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Longtime Los Altos  
jeweler calls it a day

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# Los Altos Town Crier

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

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WEDNESDAY • April 19, 2023

## LA council OKs new outdoor dining plan

By Bruce Barton  
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Changes are ahead for downtown Los Altos outdoor dining after the city council last week approved a new program for downtown restaurants, a move that assigns fees and allows for more long-term sidewalk and parklet (streetside) dining.

The April 11 approval capped a lengthy discussion that covered compliance with state Alcohol Beverage Control and federal Americans with Disabilities Act regulations, the potential liability of propane heaters and the prospect of electrical access, and the delineation of pedestrian access on sidewalks.

The most pivotal discussion centered on a city staff recommendation that restaurants could use either the sidewalk or street areas, but not both. City staff expressed concerns about restaurants with sidewalk and parklet dining failing to meet the minimum 5-foot clearance for pedestrians.

Mayor Sally Meadows was the only council member who clearly agreed with the staff's recommendation.

"If we're going to go with (both sidewalk and parklet use), there has to be some strict criteria, because some of these places have really not been conducive to pedestrian traffic on the side-



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

**Downtown Los Altos visitors take advantage of the parklets last week, above, enjoying an outdoor dining experience. Changes are coming for the parklet program following Los Altos City Council action last week.**

walk," Meadows said. "I think it's a hazard. ... I feel like I'm going to be knocked over in front of some of these restaurants."

But Councilmember Neysa Fligor led the council majority opinion that restaurants should be given the option for both if they meet all local, state and federal regulations.

"I think we should allow for both, provided that they comply with ABC, ADA, and they're able to clearly provide that 5-foot path," Fligor said. "And to your point, Mayor, I think we've all experienced what you described, but we're operating

on guidelines that were implemented under COVID. Moving forward, we would have strict guidelines, and they would be enforced accordingly."

Under the new program, restaurants would pay a \$500 application fee and \$3 per square foot, per year. Currently, restaurants are using up 90 parking stalls for parklets. Much of the current parklet infrastructure would have to be removed, including the wine barrel barriers, and rebuilt to comply with more stringent regulations post-pandemic. New concrete barriers,

See PARKLETS, Page 5

## ALPR discussions heat up ahead of Los Altos City Council discussion

By Jennah Pendleton  
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Concerns about privacy and efficacy of the proposed installation of automated license plate readers in Los Altos are growing as the next city council meeting discussing the pilot program nears.

Approval of the one-year pilot program proposed by the Los Altos Police Department, which would bring 25 Flock Safety cameras to town at a cost of \$75,000 annually, was delayed at the Feb. 28 council meeting, with three of five council members asking to see more data that supports the technology's crime-fighting capability while ensuring it is used fairly. The item is set to be brought back at either the council's Tuesday or May 9 meeting.

Police Chief Angela Averiett has tried to get ahead of concerns about the security of the data captured by such cameras since the announcement of the police department's proposal in February, repeatedly saying that she shares those concerns with the public.

"It's important for me as a police officer and as a woman of color to state that I would never allow or bring any sort of technology, policy or procedure into this city if I felt it would create racial disparity or if it was in any way discriminatory against any protected class,"



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Averiett told the Town Crier.

Local groups like Los Altos for Racial Equity and many advocates for data privacy remain unconvinced that the technology is effective in the first place, which bolsters their view that the devices' financial cost and the potential cost of individuals' civil liberties is not worth the \$75,000 investment.

According to Los Altos Racial Equity founder and president Renee Rashid, there is insufficient data to support the claim that ALPRs reduce and solve crime in other municipalities. She also raised concern about how ALPR capture errors, which are compounded by errors in the stolen vehicle registry, have resulted in police drawing guns on innocent people.

Rashid instead supports hiring another deputy or crime analyst to help boost Los Altos' low crime solvability rate, which has stagnated at 4% for the past six years.

She referenced Los Altos Hills' recent annual review,

See ALPR, Page 4

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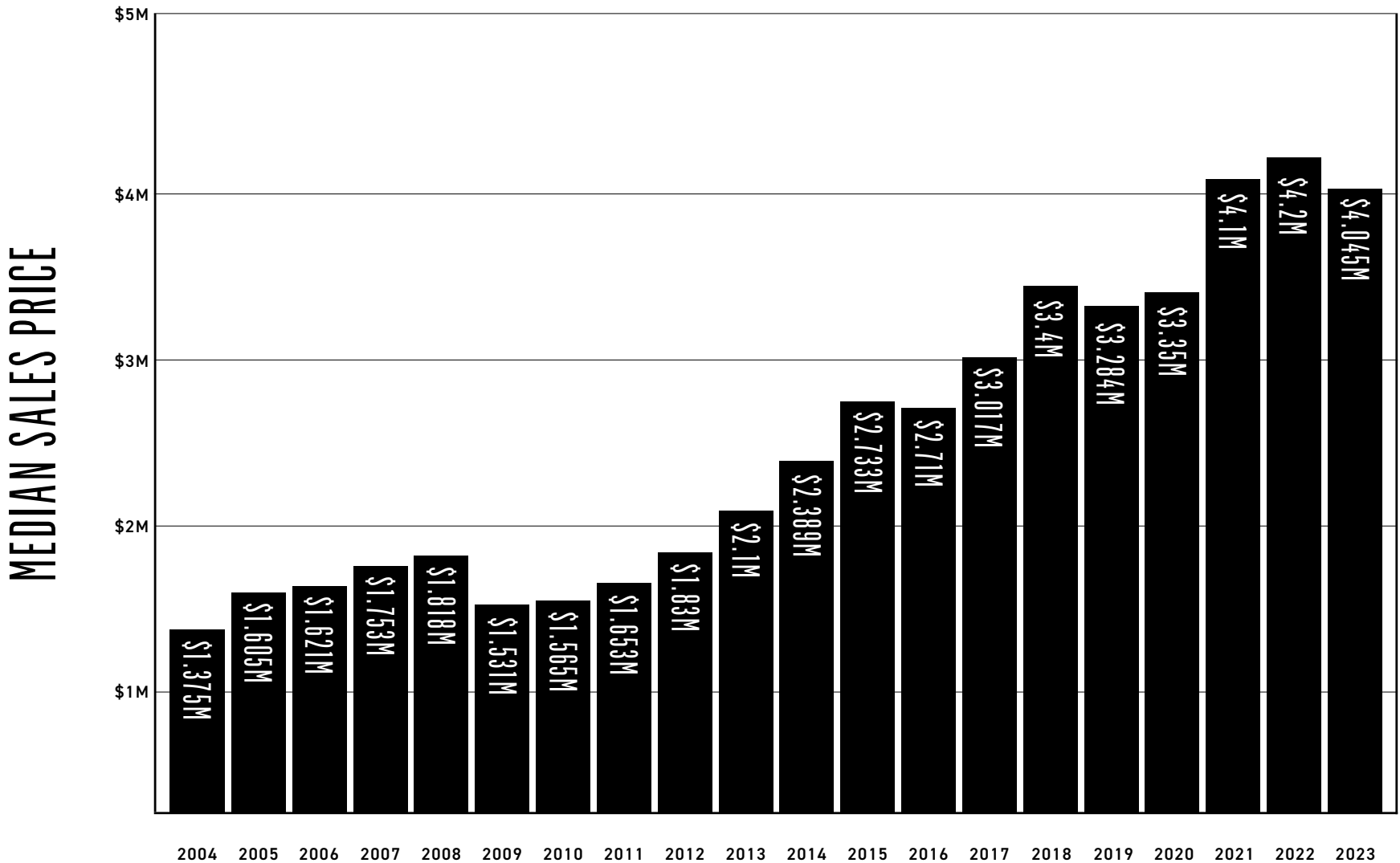
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# Around Town

## Summer GreenTown internship applications open

Town Crier Report

**G**reenTown Los Altos, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the environment and promoting sustainability, seeks applicants for four paid summer internships in two project areas.

This first project area involves creating a guide to electrifying the home, supervised by Gary Hedden and Connie Miller; the second relates to publishing an “eating green” cookbook, mentored by Glenda Chang.

Each internship requires a commitment of 10 hours per week for six weeks; pay is \$17.20 per hour.

According to GreenTown representatives, ideal candidates are rising juniors or seniors in high school who are passionate about environmental issues. Desired skills include effective communication, good time management, solid re-



COURTESY OF GLENDA CHANG

The GreenTown Los Altos summer interns of 2022 undertook projects aimed at making the community more sustainable. Pictured, from left, are former GreenTown Los Altos president Gary Hedden; interns Farida Abd el hak, Ellie El-Fishawy, Naina Srivastava and Hannah Cushing; and board member Glenda Chang, who oversaw last year’s summer internship program.

search capabilities, the ability to work as a team and familiarity with the preparation of documents, spreadsheets and slides.

Applications are due April 28. Interviews and candidate selection will occur through

May. The internships will begin June 12 and end July 21.

To submit an application and for more information, visit [tinyurl.com/2pc59spb](http://tinyurl.com/2pc59spb).

To read about last year’s internship projects, visit [tinyurl.com/2022GTLA](http://tinyurl.com/2022GTLA).

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# News

## Police Blotter

### Assault with a deadly weapon

April 15, 9:12 a.m.: 300 block of Higdon Way, Los Altos

### Auto burglary

April 13, 7:15 a.m.: Intersection of Pettis Avenue and Mercy Street, Mountain View

April 14, 8:45 p.m.: 400 block of Castro Street, Mountain View

April 14, 10:46 p.m.: 300 block of Hope Street, Mountain View

April 14, 11:16 p.m.: 200 block of Hope Street, Mountain View

### Drunk driver

April 13, 11:54 p.m.: 800 block of Maude Avenue, Mountain View

### Financial crime

April 13, 12:05 p.m.: 2000 block of Homestead Court, Los Altos

April 15, 9:41 a.m.: 4000 block of El Camino Real, Los Altos

### Grand theft

April 13, 6:41 a.m.: 200 block of Robles Avenue, Los Altos

April 13, 09:10 p.m.: 400 block of Magritte Way, Mountain View

April 14, 10:18 a.m.: 800 block of East El Camino Real, Mountain View

### Health and safety code violation

April 13, 10:02 a.m.: 4000 block of El Camino Real, Los Altos

April 16, 3:41 a.m.: Intersection of North Springer Road and Camellia Way, Los Altos

### Residential burglary

April 15, 3:26 a.m.: 1000 block of Austin Avenue, Los Altos

April 15, 4:24 p.m.: 1000 block of Newcastle Drive, Los Altos

April 15, 11:40 p.m.: 300 block of Shelby Drive, Mountain View

– Christina Casillas

## Midpen urges residents to avoid rodenticides

By Sophia Yao  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

A bobcat and a coyote recently found dead at Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve from exposure to rodenticides has prompted staff at the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to spread awareness about the negative effect of poisons on local wildlife.

Midpen wildlife biologist Matt Sharp Chaney said wild animals encounter rodenticides when they leave open space and enter urban areas, where such poisons are more prevalent. He added that raptors – such as hawks and owls – bobcats, coyotes, foxes and mountain lions are all species that regularly venture out of Rancho San Antonio, which borders Los Altos and Cupertino.

“Coyotes, in particular, are very adaptable to urban environments and will go into neighborhoods opportunistically to find food sources,” he said. “Animals can go into neighborhoods and find rodents that



COURTESY OF MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

**Bobcats, above, are among the local predators susceptible to poisoning from eating rodents.**

have been poisoned. Rodents that have been poisoned but haven't received a lethal dose can also leave neighborhoods and go onto Midpen property.”

Chaney added that predator species especially susceptible to rodenticides – including raptors, gray foxes and mountain lions – eat rodents that may have ingested the poisons.

“Rodenticide can come into contact with not only wildlife, but also domestic animals – your cat, your dog, even some

livestock that might be interested in chowing down on a rodent,” he said. “Children can come into contact with rodenticides in this way. So, it's dangerous not only for wildlife, but also for people and pets.”

The commonly used anticoagulant rodenticide prevents animals from forming blood clots, according to Chaney.

“Any abrasions or cuts on the exterior of the animal or even micro cuts on the inside of the animal will cause this hemor-

rhaging bleeding that won't be able to stop,” he said. “When you get an animal like a coyote that's been exposed to rodenticides and get it to be examined by the wildlife investigations lab, what they see is a lot of internal bleeding because the anticoagulant has blocked their ability to stop bleeding from happening.”

### Spreading the word

Chaney noted that Midpen officials have been spreading awareness about the dangers of rodenticides by mailing pamphlets to those living near Rancho San Antonio and are also working with local jurisdictions on outreach. In addition, they support legislation that prohibits the use of most second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides, which tend to be the most harmful, and look out for signs that rodenticides are causing problems locally.

“We monitor wildlife on our preserves and look for

See RODENTS, Page 6

## ALPR

From Page 1

which stated that residential burglary rates have continued to climb significantly and that no residential burglaries were solved with the help of ALPRs, as well as independent studies that have shown little association between a reduction in crime and ALPRs.

“You would think that ALPRs would help in catching criminals – it certainly sounds like it would help – but unfortunately, the data doesn't show that,” Rashid said during an online forum held by the Los Altos Community Coalition.

### Confidence versus controversy

In response to such claims, Flock Safety representative Hector Soliman-Valdez pointed to the seven arrests made and 10 wanted vehicles/plates located in the Hills due to ALPRs, but he added that comparing Los Altos Hills and Los Altos is like “comparing apples to oranges” due to the geographic and infrastructural differences between the cities.

## Housing element also back before council

Los Altos City Council members are again poised to discuss and approve amendments to the city's new housing element after state officials last month pointed out deficiencies in the document.

Tuesday's discussion will cover the city's response to correcting those deficiencies and resubmitting the document to the state's Department of Housing and Community Development.

Also up for approval is a program related to the housing element that shows the city is removing constraints to housing development. The introduction of an ordinance approving the program will include a public hearing.

“What we see is that councils and the community will set out to measure the success of a pilot project as we have proposed in Los Altos by saying, ‘Well, how many dollars are we getting back in stolen goods?’ – as in, ‘How many stolen vehicles and how many crimes or guns or drugs are being taken off the street?’” Soliman-Valdez said during the LACC discussion.

Averiett understands a similar version of success, saying that though she is vying for a 10% increase in solvability, any help that the cameras provide in solving crimes will be a benefit to the department.

“That's what success looks like: the ability to solve

crimes,” she said. “We know that a lot of times crimes are being committed by people who are driving stolen vehicles, and so maybe even preventing one person from being a victim of a burglary by stopping them before they commit the crime, to me means it's been a success. Other successes include recovering individuals that have been identified via AMBER or SILVER alerts.”

ALPR technology and Flock Safety have drawn controversy nationwide. The American Civil Liberties Union issued a 13-page report in 2022 analyzing Flock Safety's products, business model and future goals, concluding with great concern

about the company's accountability to the public, its current use of data and its potential future as mass surveillance technology, and ultimately strongly advocates against implementation. When ALPRs are installed in a community, the ACLU calls for implementing several policies, including: the government must not store data about innocent people; individuals should be able to find out if there is plate data of vehicles registered to them; and law enforcement agencies should not share license plate reader data with third parties.

“I have not taken a deep-dive look into the ACLU's report or their recommendations, but what I can tell you is that license plate reader cameras are objective technology – it's an objective tool that we can use,” Averiett told the Town Crier. “Having a responsible and sound policy can address the concerns of the ACLU as well as concerns of our residents on the usage and the purpose of it.”

To watch the full discussion on Los Altos Community Coalition's YouTube channel, visit [tinyurl.com/LACCAlpr](https://tinyurl.com/LACCAlpr).

## Valley Water lifts drought restrictions

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Although the vote was unanimous, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors' decision last week to rescind its water shortage emergency, ending some mandatory drought restrictions, was controversial among district directors and local residents.

"It's going to increase our demand for water, all of us together as a group, and two, it's going to reduce the supply of water. Increased demand, decreased supply lead to higher prices," said board member Rebecca Eisenberg, who represents District 7, which includes Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View.

John Love, a Los Altos resident of 36 years, echoed Eisenberg's sentiments; he was critical of how one especially wet season could undo years of drought.

"I think (the board's decision) sends the wrong message to California residents," he said in an email. "California will always be in a drought condition simply because there is more demand for water than there is supply, regardless of how much rain we happen to get in a particularly wet winter."



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Rainwater fills Adobe Creek at Shoup Park in Los Altos, in this image from January. The Santa Clara Valley Water District board last week ended mandatory drought restrictions.

Eisenberg expressed concern that water may be in abundance now, but it might not be later, especially given mass use by big corporations.

Valley Water, which serves nearly 2 million county residents, issued the emergency declaration in June 2021, but a recent series of storms brought record amounts of rain and snow, replenishing California's empty reservoirs, which are now at 130% of normal levels.

Although previously mandatory, the board urged county residents to continue to voluntarily reduce water consumption by 15%.

Some outdoor watering restrictions remain in place, including directives limiting

hours for watering outdoor landscapes to 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., prohibiting watering in a way that produces excessive runoff, prohibiting watering during and within 48 hours of a storm and limiting the watering of ornamental lawns to no more than two days per week.

Similar to when the mandate was in place, violators of remaining restrictions will face fines up to \$10,000 per violation if an educational letter and subsequent notices are ignored after multiple complaints are made.

Neeta Bijoor, Valley Water senior water resources specialist, said during the meeting that the county hasn't  
**See WATER, Page 7**

## PARKLETS

From Page 1

metal railings, planters and wood decks would be installed.

Another major issue raised was use of propane heaters and potential safety hazards. Vice Mayor Jonathan Weinberg suggested building in electrical infrastructure sooner rather than later to allow for electric-powered heaters. The council agreed on an eventual phase-out of the propane heaters, as the city plans to upgrade electrical infrastructure downtown.

Nick Zornes, the city's development services director in charge of code enforcement, cautioned the council about propane hazards.

"If you walk around and look at their umbrellas, which are allowed, there are singe marks on them (from the heat lamps). ... I would have a very hard time not fining some of our best operators based on the fact that they're already not being able to comply," he said.

## Costs questioned

Others wondered whether the \$3-per-square-foot fee was too low.

"It's about \$600 (a year)," said resident Jon Baer. "Replacement cost of parking is somewhere between \$60,000 and \$100,000, which means the payback is about 100 years. So, we're not going to pay for our replacement parking for the amount of money we're charging the people who are using the parking spots. ... What's the plan to replace the parking? Where's it going to go?"

"We're basically trying to subsidize private restaurants," said resident Roberta Phillips. "(But) we are all suffering from inflation. And I think that the city has bent over backwards for the restaurants."

City staff reasoned that the low fee would allow restaurants to use more funds on rebuilding their parklet decks up to code.

"Restaurants are still recovering," said Vickie Breslin, owner of The Post restaurant on Main Street. "The cost of every-

thing has gone up so substantially, and the cost of our rent and everything else is just crippling. So, the \$3, plus the cost that we're going to be putting in, is, I think, very fair at this point."

Restaurants have until Oct. 1 to submit a letter of intent to build new parklets. Council members extended the deadline to Jan. 2, 2024, after the holiday season, for the businesses to begin dismantling their current structures.

## Specific changes

Among the program changes, according to a staff report:

- Canopy structures are prohibited, to comply with the fire code.
- All parklets are required to include a wood platform structure that meets the sidewalk grade.
- The maximum number of parking spaces for parklets increased.
- After conferring with the Santa Clara County Fire Department, propane heaters are allowed.

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## News

# LA council approves new round of controversial reach codes

By **Bruce Barton**

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The subject of reach codes tends to spur strong arguments for and against implementing them. Those arguments were again in full force as the Los Altos City Council last week approved the introduction of a new ordinance updating codes that push more electrification.

The council April 11 passed the city's Environmental Commission's recommendations 4-1, which require additional electric vehicle infrastructure for new construction - both residential and commercial.

But it is the specter of giving up residential gas that draws the opposition. The latest changes realized some opponents' worst fears because requirements for electric appliances are no longer limited to new construction, but now include major remodels. Specifically, a project that impacts 50% or more of a house's structure, or whose cost valuation is \$250,000 or more, will require all-electric appliance conversion.

The codes, which "reach" beyond minimum state standards for environmentally friendly construction practices, replace natural gas appliances with electric ones and allow for electric vehicle infrastructure.

Those who support the codes cite the need to adapt amid climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Those opposed to the codes don't want the government

forcing them to change their appliances and cite the expense of switching out appliances, especially for retirees on fixed incomes.

"A lot of people believe we should be able to keep our gas stoves, our gas furnaces," Los Altos resident Freddie Wheeler told the council. "The cost of electrifying can be very expensive. Your own study shows it can cost as much as \$90,000 to replace your appliances."

"These estimated costs encompass the likely upper end of the additional costs of electrification for home remodels," said Environmental Commissioner Laura Tekler. "The analysis does not detail the many rebates and tax credits offered locally, regionally and nationally for specific electrical appliances and infrastructure."

"I am imploring you, do not water this down," said Connie Miller of the environmental advocacy group GreenTown Los Altos. "This is a good, sound reach code as it's presented, and it's not this catastrophic change."

Proponents said methane from natural gas is not only a major cause of carbon emissions that harm the environment, but it also creates indoor pollution that can affect homeowners' health.

Miller said the new reach codes would impact under 2% annually of all Los Altos housing stock. According to city staff, 59 home projects in 2022 exceeded the \$250,000 thresh-

old being proposed.

"Barely enough to move the needle, but we all need to do it," she said.

### Weighing the costs

Mia Ravishankar, a Los Altos resident and senior at Mountain View High School, reminded the council about a Bay Area Air Quality Management District directive requiring an end to gas water heater sales by 2027 and gas furnaces by 2029.

Council members were initially concerned about the issue of equity in costs among homeowners with larger or smaller homes. But Nick Zornes, the city's development services director, said the 50% threshold for electrification was made with equity in mind as opposed to a fixed square footage that could make for uneven thresholds from one homeowner to another.

In addition, Zornes said the city's \$165-per-square-foot valuation number is much lower than the actual market valuation. Miller estimated that number at \$800-\$1,000 per square foot. It means homeowners could theoretically add more than 1,500 square feet - twice as much as a 750-square-foot threshold previously discussed - before electrification requirements set in.

The council approval also included clarification from Councilmember Neysa Fligor that the ban on gas extensions applied to interior as well as exterior use.

**See REACH CODES, Page 7**

## RODENTS

From Page 4

indications that there are issues, like mange, which is often a sign of a weakened immune system which is caused by these rodenticide exposures," he said. "If we do end up finding a deceased animal that looks like it was impacted by rodenticides, we send them off to the wildlife investigations laboratory for testing."

Chaney advised residents to reduce and replace their use of rodenticides by sealing access points in houses, using manual traps and maintaining landscapes.

"English ivy tends to be a really good spot for rodents," he said. "Rats will nest in those

types of plants. ... Keep vines and any plants from directly touching your house, since that's another spot where rats tend to hang out, because the heat from your house will keep them warm. Also, trees that might overhang your roof, since a rodent can easily run across the branch and then jump on your roof and find its way in, so trim those back."

Chaney also suggested keeping food inside the house and out of rodent access, so they don't have an incentive to be there.

"Think about what might be bringing a rodent into your house, so why is it in your yard in the first place?" he said. "Is there a food source available?"

He recommended feeding

dogs inside, not leaving bird seed and fallen fruit on the ground outside and rodent-proofing compost bins.

Chaney pointed out that rodenticides won't control rodent populations.

"Long term, rodenticides will have the opposite effect of what we are intending to do when we use them," he said. "If we continue to use them and impact owls, hawks, coyotes and bobcats to the point that they're dying over rodenticide exposure, we've lost that natural rodent control. Then we end up with a situation where there are more and more rodents and fewer wildlife to help us deal with them."

**For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/u3xbrxmr](http://tinyurl.com/u3xbrxmr).**

## WATER

From Page 5

been in drought conditions since March 16.

“Our water supply is healthy,” she said in her presentation to board members. “The state snowpack is double to triple of average; consequently, our importer water allocations are above average. We have a 75% allocation for the state water project, up from 5% last year.”

The board’s actions align with Gov. Gavin Newsom’s March 24 water conservation executive order that eliminated a voluntary call for a 15% water reduction, she said.

### Lifestyle changes

Board members agreed that though conservation wouldn’t be as intensely monitored and reducing water consumption by 15% would no longer be required, water conservation should be a way of life.

Tony Estremera, District 6 director, emphasized conservation, noting the county’s reduced storage capacity.

“We have to say, ‘Well, we have to conserve,’” he said. “But what does that mean? That means we’ve got to change our behaviors, we’ve got to consistently consider it, consistently talk about it, think about it and

do it constantly.”

Love said even though restraints are no longer mandatory, he’s going to continue reducing his water use.

“It’s a lifestyle,” he said. “Limit watering the lawn, turn off sprinklers when it rains, use low-water appliances, take shorter showers – the little things that add up if everyone does them. I’m also going to explore how to capture rainwater for watering our plants.”

Valley Water will continue its conservation programs and encourage residents to shift their response to water conservation from one of necessity to a lifestyle.

“We’re now running our messaging campaigns year-round instead of just spring and summer, as we did previously,” Bijoor said. “We’re also promoting all our programs year-round instead of seasonally. We are maintaining our increased rebate rate for the landscape program for another year, and we expect a high rate of program participation to continue.”

*For more information on Valley Water conservation programs, including resources related to landscaping and water-saving devices, visit [valleywater.org/watersavings](http://valleywater.org/watersavings).*

*To report water-waste restriction violations, call (408) 640-2000 or email [WaterWise@valleywater.org](mailto:WaterWise@valleywater.org).*

## Chopped trees in declining health for a decade

Town Crier Staff Report

Los Altos City Manager Gabriel Engeland confirmed last week that the oak trees in the civic center that were chopped down March 27-29 had been declining in health over the past decade.

Many local residents protested the decision to cut down the trees, with some responding to Town Crier social media posts questioning whether the approximately 100-year-old trees were actually unhealthy.

Manny Hernandez, the city’s Parks and Recreation Commission liaison, said in an email that the structural health of the oaks, which he described as suffering from a deformation or condition that pointed to an unstable or weak structure that could lead to physical tree breakage, was a danger.

“Diseases in trees are caused by environmental factors that cause stress, like drought, and when trees age, they become more susceptible to diseases,” Hernandez said.

Hernandez noted the trees’ age wasn’t the only reason for their failing health.

“These trees were structurally unhealthy due to age, concrete that was used decades ago to fill in large cavities (this was a practice back then), multiple decay cavities on large limbs (cabling system used for support) and decay on the base of the tree trunk,” he said.

No other historical trees have been labeled a current concern, but the city has plans to assess other older trees in light of recent storms.

## REACH CODES

From Page 6

“Overwhelmingly, I am convinced that these reach codes are in the public’s best interest and the city’s best interest,” said Vice Mayor Jonathan Weinberg.

He was taken aback by one speaker’s comment that a high-school-aged speaker’s comment did not have merit because students weren’t “financially responsible.”

“Our next generation coming up is the one that is going to have to deal with global warming,” Weinberg said. “I take real of-

fense that someone could say that. Everyone who is a member of this community has a right to give input.”

Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng, the lone vote against the codes, felt the reach codes proposal came before the council without much public notice and that most residents didn’t know it was happening. But other council members cited discussion on the issue going back to last year.

The council introduced the first reading of the updated reach codes ordinance. A second reading and adoption are scheduled for Tuesday’s council meeting.

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# Comment

## Letters to the Editor

### Protest proposed sewer rate hike

Los Altos has announced a public hearing for the proposed sewer rate increase. Infrastructure limitations have made Los Altos residents beholden to the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant, and according to the city of Los Altos, as a result of the new rate hike: the “typical sewer bill for residential is an increase of 117% compounded.” This is over five years, but still a huge leap in rates (source: Proposition 218 – Sewer Rate Study, March 23, city of Los Altos website).

As a resident and taxpayer, I am outraged by the sudden and significant hike in our sewer bills and the city’s view that no other options are available.

I understand that maintaining and improving our sewer system is crucial, but it should not be done at the expense of the residents who are already struggling to make ends meet. Many families in our community are already facing financial hardships, and this sudden increase will only add to their burden.

Moreover, the lack of transparency and communication about this rate increase is concerning. When asked about the salaries of executives at the RWQCP, the city responded with: “The City of Los Altos

does not have this information.” Why not?

The sewer rate plan can be halted by Los Altans who submit a protest to the city; if a majority of affected residents protest, the city council will be forced to find another solution.

**Rev. Steve Macias**  
Los Altos

### Dog data math proves incorrect

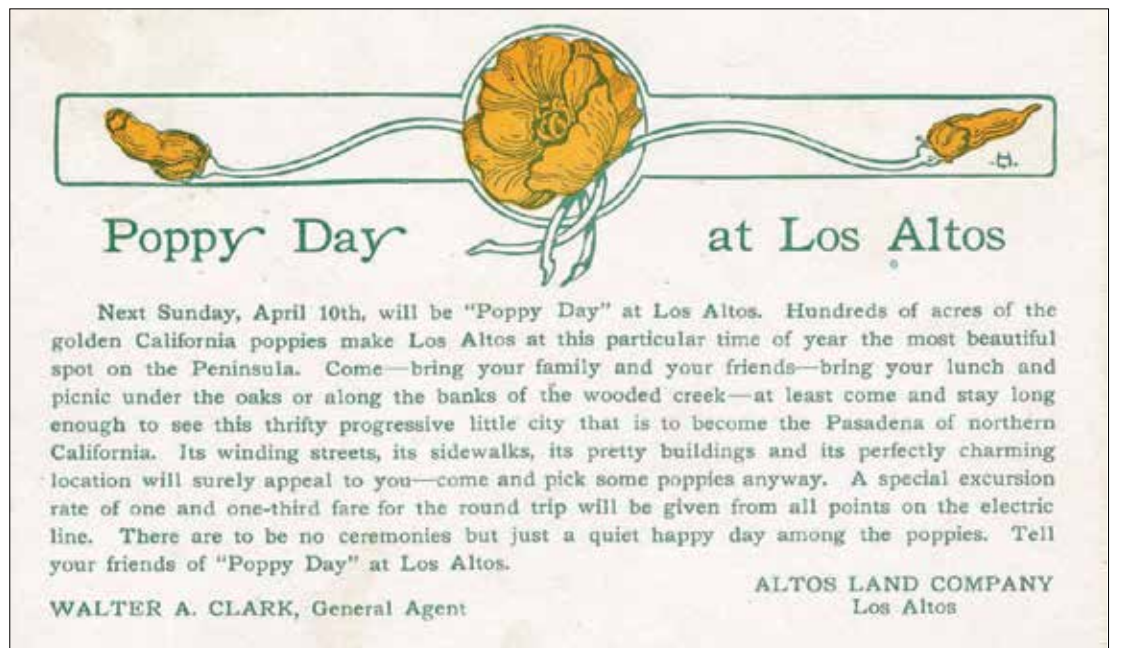
Some residents have had their sensibilities tweaked over the potential loss of parking spaces near the main library to accommodate space for a dog park.

In his March 29 letter to the editor, Tom Popek is disheartened over this and asks to understand this correctly. In her April 12 letter, Nancy Bhagat is confused and baffled over this and questions why we need to further limit access to the library to serve the needs of a few people.

To help Tom understand this correctly and to put some data to the “few people” Nancy mentions, I’d refer them to the Oct. 18, 2021, Town Crier article citing “35-40% of Los Altos’ 10,700 households own dogs.” So, Tom, your math was wrong, and, Nancy, 3,745 to 4,280, is more than a few.

**Gary Albright**  
Los Altos

## Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Altos Land Company general agent Walter A. Clark used the railroad as a real estate marketing tool. He offered special train fares to attend events like the 1910 Poppy Day to encourage potential investors from the surrounding area to come and see the site of the future “thrifty progressive little city.”

## Climate solutions easier as we near Earth Day

By Madeleine Para and Paula Danz

As we gear up to celebrate Earth Day Saturday, it’s now easier than ever to reap the rewards of embracing a cleaner, greener world.

The annual spring event, which reminds us to protect the planet that sustains us, is especially poignant this year. It follows the passage of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, the most significant U.S. federal investment in solving climate change, which unleashes a flurry of real-world benefits for California residents.

The legislation has ensured that everyday Americans are now eligible to save thousands of dollars when purchasing electric cars, induction stoves and energy-efficient appliances that will reduce household bills and improve air quality. Families that take advantage of clean energy and electric vehicle tax credits are set to save more than \$1,000 per year.

And they are not the only winners. Since the bill became law, dozens of businesses have taken advantage of tax credits incentivizing private investment in clean energy and the domestic production of renewables.

According to a report from American Clean Power, an

## Other Voices

industry group representing green energy companies, the U.S. saw \$40 billion in clean energy investment in the first three months after the bill was signed. Additionally, new analysis released this month shows 100,000 climate-friendly jobs have been created following the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act.

Here in California, upon passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo stated, “This legislation is the most substantial legislation to address climate change in the history of our country, and its historic investments will lower energy bills, increase American energy security and substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

We’ve already seen the legislation provide funding for residential energy efficiency and electrification. For households with low or moderate incomes, it funds point-of-sale rebates for qualified high-efficiency electric appliances, such as heat pumps for space heating and cooling.

In addition to jobs, this critical turning point in the United States’ clean energy transition will help stabilize our climate

and put us on track to cut carbon pollution by approximately 40% below 2005 levels by 2030.

We’re witnessing how clean energy solutions can work for us, and we must keep the momentum going.

New transmission lines are vital for moving clean energy from wind and solar generated in rural areas to urban and coastal areas. Building a new transmission line takes over a decade because of the current permitting process. As a result, the expansion of electricity transmission is currently 1% per year – at which rate analysis from Princeton University that only 20% of the emissions reductions expected from the Inflation Reduction Act will be realized by 2030.

If we can update our permitting process, the U.S. will unlock our clean energy potential, reducing air pollution and saving lives, and lowering energy bills.

Rep. Eshoo must do her utmost to update America’s clean energy permitting and fast-track the transition to a prosperous clean energy future.

*Madeleine Para is executive director of Citizens’ Climate Lobby. Paula Danz of Los Altos is a volunteer with the Silicon Valley North chapter of Citizens’ Climate Lobby.*

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Serving the greater Los Altos community since 1947

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# Comment

## Word on the Street – By Adrienne Mitchel

### What business would you like to see downtown? (Asked in downtown Los Altos)



I'm happy with the way it is. I've been living here for 40 years, and I love the town. Good food, coffee.

**Roland Strick**  
Los Altos Hills



A men's clothing store with resort vacation fashion. Travel-related things. People in this area like to travel a lot.

**Bert Loughmiller**  
Los Altos



More affordable restaurants, but you can't really ask for less-expensive restaurants because everything is so expensive to rent.

**Kaye Loughmiller**  
Los Altos



Salt & Straw. We love the flavors. We have to go to Palo Alto for ice cream, so it would be great if Los Altos could have one.

**Angelica Garcia**  
Mountain View



More retail shops (selling) casual, everyday clothes for all ages. My daughter says, "Oh, Mom, it's only old people's clothes here in Los Altos."

**Susan Grindley**  
Los Altos



Trader Joe's, for diversity of possible food purchases and accessibility.

**William Grindley**  
Los Altos

**Santa Clara County Supervisor**  
**Joe Simitian**

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# People

## NCL honors seniors at recognition event

Town Crier Report

The National Charity League's Stanford Hills Chapter Class of 2023 celebrated the culmination of six years of mother-daughter philanthropy, leadership and cultural learning during its annual Senior Recognition Event March 4 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Palo Alto.

Shari Emling, who co-founded the Stanford Hills Chapter in 1986, introduced the NCL graduates. Cindy Dupin and Dee Suppes served as co-chairpersons of the event, and Megan Lucas received the Ideal Ticktock Award in recognition of her commitment to service and leadership over her six years in NCL.

"Tonight marks the end of one journey and the dawning of a new beginning," said chapter president Brittany Stevens at the event. "You put in the time together through your involvement in this chapter. And now, as you prepare to let go of each other, it is paying off because you are as ready as you'll ever be for this momentous opportunity."

The daughters and mothers of the Class of 2023 contributed more than 12,000 hours of community service over the past six years, beginning when the girls were in seventh grade. Their projects supported more than 40 organizations, including LifeMoves, Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, Meals



COURTESY OF TAILVINAT

The National Charity League's Stanford Hills Chapter honored the mothers and daughters in the service organization's Class of 2023 March 4. The graduating members of the Stanford Hills Chapter include, front, from left: Remi Martin, Rebecca Russakow, Megan Lucas, Calista Schmidt, Nicole Collart, Madeline Riley, Lucy Rutherford, Rachel Farhoudi, Chloe Dupin and Veena Bhat. Back: Kelly Fiske, Kendall Sutherland, Melanie Anderson, Clara Cronin, Chloe Akis, Lucy Schmidt, Gabbi Russakow, Natasha Suppes, Ella Rose Deegan, Madison Lee and Sawyer Gaviria.

on Wheels, Community Services Agency, the Ecumenical Hunger Program, Operation:

Care & Comfort, Humane Society Silicon Valley and Animal Assisted Happiness.

For more information, visit [nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/stanfordhills](http://nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/stanfordhills).

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## Scouting News

### Girl Scouts honor award winners

Girl Scouts from troops in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills received recognition for achieving the organization's highest awards – Bronze, Silver and Gold – at an event at the Garden House in Shoup Park in Los Altos March 26.

The awards require that Scouts identify an issue in their community or region and work to address that issue by designing and implementing an impactful and sustainable project. Girls work with project advisers to ensure that their award projects create a meaningful resource for the larger community. Los Altos Mayor Sally Meadows announced proclamations for two Gold Award Scouts, Riya Katyal and Isabel Schmidtke. Scouts presented displays and shared about their projects, and received their award pins from their project advisers.

The list of award winners and their projects follows.

#### Gold Award

- Katyal, Troop 60321, Creating Awareness at ULISTAC Natural Area
- Schmidtke, Troop 60446, Elementary School Outdoor Safety and Nature Education



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KRISTIN MORRIS

Girl Scout Gold Award winner Riya Katyal, left, receives a proclamation from Los Altos Mayor Sally Meadows. At right, Gold Award winner Isabel Schmidtke celebrates with Gold Award project coordinator Winnie Kubik.



- Mira Shah, Troop 60321, Increasing Access to Robotics

#### Silver Award

- Zoe An, Ashley Jene, Liana Redican and Julia Salamacha, Troop 61427, Emergency Preparedness Pet Plan
- Anaya Aneesh and Manasa Kota, Troop 60402, Community Education on Spay and Neuter
- Revathi Tanmayee Alipeta, Troop 60402, #ABetterLMS-forUS
- Diya Duggireddy, Shahana Rajeskar and Adhya Sarin, Troop 60402, Growing Minds
- Linuki Ekenayake and Tharuki Ekenayake, Troop 60402, Project Mind
- Rachna Gadde, Kendall Nord and Chloe Savage, Troop 60402, Brownie Badge Kits for Hidden Falls Camp

- Lila Green, Vidhi Gupta and Meera Mishra, Troop 60402, Awareness of Animal Therapy

- Sravika Nemani, Troop 61427, Nest Boxes for Cavity Nesters

- Izzy Sehnert and Dhrithi Vishwa, Troop 60402, Helping Mason Bees

- Nivriti Vira, Troop 60402, The Active Circle

#### Bronze Award

- Ivy Berger-Morris, Anna Conover, Lucy Dicker, Sanaya Gopalani, Audrey Han, Kelary Kopels, Leah Rowan and Lyra Sanders, Troop 60762, Planting Trees and Educational Video
- Tilly Burgart and Camea Caprita, Troop 62879, Pets In Need Dog Enrichment
- Charlie Jones and Madison Louie, Troop 62879, Why Save Water: A Video Guide for Kids

# Community

## GreenTown Los Altos, LAHS Green Team hold successful bike drive

Town Crier Staff Report

**G**reenTown Los Altos partnered with the Los Altos High School Green Team to collect 105 used bikes at the ReCycle Bike Drive held April 8 at the school.

Bikes in need of some TLC were fixed by bike mechanics from collaborator Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange as well as the Alto Velo Racing Club and GreenTown.

Approximately 40 volunteers organized the event, which included tasks ranging from publicizing the drive to recruiting volunteers, helping with setup, greeting people, feeding visitors, triaging bikes, pumping up tires and washing and repairing bikes.

Many of the refurbished bikes will go to low-income Los Altos High students in need of low-cost, clean and green transportation. Others will be distributed by GreenTown directly to schools in Los Altos and Mountain View to support clean commutes for other students, and the rest will be distributed to Silicon Valley

Bicycle Exchange partner organizations, which serve low-income, at-risk students and adults and the homeless.

Bryan Johnson, member of the Los Altos School District Board of Trustees, dropped off a few bikes this year, and the GreenTown team noted that he is a generous donor.

Bike drive coordinator Margie Suozzo said one attendee who donated a few bikes mentioned that their son, a former Los Altos High student, started a bike drive at his college inspired by GreenTown's efforts.

In its 24th year, the drive not only gathers bikes for people in need, but also aims to encourage people to connect with their communities and share their love of cycling.

"We are thrilled to do our small part to help get bikes into the hands of those who need them and count ourselves very fortunate to know and work with each of our partner organizations to do so," Suozzo said.

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



PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER  
Volunteers at the April 8 ReCycle Bike Drive tend to donated bicycles, fixing and cleaning them before donating them to underserved people. More than 100 bikes were donated. Approximately 40 volunteers participated, including Axelle Allanic, right.



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## Coloring contest winners



ADRIENNE MITCHEL/TOWN CRIBER

The Town Crier's 2023 Easter Coloring Contest winners pick up their Baskin-Robbins gift certificates at the Baskin-Robbins in downtown Los Altos. Pictured, from left, are 4-6 age group winners: Josie Wang (first place), Krisha Garg (second) and Emma Tong Bao (third); and 7-10 age group winners: Syesha Garg (first), Justin Daniel (second) and Norrie Roy (third).

## Filoli estate inspires St. Simon grad to write debut novel 'Garden'

By Saira Ahmed  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

GINNY Kubitz Moyer did not have to look far for inspiration when writing her first novel, "The Seeing Garden."

Moyer, who grew up in Sunnyvale and attended St. Simon Parish School in Los Altos, said her inspiration for the story's setting came from the Filoli estate in Woodside.

"I was surprised that a place like this existed in the Bay Area," Moyer said. "As a kid, I had grown up reading books that took place in these fantastic estates, and I had this vision that they took place far away. It felt so different from my experience growing up."

Although she first visited Filoli in her 20s while working toward a master's degree in Stanford University's teaching education program, Moyer said the idea for writing the book came in her late 30s when she revisited the garden.

"I went back and I thought, 'This place is so amazing,'" she said. "I always had in mind that there was this one beautiful house and that was it, but I researched and found that there were dozens of estates like that up and down the Peninsula."

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, wealthy San Franciscans wanted country houses

with more land and better weather than in the city, Moyer said. They purchased the land and built multiple estates, which intrigued her.

Moyer said she grew up thinking there was not much history in the Bay Area but learned that it has an extensive past. A fan of local history associations, the author said she appreciates those who take the time to document the past – especially in a region so focused on technology.

"In this area, it's about forward movement, but I think there's such a value in looking at the past and remembering where we started," she said.

### Historical fiction

"The Seeing Garden," published by She Writes Press, is a coming-of-age novel set in 1910 New York about a young woman named Catherine, whose parents are bohemian artists. But a series of events leads her to be raised by her aunt and uncle in a more traditional, old-money fashion. Catherine grapples with the new expectations and her old life, where she was allowed to be expressive and creative.

Catherine meets an eligible bachelor who has a lavish California estate, inspired by the one at Filoli. Catherine visits it and falls in love.

"The estate and California, in general, end up opening many different avenues in her life," Moyer said. "This book is about Catherine exploring those avenues. It has a love story, but it is not primarily a romance. It's really about making decisions for yourself and how to discern your life's path when you have different voices telling you different things."

Moyer added that the idea of figuring out your life path has always interested her because she has gone through it herself.

"You kind of face it profoundly in your late teens, early 20s, because it's after high school, See NOVELIST, Page 14



## Mtn. View Chamber honors CSA staff

Town Crier Report

THE Mountain View Chamber of Commerce is set to honor two Community Services Agency staff members at the 28th annual Celebration of Leaders & ATHENA Awards 5:30 p.m. May 4 at the Computer History Museum, 1401 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View.

Brandi Jothimani will receive the Young ATHENA Award and LaDrea Clark the Unsung Hero Award. The Young ATHENA Award recognizes a leader who actively supports women in improving leadership skills and professional development.

As director of client programs at CSA, Jothimani manages a team of mostly women leaders who deliver safety-net services. In her prior role, she ran the Rental Assistance Program, which distributed more than \$7 million in aid during the pandemic, keeping thousands of residents housed.

Unsung Hero honoree Clark, who has worked at CSA for nearly 20 years, serves as Food and Nutrition Center director, aiming to ensure residents in need have access to nutritious food. She has reorganized CSA's food pantry, offering a model that reduces food waste.

To register for the awards ceremony and for more information, visit [chambermv.org/](http://chambermv.org/)

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## Don't fall for the hype on China, expert advises Morning Forum

By Nancy Ginsburg Gill  
Special to the Town Crier

Borrowing from Mark Twain's quip about Richard Wagner's music, "It's not nearly as bad as it sounds," China expert Thomas Fingar, Ph.D., reassured the Morning Forum of Los Altos audience that the threat the U.S. faces from China is not as dire as the media would have us believe.

Fingar delivered his presentation, "Update on China and China-U.S. Relations," April 4.

Since coming to Stanford University for graduate work in political science in the late 1960s, Fingar has spent his career using his expertise on China divided between Washington, D.C., serving under presidents from Richard Nixon to Barack Obama, and teaching, researching and sharing at Stanford what he learned from 23 years in Washington.

His vast knowledge of China led Fingar to move to Washington in 1986 to join the State Department. Over the next two decades, he held a variety of government positions and won

numerous awards for his leadership and management style.

In 2009, he returned to Stanford as a Distinguished Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. He has published dozens of books and articles based on his expertise on China and the intelligence community.

Fingar began his talk with the reassuring news that China is less of a threat than it was a few years ago. He explained that both the U.S. and China engage in hyperbolic warnings about the threats posed by each other because having a formidable rival is useful to both countries.

Faced with myriad internal challenges – for example, a declining economy and a demographic disaster with the need to provide sufficient health care to its aging population – Fingar said China's leaders find it useful to blame the U.S. for its evil intent on seeing its system collapse.

Similarly, the U.S., Fingar added, is able to rationalize a huge – much needed, he conceded – increase in defense spending by raising the specter

of a "worthy rival." He also noted that in the otherwise polarized U.S. government, a shared fear of the China threat is one of the few issues the parties agree on.

While the U.S. sees China as an unstoppable threat to its position in the world, China's leaders see their country as "fragile and vulnerable," as it faces great internal challenges. The lack of a Social Security system and the loss of the large extended family due to the One Child Left Behind policy of the late 20th century make the Chinese people fearful of their future and their parents' future. Even the state-owned, highly touted high-speed rail system is unable to pay for its operation.

China's desire to replace

the U.S. as "the tiger at the top of the mountain," Fingar said, led to its Belt and Road Initiative, which loaned impoverished countries the money to improve their infrastructure in exchange for minerals.

While such projects have increased China's presence and power throughout the globe, many of the third world countries for which China has built infrastructure have defaulted on their loans, putting even more pressure on the Chinese economy.



Fingar

### Slowing growth

Chinese leaders blame the slowing of the progress the country made from the late 1970s to the financial crisis of 2008 on U.S. determination to slow China's growth. According to Fingar, 2007 marked the peak and end of China's economic miracle, as it went from 14% growth in GNP to 3% in 2022. This distrust of the West, he said, changed China's image from "the lovable panda to that of a porcupine proclaiming, 'Don't mess with me.'"

When asked whether he fears that China will try to invade Taiwan, Fingar said Chinese President Xi Jinping is unlikely to make such a rash move.

See CHINA, Page 14



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## City of LOS ALTOS

### CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

April 25, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.  
In Person and Virtual

Members of the Public may join and participate in the Council meeting at  
**Telephone: 1-669-444-9171 // Webinar ID: 825 4866 2043// Passcode: 436467**  
<https://losaltosca.gov.zoom.us/j/82548662043?pwd=RzdYWVWQ4ZWthTWNCVHpjRGd4M3Nodz09>

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

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

Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Mayor and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve Minutes of the City Council Regular meeting of April 11, 2023. (M. Thurman)
2. Consider authorizing the City Manager to execute the Second Amendment to the Agreement for Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to provide for funding from the City of Los Altos in the amount of \$77,447 for the Countywide Hazardous Waste Disposal Program for FY 2023/24, and consider finding the Council's action exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273. (C. Leedom)
3. Waive Second Reading and Adopt Ordinance No. 2023-xxx prohibiting the possession of firearms in sensitive places (J. Maginot)
4. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-XX for the Approval of Guidelines for the submission and tabulation of protests in connection with Rate Hearings conducted pursuant to Article XIID, Section 6 of the California Constitution (A. Fairman)
5. Waive Second Reading and Adopt Ordinance No. 2023-XX to amend Los Altos Municipal Code Chapter 12.22, "Energy Code," and Chapter 12.26, "Green Building Code" (T. Katbi)

PUBLIC HEARING

6. Introduce and Waive further reading of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos adding chapter 14.75 to the Los Altos municipal code to implement certain provisions of program 3.K of the sixth cycle Housing Element Update, this ordinance is exempt from environmental review pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the state guidelines implementing the California environmental quality act of 1970. (N. Zornes)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Sixth Cycle Housing Element 2023-2021: Discussion with the Los Altos City Council on the status of the Sixth Cycle Housing Element 2023-2031, and report on March 30, 2023 findings letter from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) post 60-day review, and response to required amendments to the draft Housing Element to obtain certification. (N. Zornes)
8. Provide direction on the meeting frequency, membership, and powers and duties of various Commissions. (Carnesecca)

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



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## Apply to the Los Altos Youth Commission

The Youth Commission advises the City Council on matters relating to teen and youth issues. Only 5 vacancies!

Now accepting applications through Monday, May 8 at 5 PM.

Eligibility: Any middle or high school student who lives within the City's limits may apply for consideration, regardless of the school they attend.



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## Community

### Longtime Los Altos mail carrier retires

Special to the Town Crier

Los Altos mail carrier Esther Spoulos clocked in for the last time March 31 after 34 years with the U.S. Postal Service.

She received a special send-off at the Los Altos post office on Miramonte Avenue.

Spoulos started her postal career in San Jose as a holiday mail processor in the thick of the season in December 1986. She became a mail carrier in Los Altos in 1989 and has stayed ever since, serving the same delivery route for nearly three decades.

She decided to join the Postal Service after encouragement from her father, who was also a letter carrier.

"I was going to junior college, but it just wasn't for me," Spoulos said. "My dad told me the post office was hiring for Christmas help and I should take a test. I did; it took some time, but I got called to come and work as letter carrier at the Los Altos post office."



Spoulos

Spoulos said she made a career out of it because she truly enjoyed her job.

"I love the walking, the meeting of people, the challenge," she said. "It was hard work, but I liked the idea of helping people, meeting people and just being outside – even in the rain."

Spoulos's appointed rounds have been marked by many achievements, including her status as a Million Mile Driver. As a Million Mile Driver award recipient, she has driven a million miles without even a fender-bender while delivering the

mail. She has driven the equivalent of 40 times around the globe, all without leaving the city limits.

Over the course of her career, Spoulos has seen a lot of change and has profound memories of her service, including the yearly National Association of Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

The recent pandemic brought a sense of uncertainty, Spoulos said, but as a U.S. Postal Service carrier, it also brought people together and, in her role, she and her fellow carriers tried to deliver normalcy and stability the best they could in their communities. The yearly Stamp Out Hunger food drive, on the other hand, brought a sense of fulfillment and happiness.

Spoulos said she will miss her customers and her daily interaction with her co-workers.

In her retirement, she looks forward to spending time with friends and family, traveling, gardening, but mostly, she said, just enjoying life.

### NOVELIST

From Page 12

and there are so many different paths you could take," she said. "But now, at the age of 50, I think there are actually a lot of other points in your life where you face crossroads. Listening to all the voices, sitting with them, figuring them out, that's a skill we have to keep going back to as humans."

While this is her first novel, Moyer has written three nonfiction books and contributed to another.

"It was interesting because I had never written a novel before, even though I read novels

voraciously, especially historical fiction," she said. "I didn't really know where to begin, I just had a vague idea in mind that the main character would be from the East. That way, she could discover California as the reader does."

Moyer said "The Seeing Garden" may appeal to people who like TV shows such as "Downton Abbey" and "Bridgerton" or historical fiction.

"I like historical fiction, and I like books that have a message that sticks with me after I read it, and I wanted this book to be a marriage of the two," said Moyer, who teaches literature part-time at Gunn High School.

Moyer added that she hopes

the audience will take away the idea that making decisions out of strength is important.

"A lot of times, we make decisions based on fear, shame or guilt," she said. "There are times when we need to take those feelings into account, but I think there is a difference between deciding something based on that and deciding something based on knowing yourself or coming from a place of strength or courage."

"The Seeing Garden" is scheduled to be published May 9. To pre-order the novel, visit Linden Tree Books, Barnes & Noble or Amazon.

For more information on Moyer, visit [ginnymoyer.org](http://ginnymoyer.org).

### CHINA

From Page 13

"Ukraine is an object lesson," he noted, as the price Putin is paying for the invasion has only served to harm Russia's own economy and unite the West against it.

Fingar said he believes that President Joe Biden would like to scale down the anti-China rhetoric and find more ways to work with China on common concerns such as climate change and water issues. However, given the widespread fear

of China in Congress, he added, "Biden does not have the political capital to do so."

The U.S. needs, Fingar said, to maintain its policy of strategic ambiguity so that the threat of U.S. intervention prevents China from invading Taiwan, but the fear of U.S. abandonment prevents Taiwan from sparking a war by declaring independence.

Fingar predicted with approval that Biden will look for openings "when possible and cooperate when appropriate."

Meanwhile, he concluded, the

U.S. needs to keep interacting with people through academia and business and stop blaming China for stealing its jobs.

The next Morning Forum lecture is "A Feminist Democratic Movement in Iran," with Stanford University scholar Abbas Milani, scheduled 10 a.m. May 2 at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave.

To join Morning Forum of Los Altos and for more information, email Shar Thorson at [skthorson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skthorson@sbcglobal.net) or visit [morningforum.org](http://morningforum.org).

# Community

## Community Briefs

### Delayed beer stroll set for Friday

The Los Altos Village Association's St. Paddy's Day Beer Stroll, postponed due to last month's power outages, is back in action Friday. The event, featuring beer tasting and live entertainment, is scheduled 6-9 p.m. along Main and State streets.

The wind and rainstorms of mid-March caused havoc throughout Los Altos, with resulting power outages affecting residents and businesses in the downtown triangle. A side casualty of the lack of power was the annual beer stroll, originally scheduled March 17.

"While LAVA and our ticket holders were really disappointed in the postponement of the event, all of our breweries, 22 tasting sites and 11 musical acts are able to participate on the new date," said LAVA executive director Scott Hunter. "Plus, the arrival of spring means it is now beer-drinking weather."

For tickets and more information on the event, visit [downtownlosaltos.org](http://downtownlosaltos.org).

### Commission issues call for art

The Los Altos Public Arts Commission has issued a call for art from artists who live, work or attend school in the city.

The two-dimensional art created for "Moments in Time" should reflect and connect to a moment in time that is meaningful to the artist.

Selected artworks will be on display in the Los Altos Community Center Art Gallery through November.

The deadline for submissions is Sunday.

To submit art and for more information, visit [losaltosca.gov/publicartscommission/webform/moments-time](http://losaltosca.gov/publicartscommission/webform/moments-time).

### San Antonio Hills holds meeting today

After a two-year absence due to COVID restrictions, San Antonio Hills Inc., the homeowners association serving the unincorporated area of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, has scheduled its annual meeting 7:30 p.m. today at Los Altos Golf & Country Club, 1560 Country Club Drive.

Santa Clara County Super-

visor Joe Simitian will attend the meeting, which will include presentations on automated license plate readers and the impact of State Senate Bill 9 on housing.

Doors open at 7 p.m., with coffee and cookies available for attendees.

For more information, visit [sanantoniohills.com](http://sanantoniohills.com).

### DAR meeting covers birds, climate change

The Los Altos Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has scheduled a presentation on "Backyard Birds and Impact of Climate Change" noon Friday in the Apricot Room of the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

Matthew Dodder, executive director of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, will introduce some of the birds commonly seen in Los Altos-area backyards. He will share about their habits, teach how to identify the birds and discuss "backyard birding." His presentation also will address climate change and how it impacts birds.

The meeting is open to all.

For more information, email [LosAltosDAR@gmail.com](mailto:LosAltosDAR@gmail.com) or visit [losaltos.californiadar.org](http://losaltos.californiadar.org).

### Garden Club meeting spotlights irises

The Garden Club of Los Altos is set to feature a presentation on irises with Carol Dahout, president of the Clara B. Rees Iris Society, 12:30 p.m. Tuesday at Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave.

Rees, a Willow Glen iris breeder who died in 1970, made history in 1939 with her iris hybrid "Snow Flurry," the world's first ruffled iris. The Clara B. Rees Iris Society was founded in San Jose in 1957.

Dahout's passion for irises developed after attending an iris show and joining the Clara B. Rees Iris Society. She was spurred on after picking up some discarded iris rhizomes that actually bloomed.

The Garden Club of Los Altos, founded in 1929, meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, except July, November and December.

For membership details, email [GCLAMembership@gmail.com](mailto:GCLAMembership@gmail.com).

For more information on the club and its activities, visit [thegardencluboflosaltos.org](http://thegardencluboflosaltos.org).



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# RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>St. Simon Catholic Church &amp; School</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: small;">Please check our website for links to Live Stream Mass  <a href="http://www.stsimon.church">www.stsimon.church</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mass Schedule</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Weekday: 6:30 am &amp; 8:30 am          Saturday: 8:30 am &amp; 5:00 pm          Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:15, 5:00 pm</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Fr. Brendan McGuire, Pastor          1860 Grant Road, Los Altos 94024          650-880-1401</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>UNION CHURCH</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">A Community of Christ Followers Loving, Learning &amp; Serving Together</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Worship 10AM</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Join us in person or online ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Livestream.com/upclosaltos</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">858 University Ave.  <a href="http://www.unionpc.org">www.unionpc.org</a>  <b>(650) 948-4361</b></p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LOS ALTOS</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Join us online for worship at 9 am or in person at 10 am!          Inspirational messages and great music! Please visit our website at <a href="http://ilclosaltos.com">ilclosaltos.com</a> for more information!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">1715 Grant Road, Los Altos          650-967-4906 • <a href="http://www.ilclosaltos.com">www.ilclosaltos.com</a></p>		
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Bridges COMMUNITY CHURCH</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #0070C0;">People Matter. Truth Matters. The Gospel is Our Only Hope.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Service</b>              10:45am on Sundays</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">625 Magdalena Ave              Los Altos 94024              650.948.5698  <a href="http://www.bridges.church">www.bridges.church</a></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Home of Los Altos Christian Schools • <a href="http://www.lacs.com">www.lacs.com</a></p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Foothills Congregational Church</b>              United Church of Christ - Los Altos              An Open and Affirming congregation</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>Experience and share God's love through worship based in progressive theology, service, and joyful fellowship. LGBTQ+ friendly </p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Join us for Sunday Worship at 10AM ~ in-person and on Zoom  <b>In-person Children's &amp; Youth Program with Teacher Molly</b>          461 Orange Avenue, Los Altos • <a href="http://foothills-church.org">foothills-church.org</a></p>			
<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Los Altos Lutheran Church</b>              Rejoice in the Word + Send in the Spirit</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10AM In-Person &amp; Online</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">VISIT OUR WEBSITE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>www.LosAltosLutheran.org</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Youth &amp; Family, Devotionals, Online Community, Intergenerational Care</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>460 S. El Monte Ave. (at Cuesta)</b>  <b>650.948.3012</b>  <a href="mailto:office@losaltoslutheran.org">office@losaltoslutheran.org</a>              Email the office for the Worship Zoom Link</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>St. Nicholas &amp; St. William Catholic Parish</b>              Rev. John L. Poncini, Pastor</p> </div> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: x-small;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <p><b>St. Nicholas Church</b>                  473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mass Schedule</b></p> <p>Sat: 8 am                  Sun: 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 5 pm (French)                  M-F: 8 am, 12:10 pm</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <p><b>St. William Church</b>                  611 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mass Schedule</b></p> <p>Sat: 4 pm                  Sun: 9 am, 11 am*, 5 pm                  *in-person &amp; livestreamed</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>650-948-2158 www.snswwparish.org</b></p>		<p><b>St. Nicholas Church</b>                  473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mass Schedule</b></p> <p>Sat: 8 am                  Sun: 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 5 pm (French)                  M-F: 8 am, 12:10 pm</p>	<p><b>St. William Church</b>                  611 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mass Schedule</b></p> <p>Sat: 4 pm                  Sun: 9 am, 11 am*, 5 pm                  *in-person &amp; livestreamed</p>
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<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>401 University Ave., LOS ALTOS</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Sunday Service 10AM-11AM   Sunday School 10AM-11AM</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Wed. Testimony Meeting 7:30PM ~ Call-in Available for Services ~</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">— <b>READING ROOM</b> 60 Main Street —          Tue 1PM - 4:30PM • Wed 10AM - 1PM</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Please check our website to watch, "Moving Past Fear to Healing" by Lisa Troseth, CSB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ChristianScienceLosAltos.org</b></p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Christ Episcopal Church</b>              Inspired Worship. Relevant Preaching. Transcendent Music.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday Services In Person</b></p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">8:00 a.m. Spoken Eucharist          *10:00 a.m. Children's Service          *10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service          *Also online via Zoom</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Childcare provided on Sunday mornings during 10:15 service          1040 Border Road Los Altos 650-948-2151</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: x-small;"><a href="http://www.ccla.us">www.ccla.us</a></p>			

# Puzzles Page

## Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

### Across

- 1. Army training group, abbr.
- 5. Tanning lotion letters
- 8. Web-address suffix
- 11. Brightly colored fish
- 12. Website addresses
- 14. Grammy nominee in 2007: Corinne Bailey

- 15. Umpire's call
- 16. When the table is set

- 18. Diana Ross, for one
- 20. Bonehead

### 21. Singer Gaye and Los Altos avenue

- 22. Many a booted ruler
- 25. Until this time
- 26. Volunteer's words, 2 words
- 27. Gentlemen, abbr.
- 30. Most curious
- 32. Meadowlands pace
- 33. Goopy black stuff
- 34. Home reception room
- 36. On the line, 2

### words

- 39. Lennon's love
- 40. Assemble
- 42. Local cycling biz
- 45. Sport in which players wear masks
- 46. One in Madrid
- 47. Stew ingredient
- 48. Metis hero Louis
- 49. Mil. title
- 50. \_\_\_ Clemente
- 51. Lip

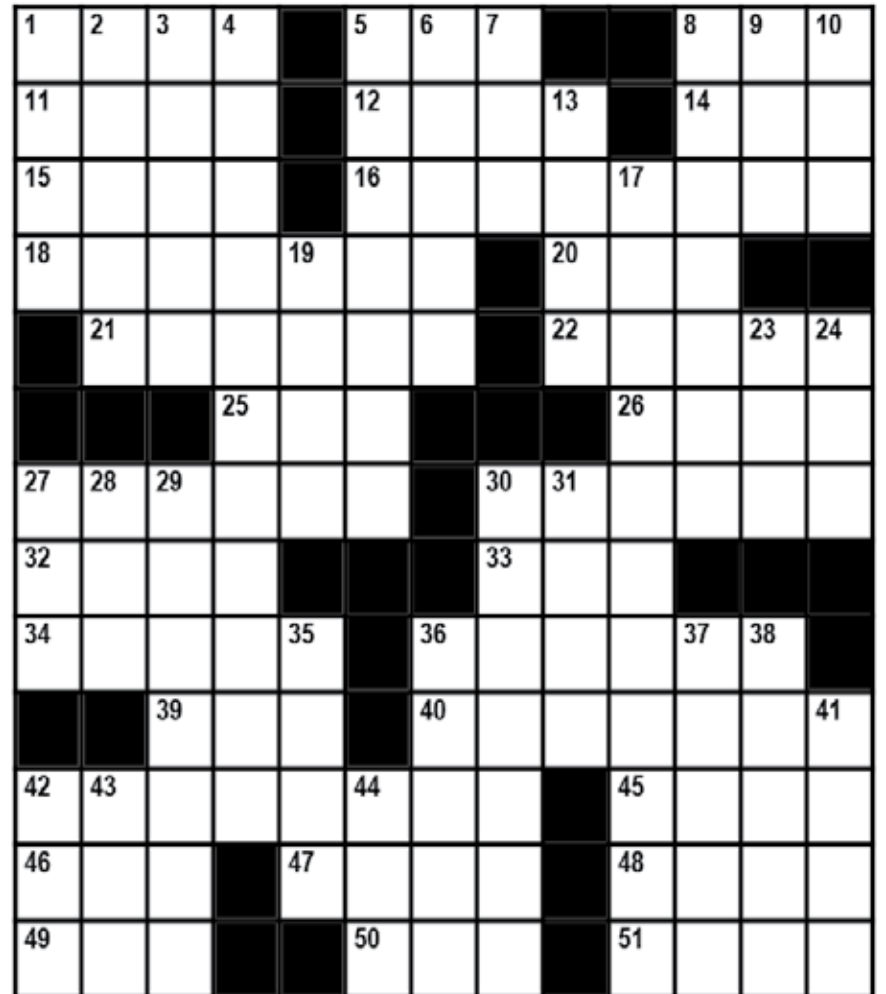
### Down

- 1. Decomposes
- 2. Narcotic from poppies
- 3. The Bucs play here
- 4. Fruit center, 2 words
- 5. Climbers' destinations
- 6. Primp
- 7. Neighbor of Ga., abbr.
- 8. Hole
- 9. Crash into
- 10. Right turn
- 13. Blackthorn fruit
- 17. Urban transport providers, 2 words

- 19. Perpetually
- 23. \_\_\_ Vegas, Nevada
- 24. Sinus specialist, briefly
- 27. Rainier and Hood, abbr.
- 28. Pitcher's stat
- 29. Wise Biblical king
- 30. Place to put the feet up
- 31. "Fudge!"
- 35. Inadvisable action, 2 words
- 36. MDX automaker
- 37. Dark brown-grey
- 38. Trouser parts
- 41. Wiggly fishes
- 42. Hot drink holder
- 43. Ace, played low
- 44. Thanks, for short

### Los Altos clues bolded.

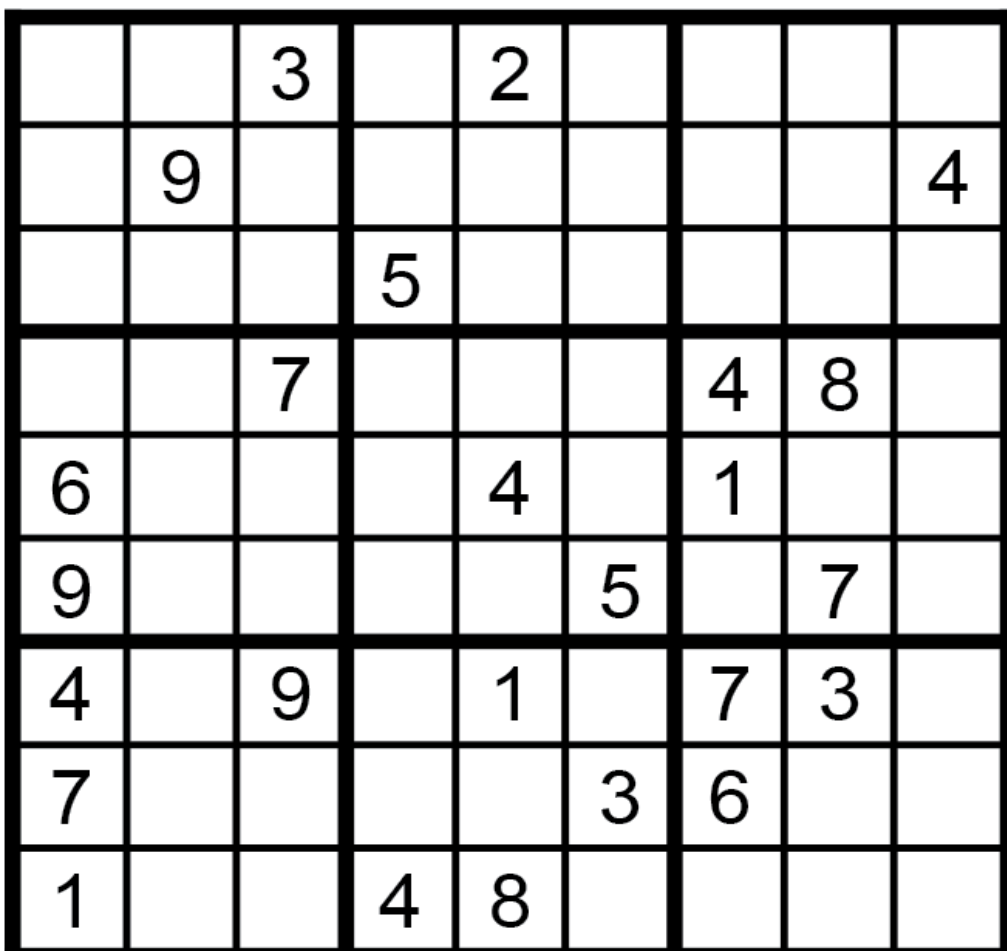
**Answers to puzzles on Page 51**



## Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult. Level: Medium



## Find A Word



Fifteen six-letter words are listed by this puzzle. They may go across, up and down or diagonally in the puzzle. Circle each one when you find it.

- |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Artist | Fluffy | Kettle |
| Bronze | Gazebo | Liquid |
| Castle | Helium | Meteor |
| Dahlia | Indigo | Nachos |
| Editor | Jungle | Orange |

# Stepping Out

## LASC's new education director aims to provide a safe, supportive space

By Kaitlyn Huang  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

**K**ristin Walter always knew she was going into theater.

In first grade, she began writing and directing plays for classmates. In college, she majored in theater. Soon afterward, she ended up traveling the country in a pickup truck, holding rehearsals and staging shows performed by kids at her various stops.

Now, as the new education director for Los Altos Stage Company, Walter aims to spread her passion for theater to the youth she works with.

"That has always been my biggest love of working with kids – that theater is a place where they can go where they feel safe, where they feel supported by the adults, by each other," she said. "It's kind of magical that way."

Named education director in February, Walter is responsible for Los Altos Youth Theatre, the company's youth branch. Walter staffs the crew and directs at least one of three shows LAYT performs; she also plans LASC's summer camps and classes for kids, which she aims to expand.

"There is the opportunity to do a lot more classes, to do camps over school breaks, to get kids – particularly teenagers – way more involved in the community of theater in Los Altos," the San Jose resident said. "So, (for) that part, I'm really excited about what it can become."

Walter noted that to increase teen participation in theater, she is hiring an adult teacher and a teenage assistant teacher for the summers, so more youth can explore casting, directing, choreography and set design.

### Nurturing young talent

Although Walter is the new education director, she is not a newcomer to LASC. She has previously performed in numerous productions with the company, including "Dead Man's Cell Phone," "Admissions," "Company," "Steel Magnolias" and "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." She has also served as vocal director for LAYT's "High School Musical," for which she recalled the cast's immense "passion" and "support for each other."

"Nobody has ever told kids (that) they can't do something. So, it doesn't occur to them that they can't," said Walter, who has been involved in youth theater for more than 30 years.

As a result, Walter said she loves witnessing how youth will take on a production and successfully bring it to fruition.

Executive artistic director Gary Landis, who directed two of the LASC productions Walter performed in, said he looks forward to Walter joining the company as the full-time educational director once she completes the semester as Castilleja School's theater and film teacher.

"She's a great addition in that she is incredibly intelligent, incredibly direct and to the point, pretty much a problem solver as far as trying to tackle issues, which is always nice to work with someone like that," Landis said.



COURTESY OF KRISTIN WALTER

**Kristin Walter and her son, Max Mahle, perform a scene from the Los Altos Stage Company production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," which ran last fall.**

### From school to stage

Walter's career in theater truly kick-started in high school, where by senior year she had the opportunity to direct a full production. After high school, she headed to Santa Clara University to study theater.

Once she graduated, Walter worked for the California Theatre Center, a Sunnyvale-based children's theater that closed in 2017. She then joined Missoula Children's Theatre in Missoula, Mont., where she and a co-worker hopped onto a pickup truck with costumes, props and sets, drove across the country and cast local kids, who rehearsed and performed a production within a week.

"That was so inspiring for me – just to see what kids can do, and the love that they bring to that process," Walter said. "So, that really solidified that (being in youth theater) is what I want to do."

And she has been in youth theater ever since. After a year with Missoula Children's Theatre, she returned to the Bay Area to serve as education director at Peninsula Youth Theatre in Mountain View. A couple of years later, Walter landed at Castilleja in Palo Alto, where she has spent the past 22 years.

Along with teaching, Walter continues to direct and perform for other local theaters, and even hosts "living room Shakespeare" productions every few years with theater friends.

"Sometimes I still have to pinch myself that I get to do this for a living," she said.

Yet that doesn't imply that having a career in theater is difficult; in fact, Walter believes the opposite. She said that storytelling is not just about the acting; it also encompasses the design, direction and stage management.

"It's actually not that hard to make a living in theater," Walter said. "You just have to want to learn how to do a whole bunch of different things."

**For more information on Los Altos Stage Company, visit [losaltosstage.org](http://losaltosstage.org).**

## 'Harold & Maude' continues run at Los Altos' Bus Barn Theater

Town Crier Staff Report

**L**os Altos Stage Company's production of "Harold and Maude" opened last weekend and is slated to run through May 7 at Bus Barn Theater.

Colin Higgins wrote the romantic dark comedy, which is based on his 1971 screenplay of the same name.

The play follows an unusual pair. Harold is a morbid young man obsessed with death and dying. Octogenarian Maude is a bright and shining soul

filled with a zest for life. When the pair strike up a friendship, Maude teaches Harold how to make the most of his time on Earth.

LASC executive artistic director Gary Landis directs the production.

Performances are scheduled 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays at Bus Barn, 97 Hillview Ave.

Tickets are \$20-\$40.

**For tickets and more information, call (650) 941-0551 or visit [losaltosstage.org](http://losaltosstage.org).**

## Letters From Home to perform USO-inspired show Sunday in MV

Town Crier Report

**A**s the official California stop of its "50 States Tour," the duo Letters From Home is set to perform a USO-style show 8:20 p.m. Sunday on the SecondStage at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.

Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann have performed more than 900 shows across the United States for veterans and their families and performed at the 75th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy, France. The show is filled with singing, tap dancing, jokes and audience interaction.

Tickets are \$22.

**For tickets and more information, call (650) 903-6000 or visit [mvcpa.com](http://mvcpa.com).**

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# Sports

## Sports on the Side

### Pinewood grad wins academic honor

Yale University junior **Klara Astrom**, a Pinewood School graduate, has made the Academic All-Ivy Team for women's basketball. Astrom is a neuroscience major.

### MV PAL hosts run next month

The Mountain View PAL 5K Fun Run and Youth Extravaganza, hosted by the Mountain View Police Activities League, is set for 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 6 at Crittenden Middle School, 1701 Rock St. There is also a 1-mile option. Registration is \$40 for the 5K and \$25 for the mile. The Youth Extravaganza begins at 1 p.m. The free event, aimed at kids in the community, includes lunch, carnival-style activities, face painting, music, bounce house and booths. To register and for more information, visit [tinyurl.com/rzjsvfw](http://tinyurl.com/rzjsvfw).

### Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High needs varsity and junior varsity coaches for badminton, along with varsity coaches for girls basketball and girls soccer. If interested, contact athletic director **Michelle Noeth** at [michelle.noeth@mvla.net](mailto:michelle.noeth@mvla.net). Mountain View High needs a varsity assistant coach for girls volleyball. If interested, email athletic director **Tim Lugo** at [tim.lugo@mvla.net](mailto:tim.lugo@mvla.net). St. Francis High seeks a varsity boys basketball coach. To apply, visit [tinyurl.com/bdepb94d](http://tinyurl.com/bdepb94d).

### NFHS puts out call for sports officials

Due to a shortage of high school officials for almost every sport, the National Federation of State High School Associations seeks referees and umpires. These are paid positions, hours are flexible and training is provided. To apply and for more information, visit [highschoolofficials.com](http://highschoolofficials.com).

## Cheli bound for UConn

Mitty High point guard and Los Altos resident verbally commits to play basketball for Huskies

By **Pete Borello**  
Staff Writer/[peteb@latc.com](mailto:peteb@latc.com)

It wasn't an easy secret to keep – verbally committing to play for the storied University of Connecticut women's basketball team – but Morgan Cheli did so for more than a month. The Los Altos resident was determined not be a distraction while her Mitty team was in the playoffs.

"Only my family and coaches knew," Cheli told the Town Crier April 12, six days after she announced her decision on social media. "I didn't want to take away from the end of our season; I wanted the spotlight to be on our team and our journey to state."

While adding that she was "getting antsy" to tell her teammates, the 6-foot-2 point guard is glad she waited until the season ended.

"The timing worked out," she said. "I can't be more excited."

Cheli said she committed in mid-February while on her second unofficial visit to UConn.

After weighing the more than 40 college scholarship offers (the first of which came in eighth grade), she arrived ready

to seal the deal.

"I wanted to commit verbally in person, and I was lucky to do that – and with my parents there," she said.

Cheli's visit included watching UConn face South Carolina in a packed arena, where she sat behind the Huskies' bench.

"The atmosphere was amazing," Cheli said. "Sue Bird (former UConn and WNBA star) was sitting right behind me. It was insane. I can't wait to be a part of it."

Although her suitors included such prestigious programs as Stanford and UCLA, Cheli's initial visit to UConn left the most lasting impression.

"I fell in love with the people, the coaching staff, the team, the place – it all clicked," she said. "It's a dream destination for me."

Cheli is the first player from Northern California to play at UConn under hall of fame coach Geno Auriemma, who has guided the Huskies to an NCAA record 11 national championships.

"He makes good players great," Cheli said, "and I want to learn from the best."

Cheli can't sign her official  
See CHELI, Page 19



FAUSTO IBARRA/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Mitty High's Morgan Cheli lays up a shot against Clovis West in last month's NorCal Open Division final. The Los Altos resident recently committed to play for the University of Connecticut.

## SF blanks Gilroy in softball; LA falls to Bellarmine in baseball

Town Crier Staff Report

The St. Francis High softball team upped its overall record to 16-1 with Thursday's 6-0 non-league win over visiting Gilroy.

Rebecca Quinn hit a pair of doubles and drove in three runs for the Lancers. Lexi O'Gorman added two hits and had an RBI. Jaime Oakland also recorded two hits.

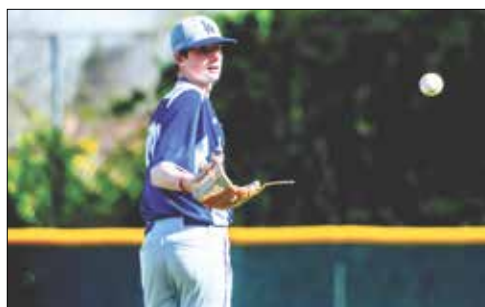
Starting pitcher Shannon Keighran improved to 7-0. The junior struck out 14 batters, allowed three hits and walked five.

Two days earlier, St. Francis routed Branham 10-0 in another non-league home game.

Carly Cummings went 3-for-4 with three RBIs. Hannah Cushing, O'Gorman and Oakland notched two hits each.

Kate Munnerlyn earned the win, striking out six and allowing only two hits over four innings. Keighran pitched the final two frames, striking out six batters as well.

### Prep Sports Summary



PHOTOS BY T. MALLIE BRATHWAITE/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis High's Lexi O'Gorman, right, had two hits and an RBI in the Lancers' 6-0 win over Gilroy Thursday. Los Altos High's Aaron Baum, above, hit an RBI double in the Eagles' loss to Bellarmine Saturday.

The Lancers are scheduled to host Mitty 4 p.m. today in West Catholic Athletic League play.

### Baseball

Returning early from spring break, host Los Altos lost 9-3 to Bellarmine Saturday in non-league action.

The Eagles led 3-1 entering the sixth, but that's when the Bells put up four runs



to go ahead and added another four in the seventh to pull away.

Stuart Cash accounted for three of Los Altos' seven hits in the game and drove in a run. Aaron Baum added an RBI double.

Alex Eletich, among five pitchers utilized by Los Altos, took the loss.

The Eagles (8-7 overall) return to SCVAL De Anza Division play today, slated to visit rival Mountain View at 4 p.m.

# Sports

## After fleeing Ukraine, Borshchenko adjusts to life & wrestling at LAHS

By Niyatee Jain  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Two days after the war began in Ukraine, Illia Borshchenko fled Ukraine with his mother, moving to Moldova, Romania and Israel before settling in Los Altos two days before the school year started.

Throughout Borshchenko's journey, one thing remained constant: his love for wrestling.

The Los Altos High School senior, who is from the city of Zhmerykna, trained in Greco-Roman wrestling from age 12 and was preparing to compete for his school when Ukraine was invaded.

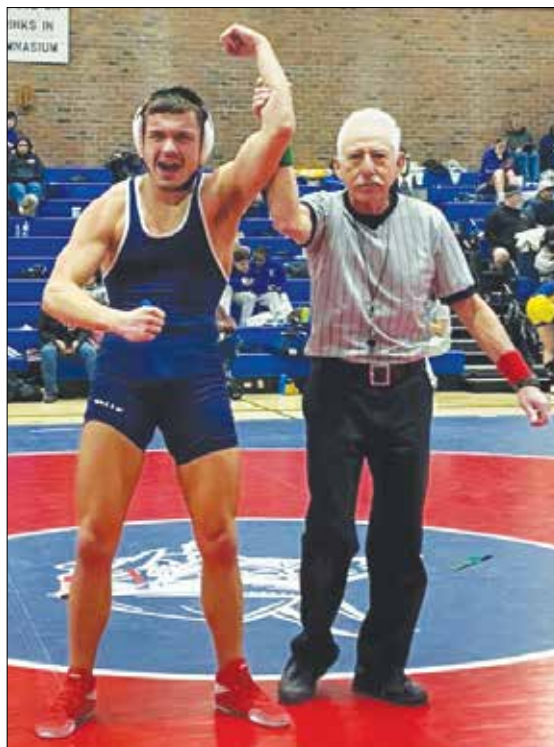
"Right after the war broke out, my mom and stepdad decided to immigrate to the USA," said the 17-year-old, who joined the wrestling team at Los Altos in November. "My stepdad's parents live in Los Altos and offered to let us move in with them."

Borshchenko left behind his grandparents in Ukraine, though he said he connects with them daily.

"I don't think things like war should be happening at this time," Borshchenko said. "It shows that some people still have wild minds, which makes me sad. I hope this horror ends soon."

One of Borshchenko's biggest challenges was speaking English, as he was not fluent when he arrived in the U.S. However, with the help of his family and friends, Borshchenko said he was able to communicate better.

He added that one of his favorite things about the U.S. is how the people are friendly and inviting.



COURTESY OF THE BORSHCHENKO FAMILY

Los Altos High senior Illia Borshchenko is declared the winner of a recent wrestling match. The native of Ukraine moved to Los Altos just two days before the school year started.

During his time in Europe, Borshchenko trained in boxing and jiu jitsu to prepare for wrestling. He now does folkstyle wrestling, which is more popular in the U.S. and what high schools See **WRESTLER**, Page 20



FAUSTO IBARRA/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Morgan Cheli drives to the basket against Clovis West.

### CHELI From Page 18

Letter of Intent until November, when she will be gearing up for her senior season with Mitty. The Monarchs made it to the state Open Division final this year, falling to Etiwanda 69-67 on a buzzer-beating put-back.

"It was not the outcome we wanted after we fought so hard to get there," said Cheli, who

scored a team-high 24 points in last month's loss at Sacramento's Golden 1 Center. "I think our team will use that as motivation to get back there next year."

Cheli is already working toward that goal. She was in the gym last week putting up shots on her spring break and said she is headed to Virginia this week with her club team, Cal Stars, for a major national tournament.

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# Sports

## Blach gets by Egan in OT to win league



COURTESY OF STEVE KANE

After playing to a scoreless tie in regulation, Blach Intermediate School recently edged rival Egan Junior High in overtime to claim the Valley Athletic League's sixth/seventh grade boys soccer championship. Jasper Lee scored the decisive goal off a corner kick late in the first OT and the Falcons fended off the Vikings in the second OT, preserving their 1-0 lead. Top-seeded Blach finished undefeated at 13-0, while No. 2 Egan went 8-2-3. Both teams are pictured.

### CALIFORNIA GRANDPARENTS UNITED

Is seeking information from anyone who had experience with Los Altos based charity WomenSV and its founder Ruth Patrick Darlene from 2012 - 2023.

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### WRESTLER

From Page 19

compete in.

"I really like folkstyle because it's very different," Borshchenko said of the style similar to freestyle. "I was watching a lot of world championships, tournaments and stuff like that, and I always saw how this guy

from the U.S. got first or second place. I thought the U.S. is a pretty cool country (regarding wrestling style)."

Borshchenko had a successful first season with the Eagles, qualifying for the Central Coast Section regionals after a strong performance at the SCVAL championships. He wasn't able to compete at CCS, however,

because he caught COVID-19.

"I ran into a lot of roadblocks this season, including injuries and getting sick," said Borshchenko, who also competes for the Cardinal Wrestling Club at Stanford. "Sometimes I think it might not be for me, and maybe I should stop, but I always remind myself that adversity exists so we can overcome it."

### Local high school sports schedule for April 19-25

#### Baseball

*Today*

Los Altos at Mountain View, 4 p.m.

*Friday*

Mountain View at Los Altos,

4 p.m.

St. Francis at Valley Christian,

4 p.m.

Summit Shasta at Pinewood,

4 p.m.

*Saturday*

Los Altos at Half Moon Bay,

11 a.m.

Bellarmine at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

*Tuesday*

Mitty at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

North Valley Baptist at Pinewood,

4 p.m.

#### Softball

*Today*

St. Francis at Mitty, 4 p.m.

*Thursday*

Los Altos at Saratoga, 4 p.m.

*Friday*

Gunn at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Mountain View at King's Academy, 4 p.m.

St. Francis at Valley Christian,

4 p.m.

*Tuesday*

Los Gatos at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Milpitas at Mountain View, 4 p.m.

#### Track & field

*Today*

St. Francis vs. Serra and Sacred Heart Cathedral at Serra, 3 p.m.

*Thursday*

Mountain View at Santa Clara,

4 p.m.

*Friday*

Los Altos, Mountain View and St. Francis at CCS Top 8 Meet, 4 p.m.

*Tuesday*

Los Altos at SCVAL De Anza Division Trials at Gunn, TBA

Mountain View at SCVAL El Camino Division Trials at Wilcox,

4 p.m.

#### Boys lacrosse

*Today*

St. Francis at Menlo, 3:30 p.m.

*Thursday*

Carlmont at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Woodside at Mountain View,

7 p.m.

*Friday*

St. Francis at Los Lamos, 7 p.m.

*Tuesday*

Burlingame at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Woodside Priory at Mountain View, 7 p.m.

#### Girls lacrosse

*Today*

Los Altos at Gunn, 7 p.m.

Mountain View at Los Gatos,

7 p.m.

St. Francis at Menlo-Atherton,

7 p.m.

*Friday*

Mitty at St. Francis, 7 p.m.

*Monday*

Palo Alto at Los Altos, 6 p.m.

Gunn at Mountain View, 7 p.m.

#### Boys volleyball

*Today*

King's Academy at Los Altos,

6:45 p.m.

Harker at Mountain View,

6:45 p.m.

*Friday*

Los Altos at Saratoga, 6:45 p.m.

Mountain View at Harker,

6:45 p.m.

*Tuesday*

St. Francis at Bellarmine, 6 p.m.

#### Boys tennis

*Thursday*

St. Francis at Serra, 3:30 p.m.

Mountain View at Los Altos,

4 p.m.

*Friday*

Mountain View vs. St. Francis at Cuesta Park, 3 p.m.

*Tuesday*

Cupertino at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

#### Swimming & diving

*Today*

Mitty at St. Francis, 3:30 p.m.

*Thursday*

Mitty at St. Francis, 3 p.m.

*Friday*

Los Altos at SCVAL De Anza Division diving finals at Saratoga,

3 p.m.

Mountain View at Milpitas, 4 p.m.

*Saturday*

St. Francis at Brian Tanner Memorial Diving Invitational, noon

#### Gymnastics

*Tuesday*

St. Francis, Mountain View, Christopher, Gilroy and Cupertino at Los Altos, 5 p.m.

TBA - to be announced.

# Schools

## Foothill College welcomes new president Kristina Whalen

By Jennah Pendleton  
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Foothill College students, staff and administrators as well as local community leaders gathered last week to formally welcome new college president Kristina Whalen. Whalen officially started the position March 31, just ahead of the beginning of the spring term.

In her introductory speech, Whalen looked to the past for inspiration on how to deal with current issues facing the college and how she plans to direct the school in the future. She referenced former president Hugh Simmons, who served during the civil unrest of the 1960s, as someone whose empathy and leadership she aims to emulate.

“It seems Foothill College has a habit of facing challenges with honesty, integrity, trust, openness, transparency, forgiveness and sustainability,” she said. “When core values become habits, we-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF Foothill COLLEGE

Foothill-De Anza chancellor Judy Miner, above, from left, and former president Bernadine Chuck Fong welcome new Foothill president Kristina Whalen at an event last week. Whalen, right, addresses the crowd.

can move mountains. As we move into the post-pandemic reality – or maybe the endemic reality – we will all need these values as our backbone and the inspiration of our history to move creatively forward.”

Foothill-De Anza Community Col-

lege District chancellor Judy Miner, former president Bernadine Chuck Fong and student leaders spoke of their belief in Whalen as the college’s new leader. At the end of the ceremony, Whalen received a medal of achievement and a key to the college.



“Personally, I can say that I’ve never been more excited for the future of Foothill,” said Skye Bridges, Associated Students of Foothill College president.

Whalen takes the leadership reins

See Foothill, Page 22

## LAHS senior hopes to bridge STEM gap with The Science Kit

By Kathleen Xie  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

When Los Altos High School senior Michael Young was a freshman quarantining at home in March 2020, he spent his days working on a specific ambitious project: creating his own nonprofit.

A year later, he launched The Science Kit, which aims to encourage underrepresented youth to feel more confident pursuing STEM.

Students who sign up receive three science kits with two experiments each over the span of three weeks. The experiments include growing crystals, making bath bombs and making slime. In addition, the kits contain motivational letters from older members of underrepresented groups who pursued a career in STEM.

Young said his inspiration came from volunteering at online science workshops. As he helped students on Zoom, he noticed some shortcomings – the students had to have a stable internet connection to join the Zoom meeting and needed to have all the necessary materials at home.

“I felt like that created some barriers for students who didn’t

have those requirements, so I came up with the idea of creating these asynchronous kits where everything that they need is inside of these boxes,” he said.

The Los Altos resident’s first step toward making his vision become reality involved raising money to purchase the necessary materials. He started by asking for donations and applying for grants. His first attempt at securing a grant, however, didn’t yield the result he was hoping for – Young said his grant proposal was rejected due to the organization deeming it too unoriginal.

“At the time, I was pretty distraught because, first of all, I didn’t get any money; second of all, it was pretty crushing to hear that; and then third of all, I felt like my ideas were original in some ways,” he said. “Looking back on it, it was a pretty transformative moment. ... (That experience) is not exactly a positive one, but it’s like a testament of perseverance.”

After reaching out to more organizations and recruiting friends to join his endeavors, Young and his team launched their first round of kits in June 2021. He also built a website, designed a logo and established



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHAEL YOUNG

Samantha Cermeno and Jacqueline Cordero, right, work on a fundraising poster for the Science Kit Club, started by Michael Young, above. Both girls are juniors at Los Altos High School.

a Science Kit club at his school.

He and his team have since distributed approximately 150 kits to South Bay kids ages 6-11. Young said they primarily focus on first-generation Latino youth in Mountain View schools.

### Bridging the gap

HaNhi Tran, parent of a kindergartner at Gabriela Mistral Elementary School in Mountain View, said her daughter was filled with excitement upon receiving her kits each week.

“At one point, (my daughter) said that she wanted to grow up to be a scientist, which she had never expressed before,”



Tran said. “We appreciated that the science kits were organized by high school students from our local community. It made us appreciate being a part of a community where other youth cared about creating these en-

richment opportunities for others.”

Young and his team, which currently comprises 20-25 members, meet frequently to

See STEM, Page 23



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## Schools

# Cents for Teens hopes to make youth financially literate

By Dia Hemanth

Approximately 63% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck, meaning they cannot cover a \$1,000 emergency expense with their savings. This adds up to Americans carrying a mountain of credit card debt, an estimated \$986 billion.

Research has shown that early exposure to personal finance management helps start young adults on a better financial path and leads to better outcomes. However, roughly half the states, including California, do not offer any personal finance education in middle or high school. To address this issue, I founded a nonprofit called Cents for Teens with the mission to build financial literacy among teens.

## Student Voices

The idea for Cents for Teens came from my own experience handling money. During the pandemic, I earned cash by tutoring kids on Zoom. Not knowing how to manage these funds, I started reading about budgeting, saving, investing and setting financial goals and also signed up for a financial algebra class from Northwestern University. I learned about bad financial decisions, such as taking on too much credit card debt, investing poorly or, worse, not investing at all.

I founded Cents for Teens to share this knowledge with other teens across the country. Cents for Teens offers engaging workshops with fun and easy-to-follow content that addresses practical day-to-day financial choices that teens need to make when they start earning.

The first Cents for Teens

What is a need & What is a want?



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DIA HEMANTH

**Dia Hemanth, right, hosts virtual financial education workshops through Cents for Teens, with lessons that teach financial responsibility, above.**

seven-week workshop series was attended by more than a hundred students from middle and high schools across the United States. We covered topics including budgeting, purchasing decisions, credit and debt, saving and investing, insurance, employment and taxes, and paying for college.

The positive feedback I received from students and parents gives me hope that I am headed in the right direction toward the mission to make every teen financially literate.

Camilla Gonzalez, mother of Nicolas Gonzalez, an eighth-grader at Egan Junior High School, thanked me for organizing the workshop.

"It is such an important subject that is given little to no attention at schools," she said.

Roma Vierra, a fifth-grader at ABLE Charter school in Stockton, said Cents for Teens has taught her about personal finance topics such as understanding budgets, taxes, insurance and more.

"I have started a long-term budget to save for a phone," she said. "I plan to set aside an emergency fund and a savings account, so I can spend with-



out touching my savings."

Teens can access all workshop videos for free on the Cents for Teens YouTube channel ([youtube.com/@centsforteens](https://youtube.com/@centsforteens)) and follow us on Instagram @centsforteens for more personal finance content and to get notified about future workshops.

If you are a teen who is interested in starting a Cents for Teens club to run personal finance workshops in your community, I would love to help you get started with tools and content. You can email me at [centsforteens@gmail.com](mailto:centsforteens@gmail.com).

If there's one thing I want to leave you with, it is to start investing early and often and believe in the power of time and compounding to grow your wealth.

Happy Financial Literacy Month!

***Dia Hemanth, a sophomore at Los Altos High School, is the founder of Cents for Teens.***

## FOOTHILL

From Page 21

from Fong, Foothill's interim president since Nov. 1, 2021. Fong, who previously served as the college's president from 1994 until her retirement in 2006, has been meeting with Whalen regularly to help her transition into the role.

Whalen is no stranger to the Bay Area – she most recently served as vice president of academic services at Las Positas College in Livermore and previously worked at City College of San Francisco from 2009 to 2015, where she worked

her way up from a faculty member to associate vice chancellor of instruction, enrollment management and instructional support services. She also serves at the statewide level as vice president of the California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers Association.

Whalen earned a doctorate in speech communication and a master's in rhetoric from Florida State University, and a bachelor's in socio-political communication from Missouri State University.

***For more information, visit [foothill.edu/president](http://foothill.edu/president).***

## Gardner Bullis School's BookQuest celebrates budding authors & artists

Special to the Town Crier

**G**ardner Bullis School held its seventh BookQuest Celebration March 31, with students writing, illustrating and publishing their own books.

Launched by moms Anna Kermani and Elaine Wang in 2016, BookQuest encourages students to come up with their stories and/or artwork, which are then printed and bound into keepsakes. Because many children's books are published through BookQuest, the celebration is organized around April 2, International Children's Book Day.

BookQuest is open to all Gardner Bullis students in grades K-6, as well as their siblings who might not be currently enrolled at the school. Students are completely in control of what they create – some choose to write stories and others prefer to focus on publishing their artwork. Several children have published books every year through BookQuest, making this year's product their seventh consecutive published book.

Students created 65 published books this year – 59 individual stories and six class books. This year's crop includ-



COURTESY OF ANNA KERMANI

**Gardner Bullis School students browse published books at the seventh BookQuest Celebration last month.**

This was Kermani's seventh and last year leading the program, co-led this year by Ivana Chang. This year the program generated \$405, which was donated to the Assistance League of Los Altos to support its Operation School Bell Program helping disadvantaged students in local schools.

For many students, the highlight of BookQuest is seeing their hard work bound into a real book. Kermani and Wang said they love reviewing the stories before they are sent to Studenttreasures Publishing.

There were also multiple fiction and chapter stories. Several books had catchy titles, including "Tomorrow Never Lies," "Different Means Special," "Journey to the Center of the Mountain," "A Journey to the Center of the Fantasy World" and "Pidaho the Potato from Idaho."

The BookQuest program not only helps students hone their writing skills and creativity, but also supports children in need. For every BookQuest kit purchased, \$5 was donated to a cause designated by the Gardner Bullis Student Council.

*For more information on Gardner Bullis' BookQuest, visit [tinyurl.com/ycwyueaz](http://tinyurl.com/ycwyueaz).*

## STEM

From Page 21

pack kits, set up drop-offs for kits, purchase materials, reach out to local schools, apply for grants and maintain their website. They also organize multiple food-driven fundraisers on campus – from boba to churros and Chipotle.

As for Young, he plans to pursue a career in STEM and is headed to Stanford University in the fall to study earth systems. He finds a special connection between his personal interest in science and his work for his organization.

"I feel like The Science Kit kind of allows me to explore not just the science, but also the people as well," Young said.

When Young leaves for college, he said The Science Kit's current members plan to keep

the club going. He intends to help them and may even expand it into a broader and formally established nonprofit, potentially creating chapters at other schools to reach more youth.

In the big picture, he hopes The Science Kit will contribute toward achieving equity in STEM education.

"I really want to bridge that (inequality) gap and disparity to make sure that everyone gets the education that they deserve," Young said. "Beyond that is also providing this opportunity for students in the community to give back to the broader community and get involved as well, so in terms of both helping people and also allowing people the opportunity to help others."

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

## Schools Brief

### LASD, LAEF co-host Community Festival

The Los Altos School District and the Los Altos Educational Foundation are scheduled to co-host the LASD Community Festival 4-7 p.m. May 7 at Covington School, 205 Covington Road.

The festival aims to celebrate LASD's nine neighborhood schools, all of which have re-

ceived California Distinguished School awards, and to thank the community for 40 years of support through LAEF.

The event is open to all – LASD families, incoming families, neighbors and other local residents. The festivities will include food trucks with food for purchase, games and activities.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/LASDfestival](http://tinyurl.com/LASDfestival).

### ADVERTISEMENT

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The application period for the 2023 Low-Income Senior Exemption Safe Clean Water Tax is open from April 15, 2023–June 30, 2023.

If you meet the requirements, complete the application and return with proof of age. This could be a copy of your driver's license, birth certificate, passport, or medical card that shows your date of birth. Please **DO NOT** send original documentation.

Applications can be submitted via regular mail or as a legible scanned copy via email.

For more information about the Safe, Clean Water low-income senior tax exemption, or to apply, please visit our website at [valleywater.org/senior-parcel-tax-exemption](http://valleywater.org/senior-parcel-tax-exemption).



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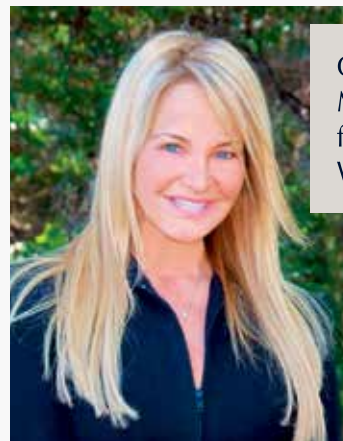
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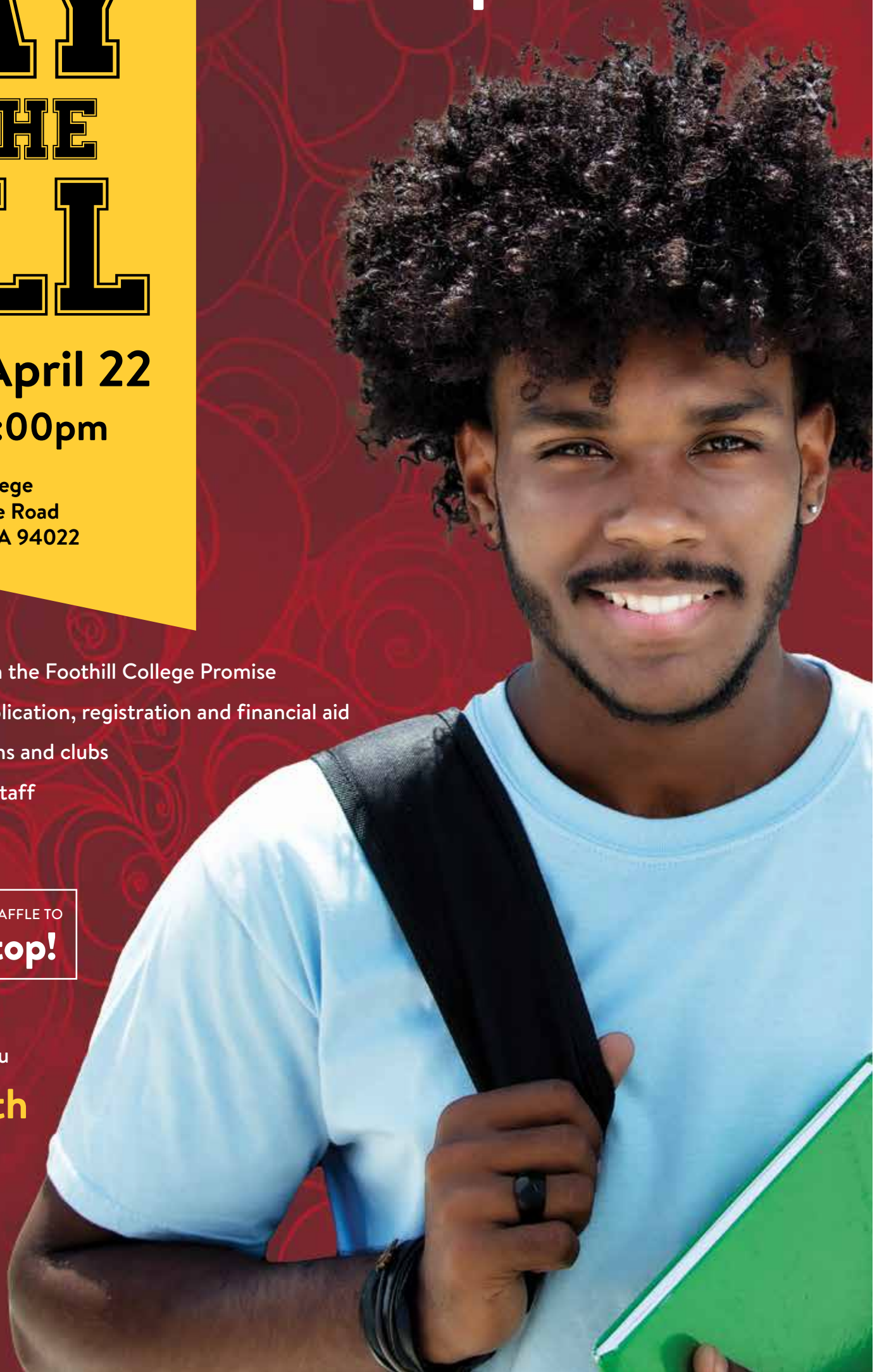
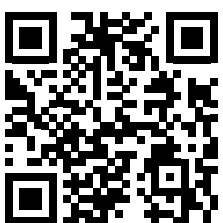
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## Your Health

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## Local screenwriter wins grant for 'The Pain-Free Day'

By Kathleen Xie  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos resident Sarah Granger has suffered from chronic pelvic pain since she gave birth to her daughter 17 years ago. It led the avid writer to combine her experience with pain and her love of scriptwriting and create a fictional, yet deeply personal screenplay titled "The Pain-Free Day."

Thanks to a grant she won last December, Granger may soon turn her words into a film. The SFFILM Rainin Filmmaker with Disabilities Grant awards \$25,000 to filmmakers whose narrative films will potentially have a significant social impact on the Bay Area filmmaking community.

"There were a lot of emotions," Granger said of receiving the grant. "But I was just overwhelmed with gratitude. To have an organization like this see the value in this story is very deeply meaningful to me."

Set in Santa Cruz, "Pain-Free Day" is the story of a mother, housebound and struggling for years with severe pelvic pain, who takes a risk and pulls her teenage daughter out of school for one day to mend

their strained relationship.

"I imagine what it would be like if somebody who was in a pain like mine lost their connection to their daughter – what it would feel like and what the struggle would be like every day," Granger said, "and how a mother in that situation might try to reconnect with her daughter before it's too late."

Early in the script, the mother tries a medication that starts to work, temporarily relieving her pain. Further exploring the theory of physical pain, the mother and daughter navigate through their emotional pain by striving to gain a deeper understanding of one another throughout the day.

The storyline resonated with SFFILM and the Kenneth Rainin Foundation review committee, which chose Granger's submission out of hundreds of applications.

"(The) review committee strongly responded to the personal nature of Sarah's work and the thoughtful mother-daughter relationship driving a powerful story that expands our understanding of disability and access," SFFILM associate manager Rosa Morale said. "Sarah is a talented writer and

an exciting voice in filmmaking. We are thrilled to support her at this exciting stage."

## Personal experiences

Granger, who was born in a suburb of Kansas City, has lived in Los Altos 13 years. Formerly in the high-tech field, she is experienced in many realms – she has worked at tech startups, written and produced plays, and published a digital media book titled "The Digital Mystique: How the Culture of Connectivity Can Empower Your Life – Online and Off" in 2014.

In 2017, when Granger began writing a script that told the story of her late father, who was a polio survivor, she was reminded of how much she loved screenwriting. So, she kept at it. Two years later, she came up with the idea for "The Pain-Free Day."

What struck her as particularly challenging in writing "The Pain-Free Day" is the proximity of the subject matter to her personal life. Granger described the writing process as introspective, because a large portion of the script draws from

See FILM, Page 28



COURTESY OF SARAH GRANGER

Los Altos resident Sarah Granger recently received a grant for a screenplay she wrote inspired by her experience with chronic pain. She plans to develop it into a 90-minute film.

## Stress: What it does to your body and how to manage it

By Dr. Danielle Kamis

Stress is a natural and necessary part of life. It is the body's response to challenges and helps us stay alert, focused and motivated. However, too much stress can have negative consequences on our physical and mental health. Chronic stress can lead to a range of health problems, including anxiety, depression, high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease.

Effective stress management involves identifying the sources of stress in your life and developing strategies to reduce their negative impact.

Below are some tips for effective stress management.

• **Identify the source of your stress.** Start by understanding what

## Mental Health Matters

triggers your stress. Keep a journal to track your stressors and note how you respond to them. This will help you identify patterns and develop strategies to reduce or eliminate stressors.

• **Practice relaxation techniques.** Deep breathing, meditation, yoga and progressive muscle relaxation are all effective techniques for reducing stress. These techniques help slow down your heart rate, reduce muscle tension and calm your mind. You can practice relaxation techniques anywhere, anytime, and they can be especially helpful during times of high stress.



WAVEBREAKMEDIAMICRO/ADOBE STOCK

Stress, a part of day-to-day life, can lead to health problems. For effective self-care, address and prevent stressors.

• **Exercise regularly.** Regular physical activity can help reduce stress and improve overall health. Exercise releases endorphins, which are natural

mood boosters, and can help you feel more relaxed and energized. Aim for

See STRESS, Page 26

## Gentle consistency: Determining the best workout for mind and body

By Erin Paruszewski

I often get the question, “Erin, what is the best workout for me?” My short answer: The one you will do consistently. Sounds obvious, but hear me out.

There is a lot of information out there about health,

fitness, exercise and all of the “shoulds” around why you “should” do one versus the other. I bet if you counted all the exercise-related things you’ve either tried or have felt you “should” try on one hand, you’d run out of fingers. From Jazzercise to cardio kickboxing, Tae Bo, Shake Weights,

step aerobics and spin class, there are so many options it’s enough to leave your head spinning.

We are constantly bombarded with various brands and advertisers trying to convince us that we are less than so they can sell us something that will make us whole.

### Sustainable and enjoyable

The reality is that you don’t need gimmicks and slick advertising to convince you what “the best” workout is. The key is finding what works best for you. And by “best,” we don’t mean something you will do for a few weeks, get injured and never return to. Our definition equates to a form of exercise that is effective, enjoyable and sustainable.

When it comes to evaluating an exercise method, the first step is to tune out the noise of the “shoulds” and tune into you. Then, ask yourself the following questions.

- **Does it feel good in my physical body?** Do I feel stronger and physically more capable? Does it reduce aches, pains and injuries? Or does it cause them?
- **Does it feel good for my mental health?** Do I feel good about myself when I show up for this activity? Do I feel less stressed and more confident? Does it generate happy hormones? Or does it leave me ashamed, self-conscious or like I’m not doing enough?
- **Does it feel good for my mental and physical health**

### STRESS

From Page 25

at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise most days of the week.

- **Get enough sleep.** Sleep is essential for stress management. When you’re well-rested, you’re better equipped to handle stressful situations. Aim for eight hours of sleep each night and establish a relaxing bedtime routine to help you fall asleep faster.
- **Prioritize self-care.** Taking care of yourself is critical for stress management. Practice self-care activities that you enjoy, such as reading, taking a bath or spending time



LACEY MICHELLE PHOTOGRAPHY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Melissa French, from left, Betty Willdorff and Lizzie Hammerman work out at Alkalign Studios. French and Wildorff are longtime Los Altos residents.

### Mindful Movement

**over time?** Do I see myself wanting to incorporate this exercise as a consistent practice, or is it something I will do for a short period of time and either burn out or resent?

Gentle consistency is key. Anyone can do something for a short period of time. That’s why we have so many fitness and diet fads that come and go. Finding something that is sustainable and enjoyable over time is the key to longevity. It’s also the key to progress. When you practice something consistently, you create a habit. When it becomes a habit, it becomes part of your lifestyle.

Consistency is important for building the neuromuscular connections that help you

sync up your brain and body. Consistency is key for achieving goals such as building lean muscle, improving cardiovascular health and providing your body with a steady influx of mood-boosting hormones.

Gentle consistency allows you to reap all the benefits while also building in recovery days or reducing the time spent exercising during those busy seasons of life. Doing something is better than doing nothing. Embracing the mindset of gentle consistency is an integral part of finding something you like and sticking with it. Once you do, you’ll know it’s a workout that works for you.

*Erin Paruszewski is founder and CEO of Alkalign Studios in downtown Los Altos and the author of “It Doesn’t Have to Hurt to Work.” Email questions to [erin@alkalignstudios.com](mailto:erin@alkalignstudios.com).*

during difficult times.

Effective stress management involves a combination of strategies to reduce the negative impact of stress on your physical and mental health. By identifying the sources of stress in your life and developing strategies to manage them, you can improve your overall well-being and quality of life.

Remember to prioritize self-care, seek support when needed and celebrate your progress along the way.

*Danielle Kamis, M.D., is a licensed psychiatrist with a practice in downtown Los Altos. For more information, visit [kamismd.com](http://kamismd.com).*

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## Pilates power: The benefits of therapeutic exercise on aging bodies

By Kim Gladfelter

As we age, our bodies go through various changes, including a natural decrease in muscle mass and strength. These changes can lead to a range of health problems, including chronic pain, osteoporosis and reduced mobility. The good news is that therapeutic exercise such as Pilates can help prevent such problems by keeping your muscles strong and healthy.

In general, therapeutic exercise is a type of physical activity specifically designed to improve our physical function and reduce pain. It may include stretching, strengthening, balance and coordination exercises, depending on our individual needs and abilities.

Pilates is a type of therapeutic exercise that is not only suitable for young people, but also for seniors. The benefits of Pilates include greater flexibility, more endurance, better posture and improved mental health.

It is low-impact and can help improve flexibility, balance, coordination and strength. Pilates has been found to be beneficial for improving overall physical health and can help reduce stress and anxiety levels.

Pilates can be done in private instruction or in a small-group setting with the guidance of an instructor to ensure proper form and technique. If you have never tried Pilates, it is best to start with an instructor in sessions with two or fewer people, at least until you understand the principles to get the most benefit from this exercise approach.

Pilates can provide a way to strengthen your body, because as we age, our muscles tend to weaken, which can make us more prone to injury and make everyday tasks such as walking, standing and lifting objects more difficult. Some people even have a hard time with simple tasks like getting up off the couch.

Many people use weights to gain strength as well. If you

### Staying Active

would prefer not to lift weights to gain strength, the core fundamentals of Pilates are focused on muscle control while moving your spine or limbs, as opposed to lifting weights or pushing against resistance. Guidance from a comprehensively trained instructor can help decide what is most appropriate to keep you active and in good health.

Chronic pain is a common issue among older adults and can be caused by a variety of factors, including arthritis, back problems and nerve damage. Regular Pilates exercise can help prevent, manage and/or control chronic pain by strengthening the muscles, improving joint flexibility and reducing inflammation throughout the body.

### Therapeutic benefits

It's important to remember that exercise should be done in moderation and under the guidance of a well-trained expert. If you have an existing health condition, such as heart disease or diabetes, it's essential to talk to your doctor before starting a new exercise program.

Therapeutic exercise and Pilates are essential tools for maintaining muscle strength and preventing pain as we age. By engaging in regular exercise, we can improve our physical function, reduce our risk of injury and enjoy a higher quality of life. Whether you prefer strength training or stretching, there's an exercise program out there that can meet your needs and goals. With the help of a well-qualified professional, you can develop a safe and effective exercise plan that's right for you.

By doing Pilates regularly, active older adults can enjoy many of the benefits associated with regular exercise: improved cardiovascular health, better circulation and improved posture. Additionally, Pilates can help prevent



COURTESY OF KIM GLADFELTER

**Pilates, which can be done individually or in a group, can strengthen the body and help prevent and manage chronic pain.**

falls by improving balance and coordination.

Here are five reasons why Pilates is an ideal exercise as we age: (1) It helps reduce pain and improve quality of life; (2) it improves muscle tone and strength, especially in older adults who are experiencing muscle weakness due to age or chronic conditions like arthritis; (3) Pilates exercises help prevent falls among seniors by improving balance and functional movement patterns, such as walking, running, climbing stairs, etc., that may be lost due to frailty or injury; (4) the resistance training involved with Pilates can boost bone density as well as increase flexibility in joints that have become less mobile with age (for example, knees); and (5) Pilates has been shown to be effective in strengthening the respiratory muscles and enhancing breathing.

*Kim Gladfelter is owner, physical therapist and Pilates instructor at PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness, 1000 Fremont Ave., Suite 108, Los Altos. For more information, call (650) 947-8500 or visit [physiofitpt.com](http://physiofitpt.com).*



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Look for the Town Crier's Beyond the Classroom special section in next week's paper.

# Your Health

## FILM

From Page 25

her own experiences with her 17-year-old daughter.

“I have always worked hard to stay as close as I can to my daughter, but it’s hard,” Granger said. “And thinking about that a lot while working on the script made me think about what else I could do as my daughter got older.”

Granger also took inspiration from a real-life encounter with sea lions. Ten years ago, while she and her daughter

were visiting the Santa Cruz pier, they noticed a baby sea lion still attached to its heavy placenta, and as the tide came in, the baby was being pulled into the water. Granger then spotted the sea lion’s mother, who looked exhausted, in pain and unable to move from a difficult delivery. Realizing the baby sea lion was in danger of being engulfed by the tides, Granger and her daughter called The Marine Mammal Center, which sent a crew to rescue the mother and baby.

“I saw this as a poignant metaphor for the situation the mother character (in the script), Susan, finds herself in, feeling helpless while her daughter becomes more distant from her,” Granger said. “So, I included that experience in the screenplay as a vehicle for the mother and daughter to talk about what happened when the daughter was born and the challenges of being a mother in pain.”

In the coming months, Granger plans to work with SFFILM and the Kenneth

Rainin Foundation to develop her screenplay into an approximately 90-minute film. She is talking with producers and directors, finding potential cast members, scouting locations and managing financing.

Granger hopes her screenplay will allow people to gain insight on what it’s like to live with significant chronic pain and the intricacies of a mother-daughter relationship.

*For more information on Granger and her work, visit [sarahgranger.com](http://sarahgranger.com).*

**If you have an idea for Your Health or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Christina Casillas at [christinac@latc](mailto:christinac@latc).**



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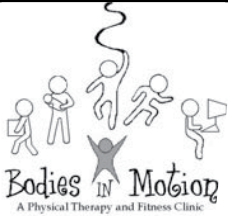
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# Business & Real Estate

## Leaving a legacy

Downtown Los Altos jewelry shop closes after 32 years, but its impact lives on

By Adrienne Mitchel

Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

An enigma, a character, a creative, a master.

Those are some of the words used to describe Mahmood Gorjestani, an 85-year-old artist, who for 32 years was designing jewelry in a small shop on Main Street in downtown Los Altos that closed earlier this month.

The outside of his shop was unassuming – white-painted wood-framed floor-to-ceiling windows, with only one sign, “Connoisseur,” printed on the left window.

Passersby wouldn’t necessarily know it was a jewelry shop. Nor would they know hard rock music was likely blasting inside.

“Whenever (my husband and I) would walk into his shop, he would be playing Tool,” said Oriana Camacho, a customer of Gorjestani’s, before letting out a laugh. “Picture a 70-year-old teddy bear of a man listening to hard rock while he’s creating these very elegant rings. It’s kind of the artistic essence of who he is.”

Gorjestani was born in Tehran, Iran, in 1937. He loved playing soccer, hiking and, most of all, making art.

“Art is my passion,” he said. “And jewelry is a type of sculpture.”

In the 1950s, Gorjestani immigrated with his best friend to San Jose, where he attended San Jose State University with the intention of becoming a dentist. He ultimately switched his major to art and moved back to Iran in the late 1960s. He taught art at Tehran University through the Iran-Iraq War before moving back to San Jose in 1988.

Gorjestani opened his downtown jewelry shop in 1991 – Connoisseur of Los Altos.

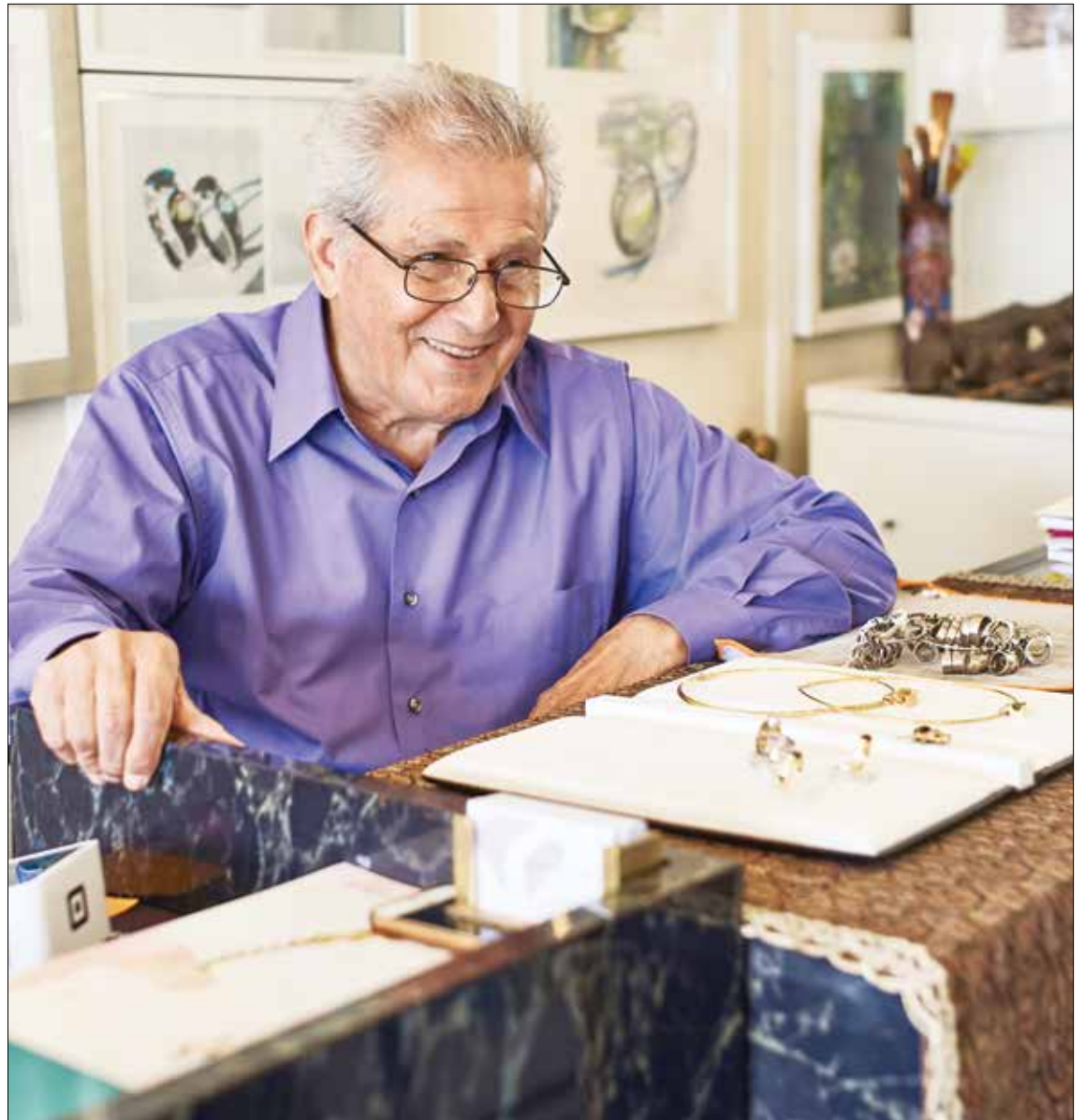
“Los Altos looked like a smaller town, very cozy, and it looked like Europe,” he said.

### A gem of a man

While Connoisseur focused on creating wearable art, Gorjestani continued to work on his paintings and sculptures during his free time. A notable moment of his career was when he was asked to design rings for the 2004 Athens Olympics U.S. women’s swim team.

When asked what his favorite project during his career was, Gorjestani paused.

“Every project for me was my favorite,” he said. “Every project I did I really had an interest in.”



COURTESY OF MAHMOOD GORJESTANI

Mahmood Gorjestani has been designing jewelry at his downtown shop, Connoisseur of Los Altos, for 32 years. He closed the shop on Main Street April 10.

One of those favorite projects was designing Camacho’s engagement ring and her husband’s wedding ring. She said

that even though she was impatient with the multi-month process, she is thankful Gorjestani refused to rush, and

she couldn’t have been happier with the results.

“He embraced our ideas and See CONNOISSEUR, Page 30

## Who is at fault for the recent collapse of Silicon Valley Bank?

By Artie Green

Any disaster – be it a plane crash or a nuclear plant meltdown – is subsequently found to be caused by multiple failures. The Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) demise is no exception.

Who is to blame and what does this mean for the safety of your money in your bank or brokerage account? Here’s my view of the situation.

### • SVB: Poor risk management.

Too many depositors wanted their money withdrawn at the same time. This is called a bank run and can happen at any bank if depositors get spooked for any reason. But in SVB’s case, we’re talking \$40 billion in one day – thanks to today’s push-button electronic banking and the fact that the vast majority of SVB’s depositors were startup companies holding big cash

### Nest Egg Briefs

deposits. To meet excess withdrawal demands, banks must either quickly liquidate assets or raise capital. SVB had concentrated its investments in long-term Treasury bonds whose value were decimated in 2022 due to the rapid rise in interest rates. So, selling assets would have resulted in huge losses and might not even have covered the bank’s cash needs.

### • The Federal Reserve: Poor interest rate management, poor bank supervision.

Although hindsight is easy, it’s fair to say that the Fed found itself well behind the inflation curve in 2021 and consequently launched the most aggressive interest rate hikes ever seen, which put

many banks under stress. In addition, SVB had already been on the Fed’s bank regulator radar. The Fed had issued citations to SVB in 2021, partly involving its ability to raise cash when under stress. And SVB’s management had been rated deficient in mid-2022. But beyond that, the Fed took no action until the crisis occurred.

### • The federal government: Poor regulations limiting banking risk.

The “too big to fail” mantra has been embedded in federal government banking policy ever since the failure of Continental Illinois bank in 1984. This approach creates a moral hazard; banks know that if they take on too much risk, the government will bail them out instead of allowing them to go bankrupt. Typically, this involves buying bank-owned securities with unrealized losses at par (which improves the bank’s

balance sheet) or by helping arrange for more capital, such as what happened recently with First Republic Bank.

Axel Merk at Merk Investments argues that this turns an acute problem into a chronic one. His proposed solution is twofold: (1) Require banks to value assets on their balance sheet at true current value (called Mark to Market) rather than at maturity value, the same way brokerages have to do it. That would make it more obvious which banks are at risk of a potential capital shortage. (2) Also require banks to have to refinance 10% of their capital each year by holding 10-year staggered subordinated debt. This solution puts market forces more in control of banks and had been originally proposed in a Federal Reserve research paper as far back as 2001. If a bank is unable to refinance at acceptable costs,

See NEST EGG, Page 30

# Business & Real Estate

## CONNOISSEUR

From Page 29

was dedicated to creating our vision and was painstakingly deliberate in making sure that the final piece was what we wanted,” Camacho said. “I’ll never add on to this ring. This ring is my ring forever.”

Jeff Bagley, Gorjestani’s caster and goldsmith for approximately 30 years, said he always admired Gorjestani’s artistry.

“I always enjoyed the uniqueness of his designs,” Bagley said. “Sometimes he’d go a little too far. I’d have to rein him in a little bit.”

Although Connoisseur officially closed April 10, Gorjestani plans to continue to make art for as long as he can.

“I think he’s an unrecognized talent because he was just in this little shop in Los Altos, and he’s just this unspoken gem of a man that can make your dreams into reality,” Camacho said. “I’m sad he’s closed the shop, but these pieces will carry with us for the rest of our lives, so we’re thankful to him for that.”



COURTESY OF MAHMOOD GORJESTANI

Jewelry designer Mahmood Gorjestani hands out Halloween candy to children in his earlier days at Connoisseur of Los Altos.

## NEST EGG

From Page 29

it would shrink by 10%. As Merk puts it, 10% shrinkage is absorbable, 50% is not.

Is your money safe? For most Americans, yes, except the ultra-wealthy. FDIC insurance protects up to \$250,000 cash for each type of account in banks (\$500,000 for a joint account). SIPC insurance covers up to \$500,000 cash and securities for each type of account at brokerage firms. And the Biden administration has committed to covering all cash losses at SVB, effectively making FDIC coverage limitless (though a future administration might not act the same way).

After interest rates stabilize, things will probably settle down. But the long-term solution to excessive banking risks remains elusive.

*Los Altos resident Artie Green is founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors (DBA: Perigon Wealth Management, LLC, a registered investment advisor).*



*For more information, visit [cognizantwealth.com](http://cognizantwealth.com).*

**Email Business & Real Estate story ideas to Christina Casillas at [christinas@latc.com](mailto:christinas@latc.com).**

**Making Helping Easy in April**

THE DAY WORKER CENTER OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

6 QT PLASTIC CONTAINERS & LIDS  
14.5" PANS

COOKING & OLIVE OIL

As a Los Altos native, mother, and hyperlocal realtor in our tight knit community, I realize how fortunate my family and I are. But many in our community need assistance for food, clothing, hygiene products, and so much more.

During the month of April, I will be collecting these items for The Day Worker Center to help provide healthy meals to our local community:

- 6 quart plastic containers with lids
- 14.5 inch pans
- cooking oil and olive oil

**DONATION PICK-UP EVERY THURSDAY**

Call or text Elizabeth with your location.



For pick up/drop off details, financial contributions, and to learn more, visit [ELIZABETHTHOMPSON.COM/GIVINGBACK](http://ELIZABETHTHOMPSON.COM/GIVINGBACK)



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THE AGENCY

# Business & Real Estate

## Transactions

### Los Altos

1575 Grant Road, P. Foxhoven to S. & D. Kivatinos for \$8,400,000  
 917 Linda Vista Way, Obriant 1997 Trust to H. & L. Zhu for \$3,412,500  
 1403 Marinovich Way, Larsen Trust to L. & S. Shen for \$3,980,000  
 878 Riverside Drive, Reid Family Trust to Y. & X. Geng for \$5,050,000  
 1060 Rosemont Avenue, Kumra Trust to S. Lee for \$4,700,000  
 1169 Saint Anthony Court, Mazor Trust to Reshadi Trust for \$4,140,500  
 889 N. San Antonio Road No. 2030, A. Zhu to L. Liang for \$1,800,000  
 58 Sevilla Drive, Yeager Trust to E. & K. Relangi for \$4,150,000  
 941 Terrace Drive, R. & F. Oramas to Patil Trust for \$3,005,000

### Mountain View

95 Centre Street, S. Makishima to DV Centre Partner for \$1,735,000  
 505 Cypress Point Drive No. 299, J. Talios to R. & C. Ellks for \$585,000  
 209 Horizon Avenue, Gopher Hill LLC to Jahshan Family Trust for \$1,425,000  
 241 Horizon Avenue, A. Gueniot to E. & J. Rosario for \$1,301,000  
 1139 Katie Court, M. Zimmers to H. &

J. Kim for \$2,250,000  
 999 Solana Court, Prentice Trust to W. & Z. Yu for \$3,500,000

### Cupertino

7911 Festival Court, Green Family Trust to S. & J. Luo for \$2,710,000  
 22316 Janice Avenue, D. Hansen to Wu Family Trust for \$2,546,000  
 644 Stendhal Lane, D. Lantz to J. & B. Li for \$2,388,000

### Overall

#### Los Altos

Total sales: 9  
 Lowest sale: \$1,800,000  
 Highest sale: \$8,400,000  
 Average sale: \$4,293,100

#### Mountain View

Total sales: 6  
 Lowest sale: \$585,000  
 Highest sale: \$3,500,000  
 Average sale: \$1,799,300

#### Cupertino

Total sales: 3  
 Lowest sale: \$2,388,000  
 Highest sale: \$2,710,000  
 Average sale: \$2,548,000

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



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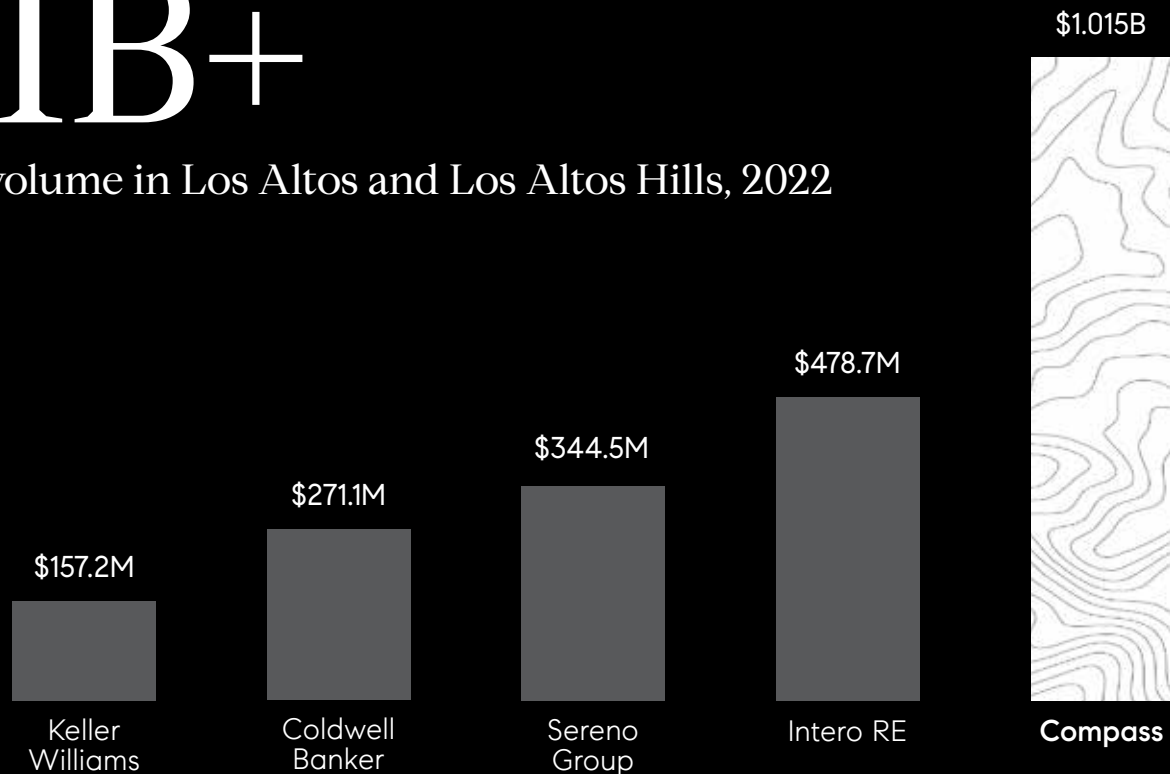
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Listed at \$12,980,000 | 24892olivetreelane.com

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# \$1B+

sales volume in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, 2022



## Los Altos Exclusive Listings



Open Sat 1pm - 4pm



Open Sat & Sun 2pm - 4pm



Coming Soon

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 \$10,985,000  
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[13770Robleda.com](http://13770Robleda.com)

**Mansour Moussavian**  
[mansour.moussavian@compass.com](mailto:mansour.moussavian@compass.com)  
 408.313.3897 | DRE 01783065

**831 Arroyo Rd, Los Altos**  
 \$6,980,000  
 5 Bed | 4.5 Bath  
[831Arroyo.com](http://831Arroyo.com)

**Julie Tsai Law**  
[julie@julietsailaw.com](mailto:julie@julietsailaw.com)  
 650.799.8888 | DRE 01339682

**12161 Hilltop Dr, Los Altos Hills**  
 Price Upon Request  
 5 Bed | 4.5 Bath  
[12161HilltopDrive.com](http://12161HilltopDrive.com)

**David Kim | David Kim Group**  
[david@davidkimgroup.com](mailto:david@davidkimgroup.com)  
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COMING SOON



# Kathy Bridgman's

## FEATURED LISTING OF THE WEEK

### Impressive French Home with Fresh Updates, Solar Power & Resort-Like Grounds

#### Los Altos Hills

- Classic French design with a Mansard roof, dormer windows, and quoin details
- Impressive circular driveway entrance introduces the approx. 1.09 acre lot
- Two levels with 5 bedrooms and 3.5 baths
- Approximately 4,229 square feet (not verified by Compass)
- Solar-powered electricity
- Freshly painted interiors, bamboo and tiled floors, plus new carpet
- Spacious living room with fireplace and formal dining room
- Beautiful chef's kitchen with high-end appliances and open family room
- Main-level full and half-baths for use by guests and from the pool
- Private main-level primary suite with rear yard access and marble bath
- 4 upstairs bedrooms, one especially large, plus spacious well-appointed marble bath
- Oversized, fully finished bonus room above the garage, perfect for an office or recreation room
- Resort-inspired rear yard with pool, spa, 2 wet bars, rock waterfall, and wonderful entertaining spaces
- Fully covered vegetable garden with 3 raised beds plus fenced dog run
- Oversized 2-car garage with built-ins
- Excellent Los Altos schools (buyer to confirm)

**Price upon request**



**KATHY BRIDGMAN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE®

**#1 Individual Agent in Los Altos & Los Altos Hills 2014 – 2022**

Based on \$ volume per 2014 – 2022 MLS

**#32 Individual Agent in US**  
per *RealTrends*, 2022

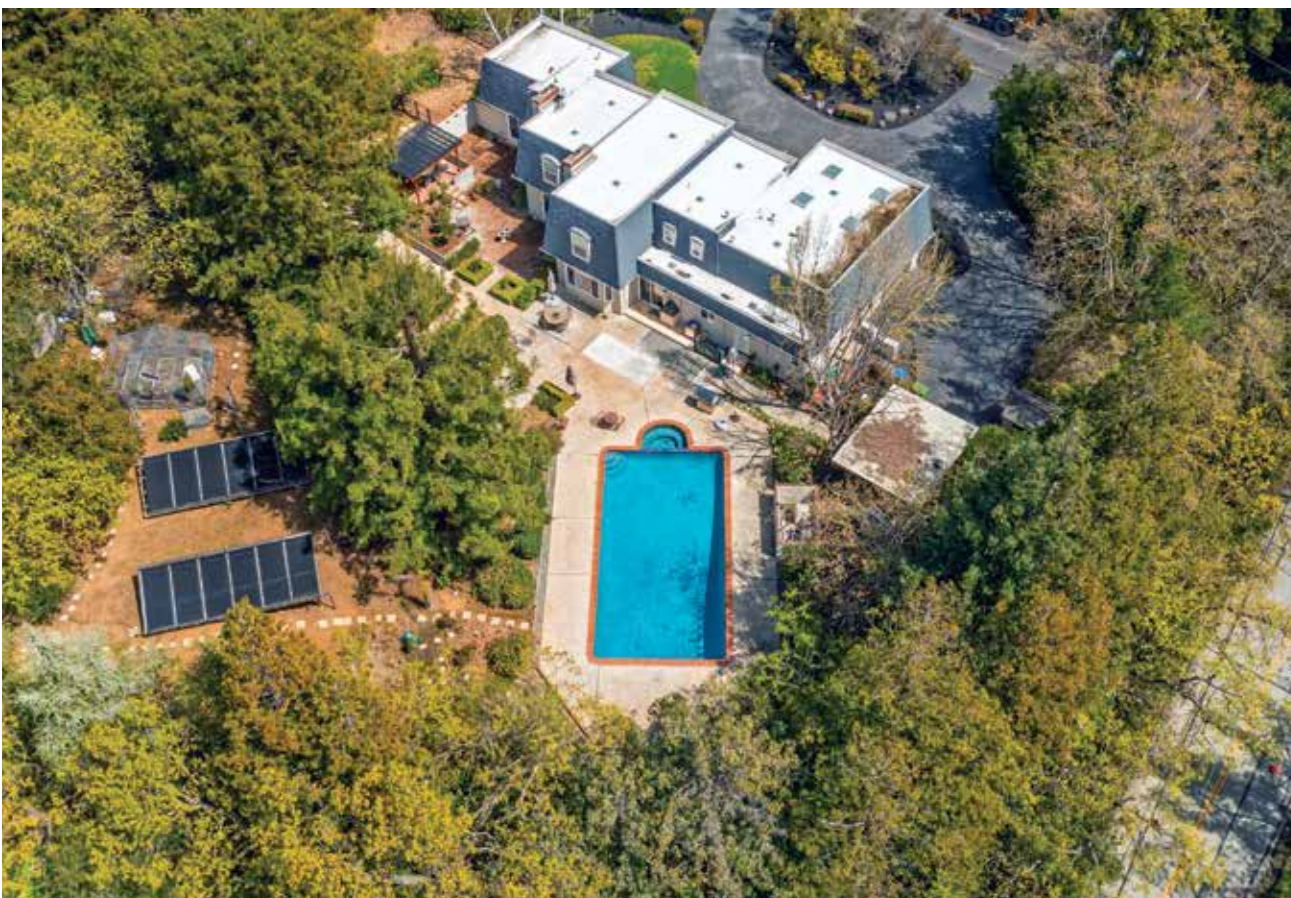
**#14 Individual Agent in California**  
per *RealTrends*, 2022

650.868.7677

kathy@kathybridgman.com

DRE #01189798

kathybridgman.com



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

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*Just Listed*





*Open House*

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
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## 90 MARVIN AVENUE, NORTH LOS ALTOS

Welcome to “Half Acre Hobbies”. A rare opportunity to own a home on a large, approximately .45 acre lot located on the highly desirable and friendly Marvin Avenue in coveted North Los Altos. This charming, remodeled home has been expanded over the years and offers many fine details and amenities. The property is a very short walk to great dining, shopping and regular downtown Los Altos events such as the weekly farmer’s market or the annual Arts and Wine festival. Covington Elementary and Los Altos High School are also within walking distance.

Featuring three spacious bedrooms, a separate office, two and one-half baths, a spacious living room with wood burning fireplace, a remodeled chef’s kitchen with custom cabinetry, granite slab counters, professional grade stainless appliances, and a walk in pantry, a large dining area plus a spacious and open family room with vaulted ceilings and direct access to the rear gardens and patio. Consisting of approximately 2587 square feet of living space on a beautiful and quiet 19,595+ sq. ft. approx lot with a vineyard, extensive flower and vegetable gardens, mature trees, custom designed chicken coop, expansive patio area and a private large rear yard. Completing the appeal is the separate one bedroom, one bath (approximately 428 sq. ft.), guest house with living room featuring vaulted ceilings and possibility for future expansion if desired.

			
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**191 Garland Way, Los Altos**  
*List Price: \$6,750,000*



***New Luxury Residence in Exclusive North Los Altos***

191Garland.com

- 6 Bedrooms
- 3.5 Bathrooms
- Home | +/-3,357 SF
- Garage | +/-437 SF
- Lot | +/-10,843 SF

- Spectacular new home on coveted cul-de-sac moments from Downtown Los Altos
- Modern Farmhouse style with meticulous attention to detail and excellent craftsmanship
- All bedrooms include custom storage, and all bathrooms display high-end finishes
- Two bedrooms are located on ground level, including the second primary suite with patio access
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- Large covered patio with surround sound overlooks private backyard with 11' barbecue island and 13'x13' gazebo

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



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### What other Los Altans are saying about Connie:

*"Connie did an outstanding job selling my house. She knew the market well, was extremely easy to work with, was congenial with my family, handled the job even after I moved away and was extremely personable and attentive. I met her when she was selling a neighbor's house and I noted how good she was with potential buyers. She also has a stable of people who helped put the house in selling shape and it sold quickly for a good price in a complex market. I could not recommend her more highly."*

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"I highly recommend Judy and Cindy. They provided invaluable guidance throughout the process of selling my home, including suggestions on improvements to make and the pricing of my home in a challenging market. They communicated well throughout the process and responded quickly when questions arose. Their knowledge of the Los Altos market was invaluable and enabled me to sell my home in less than a week with multiple offers."

- Sevilla Seller, Katy

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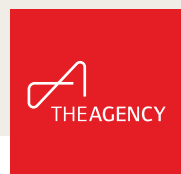
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**J**erry Haslam has been a top producer in the Los Altos Coldwell Banker office for 28 years, during which time he has helped sell over \$700 million in real estate. Prior to his career in real estate, Jerry taught philosophy and comparative religion, and hand built two of his own homes. His experience is wide reaching, from large estates to starter homes, from equestrian properties to raw land. Jerry is known for his straightforward honesty, professionalism, and being energetic beyond the call of duty in the service of his clients.

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RG

Ryan  
Gowdy

REALTOR®

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408.309.8660  
Lic. #01322889  
@ryangowdy  
The Agency Los Altos

Hi there, my name is Ryan Gowdy. I am a second-generation Los Altos realtor who lives, breathes, and loves everything Los Altos. My children attend our local schools and I am a proud sponsor of LAEF. I still live in the wonderful community where I was raised. I take great pride in providing exceptional service to my clients who trust me for guidance in all things real estate. If there is ever anything that I can do support you with your real estate needs, please don't hesitate to reach out.

—Ryan

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# Public Notices

## INTO CARING IN HOME CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694150

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: INTO CARING IN HOME CARE, 607 Coyote Rd., San Jose, CA, 95111, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Esther Parchaso, 607 Coyote Rd., San Jose, CA, 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/10/2018. /S/ Esther Parchaso / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/28/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

086-T

## SPEEDY TIRE INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694600

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SPEEDY TIRE INC., 545 Meridian Ave., Suite D-59151, San Jose, CA, 95126, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SPEEDY TIRE INC., 545 Meridian Ave. Suite D-59151, San Jose, CA, 95126. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/06/2022. /S/ Erika Yoanglee Espinel Oviedo / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

085-T

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s)/registrants(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. SOUL ECOFRIENDLY PROF CLEANERS, 2060 California St #5, Mountain View, CA 94040 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 06/24/2022 Under File No. FBN686395 Full Name of Registrant(s): Sugey Jeronimo Maldonado, 2060 California St #5, Mountain View, CA 94040 This business was conducted by: An individual This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Apr. 11, 2023. Regina Alcomendras County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN694562 (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

084-T

## ARTURO'S MOVING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694563

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ARTURO'S MOVING, 1212 W Washington Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned

by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Arturo Millan, 1212 W Washington Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/16/2023. /S/ Arturo Millan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

083-T

## YEDRA CI, LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694566

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: YEDRA CI, LLC, 1590 Ontario Dr #2, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): YEDRA CI, LLC, 1590 Ontario Dr #2, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/22/2023. /S/ Laura Olimpia Yedra Ibarra / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

082-T

## HERRERA'S LANDSCAPE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694565

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HERRERA'S LANDSCAPE, 814 San Petronio Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Fernando Vasquez Herrera, 814 San Petronio Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2023. /S/ Fernando Vasquez Herrera / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

081-T

## VAG Construction FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694564

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: VAG Construction, 780 San Pablo, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Victor Manuel Arias, 780 San Pablo, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2023. /S/ Victor Manuel Arias / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

080-T

## CITY OF LOS ALTOS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Administrator of the City of Los Altos will hold public hearings to consider the following projects:

**1. SC22-0015 – Jon Freel - 1210 Altamead Drive**  
Design Review for a new 3,562 square-foot two-story single-family residence. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Project Planner: Liu

078-T

## RONICA V ENTERPRISES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694469

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RONICA V ENTERPRISES, 3037 Remington Way, San Jose, CA, 95148, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Veronica S Cabang, 3037 Remington Way, San Jose, CA, 95148. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Veronica S Cabang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/06/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

077-T

## COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF ANNA PERNILLA QUARFORDT & SHUMIN ZHAI AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 23CV413456

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
1. Petitioner: Anna Pernilla Quarfordt & Shumin Zhai filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present Name:  
a. Lina Elisabet Zhai  
b. Isa Linnea Zhai

Proposed Name:  
a. Lina Elisabet Quarfordt-Zhai  
b. Isa Linnea Quarfordt-Zhai

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 08/08/2023 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

072-T

## Westmont Development Company FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693985

The following person (persons)

is (are) doing business as: Westmont Development Company, 1411 Lewiston Dr., Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Christopher A. Hopkins, 1411 Lewiston Dr., Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/1982. /S/ Christopher A. Hopkins / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/24/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

071-T

## Red Hot Wok FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694048

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Red Hot Wok, 3345 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Chelsea & Gus Inc., 1575 Tanaka Place. Apt C4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/07/2023. /S/ HuiFang Huang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/27/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

070-T

## Retrofuturistic Corner FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693006

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Retrofuturistic Corner, 2156 W Hedding St, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Aleksandr Kiselev, 2156 W Hedding St, San Jose, CA, 95128. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Aleksandr Kiselev / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/23/2023. (03-29-23,04-05,12,19-23)

069-T

## Palo Alto Sol FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693045

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Palo Alto Sol, 408 California Ave, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Palo Alto Sol, 408 California Ave, Palo Alto, CA, 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/31/2023. /S/ Hector Sol / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/24/2023. (03-29-23,04-05,12,19-23)

066-T

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s)/registrants(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. SAMA WORKDAY SERVICES, 1409 Gerhardt Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 03/03/2022 Under File No. FBN682873 Full Name of Registrant(s): SAMA CONSULTING INC, 1409 Gerhardt Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125 This business was conducted by: A Corporation This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Mar. 21, 2023. Regina Alcomendras County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN693829 (03-29-23,04-05,12,19-23)

065-T

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# OBITUARY NOTICE

## MARYANN KONTON



October 31, 1931 –  
March 23, 2023

Maryann “Tootsie” Konton, 91, passed away of heart failure on March 23, 2023, at the Rose Garden Elderly Care Home in San Jose, California. She was born October 31, 1931, in San Francisco, the oldest child of Joseph and Genevieve (Katsanes) Sherry.

Maryann graduated from Commerce High School in San Francisco, Class of 1949, affectionately known as the 49ers! Following graduation, Maryann worked at Livoti’s Pharmacy in San Francisco as a bookkeeper. Later during her marriage, she worked for Hewlett-Packard Company for 28 years. While she started on the Wiring and Assembly Line, she ended her career as a chip designer for HP Labs. She was very proud that she laid out the chip design for HP’s very first calculator, the HP 35.

Maryann met her husband George when he played soccer for the Greek-American team in San Francisco while Maryann’s father was the coach of the Maltese-American team. They were married in San Francisco on October 03, 1953, a day which she always remembered as being the hottest day of the year. After they were wed, they settled in East Palo Alto then moved to Los Altos six and a half years later where they spent the remainder of their marriage.

Maryann was a huge 49ers fan. In 1946, she attended the very first Niners’ game ever played in San Francisco at Kezar Stadium. She had season tickets as a young woman and never missed a game. In the 80’s and 90’s, the five-time World Champions gave Maryann many thrills. Over the years, Maryann and George enjoyed traveling in their motorhome. They visited every state in the continental United States and explored every square inch of Canada and Mexico--including traveling down to the very tip of the Baja - twice!

Maryann is survived by her husband George, son Joseph of Mountain View, and daughter Mary Jayne of Los Altos. She is survived by her sister Virginia Busuttill of Grass

Valley, California and her brother John Sherry (Joan) of Folsom, California. She was Auntie Tootsie to seven nieces and nephews. Maryann leaves behind a large extended family which includes hundreds of relatives as well as many friends who date back 85 years. She is also survived by the family pet, Mimi the Little Chiweenie, who misses her grandma dearly. Maryann was preceded in death by her brother-in-law, Dominic Busuttill of San Jose.

Services were arranged by Spangler Mortuary in Los Altos. She is interred at Gate of Heaven Catholic Cemetery. Those who wish to remember Maryann in a special way may give a gift in her memory to the Alzheimer’s Association.



## FRANK WILLIAM BOATWRIGHT



November 23, 1938 -  
March 24, 2023

Frank William Boatwright passed away on March 24, 2023, at his home in Mountain View.

Born in Meridian, Mississippi on November 23, 1938, he graduated from Gulfport Elementary and High Schools and later graduated from William Carey University in 1960 with a degree in music. Continuing his studies at Baylor University where he met his first wife, Priscilla “Polly” Stephenson, he continued his graduate studies at The University of Denver and graduated with an MSW in 1963.

Frank went on to positions in social work in San Angelo Texas where his son Stephen was born in 1968, in addition to the Menniger Clinic in Topeka, Kansas. Later he moved to Memphis where he served in various state positions, most notably as the state’s Chair for the Commission for the mentally retarded, and as Director of the Hospice of Memphis. Polly and Frank divorced in 1974 and following a brief marriage with Patricia Hicks in 1985, he left Tennessee in 1986 and moved to Palo Alto. There he served nine years at the VA hospital as a counselor for dementia and Alzheimer’s patients developing their

first respite program for caregivers. During this same period, Frank was a leader in the Singles program at Menlo Park Presbyterian and sang with the Schola Cantorum. Frank met his wife Libby in 1986 at church and they later married in 1990, when Frank became the loving father to Libby’s son, Floyd. They continued in ministry together as deacons and developed a ministry for blended families. In 1995 Frank graciously gave up his job at the VA to follow Libby to Hawaii so she could serve at First Presbyterian Church. There he developed courses for spiritual gifts and marriage mentoring along with working at Queens Medical Center and later Pearl Harbor as a counselor in family advocacy. Returning to the Bay area in 2000 Frank worked for Kaiser Permanent until another move placed them in Portland Oregon for ten and a half years. Frank continued to work for Kaiser until his full retirement in 2008. In that same year, the Boatwrights had three months in England, Scotland, and France as part of Libby’s sabbatical. In his later years, his volunteer work included ARMS (Abuse Recovery Ministry and Services) and Steven Ministries.

Frank is survived by his wife of 32 years, Libby, and his two sons, Stephen Boatwright Gilbert and Floyd Jacob Tucker and three grandchildren, Peter and Simon Marshall-Gilbert and Logan David Tucker. A celebration of life was held on March 31st at Menlo Church in Menlo Park. Memorial donations can be made to Menlo Church Memorial Fund.



## DANIEL KAPLAN



March 30, 1965 –  
April 3, 2023

Daniel H. Kaplan, 58, passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack on Monday, April 3, 2023, in North Lake Tahoe. Dan, or “Danny” and “Uncle Dan” as his immediate family knew him, was born on March 30, 1965, at Stanford Hospital on the Stanford University campus. He grew up in Los Altos Hills, California, where he

attended local schools and graduated from Los Altos High School in 1983.

Dan was a sports fanatic from an early age, and especially loved to play tennis and basketball in his youth. He was fiercely competitive with his older brother on the tennis court, and in 1-on-1 driveway basketball he relished his triumphs. Following graduation from UCLA in 1987, he returned to the Bay Area, where he turned his sports energy into coaching and was an assistant basketball coach at Mitty High School in San Jose for several years.

Dan had an entrepreneurial mindset and a unique ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Beginning in the late 1990s, he applied these skills and sports passions to embark on what became an almost 20-year tenure as the college recruiting coordinator at Vision Volleyball, one of the premier women’s volleyball clubs in Northern California. Dan assisted families from all over the Bay Area navigate the college recruiting process, helping countless young athletes reach their dreams of playing collegiate volleyball. Later and up until his death, Dan ran his own information web portal and consulting business continuing to work with young aspiring athletes. With Dan’s gregarious nature, he maintained ties with families of players for years after athletes had completed their collegiate experience, and developed close friendships and working relationships with many college coaches throughout the United States.

Uncle Dan was devoted to his family and loved the art of fun and surprise. He once walked up to a famous former Stanford quarterback whom he had never previously met, and convinced him to record a voice mail for his nephew who was a big Stanford fan. This is just one of many creative gifts he made happen for those he loved. If there was a debate around the dinner table--on any issue!--he’d be sure to take a contrarian view to keep the conversation animated. Most of all, he was a most selfless and big-hearted person, always looking out for others, helping others reach their goals, and the first to be there when someone was in need. His boundless optimism and caring personality will be sorely missed by family and friends alike.

Dan is survived by his parents, Daniel and Rosemary Kaplan; brother, David Kaplan (Lisa); and sister, Deborah Kaplan (John Bartkowiak). He is also survived by nephews Alex, Matthew, and Eli and niece Maya, as well as numerous friends to whom he was also an “uncle” and “brother.” He is predeceased by his beloved sister, Lisabeth. Family services will be private. For those wishing to make a donation, please choose any cause close to your heart, or one that supports scholarships towards youth sports.



## KATHRYN (KATIE) ELIZABETH COTTON



1965 - 2023

It is with great sadness that the family of Kathryn Elizabeth Cotton announces her passing. Fondly known to family, friends and all who loved her as Katie. She passed peacefully on Thursday evening, April 6, surrounded by family and close friends.

Katie is survived by her children Ethan and Isabelle Mimeles, life partner Jim Wells, mother Marie, siblings LoriAnn, Patty and Richard, former husband Michael Mimeles, nieces and nephew, Alayna, Allison, Bryce, Caroline, Danielle, Hannah, Olivia, Phillip, and Sydney whom she loved dearly and supported relentlessly, and her loving pets, Kona and Jasper. Katie was preceded in death by her father Philip Cotton.

She arrived in California from New Jersey in 1988 ready to make her mark on the world. And so she did.

Katie is recognized as one of the most remarkable women in Public Relations and Marketing in Technology. In her role as Vice President of Worldwide Corporate Communications for Apple Inc., she worked most of her 18-year career directly for Steve Jobs. She was a strong and unwavering proponent for the company, helping to elevate its products and brand.

In retirement, she raised awareness for mental health education for children by volunteering in local community organizations. Katie also became an avid birdwatcher, ready to easily identify any bird at a moment’s notice.

Her children, Ethan and Isabelle, remember her as a devoted mother, kind friend, and inspirational role model that supported them in every aspect of their lives.

A private funeral was held on Friday, April 14th at the Asbury United Methodist Church in Asbury, New Jersey where Katie will be laid to rest. A celebration of life will take place in the Bay Area in the coming months.

If you would like to honor Katie’s life and charitable work, please consider a donation to Pets In Need [www.petsinneed.org](http://www.petsinneed.org) in Redwood City or SafeSpace [www.safespace.org](http://www.safespace.org) in Menlo Park.

# OBITUARY NOTICE

## MICHAEL EARL MCGILLIS



April 5, 1953 -  
April 5, 2023

Michael Earl McGillis passed away on his 70th birthday at El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, California. He died of complications just before his birthday celebration with family that evening.

Mike was born on April 5, 1953 at Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City, California to Jean and Cal McGillis. The family of seven lived in Los Altos, CA where Mike attended Santa Rita Elementary School, Egan Junior High School, and Los Altos High School ('71). His Bar Mitzvah took place at Temple Beth Am in 1966, where his family were founding members. In high school, Mike was a star football player for the Los Altos Knights earning multiple First Team All-League awards, and was selected as the California Central Coast Lineman of the Year during his senior year in 1970. He was captain of the team when they finished number 1 in Santa Clara County. He was recruited to play on a scholarship for the University of California, Berkeley, and after two years at Cal, he transferred to complete the remainder of his college football career as a linebacker for San Diego State University where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business.

Mike's business career started off working for the McGillis family sporting goods business, Sunset Sports Center. He then went onto

a successful sales career representing large sporting goods manufacturers before becoming an entrepreneur. In 1983, Mike started the active outdoor apparel company, White Sierra, which was successfully sold in 1996, and later on started several other small businesses throughout his career.

Through mutual friends, Mike met his first wife, Jeane Lewis, and they got married on July 26, 1980. They had four children, Matthew, Charlie, Rachel, and Mitch, whom they raised together. Mike was very involved in his children's sports as they grew up, refereeing soccer games, coaching baseball and football teams, and cheering on swimming and water polo games. He instilled in them the love of athletics. Mike was so proud of his children, their accomplishments, and growing families, and became a loving grandfather in 2021.

He met his current wife, Nancy Eiger, in 2017, and they enjoyed traveling to Israel together to visit family, watching sports and laughing together, and spending time with friends and family. They got married and had a beautiful wedding just short of a year before his passing on April 9, 2022 at Tamarisk Country Club in Palm Desert, CA.

Mike had a great sense of humor, and loved making people laugh. He loved sports, gardening, fishing, cooking, and most of all his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by so many, and his legacy will live on through his loved ones.

Mike leaves behind his wife, Nancy Eiger; his children, Matthew McGillis, Charlie and Kim McGillis, Rachel and Emily Boone, and Mitch McGillis and Kalyn Nakano; his two granddaughters, Kaia McGillis and Lennon Boone, and a new grandson on the way; his mother, Jean McGillis; his siblings, Leslie and Bill Drake, Carrie Zaga, Gregg and Sally McGillis, and Marcie and Moshe Ora; and several cousins, nieces and nephews, and dear friends. If you'd like to make a donation in Mike's name, please donate to the Los Altos High School Athletic Boosters in support of all athletic teams at Los Altos High School.



# Datebook

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

## PRESENTATIONS

"Hunters of the Savanna." Wildlife photographer Joan Sparks share images of several species of wildlife that call the African Savanna home, ranging from the smallest meerkat to one of the largest cats on the planet. Part of the Los Altos Library's Wednesday Travel Nights series. 7 p.m. April 26. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. (650) 948-7683; [scclld.org/events](http://scclld.org/events).

"Where Big Tech Went Wrong and How We Can Reboot to Help Democratic Institutions." Rob Reich, Stanford University political science professor and director of the Center for Ethics in Society, discuss how democracies can govern and regulate technology. Organized by the World Affairs, Peninsula Chapter, 7-8:30 p.m. May 3. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. Masks required. [peninsula@worldaffairs.org](mailto:peninsula@worldaffairs.org).

## EVENTS

Los Altos Garden Club's Spring Plant Exchange. Bring healthy extra plants, seedlings, cuttings, bulbs, small trees or shrubs and take home something new in exchange. Plants must be labeled; no privets or invasive plants. 10 a.m. to noon April 29. Los Altos Community Center parking lot, 97 Hillview Ave. [betlee59@gmail.com](mailto:betlee59@gmail.com).

## EXHIBITS

Silicon Valley Open Studios Preview Exhibit. Sneak peek of works by nearly 40 local artists before they open their studios to the public as part of next month's annual event. Through April. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. (650) 941-8073; [kadrucker@pacbell.net](mailto:kadrucker@pacbell.net)

## CLUBS/GROUPS

Los Altos Art Club. 7 p.m. second Monday of each month. Apricot Room, Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. [losaltosartclub.com](http://losaltosartclub.com).

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

# Crossword Answers

1	R	O	T	C		5	S	P	F		8	O	R	G			
11	O	P	A	H		12	U	R	L	S		14	R	A	E		
16	T	I	M	E		16	M	E	A	L		17	T	I	M	E	
18	S	U	P	R	E	19	M	E		20	O	A	F				
		21	M	A	R	V	I	N		22	E	X	I	L	E		
				25	Y	E	T				26	I	C	A	N		
27	M	E	S	S	R	S		30	O	D	D	E	S	T			
32	T	R	O	T				33	T	A	R						
34	S	A	L	O		35	N		36	A	T	R	I		37	S	K
			39	O	N	O		40	C	O	N	V	E	N		41	E
42	M	O	M	E	N		44	T	U	M		45	E	P	E	E	
46	U	N	O			47	O	K	R	A		48	R	I	E	L	
49	G	E	N			50	S	A	N		51	S	A	S	S		

# Sudoku Answers

7	1	3	2	4	9	6	8	5
5	8	9	7	6	1	4	3	2
2	4	6	8	3	5	7	1	9
3	7	1	6	2	8	5	9	4
4	5	8	9	7	3	1	2	6
6	9	2	5	1	4	8	7	3
9	2	4	1	8	6	3	5	7
1	6	5	3	9	7	2	4	8
8	3	7	4	5	2	9	6	1

# Find A Word Answers

X	Z	Y	W	W	G	X	J	L	J	H	C	J	K	C
J	R	L	Y	X	K	E	U	I	U	Q	G	V	O	N
Y	A	N	M	A	Z	I	I	Q	N	I	D	N	Z	K
C	M	I	F	N	T	B	O	U	G	Y	Y	Z	O	R
H	Q	N	O	Q	U	G	A	I	L	H	A	D	K	N
J	Y	R	K	H	I	Q	M	D	E	Z	U	R	K	A
G	B	N	Y	D	X	E	E	J	S	C	K	O	R	I
A	C	Y	N	F	X	B	Y	L	N	E	O	T	O	H
Z	S	I	U	H	F	P	Q	N	T	U	I	I	E	E
E	Q	J	M	S	F	U	W	T	E	S	Q	D	T	L
B	N	A	C	H	O	S	L	N	T	K	A	E	E	I
O	R	Z	U	U	M	E	I	F	I	G	S	C	M	U
L	W	W	X	P	E	G	N	A	R	O	U	W	N	M
J	J	Z	L	B	O	T	V	R	H	J	H	C	R	T
H	S	J	P	P	R	U	T	Y	R	B	U	O	I	S

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-  
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-  
JEANNETTE

*"[Shilpa] was very adept and knowledgeable about the local market and very efficient."*

-  
SUNITA