are being searched. Typically, the number of networks searched is in the 300s or higher, meaning the officer is just running the license plate for any ‘hit’ in any jurisdiction.”

She said there have been no searches with the keywords “immigration” or “abortion” as

LOS ALTOS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ALPR Data Sharing Agreement

(Agency Name)

has requested access to data generated by the Los Altos Police Department's Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) system.

Per this agreement, ALPR data shared by the Los Altos Police Department may only be used for legitimate law enforcement or public safety purposes and consistent with applicable California law.

Per this agreement, the user agrees to conform to the California Values Act (Government Code 7282.5; Government Code 7284.2 et seq). The Los Altos Police Department ALPR data shall not be utilized for purpose of federal immigration enforcement, or shared with federal immigration agencies include Immigration and Customs (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP). The Los Altos Police Department ALPR data shall not be utilized for investigating or criminalizing persons seeking reproductive or gender affirming health care.

Agreed on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Agency Name)

(Signature) (Date)

(Print Name) (Rank)

Email completed agreements to Sergeant Almee Major at [amajor@losaltosca.gov](mailto:amajor@losaltosca.gov)

SCREENSHOT OF LAPD ALPR DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

Above is the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Data Sharing Agreement all agencies must sign when accessing the Los Altos Police Department's ALPR system.

a search reason after checking the past several months of network searches.

“When our network was searched, the majority of the time it was included with several hundred other networks and agencies weren't specifically searching just the Los Altos Police Department's network, though this did happen a few times with some of our neighboring agencies,” she said. “All of those searches were compliant with the city's policy, including a case number connected to the search.”

But as concern grows, in addition to quarterly organization audits and an annual external organization audit, Lagergren said she's instructed staff to conduct a quarterly network audit to check how agencies are searching the city's data.

“The Organization Audit is a list of all the searches run through any and all Flock networks by each user of the Los Altos Police Department,” she said. “The Network Audit covers the entire network of Flock systems, to include the Los Altos Police Department's Flock system and every other network that either shares their data with us or with whom we share our data. It is important for us to verify that our data is being used in a lawful manner by other agencies.”

Some notable searches she found in the last few months

include:

- Four June Riverside County Sheriff's Office network searches related to an ICE search warrant. As it was a network search, it did not target Los Altos specifically.

- An April 22 California Highway Patrol “ICE case.” “The majority of Flock searches are searching for a particular vehicle,” Lagergren said. “Though this could potentially be a violation, there may also be a legitimate law enforcement reason for the search being run.”

- Network searches related to an FBI kidnapping case and a Joint Terrorism Task Force case searched by the San Francisco, Los Angeles or Irvine police departments.

Cases related to, or including terms like “FBI” can often be lawful searches, Lagergren said, as they can be related to complex or high-profile cases, like homicides or human trafficking cases.

“Numerous local jurisdictions also have officers assigned to federal task forces such as DEA, FBI and JTTF and these officers can use Flock in the course of their duties as long as it isn't used for immigration and abortion enforcement,” she said.

*To visit the Los Altos ALPR Flock Safety transparency board, visit [transparency.flocksafety.com/los-altos-capd](https://transparency.flocksafety.com/los-altos-capd).*

## MVFD extinguishes fence fire

Town Crier Report

A fire pit is the culprit in a fence fire Mountain View Fire Department officials extinguished Sunday morning. The damages to contents and structure are estimated at \$5,000.

Firefighters responded to a 911 call reporting a fence fire in the 100 block of Gladys Avenue early Sunday morning and arrived at the scene at 2:42 a.m. Arriving units found a “fully involved” fence in flames, endangering the single-story home on the lot, according to a Mountain View Fire Department press release.

Firefighters extinguished the fire without injury and residents were allowed to return home.

The fire, determined to be accidental, was ignited by a fire pit used earlier in the evening that was positioned too closely to combustible materials.

## 40 Main project targeted for 2027 finish



PHOTO AT LEFT BY MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN; IMAGE AT RIGHT FROM 40MAIN.COM

A barren lot, left, currently occupies 40 Main St. in downtown Los Altos, after developers demolished an old office building last month to make way for a five-story, mixed-use structure, right.

### Town Crier Report

Work on a 66-foot-tall, five-story mixed-use project for 40 Main St. is set to get underway this month, according to the developers.

The nearly 35,000-square-foot project calls for 15 residential units and nearly 3,200 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor. In an email to the Town Crier, developer Ted Sorensen indicated completion is targeted for early 2027.

When it's completed, the building will dwarf the single- and two-story buildings

around it. The plans were made possible by the passage of state Senate Bill 35 in 2017, which streamlined the approval process and allowed high-density in exchange for below-market-rate (BMR) housing. Two of the units will be BMRs.

Ultimately, the project is the outcome of repeatedly thwarted attempts going back to 2007 to build a three-story office building at the site.

The original plans drew opposition over height and lack of parking, but developers Ted and Jerry Sorensen switched gears in 2019 with the five-story plan as housing laws en-

couraged development.

The city of Los Altos filed suit against the developers, under direction of the city council at the time, claiming the percentage of units proposed were lower than the 67% required under SB35. The city lost, and paid the Sorensens nearly \$500,000 in damages.

Unique to project plans are four "modern automated" parking stalls with "easy" in and out access. "Safer and more convenient than your own garage," reads promotional material on the 40main.com website.

## Fligor claims fast start in assessor's race

### Town Crier Report

Los Altos Vice Mayor Neysa Fligor has raised more than \$100,000 so far in her campaign for Santa Clara County Assessor.

Fligor announced her candidacy June 26 for the Nov. 4 special election to succeed longtime assessor Larry Stone. Stone retired last month from the office.

Fligor has also been racking up endorsements quickly from local leaders since she announced, many of whom noted they are impressed by her campaign's quick ramp-up.

"Given that Neysa got into the race only a few weeks ago, it is impressive and telling that she is gaining momentum fast – this is not a surprise since people are quickly realizing she is the most qualified and best candidate for this job," said former Santa Clara County Supervisor and supporter Joe Simitian.

"I'm honored and humbled by the outpouring of support for my campaign," Fligor said. And keep watching because we're just getting started! I am confident we will reach our campaign fundraising goal."

Fligor will likely have competition from former Saratoga Mayor Yan Zhao, whose main background is in electrical engineering and computer science. The deadline for candidate filing is this Friday (Aug. 8).

Fligor's supporters include former Assessor Larry Stone, Sunnyvale Mayor Larry Klein, Mountain View Mayor Ellen Kamei, former Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors Presidents Rod Diridon, Sr., Liz Kniss and Dianne McKenna and a majority of the Sunnyvale and Mountain View city council members. For the full list of current endorsers, visit [voteneysaforassessor.com/endorse](http://voteneysaforassessor.com/endorse).

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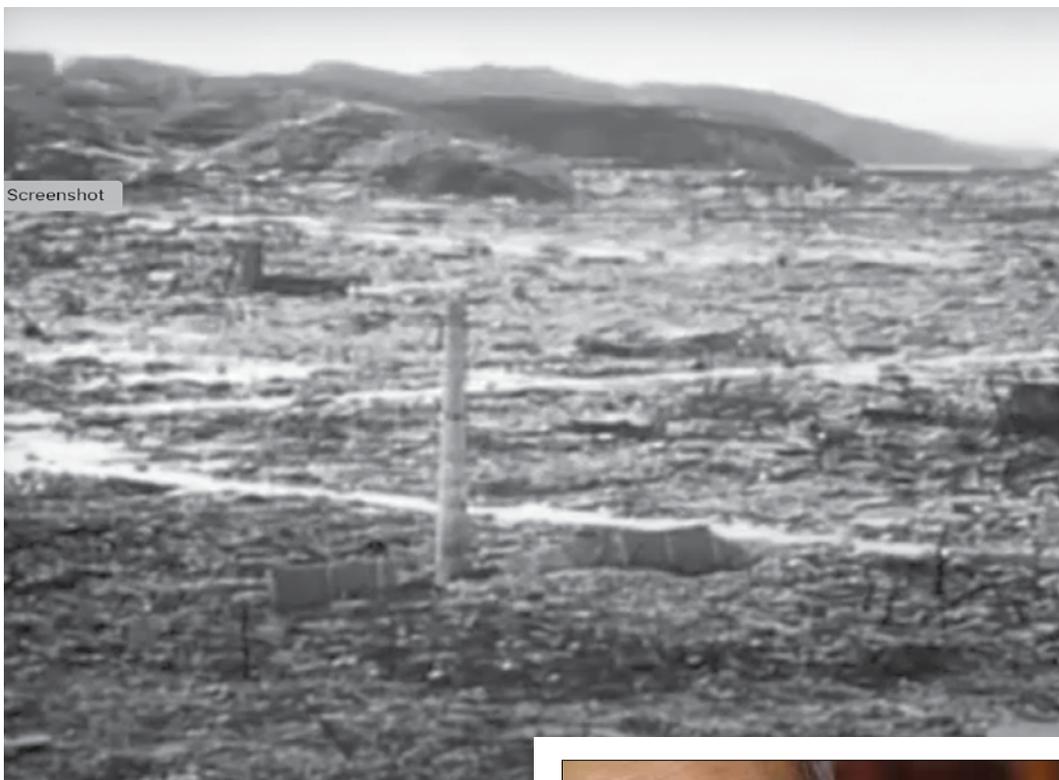
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# News

## The horrors of Hiroshima: 80 years on



STILLS FROM THE FILM "PAPER LANTERNS"  
The first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, above, completely flattened the city. Tens of thousands of civilians lost their lives in a flash. At right is survivor Shigeaki Mori.

In different ways, two upcoming local events remind us of the ever-present dangers of nuclear weapons



Town Crier Report

Today (Aug. 6) marks the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, its devastating result repeated three days later in Nagasaki. These brought an end to the war with Japan in 1945, but also established the threat of nuclear war that remains today.

Two local events this week reflect on this infamous anniversary.

On Friday, the Peninsula/Palo Alto chapter of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom hosts the event, "Never Again! 80 Years from Hiroshima: The Current Danger, and the Resistance."

Helen Jaccard of the Golden Rule Project, Veterans for Peace, gives an illustrated talk about a unique group of peace activists that, in 1958, set sail in a repurposed boat to observe the testing of U.S. nuclear missiles in the Marshall Islands.

The ketch called Golden Rule continues to this day, patrolling test sites in peaceful protests, and visiting coastal cities to raise awareness of the danger of nuclear weapons.

The event is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the Orchard Room of the Los Altos main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road.

Then on Sunday, the Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) in Mountain View will present a screening of director Barry Frechette's documentary "Paper Lanterns," a film that focuses on the little-known American prisoners of war who were among the victims of the Hiroshima blast.

The documentary chronicles the story of atomic bomb survivor Shigeaki Mori, who, through years of research, unraveled the story of Normand Brissette, Ralph Neal and the 10 other American POWs killed by the bombing of Hiroshima.

Nobuko Saito Cleary of Los Altos Hills was the film's executive producer.

The event is scheduled to begin 3 p.m. at CSMA, 230 San Antonio Circle. Included are video messages from John Roos, former U.S. ambassador to Japan and the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

A Q&A and a Japanese Bon Dance performance follow the screening.

Both events are free.

To attend or for more information about "Paper Lanterns," visit [arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org).

For more information about the talk at the library, e-mail [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com).

**Subscribe to the Town Crier – (650) 948-9000, ext. 306.**

## PARK From Page 1

### Food and beverages

Refresh yourself with great food available around both the Sutter Health Main Stage and the Sereno Community Stage. Try Aurum, Chef Chu's Chinese, Mr. Falafel, Olde Tyme Kettle Korn, Redwood Grill, State of Mind pizza and Taco Al Vapor. California Crepe and Baskin-Robbins will be there to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Relax while tasting and discussing wines from two craft vintners, Testarossa Winery and Marchelle Wines. Craft beers will also be available.

The Los Altos Rotary Club is green and clean. Water is available in reusable, metal bottles. Water is also available within Lincoln Park's two water fountains, one near the Main Street entrance and the other at the Sutter Health Main Stage. Leashed dogs can drink from these fountains, too.

### Parking and shuttles

As depicted on the map, drivers can find free parking and round-trip, free shuttle service to the show at the following locations: Almond School, 550

Almond Ave.; Los Altos High School, 201 Almond Ave.; and the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. Note that between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, parking will not be available at the community center.

Both the community center and the Chamber of Commerce have designated ADA parking places. For cyclists, GreenTown Los Altos will offer bike valet service on University Avenue near Edith Avenue. Note that in the downtown area, construction projects are occurring.

### Rotary gives back

Fine Art in the Park is a fundraiser. All show profits flow to a variety of Rotary's local and international beneficiaries, exemplifying Rotary's motto: "Service Above Self." As you walk away with stunning art that touches your heart, know that you are part of an ongoing giving circle.

*For more information, visit [rotary-artshow.com](http://rotary-artshow.com).*

The map, right, shows parking locations for Fine Art in the Park. Organizers also are offering shuttle service from each of the locations.

## PARKING

Free Parking and Shuttle locations are available in Los Altos shown on the map below.

**Day Parking and Shuttle Service are offered at each parking location:**

- Almond School: 550 Almond Avenue
- Los Altos Community Center: 97 Hillview Avenue
- Los Altos High School: 201 Almond Avenue

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Author:  
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# Comment

## The last ride

By Allyson Johnson

I loved the freedom of riding a bicycle ever since I first learned to balance my balloon-tired Schwinn on the tar roads I grew up with. As a child I could ride as far as the neighborhoods that had pavement and sidewalks and could admire the columned porches and vast green lawns behind the fences. When I was 12, I won a three-speed lightweight bike in a contest. I was over the moon. That bike took me through college, getting me to class on time as I swooped past plodding pedestrians, until in my senior year I left it unlocked for just a few minutes and it was gone.

After I was married, my husband and I treated each other to Raleigh three-speeds, as we had only one car. I would pedal across town to the home of a coworker and we would carpool together; I drove the carpool on alternate weeks, while my husband would either bike or bus to his job.

Our children started out on bike seats on the back of our bikes, then we encouraged them to learn to ride themselves. Once they had mastered their bikes, we took them and the bikes to Yosemite, to San Francisco, to Monterey and on every bike trail within 30 miles.

Years later, my husband

## A Piece of My Mind

had a fall a few years ago and his knees are going out, but I continued to ride my bicycle, against his advice, on local errands: to the library, to my hairdresser, to the blood bank. “What if you have a crash?” he would ask me. “People are going to read about it in the paper and say, ‘What the heck is a woman that age doing on a bicycle anyway?’”

“I’m careful,” I said. “I’m not going to crash.” And I didn’t, exactly.

I hopped on my bike on a Saturday morning to pick up some bagels from the House of Bagels, about a 15-minute ride from my house. A lovely morning – just enough high clouds to keep cool, no traffic. I sailed along the main street on the way to the bagel shop, taking a few detours on loop streets to admire the jacaranda trees in bloom, check out the progress of the construction projects, see if there were any windfall fruits to be picked up. I zoomed into the parking lot by the bagel shop – and my brain froze.

I couldn’t remember how to dismount from the bike.

I had had a little trouble dismounting the last couple of

## Peek into the past



COURTESY OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

A large crowd watched the 1964 USA Swimming National Championships that were held at Foothill College July 30 to Aug. 2. Three world records were broken at the meet – two by Don Schollander and one by Marilyn Ramenofsky. Don won four gold medals and Marilyn took a silver at the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo in October.

times I had ridden; the most recent time, I managed somehow to give my shin a good whack and had raised a faint blue bruise. But I had gotten off this bicycle hundreds of times. The act should have been deep in my muscle memory, something I did without thinking. Now I had to think. To dismount, I only had to do in reverse what I had so easily done getting on: lean on the left pedal, swing my leg up and over the seat and rear wheel, apply the brakes. I circled around the parking lot and tried again. No way. Nothing but icy fear of losing my balance, of falling.

There was a high curb with a railing not far from the bagel shop. I pulled up to that, stopped, and then managed to step up onto the curb, hold onto the railing and haul my leg over the cross bar. Shaken, I walked the bike across the lot to my usual lockup spot next to the

bagel shop. “That was weird,” I thought. “That was really weird.”

I bought two bagels, swung onto my bike with no problem, rode home, rode up my driveway – and my brain froze again. I couldn’t do it. I could not swing myself off. My muscle memory had gone dead.

I braked and with some difficulty managed to get my leg over the crossbar without falling over. I trundled my bike into the garage and parked it next to my husband’s bike, which was covered in cobwebs. His tires were so flat the wheel rims touched the ground. I stood looking at it for a few moments.

Then I locked my bike up as usual, went into the house, and emailed the local bicycle exchange. “I have two bikes to donate.” Within two days, the bicycles and all associated accessories were gone.

I know this was a good

decision. I have several friends who have been injured severely when their bikes slipped out from under them. But I miss the freedom of riding my bike. I miss being able to stop and inspect changes in my neighbor’s gardens, to take short cuts through suburban bikeways, to not worry about parking. I’m envious of the people who are trying out the newly painted bike lanes on El Camino and El Monte. It’s no fun driving to my hairdresser. On Saturday morning my husband goes for the bagels now.

There’s an empty space in our garage. I expect it will gradually fill up with the things that go into garages. I hope the empty spaces in my mind will fill up, too.

*Johnson is a longtime resident and Town Crier contributor. Read more at allysonjohnson.com.*

## Letters to the Editor

The Town Crier welcomes letters to the editor on current events pertinent to Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. Drop us a line at 138 Main St., Los Altos 94022, Attn: Editor, or email letters to bruceb@latc.com. Because editorial space is limited, please confine letters to no more than 200 words. Include a phone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be printed.



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# Community

## Poetry, art combine forces for new exhibit at community center

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos Community Center is once again highlighting the creativity of local artists as the Parks, Arts, Recreation and Cultural Commission unveils its latest art exhibit, “My Illustrated Poem.” Installed on June 30, the exhibit will run through October and invites visitors to experience poetry through the eyes and brushes of local artists.

Following the success of last season’s “Life in Los Altos” exhibit, which celebrated community landmarks like Redwood Grove, DeMartini Orchard, Orange Avenue and downtown Los Altos, “My Illustrated Poem” shifts focus to the emotional world of language and vi-

sual interpretation. In response to an open call for art issued by the commission, local residents created original artworks inspired by poems – either classic or contemporary – that spoke to them.

“Illustrating poetry is an excellent way to explore literary devices such as imagery, metaphor and cadence,” said PARC Commission chair Janet Corrigan. “This exhibit reflects not only the creativity of our residents, but also the deep personal connection they feel to the written word. It’s a beautiful dialogue between poetry and painting.”

Each piece in the exhibit is paired with the poem that inspired it, allowing viewers to reflect on how rhythm, character



COURTESY OF JANET CORRIGAN

“Unfurls,” from 16-year-old Taryn Hwang, is among the “My Illustrated Poem” works currently exhibited at the Los Altos Community Center.

and language can be translated into visual form. The styles vary widely – from delicate watercolors to bold mixed-media compositions – and each work invites the viewer to experience poetry in a new and unexpected way.

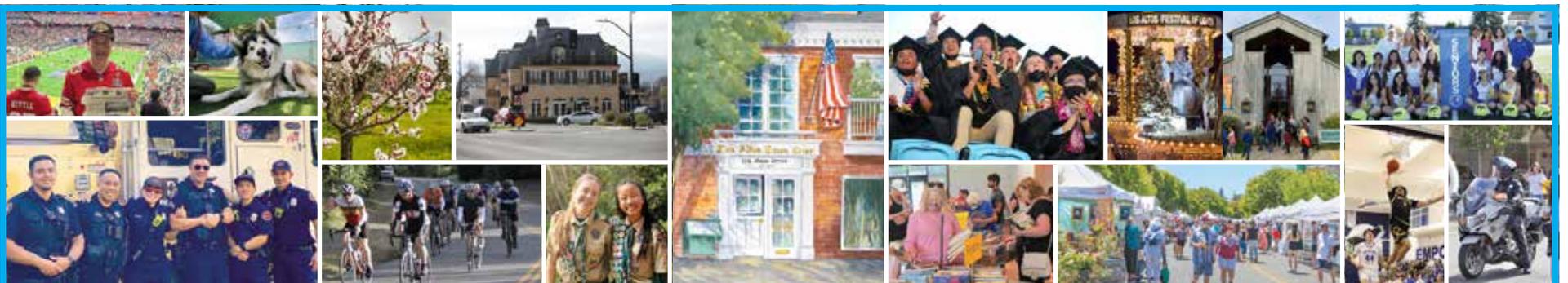
“The rotating exhibits are incredibly special not only because they feature beautiful and inspiring art, but also because they regularly feature art by adults and children of all ages,” said vice chair Terri Couture,

who was part of the team that installed this latest exhibition.

The commission continues to support public art that reflects the spirit and voice of the Los Altos community. The “My Illustrated Poem” exhibit is free and open to the public during regular community center hours. The next call for art at the community center, scheduled for later this year, will feature the theme: “Around the World in Los Altos: My Cultural Heritage.”

Manny Hernandez, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, said “The city and the PARC Commission welcome ideas and suggestions for future calls for art. Residents should reach out to Couture, Jeanine Valadez, Teresa Morris and David Young, who are also members of the commission.”

For more information on this and future exhibitions, or to learn how to submit work for upcoming calls for art, visit the city of Los Altos website at [losaltosca.gov](http://losaltosca.gov).



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## Museum holds garden scavenger hunt

Town Crier Report

Celebrate the legacy of Isabel Merriman – gardener, animal advocate and sister of Sarah Winchester – with a garden scavenger hunt for all ages. Los Altos History Museum invites the public to explore its garden during “Isabel’s Scavenger Hunt” on Saturday, Aug. 9, from noon to 4 p.m. in support of its exhibition “Building El Sueño: Isabel Merriman, Sarah Winchester, and the California Dream.”

“We wanted to create a program that reflected who Isabel was and what she cared deeply about,” said Amy Ellison, the museum’s curator and director of exhibitions. “She had a deep love for plants and animals – values we hold here at the museum.”

Attendees will receive a handout with plant photos and clues to guide their hunt through the museum’s garden. Volunteers will be stationed along the way to answer questions and share gardening tips.

Isabel was an advocate for animal welfare. To honor that legacy, visitors can meet and interact with friendly therapy dogs from Palo Alto Humane Society’s “Visiting Pals” program between noon and 2 p.m.

*Admission is free. For more information, visit [losaltoshistory.org/IsabelsHunt](http://losaltoshistory.org/IsabelsHunt).*

## Scouting News

### Troop 30 scouts earn Eagle rank

Los Altos Scout Troop 30 celebrated four scouts who recently earned the Eagle rank at a Court of Honor Ceremony Aug. 16 at Christ Episcopal Church.

The four scouts and their Eagle projects:

**Ryan Fernandes**, a senior at Bellarmine High School, led the construction of an outdoor exercise par course with three workout apparatus for Georgina P. Blach Intermediate School in Los Altos.

The sports staff at the school suggested that this outdoor exercise course would be useful for both school and community. The sports teachers selected three sets of professional playground apparatus.

Ryan prepared the area by clearing the grass, dug foundations to accurately set the apparatus in the ground using 2,500 pounds of concrete, built a playground barrier around the 600-square-foot area, created a gravel and gold fines ADA ramp and finally filled the area with more than five tons of rubber nuggets.

**Rohan Gadde**, a senior at Mt. View High School, designed and built a mosaic at Oak Avenue Elementary School to honor the Ohlone people.

The school didn’t have any visual recognition of the Native history of the area, so he



COURTESY OF PETER TRAN

Troop 30 in Los Altos has announced a new quartet of Eagle Scouts. Pictured from left are Ryan Fernandes, Rohan Gadde, Humza Dalal and Logan Tran.

thought creating a mosaic would be a meaningful way to both educate and add something lasting to the campus.

This mosaic complements a small native plant garden a teacher created to teach her students about native plants and the local Indigenous peoples during their unit on the subject.

**Humza Dalal**, a recent graduate of Homestead High School who will be attending UC San Diego in the fall, built birdhouse posts and benches for Idylwood Care Center in Sunnyvale.

One of the facility’s unique features was its sensory gar-

den, a peaceful outdoor space providing relief to patients who often spend long hours indoors. However, following the COVID-19 pandemic, the sensory garden fell into disrepair.

Humza was initially tasked with building a large “tree” structure with 20 bird houses, however, he learned that it would not be ideal for attracting birds.

He reworked the project to place the birdhouses in better locations along with using non-toxic paint and nesting-friendly dimensions.

**Logan Tran**, a junior at Menlo High School, designed and built a specialized utility

cart tailored to the needs of the bike repair team at Hope’s Corner.

The purpose of this cart is to reduce the physical strain on volunteers by allowing them to easily transport their tools and supplies around the facility.

The cart had to meet several key specifications: it accommodates six 10-gallon storage bins, includes a tool tray on top, holds up to three bicycle wheels, and fits through a narrow 25-inch doorway.

It is also equipped with rugged wheels for mobility and built with durability in mind to withstand the weight of heavy tools and bike parts.



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## Liz Zoltan, 67: Former Foothill dean; Mary Olson, 98: Loyola School teacher

Town Crier Report

Elizabeth “Liz” Zoltan, a higher education administrator who served as dean of business social sciences at Foothill College, died June 19 due to head trauma sustained in an accidental fall. She was 67 and lived in Naples, Florida.

Zoltan was the wife of former San Jose State University President Robert Caret. She was known as “First Lady” at SJSU, where she taught as a professor in engineering.

Born in Camden, New Jersey, Zoltan grew up in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where she distinguished herself academically, graduating second in a high school class of nearly 2,000.

She earned three degrees from Johns Hopkins University in engineering psychology, culminating in a doctorate with a focus on computer interface design.

Zoltan began her teaching career at Towson University, where she met Caret. There, she taught a range of courses including statistics, research methods, industrial psychology and ergonomics.

Throughout her career, Zoltan held key academic and administrative positions. She

served as assistant and associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts at Towson University, where she played a pivotal role in establishing the Honors College. Later, she joined the faculty at San Jose State University and became dean of business and social sciences at Foothill College.

Returning to Maryland in 2003, she was appointed vice president of academic affairs at Frederick Community College.

Known for her warmth, intelligence and sense of fun, Zoltan was a vibrant presence at events and in everyday life.

“Liz was the life of the party,” said longtime friend Susan Meybohm. “She could talk with everyone. She was precise and meticulous in everything she did.”

Another close friend, Barbara Frey, described Zoltan as a natural problem-solver and steady presence.

“People felt they could go to Liz. She had a genuine concern for others.”

Zoltan is survived by her husband, Robert L. Caret, chancellor emeritus of the University System of Maryland; her daughters, Kellen Barats of Idyllwild, California, and Katelynn Ford of Olivehurst, California; her stepchildren, Katherine Addis of Hanover, Pennsylvania, and Colin Caret of Leiden, Netherlands; and three grandchildren.



Zoltan

A memorial service will be held at a later date to celebrate her life and legacy.

### Mary Gildersleeve Olson

Mary Gildersleeve Olson, a longtime and popular teacher at Loyola School in Los Altos in the 1960s, died June 28 at Carolina Reserve in Laurel Park, N.C. Olson was 98.

Born in 1927 in Santa Cruz, Olson began teaching in Kansas City in the 1950s. She moved with her husband John to California in 1965, and Olson began her long career as a first-grade teacher at Loyola School.

Olson encouraged her students to problem-solve and she focused on multiculturalism before it became mainstream.

In 1993, after 43 years of teaching, Mary and John Olson retired to Flat Rock, N.C.

She is preceded in death by her husband. A memorial will be held later this year.

## Pet of the Week



COURTESY OF PETS IN NEED

Minnie Meow is a 10-week-old kitten ready for adoption at Pets In Need. Staff describe the tiny 2-pound kitty as “full of fun.” Minnie Meow came from a partner shelter in the Central Valley, and now is looking for a home “full of love, laughter and maybe a plush castle bed,” staff said. To adopt Minnie Meow, contact Pets In Need at (650) 496-5971 or visit [petsinneed.org](http://petsinneed.org).

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# Schools

## Foothill-De Anza immigrant students face visa challenges

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Students worldwide enroll in the various Bay Area colleges to seek out new opportunities, connections or to contribute to their local communities back home. However, many international students this year are struggling to get permission to study in the United States and the local colleges are now facing the consequences.

According to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs in a May report, there has been a drop in the F-1 Student Visas, a nonimmigrant passport that permits students to live and study in the U.S., compared to the previous year. President Donald J. Trump also on June 4 issued a total visa ban on Afghanistan, Burma (Myanmar), Chad, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. He said in an official statement that these countries are suspended because they "amplify risks" and are connected to acts of ter-

rorism.

Jennifer L. Brook, the executive director of International Student Programs at Foothill and De Anza colleges, said that many students are having trouble obtaining their visas this year. She said that since the president's travel ban, the visa process has been backlogged. This has prevented students from countries such as Japan, South Korea and India, who have historically never faced visa issues, from knowing whether they can even attend the university in the fall.

"We're seeing now that there are certain countries outside of those (on the) banned list where the backlog to make a visa appointment is very long, when before it never was like that," she said. "Japan, for example, has never been a country where students have had an issue, and typically, when it's a bona fide student, they're approved for the visa and they're ready to come in and start studying with us. But this upcoming fall, we're having students struggle to get a visa appointment before classes



COURTESY OF CLAIRE YU

Left, Jennifer L. Brook, the executive director of International Student Programs at Foothill and De Anza colleges, is experiencing an unprecedented year with many international students' F-1 Visas being cancelled or backlogged for the upcoming school year.

start on September 22, so it's just a whole new scenario that we've never encountered."

She said there are over 300

current Burmese students enrolled this upcoming year, but many of the incoming students will be prohibited from learn-

ing at the colleges. She said this will have a significant impact on their admissions this year

See VISA, Page 13

## Los Altos teens reducing food waste by collecting produce for Hope's Corner

By Lara Leon

Town Crier Editorial Intern

While walking through his Los Altos neighborhood, Ariv Diggi said he often noticed citrus fruit hanging over fences or rotting on the ground. The sight inspired Diggi and his friend Connor Kao to do something about it.

Together, the teens co-founded the Harvesting Sustainability Project, a youth-led initiative aimed at reducing food waste and fighting hunger.

Since early June, the rising seniors from Mountain View High School said they have collected more than 400 pounds of produce from approximately 20 households, donating the fruit to local homeless shelters such as Hope's Corner in Mountain View. Their goal: to reach 1,000 pounds of produce by the end of the summer.

"Residents with extra fruit

or vegetables schedule a time through our website and our team of volunteer mobile harvesters comes to pick the produce, box it up, and deliver it – all at no cost to the donor," Diggi said in an email. "It's a win-win: neighbors don't waste food and fresh, healthy ingredients reach the people who need them most."

Diggi said he first came up with the idea during his junior year, but school demands delayed the launch until summer break. He was working on the project's website during math class one day when Kao noticed and started asking questions.

"I was just working on the website one day in class, and (Kao) kind of peeked over at my screen and started asking questions," Diggi said in an interview with the Town Crier. "What is it? 'When did you have this idea?' 'What do you do?' 'What do you plan on doing?'"



COURTESY OF ARIV DIGGI

Ariv Diggi, a rising senior at Mountain View High School, created the Harvesting Sustainability Project, a food waste initiative that picks up produce from people's homes and donates it to local food banks.

By the end of class, Diggi asked Kao to officially join as co-founder.

Since June, the two have

been driving around Los Altos with a ladder and crates in hand, collecting unwanted produce from residents' yards.

"I'll bring a ladder and a couple of crates," Diggi said.

See FOOD, Page 13

# Schools

## VISA

From Page 12

and they will continue to support the Burmese students who are still within the country. She said it is important for her and her staff to keep in touch with all of their students to see if they are working in the local area or if they have transferred to local colleges. She said it is important for her international students to connect with the American students to provide an exchange of culture and perspectives.

“I think the biggest challenge that is related to this current federal administration is the policies that they’re putting in place that make it extremely difficult or impossible for students who are interested in still coming here,” she said. They’ve applied, they’ve put in all the work and then they get to the last step of being able to come here, and then they’re shut down. So I think those are the things, the policies related to the narrative around us not being a welcoming place. I think that does definitely exist and it does turn off some students and parents. It kind of directs them to other countries or regions where they

can still get a high-quality education.”

Brook, a native of Canada and a former international student, said when these policies were first put into place, she had to pause at one point and say to herself: ‘Is it safe to travel?’ She wasn’t sure if she would be able to come back. She understands the fears students have, but would like to assure international students, who are unfamiliar with the Bay Area, that it is a welcoming community and a diverse place to live. Many underestimate the size of the United States and assume all the issues happening in one place affect the entire country, she said.

She said a big part of her job is connecting with students around the world and she enjoys the aspect of highlighting the opportunities in the region. Many countries don’t even know the Bay Area exists. She said her trips across the world help students learn the benefits of being in the region, the support they will receive and answer questions on immigration rules and regulations.

“We are thinking long term and we’re continuing, for example, to still recruit,” she

said. “We are still meeting with students and parents abroad and still supporting our students that way. We always advocate for international education, but obviously, now is a critical time for that.”

According to the Association of International Educators’ student enrollment economic impact report, California is projected to lose over \$1.13 billion with the loss of 30-40% of its international students. Brook said the international student economic benefit doesn’t just support the colleges, but generates new job opportunities for people in the housing, food and transportation industries. She said more than 80 countries represent the international student population and without them, it would be a devastating loss for the colleges.

“We’re trying to be ready for whatever the challenges ahead are in support of our student population,” she said. “It’s quite challenging, but you know, the team and the colleges have been very supportive of the students and I know that the district, from the top down, wants to continue to host and support international students.”

## SCCBOE adopts summer action plans

Town Crier Staff Report

The Santa Clara County Board of Education has been busy this summer adopting new policies and actions for the upcoming school year.

The board requested to approve a self-assessment created by Head Start, a federally funded program that provides low-income families with basic resources, including food, early education and hygiene supplies for children from infancy to 5 years old. The self-assessment will help the board know how the various Head Start sites are complying with the current administration’s standards, collect data reports and interviews with community partners and find system issues.

The 2025 assessment began in April and ends in August. There will also be an expected Corrective Action Plan in the fall that will look at additional data inconsistencies and visits with health supervisors to assess family needs. This review is expected to last into December and will allow the board to make further decisions.

The board also adopted new observations in their calendar at their July 16 meeting, including

National Immunization Awareness Month, the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month and Disability Pride Month. The board said adopting these actions aligns with their education goals of having an inclusive school environment for all and quality support.

The actions are part of the board’s efforts to ensure families are aware of immunizations, to recognize the impacts and history of the Muslim community in the Bay Area and to commit to disability-inclusive practices.

The board also issued an updated response to address district issues with immigration and the impact of suicide among students. The new immigration response said that families, regardless of their immigration status, are welcome in the community. The new suicide response provided a statement on prevention training based on national practices and research.

*The next board meeting is scheduled Aug. 6. For more information on the agendas, visit [go.boarddocs.com/ca/sccoe/Board.nsf/Public](http://go.boarddocs.com/ca/sccoe/Board.nsf/Public).*

## FOOD

From Page 12

“I introduce myself, they show me where the tree is and then I just harvest the fruit.”

Diggi added that their biggest harvest so far came from a home with more than 200 pounds of pomelos.

Once the produce is loaded

into the car, they drop it off at Hope’s Corner, where head chef Miguel Marciel Carbajal incorporates it into meals for the organization’s guests.

“In the beginning, I was scared that if I keep donating lemons, I don’t know how they’re going to use all this stuff,” Diggi said. “But Miguel has been super creative with

how he uses it.”

Looking ahead, the pair said they hope to expand the project beyond Los Altos – reaching cities like Redwood City and as far as Seattle. Kao also added that he plans to engage the community further by featuring a “Family of the Month” for top produce donors and sharing original recipes and meal kits using donated items.

“Once we get more volunteers and more families involved, we want to create small produce stands and include QR codes linking to recipes,” Kao said. “There are so many ways to get the community excited and involved.”

For teens hoping to start their own initiative, Diggi and Kao both offered the same piece of advice: Just start.

“If you have an idea and you’re passionate about it, just put yourself out there,” Kao said. “Someone out there is going to want to help you build it.”

*For more information on the Harvesting Sustainability Project, visit [bit.ly/3IJ87jF](http://bit.ly/3IJ87jF).*



COURTESY OF ARIV DIGGI

From right, Ariv Diggi and Conner Kao, his classmate, work together on the program to visit the homes of people in the area and place produce in the homes of people who need it most.

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# Sports

## Local teen tennis players host clinics for Parkinson's research

By Noor Khan

Special to the Town Crier

On a recent Sunday afternoon at Los Altos High School, community members filled the tennis courts, casually rallying under the July sun.

One court seems more energized than the rest: two teenaged coaches jump into the drills beside the kids when they're struggling, giving the young players high-fives with their tennis rackets when they master a skill.

This is a typical JAMMA, one of the program's six group classes offered weekly throughout the Bay Area and at its Sacramento branch. JAMMA offers private lessons as well. The 28-member coaching staff consists of varsity tennis players from local high schools who teach a total of 61 students ages 4-14.

The members of JAMMA don't do this for profit; they say every dollar brought in from giving lessons goes directly to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to finding a cure for Parkinson's disease.

This cause is personal to JAMMA's founders. In 2020,

five local high school students established the program to honor their longtime tennis coach, Francois Chan, who was forced to retire due to his battle with Parkinson's. According to JAMMA co-executive director and head coach Chris Lin, a rising senior at Mountain View High School, the program has raised approximately \$140,000 since its founding. So far this year, he reports JAMMA has raised \$16,000 and hopes to reach \$30,000 by year's end.

Co-executive director and head coach Adeline Shen, also a rising senior at Mountain View High, said Chan remains a member of the JAMMA advisory board and often attends the program-wide social events. However, Chan's presence is perhaps felt most in how JAMMA coaches. Shen hopes JAMMA is spreading Chan's legacy by emulating his coaching style.

"One thing that really stood out to me was how he emphasized fun and having a really playful environment," said Shen, one of Chan's former students.

Laughing, she added, "I remember when he tricked us



COURTESY OF JAMMA TENNIS CLINIC

**Chris Lin, a rising senior at Mountain View High School, is a co-executive director of JAMMA, an organization that teaches students tennis while also donating to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.**

into thinking he could fly." In an area where

opportunities abound to play most any sport at a competitive level, the coaching staff at JAMMA Tennis Clinics prioritize this spirit above all else, according to Lin. He said that this has only made their coaching more effective when it comes to developing their students' technical skills.

"At the end of the day, it's less about how many drills you can do and it's more about whether the kids are able to understand and engage," he said. "When they're engaged, that's when they can really participate and grow."

For JAMMA coaches, this means mixing games into the lesson plan and avoiding large chunks of time spent on repetitive hitting drills, according to coach Ishaan Sharma, also a rising senior at Mountain View High. In this environment, coaches often get to know their players well.

"(My favorite part) is actually talking to them, maybe between drills or during breaks, asking them

about their day," Sharma said. "All these kids are really interesting – they all have different interests, and they're much more expressive than some high-schoolers. That's why I look forward to the lessons every week."

As the students grow older and progress to the advanced classes with higher-intensity drills, Lin described the tight-knit environment that comes with having relationships spanning up to two years.

"The classes we have are such a little unit where everyone knows each other, and we've got running jokes," Lin said.

Looking ahead, JAMMA hopes to bring back its clinic at Gunn High School and recruit more local high school students as coaches, according to Sharma.

"We want to expand in different areas because we know that this organization can help everyone love



COURTESY OF JAMMA TENNIS CLINIC

**JAMMA is a not-for-profit organization; the money that students paid to be coached goes directly to the charities. JAMMA was founded by five local students whose tennis coach was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.**

See CLINICS, Page 15

# Sports

## Fall sports coverage coming soon



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTOS

There are many sports to get excited about in the fall, such as football, track and field and women's volleyball. Before the season is underway, fall try-out season will take place this week between Friday and this upcoming Monday. Stay tuned for the game schedules to be released.

### CLINICS From Page 14

tennis," he said.

Coaches wrap up the last week of their summer clinics – which they have hosted

in addition to their standard classes – Friday (Aug. 8).

JAMMA offers weekly classes at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels; clinics are offered locally at Blach Intermediate School, Los Altos High and

Cooper Park. Cost is \$25 per hour for group clinics and \$40 per hour for private lessons.

*To register for a class and for more information on JAMMA, visit [jammatennis.com/index.html](http://jammatennis.com/index.html).*

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

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# Stepping Out

## Matchbox Open Mic at Red Rock provides teens a place to perform

By Amelia Yuan

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Mountain View's Red Rock Coffee has hosted open mic nights for decades; more recently it has also hosted a similar event specifically for teens.

Known as Matchbox Open Mic, it's held 6-8 p.m. one Saturday a month at the coffee shop on Castro Street. The next one is scheduled for Aug. 23.

Not only are the performers teens – so are the organizers. Jordan Rahmfeld launched Matchbox in the fall of 2023 when she was a senior at Los Altos High School and part of the school's poetry slam team. Kaiden Luis, a rising senior at LAHS who was also on the team, helped Rahmfeld organize Matchbox and now runs the event.

The idea for the teen open

mic originated after they discovered a lack of creative spaces for performance close to home, according to Luis.

"We really fell in love with slam poetry and open mics ... and we were like, 'This is an amazing art form, and it sucks that we have to drive an hour up to San Francisco every month to have to find this space,'" he said.

Luis added that his goal with

matchbox is "to have a community that is there to value art created by people their age."

The lineup primarily features musical performers – such as singers and bands – along with poets and stand-up comedians, but Luis said it is open to almost any sort of performer. While performers can be teens of any age, they are most often high-schoolers.

The Matchbox nights are free, with donations welcome, and all ages can come watch.

Adam Orrin, a rising senior at Homestead High School who performed a stand-up comedy act at the April 26 event, credited the welcoming environment at Matchbox as one of the reasons he performed.

"The reason I signed up is I'd gone a couple times to support friends, and I was kind of interested in trying something new and putting myself out there," he said. "And I kind of knew, going into it, that the community there was really nice. So even if I was really awful, they would all clap at the end. I think that instilled a little confidence in me to go out there and try something new."

Although this marked the first time Orrin performed his comedy act in front of an audience, the teen said he felt supported throughout the event. He said the experience also inspired him to become more involved with artistic opportunities at school.

"Going into it, I definitely felt like I was going to throw up. I won't lie, it's kind of

nerve wracking doing something like that and being vulnerable," he said. "But people laughed and enjoyed it. And I think that was very affirming, and I got a lot of compliments afterwards ... the fact that the people there were very supportive afterwards, it made me feel really good about coming out and doing it."

Support for Matchbox has grown since its inception. The first event drew 17 attendees – including performers – according to Luis, but now the entire second floor of Red Rock is often full on Matchbox nights.

"We've definitely grown a lot, and it's beautiful to see the friendships that are made at Matchbox, because a lot of people communicate with people they've never met before," Luis said.

Orrin noted that his experience as a performer revealed that despite the large audience, the crowd remains supportive.

"A lot of times when you perform something, or you share something, you often feel like you're being judged," said Orrin, who was in the audience a few times before performing. "But when you're at Matchbox, it feels a lot more like you're all just sitting in your living room, like it's just some friends hanging out."

*For more information on Matchbox and to sign-up as a performer (limited to 21 acts per night), visit @thematchbox.openmic on Instagram.*

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COURTESY OF BRYCE LIN

Red Rock Coffee hosts an open mic night for teens once a month. The next event is Aug. 23. Jordan Rahmfeld, who was a senior at Los Altos High School in 2023 when she created the event, said it allows local students in the area to connect and to watch creative performances.

# On the Road

On the Road is published the first week of every month. For advertising information, email [sales@latc.com](mailto:sales@latc.com).

## 2025 Ford Maverick XLT AWD makes improvements – at a cost

By Mike Hagerty

### Auto Review

Let's call it a good news-bad news kind of thing. The good news first: The 2025 Ford Maverick small pickup truck has been refreshed and improved, with several key changes compared to the 2022 model I reviewed in these pages and pixels ("On The Road," June 2022).

Two powertrain choices (a 2.5-liter hybrid with a continuously variable transmission or a 2.0-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder with an eight-speed automatic) remain, and now, all-wheel drive is available as an option on hybrid models.

All Mavericks get a bigger touchscreen (13.2 inches) as standard equipment, and standard active safety features now include lane-departure warning, with a

surround-view camera and traffic sign recognition optional at extra cost.

The exterior styling gets some tweaks with a more distinctive grille and headlights.

I drove the Maverick XLT Hybrid with all-wheel drive. It's still a fuel economy champ, with only a slight drop in mileage due to the AWD – now 40 city/34 highway. The Maverick is extremely pleasant to drive, with adequate acceleration, a smooth ride and light handling. You'll have to remind yourself that you're driving a pickup. The experience feels more like a small SUV. It shares a platform with the Ford Escape and Bronco Sport ("On The Road," June 2021).



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE HAGERTY

While the 2025 Ford Maverick has been refreshed since Hagerty reviewed the 2022 model, the price tag (with a level-down trim) is higher than the 2022 model. Is it worth it? Read on for more.

OK, now the bad news: The '22 Maverick I reviewed here three years ago stickered at \$27,660 with options, destination, everything. This one is nearly 10 grand more

– \$36,860. And it's one trim level down from the Lariat I reviewed three years ago.

What happened? Well, we can't blame tariffs, yet. The Maverick is assembled

in Hermosillo, Mexico, so it's possible the price at your dealer will be higher by the time you read this (or not),

See MAVERICK, Page 19

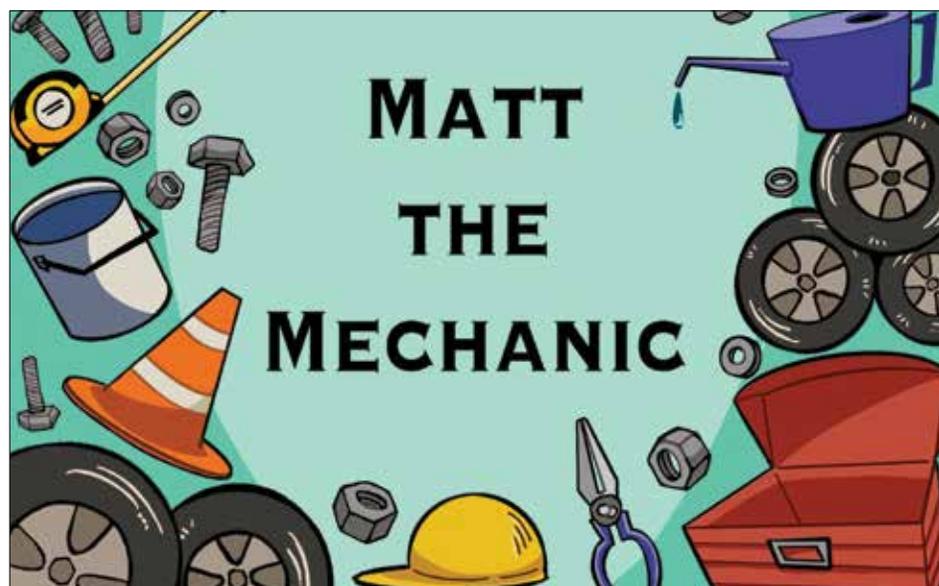
## Avoiding shortcuts when problem solving helps down the road

By Matt Pataky

Recently, we had a customer bring in their 2003 Nissan Pathfinder. They stated that while driving on the freeway, the car started to hesitate and then just shut down. They coasted to the side of the road and the car would not start again – it would crank but not start. The customer then called a tow truck and had the car delivered to the shop.

Once the car was in the shop, we confirmed the no-start condition. We then tested the battery. The battery tests at 9.8 volts at 250 amps. That test was low, but the battery was still turning the starter over. We then connected the scanner and pulled codes – a P1615 no key read/difference of key and P1610 Lock Mode. We then checked the signal from the key to the immobilizer. The immobilizer did not see the key.

Before I discuss what we did, let's first define what an immobilizer is. The immobilizer is the handshake between the key and the engine control module. Immobilizers were put into production in the late 1990s as an anti-theft device. They became standard equipment by 1998. There is an immobilizer chip inside your key that must be paired with the immobi-



RACHEL ARONSON/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Columnist Matt Pataky explains his process for fixing cars with various issues.

lizer module in the car. If the car does not see the chip, it shuts down the fuel system, ignition system or starter motor.

If you lose a key and need to add a new one, all the keys have to be paired at the same time. For example, let's say you have two keys and a loose one. To buy a new key from the dealer, you have to produce paperwork that proves you own the car. Once you receive the new key, you must then take it to an authorized

repair facility to have it programmed to the car. If there are multiple keys, all of them have to be present during programming. If a key is not present during programming, it becomes invalid.

Once we knew we had a key immobilizer code, we called the customer and asked if they had another key for the car. They said yes and brought in two keys. Once we had all three keys, we tested again. First, we tried each key, yet the car would not start,

### Matt the Mechanic

and the keys were not communicating with the immobilizer module. We then attempted to reprogram the keys, but this was also unsuccessful. No matter what we did with the keys, the immobilizer could not see them.

We then checked the immobilizer antenna ring mounted to the car's ignition cylinder lock. This antenna reads the chip inside of the key and sends the signal to the immobilizer module. After testing the antenna, we could see that it was not communicating with the immobilizer module. We then called the customer and got authorization to replace the immobilizer antenna.

We then had to gain access to the ignition cylinder lock and remove the old immobilizer antenna. We installed the new antenna and began testing before reassembling all the parts. With the scanner connected we could see that the new antenna was now sending a signal from the key to the immobilizer module. We tested all three keys again and saw their signal getting to the immobilizer

See PROACTIVE, Page 19

## Slept-on 2026 Genesis GV70 leaps to the top of luxury options

By Mike Hagerty

The best-kept secret in the automotive industry?

Hands down, Genesis.

The late Gary Anderson and his wife Genie did the first review of a Genesis vehicle for the Town Crier almost eight and a half years ago (“On The Road,” March 2017), and there have been seven more since then. This will be the ninth.

And still, I get emails asking, “What’s a Genesis? Who makes it?”

Short version: Genesis is the luxury division of Hyundai. It makes a range of sedans and SUVs, both gasoline and electric-powered.

### Auto Review

Genesis has followed the Lexus (the luxury division of Toyota) playbook of offering distinctive luxury cars with high quality, abundant standard feature content and a lower price than the European luxury marques (Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Audi).

Most reviewers, myself included, will tell you that Genesis vehicles are as reliable as Lexus, with a better powertrain warranty (10 years/100,000 miles) and have leapfrogged Lexus in terms of feeling like something special – partly by

retaining a serene approach to luxury as Lexus has attempted to chase more sporting characteristics.

There are two Genesis SUVs, the GV80 (“On The Road,” November 2024) and the GV70. There’s also a purely electric GV 60 (“On The Road,” November 2022).

For 2026, the GV70 is redesigned, though you’d probably have to park it next to a 2025 model to see the differences.

The headlights and grille are (slightly) different, there’s a somewhat more aggressive stance, and an updated rear design.

The big changes come inside, with an all-new 27-inch OLED display that covers both the instruments and the infotainment system.

GV70 prices start at \$47,985 and it can be had as an EV (called the Electrified GV70) or as a gasoline-powered vehicle, with two engine choices – a 2.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder, making 300 horsepower and a 3.5-liter twin-turbo V6, with 375 horsepower.

The twin-turbo V6, in top-of-the-line Sport Prestige AWD (all-wheel drive) trim, was our test vehicle. Base price \$70,095 (\$71,545 with destination).

At the time of writing, the tariff picture remains unclear. The 2026 Genesis GV70 is assembled in the U.S. (in Montgomery, Alabama), but only 26% of its parts are from North America. Pricing may (or may not) be higher at your dealer by the time you read this.

I mentioned abundant standard feature content earlier. In

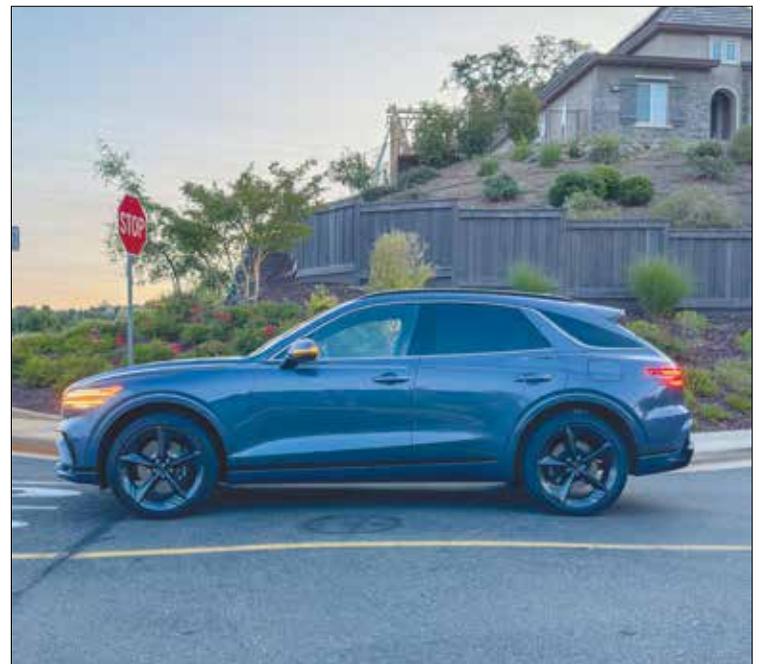


PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE HAGERTY

The Genesis GV70 has risen to the top of luxury compact SUVs, according to columnist Mike Hagerty.

the GV70 3.5T Sport Prestige AWD, that includes a comprehensive suite of active safety features, electronically controlled suspension, panoramic sunroof, power hands-free liftgate, power folding mirrors with puddle lamps, heated and ventilated power front seats with power lumbar as well as power cushion extension, bolster and ergo motion for the driver, heated outboard rear seats, a power tilt and telescoping steering wheel, adjustable ambient interior lighting, a Bang & Olufsen premium audio system with wireless Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, a 90-day trial to SiriusXM satellite radio, wireless charging, a second-row AC power outlet, digital key, fingerprint recognition, carbon fiber trim, manual rear door window sunshades, a three-zone automatic climate

control, head-up display, Nappa leather seating surfaces with microfiber suede headliner, remote smart parking assist, 21-inch alloy wheels and carpeted floor mats.

The only extra-cost options on our test vehicle were \$650 for the Ceres Blue paint and \$30 for an NFC key card, making the as-tested price \$72,225.

If you’re in the market for a luxury SUV and you test drive the 2026 Genesis GV70, there’s a pretty solid chance that you’ll end up owning one.

And then you can help me answer the question “What’s a Genesis?”

Mike Hagerty, past vice president of membership for Western Automotive Journalists (waj.org), has been writing about cars since 1997. Read more of his reviews at Mike-HagertyCars.com.

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# On the Road

## PROACTIVE

From Page 17

module. We then reprogrammed all three keys and the car started.

When I wrote this article, it all seemed a bit matter-of-fact, but actually, it took us a long time to perform each of these tests. The key is always to follow the test plan and perform each test. If you take shortcuts, it can get you into trouble.

**Matt Pataky** owns Sunnyvale Foreign Car Service, 15 Pioneer Way, Mountain View. For more information, call 650-960-6988, email [sfscmv@gmail.com](mailto:sfscmv@gmail.com) or visit [sunnyvaleforeigncar.com](http://sunnyvaleforeigncar.com).



**Have a comment or idea? Reach out**

If you have an idea for On the Road or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Curtis Driscoll at [curtisd@latc.com](mailto:curtisd@latc.com).

## MAVERICK

From Page 17

but the window sticker of our car was printed in November of last year, and pricing for the 2025 Maverick had been announced months before that.

And we can't blame inflation for all of it. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator says \$27,660 in June of 2022 is \$30,008 today.

The base price of the lowest-trim level 2022 Maverick, the XL (a work truck spec) did seem too good to be true at \$19,995 (\$21,490 including destination), but maybe it was just too good to last.

Today, the XL is still the cheapest, but the base price is \$8,150 higher – \$28,145 – and destination is \$200 more than it was in 2022, now \$1,695. And those hikes apply to the XLT and the Lariat too, as well as the off-road-focused Tremor model, which arrived in 2023 and the sporty street trim called Lobo, which is new this year.

The base price of this Maverick XLT Hybrid AWD is \$28,895 (\$30,490 including destination), and apart from what we've already discussed, standard equipment includes cargo box tie-down hooks, enclosed bed storage, the FlexBed storage system, LED reflector headlamps, power mirrors, a power tailgate lock, a trailer tow hitch, cloth bucket seats and a vinyl soft console lid.

There was a healthy list of extra-cost options on our test vehicle, too. The AWD option is \$2,200. The XLT Luxury Package with eight-way power driver and six-way manual passenger seats, a 400-watt inverter in the bed



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE HAGERTY

The interior of the 2025 Ford Maverick is sleek and includes a variety of different active safety features drivers can choose to implement.

and USB ports in the rear console, heated mirror with painted black skull caps, LED box lighting, heated seats, a soft vinyl-wrapped heated steering wheel and remote start added \$1,890.

To get a decent suite of active safety features requires spending \$795 on Ford Co-Pilot360 (Pre-collision assist with automatic emergency braking, pedestrian detection, forward collision warning, dynamic brake support, blind spot information system with cross-traffic alert, cross-traffic brake assist, lane-keeping alert, lane-keeping aid and driver alert, rear view camera, automatic high beams, reverse sensing system and post-collision braking).

The 4K Tow Package (named for its doubling the Maverick's 2K max towing capacity to 4,000 pounds), for \$745, adds a trailer brake controller, a Class II trailer hitch with 4-pin and 7-pin

connector, a transmission oil cooler, an upgraded cooling fan and a full-size spare tire.

A spray-in bedliner contributes \$495 to the tab, and we finish with \$225 for bed tie-down locking rails.

Again, the as-tested price: \$36,860. You certainly get a nice truck with good features and great fuel economy for your money, but the screaming deal quotient is long gone.

There are, at the moment, only two compact trucks in this size class. The other is the Hyundai Santa Cruz ("On The Road," January 2022). It hasn't experienced the same dramatic price hikes because it was already more expensive. It appears the Maverick has just aligned itself with what Hyundai's asking.

Too bad, because an under-\$30,000 pickup could sell itself, don't you think?

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"I received exceptional service for my 2025 Subaru Outback Wilderness. Repair for re-attachment of front bumper section was performed in a single day. The car looks flawless, the work was top notch and finally, the repair cost was - for me - almost unimaginably reasonable given average repair costs. I have nothing but good words to say about these folks. If needed, I'll be returning again." — R. Russ ★★★★★

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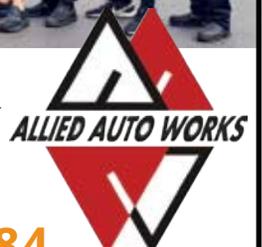
\$25 off any service \$150 or more. One Special per visit.

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# Business & Real Estate

## Successful rebrand: Right On! Refillery now Ethos Los Altos



MAXIM ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Right On! Refillery has officially rebranded as Ethos. The shop, now the Ethos Los Altos location, held its grand reopening Thursday. Members of the community filtered through the shop during the July 31 festivities, perusing the shelves lined with reusable and sustainable goods. The decision for Ethos and Right On! Refillery to merge, according to Emily Ting and Meredith Keet, founders of Right On! Refillery and Ethos, respectively, was to better share that lifestyle.

### RECENTLY SOLD LISTINGS



**155 ALVARADO AVENUE**  
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022

\$4,200,000 | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



**1617 DALLAS COURT**  
LOS ALTOS, CA 94024

\$4,203,225 | 5 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS



**20173 SOMERSET DRIVE**  
CUPERTINO, CA 95014

\$3,300,000 | 3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS



**1084 SYRACUSE DRIVE**  
SUNNYVALE, CA 94087

\$2,888,000 | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



**LYNN NORTH**

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650.703.6437  
LIC. #01490039  
LynnNorth.com



## What to do during times of economic uncertainty

Statepoint

From layoffs in the federal government to a growing number of companies handing tasks off to artificial intelligence, today's rapidly shifting job market is rightfully stoking concerns for many Americans. On top of that, the overall economic climate has lately been affected by market volatility, tariffs and inflation.

According to Certified Financial Planner professionals, you can face times of economic insecurity head-on with a plan.

### Job insecurity

If you have recently lost your job, or are concerned you might, here are steps you can take now:

- Get the picture: Take an inventory of your full financial picture, including income, average monthly expenses and assets. Understanding how much it

costs you to live, minus discretionary spending, can give you an idea of how long you can survive on your liquid assets. This is also a good time to consider what spending you can cut back on and, if possible, how to build your emergency fund.

- Act wisely: Whether you're a federal employee with a Thrift Savings Plan or you work in the private sector and have an employer-sponsored retirement plan, it's important to act with caution, not fear. If you lose your job and take a full distribution from your retirement account, that full distribution can come with tax penalties and leave you ill-prepared for the future. Instead, if you suffer a job loss, consider leaving your retirement accounts untouched or rolling them over into an IRA. Federal employees should also reach out to the Office of Personnel

Management or their specific agency to learn what benefits they're eligible for.

- Plan for health insurance: During a job transition, determine whether you will opt for COBRA coverage of your existing health plan or join a spouse or domestic partner's plan. Keep in mind that COBRA coverage is temporary and often more expensive. You could also look for coverage in the Health Insurance Marketplace at HealthCare.gov.

- Get help: Affordable help may be available to you. More than 200 Certified Financial Planner-professionals have volunteered to offer no-cost or reduced-rate services to federal government employees.

Visit [cfp.net/fedworkers](http://cfp.net/fedworkers) to find help.

See ECONOMY, Page 21

# Business & Real Estate



SHURKIN\_SON / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

Times of economic uncertainty can be frightening, but having a plan can reduce stress.

## ECONOMY

From Page 20

### Market volatility

Market volatility can be nerve-racking for investors, but Certified Financial Planner professionals say these tips can help you weather periods of uncertainty:

- Understand the history: Historic events such as Black Monday in 1987 and the COVID-19 crash in 2020 bear a consistent pattern. After a period of downturn, markets generally have rebounded with resilience. So, when the market declines, stay the course and give investments a chance to recover. A good rule of thumb is to only make significant changes to your financial strategy when your situation changes, not when the world does. While this can be easier said than done, avoiding sensational financial news and social media chatter can re-

duce anxiety. If you have concerns, lean on reputable sources for guidance, such as your financial planning professional.

- Diversify: A diversified portfolio is more durable during tough financial times. Make sure your assets include a balance of investments that works well in different market environments.

- Seek expert guidance: A recent Certified Financial Planner professional-led webinar “The Power of a Plan: Navigating Market Uncertainty With Confidence,” which delved into the current state of the markets and provided general educational tools for investors, is available to all online. For tailored financial guidance, visit LetsMakeAPlan.org to find a Certified Financial Planner professional who meets your needs.

Concerned about your finances? You're not alone. During periods of uncertainty, lean on reliable resources to make a smart financial plan.

### Have a comment or idea? Reach out

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

## Mtn. View garage sale signups open

Town Crier Report

Seller registration for the Mountain View Citywide Garage Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 13 and 14 is open.

The sale, held every year to keep in-good condition items out of landfills, is part of the city's zero waste goals. It's also an oppor-

tunity for one man's trash to, literally, become one man's treasure.

Sellers can participate in one or both garage sale days; registration will allow those addresses selling to show up on a list, allowing potential buyers to filter by date and items for purchase.

Registration closes Sept. 2. To sign up, visit [MountainView.gov/GarageSale](http://MountainView.gov/GarageSale).





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**NICK WEMYSS**  
DRE# 02127246  
**650-279-8695**  
[Nwemyss@Intero.com](mailto:Nwemyss@Intero.com)

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Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES)  
Second Generation St. Nicholas  
Alumnus and Parishioner

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SOLD for \$3,800,000

(\$102,000 over asking)

2,065 sqft Interior | 11,442 sqft Lot | 4 Beds

3 Baths | 1 car garage

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**Alex Wang** | 650-800-8840

DRE 01351503



Getting a home ready for sale after years of memories and cherished belongings can be a journey. This inspired our team to dig through photos and found these two gems: My mother with Alex, Brittany, and Ashley at her Coldwell Banker office in Los Altos, where their journey began!



**Ready to start *your* real estate journey?  
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Brittany Kodweis | REALTOR® | DRE 01902411  
650.269.5489 | brittany.kodweis@compass.com

Alex Kodweis | REALTOR® | DRE 02013185  
650.269.9249 | alex.kodweis@compass.com

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# Business & Real Estate

## Transactions

### Los Altos

425 1st Street #34, 425 First Los Altos LLC to A. and K. Turpen for \$1,825,000

1290 Colonial Oaks Drive, McDonough Trust to 1290 Colonial Oaks Prop LLC for \$2,169,000

86 3rd Street #304, Downtown Nana LLC to C. and M. Gerhardt for \$3,200,000

1320 Oakhurst Avenue, Mahallati Family Trust to A. and V. Prabhakaran for \$6,211,500

105 Estrada Drive, Scott Family Trust to Yy Family Trust for \$2,500,000

958 California Street, Pacific Peninsula Group to Natarajan Trust for \$2,535,000

989 Lane Avenue, Schneider Family Trust to J. and A. Tang for \$4,050,000

1200 Satake Court, Koumouzelis Trust to P. and A. Lee for \$4,450,000

### Total sales

#### Los Altos

Total sales: 4

Lowest sale: \$1,825,000

Highest sale: \$6,211,500

Average sale: \$3,351,400

#### Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 3

Lowest sale: \$4,180,000

Highest sale: \$5,500,000

Average sale: \$4,902,700

#### Mountain View

Total sales: 10

Lowest sale: \$1,108,000

Highest sale: \$4,450,000

Average sale: \$2,306,900

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

### Los Altos Hills

26388 Ginny Lane, D. and G. Survivors to T. and D. Lu for \$4,180,000

25900 Vinedo Lane, G. Chan to 25900 Vinedo LLC for \$5,028,000

26666 Laurel Lane, Survivors Trust to M. Datta for \$5,500,000

### Mountain View

217 Ada Avenue #52, K. Poon to R. and E. Albinana for \$1,108,000

2255 Showers Drive #363, Liao Trust to Y. and T. Tang for \$1,196,000

305 Cherokee Loop, Irevocable Trust to K. Wijaya for \$1,460,000

3718 Pyramid Way, J. Zhang to N. and Z. Li for \$1,885,000

3406 Pyramid Way, S. Chu to H. and B. Han for \$1,929,000

332 Marquette Circle, S. Du to J. and W. He for \$1,956,000

## Protecting sensitive, personal data

Statepoint

Identity theft is on the rise nationwide. In fact, consumers reported losing more than \$12.5 billion to fraud in 2024, representing a 25% increase over the prior year, according to recent data from the Federal Trade Commission.

This trend underscores the importance of taking proactive steps to protect yourself – including properly handling your sensitive documents. The UPS Store network, with its variety of services that help keep your private information private, is offering these tips to help you guard against identity theft:

- Shred documents: Keeping printouts of sensitive documents you no longer need increases your risk of becoming a victim of fraud. When it comes time to destroy confidential information, you need to turn to a retailer you can trust. The

shredding services available at any of the more than 5,400 The UPS Store locations nationwide is a far more convenient, secure and time-saving choice compared to home shredding.

When you visit The UPS Store locations, they make the process simple. A store associate will weigh your documents, then you place them into the locked shredding bin. The UPS Store network uses one of the leading document destruction vendors, Iron Mountain, which is AAA-certified by the National Association for Information Destruction.

- Protect mail: Theft from mailboxes has significantly increased in recent years. Porch pirates stole \$12 billion in packages in the past year, with up to 58 million Americans affected, according to Security.org. Beyond packages containing valuable goods, many

thieves specifically target mail containing sensitive information, putting you at risk any time you receive mail from your bank, the IRS, insurance companies or other similar entities.

Gain safety, convenience and peace of mind with a personal or business mailbox at your local The UPS Store location. Route your mail and packages to your local The UPS Store location, which will even sign for packages and send you delivery text alerts. The UPS Store mailbox services accept deliveries from all carriers, ensuring your mail and packages reach you, every time.

As identity theft becomes more prevalent, taking proactive measures to protect you and your personal information is critical. Don't leave your privacy to chance – leverage resources that exist to help you stay protected.



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Golden Gate

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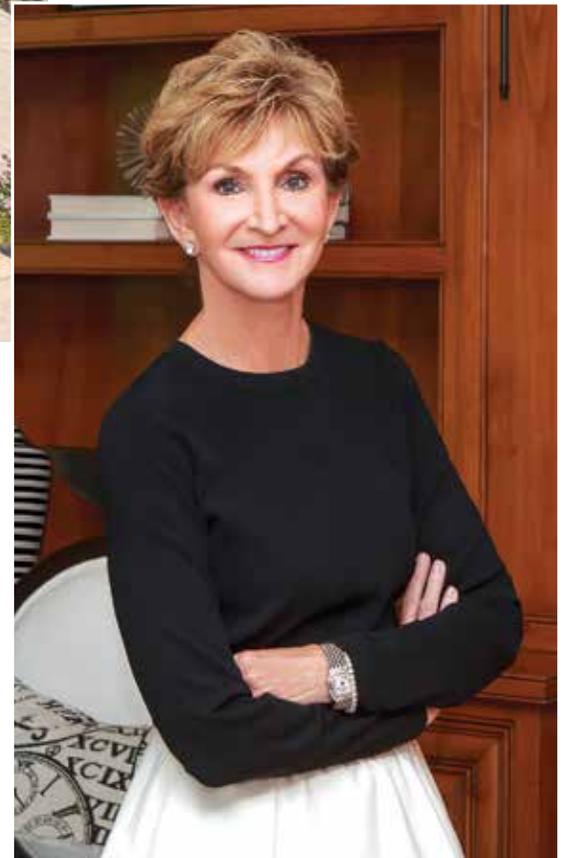


**OPEN SAT & SUN August 9 & 10, 2:00 – 4:00pm**



# Kathy Bridgman's

NEW LISTING  
OF THE WEEK



**KATHY BRIDGMAN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE

## Classic Mid-Century Design with New Luxurious Updates 23480 Ravensbury Avenue, Los Altos Hills

- Single-level estate home with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths
- Approximately 3,107 sq. ft. of living space (per tax records; not verified by Compass)
- Almost one acre (approximately 41,760 sq. ft.) blocks from Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve trailhead and yet minutes to shopping and dining
- New updates include refinished matte hardwood floors throughout, newly painted interiors, new primary suite bath, all-white kitchen and office cabinetry, new kitchen and dining room countertops, new roof, and refreshed landscaping
- Main living area ceilings paneled in heart redwood
- Dramatic living room with fireplace and wall of glass plus formal dining room
- All-white kitchen with new quartz countertops, island, and peninsula counter seating
- Open family room with built-in office center flows off the kitchen
- Primary bedroom suite with sliding glass door to the garden and just completed luxurious bath
- Three additional bedrooms, two with outside entrance, served by a remodeled bath
- Attached 2-car garage plus fully finished bonus room perfect for office or fitness needs; 2 EV chargers are located on the driveway; new roof
- Secluded pool and spa, vast level lawn, patios, and a walking trail around the property, including steps up to raised vegetable beds
- Easy access to Highway 280 and just over two miles to Rancho Shopping Center
- Top-rated Los Altos schools

Price upon request  
[23480Ravensbury.com](http://23480Ravensbury.com)



Kathy Bridgman: \$189,415,000

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**Los Altos &**  
**Los Altos Hills, 2024**

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Kathy remains the leader in LA/LAH sales by an individual agent.  
**Work with the best in 2025!**



Per MLS reported sales volume for LA/LAH. 2024

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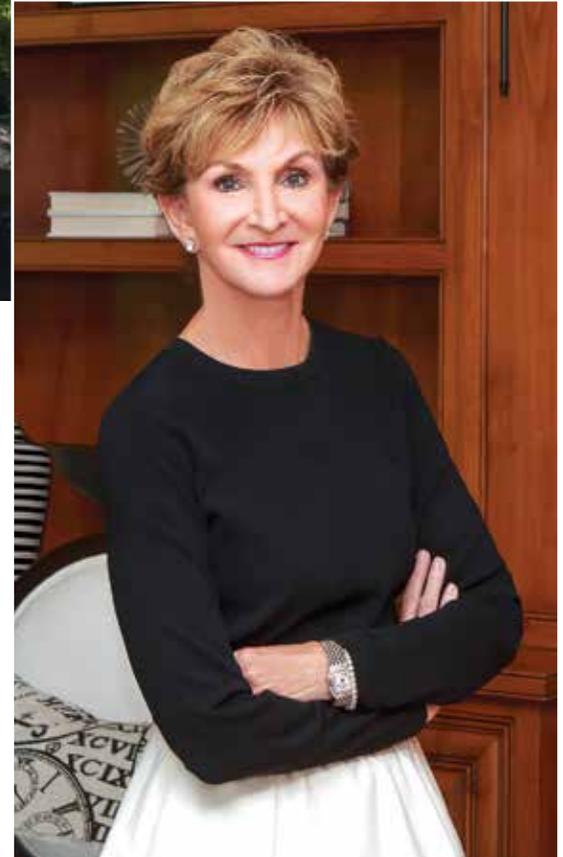
# Kathy Bridgman's

**NEW LISTING  
OF THE WEEK**

## Impressive Custom Home with Scenic Vistas 12950 Alta Tierra Road, Los Altos Hills

- Stunning and private custom home built in 2008 with western hill views
- Approximately 1 acre (43,560 square feet; not verified by Compass)
- 3 bedrooms, office, and 3.5 baths
- Approximately 4,224 square feet of living space (not verified by Compass)
- Gorgeous hardwood floors throughout
- Dramatic living room with fireplace and entertainment bar
- Elegantly appointed formal dining room
- Fabulous kitchen with high-end appliances, including commercial-style cooktop, espresso center, and wine cooler
- Large casual dining room and family room with fireplace flows off the kitchen and opens to the rear grounds
- Fully customized executive office
- Tremendous primary suite with fireplace plus junior primary suite
- Vast terrace with fire pit, barbecue kitchen, and adjacent level lawn
- Slate tile roof; Ring front doorbell; security alarm
- Oversized 3-car garage with EV charger
- Top-rated Los Altos schools

**Price upon request**  
[12950AltaTierra.com](http://12950AltaTierra.com)



**KATHY BRIDGMAN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE



**Kathy Bridgman: \$189,415,000**

**#1 Individual Agent  
Los Altos &  
Los Altos Hills, 2024**

**The Results Are In . . .**  
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DeLeonRealty\_USA



**23171 MORA GLEN DRIVE** | \$7,888,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth  
LOS ALTOS | 23171MoraGlen.com



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



**706 N SAN ANTONIO RD** | \$5,748,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth  
LOS ALTOS | 706NSanAntonio.com



**28500 MATADERO CREEK LN** | \$9,398,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth  
LOS ALTOS HILLS | 28500MataderoCreek.com



**1271 PETERSEN COURT** | \$5,095,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
LOS ALTOS | 1271Petersen.com



**12355 STONEBROOK COURT** | \$9,988,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth  
LOS ALTOS HILLS | 12355StonebrookCt.com



**27500 LA VIDA REAL** | \$39,988,000 | 5 Bd | 12 Bth  
LOS ALTOS HILLS | 27500LaVida.com



**240 3RD STREET #301** | \$5,988,000 | 2 Bd | 2.5 Bth  
LOS ALTOS | 240Third.com

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# YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty\_USA



876 SOUTHAMPTON DRIVE | \$5,288,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth  
PALO ALTO | 876Southampton.com



579 GLENBROOK DRIVE | \$5,988,000 | 6 Bd | 4 Bth  
PALO ALTO | 579Glenbrook.com



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



789 UNIVERSITY AVENUE | \$5,988,000 | 5 Bd | 4 Bth  
PALO ALTO | 789University.com



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



86 RITTENHOUSE AVE | \$4,888,000 | 5 Bd | 3 Bth  
ATHERTON | 86Rittenhouse.com



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



448 FELTON DRIVE | \$2,988,000 | 3 Bd | 4 Bth  
MENLO PARK | 448Felton.com



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## Seller's Bill of Rights

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

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



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

## Closed Doors May Cost You More

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

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

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



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# Public Notices

occupy all or any portion of the Land and the Improvements, and every modification, amendment or other agreement relating to such leases, subleases, subsubleases, or other agreements entered into in connection with such leases, subleases, subsubleases, or other agreements and every guarantee of the performance and observance of the covenants, conditions and agreements to be performed and observed by the other party thereto, heretofore or hereafter entered into, whether before or after the filing by or against Trustor of any petition for relief under any Creditors Rights Laws (collectively, the "Leases") and all right, title and interest of Trustor, its successors and assigns therein and thereunder, including, without limitation, cash or securities deposited thereunder to secure the performance by the lessees of their obligations thereunder and all rents, additional rents, rent equivalents, moneys payable as damages or in lieu of rent or rent equivalents, royalties (including, without limitation, all oil and gas or other mineral royalties and bonuses), income, receivables, receipts, revenues, deposits (including, without limitation, security, utility and other deposits), accounts, cash, issues, profits, charges for services rendered, and other consideration of whatever form or nature received by or paid to or for the account of or benefit of Trustor or its agents or employees from any and all sources arising from or attributable to the Property, including, all receivables, customer obligations, installment payment obligations and other obligations now existing or hereafter arising or created out of the sale, lease, sublease, license, concession or other grant of the right of the use and occupancy of property or rendering of services by Trustor or Manager and proceeds, if any, from business interruption or other loss of income insurance whether paid or accruing before or after the filing by or against Trustor of any petition for relief under any Creditors Rights Laws (collectively, the "Rents") and all proceeds from the sale or other disposition of the Leases and the right to receive and apply the Rents to the payment of the Debt; (g) Insurance Proceeds. All insurance proceeds in respect of the Property under any insurance policies covering the Property, including, without limitation, the right to receive and apply the proceeds of any insurance, judgments, or settlements made in lieu thereof, for damage to the Property (collectively, the "Insurance Proceeds"); (h) Condemnation Awards, All condemnation awards, including interest thereon, which may heretofore and hereafter be made with respect to the Property by reason of any taking or condemnation, whether from the exercise of the right of eminent domain (including, but not limited to, any transfer made in lieu of or in anticipation of the exercise of the right), or for a change of grade, or for any other injury to or decrease in the value of the Property (collectively, the "Awards"); (i) Tax Certiorari. All refunds, rebates or credits in connection with reduction in real estate taxes and assessments charged against the Property as a result of tax certiorari or any applications or proceedings for reduction; (j) Rights. The right, in the name and on behalf of Trustor, to appear in and defend any action or proceeding brought with respect to the Property and to commence any action or proceeding to protect the interest of Beneficiary in the Property; (k) Agreements. All agreements, contracts, certificates, instruments, franchises, permits, li-

censes, plans, specifications and other documents, now or hereafter entered into, and all rights therein and thereto, respecting or pertaining to the use, occupation, construction, management or operation of the Land and any part thereof and any Improvements or any business or activity conducted on the Land and any part thereof and all right, title and interest of Trustor therein and thereunder, including, without limitation, the right, upon the happening of any default hereunder, to receive and collect any sums payable to Trustor thereunder; (l) Intangibles. All tradenames, trademarks, service-marks, logos, copyrights, goodwill, books and records and all other general intangibles relating to or used in connection with the operation of the Property; (m) Accounts. All reserves, escrows and deposit accounts maintained by Trustor with respect to the Property, including without limitation, the Accounts and all cash, checks, drafts, certificates, securities, investment property, financial assets, instruments and other property held therein from time to time and all proceeds, products, distributions or dividends or substitutions thereon and thereof (collectively, the "Accounts"); (n) Proceeds. All proceeds of any of the foregoing items set forth in subsections (a) through (m) including, without limitation, Insurance Proceeds and Awards, whether cash, liquidation claims (or other claims) or otherwise; and (o) Other Rights. Any and all other rights of Trustor in and to the items set forth in subsections (a) through (n) above. CAPITALIZED TERMS NOT DEFINED HEREIN SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS THOSE IN THE NOTE, SECURED OBLIGATIONS, THE DEED OF TRUST AND ANY/OR ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENTS. Beneficiary reserves the right to revoke its election as to some or all of said personal property and/or fixtures, or to add additional personal property and/or fixtures to the election herein expressed, at Beneficiary's sole election, from time to time and at any time until the consummation of the trustee's sale to be conducted pursuant to the Deed of Trust and this Notice of Trustee's Sale. No warranty is made that any or all of the personal property still exists or is available for the successful bidder and no warranty is made as to the condition of any of the personal property, which shall be sold "as is", "where is". The real Property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real Property described above is purported to be: 1212, 1215, 1245, 1255, 1305, 1277 Terra Bella Ave, 1330, 1340, 1350 W Middlefield, 850-900 N Shoreline, Mountain View, CA The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining unpaid balance of the obligations secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust (together with any modifications thereto). The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the Property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$129,056,887.60 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this fig-

ure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The Property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the Property receiver, if applicable. DATE: July 14, 2025 FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, TRUSTEE 24-00376-2FNT 5170 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 130 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 916-636-0114 Sara Berens, Authorized Signor SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.servicelinkasap.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1.866.684.2727 A-4848002 07/23/2025, 07/30/2025, 08/06/2025

182-T

**KAPWA REALTY  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717682**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KAPWA REALTY, 5989 Taormino Avenue, San Jose, CA, 95123, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Lionel Mangapit Madamba, 5989 Taormino Avenue, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Lionel Mangapit Madamba / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/03/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

181-T

**LOPEZ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE  
LLC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717710**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LOPEZ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE LLC, 1726 Smith Ave, San Jose, CA, 95112, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LOPEZ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE LLC, 1726 Smith Ave, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/03/2025. /S/ Enrique Mario Lopez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/07/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

180-T

**CAFFEINE BODEGA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717726**

The following person (persons) is

(are) doing business as: CAFEINE BODEGA, 1484 Pollard Road, Ste 3107, Los Gatos, CA, 95032, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): THE KAIZEN GROUPE L.L.C., 1484 Pollard Road, Ste 3107, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/04/2025. /S/ Matthew Clark / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/07/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

179-T

**Hope Counseling Center of  
Silicon Valley  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717546**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Hope Counseling Center of Silicon Valley, 1101 S. Winchester Blvd, #K236, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: copartners. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Diane Wood, 1101 S. Winchester Blvd, #K236, San Jose, CA 95128, Dr Ardel Payne, 1101 S. Winchester Blvd, #K236, San Jose, CA 95128. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/01/1999. /S/ Diane Wood / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 06/30/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

178-T

**SMCO CONSTRUCTION LLC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717672**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SMCO CONSTRUCTION LLC, 8831 Morey Way, Gilroy, CA, 95020, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SMCO CONSTRUCTION LLC, 8831 Morey Way, Gilroy, CA 95020. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/30/2025. /S/ Omar Mendoza Maldoi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/03/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

177-T

**AF WOOD PRESERVING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717360**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: AF WOOD PRESERVING, 1056 Lynn Way, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Arsenio Ferreira, 1906 Plymouth St, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the ficti-

tious business name(s) listed above on: 04/12/2000. /S/ Arsenio Ferreira / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 06/24/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

176-T

**MOSAIC MUSIC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN717621**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MOSAIC MUSIC, 692 Borregas Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Stephen Mckee, 692 Borregas Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/06/2017. /S/ Stephen Mckee / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/02/2025. (07-16,23,30-25,08-06-25)

174-T

# Datebook

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

## EVENTS

**Los Altos Main Library.** All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness,** 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic,** 7 p.m., first Monday of every month; **Bay Area Games Day,** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., third Saturday of every month. Other events: **All About Bees,** 6-7:30 p.m. Aug. 14. Longtime beekeeper, Enrico Reineri, will share all he knows about bees, bee products, keeping a hive and more. **Open Space Odyssey,** 6-8 p.m. Aug. 19. A Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District representative will explore the history, flora and fauna and the ongoing preservation of the local region's open spaces. **Little Windows to Wonder: How We See the World Art Exhibit.** RIVERBIEN's group art exhibition will be on display for the month of August. **Latinx Rock From the 1950s through the 1980s,** 7 p.m. Sept. 4. For Hispanic Heritage Month, rock historian and author Richie Unterberger presents "La Bamba: Latinx in Vintage Rock, Pop, and Soul," featuring and discussing film clips of Latinx performers from the 1950s through the 1980s, highlighting Latinx music from San Francisco and Los Angeles. Programs are free and open to the public. Information: (650) 948-7683, [scld.org](http://scld.org).

**Come meet Congressman Sam Liccardo,** representing District 16, 2:30-4 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Mitchell Park Community Center in Palo Alto. Doors open at 2 p.m. Liccardo grew up in Saratoga and served as mayor of San Jose for eight years. Advance registration is required. Attendees can submit written questions for the Congressman. Information: [bit.ly/Dist16](http://bit.ly/Dist16).

## CLUBS/GROUPS

**Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area: Let's Eat Out.** 11:30 a.m. Aug. 13. Attendees buy lunch at Michael's at Shoreline Restaurant, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., in Mountain View. Discuss promoting peace and friendship by hosting travelers or being hosted in a home for one week. Information: Dee Gustavson, (650) 961-3539.

**American Association of University Women - Silicon Valley Branch.** Open to women (and men) with a college degree who are interested in equity for women and girls. Information: (650) 464-2830, [siliconvalley-ca.aauw.net](http://siliconvalley-ca.aauw.net).

**Los Altos Hills Club.** Historic social club promoting friendship and social contacts among women with a Los Altos Hills mailing address. Activities include luncheons, book groups, bridge and card games. Information: (650) 948-5382, [jensensylvia@hotmail.com](mailto:jensensylvia@hotmail.com).

**Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club.** Non-profit organization, builds vibrant friendships in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills through special interest and social activities. Information: [losaltosnewcomers.org](http://losaltosnewcomers.org).

# \$40

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

Email [legals@latc.com](mailto:legals@latc.com) by 2pm on Thursday



# OBITUARY NOTICE

## ROBERT (“BOB”) BROWN MATTHEWS



September 9, 1939 - May 14, 2025

Robert (“Bob”) Brown Matthews, age 88, passed away at home on May 14th, 2025, surrounded by family. Bob’s life was deeply shaped by his Christian faith, love of science, intellectual curiosity, interest in people, concern for those in need, and a deep love for his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by those who loved him.

Born to John and Marion Matthews, on September 9, 1936, Bob’s early years were spent in Bogota, NJ. Their Scot-Irish home emphasized the importance of thrift, diligence, academic excellence and Biblical principles.

WW II moved the family to Dayton, OH where Bob’s father joined the war effort by overseeing the finances of Western Tablet & Stationary Corp. During these formative years, Bob became a fan of the Cleveland Indians and Browns, whom he followed by radio and crystal set. Most

importantly, he made an eight-year-old’s decision to follow Jesus. At age ten, Bob spent his first of 11 summers at Camp Brookwoods in Alton, NH where he made life-long friends, gained skills in sports and camping, and observed compelling Christian role models.

In 1952, the family returned to NJ where Bob’s dad resumed his role at Chase Bank, in NYC, and Bob finished his final two years of high school, graduating from Ridgewood High School in 1954.

During the summer of 1955, after his freshman year at Wheaton College, Bob’s life was forever altered when as a swim instructor and camp counselor, he contracted bulbar polio from a camper. While his life was spared, polio permanently affected his vagus nerve, resulting in laryngeal paralysis and loss of a productive cough that plagued him for the rest of his life.

Bob resumed studies at

home, returning to Wheaton mid-semester, eventually graduating in 1958, earning a BS in Chemistry with high honors. Medical school took him to Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where he graduated with AOA Honors in 1962.

For his health, Bob traded the cold of PA for the sunshine of CA. In San Diego, he did an internship and one year of Pathology at Mercy Hospital before moving to Palo Alto for a three-year residency in Ophthalmology at Stanford. In 1967, Bob joined the Los Altos practice of Dr. Frank Berry, one of his Clinical Professors, and practiced at Altos Eye Physicians with outstanding associates until 1997. During these 30 years Bob relished meaningful friendships with both staff and patients.

On a blind date he met his future wife, Charlene, a dental hygienist and instructor of Dental Hygiene at UCSF who shared his faith and interest in missions. Six months later, on January 29, 1966, they married at First Presbyterian Church in Berkeley, eventually making their home in Los Altos, CA. In 1969, three months after daughter Karen arrived, Pritchett Court became home. Daughter Kathleen followed in 1971.

Life became busy but Bob found time to be active in Young Life, encourage the extracurricular pursuits of his girls, and enjoy the families and 33 kids that called Pritchett Court, dubbed, “Pritchett Playground”, their home. The family joined and actively participated in the life of Foothill Covenant Church, establishing friendships with whom life’s milestones, joys, vacations, illnesses and holidays

were shared.

Active pursuits included skiing in the Sierras, tent and trailer camping, attending family camp at Mount Hermon, and biennial vacations on the East Coast. During one fateful vacation the family met an Amish family, the Kings in PA, whose friendship endures to this day.

In 1980, after a severe case of bronchitis an emergency tracheotomy was required. What initially felt like a setback led to a permanent tracheostomy that provided an effective cough and improved clearing of chest infections for over 45 years.

Throughout his life, Bob loved pondering the big questions - especially exploring the claims of Christ, rigorously considering their historic credibility and relevance to his life. While many people influenced his faith, Bob cited several who impacted him most. As a senior in high school, new vistas of Christian thought were opened after reading “Mere Christianity” by C.S. Lewis with Dr. F. Donald Eckelmann, who would go on to become Dean at Brown University, and a lifelong friend. While in medical school, the formidable expository Biblical preaching of Dr. Donald Barnhouse, at Tenth Presbyterian Church, impacted Bob’s worldview. And finally, the friendship of Dr. Richard Bube, a world-renowned expert in photoelectronic materials at Stanford and Christian Apologist, confirmed for Bob that Science is not at odds with Scripture. In that vein, Dr Francis S Collins book, “The Language of God,” also reflected Bob’s viewpoint.

Ultimately, Bob marveled at

the beauty of God’s handiwork as revealed through Science and put his faith in the promise of salvation by grace alone, through Christ’s death and bodily resurrection, as revealed in Scripture.

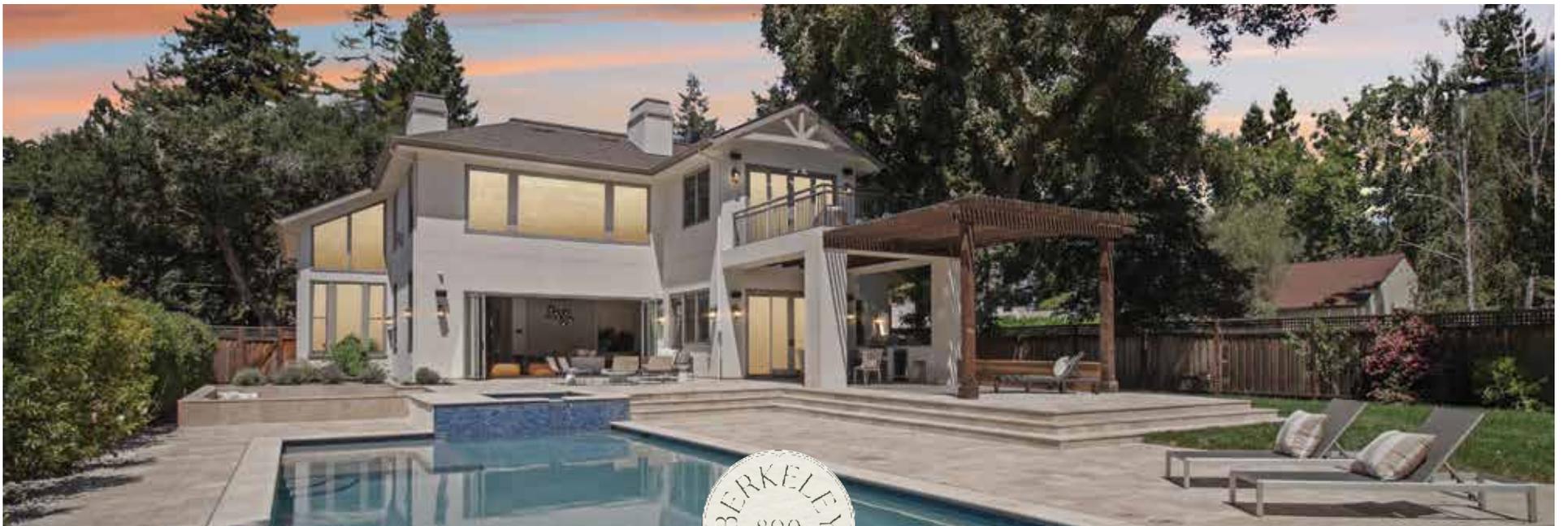
With diligent respiratory care, a supportive wife, and God’s grace, Bob was able to enjoy his retirement years. He trusted the words of Jesus found in John 14, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Bob is survived by Charlene, his wife of 59 years; daughter Karen (Kreig) Ecklund of Los Altos; daughter Kathleen (William Papp) Matthews, of NYC; grandchildren Kaitlyn (Paolo) Roque, Kaleb Ecklund, Keyara Ecklund; brother Gordon (Susan) of Santa Rosa, CA, nephews John and Robert; and niece Cheryl.

A Celebration of Life and reception will be held at 2pm, on August 9th, 2025 at Foothill Covenant Church, 1555 Oak Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024. The service will be both live-streamed and recorded on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOdDIyZa-W4>)

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made towards the educational non-profit, Keyara’s Gift, which supports children in Liberia, West Africa and was inspired by Bob’s granddaughter, Keyara Ecklund. (<https://www.keyarasgift.org/>)





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