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Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 78 No. 47 • 50 cents

losaltosonline.com

WEDNESDAY • November 19, 2025

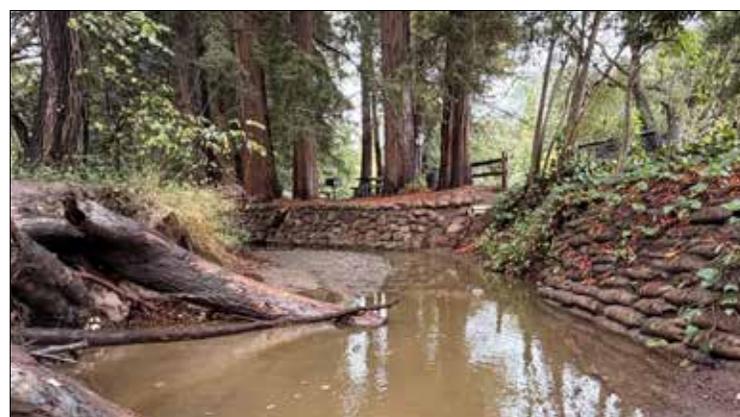
A holly jolly holiday promenade



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The Los Altos Village Association's Holiday Stroll Friday was a merry start to the holiday season. With multiple businesses participating, people were able to jumpstart their holiday shopping while also encouraging the local economy. For more, turn to page 3.

Atmospheric river damages minimal in Los Altos & Mtn. View



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Adobe Creek in Los Altos' Shoup Park had water in it after the weekend's rain.

By Christina Casillas and Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writers/editorial@latc.com

that "there were no significant storm-related impacts in Mountain View."

The cities of Mountain View and Los Altos both fared well last week and over the weekend despite an atmospheric river that was poised to bring rain and strong wind.

Areas of Los Altos experienced puddling, but no flooding, Los Altos City Manager Gabriel Engeland said. There was one report of a downed tree on private property, he said, and it required city crew response to clear the roadway.

The storm, which brought a wind advisory for most of the Bay Area Thursday morning, was projected to bring between a quarter and a half inch of rain and southeast winds reaching 15 to 21 mph and gusts up to 38 mph, according to the National Weather Service. Thursday received the most serious weather from the storm, with rain tapering off Monday.

As with previous atmospheric rivers, residents stocked up on supplies.

Lenka Wright, Mountain View's chief communications officer, told the Town Crier

Nina Nesmith, operations manager at Los Altos Hardware, said customers sought out tarps, flood barriers and sand bags in anticipation of the coming storm. She told the Town Crier previously that preparing early was crucial.

"People always realize that they need things after the storm," she said.

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Around Town

Los Altos holds Holiday Stroll

By Giuseppe Ricapito

Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

At the 22nd Annual “Holiday Stroll” in downtown Los Altos – a musical and illuminated event which heralds in the start of the local Christmas shopping season – hundreds came out Friday ready to make their first holiday buys.

Liz Williams, marketing and events manager for host Los Altos Village Association, said gift shops, restaurants and galleries were jam-packed along Main and State streets.

“We like people to shop small and engage with the community,” she said. “This is how you kick off the holiday season.”

More than 30 businesses stayed open later than usual, embellished with nine live music acts and glittering light displays across the downtown.

Nivali Vore of Los Altos said her children were having fun – and she could see why.

“It’s always so festive. This is how you get into the holiday spirit.”



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER
A child looks at candy during the 22nd Annual Holiday Stroll in downtown Los Altos Friday.



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News

Rep. Liccardo talks shutdown, collaboration

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Rep. Sam Liccardo, California Congressional District 16, spent Friday morning answering constituents' questions, discussing the government shutdown and the importance of bipartisan relationships during last week's Los Altos Community Coalition meeting.

Liccardo, elected to Congress in 2024, spent much of his campaign emphasizing the importance of reaching across the aisle to get things done. During the government shutdown, which lasted 43 days, he said that's what he was doing.

"I spent three weeks on the phone with between two and three dozen Republican colleagues trying to forge a compromise measure that enables us to extend Affordable Care Act premium tax credits to protect our district," he said during the meeting.

More than 24,000 "critically depend" on the tax credits to be covered by health insurance in the district, Liccardo said. Because the credits weren't extended, premiums will double.

"We worked with many Republicans who were quite interested in (the compromise measure) because they understood the impacts on their district, and we stole some ideas from both the Republican side and the Democratic side to pay for it, primarily going after insurance companies that were gilding the lily," he said.

Liccardo said he and his fellow representatives putting the measure together were ready to propose it when the shutdown ended.

The shutdown, caused by a lack of consensus in Congress regarding financial appropriations for fiscal year 2026, was the longest in the U.S. since the 1995-1996 21-day shutdown. The federal government is now funded until Jan. 30.

Liccardo said he's still working to mitigate the strain the appropriations will cause.

See SHUTDOWN, Page 7

Cupertino Union School District evaluating cuts

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Cupertino Union School District is inching closer to a board vote on cuts as the district faces a budgetary shortfall of about \$11 million.

"We really want to establish that pathway of fiscal stability and not having to come back every year and having to make adjustments to our system and make further reductions and spend what we have as far as our resources instead of overspending," said Allison Liner, deputy superintendent of educational services, at a meeting of the Cupertino Union School District on Nov. 13.

The school district includes 17 elementary schools and five middle schools for grades TK-8, and they include Montclair Elementary School in Los Altos and Cupertino Middle School in Sunnyvale, which has students from Los Altos.

The district has announced plans to make cuts in middle school electives, transitional kindergarten hours and high-paid employees in order to make up millions in deficit spending. The board may vote on the institution of these changes as early as its meeting on Nov. 20.

The district has been mired in deficit spending and estimates this year about \$248 million in revenues. Expenditures are estimated at about \$259 million.

The board is considering cutting TK to a half-day class, a savings of about \$2.59 mil-



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Montclair's TK program is at risk of being cut as the Cupertino Union School District mulls over potential budget cuts.

lion. Other options include a full-day TK class, which would be capped at 360 students, resulting in savings of \$3.24 million. The last option is a split-day with classes either in the morning or the evening, resulting in \$2.56 million in savings.

The district is also considering giving seventh and eighth-grade students the

option of taking a second elective. Sixth-grade students would only take one elective. It would result in a decrease of 18 full-time employees of middle school staff and about \$2.1 million in savings.

The district is also proposing early

See BUDGET, Page 7

Protections planned for island in Shoreline Lake

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

The Mountain View Parks and Recreation Commission has recommended a \$3.35 million plan for erosion repair and expansion of Sailing Lake Habitat Island to the city council as part of an ongoing restoration project.

"It's great for the birds, good for the lake," said Commissioner Ronit Bryant. "This sounds like it makes everyone happy."

At a meeting on Nov. 12, the commission voted unanimously to recommend the plan to the city council, which would double the size of the current island and install a rope and buoy system around the island.

Mountain View owns and operates Shoreline Lake at Shoreline in Mountain View Regional Park. It is an artificial non-tidal saltwater lake created in the 1980s, with a size of approximately 45 acres and a depth of 18 feet. The lake supports multiple recreational uses, including kayaking, sailing and windsurfing.

The habitat island near the southwest-



MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER

An island in Mountain View's Shoreline Park sailing lake, above, may receive money for erosion repairs.

ern shore is a nesting site for a variety of water birds such as black skimmers, American avocets, black-necked stilts, mallards and Canada geese.

Raymond Wong, project manager, said that over time erosion has reduced the size of the island. The hope is to restore

the island to its historic size or larger.

"The main goal from that is to manage the erosion of the island," he said.

The island has an existing size of 0.11 acre and will be expanded to a size of

See ISLAND, Page 6

Community members celebrate veterans in downtown Los Altos



GIUSEPPE RICAPITO/TOWN CRIER

Community members gather at the annual “Honoring Our Veterans” event last week in Los Altos’ Veterans Community Plaza, above. Below, Kristi Devert, left, joins her father Bruce Devert, a Vietnam War veteran.

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Bruce Devert said he and his fellow Vietnam War veterans didn’t always receive a warm welcome after their tours of duty. It’s one of the reasons he attends the Veterans Day Celebration in downtown Los Altos every year, he said – to give all veterans the honorable recognition they deserve.

“I think it’s wonderful they honor us as veterans. When you came home, you couldn’t wear a uniform to tell people you were in the military,” said Devert, a 79-year-old Marine Corps veteran from Los Altos. “Now, it’s nice to be remembered and feel a sense of gratitude and pride.”

Devert served 1964 to 1967 and was injured by a booby trap at Hill 55 near Da Nang, Vietnam. Returning to Los Altos with the rank of corporal, he lent many years of volunteering with a military chaplain’s office in Palo Alto as part of his persistent ethic to give back to veterans.

“Service has always been a passion of mine,” he said. “We never got a welcome home. But I still can.”

Devert was beaming and enthusiastic at the annual Veterans Day Celebration in downtown Los Altos on Monday – one of more than 70 people gathered in Los Altos



Veterans Community Plaza in a sea of fluttering handheld American flags and bobbing red, white and blue balloons.

Louis Cogliani, 78 of Los Altos, was another Vietnam War veteran attendee – he served from 1969 to 1971 in Nha Trang, Vietnam as an Army communications officer and platoon leader.

“Events like this are great for our veterans,” he said. “Our veterans deserve the recognition, from Vietnam and beyond. Los Altos is great for doing that for veterans, and we appreciate it.”

The event brought out a cavalcade of speakers to salute the service of local veterans.

Los Altos Hills Mayor Kavita Tankha proffered a quote she said reminded her of the spirit of the holiday: “Freedom

is always a generation away from extinction.” Veterans, she added, were the guardians of that freedom when it was endangered.

“We’re here today to celebrate the men and women who have done just that,” she said.

Los Altos Vice Mayor Neysa Fligor said veterans made the ultimate sacrifice to give their lives to the ideal of American freedom.

“That’s what it means when we say to a veteran, “Thank you for your service,” she said.

Stephanie Crosby, dean of the Veterans Resource Center at Foothill College, said there were 250 veterans enrolled in the campus program.

“I think that this brings

See **VETERANS**, Page 6

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VETERANS

From Page 5

more understanding to the community about the veteran members that are present and what they've provided and continue to provide to the community," she said.

Alexander Rector-Ricks, a Union City resident and Marine Corps veteran involved in the program, credited the VRC with giving his life a greater sense of direction. He said the Veterans Day events put a spotlight on veterans who may feel unseen in their service.

"This kind of reminds people that outside the holiday, we are still here," he said.

Billy Ramirez, a San Jose resident and Marine Corps veteran, said the VRC, the American Legion and the Rotary Club of Los Altos all deserved credit for elevating the voices of veterans.

"Events like this are important because they don't just help veterans, they support the groups that help veterans be successful in civilian life," he said.

Rector-Ricks and Ramirez were keynote speakers at the event on Tuesday.

ISLAND

From Page 4

about 0.28 acre. The project would flatten the slopes on the island and gravel erosion protection would be installed to protect against further erosion. Wooden frames and guide rails would be used in select areas to prevent movement of the soil. The plan would also install drilled wooden piles connected to a rope and buoy system to con-

trol the water impacts and restrict boaters.

Construction is expected to take three to four months and begin in early October following the bird nesting season.

The cost of the expansion project is \$3.1 million. The rope and buoy component is estimated at \$250,000.

"I think I'm in agreement with everyone," said Commissioner Sandy Sommer. "It's worth the extra money in my opinion."

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—Rita Cosby, Emmy Award-winning journalist

"Really out of this world! If I had to describe it, the words might be 'divine,' 'reborn,' and 'hope.'"

—Christine Walewska, master cellist

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Have a comment or idea? Reach out

If you have an idea for the News section or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Christina Casillas at christina@latc.com.



LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS VACANCY

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD) announces one (1) upcoming vacancy on the LAHCFD Board of Commissioners. The term of the position begins on January 1, 2026. Residents are invited to immediately apply in accordance with the requirements below.

QUALIFICATIONS

The vacancy requires applicants to be residents of the Los Altos Hills County Fire District.

The appointment is for a four-year term.

Applicants are encouraged to immediately apply for the Board of Commissioner's vacancies.

Applicants are required to complete the Santa Clara County online application at: <https://santaclaracounty.primegov.com/Portal/NewForm/1?committeeld=7>

Applicants are encouraged to submit a letter of interest to District 5 Santa Clara County Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga at: District5@bos.sccgov.org

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors makes the final appointment.

Applicants are invited to attend LAHCFD Commission meetings that are held in-person or via zoom. Meeting details are located on the District website at <https://www.lahcfd.org/governance/commission-meetings/>

The LAHCFD Board of Commissioners meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

To learn more about the LAHCFD, visit the District website at www.lahcfd.org. If there are any questions, please email clerk@lahcfd.org or leave a message at (650) 949-1044.

Recent VTA grant funds local community resilience



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Valley Transportation Authority, which provides bus, paratransit and light rail services across the county, is investing in the areas where it operates.

Town Crier Report

Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is providing grant money to help establish a Neighborhood Small Business Center near the Mountain View Transit Center to provide bilingual advising, training and technical assistance.

VTA is providing the money as part of a \$200,000 grant fund aimed at community resilience and strengthening emerging community development corporations to support small business resiliency and housing preservation, according to a VTA press release. The nonprofit Enterprise Foundation will establish the center.

Other organizations that will receive money in the community resilience grant branch are the Latino Business Foundation Silicon Valley and SV@Home. VTA is donating \$750,000 total across four different program areas to support projects that improve access to public transit, strengthen community resilience, expand inclusive engagement and celebrate community identity. The grant is part of VTA's transit-oriented communities grant, now in its second year. The goal is to invest in the communities that VTA is present in to create more access to jobs, opportunities and transit.

BUDGET

From Page 4

retirement for 475 eligible employees. If all the employees retired by June 30, 2026, it would amount to \$1.1 million in savings.

Elsewhere in the area, the financial outlook is mostly rosy, with some concerns about deficit spending at Mountain View Whisman School District.

Erik Walukiewicz, Los Altos School District's assistant superintendent of business

services, said at an Aug. 4 board meeting that the district will have a total revenue of \$87.6 million. Their revenues exceed expenditures in the coming budget.

At Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District, revenues are expected at \$150.1 million this year and expenditures at \$146.4 million.

Mountain View Whisman is running a \$7.2 million deficit and may face similar cuts. The district has expenditures of \$130 million but revenues of about \$123 million.

SHUTDOWN

From Page 4

While the bill wasn't introduced before the shutdown ended, Liccardo said it's not done.

"It's called the fix-it act, and we're working now to try to see if we can expand the support, because this issue is far from over," he said. "... We're all going to be paying higher premiums as a result of the failure to extend these subsidies. Because whenever you're pushing healthy young people out of an insurance pool, it means all of our insurance premiums are going to go up. And that's a big problem."

While the shutdown is over, Liccardo said there is a real risk of another happening in the new year. The issue was simply pushed to Jan. 31, he said.

"Other than the three areas of government for which

we passed appropriation bills, there is another threat of yet another government shutdown, and this is a terrible way to run a railroad," Liccardo said.

Currently, Liccardo serves on the congressional financial committee, which he said is a rare opportunity for frosh representatives. As part of the committee, he hopes to address issues some of his constituents have voiced on a larger scale.

"Financial services, as you might expect, covers banking, insurance and crypto and lots of other areas," he said. "But in addition, an area that I'm particularly passionate about, it has jurisdiction over housing."

Some of the bills Liccardo supported include reducing barriers to housing, he said, including those that are regulatory and financial. Most of those bills also have the support of some Republicans.

"We are in a deeply divided



CURTIS DRISCOLL/TOWN CRIER

Rep. Sam Liccardo speaks at a previous town hall at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills.

moment. We are getting nothing done. Congress is only punishing the country right now with its decisions and frankly, failing to stand up to what I view as authoritarian tactics by the president," he said. And we need to start to build coalitions to both protect our democratic institutions and actually get something done for people."

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Comment

Letters to the Editor

Ranch Gas Station has great employees

I would like to commend the guys at the Ranch Gas Station on Fremont Rd. in Los Altos.

Not only have they provided excellent maintenance and repairs for my cars over the years but they have been reliable, prompt and their service is fairly priced. They have also been helpful in little things like assisting me with putting air in my car's tires or dealing with

an occasionally ornery gas pump computer, always friendly. I cannot recommend them highly enough.

Susana Krulevitch
Los Altos

Yes to carbon removal

Mr. Leonard said in a letter to the Town Crier editor that the Nov. 3 evacuation of downtown Los Altos brought to mind a related concern about sequestration of carbon dioxide. His letter brought several things to mind for me.

First, we Los Altos dodged a bullet. Thanks to quick work by brave first responders we avoided a disaster such as the tragic San Bruno pipeline explosion in 2010 that killed eight people and leveled dozens of homes.

Second, the title of his letter – “Say no to CO2 sequestration” – warrants a response.

The reason our state Senator Josh Becker gave a talk in the first-ever Carbon Removal pavilion at COP30 in Brazil last week is that in addition to reducing emissions, we must also clean up the big carbon mess we've made. To restore the climate we must remove roughly a trillion tons of legacy CO2.

The primary concern raised by Mr. Leonard is pumping CO2 into depleted oil and gas fields. The fossil fuel industry has been doing this for decades, and I share his concerns about this particular method of storing CO2.

The good news is that there are many proven carbon removal methods that do not involve pumping CO2 underground. A favorite of mine is biochar. It can be produced via a carbon-negative, energy-positive, pyrolysis process. Many California farmers and winegrowers are applying biochar to their soil because it increases their crop yields and improves soil quality over time. The fact that this also results in pulling CO2 out of the atmosphere is a huge side benefit for all of humanity.

Karl Danz
Los Altos

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

These boys are browsing for bargains at the Friends of the Los Altos Library September 1980 book sale at the old Hillview Community Center. The friends held their first book sale in the early 1960s to help raise funds for a new library building at the Civic Center.

It's not easy being orange: The life of a safety cone

By Andy Dolich

My name is Oran G. Cone.

On Nov. 3, the downtown area of Los Altos had to be evacuated and closed off to all traffic for several hours. Seems like a gas main was punctured by a wayward backhoe across the street from Safeway.

My group was among the first responders to keep citizens and their trusted bowsers safe and sound. All of my colleagues were on the job and in place blocking off every entrance to downtown. For what seems like years you have seen us in all sizes all over town clad in the same colored uniforms.

Our life as traffic cones is one of purpose, from our creation to multiple uses on roads where we serve as temporary, visible markers to guide traffic safely. Our lifespan can range from a couple of years for stan-

Silicon Folley

dard models to several years for high-quality ones, depending on our material and durability against weather and wayward bumpers. We will eventually be replaced when we become faded, brittle, or damaged. Some of our newer relatives have adopted what they think is a cooler name. Just call them Pylons.

As you are zipping around Los Altos and its vicinity, you might not know that we were invented in 1943 by Charles D. Scanlon, who sought a more durable and visible alternative to fragile wooden markers. One wrong turn turned our wooden markers into splinters.

Modern cones are made from durable, weather-resistant materials like PVC and recycled rubber, often with UV-resistant properties and

weighted bases for stability. We are deployed to warn of hazards, redirect traffic, or create temporary barriers, playing a crucial role in safety during construction, accidents or other events.

We can last for several years, but our lifespan can be shortened by harsh weather conditions, impacts and fading from UV exposure. Over time, we can become brittle, lose our reflective bands, or sustain damage, which necessitates our retirement.

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The Los Altos Town Crier, ISSN 87904585, is published weekly every Wednesday by LATC Media Inc., 138 Main St., Los Altos 94022. Periodicals Postage Paid at Palo Alto, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Los Altos Town Crier, 138 Main St., Los Altos, CA 94022. The Los Altos Town Crier is an adjudicated newspaper of general circulation for Santa Clara County: Decree No. 328150. Yearly subscription rates in advance: within county, \$70; seniors, \$60; out of county, \$80.

CSMA Artistic Intelligence: more offerings for special learners in 2025

• **Mission:** The Community School of Music and Arts' Artistic Intelligence program, created in partnership with the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District, AbilityPath and the Morgan Autism Center, provides students of all abilities with weekly art and music classes, with the belief art can help children and adults grow and thrive.

Executive Director Adriana Marcial said art students create relationships and friendships with their peers, learn tangible skills and are able express themselves creatively.

"This program is really symbolic of our mission to provide arts for all. And when we say 'all' we mean for all abilities too," Marcial said.

Students are able to implement skills learned, such as symmetry, pattern, line and value, into mixed-media projects. The program also provides a supportive environment where students' accolades are displayed and celebrated at the end of every week.



COURTESY OF CSMA

CSMA offers weekly art and music classes to students.

Music students have the opportunity to sing with other students and choose from a variety of percussion instruments to play. Students learn to collaborate with others to make music, gain musical knowledge and play an instrument either by themselves or with others by the end of the program.

• **2025 update:** The Artistic Intelligence program served a

total of 103 special-needs students this year. An estimated 68 students took four of the program's art classes, and 35 students took the program's two music classes. During 2025, the program doubled the number of in-person art classes offered. The program introduced two music classes, and the music program as a whole was moved from a digital for-

mat to in-person instruction. A new program, NeuroSpark, will have two classes beginning in January available to all interested students – not just members of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District, AbilityPath and the Morgan Autism Center – with a special focus on neurodivergent or special learners.

This year, the educator spotlight is on Marita Musante, art instructor for NeuroSpark, who tailors education for neurodivergent students, and two CSMA public art shows which give students a platform to share their work.

"It's a way to highlight the students in the program who have real voices to share," Marcial said. "I think that's a really important part of the program."

• **Why the Holiday Fund is needed:** The CSMA Artistic Intelligence program is funded fully by grants and donations from the program's partners. Monetary support helps the goals of the CSMA mission

CSMA

Location: 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View

Founded: 1968

Annual budget: \$25,000

Staff: Two teachers, two part-time administrative staff

Information: arts4all.org

easier to achieve. For 2025, leaders hope to offer in-person dance classes and augment services in the current classes.

Marcial said community contributions were the underpinning for offering neurodivergent students a public creative outlet that they did not have before.

"The holiday fund is incredible because it funds this program. It has a deep impact for the people who are participating," Marcial said. "Special needs students are not often given the opportunity to be creative in an artistic way, and in that process they are really skill building."

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2025 Town Crier Holiday Fund

Los Altos Youth Theater fosters creativity and confidence for all

• **Mission:** Los Altos Stage Company presents theater that celebrates the diversity of American art and culture, fosters commitment to the performing arts and artist, and serves as a welcoming, creative community space. Los Altos Youth Theater (LAYT) provides young artists with opportunities to collaborate with professionals in rehearsing plays and musicals. They believe everyone, regardless of ability, has the right to participate in the arts and to develop creativity, confidence and meaningful relationships.

In fall 2017, Los Altos Stage Company partnered with the city of Los Altos to manage and operate LAYT. Since that time, this well-regarded educational program has become a central part of Los Altos Stage Company's programming. Each season, LAYT produces two youth musicals and one youth drama. Since then, LAYT has expanded its ability to offer

quality educational experiences for local youth. Integrating LAYT into Los Altos Stage Company's operations has enabled staff to leverage existing skills and resources, improving production quality and enriching the experience for youth of all abilities.

• **2025 update:** Los Altos Stage Company has significantly expanded its capacity to provide high-quality educational experiences to the youth of Los Altos and the surrounding communities. In the summer of 2025, Los Altos Stage Company held several day camps for kids ages 5-14. Campers rehearsed, built sets and created costumes for both "Welcome to Candy Kingdom" and "Wagon Wheels West," culminating in a performance for the campers' family and friends. The camps were run by professional adults and co-taught by high school students. LAYT also continues to provide a robust internship program for



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

The Los Altos Youth Theater provides young artists with opportunities to collaborate with professionals on plays and musicals.

older youth who are interested in teaching, directing, vocal directing and choreography. LAYT finished last season with a production of the classic musical "Guys and Dolls" and recently closed "Freaky Friday, the Musical." Both shows featured actors ages 10-16. Next in the season, LAYT will present a stage adaptation of the clas-

ic story "Treasure Island" and will close the season with the Disney musical "Anastasia."

• **Why the Holiday Fund is needed:** Support from the Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fund will help ensure the organization's ability to continue to produce quality educational theater programming for the youth of Los Altos and

Los Altos Stage Company/Los Altos Youth Theater

Location: 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos
Founded: 1995
Annual Budget: \$700,000
Staff: Two full-time and 25 part-time employees
Information: losaltosstage.org

the surrounding communities. It continues to be a challenging time for arts organizations. Recent cuts to government funding and the realignment of local foundations to support health and social services have put downward pressure on contributions to the arts. Support from the holiday fund will help to underwrite production costs of LAYT's three annual productions, as well as help to provide LAYT scholarships for families in need.



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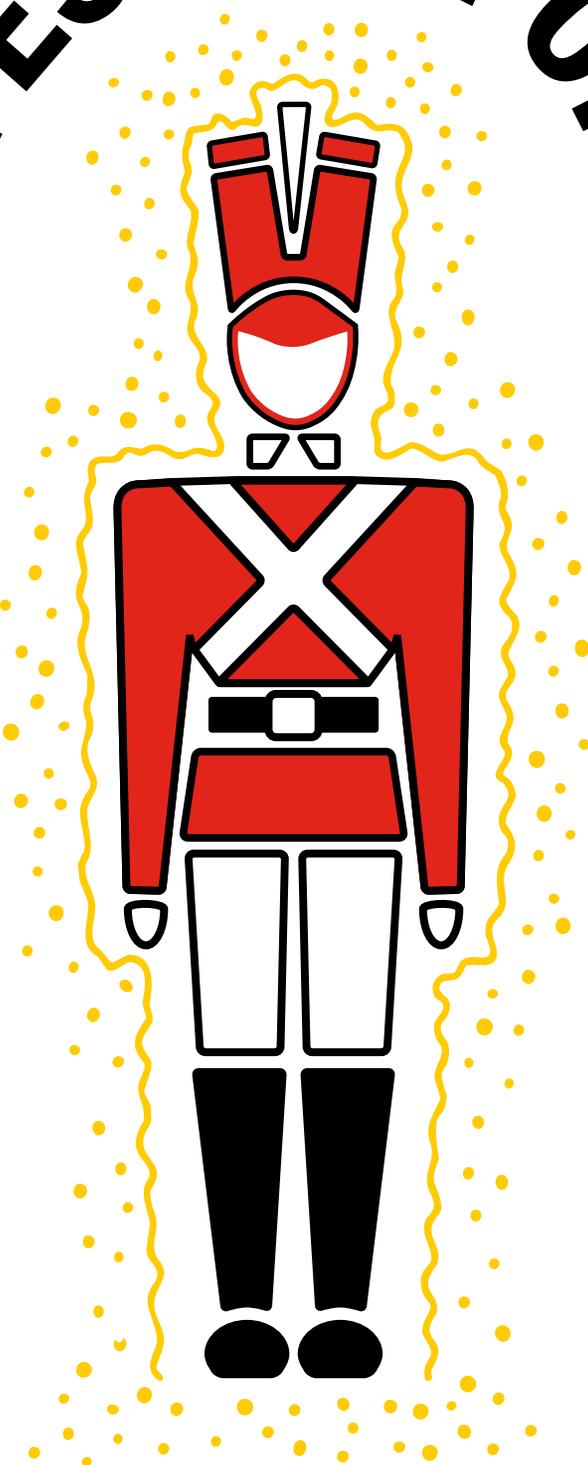
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Community

St. Nicholas giving tree program benefits Hope's Corner

Town Crier Report

This holiday season, St. Nicholas Catholic School is spreading the spirit of generosity through its new community outreach initiative aiming to bring holiday joy to local families in need.

As part of the project, called the Angel Tree of Hope, St. Nicholas students are decorating paper angel ornaments, each featuring a wish list item for a child in the community served by Hope's Corner. St. Nicholas is partnering with local groups like Hope's Corner, Cheeky Monkey Toys, Linden Tree Books and Rent A Living Christmas Tree to raise awareness.

The ornaments will be displayed on two live giving trees in downtown Los

Altos in front of Cheeky Monkey Toys and Linden Tree Books from mid-November through December. The live, sustainable trees are provided by Rent A Living Christmas Tree, a local company that rents living potted Christmas trees that are replanted after the holidays.

Community members are invited to visit the trees, select an angel and purchase a gift from the participating stores. Gifts will be donated to Hope's Corner, a local nonprofit that provides meals, supplies and support to individuals and families in need.

"All of our students, from TK through eighth grade, are learning what it means to live out the true spirit of St. Nicholas, the original gift-giver, by offering hope

and kindness to others," said Jan Popolizio, principal of St. Nicholas Catholic School. "This project connects our faith with action and unites our school and the greater Los Altos community in the joy of giving."

The Angel Tree of Hope is part of St. Nicholas Catholic School's broader mission to educate the whole child – mind, body and spirit – while fostering compassion and service to others.

Local residents can also see the St. Nicholas Catholic School float at the Festival of Lights Parade on Sunday, Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. in downtown Los Altos, and visit the St. Nicholas booth at the Holiday Tree Celebration hosted by the Los Altos Village Association on Friday, Dec. 5, from 6-8 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. NICHOLAS

Paper angels created by children for the Angel Tree of Hope project at St. Nicholas Catholic School.

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Community

Cops & Gobblers food drive scheduled for Sunday

By Sachin Chandran
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Packages rustle, volunteers rush about the floor and families in need are treated with the cheer that the holidays often bring.

These are typical scenes at the yearly Cops & Gobblers Thanksgiving Food Drive, a joint effort of the Mountain View Public Safety Foundation and Mountain View Police Department. This year's 30th annual event is set for 9 a.m. Sunday in front of the police department.

The program, fully funded through donations, is powered by volunteers who work to package and deliver gift baskets to local families in need, according to Bruce Barsi, chairman of the Mountain View Public Safety Foundation.

"We generally have ... anywhere between 200 and 300 volunteers that come out," Barsi said. "The volunteers grab a laundry basket, and they fill the basket with the articles of food. Once they fill the baskets, they're able to go out and actually deliver those baskets to families in the community."

While Mountain View may appear to be an affluent city, Barsi noted that many families in the community still struggle to make ends meet. Due to these circumstances, Cops & Gobblers provides them a safety blanket during the holidays.

"There are people in our neighborhood that suffer from food insecurity," said Barsi, a former police officer. "We're not solving the entire problem, but we're at least letting people know we care, and maybe helping them enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday a little more than they would otherwise."

MVPD officer Steve Mello, now retired, started Cops & Gobblers after noticing families on his beat struggling with food insecurity, according to Amber Wilson, executive director of the Mountain View Public Safety Foundation.

"(Mello) and others collected money in the department from other police officers and employees, and they were able to



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMBER WILSON

A scene at the 2024 Cops & Gobblers Thanksgiving Food Drive, a joint effort between the Mountain View Police Department and the Mountain View Public Safety Foundation.

get enough to deliver a handful of baskets to those families," Wilson said. "It's kind of grown from there over the last 29 years. Last year, we provided baskets for over 500 families in the Mountain View community."

In her experience volunteering for Cops & Gobblers, Wilson said she has found it to be an enriching opportunity that brings ample joy to those struggling in the holiday season.

"In the very beginning, I think you're nervous and you're wondering how they're going to receive (the gift)," Wilson said. "It's just with pure joy and gratitude that these families are receiving it. You just strike up a conversation with them, and you let them know it's a gift from the police department, and we want them to have a wonderful holiday season."

To help make that happen this year, Barsi said organizers will need as much help as they can receive from community members, whether through small donations or volunteer help Sunday.

"We've got a gap to fill, and for anybody that wants to help, we appreciate any funds they'll throw our way, nothing is too small," Barsi said. "We (also) try to give stuffed animals to the kids. We are looking for about 2,000 stuffed animals, so that we could get all those kids. That's a big ask, but anybody that has any, drop them off at the Mountain View Police Department anytime (before the event)."

To volunteer, donate and for more information, visit mvpsf.org/programs/cops-gobblers.



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Community

Award-winning reporter talks Edward Curtis

By Allyson Johnson

More than 200 subscribers filled the Los Altos United Methodist Church on the morning of Nov. 4 to hear Timothy Egan, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and author of "Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher," tell of the amazing career of Edward Curtis, whose 40,000 photos and 20,000 recordings of Native Americans are deemed by some to be "the greatest American masterpiece." More than 100 additional subscribers to the Forum lecture series tuned in to the livestream.

Curtis received his nickname "Shadow Catcher" from the Indians whose portraits he was able to take after perhaps months of making himself familiar to their tribes. His 20-volume work "North American Indians," includes pictures and recordings from the depth of the Grand Canyon to the Arctic Circle,

from the warrior Comanches of west Texas to the pastoral Miwok of Northern California, and Egan had retraced most of Curtis' steps in researching his book.

In the Q&A following the talk, Egan passionately advocated the teaching of history and civics at the high school level and earlier.

"To get a driver's license you have to study the handbook," he said. "Our young citizens need to study the American Handbook - our history, both highs and lows, and our Constitution."

The Los Altos Morning Forum, now in its 75th year, meets on alternate Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Los Altos Methodist Church. A livestream option is available. For more information about the Morning Forum and its fall series, visit morningforum.org. For membership information, visit morningforum.org/2025-2026-Series-Subscription-new.

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Wedding Announcement



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRYN STUEBNER

Eleanor Kay Stuebner and James Lindsay Stuebner.

Town Crier Report

Eleanor “Ellie” Kay Stuebner (maiden name: Smith) and James “Jake” Lindsay Stuebner were married Aug. 31 at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Granville, Ohio.

Ellie attended Columbus School for Girls and graduated from George Washington University with a B.A. in Political Communication and works at Particle News. Jake attended Mountain View High School and received a B.A. in Human Biology and a Master’s in Public Policy from Stanford University and a J.D. from Columbia University. He currently works at Gibson Dunn law firm. The newlyweds will spend their first year in New York City and then will move twice in two years as Jake clerks for a Federal District judge and a Ninth Circuit Appellate judge. The wedding party included five of Jake’s teammates from the Stanford volleyball team and Jake’s sisters, Cailey and Bridget. The bride’s parents are Julia and Ivan Smith from Newark, Ohio, and the groom’s parents are Bryn and Jim Stuebner from Los Altos.

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John W. Gardner Award Community Impact Recognition Bob Kresek



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A former LAMVCF Board Member and longtime Chair of the Investment Committee, **Bob Kresek** has played an essential role in the Foundation’s ability to serve our local communities. With his steady guidance, thoughtful stewardship, and deep sense of integrity, Bob has helped ensure that the Foundation’s resources create lasting, meaningful impact.

Bob’s leadership and generosity embody the values of John W. Gardner, the belief that true service is measured by the positive difference one makes in the lives of others.

Beyond service to LAMVCF, Bob has poured his time, expertise, and heart into organizations such as the Ronald McDonald House at Stanford and the Secular Coalition for America. Whether supporting families in crisis or advancing civic engagement, Bob brings the same steady compassion, thoughtful leadership, and unwavering sense of responsibility to every cause.

Professor John W. Gardner, a distinguished public servant, championed community building. His teachings continue to be guideposts for Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation.

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Community

Downtown Los Altos site of several holiday events

Town Crier Report

The annual Small Business Saturday is taking place Nov. 29, and the Los Altos Village Association is encouraging residents to be a neighborhood champion for small businesses in Los Altos by shopping small and supporting local businesses.

People who stop by the Veterans Community Plaza at Main and State streets on Saturday, Nov. 29 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. will receive some-

thing special that shows the value and importance of small businesses in the community.

The Los Altos Festival of Lights Parade is also coming to downtown Los Altos, Nov. 30, beginning at 6 p.m. Produced by the Los Altos Festival of Lights Association, a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization of community members, the parade has been bringing the magic of the holiday season to Los Altos since 1977.

Have a comment or idea? Reach out

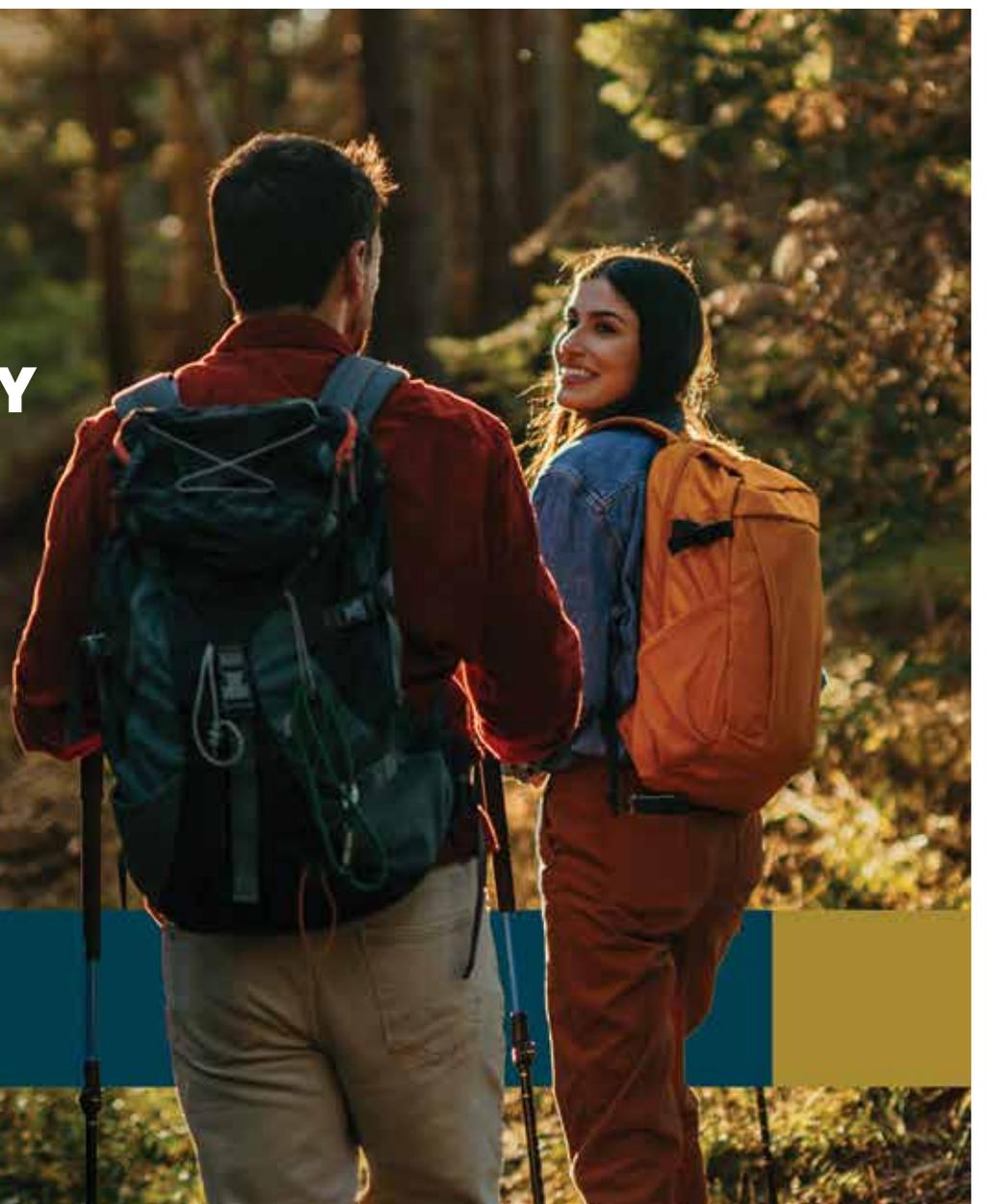
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Sports

Los Altos girls water polo makes statement with CCS title

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

The third quarter has been a make-or-break one for the Los Altos girls water polo team this season, and Saturday's performance after the half made it the CCS Division I champion.

Up 5-3 at halftime after a lackluster first half, No. 1 seed Eagles came out firing after the break, going on a 5-0 run in the third quarter thanks to three goals from Sophia Boschken and a suffocating defense that forced turnovers and bad passes en route to a 14-7 title win over No. 2 seed Valley Christian.

"We call that our statement quarter because that's typically when teams are a little bit tired," Los Altos coach Katie Tasman said. "The mental side starts to come into play a little bit more. We really wanted to focus on coming out strong on defense, making sure we were

pressing them and fueling our counter. Getting those couple of goals right away helped settle us."

Boschken came out ready in the second half, scoring just a minute and a half into the third quarter, adding two goals at the end of the quarter. Boschken, one of the team's main attacking forces this season, said her coaches at halftime were telling her to lock in with the game close.

"If I got the opportunity to score and someone was not on me, and I was not pressed, I would rip it," Boschken said of the second half.

Boschken finished with a team-leading six goals, scoring five in the second half and one in the first.

"She is someone that every team that she plays knows, and they always have her number and make sure that they are double-teaming her, but she finds ways to get open," Tas-



GABRIELA DE CARVALHO TELES/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos' Sophia Boschken looks for a shot during the CCS Division I title win over Valley Christian Saturday, a 14-7 win for Los Altos.

man said of Boschken. "She's her counterattack and speed about managing the clock up very creative and crafty in and get down there." 10-3, with everyone on Los there, so her being able to use The fourth quarter was

See LOS ALTOS, Page 19

St. Francis comes up short in CCS playoff loss to Los Gatos

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Playoff football often comes to one final play or needing a yard, condensing the work of the summer and regular season into a moment.

Friday's CCS Open/Division I playoff game between St. Francis and Los Gatos delivered that, with St. Francis running back Kaimani Keanaaina needing a yard to pull within an extra point of a tie but getting stopped at the goal line by the Los Gatos defense line as time expired in a thrilling 14-7 win.

With 15 seconds remaining and a tough Los Gatos defense stuffing a run the previous play, St. Francis had no timeouts left as the clock ran down. Quickly lining up at the one-yard line, St. Francis bet on its offensive line and run game to get the yard needed, a team strength throughout the season. Los Gatos pulled off the stop thanks to an aggressive defense that loaded the box and shot through to take down Keanaaina in the backfield.

"Unfortunately, we didn't have that last timeout; we had to just run the same play twice, and they knew it," St. Francis head coach Greg Calcagno said. "Hats off to Los Gatos. It was a hell of a game for everybody. ... People got their money's worth."

St. Francis got the ball down 14-7 with approximately five minutes left in the game and ran 15 plays, most of them runs, to get to the one-yard line with under a minute left. While the ending did not go St. Francis' way, Calcagno was proud of the way the team fought and battled for each other.

"Happy with what we did, wish we would have got in, but super proud of our young men," Calcagno said.

Both offenses started slowly in the first half, with a touchdown throw from Los Gatos' Callum Schweitzer to Max Thomas the only score of the first half. St. Francis, the visiting No. 6 seed, had several penalties and drops that stalled offensive drives, but the St. Francis defense kept it to 7-0 at the end of the first half.

"We shot ourselves in the foot a little bit in the first half, momentum-wise," Calcagno said. "We felt like we were there, we just had to tighten some things up."

The Lancers had new life in the second half, tying the game up with 5:21 left in the third quarter on a quarterback sneak from Drew Cumby. The St. Francis defense made several plays in the third quarter, including a sack by defensive end Miles Day that resulted in a turnover on downs and a fumble



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis quarterback Drew Cumby throws a pass in the game Friday against Los Gatos in the CCS playoffs, a 14-7 win for Los Gatos.

recovery by defensive tackle Case Jacobson in St. Francis territory on the following Los Gatos offensive drive to keep the score tied at seven. Although Los Gatos scored in the fourth quarter on a touchdown pass from Schweitzer with six minutes left, the St. Francis defense kept the team in the game against the high-powered attack. Los Gatos has scored over 50 points in its last two games and had its lowest scoring output

for the season Friday night. Los Gatos' lowest score of the season previously was a 28-0 win over Menlo School in the regular season.

"I thought our defense played fantastic," Calcagno said. "They've been scoring 40 a game, and they're super explosive offensively. Us being able to hold them to 14 was pretty incredible."

Los Gatos, the No. 3 seed, will play No. 4 seed Palma next week.

Sports

Prep Sports Summary

Cross Country

The Los Altos girls cross country team won the Central Coast Section Division I Championship Saturday, finishing with a score of 52, ahead of second-place Menlo-Atherton with 76. Three of its runners finished in the top 10. Samantha Witteles finished second with a time of 18:05, Eliana Witteles third with a time of 18:07 and Cali Barberi ninth with 18:41. The Los Altos boys finished fourth in the CCS Division I race. Taran Davies was the top finisher for the Eagles with a fifth-place showing.

The Mountain View boys won the CCS Division II championship race thanks to the top five runners all finishing in the top 10. Ryan Chen finished second in 15:08, Deven Koppala fourth (15:14), Dean Caringella seventh (15:30), Liam Tassa eighth (15:31) and Ian Gerber 10th (15:42). The Mountain View girls finished as runners-up in the CCS Division II race with a score of 74. Ada Bielinska and Cassidy Misuraca finished 10th and 11th, respectively.

The St. Francis girls won the CCS Division II race with a score of 45. Payton Wagner finished fifth, Brinley Pickett seventh, Lily Symon eighth and Lauren Draper ninth. The St. Francis boys finished fourth in the Division II race. Tyler Huo led the Lancers with an 11th-place finish during the meet.

Tennis

The Los Altos girls tennis team beat Menlo School Saturday 4-3 in the semifinals. Los Altos moves on to the final against Los Gatos Tuesday (after the Town Crier print deadline). The final was moved from Saturday, Nov. 15, to Tuesday, Nov. 18, due to a rainout.

Field hockey

The No. 4 seed St. Francis field hockey team lost to No. 2 seed Los Gatos 3-0 Wednesday in the CCS Division I championship final.



GABRIELA DE CARVALHO TELES/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos used a strong third quarter to beat Valley Christian 14-7 Saturday in the CCS Division I final.

LOS ALTOS

From Page 18

Los Altos getting opportunities to play and both teams each scoring four goals in the quarter to make it 14-7. Sophomore Kylie Barkovich finished with four goals, while Maria Selikhonovich, Annie Aliashvili, Zoey Shan and Kylie Parman all got on the scoresheet for Los Altos.

“I think once you get your momentum in the third quarter, you can make the fourth quarter easier,” Boschken said. “It was great playing that third quarter together.”

Tasman noted that increasing the defense intensity was the focus in the third quarter after a close first half.

“They came out ready to go and put us on our toes,” Tasman said. “We didn’t come out as defensively strong as

we wanted to, but with those couple of adjustments, we were able to turn it around.”

The CCS Division I title this year helps ease the sting of last year’s loss in the Division I final against Leigh, 9-8. No. 1 seed Los Altos got its revenge this year when it played No. 5 seed Leigh in the semifinals Thursday, a 10-5 win that built confidence and momentum heading into the final on the Sacred Heart Prep campus.

“The girls have busted their butts all season long,” Tasman said of winning the title. “They absolutely earned that and deserved that.”

Valley Christian finishes the season 15-12. Los Altos (23-6) now moves on to the CIF Nor-Cal water polo playoffs as the No. 3 seed. Los Altos hosts No. 6 seed Amador Valley Tuesday, Nov. 18 (after the Town Crier print deadline) at 5 p.m.

Call for Applications El Camino Health Governance Committee Member

EL CAMINO HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS is seeking individual(s) interested in serving as a member of its **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**. El Camino Health is an Integrated Health Delivery System which serves the residents / workers of Silicon Valley and Santa Clara County. El Camino Health has received a number of awards for top-level quality and patient experience.

We welcome diverse applicants who bring a range of perspectives and experiences to help advise the Board in matters related to governance, board development, board effectiveness, and board composition. Committed candidates should have demonstrated strategic effectiveness in the areas of board governance, organizational leadership, and healthcare executive leadership.

This is a volunteer, unpaid Committee member role. Candidates from the local community in and around Santa Clara County would be appropriate.

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Stepping Out

Business & Real Estate

Doctors' tips to stay healthy and safe this holiday season

Statepoint

The holiday season is a joyous time to reconnect with family and friends, but it can also throw your wellness routines out of alignment. Doctors advise prioritizing healthy choices now so you can start 2026 feeling your best.

"Amid the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's easy to lose sight of our well-being, overindulge in food and drink, and feel stressed. A little awareness and a few healthy habits can go a long way in helping you and loved ones enjoy the season in good health," said Dr. Bobby Mukkamala, president of the American Medical Association (AMA).

For a healthy and happy holiday season, the AMA recommends the following tips:

- Watch what you eat. Pay attention to labels and avoid ultra-processed foods, especially those high in added sodium, saturated fats and sugar. Consider having a healthy snack before the big meal or offer to bring a

healthier dish for the holiday spread. Drink water instead of sugar-sweetened beverages, and eat nutritious, whole foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables alongside richer holiday dishes.

- Prioritize your mental health. Factors such as holiday spending and navigating time with extended family can bring on extra seasonal stress. Get sufficient sleep and exercise, and don't hesitate to talk to a mental health professional when you need help managing stress.

- Prioritize physical activity during this busy time of year. A good rule of thumb for adults is at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity each week. Brisk walks, bike rides, hikes and family-friendly sports like basketball and touch football can provide easy, fun ways to get off the couch and elevate your heart rate. If you're traveling, don't forget to pack your sneakers.

- Be prepared when traveling. Whether you're flying or

taking a road trip, you might be tempted to grab convenient yet unhealthy food for the journey. Consider packing your own snacks, such as fresh fruits and vegetables or small portions of dried fruits and nuts. When flying, pack your medication in your carry-on bag instead of your checked luggage so it's easily accessible. Keeping medication handy will help you avoid missing a dose on busy travel days, especially amid flight delays. Stay hydrated and drink plenty of water during your flight as air travel can cause dehydration. And keep your body moving in-flight to avoid blood clots.

- Make smart choices and plan ahead if you're driving. In December 2023 alone, 1,038 people died in alcohol impaired-driving crashes in the United States. If you plan to drink, always arrange for a sober driver or alternative transportation. And if you are the designated driver, commit to 100% sobriety. Also make sure to get plenty



MARCOS ELIHU CASTILLO RAMIREZ/ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

Doctors recommend watching what you eat and prioritizing mental health and physical activity during the holidays.

of sleep before your road trip as drowsy driving is responsible for an estimated 100,000 car crashes each year nationwide.

- Vaccination remains the best protection against several serious respiratory viruses circulating this fall and winter, particularly as people are spending

more time indoors and gathering for the holidays. The AMA encourages you to speak with your physician or other health care professional to determine which vaccines are best for you. The AMA offers infographics

See **HEALTHY**, Page 22

Reconciling religion and spirituality with supporting your LGBTQ+ child

By Susie Driscoll

If we show love to youth in one breath and condemn them in the next, we are doing something wrong.

I experienced this when I was in a girls' small group at my church in middle school. Somehow the conversation shifted to LGBTQ+ topics, about which the pastor's daughter said, "I can't believe someone could be okay with (homosexuality)!" I was stunned into silence, and it seemed the adult small-group leaders were too. I did not know I was bisexual at the time, but I considered myself an ally to my queer friends. I felt disillusioned and heartbroken that someone could be friendly and warm until they found out that a person's sexual orientation or gender identity clashed with their views of the world. I left that church within about a year after the discussion.

Sadly, this is an all-too-common phenomenon across various faith traditions. For many youth raised in a

Authentically You

particular faith, coming out as queer can lead to rejection by those in the faith or leaving that community because the youth question its doctrine. Additionally, the ones rejecting children and teens can often be their own families. Most parents love and want the best for their children. However, it can be challenging to maintain one's spiritual and religious beliefs while also maintaining one's relationship with their LGBTQ+ child.

This dilemma can create pain for children and families alike. In order to accept their LGBTQ+ children, parents may have to leave their faith communities. However, if they reject their children for religious reasons, the children might emotionally suffer. The Family Acceptance Project studied families that engaged in rejecting behaviors (for example, using religion to try to change or prevent young people's LGBTQ+ identity). Rejected

young people in these studies showed poorer mental health. Specifically, children from families that engaged in a high number of rejecting behaviors were eight times more likely to attempt suicide. These young people were also three times as likely to use illicit drugs, increasing their risk for HIV or other sexually transmitted infections.

Learning to support an LGBTQ+ child or teen can be daunting for many parents. However, the study above highlights that accepting and supporting queer youth can be life-saving. The Family Acceptance Project researchers noted that LGBTQ+ young people from families that were very accepting of their identity were three times less likely to attempt suicide and significantly less likely to abuse drugs and/or alcohol. The researchers also reported that youth from these families experienced better health, higher self-esteem, more social support and better relationships with their family.

Therefore, accepting and supporting LGBTQ+ young people is in their

best interest. This does not mean families need to abandon their spiritual or religious beliefs. Instead, they can find faith communities that welcome queer members. With discussion and education, more faith communities can learn to embrace young people exactly as they are while still maintaining important tenets and doctrines.

How can families be accepting? Support LGBTQ+ youth, whether you agree or not. Talk unreservedly about your child's sexual orientation or gender identity – otherwise, the silence can also do damage. For instance, not acknowledging these topics can inadvertently make them taboo, which then decreases the child's emotional safety to talk about themselves or their world. Instead, express hope that your child can have a happy future as an openly "out" LGBTQ+ person.

Being accepting might also mean advocating for youth. If schools or other family members are harassing or not accepting your child due to their

See **SUPPORT**, Page 23

HEALTHY From Page 21

to help patients and physicians cut through vaccine confusion and foster open, honest conversations with each other. The infographics can be found at ama-assn.org.

• Start New Year's resolutions early. Speak with your doctor or other health care professional about quitting tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes, and declare

your home and car smoke-free to protect loved ones from secondhand smoke exposure.

"While you're celebrating this holiday season and reconnecting with family and friends, remember to take care of your health. Eating well, staying active, and taking precautions to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses can help you enjoy the season and start the new year strong," said Dr. Mukkamala.

Unlocking vitality – overcoming pelvic floor challenges for a renewed life

By Kim Gladfelter

The pelvic floor is a remarkable network of muscles, ligaments and tissues that forms the base of your core, supporting organs like the bladder, intestines and reproductive system. Yet, for millions of people, pelvic floor dysfunction can silently disrupt daily life, leading to discomfort, embarrassment and limitations that erode confidence and freedom. Issues arise from factors like childbirth, aging, surgery or chronic strain, causing weakness or tightness in these muscles.

Freedom from leakage

One common pelvic floor issue is urinary incontinence, where weakened muscles lead to involuntary leaks during activities like sneezing, exercising or even standing up quickly. This condition affects both men and women, often stemming from pregnancy, prostate issues or menopause, and can create constant anxiety, social withdrawal and a diminished quality of life. People might avoid workouts, travel or gatherings, fearing accidents that reinforce feelings of vulnerability.

Mindful Movement

However, after undergoing pelvic floor treatment, individuals report transformative outcomes. Strengthened muscles restore bladder control, allowing for carefree movement and spontaneity. Many describe feeling "lighter" without the mental burden of constant vigilance, regaining the energy to pursue hobbies or fitness routines. This renewed confidence often translates to a youthful bounce in their step, with patients noting they feel 10 to 20 years younger, free from the chains of embarrassment and ready to embrace life's adventures.

Digestive harmony

Digestive problems, such as constipation, bloating or irritable bowel symptoms, can also trace back to pelvic floor dysfunction. Tight or uncoordinated muscles hinder proper bowel function, leading to straining, incomplete evacuation or chronic discomfort that disrupts eating habits and daily routines. This can result in fatigue, nutritional deficiencies and a cycle of frustration

that impacts work productivity and personal relationships. Treatment focuses on relaxing and retraining these muscles, yielding impressive positive changes.

Post-therapy, many experience smoother digestion and regular bowel movements, alleviating bloating and pain for a sense of internal lightness and ease. Patients often share how this relief revitalizes their overall well-being, making them feel more vibrant and youthful. No longer bogged down by gastrointestinal woes, they enjoy meals without dread, sleep better and engage more fully in social activities, fostering a profound sense of rejuvenation.

Renewing connection

Intimacy problems represent another significant pelvic floor challenge, where muscle imbalances cause pain during intercourse, reduced sensation or erectile difficulties in men. These issues can strain relationships, lower self-esteem and lead to emotional isolation, as individuals withdraw from physical closeness to avoid discomfort or disappointment.

See VITALITY, Page 23



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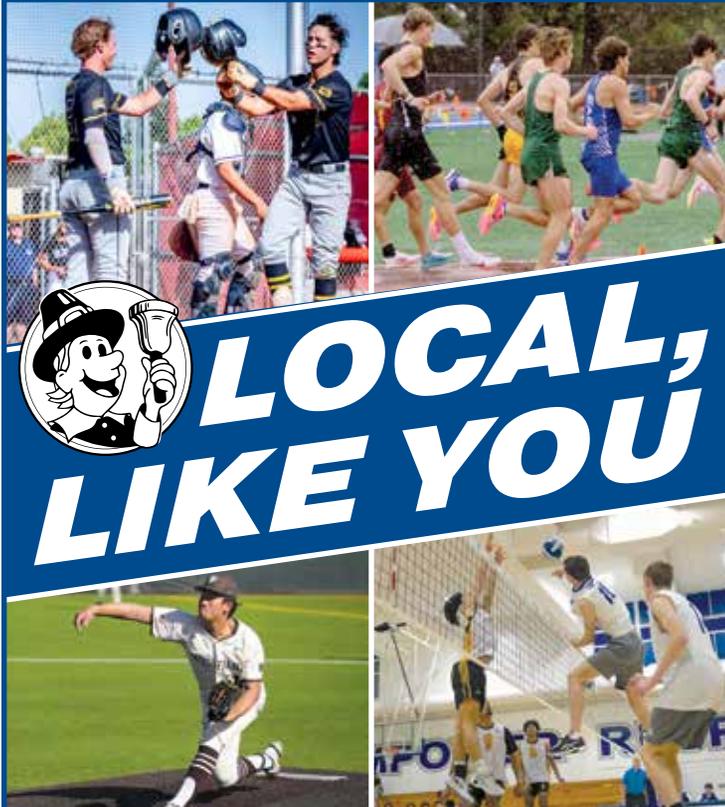
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Your Health

VITALITY

From Page 22

Factors like hormonal shifts, trauma or sedentary lifestyles exacerbate the problem, turning what should be a source of joy into a source of stress.

Fortunately, pelvic floor interventions bring remarkable positive outcomes. Enhanced muscle tone and blood flow heighten sensitivity and pleasure, making intimate moments more enjoyable and fulfilling. Many report feeling “more” during intimacy – deeper connections, increased arousal and a return to passion that reignites partnerships. This boost not only mends physical barriers but also restores emotional intimacy, leaving people feeling younger, more desirable and alive with a renewed sense of vitality that permeates all aspects of life.

Chronic pelvic pain

Beyond these, pelvic floor dysfunction can manifest as chronic pelvic pain or prolapse, where organs shift due

to weakened support, causing heaviness, pressure or persistent aches that limit mobility and daily tasks. This ongoing discomfort often leads to reliance on pain medications, reduced activity levels and a pervasive sense of aging prematurely. Treatment addresses the root cause, promoting healing that eases pain and restores structural integrity.

Outcomes include a lighter, more agile body. People frequently express feeling decades younger, empowered to hike, dance or play with grandchildren – experiences once thought lost. This holistic recovery enhances mental clarity and optimism, turning back the clock on body and spirit.

The path to healing

Treatment for pelvic floor issues is multifaceted and tailored, drawing from proven therapies to achieve lasting results. Physical therapy involves hands-on techniques and exercises to strengthen or relax muscles, improving coordination and function. Occupational therapy adapts daily activities to support recovery,

helping integrate habits that prevent recurrence. Innovative tools like the stimpod deliver neuromuscular electrical stimulation to reset the nerves that coordinate muscles naturally.

Shockwave therapy, including EMTT (Extracorporeal Magnetotransduction Therapy), uses acoustic waves or magnetic fields to reduce inflammation, promote tissue repair and enhance blood flow. Therapeutic pilates emphasizes controlled movements to build core stability and pelvic awareness, fostering long-term resilience. These approaches, often combined, are gentle, evidence-based and empower patients to take an active role in their healing journey.

Experience a complimentary pelvic floor demo session and discover how your body can heal and feel 20 years younger – naturally. Take the first step to healing by calling today and unlock the vitality you’ve been missing.

Kim Gladfelter is owner of PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness in Los Altos. To learn more, call (650) 887-6046 or visit physiofitpt.com.

SUPPORT

From Page 21

LGBTQ+ identity, defend your child or educate others as needed. People can operate off of limited knowledge or misinformation about queer-related issues. It also can be exhausting or intimidating for kids to constantly educate or advocate for themselves, so relieve their pressure to speak up when appropriate.

Raising morally upstanding children can be a challenging task, fraught with responsibility. Additionally, protecting children who are targeted by society due to their identities is even more complex. But fully embracing queer youth can create deep connections between them and their families. The LGBTQ+ community is strong and is made even stronger by loved ones’ support.

To learn more about LGBTQ+ topics, there are many resources available. PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) is an organization committed to being a resource for the LGBTQ+ community and their loved ones. PFLAG has chapters across the U.S., including one in Sunnyvale (pflag.org/). Another powerful resource is The Trevor Project, which not only offers suicide and crisis support for LGBTQ+ youth but also includes educational resources on its website (thetrevorproject.org/). Lastly, the Transfamily Alliance offers training and education for families of transgender and gender expansive youth (transfamilyalliance.com/).

Susie Driscoll, LMFT, is a licensed psychotherapist. For information on her practice, email susie@kindwithin-counseling.com.

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

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Schools

Gardner Bullis Elementary celebrates Ruby Bridges

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giuseppe@latc.com

More than 150 Los Altos Hills students and parents marched to Gardner Bullis Elementary on Friday to celebrate and remember civil rights icon Ruby Bridges.

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day is a state-recognized event honoring Ruby Bridges, the first African American child to desegregate her elementary school on Nov. 14, 1960. Bridges integrated William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans and became a national icon of the Civil Rights Movement.

Melissa French, parent of a third grader and a fourth grader at the school, has been the chief organizer for the event and said Ruby Bridges' bravery helped pave the way for civil rights action in the

American South.

"I think we are building strong community members," she said. "In addition to being strong learners, they're learning to be strong citizens."

Students began at the city hall parking lot and walked the short distance on Fremont Road past the Purissima Hills Water District building to the school campus. Organizers asked students to wear purple in accordance with the holiday theme, and the walk was lined with posters providing information about Ruby Bridges' life.

"We walk to follow the footsteps of people who change the world for the better," said Zivah, a sixth grader.

Chloe, a third grader, added, "She helped make the world a better place. She fought for rights and equality."

The event concluded back

at the school campus, where parents and students attended an assembly about Ruby Bridges and her life.

"We are lucky to be in a school that is accepting of each other's differences," Gardner Bullis Principal Katherine Schermerhorn said during the assembly. "We celebrate this day so that we can inspire the next generation of leaders to end racism and bullying together."

The students said the event helped inspire them to do things that changed the world.

"Ruby Bridges helped people go to the same school even though she was afraid. She was brave," said Audrey, a second-grade student.

Lucas, a third-grade student, added, "Ruby Bridges helped people believe that working together and being kind is important, regardless of skin color."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDNER BULLIS ELEMENTARY

Daniel and Amelia, kindergarten students, participate in the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day event on Friday.

Local districts exceed state assessment and success metrics

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giuseppe@latc.com

In almost all metrics, Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District and Los Altos School District exceed state data on academic performance, graduation rates and absenteeism.

Last week, state education officials released the 2025 School Dashboard, an annual report tracking student assessment data and other success metrics. Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District and Los Altos School District received top marks, or a blue color-coded score indicator, for being above the state standard in English and Language Arts as well as mathematics testing.

"Seeing modest improvement on every dashboard indicator should encourage us to deepen our investments in every child's progress," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. "We can see that strategies like community schools and literacy coaches are making a positive impact for the whole child."

Statewide, educators noted modest gains in almost all areas. For the first

time, all indicators were at least "yellow" or "green," reflecting that all key student outcomes are showing improvement. Colors on the dashboard are based on both status and progress since the previous year.

The metrics are measured on a color-coded system, from red (lowest) to blue (highest). The assessment data is based on student performance on state assessment tests, which are taken annually by students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11.

California's graduation rate is at its highest since the launch of the California School Dashboard in 2017; 87.5 percent, up 4.5 percentage points since then. Mountain View-Los Altos School District has a graduation rate of 94.8%.

College and career readiness has increased by 3.1 percentage points statewide, with 51.7% of graduates statewide who were prepared for college and career by their high school graduation. Mountain View-Los Altos School District has a college and career readiness rate of 77.2%, with a blue color indicator.

The rate of chronic absenteeism for TK through 8 students continues to improve in the statewide rate with 17.1%. At



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

The Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District has achieved top marks in the 2025 School Dashboard released by state education officials.

the Los Altos School District, the level was 5.4%, with a green indicator.

Across the county, Santa Clara County students are outperforming students statewide in English Language arts, math and science.

In 2025, 59.8% of students in the

county met or exceeded standard ELA, 53.2% met or exceeded the standard in math and 47.6% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded the standard in science.

See DISTRICT, Page 26

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Schools

DISTRICT From Page 25

The chronic absentee rate in Santa Clara County is at 15.3% compared to the state's 19.4%

rate.

"This progress is remarkable. We should all be proud of the work that goes into ensuring every student is making progress in their academic goals," said

Dr. David M. Toston, Sr. County Superintendent of Schools. "However, there is still plenty of work we all need to do to ensure students are successful in and out of school."

Do you need to have a Legal or Public Notice published?

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The Town Crier's unmatched service can take care of your Fictitious Business Name Statement, Notice of Probate, Name Change and much more.



For more information, contact Melissa at **(650) 397-5208**, or email: legals@latc.com



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Los Altos School District has achieved top marks in the state's 2025 School Dashboard.



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**TK & K
Open House**

December 5
9:30 - 11:00am
www.lacs.com



Scan to Register

625 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos CA 94024



Read TC, both print and online

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

LEADERSHIP - ACADEMICS - CHARACTER - SERVICE

Stepping Out

What's on this week

• **Catch the Spirit**, noon to 4 p.m. today (Nov. 19), Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road. Enjoy festive music from Schola Cantorum, the Egan Junior High School chorus and more, along with tours of the historic J. Gilbert Smith House and gift shopping. Admission is free. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/HistoryMuseum-Spirit.

• **"Ada & the Engine,"** Nov. 21 through Dec. 7, Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida, Suite A, Mountain View. As the British Industrial Revolution dawns, young Ada Byron Lovelace (Angel Lin) sees the boundless creative potential in the "analytic engines" of her friend and soul mate Charles Babbage, inventor of the first mechanical computer. Ada envisions a new world where art and information converge. It's a music-laced story of love, friendship and the edgiest dreams of the future. Tickets are \$43-\$45. For tickets, visit thepear.org.

• **Brazilian singer Masha Campagne**, 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Nov. 21, Meyhouse Jazz Palo Alto Stage, 640 Emerson St., Palo Alto. Other events at Meyhouse include Carnival of Sound: An Evening of Brazilian Music Nov. 22; Flamenco guitar virtuoso Teresa Jiménez Nov. 28 and 29. Tickets are

\$48 (some shows offer \$38 early bird pricing). Turkish cuisine available for purchase. For tickets and more information, visit meyhousejazz.com.

• **Swinging in the Holidays**, 7-8:30 p.m. Nov. 22, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts Main Stage, 500 Castro St. Jazz at the Ballroom brings a fresh, hip take on holiday favorites reimagined in the style of Broadway, jazz and old Hollywood. Tickets are \$13-\$47. For tickets and more information, visit tinyurl.com/MVCPA-Swinging.

• **"A Driving Beat,"** through Nov. 23 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts SecondStage, 500 Castro St. A mother-son cross-country road trip is set to the teen's hip-hop beat in this voyage of discovery, identity, understanding and love. Tickets are \$69-\$79. For tickets, visit theatreworks.org.

• **Latin dance lessons** and social dancing at Alberto's, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. Schedule varies – lessons generally start at 7:30 or 8 p.m. followed by social dancing. Sundays: Tango; Tuesdays and Thursday through Saturday: Salsa; Wednesdays: Bachata. Cost is \$15. Guests must be 21 or older. For more information, visit albertos.com.

It's almost "Nutcracker" season!

"The Nutcracker," a ballet Christmas tradition for many, is coming to the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. The center has scheduled performances from two ballet companies – Pacific Ballet Academy (Nov. 28-30) and Western Ballet (Dec. 5-7).

For tickets and more information, visit mvpca.com.



Last chance for 'Rossum's Universal Robots'

Robots are ready for action in Foothill Theatre Arts' "Rossum's Universal Robots" ("R.U.R."). The futuristic, sci-fi play closes Sunday, Nov. 23.

The robots are created with Automated Ingenuity (A.I.), which allows them to think and make decisions as long as it is within their programming. The robots, however, have other ideas.

Stop by the Lohman lobby an hour before the show to experience a variety of free STEM-based activities.

Lohman Theatre is located at Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Tickets are \$15-\$28. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/Foothill-RUR.



PHOTO BY DHAYESPHOTOS



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Join us for Thanksgiving!

Thursday, November 27
at 10AM

In person service or dial-in/zoom

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good."

— PSALMS 136:1



First Church of Christ, Scientist

401 University Avenue, Los Altos, CA, 94022

See website for dial in information and zoom link.

christiansciencelosaltos.org

Business & Real Estate

Mtn. View Chamber of Commerce announces board members

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Members of the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce elected new and returning members to its board of directors. Terms go into effect Jan. 1.

The chamber provides support and advocacy for businesses while encouraging a strong local economy.

“Directors are responsible for the well being of the organization, its members and its mission. They provide vision, direction and support for the CEO and the team,” Peter Katz, chamber president and CEO, stated in an email. “They are expected to attend major functions, act as public ambassadors and serve on committees and task forces.”

Its board of directors is comprised of business owners and professionals that make policies and represent the chamber – and local businesses – across the community, according to the Mountain View Chamber of

Commerce website. Approximately 15 to 21 members serve on the board in three-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive full terms.

Incumbent directors include Joseph Curran, Shashi Hospitality Group; the now-chair Jessica Hill, Shoreline Amphitheatre/Live Nation; Ashish Mathur, El Camino Health; Randy Tsuda, Alta Housing; and Sankar Venkatraman, LinkedIn Corporation.

New elected directors include Simone Harms of the Ameswell Hotel and Alex Norman of Matternet. Directors appointed during the year include Jennifer Kain, Google, and Moses Zapien, Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Peter Katz was again confirmed as chamber president and CEO; Laura Blakely of GCA Law Partners was confirmed as board immediate past chair; Kristina Whalen, Foothill College president, was confirmed as chair-elect and secretary; Ellis Berns of ebernsconsulting as treasurer.

Poppy Bank blooms on First



PHOTO COURTESY OF RG PHOTOGRAPHY

Kim Mosley, Los Altos Chamber of Commerce president, stands near Anthony Carnesecca, Los Altos assistant to the city manager, while speaking at the Poppy Bank grand opening Nov. 12.

RECENTLY SOLD LISTINGS



12698 LA CRESTA DRIVE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA 94022
\$7,501,000 | 5 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS
Sold over \$1M over list price with 3 offers



570 SEQUOIA DRIVE
LOS ALTOS, CA 94024
\$4,510,000 | 3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS
Sold over \$1M over list price with 13 offers



100 DOUD DRIVE
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022
\$4,298,000 | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS
Sold for over \$1M over list price with 10 offers



1617 DALLAS COURT
LOS ALTOS, CA 94024
\$4,203,225 | 5 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS
Sold over \$200K with 3 offers

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L.NORTH@THEAGENCYRE.COM
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LynnNorth.com



Don't scan QR codes that come with an unexpected package

Better Business Bureau

A package you didn't order could be a fun surprise, but be careful, especially if it comes with a QR code. It might be the setup for a scam.

In a “brushing” scam, you receive a package you didn't order, often without a return address. This is often a setup by unscrupulous companies who found your address online. After the company ships the product to you, they can post a fake, positive review on your behalf to improve their store's ratings and get more sales.

Reports to BBB Scam Tracker over the last few months show a twist on brushing scams where the package contains a QR code. The code comes with instructions to scan it to find out who sent the package or how to start a return. Scanning the QR code can lead to a phishing website or download malware onto your device.

In a recent BBB Scam Tracker report, a consumer shared this experience: “I received a small package at my door marked UNIUNI from: LEO This person/company has my name and address - when I googled them, the information states this is a brushing scam and that someone has obtained my personal information from either AliExpress, TEMU or Amazon. I have an Amazon account but have not used those other sites. The

BBB Scam Alert

label has a tracking number, QR code, customer number and reference number. I have not opened the package, nor do I wish to - this is highly suspicious. I did not order anything from this company/person.”

It might seem like there are no downsides to a free package, but it could be a sign that someone is using your personal information for their own gain. If this happens to you, BBB recommends checking the security of your accounts and notifying the retailer who sent you the package.

What to do if you receive a package you didn't order:

- Don't scan QR codes
- Protect your identity. Keep a close eye on your credit reports and credit card bills after you receive the package
- Notify the retailer. They will investigate your report
- Check for fake reviews
- Pause deliveries
- Keep the package. Don't try to return it, especially if there are instructions to scan a QR code or enter information. It could needlessly compromise more of your personal information.



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DeLeonRealty_USA



976 LAUREL GLEN DRIVE | \$8,499,000 | 6 Bd | 6.5 Bth
PALO ALTO | 976LaurelGlen.com



3165 MORRIS DRIVE | \$2,488,000 | 3 Bd | 1 Bth
PALO ALTO | 3165Morris.com



11722 PUTTER WAY | \$3,200,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
LOS ALTOS | 11722Putter.com



3428 ALMA VILLAGE CIR | \$2,900,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
PALO ALTO | 3428AlmaVillage.com



579 GLENBROOK DRIVE | \$5,750,000 | 6 Bd | 4 Bth
PALO ALTO | 579Glenbrook.com



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



40 TAGUS COURT | \$6,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
PORTOLA VALLEY | 40Tagus.com



160 PHILLIP ROAD | \$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
WOODSIDE | 160Phillip.com

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OPEN SAT & SUN November 22 & 23, 2:00 – 4:00pm



Kathy Bridgman's

NEW LISTING
OF THE WEEK

Close-In Sprawling Estate with Pool and Tennis Court 11637 Rebecca Lane, Los Altos Hills

- Sprawling estate property on the market for the first time since built in 1980
- One level with 5 bedrooms and 4 baths, plus attached ADU with kitchen and bath
- Approximately 4,669 square feet (not verified by Compass)
- Approximately 1.28 acres (55,756 square feet not verified by Compass)
- Pool, spa, tennis court, outdoor shower, built-in barbecue, and vast lawn
- End of a cul-de-sac with long gated driveway and significant off-street parking
- Freshly painted interiors and new carpet in some rooms
- Formal living room with fireplace plus formal dining room
- Spacious skylit kitchen with island seating, wine bar, and high-end appliances
- Family room, fully open to the kitchen, with fireplace and access to dual terraces
- Privately located bedroom and bath plus separate wing with spacious primary suite with extra-large designer closet, bedroom suite, two bedrooms and bath, and studio ADU with full kitchen, bath, and laundry
- Attached 3-car garage with custom built-ins and walk-up loft storage
- Close-in convenience less than one mile from Rancho Shopping Center
- Excellent Los Altos schools (buyer to confirm)

Price upon request | 11637Rebecca.com

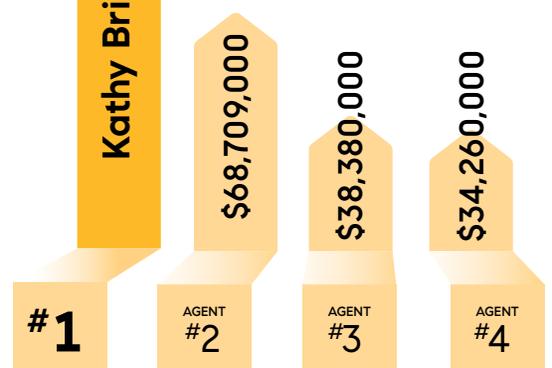


KATHY BRIDGMAN
BROKER ASSOCIATE

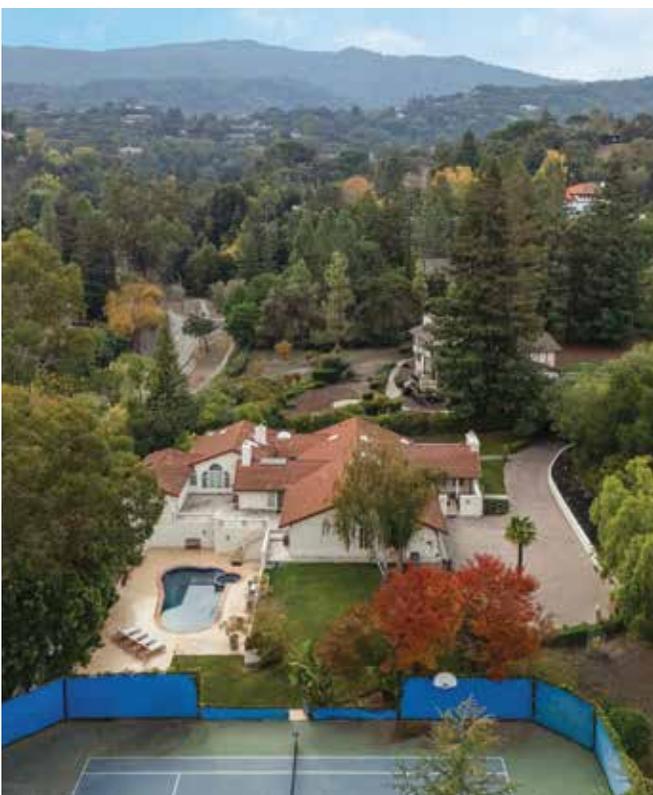
Kathy Bridgman: \$189,415,000

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Los Altos &
Los Altos Hills, 2024

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Work with the best in 2025!



Per MLS reported sales volume for LA/LAH, 2024



650.868.7677

License #01189798

kathy@kathybridgman.com

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COMPASS

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

Beginning January 1, 2026, the water bills of California Water Service (Cal Water) customers in the Los Altos District will reflect a pass-through of higher charges for purchased power from Pacific Gas & Electric, incurred by the company. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has determined that expenses for purchased power are not under the company's control, and that a pass-through of those costs to customers is just and reasonable if properly calculated. Cal Water is also requesting to change rates for costs associated with completed infrastructure projects previously authorized by the CPUC in Decision 24-03-042. On or around November 21, 2025, Cal Water will file Advice Letter 2570 to request authority to increase its annual revenue by \$224,193, or 0.4%. Pending the CPUC's review of Cal Water's calculations, the increase will be effective on January 1, 2026. With the increase, a typical monthly bill for a Los Altos residential customer with a 5/8" x 3/4" meter who uses 9 CCF (which is 900 cubic feet or 6,732 gallons) of water per month will increase by \$0.23, or 0.3%. On or around November 21, 2025, Cal Water will file Advice Letter 2571 requesting authority to increase revenues to recover recently completed and previously authorized infrastructure improvements. In the advice letter, Cal Water requests additional revenue of \$45,880, or 0.07% of currently authorized revenue. If approved, effective January 1, 2026, the water bill of a Los Altos District residential customer with 9 CCF (approximately 6,732 gallons) of monthly water usage would increase by approximately \$0.08, or 0.09%. Although previously authorized by the CPUC in Decision 24-03-042 as part of the utility's triennial rate review process, the project's cost could only be recovered through a rate increase after it was completed. A copy of Advice Letters 2570 and 2571 will be available on the internet at <https://www.calwater.com/rates-advice-letters/> (please select Los Altos Suburban from the drop-down menu), and may also be obtained from the company's local offices by calling (650) 917-0152. You may also contact the company's headquarters by mailing the Rates Department at 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598, or by calling (408) 367-8200 and asking for the Rates Department. Cal Water offers many programs to help you manage your water bill including a Customer Assistance Program (CAP), (formerly, low-income ratepayer assistance program (LIRA)), water conserving appliance rebates, and other conservation programs. Please visit our website at www.calwater.com to take advantage of these opportunities. Protests and Responses. Anyone may respond to or protest this filing. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in its evaluation. A protest objects to the filing in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based, and shall provide citations or proof where available to allow Commission staff to properly consider the protest. The grounds for protests are:

1. The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the filing.
2. The relief requested in the fil-

ing would violate statute or Commission order, or is not authorized by statute or Commission order on which the utility relies.

3. The analysis, calculations, or data in the filing contains material error or omissions.
4. The relief requested in the filing is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding, or
5. The relief requested in the filing requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the filing process, or
6. The relief requested in the filing is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the Commission).

A response or protest must be made in writing and received by the Commission's Water Division by December 16, 2025, the end of the comment period. The response or protest should be sent to the CPUC (by email to water.division@cpuc.ca.gov, or by mail to the Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd Floor, CPUC, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102) and to Cal Water (by email to cwsrates@calwater.com, or by mail to the Rates Department, California Water Service Company, 1720 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95112). CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY
11/19/25
CNS-3986662#
LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER
(11-19-25)

Los Gatos Nailworks FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN721162

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) Los Gatos Nailworks, (2) SMART MED SV, 140 West Main Street Ste B, Los Gatos, CA, 95030, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Georgette Stanley, 5589 Makati Circle, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/01/2025. /S/ Georgette Stanley / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/10/2025. (11-19-26-25,12-03,10-25)

274-T

ARCHIVE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720981

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) ARCHIVE, (2) ARCHIVE SALON, 1535 Meridian Ave Ste 40, San Jose, CA, 95125, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): ARCHIVE SALON LLC, 1535 Meridian Ave Ste 40, San Jose, CA 95125. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/02/2025. /S/ Celeste Gomez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/04/2025. (11-19-26-25,12-03,10-25)

272-T

KAI HAUS LENDING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN721077

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KAI HAUS LENDING, 60 E Rosemary Street 329, San Jose, CA, 95112, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jessica J Na, 60 E Rosemary Street 329, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Jessica J Na / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/06/2025. (11-12,19,26-25,12-03-25)

271-T

COMPLETE AUTO SOLUTIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN721026

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: COMPLETE AUTO SOLUTIONS, 14000 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA, 95032, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Gharib Nawaz, 14000 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/04/2025. /S/ Gharib Nawaz / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/05/2025. (11-12,19,26-25,12-03-25)

270-T

BAY AREA KOREAN BAPTIST CHURCH FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720941

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) BAY AREA KOREAN BAPTIST CHURCH, (2) HIGH MEADOW BAPTIST CHURCH, 1347 Richardson Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SANTA CLARA BAPTIST CHURCH, 1347 Richardson Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Jae Mook Kim / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/03/2025. (11-12,19,26-25,12-03-25)

268-T

HUMMINGTON CONSTRUCTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720551

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HUMMINGTON CONSTRUCTION, 881 Stonehurst Way, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): HUMMINGTON LLC, 881 Stone-

hurst Way, Campbell, CA 95008. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/15/2025. /S/ Yibo Chang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/17/2025. (11-12,19,26-25,12-03-25)

266-T

FRUITOPIA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720905

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: FRUITOPIA, 2230 Calle Del Mundo Unit 422, Santa Clara, CA, 95054, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): THE MIDNIGHT TRADING INC, 3363 Spectrum St, Irvine, CA 92618. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/21/2025. /S/ Yuanliang Lyu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/31/2025. (11-12,19,26-25,12-03-25)

265-T

GLOBAL SOURCE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720775

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GLOBAL SOURCE, 481 N Santa Cruz Ave, Los Gatos, CA, 95030, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): BELCLARE CORPORATION, 481 N Santa Cruz Ave, Los Gatos, CA 95030. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/01/2000. /S/ Peter O'Malley / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/27/2025. (11-05,12,19,26-25)

264-T

NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MAN-WAH WANG YING CASE NO. 25PR200745

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MAN-WAH WANG YING. AN AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by YEJAY W. YING in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that YEJAY W. YING be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE AMENDED PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE AMENDED PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before tak-

ing certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 11/21/25 at 9:03AM in Dept. 1 located at 191 NORTH FIRST STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner JANET L. BREWER - SBN 74181 LAW OFFICE OF JANET L. BREWER 4 MAIN STREET, SUITE 20 LOS ALTOS CA 94022 Telephone (650) 325-8276 11/5, 11/12, 11/19/25 CNS-3981519# LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER (11-05,12,19-25)

261-T

TESS LABS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720694

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TESS LABS, 1243 Green Oak Lane, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): John Affaki, 1243 Green Oak Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ John Affaki / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/23/2025. (11-05,12,19,26-25)

260-T

THE FRONT DOOR EDIT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720639

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) THE FRONT DOOR EDIT, (2) FRONT DOOR EDIT, (3) THE SIDELINE EDITS, (4) SIDELINE EDITS, 6759 Velvet Meadow Ct, San Jose, CA, 95120, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Maryann Cristofi, 6759 Velvet Meadow Ct, San Jose, CA 95120, Maryam J Youri, 1090 Foxhurst Way, San Jose, CA 95120. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/13/2025. /S/ Maryann Cristofi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/21/2025. (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

259-T

PRIMERA INSURANCE SOLUTIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720631

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PRIMERA INSURANCE SOLUTIONS, 3725 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA, 95051, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): INSURANCE PLUS SOLUTIONS LLC, 3725 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95051. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/01/2023. /S/ Susana Deloza / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/21/2025. (11-05,12,19,26-25)

262-T

GOLDEN FLOOR FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720684

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GOLDEN FLOOR, 190 Ryland Street Apt 3109, San Jose, CA, 95110, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Keith Joseph Krause, 190 Ryland St Apt 3109, San Jose, CA 95110, Yuanyuan Gao, 190 Ryland St Apt 3109, San Jose, CA 95110. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/16/2025. /S/ Keith Joseph Krause / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/22/2025. (11-05,12,19,26-25)

258-T

ROBIN LYNN STEIN PETITION OF ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV477288

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Robin Lynn Stein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Robin Lynn Stein Proposed Name: a. Robyn Lynn Stein 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 01/13/2026 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 10/14/2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

257-T

SOCIAL THINKING CENTER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720167

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOCIAL THINKING CENTER, 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SOCIAL THINKING COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA 95008.

257-T

SOCIAL THINKING CENTER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720167

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOCIAL THINKING CENTER, 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SOCIAL THINKING COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA 95008.

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/27/2010. /S/ Michelle Winner / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/01/2025. (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

258-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF ROBIN LYNN STEIN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV477288

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Robin Lynn Stein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Robin Lynn Stein Proposed Name: a. Robyn Lynn Stein 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.

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257-T

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257-T

\$40

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

Email
legals@latc.com
by 2pm on Thursday





SUZANNE *O'Brien*

Backed by decades of experience, hundreds of closed deals, and thousands of satisfied clients, Suzanne cultivates success in every season. See what she can do for you.



OPEN HOUSE: Friday, November 21st 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, November 22nd and 23rd 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

JUST LISTED

1264 RICHARDSON AVENUE, LOS ALTOS

Located on a rarely available 20,000 square foot lot, this beautifully maintained South Los Altos home offers an unparalleled blend of comfort, privacy, and timeless charm. With approximately 2,569 square feet of living space, this single-level residence offers generous room for relaxation, entertaining, and future possibilities — all surrounded by lush greenery and serene outdoor spaces.

FEATURES

- Main house: 4 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms
- Studio ADU
- Separate living room, family room and office with built-in cabinetry
- Newly refinished hardwood flooring
- Spacious kitchen with abundant cabinetry
- Oversized 2-car garage



Suzanne O'Brien

REAL ESTATE AGENT

650.996.9898 | Suzanne.O'Brien@theagencyre.com | LIC. #01467942



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