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**Remember to set those clocks to spring forward!**

# Los Altos Town Crier

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

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WEDNESDAY • March 4, 2026

## Los Altos shows up for park discussion



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

Los Altos City Council members and Los Altos residents heard from city staff and city contractors last week during a study session on the downtown park. The park is slated for parking plazas one, two and three. Speakers including Karthik Kumar (left), a representative from Moore, Iacofano, Goltsman, Inc. (MIG), provided four concepts for consideration: the meadow, the orchard, the grove and the garden. All seats of the chamber were filled during the special session (bottom).



## Council encourages staff to continue community outreach for downtown park

Los Altos residents and city council provide input at special session

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

With all audience seats in the council chamber filled and walls lined with standing community members, Los Altos City Council and members of the public heard from – and provided feedback to – city staff and contractors about a proposed downtown park during a special session last week.

The goal of the Feb. 24 meeting was to gather feedback from council related to the preferred park location, parking options and when community engagement should be conducted.

Anthony Carnesecca, assistant to the city manager, described the park to council as an addition to the city to “support the unique downtown.” Currently, the goal of the downtown park is to provide an active community space and attract downtown visitors – Carnesecca added that increased traffic to downtown would contribute to the city’s economic vitality.

“Ultimately, these options really try to improve our existing ... parking portfolio, as well

as present solutions for parking to make sure that we adequately plan for future parking needs,” Carnesecca said during the meeting.

Parking plazas four, five and six – the central parking plazas – were identified for improvement for at-grade customer parking, while seven and eight are currently identified as potential sites for future housing sites. Plaza nine was not identified for a park because it is only partially owned by the city, and plaza 10’s irregular shape would have made development of the project difficult, Carnesecca said.

The Downtown Performing Arts Center would also have an impact on the park project.

The development of a Downtown Performing Arts Center – which is currently in the process of fundraising – is pending. Currently, the Los Altos Performing Arts Center (LAPAC) volunteer group has an active memorandum of understanding with the city of Los Altos until Nov. 18, 2027 as volunteers work with Indigo Skies Consulting, a fundraising consulting firm.

Members of City Council and many residents wanted more community outreach as

See PARK, Page 5

## St. Francis shelters in place after suspicious call

By Howard Bischoff  
Associate Publisher/howardb@latc.com

St. Francis High School students and staff were told to shelter in place Monday after administrators received what Mountain View Police Public Information Officer

Monica Leon said was a “suspicious” phone call.

“We made the decision after becoming aware of a possible threat that originated off campus. In alignment with our safety procedures, we immediately moved students and staff indoors,” Principal Katie Teekell and

School President Jason Curtis said in an email to parents.

They added that “The shelter-in-place was immediately lifted once we received confirmation from local authorities that the situation had been resolved and there was no ongoing concern for our campus.”

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# Around Town

## LA drop-off waste event held



S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos and Santa Clara County held a drop-off hazardous waste event in Rosita Park Saturday, with an estimated 25,000 pounds of waste collected.



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# News

## Los Altos City Council discusses Chamber of Commerce funding

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Members of Los Altos City Council voiced concern over the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce's standing – especially related to non-payment of rent for the Los Altos Visitors' Center – and Council is looking for ways to move forward after last week's City Council meeting.

During the Feb. 24 discussion, council members considered what, if anything, they wanted to do in regards to the city's contract with the Chamber of Commerce. Established Sept. 12, 2023, the \$67,500-annually contract initially included:

- The operation of the Los Altos Visitors' Center at 321 University Ave.
- Maintenance of a community calendar
- The printing of 20,000 copies of a Los Altos Magazine on a topic council approves with the inclusion of a Recreation Department full-page ad
- The creation of a digital edition of the magazine and the dissemination of 16,000 Los Altos Magazines to households in Los Altos and other local communities, and 4,000 Los Altos Magazines for local pickup at local coffee shops and

hotels.

But after the chamber failed to fulfill its FY 2024-25 magazine responsibilities, the Council ended the contract as it existed and added an amendment nullifying the FY 25-26, FY 26-27 and FY 27-28 magazines. It also required the Chamber of Commerce to complete the Los Altos Magazine from FY 24-25 before Dec. 31, 2025.

City staff reported to the City Council that the chamber had indicated that the FY 24-25 Los Altos Magazine was delivered to their Los Altos offices prior to the Dec. 31 deadline. The chamber had also distributed copies locally at popular locations across the city's four business districts and published a digital copy on the chamber website.

"The residential delivery to households in Los Altos and neighboring communities was postponed due to the incredibly rainy winter storm system, and not delivered by December 31, 2025, as required under the contract," staff said in its written report to Council.

While staff were supposed to turn in responses to questions the city submitted to the chamber, they did not receive responses from Chamber President Kim Mosley or the board



SCREENSHOTS FROM FEB. 24 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Los Altos City Council members, including Mayor Sally Meadows, left, discussed what, if anything, they wanted to do in regard to the city's contract with the Chamber of Commerce. Los Altos Chamber of Commerce President Kim Mosley, right, represented the chamber during the discussion.

before the meeting. Questions included who is on the current board of directors, chamber visitor center hours, who is in charge of the LEAD program – which helps locals who want to better the local community in some capacity through seminars and workshops – and proof of insurance for events like First Friday.

"Due to the way the calendar has fallen, this last week was winter break and a number of my board members were not available," Mosley said during the city council meeting. "Our board meeting was held today, and so we met, conferred the board, reviewed the questions

that you had submitted to us, and we provided responses to those questions with board approval and support, so that's why there was a delay in receipt of answers."

Mosley also said that the chamber had requested the meeting be deferred to an upcoming meeting so that the board's responses could be heard.

"Under the circumstances, I think it's important that the board demonstrates support for me and my leadership and for the platform that we all stand on together," Mosley told Vice Mayor Larry Lang when he asked why the chamber

hadn't answered some of the questions – like if they could provide proof of insurance for First Friday, which is set for this Friday. "So, it is normal, prudent, for me to receive approval for any statement that's made before Council when it comes from the chamber or the Board of Directors."

### New information

During the meeting, Mayor Sally Meadows shared that she had received a letter from Santa Clara County Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga alleging the chamber had stopped paying

See CHAMBER, Page 6

## Two arrested in Mountain View mail theft case

By Julia Baum  
Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

Detectives with the Mountain View Police Department recovered more than 1,500 pieces of stolen mail and arrested two San Jose residents following a months-long investigation, authorities announced Friday.

The investigation began after reports of mail theft in the 500 block of West Middlefield Road, police said. Over the past two months, the department's Crime Suppression Unit worked with patrol officers to develop leads and identify suspects connected to the case.

A few weeks into the investigation, night-shift patrol officers located the two suspects in Mountain View and

took them into custody without incident, according to police.

On Jan. 16, detectives served multiple search warrants across the Bay Area. During the searches, investigators recovered more than 1,500 pieces of stolen mail connected to more than 1,000 addresses in Mountain View and neighboring cities. Authorities also seized tools and equipment allegedly used to manufacture fraudulent identification cards.

Terri Maciel, 47, and Ruben Maciel, 34, both of San Jose, were booked into jail on numerous felony charges related to identity theft, mail theft, forgery and conspiracy.

Prosecutors allege Terri Maciel faces charges including identity theft, posses-

sion of identifying information with intent to defraud, criminal conspiracy, forgery, burglary, possession of stolen property and possession of burglary tools. She was also charged with falsifying vehicle registration, drug-related offenses and an outstanding warrant from the South San Francisco Police Department.

Ruben Maciel was booked on similar charges, including identity theft, mail theft, forgery, conspiracy, burglary and possession of stolen property. He also faces allegations of possessing altered or fraudulent vehicle documentation, drug offenses and a parole violation.

The investigation remains ongoing, and authorities have not released additional details.

## Foothill College launches bachelor's degree offering

By Julia Baum  
Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

Foothill College has received final approval from the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to offer a Bachelor of Science in Building Trades Management, creating a new pathway for registered apprentices and skilled trades workers to advance into leadership roles in California's construction industry.

"One of the things that I think Foothill leads in the nation ... is really breaking down this idea that you're either a degree-seeking student or an apprentice," said Dr. Kristina Whalen, president of Foothill College. "And that's because most of our apprentices have

the ability to also gain a college credential alongside the journey to becoming a journey worker."

Phuong Tran, grant monitor for the college's apprenticeship programs and one of the architects of the degree, said the idea grew from a lack of access to bachelor's programs for tradespeople.

"There is no four-year degree offered to apprentices and journeypersons in the building industry in California," Tran said. "We have seven CSUs in California that offer construction management, but there's no direct access from individuals who completed the building trade program to a four year degree

See FOOTHILL, Page 7

## PARK

From Page 1

soon as possible, regardless of the status of the Downtown Performing Arts Center. Some of the concepts consultants presented to council integrated the Downtown Performing Arts Center into the design.

### Park concepts

Proposed concepts, inspired by the local area, resulted in four themes: the grove, the meadow, the orchard and the garden. All park concepts would take up parking plazas one, two and three, Carnesecca said – though in some designs, changes were only made to two of the three parking plazas. The plazas were initially identified as preferred locations for the park project last year.

Karthik Kumar, a Moore, Iacofano, Goltsman, Inc. (MIG) representative, said the concepts were informed by community engagement the planning consultant company and city staff conducted. MIG representative Noé Noyola said the engagement process included “more than 1,000 conversations, roughly” with community members.

Engagement included 48 city-hosted community events, which included pop-ups, meetings and workshops. The majority of the engagement included pop-ups that allowed for connection with residents in different areas of the city, including libraries, coffee shops, the Los Altos Farmers Market, the Arts and Wine Festival, Headwest Market and Los Altos High School.

Staff also attended local group meetings, like those put on by the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce, Los Altos Community Coalition and the local Rotary and Kiwanis clubs.

The grove, inspired by Los Altos’ Redwood Grove, integrates tall redwoods with the downtown scape. It would include a lawn for gathering, shaded places to sit and introduced topography and nature-based play areas for children. The meadow, featuring pollinator gardens, would also include a lawn, shaded areas for rest and play areas for children. Inspired by Los Altos’ orchard history, the orchard concept integrates a programmed orchard with places for rest and gridded geometry. The garden,



INFOGRAPHIC BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

Los Altos City Council heard four park concepts last week.

as the name suggests, includes richly-planted spaces, places for rest and introduced topography-integrated play areas.

The most affordable concept presented was the meadow (\$9 million for the park, \$27.4 million for parking), followed by the garden (\$13.6 million for the park, \$32 million for parking), the orchard (\$14.4 million for the park, \$32.8 million for parking), and the grove (\$15.4 million for the park, \$62.9 million for underground parking). The park would be paid for by funds in the park impact (formerly park in-lieu) budget and potentially a California park grant, Carnesecca said.

### Response

Council members expressed disinterest in underground parking. Any designs that are created, council members told staff, should provide either net-neutral or net-positive parking. Councilmember Pete Dailey also expressed concern about old Chinese pistache trees – those vibrant, deciduous trees that bring warm hues to downtown Los Altos during the late fall and early winter months – and instructed them to preserve them.

“This was a study session. We were looking at concepts, not designs,” said Mayor Sally Meadows during the meeting. “I know they look like designs – I couldn’t do something like that, I would consider it the design if I did that – but it’s a concept. And so that’s what we’re talking about. There’s been no decisions made. This is part of the process. There’s going to be more, more outreach, and so that’s what we’re talking about. There’s been no decisions made.”

More than 20 residents made public comments, the majority of which were against

a downtown park and instead in support of upgrading existing parks and adding parks where there are none currently.

“I was told by a council member that the park in-lieu fees must be spent downtown. This is not the case – the fund allows for other park improvement projects that still serve our community,” said Los Altos resident Cindy Andrews. “Think park land north in Los Altos, where none exists. Think rehabbing our historic dilapidated Halsey house in Redwood Grove that’s been waiting since 2008 – do not think downtown, where five parks exist within a five-minute walk.”

Questions, including concerns related to outreach and the “why” of why a downtown park is needed if community members didn’t first express interest in one dominated public comment.

“The existing environment in downtown Los Altos is priceless. Every year I see hundreds of families come downtown to take their pictures with the old pistache trees and the way they turn color, everything is just priceless. The concept of having a three-story parking garage and having a theater downtown breaks my heart,” said Los Altos resident Juno Szalay. “I do feel that this is a rush to spend the \$19 million that you have in park funds, and wish that those would go towards other parks that we have. We have a grove, we have a meadow, we have a pollinator garden. Seems like we have everything. They are in walking distance within town, also all of the outside dining areas that were set up after COVID provide these areas for families to sit and dine outside, if that’s what they desire.”

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## CHAMBER

From Page 4

rent for the 321 University Ave. location for eight months. In a letter from the chamber to the Board of Supervisors, the chamber said "... We would like to negotiate a transfer of deed for the .33-acre parcel of land on which the chamber building rests for remuneration equal to rent already paid – over \$245,000 – by the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce."

"The Board of Supervisors never reviewed that and never said, 'Yeah, let's do that,' nor did they ever – as far as

I'm aware – give you permission to stop paying rent," Meadows said during the meeting. "When we as a city hear from our county counterpart that you are in arrears with the chamber building, I find that very concerning."

Mosley said she was acting with the full knowledge of the board at the time when the chamber stopped rent payments. She added that the choice to stop paying was made because the history of the land parcel was lost over time between county and chamber staff. Instead of it being adjusted by the "grace of the build-

ing being relocated to another site," it was then billed at a regular rental rate for a building that the chamber itself had built.

"What we should actually have is minimally a land lease rather than a lease that pays for the structure that we actually built ourselves," Mosley said.

While Meadows said she understood the history and explanation, she said it was irrelevant to stopping payment on a lease that went into effect in 2015.

"The reason I think this is urgent is it reflects on all of us," Meadows said. "The

chamber is very important in this community and we have no idea that last year you unilaterally chose not to pay rent because you didn't approve of the deal that was signed before you even assumed president of the chamber."

Mosley denied she unilaterally made the decision – she said the decision was made in conference with the executive board. She also said the chamber and county entered into negotiations when the decision was made to stop payments.

Councilmember Pete Dailley noted the decision to stop payments wasn't out of the ordinary, but proper notice and documentation should have been taken and given. Toward the end of City Council discussions, Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg noted that the letter Abe-Koga provided Meadows should have been included in the questions submitted by staff to the chamber – not presented during what he described as a "trial."

### Moving forward

Lang noted that Mosley was speaking to council on behalf of the chamber board, and that it was disappointing that no one from the chamber came to support her during the meeting.

Because of that – and pending information from the

chamber – Lang said he didn't feel comfortable making any decisions.

"I don't particularly want to take any action this evening," Lang said during the meeting. "I think there is a lot of new information falling in, there is a lot of emotions running high, and none of that is conducive to good decision making and I would just assume to let some things take their course with the urgency of – for example – make sure insurance is in place for First Friday and things like that."

As of Monday, the city of Los Altos is awaiting a change to the First Friday insurance, according to Assistant City Manager Jon Maginot.

"Once we receive that, everything will be approved," he said in an email.

The key to moving forward, Lang said, is the re-establishment of trust. He said he currently doesn't feel comfortable with the city continuing to pay for the chamber contract.

"When people on the one side of the relationship say, 'Hey, I have misgivings, I have worries, I need more information,' the right answer is 'You shouldn't feel that way,'" Lang said during the meeting. "The answer should be, 'What can we do together to share the information required to reestablish that trust?' To me, that's the important next step."

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## FOOTHILL

From Page 4

program direct access.”

Tran added that one of the benefits of the program is that it creates a seamless path to a degree so students “don’t need to redo any additional lower division courses to apply.”

When the college submitted its application three years ago, Tran said roughly 15,000 active apprentices statewide – including electricians, plumbers, steam fitters, sheet metal workers and HVAC specialists – did not have access to an advanced degree.

The program is designed for students who are currently registered in apprenticeship programs. It builds on hands-on experience and provides pathways to project management and supervisory roles. Tran said the program will include instruction in communications, management, contract administration and labor law, as well as skills identified by employers as critical, such as virtual design in construction.

“It would be open to management, project management for individuals who want to transition from field work to office work and be a project lead or project manager in the industry,” Tran said.

Whalen said California’s investment in housing, infrastructure and climate-resilient construction has increased the demand for professionals with trade experience and formal management training.

“There’s this need for people with trade experience but have formal management experience,” she said.

Tran said the college engaged about 30 employers during development of the degree, all of whom submitted letters of support.

“If both tradesmen and ... engineers can talk (in a) similar language ... they will reduce the cost of labor, cost of materials, reduce mistakes in time,” Tran said. “We’re hoping this is going to reduce the barrier in communications ... and put their trades, their occupations, on the map for the

degree that they have earned.”

The approval process included negotiations with California State University programs to avoid duplication of coursework and ensure the degree addressed unmet workforce demand. Accreditation approval was received last September, and Foothill plans to complete curriculum approvals this fall. Officials expect to enroll the first class in 2028.

Currently, the college serves about 2,000 active building trades apprentices, and both Whalen and Tran said the degree is intended to expand opportunities for that population while supporting economic mobility and workforce innovation in the region.

The Building Trades Management degree will join three other bachelor’s programs offered within the Foothill-De Anza Community College District: Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Care at Foothill, and Automotive Technology Management at De Anza College.

## New park in Mountain View gets design consultant

By Giuseppe Ricapito

Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

A new mini-park will be coming to West Middlefield Road following a public outreach and design campaign kicking off this spring.

The Mountain View City Council unanimously approved for the city manager to enter into a professional services agreement with Westwood Professional Services, Inc., a Texas-based company, for design and construction support services at a cost not to exceed \$385,000. The cost will cover site analysis, conceptual and schematic design, preparation of construction documents and community outreach.

The selection comes as some members of the community expressed concern with the choice of the consultant, noting that it being out of state may lead to the city expending resources on services it does not need.

“Our number one goal is to

listen to the neighborhood,” said John Marchant, community services director. “The process that’s being talked about tonight to develop this park is our typical park development process ... we’re really starting with a clean slate.”

The council approved the acquisition of 538 Thompson Ave. in November 2022 and 2231 West Middlefield Road in June 2024.

Jennifer Ng, public works director, said the first community meeting would take place in the spring. Final design is due in 2027 and construction is set for 2028.

Councilmember Alison Hicks noted that the new information confirmed the consultant would have a local presence for the community.

“I hope that we’ve clarified that it’s a firm with a local basis as well and it will be doing full community outreach,” Hicks said.



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# Comment

## Letters to the Editor

### Pause the park

This week I attended a standing room only Los Altos City Council study session on the proposed downtown park and parking project. Many residents questioned why the city is spending millions to plan a new downtown park without evidence of clear, broad public support. The discussion revealed a concerning disconnect between city spending priorities and the needs of the wider community.

That disconnect is especially evident when compared to the condition of our existing parks. My daughter spent many years at Redwood Grove Nature Preserve and commented how sad it is to see the park in such disrepair, and the historic Halsey House, a wonderful nature center, has been closed since 2008 due to safety concerns, with no active funding allo-

cated for restoration. Despite this, the council spent an hour reviewing multiple new downtown park concepts – one even borrowing the name “Redwood Grove” – while the existing Redwood Grove continues to languish.

What problem are we trying to solve by eliminating accessible downtown parking and investing millions in planning a new park?

This project seems to have been steam rolled without an unbiased assessment. City staff report “engagement” with about 1,200 people, with 65–70% expressing support. Even if this were a valid sample, it represents only ~2.5% of Los Altos residents, and even so, continued parking access remains the top concern.

The City Council should pause this project, rein in planning expenditures, and focus first on repairing ex-

isting parks while seeking broader, truly representative public input on citywide priorities.

**Valerie Taglio**

Los Altos

### Disappointed by park discussion

I attended the special City Council meeting on February 24 for the update on the proposed park and parking. I was deeply disappointed that no council member questioned why the consultants’ engagement questions actually did not include any questions about whether or not the respondent wanted or thought there was a need for this proposed project. This was a massive breach of what a true open consultancy would do. Their questions positioned the park/parking as a fait accompli which it is not.

Similarly their community

engagement numbers were disingenuous and blatantly misleading. Their approximate 1,000 respondents over 43 conversations, representing less than 3% of our population, did not discern whether or not these were actually discrete individual responses – they recruited responses at the farmers market five separate times but were those individuals actually different each time? Where was the consultant’s data to support this?

It came to light that their engagement included high school students; when are high school students who do not vote or pay taxes for these projects considered as viable input? Really, a candy hand out for those kids as was noted during the comments period!

Lastly all of the council glossed over the Performing Arts Center as though this was a done deal. Where is the major sponsor that has been

sought for the past three years?

Has their already paid consultant actually found a fundraiser? Why are they promoting a very expensive (project) (note the consultants did not address this cost) that will benefit less than 1% of our population at any given performance? Simple math by using population and maximum proposed seating number of 300 per all former information put forward.

Instead of allowing the consultants to bulldoze over everyone with their broad generalities, the council should hold them truly accountable and challenge their findings or at the very least, make them support them with hard data and details.

This should be what our elected officials should be doing. It would truly benefit all of us.

**Douglas W. Gruehl**

Los Altos

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



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Serving the Greater Los Altos Community since 1947

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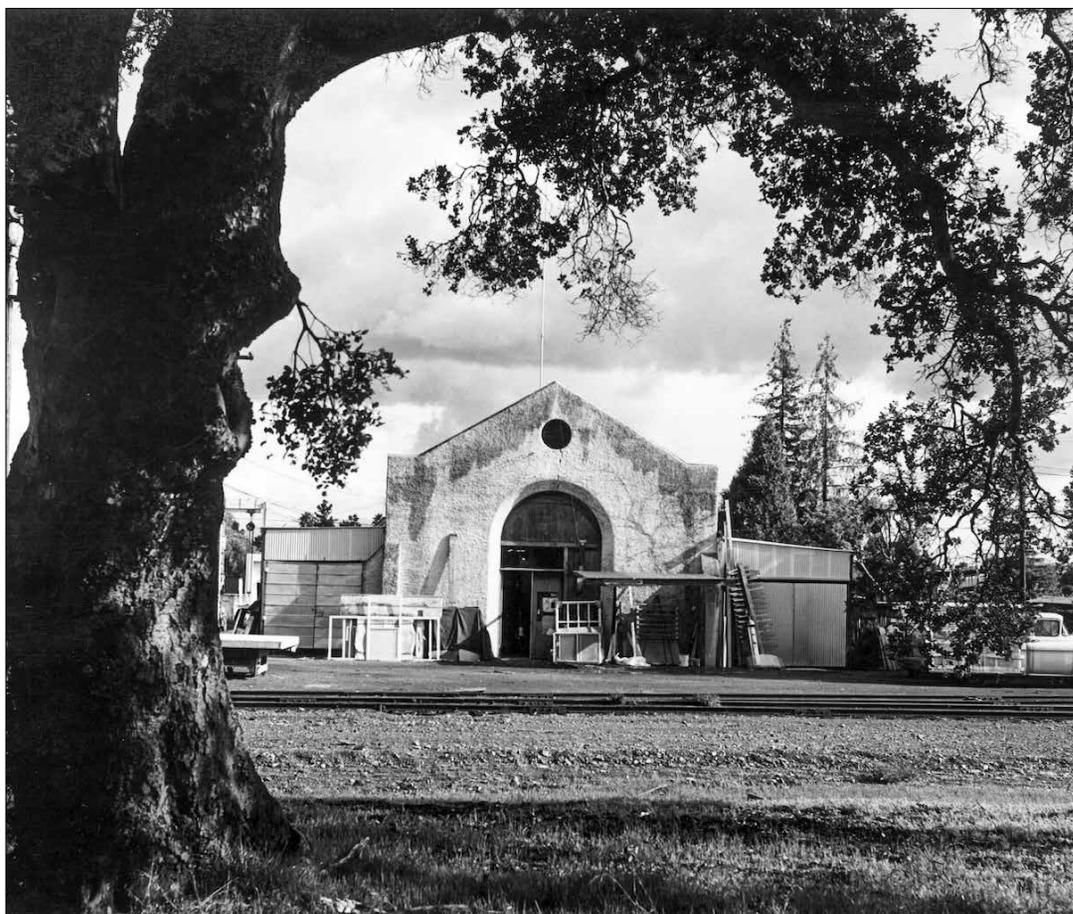
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## Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

By 1934, the Los Altos library had outgrown its home in the Scout Hall. Guy Shoup helped lease Southern Pacific’s vacant electric trolley powerhouse on First Street for one dollar per year. Thanks to town volunteers, the government’s Works Progress Administration workers and fundraising, the cement shell became a library in June 1936.

# Community

## Fair for neurodivergent students, families set for Sunday

By Kaelyn Tan  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

The nonprofit Resilience and Engagement for Every Learner (REEL) will host its Strengths Fair from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday (March 8) at the Los Altos Community Center. It is a free event for families to explore resources and organizations that support neurodivergent children.

According to the REEL website, the nonprofit works to ensure neurodivergent students can thrive in academic settings by promoting parent and educator awareness of strategies to address youth needs through its wide variety of resources, events, services and more.

This year, the theme for REEL's Strengths Fair is "Where Strengths Shine and Futures Grow," which organiz-

ers said captures the purpose of the event to demonstrate the potential of neurodivergent students and guide families in nurturing their children. On its website, REEL describes these students as those whose brains work differently from what's considered typical, such as those with ADHD, autism, dyslexia or anxiety.

"It's a very medical model – focusing on what's wrong with children – and we wanted to create something that focuses on strengths," REEL co-founder Yael Valek said.

The event will showcase hands-on exhibits, progressive school options, parent resources and talks given by innovators in neurodiversity. Through the programming, attendees will have opportunities to connect with each other and share experiences.



COURTESY OF DIANNA SADLER

See REEL, Page 11

The Strengths Fair showcases resources that support neurodivergent children.



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## Author challenges Morning Forum to remember the cost of freedom

By Allyson Johnson

Robert Edsel, author of “The Monuments Men,” enthralled his audience at the Feb. 17 Los Altos Morning Forum with tales of how he came to write the book, the discoveries he made along the way, the heroism he learned about in doing his research and the profound sense of obligation he feels toward the men and women he met and heard about.

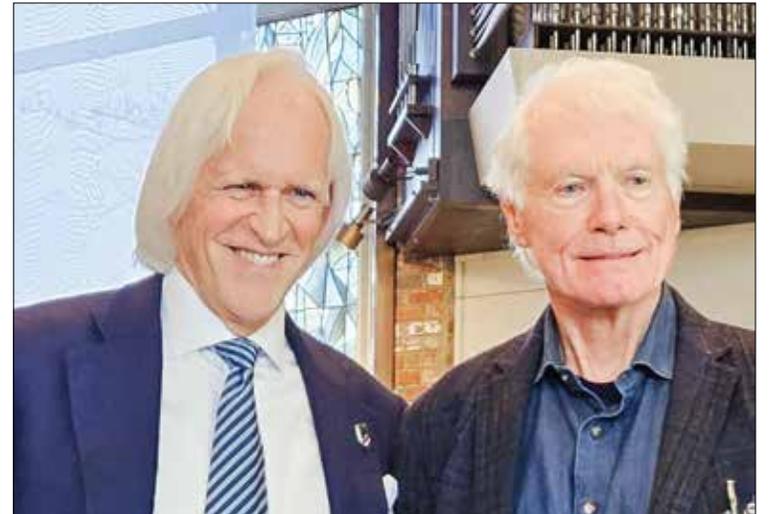
Edsel began his talk by thanking the veterans in the audience for their service. He went on to tell of how, after building a successful oil and gas business, he found himself at the age of 40 in possession of considerable money from the sale of the business and thinking, “I don’t want to be that guy who sits around at age 65 saying, ‘I always wanted to (fill in blank) but never got around to it.’”

He began studying art and architecture, and one evening on the Ponte Vecchio Bridge in Florence, the question came to him: “How did all the art and sculpture in Italy survive the bombing and looting of World War II?” He asked a number of people – historians, museum curators and others – and their response was “I don’t know. I’ve never thought about it.”

Eventually, he resolved to find the answer, and ended by self-publishing “Rescuing da Vinci” to fill the gap, a book with 360 photos documenting the preservation of Italy’s art heritage.

During World War II, the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Program (MFAA) was proposed by George Stout, conservator of art at Harvard, and authorized by Roosevelt to counter Nazi propaganda that the U.S. troops entering Europe would take away Europe’s art heritage. Given few resources other than the support of Generals Eisenhower and Marshall, the MFAA found and returned thousands of artworks, rare books and historic documents until it disbanded in 1957.

Edsel was just in time to interview some of the people who had been personally involved in rescuing Europe’s art heritage from the Nazis.



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS MORNING FORUM

Robert Edsel with Morning Forum President John Miller.

One 90-year-old who had been uncommunicative in a nursing home came to alertness when Edsel showed him some of the pictures he had collected. He identified some of the uniformed men in the photos, talked with Edsel for four hours and at the end, told Edsel, “I’ve been waiting to talk to you all my life.” He died nine days later.

Edsel felt that he had been passed the torch.

In 2004, Edsel founded the Monuments Men and Women Foundation (MMWF) to collect mementos and information about the MFAA’s work. The foundation has also circulated information about still-missing works of art in the hope that some will surface from families unaware that their veteran’s “souvenirs” are of cultural value. The foundation has published a deck of playing cards that features still-missing artworks, and it works with U.S. museums to establish proper provenance for artwork acquired illegitimately. It has also provided information to curators of museums and libraries on how to preserve the artworks and documents in their care in case of a natural or political disaster.

Edsel gave examples of how Michelangelo’s statue of David and other classic Italian statuary were protected from bombing by brick encasements, and how da Vinci’s “The Last Supper” survived the destruction of the chapel in which it was painted by shieldings of scaffolding and sandbags.

The film “The Monuments Men,” produced by and starring George Clooney, elevated

awareness of the importance of protecting cultural icons. Information gathered by the Monuments Men and Women Foundation has now been collected and is on exhibit in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

In researching “The Monuments Men” in the Netherlands, Edsel was told about the grave adoption program set up near an American military cemetery by the local citizens. General Eisenhower had promised his troops that they would not be left to be buried in enemy soil, and this cemetery is just over the border with East Germany. At the dedication of the cemetery, 40,000 Dutch people came to pay respects to their liberators. The Netherlands promised that the 17,800 U.S. servicemen buried in the cemetery would not be neglected. Each of the graves has been adopted by a Dutch family and is carefully tended.

Edsel started the Forever Promise Project to find the families of the buried servicemen and connect them to the families who had adopted their grave. The project has connected 400 families to the adopting families.

Edsel closed his talk by asking, “Why don’t we have a grave adoption project in the U.S.? We need people to think about where our freedom comes from and what it has cost. This is the challenge of our time.”

For more information on the Morning Forum and its spring series, visit [morningforum.org](http://morningforum.org). For membership information, visit [morningforum.org/2025-2026-Series-Subscription-new](http://morningforum.org/2025-2026-Series-Subscription-new).

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# Community

## REEL From Page 9

For keynote speaker Amanda Morin, a nationally recognized leader in the neurodiversity movement, the fair is special because it fosters understanding among people.

“Having to explain your story over and over again is exhausting, but when you find a place where everyone just gets it, that’s the best feeling,” Morin said.

Morin said that her work is driven by her personal experiences as a parent of neurodivergent children. She hopes to share her takeaways and

inspire families to adapt a strengths-based approach to their neurodivergent children through her upcoming talk.

Families are encouraged to bring their children to the event, where there will be interactive activities and opportunities for meaningful dialogue.

“Kids should be part of the conversation,” Morin said. “We should not be talking about kids without them.”

Beyond families and youth, Valek said the event is open to community members from all backgrounds, regardless of their understanding of neurodivergence.

It is important for community members to engage with topics in neurodiversity, Valek added, especially given that the Bay Area is known for achievement and innovation.

“It’s a little bit ironic to me that most of the most amazing innovators that we have in this area are twice exceptional, neurodivergent themselves,” Valek said. “Yet, a lot of kids who think differently in K-12 schools feel stifled.”

Registration is encouraged but not required to attend the fair at the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

*To register and for more information, visit [reel2e.org](http://reel2e.org).*



COURTESY OF DIANNA SADLER

Students at the Strengths Fair work at an activities table at Los Altos Community Center.

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# Community

## Since age 6, teen's relationship with paving company rolls on

By Zoë Friedman  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Since he was 6 years old, Evan Smith has been captivated by O'Grady Paving Incorporated.

The Mountain View resident first noticed the company while passing a job site with his mother and immediately asked her to stop so he could take a closer look. More than a decade later, what began as a childhood fascination has turned into a lasting relationship with the crew behind the Mountain View-based paving company.

Over the years, Smith has

become a familiar face on job sites, returning whenever possible to observe the group at work.

Smith said he has always been interested in construction and paving.

"There's a lot that goes into it and a lot of cool equipment," he said. "Some guys say as you get older, you just get bigger toys."

Part of the excitement, Smith said, is figuring out where the company will be working next. He determines O'Grady's projects by checking city websites for public bidding records to see which companies get jobs. And, Smith said,

"Sometimes you see the no parking signs. So you follow the no parking signs."

Beyond the equipment, Smith said he has enjoyed getting to know the O'Grady crew.

"A lot of them speak Spanish and I've been taking Spanish in school," said Smith, a junior at Woodside Priory School. "My Spanish has gotten better, so that's kind of fun. I can really connect."

When Smith was younger, the crew even gave him his own construction vest labeled "O'Grady Paving" in a size 2XL. Smith joked that they

See PAVING, Page 13

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Free Public Event

Free Public Event

Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm Reception • 6:30pm Q&A • 7:00pm Film Screening  
Los Altos High School, Eagle Theater



City of

## LOS ALTOS

### CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

MARCH 10, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.  
In Person  
*Note- This is not the Final Agenda*

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

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

### CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Authorize City Manager to move to approve the Parcel Map for 1485 Fremont Avenue
2. Independent Intake Official (IIO) Yearly Report 2025

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. AB481 Military Equipment Use Annual Report for 2025
4. Review of City Council Norms and Procedures

Agendas, Reports and associated documents for City Council items may be viewed at [losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/meetings](https://losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/meetings)

# Community

## PAVING From Page 12

must have had some foresight, knowing he would keep coming back as he grew.

“The crew enjoys him coming around,” said Thomas O’Grady, who owns and operates the business founded by his father in 1956.

While Smith doesn’t quite know what he wants to do as a profession, O’Grady Paving has influenced how he imagines his working life.

“I definitely don’t want an office job,” he said. “I think it’s so much more fun to be able to work with my hands and to be outside. One of the things I like about it is that it’s something different every day.”

To O’Grady, Smith seems like a rarity.

“In general, kids growing up now are more into the internet and social media, and they want to work at Google, or they want to do something computerized, while we’re

actually doing the physical work,” O’Grady said.

Smith encouraged the broader Los Altos community to recognize “how much goes into just making everyday things seem every day.”

“We take it for granted,” he said. “People only notice when the roads are really chewed up or when they’re being inconvenienced by the construction, but there’s a lot of work that goes into it.”

The last time Smith saw O’Grady and his crew was in November, after a three-year gap.

“They were all so excited to see me. I’m 17 now, so they’ve seen me grow for 10 years,” Smith said.

For O’Grady, it’s a two-way street.

“It was just cool seeing him and talking to him and seeing how grown up he is,” he said.

Ten years in and going strong, Smith said he plans to visit O’Grady Paving whenever he can.



COURTESY OF EVAN SMITH

Evan Smith, 17, riding the O’Grady Paving paver. Evan has been coming out to job sites since he was six years old and riding on different pieces of equipment.

“I have to thank my mom for always being willing to drive me to jobs,” Smith said. “And, now I have my own driver’s license so I can get myself places.”

Smith said he’s not yet done following the no-parking signs.

### Read TC, both print and online

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

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## MENDELSSOHN’S EPIC ELIJAH

**Saturday, March 14, @ 7:30pm**  
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City of Los Altos Parks & Recreation

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Registration Opens to All: March 9  
Classes begin April 8

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# Stepping Out

## Weekend highlights world music and jazz

Town Crier Report

The sounds of world music and jazz are coming to the area this weekend, with concerts in Mountain View and Stanford.

• On Friday (March 6), enjoy the global sounds of Croatian vocalist Astrid Kuljanic with the Ben Rosenblum Trio from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Community School of Music and Arts'

Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View.

Drawing on her Adriatic heritage and her command of Brazilian music and jazz, Kuljanic will present a diverse evening of global music. With her band featuring accordionist Ben Rosenblum, bassist and bagpiper Mat Muntz and drummer and percussionist Ben Zweig, Kuljanic will sing traditional, popular and original songs.

The performance will feature a range of styles and languages propelled by a focus on spontaneous interaction and interpretive flexibility.

The concert is free, but attendees are advised to reserve tickets at [tinyurl.com/CSMA-Kuljanic-Rosenblum](http://tinyurl.com/CSMA-Kuljanic-Rosenblum).

• On Saturday (March 7) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Stanford's Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford,



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITCHFROHMAN.COM

Grammy-winning saxophonist/flautist Mitch Frohman will perform with the Stanford Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble Saturday.

the acclaimed Stanford Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble, directed by Murray Low, presents its winter concert, "Tribute to the Mambo." The concert will feature special guest saxophonist/flautist Mitch Frohman, a seven-time Grammy winner. The

program showcases both classic and original numbers, paying homage to classic New York salsa and Latin jazz repertoire during its golden era.

For tickets, \$27 to \$32, visit [events.stanford.edu/event/salje-winter26](http://events.stanford.edu/event/salje-winter26).

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<p><b>Los Altos Lutheran Church</b> Rejoice in the Word + Sent in the Spirit</p> <p><b>10AM In-Person &amp; Online</b></p> <p>VISIT OUR WEBSITE <a href="http://www.LosAltosLutheran.org">www.LosAltosLutheran.org</a></p> <p>460 S. El Monte Ave. (at Cuesta) 650.948.3012 <a href="mailto:office@losaltoslutheran.org">office@losaltoslutheran.org</a> Email the office for the Worship Zoom Link</p>	<p><b>Christ Episcopal Church</b> <i>Inspired Worship. Relevant Preaching. Transcendent Music.</i></p> <p><b>Sunday Services In Person</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Spoken Eucharist 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service (also via Zoom)</p> <p>Childcare provided on Sunday mornings during 10:15 service 1010 Border Road Los Altos 650-948-2151</p> <p><a href="http://www.christchurchlosaltos.org">www.christchurchlosaltos.org</a></p>			
<p><b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LOS ALTOS</b></p> <p><b>Join us online or in person for worship at 10 am!</b></p> <p>Inspirational messages and great music! Please visit our website at <a href="http://ilcaltos.com">ilcaltos.com</a> for more information!</p> <p>1715 Grant Road, Los Altos 650-967-4906 • <a href="http://www.ilcaltos.com">www.ilcaltos.com</a></p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SERVICES</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p> <b>10 AM</b> 190 Jordan Avenue, Los Altos</p> <p><b>9 AM &amp; 11:30 AM</b> 1300 Grant Road, Los Altos</p> <p><b>Online Service</b> 9 AM and 11:30 AM <a href="http://Cuestapark.org">Cuestapark.org</a></p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>To list your Religious Organization, please email Janice at <a href="mailto:JaniceF@Latc.com">JaniceF@Latc.com</a></p> <p></p> <p><b>Los Altos Town Crier</b></p> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL ARE WELCOME</p>		<p> <b>10 AM</b> 190 Jordan Avenue, Los Altos</p> <p><b>9 AM &amp; 11:30 AM</b> 1300 Grant Road, Los Altos</p> <p><b>Online Service</b> 9 AM and 11:30 AM <a href="http://Cuestapark.org">Cuestapark.org</a></p>	<p>To list your Religious Organization, please email Janice at <a href="mailto:JaniceF@Latc.com">JaniceF@Latc.com</a></p> <p></p> <p><b>Los Altos Town Crier</b></p>
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## Spelling bee buzzes at Foothill

Town Crier Report

Foothill Music Theatre's "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" opened Feb. 27 and runs through March 15.

The musical comedy follows an eclectic group of six kids as they vie for a spelling championship, sharing hilarious and touching stories along the way. As an added twist, at every performance, four guest spellers from the audience will be called up to participate in the bee.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is playing at the Lohman Theatre at Foothill College, 12345 S. El Monte Road. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$22-\$44.

For more information on the show, see the article "Spelling Bee" will soon buzz at Foothill" in the Town Crier's Feb. 18 paper or at [losaltosonline.com](http://losaltosonline.com).

For tickets, visit [foothill.edu/theatre/spelling-bee.html](http://foothill.edu/theatre/spelling-bee.html).

## Have some laughs in Mtn. View

Town Crier Report

Two stand-up comedy shows are coming to the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., this weekend.

At 8 p.m. Saturday, The Best of San Francisco Stand-up Comedy occupies the center's SecondStage. Experience the talent of a new generation of Bay Area comedians, continuing the tradition of luminaries like Robin Williams, Dana Carvey and Ali Wong.

The show is appropriate for ages 18 and up. Tickets are \$36.

At 7 p.m. Sunday, Joe Wong brings his comedy special "Go Back to America" to the MainStage. Wong, who made his breakthrough on "The Late Show with David Letterman," is known for his perspective on the immigrant experience.

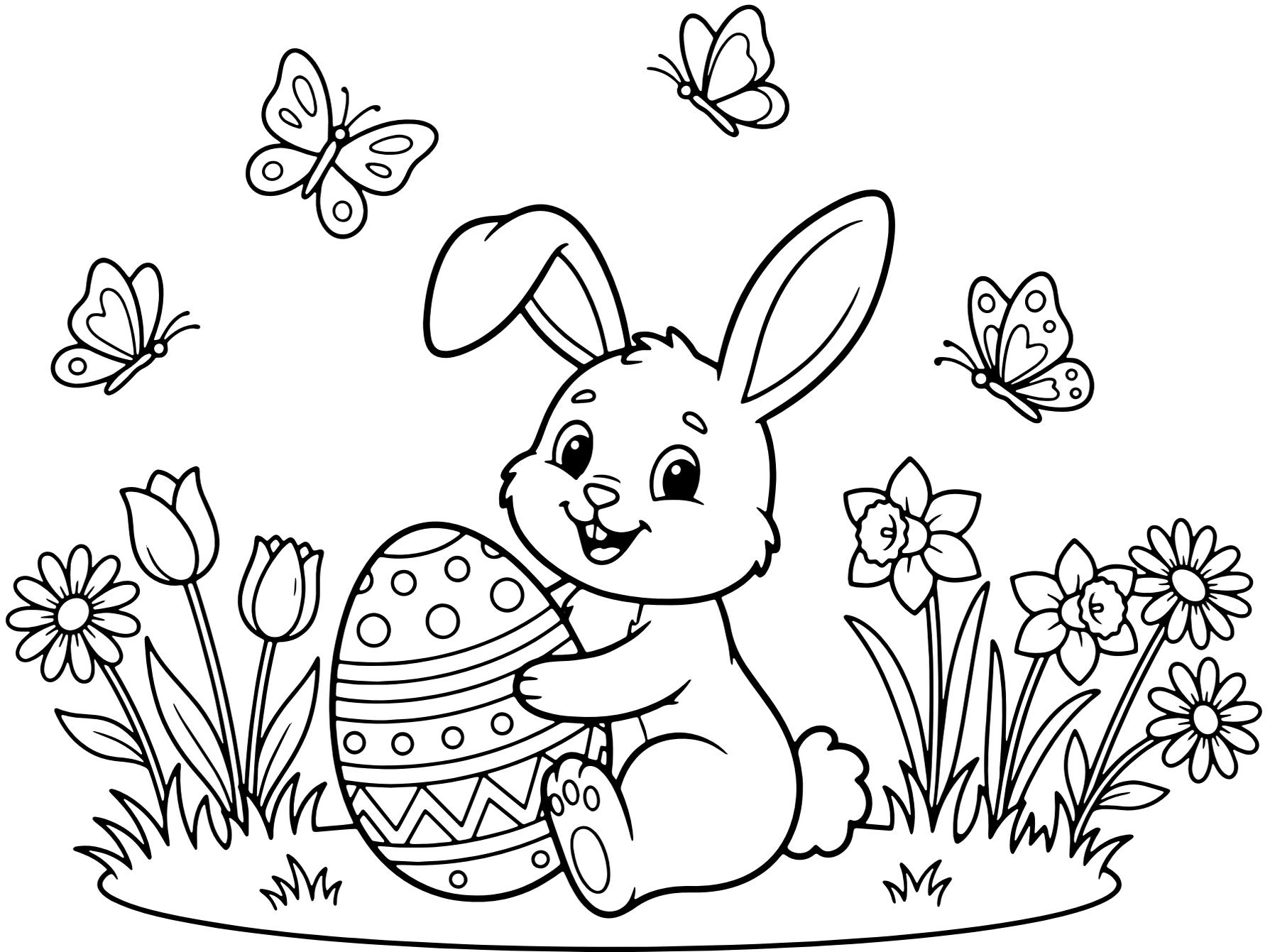
In "Go Back to America," Wong delivers a deadpan exploration of cultural identity and the American Dream.

The show is appropriate for ages 12 and up. Tickets are \$43-\$115.50.

For tickets and more information on both shows, visit [mvcpa.com](http://mvcpa.com).



# COLORING CONTEST



Sponsored by: Baskin-Robbins Mountain View and the Los Altos Town Crier

## EASTER COLORING CONTEST: Deadline Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM

### CATEGORIES:

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### SECOND PLACE

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All winners will have their photos published in the Los Altos Town Crier, and all entries will be displayed at Baskin-Robbins - Mountain View.

Name: .....

Age: .....

Address: .....

City: .....

Daytime Phone Number: .....

To enter the contest, return completed entries to the Los Altos Town Crier by **Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM**. One entry per person. The decision of the judges will be final.

### ENTRIES: DROP OFF OR MAIL TO:

**Los Altos Town Crier, 138 Main Street, Los Altos, CA 94022**

# Schools

## Pinewood juniors showcase big ideas for social change

By Julia Baum

Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

Students transformed a campus lunch period into a showcase of environmental innovation and social impact Feb. 26 at Pinewood High School, where juniors in the Pinewood Scholars Program (PSP) pitched ventures to faculty during a catered “teacher brainstorming lunch.”

Fifteen students enrolled in the program had the chance to present projects developed throughout the year at the Feb. 26 event. Teachers circulated among tables, offering feedback and, in some cases, volunteering to mentor students as they refine their ideas.

The two-year course for juniors and seniors focuses on tackling real-world problems through sustainable, community-centered business models. Admission into the class requires an application and interview, and each year’s cohort develops a new slate of student-led initiatives.

Junior Zachary introduced “Zee’s Bees,” a native “bee hotel” designed to support solitary bee species. Unlike western honeybees, which live in

colonies, many native bees nest alone. Zachary’s structure uses compressed paper straws housed inside composite decking wood, giving bees a safe place to lay eggs from fall through spring. The straws are replaced every two years to prevent mold and disease. One installation is already at Hidden Villa, and the structure can host up to 100 bee species.

Nearby, junior Ryan presented the Sustainability Collaboration, an initiative aimed at helping local restaurants comply with environmental ordinances. His plan includes tailored support for businesses and a tiered certification program recognizing sustainability compliance, with a gold level for restaurants that “go above and beyond.”

Ryan is seeking approval from the city of Los Altos and has met with the Chamber of Commerce and Environmental Commission to support his initiative.

“This class has given me the autonomy to have this idea,” he said. “I love this class. Everything about it. It’s my favorite.”

See PINEWOOD, Page 17



COURTESY OF PINEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Pinewood High School juniors pitched ventures to faculty during a “catered teacher brainstorming lunch” Thursday as part of the Pinewood Scholars Program (PSP).

## Local Gallery 9 supports volunteer art teachers

By Meghna Dixit

Town Crier Editorial Intern

As part of their effort to keep art alive, the artists at Gallery 9 recently made a second donation to the Los Altos Art Docents.

Los Altos-based Gallery 9 in January donated money to the program, which provides volunteers to teach art to students in the Los Altos School District.

“We wanted to give back to the community,” said Gallery 9 member Cecilia Mases, who declined to disclose the amount of the donation. “We talked about the future and how we had to support the future of art, so the Art Docents felt like an important group to support.”

This marked the second time in two years that Gallery 9 has donated to the Art Docents, according to Mases.

Located at 143 Main St., Gallery 9 comprises a group of nearly 30 artists who show and sell their work at the downtown studio. They used some of the proceeds from their art to make

the donations, Mases said.

Since the first donation, the two organizations have been collaborating in other ways to support the future of art. The studio hosts showcases featuring art made by elementary school children and by Gallery 9 artists.

“The children are spreading such joy and it’s always so fun,” Mases said. “I noticed that when the children are in the gallery and they talk to us they say, ‘Are you real artists?’ We get to be cool because they act like we are famous. Maybe kids these days just don’t really think that artists are all over the community; we’re everywhere. Your neighbor might be an artist, you never know. So, the children give a lot of fun things back.”

Recently, the Art Docents hosted its inaugural district-wide community art showcase at Almond Elementary School, highlighting both the kids’ work and artists from Gallery 9. According to Kimberly Dickerson, coordinator for the Art Docents,

See GALLERY 9, Page 17



COURTESY OF GALLERY 9

Gallery 9, represented by Cecilia Mases, Joyce Savre and Andy Browne (not pictured), participated in a community student art showcase hosted by the Los Altos School District on Nov. 19, showing the continuing cooperation between the art gallery and the Los Altos Art Docents. Gallery 9 comprises nearly 30 artists who show and sell their work at the downtown studio.

# Schools

## PINEWOOD

From Page 16

Other students blend entrepreneurship with personal passion. Kelsea founded the Calmify Collective, a sole proprietorship selling fidget toys that she personally designed and produced using a 3D printer, which she sells on Etsy. She said she “built it out of my own experience with anxiety” and wanted to “spread the idea that techniques to calm down should be accessible to kids and adults.”

Rishi, a history enthusiast, is developing the Hidden History Project, an app alerting users when they pass sites of local significance. Working with the Los Altos History Museum, he has compiled 75 locations, including an Ohlone settlement five minutes from campus, and is in talks with the city of Palo Alto to secure funding to get the app placed in app stores.

Meanwhile, junior Riya founded Roots of Confidence, which distributes hair and beauty kits to unhoused women through partnerships



COURTESY OF PINEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

### Teachers and students at Pinewood High School's Pinewood Scholars Program.

including Housing Matters in Santa Cruz. In coordinating deliveries and connecting with organizations, she's learned skills that go beyond the classroom.

“I've really learned how to put myself out there and make those cold calls,” Riya said. Since January, she has delivered about 70 kits and aims for 200 by semester's end.

Program organizer Asma

Rabbani said the luncheon was designed to expose students to new perspectives and strengthen business models. The broader goal, she said, is to ask: “What are you passionate about? What bothers you – and what are you going to do about it?”

Judging by Thursday's presentations, Pinewood students are already answering that question.

## GALLERY 9

From Page 16

having local artists present at the district-wide show was beneficial for the children's art education.

“Kids look up to the Gallery 9 artists as the experts because their art is framed on the wall,” Dickerson said. “Just having someone who is sort of an expert talk to them on the same level was really empowering for the kids; I think they got a lot out of it. It was a two-way street, each time we've done this; whether it's been at their gallery or in our space, it's been a fun way to hear how the kids react to the artists and how the artists react to the kids, too.”

Dickerson added that the proceeds from the donations have been used to develop lessons for lower grades. She explained that the Art Docents must think outside of the box and include more playful, exploratory lessons with different supplies rather than specific skills and techniques, since the children aren't that advanced yet.

Dickerson said the Art Docents are now developing lessons titled “Playing with Lines” and “Playing with Color” that require students to rotate through several stations to play with different color mediums and materials to create colorful pictures and different types of lines.

According to Dickerson, the collaboration between Gallery 9 and the Art Docents has been well-received by the children she works with. She added that it's convenient that Gallery 9 is local, and she, as well as the children, likes to check out their art displays and talk to the local artists featured at the studio.

“We love the collaboration,” Dickerson said. “All the artists I've met at Gallery 9 are very open to this collaboration, which has been very fun. It's great that we have so many people in our community who are dedicated to and appreciate the arts.”

*For more on Gallery 9, visit [gallery9losaltos.com](http://gallery9losaltos.com). For more information on the Arts Docents, visit [losaltosartdocents.org](http://losaltosartdocents.org).*



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# Sports

## MV boys soccer wins CCS title thriller over Everett Alvarez

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

A year after losing on penalties to Everett Alvarez in the CCS playoffs, it was appropriate that a penalty in the dying minutes of extra time from winger Cyrus Shafie for Mountain View secured a CCS championship this year.

Tied 1-1 in the last minute of extra time Friday, a foul on Shafie in the box gave him the pressure moment he was ready for, a penalty kick he slotted home to secure the 2-1 CCS Division I playoff win for Mountain View (18-3-2) over the undefeated defending champions.

“Usually, I take penalties for a lot of teams I play for,” Shafie said. “I don’t usually feel nervous, but for that one, just a little bit, but I felt confident enough to take it.”

The resulting euphoria after the make saw the Mountain

View team run to celebrate with a packed student section at Stevens Stadium on the Santa Clara University campus, with Shafie feeling vindicated for all the hard work put in during his high school career.

“Best feeling ever,” Shafie said. “But it’s amazing to see my friends, parents and everyone. It’s such a great group, we love each other so much that it feels amazing.”

Mountain View coach Jim McGuirk said that even in such a pressure situation, he trusted Shafie implicitly.

“I was starting to think the soccer gods had smiled on me,” McGuirk said.

The game got off to a fast start with Mountain View forward Nicholas Garzino scoring the game’s opening goal after firing a shot past the Everett Alvarez keeper from a rebounded corner after just six minutes in the first half.

However, Everett Alvarez responded ruthlessly just a few minutes later with a goal from striker Fernando Matias off a cross from outside the box to make it 1-1. Everett Alvarez grew into the game and had several more shots in the first half, with Mountain View’s best chance coming when Shafie hit a shot off the post on an indirect free kick inside Everett Alvarez’s box after a backpass violation between a defender and the keeper.

“You could tell we were really nervous at the beginning, we were connecting on our passes – I thought the goal was great,” McGuirk said. “I think after they scored, I think we settled in.”

The Spartans and Eagles had several shots on goal in the second half but could not score, sending the game into extra time, where defender

See SPARTANS, Page 19



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Mountain View’s Cyrus Shafie celebrates scoring a penalty in extra time Friday against Everett Alvarez in the CCS Division I championship game, a 2-1 win for Mountain View.

## Los Gatos stymies St. Francis in CCS girls soccer title game

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Los Gatos’ physical and uptempo style stymied St. Francis in a penalty shootout win Friday over the CCS Division I defending champions, with St. Francis playing Los Gatos’ game throughout the match.

“Gotta give a lot of credit to Los Gatos, they were relentless, physical, athletic, and I don’t think we played our best game,” St. Francis coach Carlos Barboza said. “They made us not play our best game. There was no rhythm, there were a lot of nerves.”

Los Gatos upped the game’s tempo with its speed and athleticism while also breaking the flow up with physicality and tactical fouls whenever St. Francis threatened or looked to play key passes toward goal, forcing St. Francis into suboptimal decisions in key moments. The stakes and intensity led to several yellow cards for both teams and chippyness as the game went on.

Both teams had several good chances to score during regular time. Los Gatos had a point-blank chance with 25 minutes left in the first half, going through on goal and forcing a good save from sophomore goalkeeper Sophia Malloy from just a few yards away. St. Francis

got its first shot on target with 19 minutes left in the first half, a soft long shot from midfielder Sophie McCarthy. The Lancers’ best chance of the first half came when midfielder Penelope Correa went through on goal on the left side of the box and hit a hard shot straight that forced a save from goalkeeper Cora Bryant. St. Francis had another great chance in the second half when Grier Gowdy was through on goal and had her shot blocked by Bryant.

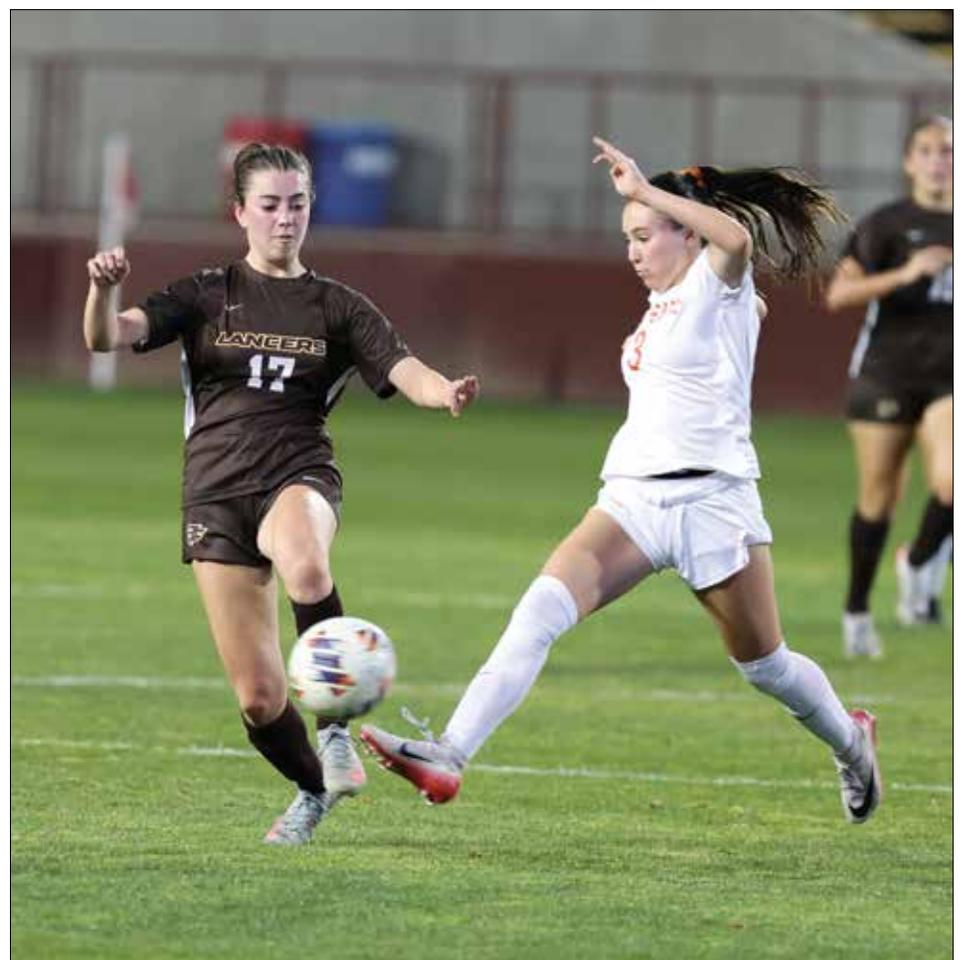
“I think both teams had a couple of moments,” Barboza said. “It seemed nervy the entire game, so I don’t think either team was clinical, given a 0-0 game all the way through.”

After no one scored in extra time, it went to a penalty shootout where Los Gatos won 4-3. Los Gatos went second and made all four of its penalties, with Bryant saving a shot from midfielder Julia Malcolm on St. Francis’ third attempt. A miss from defender Kendall Koury on St. Francis’ fifth penalty sealed the game for Los Gatos.

“To their credit, their goalkeeper made a save, and so it happens,” Barboza said. “That’s the way PK’s go.”

St. Francis (19-1-1) played Los Gatos (18-1-3) in its second game of the season

See LANCERS, Page 19



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis forward Maya Meltz goes for the ball during the CCS Division I championship game against Los Gatos Friday.

# Sports

## SPARTANS

From Page 18

Abraham Orozco was sent off for a second yellow after a foul on Shafie. Despite being a man down, the Eagles nearly scored but were denied by an incredible reaction save from Spartan goalkeeper Aiden Tassa, who got a hand to a shot and pushed it over the bar on a full stretch. Everett Alvarez's pace and technical ability on the ball helped generate numerous chances and dangerous attacking transition moments.

"We did not want them dribbling the ball," McGuirk said. "That's why you saw us back off a lot. We were trying to clog up the middle, we were trying to change our tactics a little bit, which is always hard to do. We trust our defense, and Aiden (Tassa) came up big at the end there. He's had a great night, great run through the playoffs, our defense has been great. That's what got us here."

The CCS title is the first for the Spartans since 2023, with similar parallels to that year's journey. Mountain View was the No. 7 seed in the top CCS playoff division that year, beating a West Catholic Athletic League Champion in the opening round both in St. Francis before taking down the No. 1 CCS seed in the final in Alisal. Mountain View beat St. Ignatius 2-1 in a close thriller in the quarterfinals this year, including a missed penalty in the final minutes



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

**Members of the Mountain View boys soccer team lift the CCS Division I playoff trophy after beating Everett Alvarez in the championship game Friday night.**

from St. Ignatius, and beat Leigh 5-1 in the semifinals.

The Spartans now move on to the NorCal playoffs after a long CCS run, hoping to repeat the team's success from last year. Mountain View won the NorCal Division II title last year over Cardinal Newman, its first regional title in boys soccer. Mountain View hosts Rocklin 5 p.m. Tuesday (after the Town Crier print deadline).

"We will go out and do the best we can, and hope we aren't too worn out," McGuirk said.

## LANCERS

From Page 18

and won 3-1, with the Wildcats getting revenge this time around. The Lancers have had a charmed season until this point, undefeated and winning its fifth West Catholic Athletic League title on its way to the No. 1 seed in the CCS Division I playoffs. St. Francis beat St. Ignatius 6-0 in the CCS Division I semifinals and Carlmont 2-0 in the quarterfinals. Los Gatos has also had a successful season, winning the SCVAL De Anza Division and breezing through the CCS Division I playoffs, beating Leland 8-1 in the quarterfinals and Archbishop Mitty 4-0 in the semifinals.

St. Francis is the No. 4 seed in the CIF Division I regional playoffs, hosting No. 5 seed Buchanan 5 p.m. Tuesday (after the Town Crier print deadline). Los Gatos is the No. 3 seed and hosts Vacaville 5 p.m. Tuesday (after the Town Crier print deadline).

## Prep Sports Summary

### Wrestling

The Mountain View wrestling team finished ninth out of 92 schools at the CCS Masters Championships in Watsonville. For the boys, Justice Commendatore finished fifth, James Cunningham (sixth) and Chris Green (sixth). For the girls, Liberty Evans finished second and qualified for the state tournament, Kiana Lien finished third and qualified for state. Emeline Zuber finished fifth and Raven Rasmussen sixth.

### Boys basketball

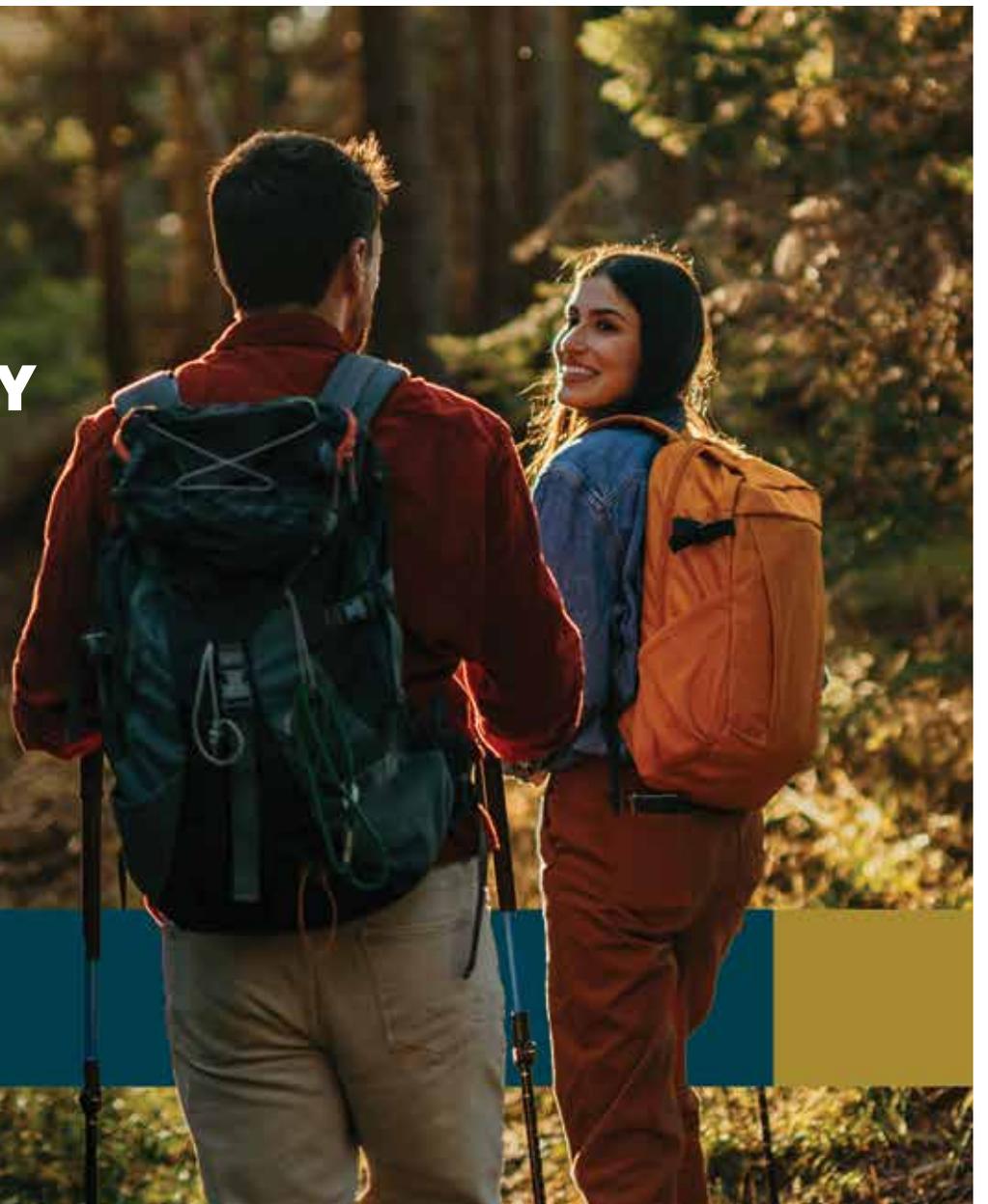
The St. Francis boys basketball team lost 47-44 to Willow Green in the CCS Division II title game Saturday. St. Francis visits Cornerstone Christian in the CIF NorCal Division III regional playoffs 7 p.m. Tuesday.



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## On the Move

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Food and Wine  
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## Durango Jailbreak earns top performer status

By Mike Hagerty

As you may have read, there has been a hiccup in the smooth transition from fossil fuels to electric vehicles. The cancellation of federal tax credits and the move to reduce Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards remove incentives for manufacturers to make and drivers to buy zero-emission vehicles.

Dodge was among the automakers trying to convince its clientele to convert, introducing its new Charger sedan and coupe as an electric vehicle. The backlash from said customers, who have been described to me by a representative of the company as “traditionalists,” was fierce, forcing Dodge to start offering that new car designed for the EV age with as many gasoline-powered twin-turbo six-cylinders as the factory could crank out. Y’see, Dodge has stayed alive 26 years into the new millennium by being the bad boys of the car world. Without the resources of Ford, much less GM or Toyota, Dodge has kept older designs relevant and profitable by shoving big engines under the hood and then watching customers arrive at the dealership with substantial amounts of cash or financing and leave with a smile in a cloud of tire smoke.

Maybe the best illustration of the Dodge approach is the 2026 Dodge Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak.

Yes, “Hellcat.”

And yes, “Jailbreak.”

The Dodge Durango is a family SUV that has been around for 28 years. This

### Auto Review

generation, its third, is in its 16th model year, having been introduced in 2011. But even in its mildest trim levels, it leans into a performance image.

The base model is the Durango GT, and the V6 engine makes 295 horsepower. And, without options, you can get one for under \$40,000. Those and the one-step-up GT Hemi V8 are powerful enough that the California Highway Patrol has bought 100 of them, painted in subtle colors, to blend in with traffic and catch speeders.

There are five more rungs on the Durango performance ladder, and the top is the Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak. The cost is more than double that of the base Durango GT, but then so is the muscle. Under the hood is a 6.2-liter supercharged Hemi V8 that makes 710 horsepower.

Seven. Hundred. And. Ten.

Zero to 60 happens in 3.5 seconds. In a drag race, it’ll do the quarter-mile in 12 seconds.

It is the fastest gasoline-powered SUV in America.

For its base price of \$79,995 (\$81,990 including destination), Dodge did way more than stuff a big engine under the hood. The Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak has all-wheel drive standard, along with an eight-speed automatic transmission. Brembo brakes with two-piece front rotors, four-wheel traction control, an electronic limited-slip differential rear axle, a competition suspension, high-perfor-



MIKE HAGERTY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

#### The 2026 Dodge Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak.

mance exhaust and performance-tuned steering all help keep that power under control. Should I mention it also gets a special 200-mile-per-hour speedometer? (The vehicle is electronically limited to 180.) There are also non-performance standard equipment items we should mention – a nine-speaker Alpine audio system with amplifier and subwoofer with wireless Apple CarPlay, wireless Android Auto, and a basic suite of active safety features.

The test vehicle also had a substantial list of extra-cost options: Green Machine paint (\$595), Customer Preferred Package 2XM – the Jailbreak badge and forged carbon fiber interior accents (\$995), a trailer towing group (\$1,195), the Premium Group – premium door trim panels, “Supercharged” sill plates, advanced braking assist, an upgraded 19-speaker, 825-watt Harman Kardon audio system with subwoofer, a premium instrument panel, enhanced lane-departure warning, automatic high beams,

full-speed forward-collision warning plus adaptive cruise control with stop (\$1,995), sepia-colored seat belts (\$495), a suede headliner (\$495), sepia-colored seats (\$2,995), a power sunroof (\$1,495), orange SRT Hellcat fender badges (\$595), low-gloss gunmetal dual stripes (\$1,495), black exhaust tips (\$195), a leather and suede-wrapped steering wheel (\$495) 20-inch “Lights Out” aluminum wheels (\$1,295) and orange brake calipers (\$595).

All told, the as-tested price is \$96,920.

For such a fearsome beast, it’s actually quite civilized to drive around town. The always-present rumble of the V8 is there to let you know it’s ready, but you can use it as a regular family SUV.

The magic that can’t be worked is with the fuel consumption. The EPA fuel economy estimate is 12 city/17 highway. As they say in the ads, your mileage may vary and mine did. Driving it very gently, at legal city street and freeway speeds for

See DURANGO, Page 22

## Dealing with oil leaks

By Matt Pataky

Two of our long-time customers brought in their 2005 Acura MDX because it had an engine oil leak on the right side. We lifted the car and checked for the leak and found that the engine oil pump was leaking. Unfortunately, this oil pump sits behind the timing belt and on top of the engine oil pan. The timing belt and oil pan have to be removed to perform the job properly.

Side note: If you own a 2003 to 2018 Honda or Acura with a 3.5-liter timing belt motor, the engine oil pump should always be checked for an engine oil

### Matt the Mechanic

leak before performing a timing belt.

We performed the engine oil pump, timing belt and engine oil pan reseal. The customers picked up the car and left for their trip. During the trip, they drove 850 miles without any drivability problems. Halfway through the trip, they stopped to refuel. After refueling, they noticed that the check engine light was on.

See MECHANIC, Page 22



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## On the Move

### DURANGO

From Page 21

20 miles before doing the photography, I got 8.8 miles per gallon. That means I used two-and-a-quarter gallons of premium fuel to do that 20 miles worth of everyday driving.

Ouch.

The window sticker warns you up front – the Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak AWD will cost \$15,500 more in fuel over five years than the average new vehicle. It also shows the lowest possible fuel economy, greenhouse gas and smog ratings possible – a one on a scale of one to 10.

There are electric vehicles that can beat the Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak to 60 and in the quarter-mile without using a drop of gasoline and without putting a particle of tailpipe pollution in the air. EVs that won't cost \$15,500 more than the average car in fuel costs alone.

For now, and for the foreseeable future, though, they'll have to co-exist with fossil fuel hot rods like the Durango SRT Hellcat Jailbreak, and we'll have to mull the irony of dinosaurs that run on dead dinosaurs still roaming the earth.

*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 MikeHagertyCars.com.*

### MECHANIC

From Page 21

Halfway home, the check engine light turned off. Upon returning, the husband pulled a code with their generic scan tool. The code was a P0706 transmission range switch signal performance. The moment he told me the code, it piqued my interest. This code was highly unusual for an Acura.

The primary purpose of the transmission range position switch is to communicate to the engine control module the position of the transmission shifter. Technically, it is a safety device, so the engine cannot be started with the transmission in drive or reverse. The switch also illuminates the selector lights in the instrument cluster (P,R,N,D,1,2,3). The switch also commands the backup lights. Once the car was in the shop, we connected our scan tool and pulled the same code. We then disconnected the switch and tested the connector. The connector on the car side checked out OK. We then started testing the switch. We found that one of the pins had extremely high resistance. We knew we had to change the switch.

You might wonder why I'm writing an article that starts off with an oil leak, then an oil pump repair and then a check engine light. The reason is the failure of this range switch was so rare I thought it was going to be an on-board diagnostic (OBD) mistake. Also, because after 36 years of working on Acuras, I had never

replaced a range switch on an MDX. I thought for sure it was going to be something strange, like rodent damage or water intrusion. The other interesting thing was that the range switch was nowhere to be found. Acura has the range switch on back order with no estimated time of arrival. When I called my local Acura dealer, they stated that they had zero history of ever selling the part. After that, I had my local Acura dealership check the inventory in all other Acura dealerships in the U.S. The locator showed only two. After contacting the first dealership, I was informed that the inventory was incorrect, and they did not have one. Luckily, the last dealership I called had one in stock. The only one in North America. We ordered the part and got ready to install it.

Before installing it, we did a side-by-side test of the old switch and the new switch just to double-check our diagnostic. The side-by-side check confirmed our diagnosis was correct. We replaced the part, performed the adjustments and test drove the car. In the end, the range switch was not causing the car to have any driveability problems and had nothing to do with any of the previous work. Yet if left alone, it may have eventually caused a shifting problem or may have caused the car not to start.

*Matt Pataky owns Sunnyvale Foreign Car Service, 15 Pioneer Way, Mountain View. For more information, call (650) 960-6988 or email sfsmv@gmail.com.*

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# Food & Wine

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

## Take on busy spring schedules with simple, healthy bowls

Feature Impact

When jam-packed calendars and seemingly constant takeout orders get you down, diving into a fresh way to rethink homecooked meals can get you and your loved ones into a better-for-you routine.

Close your favorite food delivery app and instead break out the bowls for simple yet nutritious recipes that are equal parts filling and fresh. Easily prepped ahead of time, dishes like chicken and rice bowls with peanut sauce provide powerful protein and flavor without the hassle. For added pizzazz, drizzle with extra peanut sauce and squeeze a dash of lime juice.

Or put a tangy twist on a traditional chicken bowl with these Greek-inspired power bowls featuring homemade tzatziki made with Dandy celery, a naturally sweeter, crispier and less stringy alternative to other celeries. Celebrating its 100th anniversary, it delivers the ultimate snack time (or dinner) crunch and flavor, offering a satisfying complement to sliced chicken, mixed greens, whole-grain quinoa and Kalamata olives.

An added bowl-inspired bonus: These family-friendly recipes can be personalized for taste preferences so no one goes hungry.

Rethink your family's menu with more quick, nutritious recipes to alleviate the stress of hectic schedules by visiting [DudaFresh.com](http://DudaFresh.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF FEATURE IMPACT

Make a savory chicken and rice bowl with carrots, peanuts and cucumbers this spring.

### Chicken and rice bowls with peanut sauce

Recipe courtesy of The Produce Moms.

Prep time: 7 minutes

Cook time: 5 minutes

Servings: 2

### Creamy peanut sauce:

- 1 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lime juice
- 2 teaspoons rice vinegar
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil

### Bowls:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup cooked, shredded chicken
- 1 cup cooked brown or jasmine rice
- 1 cup Dandy celery, julienned
- 1 cup shredded carrot
- 1/2 medium English cucumber, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup unsalted roasted peanuts, coarsely chopped
- lime wedges, for serving

To prepare peanut sauce: In small bowl, whisk soy sauce, lime juice, rice vinegar and honey. Add peanut butter and sesame oil. Whisk vigorously until sauce is completely smooth and creamy. Set aside.

To prepare bowls: In nonstick 12-inch skillet over medium-high heat, heat olive oil until simmering. Add shredded chicken and about 3 tablespoons peanut sauce. Stir constantly to coat chicken and heat through, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.

To assemble rice bowls: In deep serving bowls, add cooked rice. Top with warm chicken covered in peanut sauce. Arrange celery, carrot and cucumber around chicken. Top with peanuts.

Drizzle remaining peanut sauce over bowls. Serve with lime wedges to squeeze over bowls.

### Greek-inspired power bowls

Recipe courtesy of Anastasiia de la Cruz.

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Servings: 2

### Celery tzatziki:

- 1 cup plain, full-fat Greek yogurt
- 1/2 cup finely chopped Dandy celery
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 small garlic clove, finely grated
- 2 tablespoons chopped walnuts (optional)
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

### Bowls:

- 2 cups mixed greens

See BOWLS, Page 24

## What's the password? Speakeasy opens along State Street

By Maria Crowder  
Town Crier Food Critic

The Grotto (also listed as The Grotto Speakeasy) is an intimate downtown Los Altos bar and cocktail lounge nestled underneath restaurant Cetrella, and it's perfect for drinks and small bites.

There are a few things that you need to know before heading downstairs. You must make reservations; they do not accept walk-ins. You will be escorted downstairs by Cetrella staff;

you can not just wander downstairs.

The Grotto leans fully into the speakeasy aesthetic: Expect dim lighting, exposed brick, jazz-inspired artwork, and a relaxed yet elevated ambience

with seating for roughly 30 guests; the space feels exclusive and intimate. You'll find booths, bar seating and small cocktail tables.

The bar itself? Stunning. A true focal point.

However – and here's the honest take – the rest of the space didn't quite live up to that cozy, tucked-away fantasy. Some of the tables and chairs gave more "local college-town bar on The Hill in Boulder" than polished underground lounge. It's intimate, yes. Ultra-luxe cozy? Not quite.

The curated cocktail gets my praise, with custom creations and playful names inspired by art themes. The Grotto has hand-crafted stand-out drinks and experienced bartenders. A selection of nice French and Californian wines by glass or bottle and bottled beers are available. The small bite menu features sharable items like potato croquettes, duck fat fries and lamb meatballs – light but quality pairings to the drinks.

The Grotto is a well-liked spot in Los Altos for high-quality craft cocktails in an intimate, artsy setting, with service that is attentive and

fun. While the furnishings didn't fully match the moody speakeasy dream, the drinks and service absolutely carry the experience.

Attentive, fun and polished without being stuffy, the staff enhances the experience rather than overpowering it – always a good sign in a cocktail-focused space.

It's not a dining destination – but a perfect date-night, after-work or small-group cocktail hideaway. I can't wait to grab some friends again and enjoy the Grotto vibe.

*The Grotto is located at 160 State St., Los Altos. For reservations, visit [cetrella.com](http://cetrella.com).*





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**Food & Wine**



**BOWLS**

From Page 23

- 1 1/3 cups cooked, gluten-free, whole-grain quinoa
- 2 large grilled chicken breasts (about 6 ounces each), sliced
- 1/2 cup hummus
- 1/4 cup Kalamata olives, halved
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling
- fresh herbs, for garnish

To make celery tzatziki: Mix yogurt, celery, olive oil, lemon juice, garlic and wal-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FEATURE IMPACT

A Greek-inspired chicken bowl brings fresh flavors in the spring months.

nuts, if desired. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Stir well. Chill.

To assemble bowls: In two bowls, layer greens and cooked quinoa evenly. Top

with grilled chicken.

Spoon 1/4 cup hummus on side of each bowl. Add olives, 2-3 tablespoons tzatziki and drizzle with olive oil.

Sprinkle with fresh herbs.



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# Business & Real Estate

## Flavors of Kathmandu come to downtown Los Altos



MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

From left, Kathmandu Cuisine owners Mameeta and Santosh Giri, met in Nepal.

By Julia Baum

Staff Writer/juliab@latc.com

Downtown Los Altos has a new addition – and a first: a Nepalese restaurant opened on Valentine’s Day by a husband-and-wife team that launched their first location just weeks before COVID-19 shutdowns.

Kathmandu Cuisine opened its second location on Valentine’s Day in a space on First Street formerly occupied by a Peruvian restaurant, bringing handmade momos, curries and other Indo-Chinese dishes to the city’s downtown core. Santosh and Mameeta Giri opened their first restaurant in Milpitas in early 2020, less than three weeks before pandemic restrictions upended the industry.

“We survived because of the community,” said Mameeta, noting the restaurant did not qualify for federal Paycheck Protection Program loans because it was new, but received support from local customers and a city grant. “COVID taught us to be resilient.”

The couple met while attending college in Kathmandu, where they later married. They will celebrate their 25th anniversary this summer. Both practiced law in Nepal before moving to California in 2005, where they worked as paralegals prior to pursuing their passion for cooking. Nepalese cuisine, sometimes called Indo-Chinese, blends flavors from India, China and the Himalayan region. The Giris emphasize fresh, whole herbs and spices – including cloves, cardamom, cinnamon, ginger and garlic – which they roast and grind themselves. They also use turmeric and a touch of Sichuan pepper, keeping heat levels mild. Santosh said the herbal profile and warming spices reflect Nepal’s mountain climate – nourishing and keeping people warm.

The menu highlights the family’s signature momos, hand-crafted dumplings culturally linked to Tibetan and Chinese

traditions. “The momo is not fast food; ours are handmade,” Mameeta said. Curries, meanwhile, draw on Indian flavors, creating a distinctive hybrid that reflects Nepal’s history as a crossroads between the two countries.

Santosh described Nepal as “a small, tiny pebble between two giant boulders. We have been a trade route between these two nations, so that’s where Indian spices find their way to China, through Nepal. And Chinese food and culture find their way into India through Nepal ... and that kind of gives us this blend.”

While the Milpitas restaurant caters to a younger, late-night crowd – with red walls, Tibetan prayer flags, and concert posters evoking Kathmandu’s bustling Thamel district – the Los Altos location was designed for a different vibe. Light-colored walls, hanging flowers and subtle Himalayan touches give the space a soothing atmosphere. Diners will still spot prayer flags, but it is “more calm, more quiet, more peaceful, more relaxing,” Mameeta said.

Their son and daughter, both college-aged, help out at the restaurants as time permits, creating a tag-team system across the two cities. On most days, Santosh and his daughter manage the Los Altos location, while Mameeta and their son oversee operations in Milpitas. The family said that hands-on management is central to their identity as an independent business.

“What we’ve learned over the years is that a restaurant is all about community and family,” Santosh said. “We want to keep that spirit alive rather than relying on hired professionals, hired workers, because we really want to connect with the community and we want to learn the community’s stories, we want to share our stories with the community.”

*Kathmandu Cuisine is located at 376 First St., Los Altos. For more information, visit [ktmcuisinelosaltos.com](http://ktmcuisinelosaltos.com).*



JULIA BAUM/TOWN CRIER

Kathmandu Cuisine opened in Los Altos Feb. 14.

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Los Altos, CA 94022



**Reserve Your Spot Today!**

Scan the QR or email us at  
[alexander@deleonrealty.com](mailto:alexander@deleonrealty.com)

Alexander Lewicki, DRE #02189814 | 650.847.7407 | [alexander@deleonrealty.com](mailto:alexander@deleonrealty.com)  
Managing Broker: Ken DeLeon, DRE #01342140 | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity



# 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.



For more information, please see the following articles on the DeLeon Realty website:



**Court Ruling Fails to Halt Commission Collusion and Price Fixing in Real Estate -**  
*The DeLeon Insight*  
(May 2025)



**Off Market Listings – A Hidden Sale or a Discriminatory Practice? -**  
*The DeLeon Insight*  
(May 2025)



**Agents Push for "Pocket," "Private," or "Exclusive" a.k.a. Hidden Listings -**  
*The DeLeon Insight*  
(July 2025)

## CONTACT US TODAY

**Alexander Lewick (DRE #02189814) 650.847.7407**

As prominent members of the real estate community, we respect all pre-existing listing agreements and buyer representation agreements. If your home is currently under a listing contract, please do not construe this publication as a solicitation for that listing.



**Managing Broker: Ken DeLeon | DRE #01342140**  
DeLeonRealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity



**601 Joandra Ct, Los Altos**  
List Price: \$8,680,000



***New Contemporary Masterpiece in Prestigious Country Club Neighborhood | 2 Bedroom ADU***

- Main House | 5 Beds, 5.5 Baths, 1 Office, +/- 4,131 SF
- ADU | 2 Beds, 1 Bath, +/- 800 SF
- Total Living Area | +/- 4,931 SF
- Lot | +/- 20,945 SF

**Contact Julie for more details and schedule a private tour**

Balancing understated sophistication and artistic vibrance, this bi-level custom estate occupies an exclusive cul-de-sac in the sought-after Country Club neighborhood. Completed in February 2026, the residence reveals sky-lit interiors bathed in natural light and designed to embrace indoor-outdoor living. Highlights include a master chef's kitchen, formal and informal living areas, a ground-level office and bedroom suite, and a spectacular primary retreat. Grounds of nearly 0.5 acre are newly landscaped and fenced, offering a detached ADU with full kitchen and two bedrooms. Just one block over from the Los Altos Golf & Country Club.



**Julie Tsai Law**  
Broker Associate, CRS, SRES, MBA  
650.799.8888  
julie@julietsailaw.com  
julietsailaw.com  
DRE #01339682

RealTrends/Wall Street Journal  
Top Agent/Top Small Team, 2011-2025

Leading 100 in the Bay Area Serving the  
Bay Area since 2002





# Kathy Bridgman's

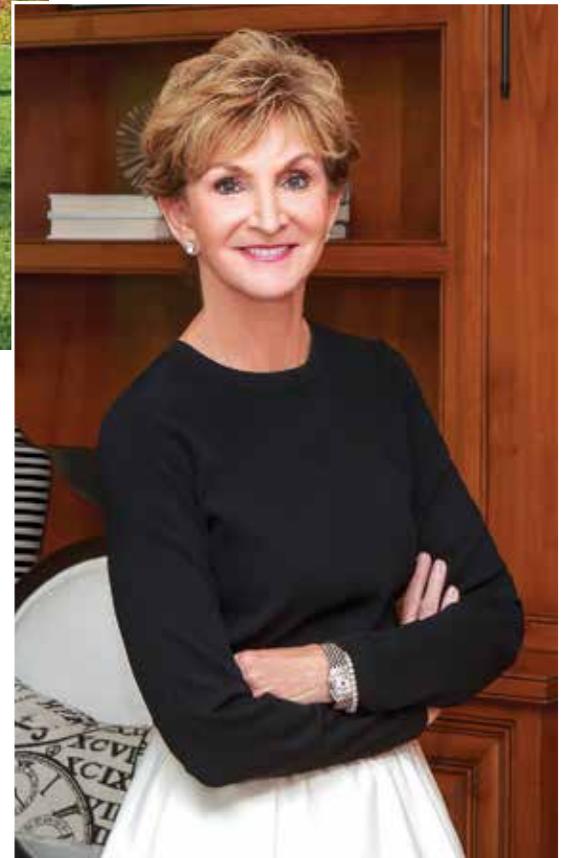
NEW LISTING  
OF THE WEEK

## An Entertainer's Estate of Remarkable Scale

**253 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos**

- Designed for entertaining on a grand scale indoors and out
- Resort-like grounds of approximately 0.86 acres (not verified by Compass)
- Main home with 4 bedrooms, office, 4 full baths, and 2 half-baths
- Detached two-story 1-bedroom, 2-bath ADU/guesthouse with full kitchen
- Approximately 5,562 total square feet of living space (not verified by Compass)
- Solid three-quarter-inch hickory floors and custom-made cabinetry throughout
- Extraordinary storage, including all closet interiors by California Closets
- Formal living room or media room plus separate office
- Tremendous great room with gourmet kitchen, caterer's kitchen, full entertainment bar, wine cellar, casual and formal dining areas, plus family living area
- Main-level primary suite with exceptional closet room and en suite bath
- Three en suite bedrooms upstairs, each with walk-in closet, plus lounge area
- Attached 2-car garage with 2 EV chargers and large adjoining laundry room
- Two electronically gated driveways with abundant off-street parking
- 52 energy-producing solar panels
- Pool and spa, waterfall, sport court, spacious heated loggia, vast decks, one with fire pit, sweeping stone terraces and lawn, gazebo, and many fruit trees
- Less than one mile to the Los Altos Village
- Excellent Los Altos schools

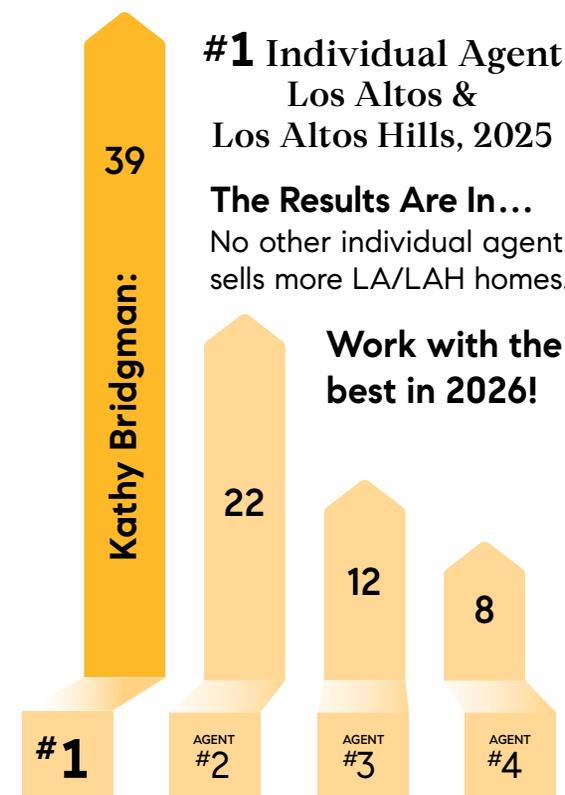
**Price upon request**  
**253Fremont.com**



**KATHY BRIDGMAN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE

**#1 Individual Agent**  
**Los Altos &**  
**Los Altos Hills, 2025**

**The Results Are In...**  
No other individual agent  
sells more LA/LAH homes.



Per MLS reported number of sales for LA/LAH, 2025

**Work with the  
best in 2026!**



650.868.7677

License #01189798

kathy@kathybridgman.com

kathybridgman.com

**COMPASS**



# Kathy Bridgman's

NEW LISTING  
OF THE WEEK

## Whole-Home Designer Transformation on 1.5 Acres 26201 Dori Lane, Los Altos Hills

- Whole-home renovation inside and out
- Sweeping vistas across the western hills
- Approximately 1.5 acres (not verified by Compass)
- 4 bedrooms and 4.5 baths on one convenient level
- Approximately 4,410 square feet (not verified by Compass)
- Bonus junior ADU with 1 bath and kitchen
- Fully enclosed entertainment cabana with barbecue and sink
- Beautiful white oak floors and designer lighting throughout
- Formal living and dining rooms, plus customized wine cellar
- Tremendous kitchen and family room combination
- Privately located bedroom suite ideal for guests
- Luxurious primary suite with en suite bath and couture closets, all designed for separate use for two people
- Two additional bedroom suites, each one with a western hill view
- Attached 2-car garage with epoxy floor
- Beautifully landscaped grounds with custom water falls at the front and rear
- Just 1.5 miles to the Los Altos Village
- Excellent Los Altos schools

Price upon request | [26201Dori.com](http://26201Dori.com)



**KATHY BRIDGMAN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE



Per MLS reported number of sales for LA/LAH. 2025

650.868.7677

License #01189798

[kathy@kathybridgman.com](mailto:kathy@kathybridgman.com)

[kathybridgman.com](http://kathybridgman.com)

**COMPASS**

# Public Notices

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ILANA LEV CASE NO. 25PR200661

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of Ilana Lev. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by RACHEL CORN in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that RACHEL CORN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 03/26/2026 at 9:00AM in Dept. 2 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Petitioner

501 San Felicia Way  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
(617) 519-8363  
(03-04,11,18-26)

**050-T**

## COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF JEANNE FUERTES ARANETA ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 26CV486903

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Jeanne Fuertes Araneta filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:  
a. Jeanne Fuertes Araneta

Proposed Name:  
a. Jeanne Araneta Ramirez

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 05/26/2026 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 02/24/2026 /s/ Charles Adams Judge of the Superior Court (03-04,11,18,25-26)

**049-T**

## CONFLICT RELIEF COACHING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723708

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CONFLICT RELIEF COACHING, 420 View St, Mountain View, CA, 94041, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Mia Whitfield, 420 View St, Mountain View, CA 94041. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/06/2026. /S/ Mia Whitfield / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/10/2026. (03-04,11,18,25-26)

**048-T**

## CALMIFY COLLECTIVE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723980

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CALMIFY COLLECTIVE, PO Box 1440, Los Altos, CA, 94023, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Kelsea Ellis, PO Box 1440, Los Altos, CA 94023. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Kelsea Ellis / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/19/2026. (03-04,11,18,25-26)

**047-T**

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s) / registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office. CANDY4GOOD, 514 Torwood Lane, Los Altos, CA 94022 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 02/09/2026 Under File No. FBN710126 Full Name of Registrant(s): Samantha Sayar, 514 Torwood Lane, Los Altos, CA 94022 This business was conducted by: an individual This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Feb. 13, 2026. Louis Chiaramonte County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN723849 (03-04,11,18,25-26)

**046-T**

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: STEPHEN WEIR OHLS CASE NO. 26PR201665

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of Stephen Weir Ohls, Steve Ohls. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JENNIFER FRENZEL in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ERIC HERSH be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 04/10/2026 at 9:01AM in Dept. 7 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner Peter S. Stern 350 Cambridge Avenue, Suite 130 Palo Alto, CA 94306 (650) 326-2282 (02-25-26,03-04,11-26)

**045-T**

## HENRY CONCRETE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723840

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HENRY CONCRETE, 1388 Montecito Avenue, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Folau Vea Kaufusi, 1388 Montecito Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/13/2004. /S/ Folau V. Kaufusi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/13/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**044-T**

## GENERACIONES LANDSCAPING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723217

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GENERACIONES LANDSCAPING, 520 Walker Dr Apt 37, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Miguel Angel Tapia, 520 Walker Dr Apt 37, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/28/2026. /S/ Miguel Angel Tapia / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/28/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**043-T**

## Runbook FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723669

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Runbook, 13208 McCulloch Ave, Saratoga, CA, 95070, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Hark Al, Inc., 13208 McCulloch Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2026. /S/ Obaid Khan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/09/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**042-T**

The following person(s) / registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office. Rediscover Your Home, 15640 Shannon Heights, Los Gatos, CA 95032 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 05/02/2024 Under File No. FBN705716 Full Name of Registrant(s): Hagit Koren, 15640 Shannon Heights, Los Gatos, CA 95032 This business was conducted by: an individual This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Jan. 27, 2026. Louis Chiaramonte County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN723175 (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**041-T**

## RISE WITH ANKA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723837

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RISE WITH ANKA, 5934 Flash Ct, San Jose, CA, 95119, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Anna Vasina, 5934 Flash Ct, San Jose, CA 95119. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/20/2025. /S/ Anna Vasina / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/13/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**040-T**

## ALESSANDRA LANDGRAF PSYCHOTHERAPY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723812

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ALESSANDRA LANDGRAF PSYCHOTHERAPY, 881 Fremont Ave Suite B5, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Alessandra Landgraf, 881 Fremont Ave Suite B5, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/11/2026. /S/ Alessandra Landgraf / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/12/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**039-T**

## University of East - West Medicine FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN722878

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: University of East - West Medicine, 595 Lawrence Expressway, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County.

The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): University of Eastern and Western Medicine, 595 Lawrence Expressway, Sunnyvale, CA 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/1998. /S/ Su Fang Tong / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/20/2026. (02-25-26,03-04,11,18-26)

**038-T**

## HAIRCRAFT COTTAGE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723686

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HAIRCRAFT COTTAGE, 186 Plaza S, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Naomi Marie Blackwood, 186 Plaza S, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/09/2026. /S/ Naomi Marie Blackwood / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/10/2026. (02-18,25-26,03-04,11-26)

**036-T**

## PRECEPI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN723739

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PRECEPI, 11665 Dawson Drive, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LABELOGY INC, 11665 Dawson Drive, Los Altos Hills, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/02/2026. /S/ Thomas Mei Hwang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/11/2026. (02-18,25-26,03-04,11-26)

**035-T**

## T.S. No. 117642-CA APN: 148-38-109 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 7/29/2016. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 3/18/2026 at 10:00 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 8/2/2016 as Instrument No. 23388464 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Santa Clara County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: YINTAO YU, A SINGLE MAN WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, 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 FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; AT THE GATED NORTH MARKET STREET ENTRANCE, SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE, 191 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95113 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: Lot 31 in Block 6 of University Park in the City of Mountain View, County of Santa Clara, State of California, as shown on Map filed Book M, Page 9 of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 115 COLLEGE AVE, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040 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 held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$558,906.22 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements

# Public Notices

be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website [www.clearreconcorp.com](http://www.clearreconcorp.com), using the file number assigned to this case 117642-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website [www.clearreconcorp.com](http://www.clearreconcorp.com), using the file number assigned to this case 117642-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-3319 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108 (02-18,25-26,03-04-26)

CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: married couple. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Melanie K Moyer, 13941 Campo Vista Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022, Steven W Batliner, 13941 Campo Vista Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/07/2026. /S/ Melanie K.Moyer / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/26/2026. (02-18,25-26,03-04,11-26)

County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/08/2026. (02-11,18,25-26,03-04-26)

**029-T**

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
PETITION OF SONGYUAN LIN,  
WENCHUN KU  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
26CV485781**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
1. Petitioner: Songyuan Lin, Wenchun Ku filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present Name:  
a. Dana Lin

**025-T**

**ALLIANCE LENDING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723262**

Proposed Name:  
a. Caitlin Chingyu Lin

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ALLIANCE LENDING, 5450 Thornwood Dr #P, San Jose, CA, 95123, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): ALLIANCE GROUP & ASSOCIATES INC., 5450 Thornwood Dr #P, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/12/2013. /S/ Rameil Eyvaznejad / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/29/2026. (02-11,18,25-26,03-04-26)

**024-T**

**BREAKER BOYS ELECTRIC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723214**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BREAKER BOYS ELECTRIC, 200 Carlester Dr, Los Gatos, CA, 95032, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Russell T. Condie, 200 Carlester Dr, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/28/2026. /S/ Russell T. Condie / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/28/2026. (02-11,18,25-26,03-04-26)

**022-T**

**\$40**

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

**Email  
legals@latc.com  
by 2pm on  
Thursday**



The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TAO & JIAYU HERBS & ACUPUNCTURE, 1287 Hammerwood Ave., Sunnyvale, CA, 94089, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): TAO XIE, 1287 Hammerwood Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94089. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2025. /S/ Tao Xie / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/29/2026. (02-11,18,25-26,03-04-26)

**026-T**

**WORLDWIDE CHAUFFEURS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723400**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: WORLDWIDE CHAUFFEURS, 80 Los Altos Sq, Los Altos, CA,

# Datebook

*Datebook items are run on a space-available basis for entertainment, events, classes and groups run by non-profits 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: **Silicon Valley Reads: Crafts With Gigi,** 6:30 p.m. March 11, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Join local artist Gigi Farmer in the creation of easy, no-sew bohemian fiberbracelets. All materials will be provided. No registration necessary. Event intended for teens and adults. Free and open to the public. **Finding Marian Abel,** 7 p.m. March 12. Join longtime library commissioner Pierre Bedard and LAHS' Gustav Herhne for a special book club celebrating Marian Abel's History of the Los Altos Library (1914-1964). The history, written in 1972, explores the library's first 50 years. Register and get a PDF of her work so you can prepare for the book club. Marian Abel loved Los Altos. Let's celebrate our history and look forward to the next fifty years. **UC Master Gardeners: Growing Fabulous Citrus,** 7 p.m. March 18, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Learn how to take care of citrus trees to get the best harvest from UC Master Gardener Candace Simpson. Topics include planting location and method, pruning, fertilizing and watering and identifying and managing pests and diseases. Program is free and open to the public. No registration necessary. **Celebrate Persian New Year,** 7 p.m. March 23, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Join the library for a lively and educational celebration of Persian New Year or Nowruz. Celebration includes traditional spring dances, including circle dances. Learn about the cultural significance behind these movements and their connection to renewal and community. The program is free and open to the public. No registration necessary. This program is part of Santa Clara County Library District's celebration of Silicon Valley Reads. Information: [scclld.org/events](http://scclld.org/events). **Wednesday Travel Nights – Sudan: A Land Nearly Forgotten,** 7 p.m. March 25, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Learn

more about a country often forgotten. Bruce Berger documented his journey to Sudan in his video that includes ancient pyramids, desert scenery and interactions with Sudan's people – from nomads in the desert to the university students in the capital city of Khartoum. Program is free and open to the public. No registration necessary. **Fly into a Good Book: A "Bridges to Belonging" Workshop,** 6:30 p.m. March 26, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Join sustainable artist Leila Ghasempour and craft a personalized fabric butterfly – perfect for a keychain or zipper pull – using sustainable materials. Program is designed for adults and teens. All materials will be provided. No registration necessary. **Before Your Eyes: An Immersive Music Performance,** 7 p.m. March 30, Los Altos Library, Orchard Room. Before Your Eyes is an immersive, participatory performance. The library space itself becomes a living instrument, creating a collective audiovisual landscape experienced by all present. The event is suitable for families, students and adults with interests in music, technology and interdisciplinary art. No registration necessary. Free and open to the public.

**Mountain View Public Library.** All events held in the main library, 585 Franklin St, Mountain View, unless otherwise indicated. **Baby Storytime,** 10:30-11:15 a.m. Wednesdays, Mountain View Public Library, first floor program room. Musical storytime for infants, babies and new toddlers with books, baby bounces and dancing. After storytime, we will host a brief stay and play for grownups to connect and mingle. Program designed for ages 0-18 months. **Don't Fall For It! An Educational Event for Seniors,** 4:30-5:15 p.m. March 20, Second Floor Program Room, Mountain View Public Library. An informative two-part presentation designed to help seniors stay safe and independent in areas including internet safety, scam prevention, home safety and fall prevention. Event targeted for seniors and caregivers. This interactive event is perfect for seniors, caregivers and family members who want to stay informed and proactive.

**Living Classroom. Living Classroom Docent Training,** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 9, 16 and 23. Los Altos School District iLearn Studio, 201 Covington Road, Los Altos. Living Classroom is seeking volunteers to teach nature-based lessons and/or help care for school gardens. No experience necessary. If Mondays don't work, an apprentice-style training option may be available. Email questions to [livingclassroom@lasdschools.org](mailto:livingclassroom@lasdschools.org) or call 650-947-1103. Information: [Living-ClassroomLASD.org](http://Living-ClassroomLASD.org).

**UTRAVELCO  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723233**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: UTRAVELCO, 2880 Zanker Road, Suite 203, San Jose, CA, 95134, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): UTRAVELCO, INC., 1126 Summerwings Ct, San Jose, CA 95132. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/16/2026. /S/ Yen Bich Thang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 01/29/2026. (02-18,25-26,03-04,11-26)

**031-T**

**GERST FINANCIAL  
ENGINEERING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723522**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) GERST FINANCIAL ENGINEERING, (2) CLEANTEC BUSINESS SERVICES, 26120 W Fremont Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): GERST CAPITAL, LLC, 26120 W Fremont Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/03/2007. /S/ Gregory J Gerst / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/05/2026. (02-11,18,25-26,03-04-26)

**030-T**

**CHEIRON  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN722638**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CHIERON, 4970 El Camino Real, Suite 210, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): PHNYX LAB LLC, 4970 El Camino Real, Suite 210, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Donggi Lee / This statement was filed with the

**033-T**

**HYDRANGEA & COMPANY  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO. FBN723093**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HYDRANGEA & COMPANY, 13941 Campo Vista Lane, Los Altos Hills,

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

**935 Lundy Lane | Los Altos | \$4,298,000 | 935LundyLane.com**

**BUILT IN 2006 AND LOCATED IN THE HIGHLY SOUGHT-AFTER COUNTRY CLUB NEIGHBORHOOD**, this exceptional home showcases exquisite finishes and a thoughtfully designed, drought-tolerant landscape. A grand entrance with high ceilings, rich hardwood floors, and open floor plan sets the tone for this home's exceptional quality and style. Ideally located near Los Altos Golf & Country Club, Rancho Shopping Center, Loyola Corners, and more, this residence offers both luxury and convenience - an outstanding place to call home!

Built in 2006, 4-bed, 3-bath home for 2,027 +/- sf of living space

Fashionably designed drought-tolerant landscaping for 9,104 +/- sf

Warm hardwood floors, artistic light fixtures, high ceilings, and crown molding

Open-concept kitchen with adjacent family room, gas fireplace, state-of-the-art appliances

Exquisite entertaining yard with artificial grass, travertine patio, large granite outdoor kitchen with two televisions, BBQ, sink, gas burners, warming drawer, and 2 refrigerator drawers

Sought-after Los Altos schools: Loyola Elementary, Georgina P. Blach, and Mountain View High (Buyer to verify enrollment)



**Beautiful Home in Coveted Country Club Neighborhood**



**JUDY & CINDY**



**JUDY BOGARD-TANIGAMI**  
 License # 00298975  
 650.207.2111  
 judy.bogard@theagencyre.com



**CINDY BOGARD-O'GORMAN**  
 License # 01918407  
 650.924.8365  
 cindy.ogorman@theagencyre.com  
 ConsultantsInRealEstate.com



**THE BOGARD-TANIGAMI TEAM**

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