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Los Altos Town Crier

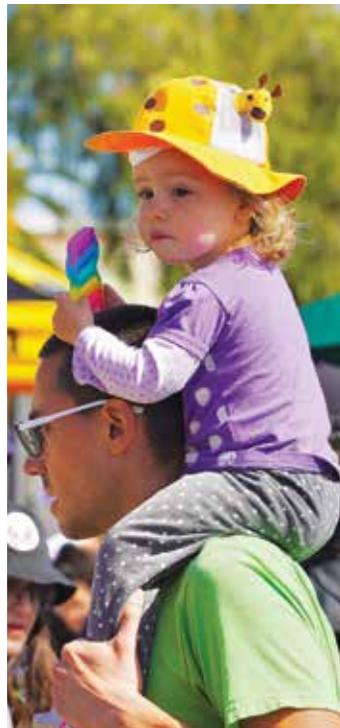
Community news for Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View since 1947

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WEDNESDAY • April 16, 2025

An Easter egg hunt and much more



PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

It was a busy Saturday in downtown Los Altos during the Los Altos Village Association's 62nd annual Easter Egg Hunt. Children roamed Main and State streets looking for plastic eggs and the special surprises inside. Other activities included photo opportunities, top, crafts for the kids and a special appearance by Boyd, above left, the Los Altos Police Department's K-9.

Los Altos council pushes theater plan forward with \$300K allocation

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Los Altos City Council members are all in on building a community theater, even as they acknowledged the endeavor was not without risk.

The council last week approved a \$300,000 allocation to hire professional fundraisers in a quest to build a performing arts center in parking plaza 1. The five-member council approved the allocation unanimously Tuesday.

Under the April 8 action, the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation (LAMVCF) will receive and handle the money. A steering committee including the city, LAMVCF and the Los Altos Stage Company will participate in the hiring of the professional fundraisers. The goal is to return to the council in a year to report on fundraising progress.

Theater supporters hope to build a 25,000-square-foot building that would occupy parking plaza 2, located behind storefronts on Main Street between First and Second streets. The 160-seat theater would have a targeted budget of \$25 million.

While council members expressed concerns about the risk – to date, no major donor has publicly stepped forward – members felt there could be

no further delays in starting the process in the face of other impending development downtown. Parking plazas 7 and 8, located between First and Third streets, Edith Avenue and State Street, are being eyed for an affordable housing development and will likely be the first to be developed.

Council members also acknowledged a city staff finding that a “scaled down” building – as in lesser square footage – would better meet the \$25 million budget. In addition, members agreed a “flexible” design should be incorporated to accommodate not only the local theater company but other activities such as concerts and lectures.

The creation of a steering committee is the first step. Next, the steering committee would work with the professional fundraisers to form a “capital campaign cabinet.”

According to a staff report, the capital campaign cabinet will comprise “individuals from the community, Los Altos Stage Company, and philanthropic community who are donors themselves that will work to support the initiatives and concepts presented with the goal to solicit donations directly from other prospective donors.”

The project will include a
See THEATER, Page 6

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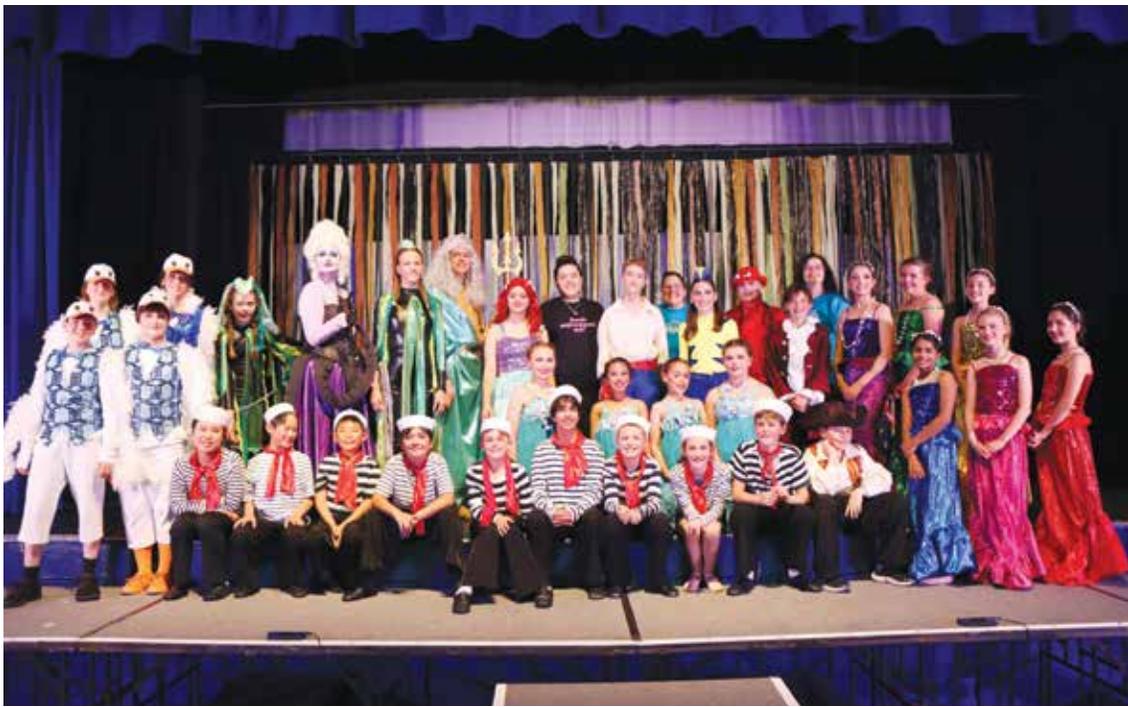
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Around Town



MARIA CROWDER/TOWN CRIBER

Saint Nicholas Catholic School in Los Altos Hills makes a splash with “The Little Mermaid, Jr.” The cast delivered show-stopping performances to sold-out crowds on April 12 and 13. Organizers said the annual school musical, in partnership with Peninsula Youth Theater, showcases the value and importance of arts education at the school.

Clarification

Los Altos Mayor Pete Dailey responded to last week’s letter to the editor by Hiu Ho that ad-

ressed parking issues on Pan-chita Way and cited a lack of public notice.

Dailey said public notices were mailed, printed in the Town Crier, on the city web site, and the city manager’s

email. Despite claims to the contrary, he said he has met with Ho in person.

“The city has had half a dozen publicly noticed meetings at the council and commission level as well,” Dailey said.



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News

Local Jewish community disturbed by comedian's comments

By **Brandon Roth**

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Local Jewish community members cited a lack of transparency and oversight of guest speakers at Mountain View Los Altos Union School District events after a guest speaker made antisemitic comments at a Mountain View High School Muslim Student Association (MSA) Iftar event.

On March 19, the MSA planned a student-sponsored Iftar dinner, a break-the-fast meal after sundown during the month of Ramadan, with more than 200 students in attendance. The MSA invited many prominent Muslim celebrities, such as Amber Leibrock, a professional mixed martial artist, and Sammy Obeid, a comedian who has appeared on America's

Got Talent. The event took place on the Mountain View High School campus, and it was the first Ramadan dinner at the school.

MVHS Principal Kip Glazer said, in an email to the school community the next day, that attendees reported that Obeid took his jokes way too far at the event and made "derogatory and antisemitic statements during his comedy routine." Glazer said that they made it clear in their request that he stay away from political content. She said that the MVHS administration wants to create a safe environment for all students, and nobody should have to feel judged within the school.

"We want to acknowledge the concerns that have been raised regarding the comedian's performance," Glazer said in

the email. "When we invited him, we were intentional in our request that he keep his set apolitical and irreligious, aligning with the spirit of the event. Unfortunately, despite our clear expectations, he went off script in a way that was neither anticipated nor endorsed by the Muslim Student Association."

Ella Persky, a senior at MVHS and president of the school's Jewish Student Union, said that a few of her friends attended the event and a lot of the content was regarding the Gaza-Israel conflict such as a direct comment about Benjamin



Obeid

Netanyahu, the prime minister of Israel, getting cancer. Persky said a lot of the Jewish community's anger came from the comedian's opinion on Israel and many felt it was hurtful to the Jewish people.

Persky said she and her advisor both agreed that there should have been more accountability by the administrators to do more of a "concrete" vetting process. She said that JSU and MSU have a great relationship on campus and moving forward hopes to have a more direct involvement in who is involved in student-sanctioned events.

"For the most part, from what I've heard, the event was productive and community bonding and the two other

See COMEDIAN, Page 7

MV Council approves controversial project

By **Christina Casillas**

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Despite outcry from residents, Mountain View City Council conditionally approved a builder's remedy development in the 200 block of Tyrella Avenue during last week's council meeting.

The decision came after the council received input from the city, developer Tower Investments and more than a dozen residents.

A builder's remedy project can be started when a city does not have a compliant housing element, and the 294-296 Tyrella Ave. project – a seven-story, 80-condominium unit building – was submitted to the city in February 2023 when the city was not in compliance. The project passed with a 7-1 vote, Councilmember John McAlister dissenting.

The conditionally approved project is set to have 20% affordable units (meeting the average median income), but instead of a balanced distribution of the affordable units, the developer limited affordable units to studio apartments, Diana Pancholi, City of Mountain View principal planner, said during last week's council meeting. All of the affordable units are to remain affordable for the next 30 years, she added.

Councilmember Emily Ann Ramos said the project – like most other builder's remedy projects – is controversial. However, she believed in staff and their ability to meet the city's goals



PHOTO FROM DEVELOPER'S CITY PROJECT APPLICATION

Above is a rendering of the approved builder's remedy project.

and mission while also acknowledging the disappointment many residents feel with the project's approval.

"I believe our staff is trying to do the best that they can with the constraints that were put on us to ensure that Mountain View still remains an affordable community while also being a community that values our input," Ramos said.

Forrest Linebarger, owner of Tower Investments, said the company met with small groups of neighbors on multiple occasions but did not discuss the meetings during his presentation to council because of presentation time constraints.

Tower Investments declined to conduct community and neighborhood outreach on the project despite staff-encouraged outreach, and the developer also declined to meet with the city's design review consultation, Pancholi said.

Joel Gruber, who "lives just down the street" from the proj-

ect, did not support the project because of the potential disruptions the complex will pose, and he also criticized the city and developer for their seemingly limited outreach to community members during his public comment.

Roger Noel, who has lived in Mountain View for more than 40 years, said he was speaking on behalf of himself and many of his neighbors during public comment when he voiced opposition to the building. They criticized the multistory building's presence – from its noise to its sheer size – among a residential neighborhood consisting of single-family homes.

"This neighborhood consists of primarily two- and one-story residences. The seven-story project is completely out of character for this neighborhood and will have a negative effect on parking, traffic and quality of life," Noel said.

See PROJECT, Page 5

Los Altos council OKs lighting standards, drops bird ordinance

By **Bruce Barton**

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The Los Altos City Council last week approved changes to the municipal code to improve lighting performance standards. But a proposed bird safe design ordinance didn't fly.

Council members April 8 grappled with ordinances aimed at addressing encroaching outdoor lighting from neighbors and protecting the bird population. A substantial number of birds have been killed by running into clear glass windows.

Environmental commissioners forwarded the arguably stricter proposal: Outdoor lights not to exceed 2700 K (kelvin, units of temperature); outdoor lighting shielded and directed downward; minimal light cast onto neighboring properties; and street lights turned off by 11 p.m. Commissioners also recommended enforcement of lighting on a 5- or 10-year compliance schedule.

Prohibited lighting includes blinking, flashing or rotating lights, searchlights, spotlights and aerial lasers.

Planning commissioners agreed with most of the light ordinance, but increased the lighting temperature threshold to 3000 K. They also recommended compliance rules for nonconforming lighting be changed

during a remodel of 50% or greater of a house structure.

Environmental commissioners' proposed bird ordinance applied to businesses and multifamily homes. It proposed restrictions on reflective or transparent glass, and on planting trees near facades. It also called for no more than 10% untreated glass, ground to 60 feet, 5% untreated glass above 60 feet; and opaque glass.

That was too much for the planning commissioners, who were "concerned about the impact on existing developments and the future financial costs associated with those upgrades," according to a city staff report.

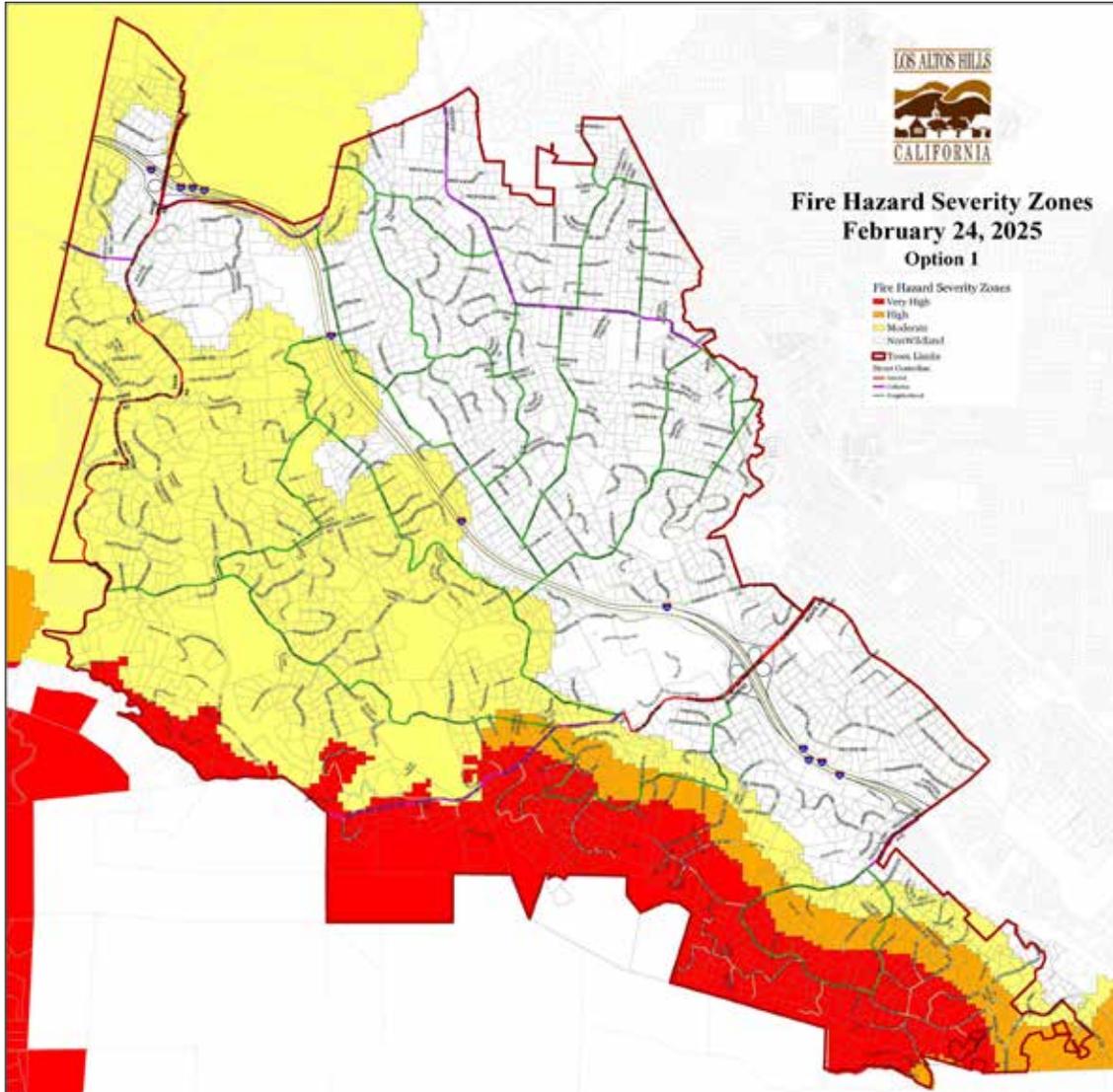
In the end, the council agreed with the planning commission, approving the lighting ordinance with the commission's recommended changes.

The bird ordinance died for lack of a motion, much to the chagrin of Councilmember Neysa Fligor, who favored the ordinance. She pointed to other nearby cities, including Los Altos Hills, that either have such ordinances or are in process of adopting them.

"There are a lot of problems – housing, transportation – that are regional, and I think this is also a regional fix that we can all work together on," Fligor said.

See LIGHT, Page 7

Los Altos Hills residents to be impacted by updated fire zone maps



FROM THE LOS ALTOS HILLS WEBSITE

Option 1 of the fire severity zone maps being considered for adoption by Los Altos Hills. Option 1 would be the one adopted if no amendments are made.

Town Crier Staff Report

Los Altos Hills will soon adopt a new fire hazard severity zone map after changes proposed by Cal Fire to improve wildfire safety and preparedness.

The changes are expected to affect a number of Los Altos Hills residents, with an education and policy discussion occurring at the April 17 Los Altos Hills council meeting, city staff said.

The areas are divided into moderate, high and very high on the maps based on factors like vegetation, slope and fire

weather conditions, according to the Los Altos Hills website. Los Altos Hills is required to adopt the maps within 120 days of their release and may also consider additional amendments increasing severity zones within the town's limits. Option 1, pictured above, would be the adopted fire hazard severity zone map if no amendments are made. Other map options are available for consideration.

Homeowners would have additional defensible space responsibilities for fire prevention efforts in certain area designations like high and very high under state

law, city staff said. This includes 100 feet of defensible space from structures, ember-resistant zone within 5 feet of a structure, maintenance of roofs free from leaves, needles or vegetation and certification of compliance from the building official required before new construction or rebuilding.

Cal Fire last published its maps in 2007, with local jurisdiction adoption optional, with the town choosing not to adopt the proposed map.

Visit tinyurl.com/LAHfire-map to learn more about the maps and different options available.

PROJECT From Page 4

Councilmember John McAlister, who voted not to approve the project, was concerned about the potential traffic- and parking-related issues that residents and motorists along Tyrella Avenue and surrounding streets would experience.

Renee Gunn, Mountain View

senior civil engineer, explained to McAlister and other members of the council that the city did a multimodal transportation analysis of the streets surrounding the project and it was concluded it would have no "adverse impact" on traffic at peak times.

McAlister was also disturbed by what he described as the city's disregard for what homeowners and renters want in their own neighborhoods.

"Who knows what legislators are going to put on us again, where we lost our ability to do what the neighborhoods want," McAlister pondered during the meeting. "I believe in housing, but I feel more importantly about creating communities. We need to look at buildings with open space, that keep cars off the street, that allow people to gather together and feel welcomed in Mountain View."

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csacares.org/events

THEATER

From Page 1

“quiet phase” according to the report, “where the capital campaign firm or individual will be meeting directly with potential capital campaign cabinet members and developing relationships with prospective donors over a period of time.”

“It was the best outcome possible,” said Vicki Reeder,

LASC president, following the council’s allocation. “This vote is a vital next step in a complex project and I’m looking forward to seeking a fundraising professional who can guide this effort, and then proceeding to do the work of finding major gifts.”

Reeder said the LASC board has pledged \$200,000 over a five-year period “as our group’s starter contribution. We wish

we had more zeros to add to that and hope others will follow our example.”

Comments from the council and public were mostly supportive, often enthusiastic. Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg said the proposal was “one of the easiest decisions” he had to make.

Those opposed cited the state of the economy and overall uncertainty, and said the

city should focus on funding for essential services such as public safety.

“The residents of Los Altos are concerned about the economy,” said Terri Couture, who serves on the Parks Arts Recreation and Culture Commission, but was speaking as an individual. “Taxpayers want services that support their safety and their livability long before entertainment. Please let the theater group fund their own venture.”

Mike Kasperzak, a former mayor and longtime Mountain View resident, is currently co-chairperson of the board for the Los Altos Stage Company. He recalled the controversy when the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts was built in the early 1990s.

“Today, people can’t imagine Mountain View without a performing arts center,” he said. “People in Los Altos now can’t imagine Los Altos without the new community center. These sorts of public projects really do bring a community together, and so I would really encourage you all to be bold, forward-thinking leaders that I know you are and move this project forward. It isn’t without risk, but you know, no risk no gain.”

He referenced the current 100-seat theater at the civic center is a deteriorating building used more than 50 years ago to house school buses.

“People love the fact that there is a theater in town, but that theater isn’t going to last very long, and it would be great to have a theater with an indoor bathroom,” Kasperzak said.

Weinberg dismissed the notion that the theater funding would compromise budget essentials.

“We have a good record of being fiscally conservative and good stewards of the city’s funds,” he said. “We have run significant surpluses each of the past two fiscal years. ... The primary purpose of government is public safety. (But) It is disingenuous to suggest that moving forward with a \$300,000 investment to see if we can build a theater downtown in any way negatively impacts public safety in the city. It’s just not true.”

The timeline for when and if a theater would materialize was unclear. But Councilmember Larry Lang suggested the theater should be built at a time when other downtown

projects are under construction: Namely, the conversion of parking plaza 1 into a park with underground parking; and the creation of an affordable housing project on plazas 7 and 8.

“We’re looking at projects over in plazas 7 and 8, and that is the first domino to fall,” he said, “and that is forcing us to make plans across downtown. ... We don’t know what they all are, but we know we have to make the plans now, and that means we have to make a decision about space for a theater downtown – like this year.”

Mayor Pete Dailey explained the rationale.

“The theater MOU (memorandum of understanding) designates half of parking plaza 2. The remaining half, plus plaza 1 are contemplated for a park,” Dailey said after the meeting. “If there is to be a performing arts facility, the park and the performing arts facility should be designed coherently.

“We will get some very quick signals on whether this latest effort for a center for the performing arts will work. The first signal will be whether a reputable development professional will take on the work. If the community foundation can’t hire somebody, then the \$300,000, minus expenses, is returned to the city. But at least then we know to move on from the plan to use that portion of plaza 2 for a center for performing arts.”

Councilmember Sally Meadows questioned the lack of a current plan for the theater. But Crysta Krames, foundation executive director, said a plan would develop as fundraisers met with potential donors.

Meadows supported the allocation but indicated this was supporters’ “last chance” to make it happen.

She stressed a multipurpose building.

“I believe in flexible space,” she said. “We need a space that we as a community can use, not just for the stage company. The Stage Company can be the Bloomingdale’s anchor, but we have to be able to do other things in this space. ... This is now a collaboration. This is not just the stage company. This is a public, private partnership.”

Lang concurred.

“We might open fundraising doors that have heretofore not been open by broadening our description of what we’re trying to do,” he said.

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LIGHT

From Page 4

“So I would be disappointed, if, as a council, we don’t adopt the bird safety ordinance or some version.”

Environmental commissioner Shiao-ping Lu defended the proposal. She said a recent study concluded that untreated windows resulted in 99% more bird deaths than treated ones.

But Councilmember Sally Meadows said approving the bird ordinance “would make our building process even more expensive and onerous.”

Picking up on planning commissioners’ comments that the bird ordinance was “a solution looking for a problem,” Councilmember Larry Lang said problems with bird crashes into windows has yet to be documented in Los Altos.

“If we are going to impose regulations and costs on residents, we have to do that in response to a problem,” Lang said. “We have to do that in fairness to them, but we also have to do that so that people don’t become cynical about our environmental

work.”

He offered among questions that need to be answered: “Have you even studied the problem? Is this going to help?”

In his research, Lang came across a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimate that domestic cats kill five to six times more birds than windows do.

“I’m supportive of the effort, but on a matter of principle, we have to have identified concrete problems to solve before we go forward with regulations and costs inflicted on residents,” he said.

Shani Kleinhaus with the Silicon Valley Bird Alliance was disappointed with the council’s action.

“This wasn’t a sweeping or radical policy,” she said. “The proposed ordinance would have applied only to new construction – there was no mandate to retrofit or replace existing buildings. The goal was simple: incorporate well-established design practices into future development to prevent birds from fatally colliding with glass, something that kills an estimated one billion birds in the U.S. every year.”

Mtn. View man killed in crash identified

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

The Santa Clara County Medical Examiner’s office identified the pedestrian killed by a vehicle last week as 73-year-old Mountain View resident Yee Leong.

Leong was hit by a vehicle at the intersection of El Camino Real and Escuela Avenue the morning of April 9, according to a Mountain View Police Department press release.

MVPD responded to reports of a vehicle-pe-

destrian collision at approximately 5:28 a.m. that day. Arriving officers provided Leong medical treatment, but he died at the scene.

According to the Medical Examiner’s office, he died from blunt force trauma.

The driver stayed at the scene and is cooperating with the ongoing investigation, and neither drugs nor alcohol are suspected to be a factor in the collision, according to the press release.

Traffic was closed along eastbound El Camino Real until approximately 11 a.m. the day of the collision.

COMEDIAN

From Page 4

speakers were amazing,” she said. “From what I heard, you know, I think it’s unfortunate what happened. I think maybe a lot of players are at fault, or different factors are at play here.”

Zachi Rosenberg, a parent of a freshman student who attends MVHS, also said if one looks at the comedian’s social media, he has a tendency spread antisemitic and anti-Zionist messages. He said the event had a few Jewish community members and one Jewish administrator attend the event and everyone was told it

was going to be a peaceful event.

He said that it was disappointing to learn about the comedian’s statement and it just makes the Jewish people feel isolated even more when offensive comments are made.

“This cannot go without any consequences anymore,” he said. “I personally have lost my patience to this stuff. I’ve lost faith in somebody doing the right thing whether it’s a superintendent, whether it’s the principal, which I think they are trying really hard.”

Rosenberg said people should not have to worry about who visits campus and the vetting

process needs to be “more rigorous.” He said even though the comedian promised he wasn’t going to talk about his controversial subjects, something can always slip.

“I work in banking and we work in compliance, regulations and risk,” he said. “Just like how the federal government obliges us to do certain things to comply, I think that’s exactly what the school district needs to do: set compliance parameters to make sure that these things don’t happen again. If they’re planning something, they got to give the community the whole picture, A through G.”

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Comment

Editorial

Theater worth the risk

The downtown community theater dream is still alive. The Los Altos City Council unanimously approved a \$300,000 allocation last week for hiring professional fundraisers to lead a capital campaign. The goal: A \$25 million performing arts building on parking plaza 2.

Council members voiced some reservations – chiefly a lack of major donors emerging after three and a half years of discussion. But members took the risk in the wake of other downtown developments on the horizon: An affordable housing project targeted for plazas 7 and 8; and a city-led park project covering plaza 1. The reasoning is that a theater could be built as the downtown is going through an overhaul with these new projects.

In one way, the theater allocation seems appropriate. This will answer, once and for all, the question of whether wealthy donors will step up. Council members figured that professional fundraisers would not take on a campaign that they aren't sure of winning. If no strong fundraising consultant emerges, the city is out a small portion of the \$300,000.

On the other hand, a successful fundraiser could sign on and raise the necessary money. The council is considering another \$5 million toward the project if major private donors commit.

This is the dream of theater supporters, notably members of the long-running Los Altos Stage Company. For nearly 30 years, the theater group has done remarkably well while running productions out of a cramped, old building where the local school district used to house its buses 50 years ago. A new theater promises a more than 50% increase in seat capacity.

There needs to be a plan B if the downtown theater does not come to pass. Some have suggested rebuilding at the site of the current theater at the civic center. That's a nonstarter from where we sit – it's a smaller footprint and the cost is likely just as great. Los Altos Stage Company could consider the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts.

For now, there's hope, even as the general public's appetite for community theater isn't what it used to be. Los Altos looks to be an exception to the rule.

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

These Foothill Aquatic Club swimmers earned "A" times at the Age Group Swim Meet held at the Covington Junior High School pool on April 17-18, 1971.

Letters to the Editor

Grant Park project merits answers

As a longtime resident of Los Altos, I am deeply troubled by the city council's approval of the Grant Park electric upgrade project on January 14, 2025, which was made without adequate notice or regard for public safety.

This project involves installing a 6-foot transformer at a hazardous blind corner on Grant Park Lane, along with EV chargers and heavy-duty HVAC units. Residents only learned of the project on March 20, when PG&E contractors began digging at the site.

Despite immediate concerns raised by residents about safety risks – this blind corner is frequented by speeding cars, children biking and families walking with dogs – the mayor and city manager refused to pause construction or consider relocating the transformer to a safer location near Holt Avenue. Instead, they dismissed safety concerns as "aesthetic" issues and claimed PG&E dictated the location, all while withholding critical public records that could shed light on their decision-making process.

The city's actions show bla-

tant disregard for community input and transparency. Residents have repeatedly requested public records related to this multi-million-dollar project (award of bid to Aria Electric for EV chargers and HVAC units alone was up to \$954,500), yet responses have been delayed or deflected, potentially violating the California Public Records Act. Meanwhile, construction continues daily, leaving residents powerless to address safety hazards or understand how this project was exempted from environmental review under CEQA.

This transformer poses an undeniable risk to our community's most vulnerable – children and families who frequent Grant Park – and its placement at such a dangerous intersection is unacceptable. Beyond safety concerns, residents deserve clarity on potential health risks from long-term exposure to emissions, as well as accountability for the aesthetic damage to one of Los Altos' most cherished green spaces.

The city's refusal to engage with its residents is deeply disappointing. Our community deserves thoughtful planning that prioritizes safety, health

and transparency – not rushed decisions that jeopardize public interest. Once again, Los Altos leadership has failed us.

Peggy Chen
Los Altos

Editor's note: According to Nick Zornes, Los Altos assistant city manager, the proposed project has been discussed in numerous public meetings over several years. PG&E approved the transformer's location. The location needed to be near the existing PG&E infrastructure and provide a straight route into the building. Three locations were reviewed with PG&E, and the only one approved is where the transformer will be placed.

Zornes said there is no public safety issue with the placement of the transformer. "The proposed location is not at a blind corner," he added. "The road leads to a cul-de-sac with approximately 13 houses on the street, and the transformer will be placed adjacent to the building so as not to obstruct sight lines."

Zornes said Chen and her neighbors met with city officials and the city has responded to public records requests.



Los Altos Town Crier

Serving the Greater Los Altos Community since 1947

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Community

Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club launches neurodiversity awareness initiative

By Karen Carrie

Special to the Town Crier

The Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club is launching efforts designed to increase awareness and access to books featuring neurodivergent characters and themes throughout the Los Altos community. The initiative aims to provide neurodivergent children and community members with literature that reflects their experiences and fosters inclusivity.

Neurodiversity includes conditions such as autism, ADHD and dyslexia. Neurodivergent children often struggle to find books that accurately represent their lives. Research shows that children benefit greatly from seeing themselves in stories, which helps build self-acceptance, belonging and positive social development. However, neurodivergent characters are often underrepresented in children's literature.

"Representation in literature is a powerful tool for fostering understanding, empathy and inclusion," said Tracy Howell, elementary school and inclu-



COURTESY OF KAREN CARRIE

Members of the Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club display examples of literature that cater to children with neurodivergent conditions such as autism.

sion director at Palo Alto-based Hope Technology School. "When individuals see themselves and their experiences reflected in stories, it validates their iden-

tity and encourages broader acceptance of diversity."

The Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club is addressing this gap by providing access

to books that highlight neurodivergent protagonists for elementary-aged readers. The project's curated book list includes titles such as "A Boy Called Bat" by Elana K. Arnold, "Brilliant Bea" by Shaina Rudolph and Mary Vukadinovich, and "The Boy with Big, Big Feelings" by Britney Winn Lee. These books offer insight into the challenges faced by neurodivergent individuals, while also helping to foster empathy in children who may not share these experiences.

This Rotary project will distribute more than 150 books to local schools and community spaces, including local school libraries and Little Free Libraries across Los Altos. The project ensures that families and children – whether they are students at local schools or members of the wider community – have access to this important literature.

The initiative will launch in April 2025, coinciding with Neurodiversity Celebration Month. Neurodiversity Celebration Month is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness about

See ROTARY, Page 12

Regenerative Shockwave Therapy: A New Approach to Pelvic Floor Health. A Breakthrough for Pelvic Floor Health: Discover Shockwave.

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- Pelvic Organ Prolapse: This occurs when the pelvic floor muscles and tissues weaken, allowing one or more pelvic organs (bladder, uterus, rectum) to descend or bulge into the vagina. It can feel like a heavy sensation, pressure, or a bulge in the vagina.
- Reduced Libido: A decrease in sexual desire or interest.

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Author:

Kim Gladfelter
MPT, OCS, FAAOMPT

- Executive Director
- Physical Therapist
- Pilates Instructor

'Battle of the Mustard Stalks' and the power of the mustard in state history

By Robin Chapman

For many years I was skeptical of stories about the Battle of Santa Clara, a small footnote of a skirmish in 19th century California that took place between Americans and Spanish-speaking Californios. It is sometimes called the Battle of the Mustard Stalks and therein lay my doubt. I wasn't sure I believed the accounts of soldiers hiding behind a "head-high growth of wild mustard" as the late historian Ralph Rambo reported in his book "Adventure Valley."

I grew up in this region and though I had seen wild mustard fill vacant lots in the

Santa Clara Valley Lives

spring near our Los Altos home – and you can tell that was a long time ago because there were still vacant lots in Los Altos – I had never seen mustard so tall it could obscure a soldier.

I was wrong to doubt.

Driving along the California coast this month, I turned a corner near the ocean and saw a field of mustard so tall it just about obscured a road sign. Road signs in California neighborhoods have a standard height of 7 feet. I have since seen wild mustard of a similar height in fields near Stanford

and in Los Altos Hills.

In Mary Elizabeth Parsons' "The Wild Flowers of California," Parsons tells us the common black mustard plant in the Golden State can grow as high as 12 feet. We have had a wet spring and the mustard has fulfilled its destiny.

Parsons identifies the mustard habitat in California as "everywhere" and adds that it is not native and was introduced here. And though no one is really sure who introduced it, the plant is a native

See MUSTARD, Page 12



ROBIN CHAPMAN/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Stalks of the common black mustard plant can reach as high as 12 feet; this photo shows them touching a local road sign that is 7 feet tall. A 19th century writer compared them to a "golden snowstorm."



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

April 22, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.
In Person
Note- This is not the Final Agenda

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt a Resolution accepting completion and close out of the Raymundo Avenue Curb and Gutter Assessment District
2. Award the Base Bid and Add Alternate Bid No. 1 for the Sanitary Sewer Video Inspection, Project WW-01011 to APS Environmental, Inc. in the amount of \$306,277, and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract in the amount of \$306,277 and up to 10% contingency funds not to exceed \$30,628 on behalf of the City. The proposed project is categorically exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301.b, involving the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public sewerage involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use
3. Adopt an ordinance of the Los Altos City Council adding Chapter 14.91 for Lighting Performance Standards and find that this ordinance is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State Guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970
4. Adopt Resolution Allocating Additional Funding In The Total Amount Of \$300,000 Into Fiscal Year 2024/25 City Managers Office Department Operating Budget For A Contribution to the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation, Specifically for the Downtown Performing Arts Center Project

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Introduce an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos Repealing Chapter 8.32 in its entirety and replacing it with a new Chapter 8.32 entitled "Bicycle and Electric Mobility Devices" to Title 8 (Vehicles and Traffic) of the Los Altos Municipal Code
6. Review the sponsorship of various special events in the City and adopt the resolution that creates a special event sponsorship policy and process moving forward

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



Curious how the Silicon Valley real estate market will impact your move to an Independent Living Senior Community?

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We'd love to see you there!



Community



COURTESY OF SUE TEN

Top from left: Shelby Stevens, Maddie Ross, Tallulah Heath, Lauren Sanders, Silvana Schmidt, Katherine Garr, Tenley Flahavan, Molly Wilson, Saira Naqvi, Lucy Newton, Lauren Salame and Stella Montgomery. Bottom from left: Courtenay Nappo, Emma Lee, Claire Pettit, Maddie Lee, Evelyn Chang, Mia Monsalve, Brooke Anderson, Ella Liniger, Lola Bacchi and Lauren Dempsey. Absent: Mia Farber, Sofia Faris and Alex Sakamoto.

NCL Stanford Hills celebrates class of 2025

Town Crier Report

The National Charity League Stanford Hills Class of 2025 celebrated the culmination of six years of mother-daughter philanthropy, leadership and cultural learning during its annual senior recognition event March 15 at The GlassHouse, San Jose.

NCL is a nonprofit organization committed to the development of mothers and daughters as leaders and is dedicated to improving local communities through hands-on volunteerism.

Founded 100 years ago in 1925, NCL currently has more than 200,000 members and alumni in 300-plus chapters who have served more than 2.5 million volunteer hours to more than 6,000 philanthropy partners resulting in a \$68.7 million dollar impact.

Mothers and daughters begin their six-year commitment to philanthropy, culture and leadership in seventh grade.

“Our celebration tonight is the culmination of that six-year journey and truly a rite of passage

See NCL, Page 12

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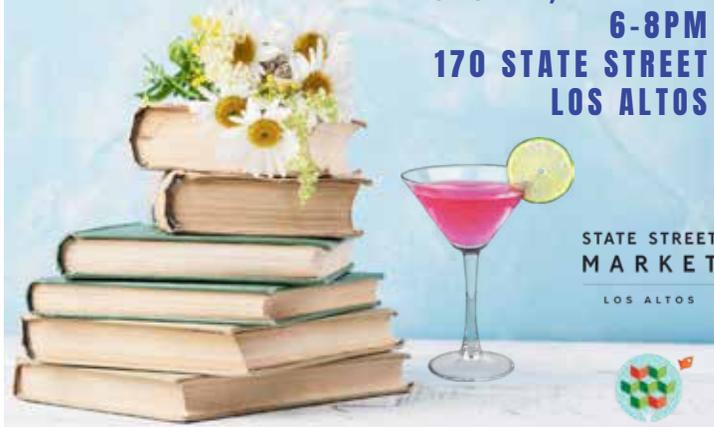
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STATE STREET
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LOS ALTOS



Community

NCL From Page 11

as we recognize the accomplishments, growth and transformation of those wonderful little seventh grade girls into the amazing young women you see before you,” NCL president Luisa Smith said at the event.

The daughters and mothers of the class of 2025 contributed more than 13,334 hours of community service over the past six years, beginning when the girls were in seventh grade. Their projects supported more than 40 organizations, including Crane Place, LifeMoves, Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, Meals on Wheels, Community Services Agency, the Ecumenical Hunger Program, Operation Red Zone, the Humane So-

ciety Silicon Valley and Animal Assisted Happiness.

Stanford Hills Chapter of the National Charity League is the largest mother-daughter charity organization in the country.

Shari Emling, who co-founded the NCL Stanford Hills Chapter in 1986, introduced the NCL graduates. Kelly Sanders and Jenny Napo served as co-chairwomen of the event. Emling and Debi Boyd, Stanford Hills Chapter co-founders, helped with the ceremony and four past chapter presidents – Jessica Gowdy, Melissa Riley, Brittany Stevens and Charlyn Everett – were in the audience.

For more information, visit nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/stanfordhills.

MUSTARD From Page 10

of Spain and legend says it was Spanish immigrants in the 18th century who scattered the seeds along their way north to mark a golden path between the missions – the route that became the El Camino Real.

Helen Hunt Jackson in her 1884 novel “Ramona” compares the dark green mustard stems to lace and says “... at a short distance they do not show, and the cloud of blossoms seems floating in the air ... like a golden snowstorm.”

Back to the “Battle of the Mustard Stalks.” It took place during the Mexican-American War when a small cadre of troops from both sides found reason to fight and met in our valley January 2, 1847, not far from Mission Santa Clara. Each side took refuge behind the tall stalks in a field of mustard and each side fired muskets, with the Americans holding a slight edge since they had



ROBIN CHAPMAN/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Wild mustard has a colorful history in California.

hailed a small antique cannon with them from San Francisco. The cannon didn’t help much, as it only managed to get off three shots before it knocked itself off its carriage and sank into the mud. The Californios took some casualties, retreated across what is now Stevens Creek Boulevard, and asked for a truce.

A year later Mexico and the United States ended the war

with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ceded California and much of the West to the United States. The battles ended and California became a state.

But the wild mustard has remained to remind us of this history and to brighten our lives with its blooms. You can use the seeds of the common black mustard in your cooking, as people do in India. If they pop up in your garden, you can chop them down and use them as mulch, since they contain good nutrients for the soil. And, as we have now verified, you can also hide behind them for safety if you are ever caught in battle in the Santa Clara Valley – assuming you can find an empty lot filled with their blooms.

Robin Chapman is a long-time journalist, a Los Altos native and the author of three books about California published by The History Press, a division of Arcadia Publishing.



Good Friday, April 18 at 7:30PM
Observing the sorrow and suffering of Jesus
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Easter Sunday, April 20

6:00 am

Sunrise Outdoor Service

10:00am

Celebration Service at 10am, Sanctuary

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ROTARY From Page 9

neurodivergence and promoting understanding of the diverse ways people think, learn and experience the world.

“Ensuring our school libraries have a rich collection of neurodiverse books is essential in fostering empathy, understanding and a sense of belonging for all students,” said Jennifer Keicher, Los Altos School District director of special education. “When children see themselves and their peers represented in literature, it helps build an inclusive community where our differences can become our strengths.”

This project highlights Rotary’s mission of supporting literacy, inclusion and education in our community. By supporting this effort, the Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club hopes to create a more inclusive and empathetic community for neurodivergent children, empowering them and ensuring they are represented in the stories they read.

The Los Altos Rotary Satellite Club is an action-oriented group of young professionals and aspiring community leaders united in sharing the Rotary mission and providing services to make the world a better place.

Vicky Browne, Gina Haney,

Quinten Yearsley, Stephanie Zlateva, Karen Carrie, Reena Patil, Shamiram Melko and Duanni Hurd contributed to this project.

The Satellite Club is a branch of the Rotary Club of Los Altos. Satellite Club members meet monthly in person to socialize and work on service projects while communicating regularly via a Whatsapp group.

For details, visit portal.clubrunner.ca/4000/sitepage/satellite-club/welcome.

For a list of books featured in this project, visit the Book List (larc-ndbl.github.io/), and visit your nearest Little Free Library.



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Stepping Out

LA Stage Company stages fresh take on 'Cyrano'

By Oscar Johnson
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos Stage Company modernizes "Cyrano" in a production that opened last week and runs through May 4 at Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave.

Max Tachis, who directs the show, and award-winning Bay Area director Jeffrey Lo worked together to update the play, written in 1897 by Edmond Rostand.

"Being part of a world premiere is something you don't get to do every day as an audience member," said star Maria Giere Marquis. "You get to be part of the history of that play from the very beginning."

The original "Cyrano" follows a swordsman who believes his huge nose makes him unworthy of love. LASC is telling the story with a contemporary lens that includes a female protagonist – played by Marquis – who's not only experiencing unrequited love, but a complex love triangle. The triangle includes her love, Roxane, and Roxane's love, Christian.

"Conceptually, we always felt like Cyrano's nose was never actually about the nose," Tachis said. "It's more about Cyrano's self doubt and inability to feel like they can be loved, and societal pressure on the way that Cyrano looks or should be behaving."

Tachis added that LASC chose to feature a woman who was both a soldier and in love with another woman – rarities during the time the original play was set.

"Cyrano's nose is what makes him feel othered in his world; in ours, Cyrano knows who she is on the outside and the way she presents herself on the outside is what makes her feel othered and drives the theme," Tachis said.

The revised play also tweaks the dialogue, mixing modern speech with classic poetry.

"We treat it like a musical: when people can no longer speak their feelings, they switch into poetry, that's when the language is elevated," Tachis said. "Then they're speaking in verse, ... when they can no longer express themselves in normal speaking terms. Musicals operate (as) 'When I

can no longer express myself, I must sing and dance.' That's kind of what we're doing, but with the language."

LASC modernized the play to make it more understandable to audiences, both in terms of language and content, according to Marquis.

"A story is universal, so the updated language still lets us honor the core of the play while making it more accessible and more connected to how we live today," she said.

The production utilizes comedy and twists to elevate the plot, according to Tachis.

"My favorite scene in the play is definitely the scene in Roxane's garden where she and Christian meet for the first time in person, and it does not go the way either of them expects it to," Tachis said. "So Cyrano has to come and fix it and save the day in a very comedic and deceptive and heartfelt and beautiful way."

Although a quasi rom-com, the play has important themes, Marquis said.

"It has a very serious heart,"



COURTESY OF GARY LANDIS

In Los Altos Stage Company's production of "Cyrano," Cyrano de Bergerac is reimagined as a woman (played by Maria Giere Marquis) and focuses on the issues that drive her self-doubt in society.

she said. "I really hope that people walk away acknowledging that everybody is worthy of love, that no matter who they are, what they look like, everybody deserves to be loved and deserves to be seen."

Performances of "Cyrano" are

set for 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 23 and 30. Tickets are \$28-\$51.

For tickets and more information, visit losaltosstage.org.

'Heartsellers' connects those in need of a community



COURTESY OF ALESSANDRA MELLO

Luna (Nicole Javier) and Jane (Narea Kang) daydream about wild adventures in "The Heart Sellers," presented by TheatreWorks Silicon Valley through April 27.

By Brandon Roth
Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Friendship always wins, especially when you are away from your home and in search of some comfort.

In TheatreWorks' "Heartsellers," we are taken to Thanksgiving Day in 1973, when two women – Luna (played by Nicole Javier) and Jane (Narea Kang) – meet each other in a grocery store. Luna, an outgoing Filipina woman, invites Jane, a shy Korean woman, to her apartment. Both were alone that evening since their husbands were doing their residency at a hospital, and both needed some cheering up.

Both of the women have stark cultural differences, but as the play develops, we learn they can connect their family stories, cooking and watching their favorite television shows.

The story opens up about the experiences of how these women came to the United States following the 1965 Hart-Celler Act, a federal law that abolished discriminatory immigration policies toward Asians and Eastern Europeans. Both women had difficulties moving to a new place, but once their friendship formed, they felt a sense of belonging.

For tickets and more information, visit theatreworks.org/mainstage/heart-sellers.

LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

CYRANO

April 10 - May 4

losaltosstage.org
650.941.0551

97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos, 94022

by Edmond Rostand
A new adaptation by
Jeffrey Lo and Max Tachis
Devised by
Maria Giere Marquis,
Max Tachis and Jeffrey Lo

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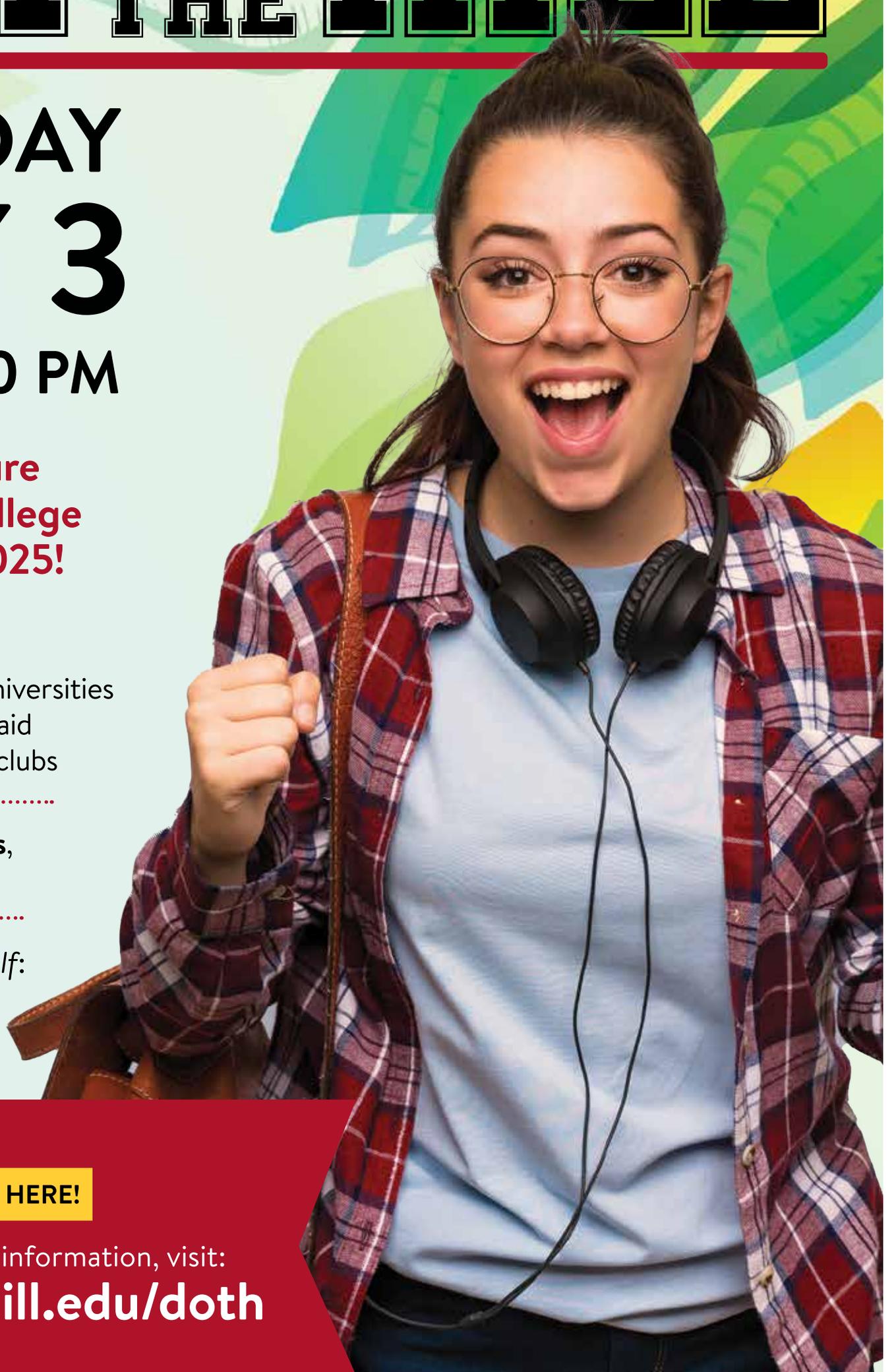
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Schools

Cupertino residents disappointed by Foothill-De Anza's housing project

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

The Foothill-De Anza Community College District has voted to create a new student housing property near De Anza Community College. Still, many Cupertino residents are unsatisfied with the district's recent decision of where it will be placed.

McClellan Terrace, which is an apartment complex with residents including families and K-12 students, is set to be purchased by the district from Prometheus Real Estate Group for \$66,719,000 and the expected renovation costs are \$28,200,000.

The sale is expected to be finalized on July 15.

McClellan Terrace includes eight buildings that surround a central courtyard with a swimming pool, parking lot and lawns, according to the district's February student housing memo. The school's proposed project, approved last month, is intended to house Foothill and De Anza College students with minor alterations in the property. Each of the properties will be updated with five accessible units and the swim-

ming pool will be replaced with a courtyard. The property was chosen by the school because it was less than a mile away from the De Anza campus and is near retail and transportation sites.

Christopher Dela Rosa, Foothill-De Anza's vice chancellor of business services, said at the district board meeting that there will be a relocation program for current residents at McClellan Terrace. Residents will also have the option to extend their lease to June 30, 2026, on a month-to-month basis, Dela Rosa said. The district will also bring in a relocation consultant to help with any disruptions the residents may experience.

College student and educator speakers explained the new housing project is a needed resource for many residents who cannot afford local apartments and that many in the district struggle with homelessness. They also said that many students who face housing insecurities have families and converting the current apartment is the best solution.

Lee D. Lambert, Foothill-De Anza's chancellor, said in an email to the Town Crier that there has



RACHEL ARONSON/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Foothill-De Anza Community College students and residents of McClellan Terrace apartments in Cupertino voiced frustration and support for an upcoming student housing project slated for Cupertino at the last Foothill-De Anza Community College District board meeting on April 7.

been a "long, well-documented" history in higher education where many students can't afford housing. Lambert said that McClellan Terrace meets all the requirements needed to meet all the student housing requirements.

Lambert said over 4.4 out of 10 students at DeAnza and Foothill report housing insecurity and that they are finalizing a rubric for prioritization. He also added that current McClellan residents will be asked to leave following the

2025-26 year and that there will be priority options for them to move into eight Prometheus apartments in Cupertino.

"No family is being forced to

See HOUSING, Page 18

Local middle-school student wins Spanish poetry contest

By Amelia Yuan

Town Crier Editorial Intern

After placing second last year, middle-school student Sofia Devanneaux of Los Altos took top honors at this year's 21st annual Spanish Poetry Contest.

A seventh grader at The French American School of Silicon Valley in Santa Clara, Sofia placed first in her level of the competition March 10. Students from 13 schools participated in the contest, hosted by The Girls Middle School in Palo Alto.

"I like going on stage, and I like the feeling I get. And I thought it was a good opportunity to get that feeling. So it was optional, but I just wanted to do it," Sofia said.

Sofia has been studying Spanish for two years, making it her fourth language. Along with English, the 12-year-old also knows French and Farsi.

For the contest, Sofia performed the poem "Naranjas,"

meaning oranges, by Jaime Torres Bodet. Her effort earned first place in the Non-Native Entry-Level Spanish category. Judges included the consulate general of Mexico to San Jose.

A year ago, Sophia placed second in the same category with a performance of the poem "La Cabra" by Oscar Castro. Like before, Sofia said every performance was judged on four standards, declamation, intonation, pronunciation and speech.

Sofia's mom, Noori Khadem-Devanneaux, said her daughter's preparation was grounded in determination and persistence.

"Every night I would just read my poem and try mastering one line of it," Sofia said. "It took around three to four weeks."

Khadem-Devanneaux recalled the moment when she realized how determined Sofia was to succeed. It occurred as they pulled into the parking lot



COURTESY OF NOORI KHADEM-DEVANNEAUX

Sofia Devanneaux, a Los Altos seventh grader who attends The French American School of Silicon Valley took home the first place prize in a Spanish poetry contest against students from 13 schools.

for the contest.

"I was like, 'Yeah, it's OK if you don't win,'" Khadem-Devanneaux said. "And she didn't say anything. And then we parked the car, and she goes, 'You know what, mom, I didn't come here to lose.' And I was like 'Oh, good job, Sofia, that's a really good attitude to

have."

That mindset paid off, even though Sophia's mom said she had less time to study than the year before.

"Sofia won this competition not due to her fluency in the language, she won this purely on determination," Khadem-Devanneaux said.

Sofia said her teachers also played an instrumental role in her journey through learning the Spanish language.

"I had a really good teacher last year. And this year I have a really good teacher, too," Sofia said. "So that's pretty much

See POETRY, Page 18

Schools

Student artists showcase artistic talent

Annual Rotary contest returns

By Amelia Yuan
Town Crier Editorial Intern

From striking scratchboard etchings to evocative digital compositions, local art students captivated Rotary Club of Los Altos jurors in this year's Young at Art contest. The winning works, showcasing diverse artistic talents from four local high schools, will be on display throughout April at Rick's Café in downtown Los Altos.

Young at Art represents one of the Rotary Club of Los Altos' signature community projects, celebrating artistic talent in local high schools. Each year, Rotarian jurors select exceptional works, awarding cash prizes to first and second-place winners from each school, along with an overall best in show.

Mountain View High School freshman Ava Peña won first place for her school and captured the Best in Show award with her powerful scratchboard piece, "Rage in Motion." The striking black and white work depicts a dog baring its teeth, symbolizing raw emotion and protective instincts.

At Los Altos High School, 11th-grader Linnea Forslin earned first place for her digital artwork, "Seeds of a Dream," a tender portrayal of aspirations.



COURTESY OF RAYANA BISHNOI

The Rotary Club of Los Altos celebrated local student artists in part of their Young at Art contest. The artists' work will be displayed at Rick's Café in downtown Los Altos. Above is Saint Francis High School senior Rayana Bishnoi's "Ode to the Youth" painting, which won first place at her school.

Her piece depicts a child blowing dandelion seeds, evoking what Forslin calls "the magical quality of dreams, and the importance of continuing to nurture them."

"While everyone dreams, it is often easy to feel isolated in our aspirations," she reflects. "Yet behind every dreamer stands someone who watches as those dandelion seeds take flight and celebrates each step of the journey."

Freestyle Academy's first place went to 12th-grader Sylvia Chen for her digital artwork "In Your Lost Consciousness." Combining architectural elements with monotone colors, Chen's piece delivers a haunting commentary on modern development and emotional empti-

ness.

"The world seems to be developed, but it is emptier than ever before," she writes. "Parts of what seems to be important are lost, the same as the people living there."

Rayana Bishnoi, a senior at Saint Francis High School, received first place for her oil painting, "Ode to the Youth." The piece features children painting the American flag against a playful backdrop, celebrating young voices and creativity.

"I think the youth of America are quite underrated," Bishnoi says. "I wanted to honor all the creative expression that stems from the younger minds."

Second place winners include Weiyi Cheng from Freestyle Academy for "The Future with No Hope," Sofia Lee from Los Altos High School for "Fading Echoes," Jane Liou from Mountain View High School for "Fleetingness of Childhood," and Sophia Khan from Saint Francis High School for "Fish Mobile."

As visitors to Rick's Café will discover, this annual competition does more than identify talented young artists. The exhibition provides students with a prestigious platform to showcase their work while allowing community members to witness the remarkable artistic abilities flourishing among our local youth.

For more information about the Young at Art contest, email LosAltosYoungAtArt@gmail.com. To view a gallery of participating students' artwork, visit LosAltosRotary.org.



COURTESY OF AVA PEÑA

Ava Peña, a freshman at Mountain View High School, created "Rage in Motion." This illustration won first place for her school and won the Best in Show award by the Rotary Club of Los Altos.

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Schools

HOUSING

From Page 16

leave in the near term, and every effort is being made to preserve educational continuity, community bonds and family stability throughout this process,” Lambert said. “The district’s fair and respectful approach reflects a commitment to compassion and care for both students and current residents alike.”

Many of the current residents believe there are plenty of properties the district could have chosen from, such as nearby hotels, instead of uprooting 90 local students who call McClellan Terrace home. The students are

also within walking distance of many of the local schools, such as Monta Vista High School, John F. Kennedy Middle School and Abraham Lincoln Elementary School.

Hrithik Mallireddy, a junior at Monta Vista High School, dual enrollment student at both community colleges and a resident of McClellan Terrace, told the Town Crier there was no official notice from Prometheus sent to his family’s home and they found out through media sources about the future student housing.

Some residents chose to live in the area because of the great schools, he said, but with many of the children having to move

schools in the next year, it can affect enrollment rates in the district and many can lose out on opportunities. He believes there are plenty of sites, even within the colleges, that can build student housing which everyone will benefit from.

“They’re trying to get around \$100 million in our apartment, with Measure G providing them with \$898 million,” Mallireddy said. “Is it that hard to build a building for nine times the cost of just buying one that’s already old and to be frank, falling apart. De Anza has a bunch of parking lots too and they can’t just build a really tall skyscraper-type building there?”

District leaders say county staffing cuts won’t impact local public schools



DORIE XIE/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Local school districts said there are no foreseeable staffing cuts after the Board of Education announced there is grant funding losses from student enrollment decreases.

By Dorie Xie

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos and Mountain View public schools will not be affected by the county’s recent staffing cuts.

The Santa Clara County Office of Education last month issued a press release about implementing “strategic staff reductions designed to prioritize student services and district support” in addition to a \$74.6 million loss in grant funding. These reductions would mainly affect the county’s special education programs, according to the release, because student enrollment in such programs decreased the most relative to last year.

However, Los Altos School District, Mountain View Whisman School District and Mountain View-Los Altos High School District will not cut funding or staff themselves.

“The county layoffs will have no impact on our funding or staffing or program offerings,” LASD Superintendent Sandra McGonagle said. “Our programs are independent of the county.”

MVLA Superintendent Eric

Volta and Associate Superintendent Teri Faught confirmed that the county’s changes will not impact their district, either.

“While there have been program reductions at the county level, I’ve confirmed with our business office that these cuts are not affecting MVLA funding or impacting our staffing,” Faught said.

MVWSD Special Education Director Frank Selvaggio echoed these sentiments, but added that there could be uncertainty for years to come.

“We don’t anticipate any changes affecting students or staff in the coming year,” Selvaggio said. “There are a number of moving parts, especially at the federal level, so it is hard to project what may occur in 2026-2027.”

Selvaggio noted that although the federal government has committed to covering 40 percent of costs for students with disabilities, in reality, it only allocates about 10 percent.

“This has led to challenges at both the state and local level to make up the difference,” he said.

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Los Altos Town Crier

POETRY

From Page 16

why I like Spanish.”

Khadem-Devanneaux echoed this sentiment, adding, “One thing I noticed with Sofia, when she gets that kind of social, emotional learning aspect from a teacher, it really motivates her to do well in a subject.”

Although Veronica Mendoza, Sofia’s former Spanish teacher who encouraged her to sign up for the contest last year, no longer teaches at The French American School, she still supported Sofia this year. According to Khadem-Devan-

neaux, Sofia spent an hour a week outside of school working with Mendoza, who also helped register Sofia and another classmate as the competition does not allow independent students.

Sofia said her favorite subjects at school are English and French, but she is still excited to compete in the contest the next five years. For 2026, she plans to move to the advanced category.

“Sofia, she doesn’t have a competitive streak – it’s not her style – but for some reason, this competition brings out the competitiveness in her ...,” Khadem-Devanneaux said.

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Sports

St. Francis volleyball takes down Serra

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Watching the Saint Francis boys volleyball team, it's hard not to notice opposite hitter Daniel DeVine.

The 6-foot-6 senior from Los Altos has a rare combination of height, athleticism and hitting power that he will bring to the Pepperdine University team next season and has St. Francis in second place in the West Catholic Athletic League following a 3-0 win over Serra Thursday.

DeVine finished with 13 kills and four aces over the three sets, unleashing serves and finishing kills with authority to help the Lancers sweep (25-17, 25-16 and 25-18) and go to 7-3 in West Catholic Athletic League play behind Archbishop Mitty.

"The team, I think, is on the right track," DeVine said. "After tonight, I think we've shown we can adjust to some tougher opponents."

Coming from a family who played collegiate athletics, in-

cluding a brother who played collegiately, DeVine has played volleyball for eight years. He found out volleyball was his favorite sport after trying it at a camp in Mountain View. After four years with St. Francis, he will play for Pepperdine Waves in the fall, the five-time NCAA champions.

"The value of your experience comes from coaching and the people you get to play with, and after feeling it out with some other schools, I knew pretty quickly Pepperdine was the one that really valued culture, family and community, all these things that were really important to making sure individuals feel valued while being part of a greater team," DeVine said.

St. Francis head coach Jonah Carson noted that while DeVine was his usual excellent self from the service line and attacking Thursday, he also picked up four important digs for the team and out-of-system sets, resulting in points for St. Francis (16-9).



JEFFERY STONE/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis' Daniel DeVine goes for a kill during the game against Serra Thursday.

"Daniel's really good, and he brings a commitment to his craft and his focus, and today, we were asking him to carry a little bigger (part) of the load,

and I thought he did an excellent job of that," Carson said. The Lancers and Warriors were in a tight game in the first set at 14-11 until a 7-3 run to

make it 21-13 and eventually win the set, with DeVine adding two kills during the run and six kills and two aces in the first

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 23

Los Altos native Catherine Paulson makes home with Bay FC

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Just a couple of hours after finalizing her contract with Bay FC in 2024, midfielder Catherine Paulson was playing against Aitana Bonmati and FC Barcelona, the then-reigning UEFA Champions League winners.

Coming on as a halftime substitute against FC Barcelona in an Aug. 24 friendly after getting medical clearance, Paulson played against Ballon d'Or winner (Aitana) Bonmati and the Barcelona starters, a moment that felt unreal and a highlight/standout moment of her soccer career that began in the parks of Los Altos and Mountain View.

"I had just signed literally that day," Paulson said. "Hours before the game, I got cleared to play. Then, racing over to the game and getting on the field and playing Barcelona, the best women's team in the world, was unreal. I and (former Bay FC player) Maya Doms were on the field together, and we played at Stanford together, and we were like, 'This is insane.'" I couldn't believe (it) because I was in PayPal (Park) for the first time

and on the field, and we were playing Barcelona, and it was a surreal moment, and I'll definitely never forget that."

Since she first joined the team in August 2024 as a National Team Replacement Player to help fill out the roster for players away on national team duty and eventually earning a contract for the team's inaugural year, Paulson, a Los Altos native and St. Francis and Stanford graduate, has taken her chance, starting the 2025 preseason as a non-roster invite and signing in March to be part of the active roster through June and looking to build on last season.

"It was just great; being a part of the first season was such a blessing; I'll never forget that," Paulson said. "We got to the playoffs, and it was so much fun. Now, coming into it and being a part of it for this year, I want to make an impact and be of value to this year and really bring everything I can."

Paulson finished her degree at Stanford in the spring of 2024 and came halfway through the season at the time, with this year giving her an earlier start that has allowed her to relax and focus on growing her game.



COURTESY OF BAY FC

Bay FC midfielder Catherine Paulson, right, makes a pass with the NWSL team.

"I'm just trying to focus on one day at a time and just go out there and work super hard," Paulson said of her goals this season. "Obviously, I want to play and getting on the field would be awesome, but I want to get better and learn and just enjoy it."

Her professional journey started after finishing school at Stanford in the

spring, training on her own while looking to launch her career either in the United States or abroad, with her first goal of wanting to play in the NWSL. Looking for options in the middle of the season was difficult, as she reached out to teams and did not get responses.

A few weeks before she heard from Bay See BAY FC, Page 22

Sports

BAY FC

From Page 21

FC, she thought about looking abroad and was talking to an old coach to figure things out. Bay FC head coach Albertin Montoya, her former coach at Mountain View Los Altos Soccer Club, offered her a chance to come out and train with the team. She played well and got the opportunity to sign as a replacement player, taking her chance. Paulson has trained as an attacking player across the forward line with Bay FC, mainly playing as a striker and winger with the team and occasionally in the midfield as she works to help the team.

“You’re definitely fighting more for your job,” Paulson said. “There’s definitely a really competitive aspect to it, but Albertin (Montoya) makes it really fun. The whole coaching staff and the girls do, too. We have a lot of fun out there, too, where it’s the best of both worlds.”

Her time with Bay FC has reconnected her with familiar faces from her youth and Stanford days. Her Bay FC teammate Kiki Pickett was a senior on the Stanford team when Paulson was a freshman, with the pair part of a small group that trained together during the pandemic, often driving together to practice from a hotel.

“She’s very encouraging on the field, so right away when I heard her again say, ‘You’ve got it, get after it,’ on the field or ‘Go ahead and defend Catherine,’ even little things like that, that used to be how it was at Stanford,” Paulson said.

One of her biggest throwbacks is being a teammate of Abby Dahlkemper, a three-time NWSL champion and 2019 World Cup winner with the United States national team. As a kid, Paulson met Dahlkemper when the center back visited youth teams with MVLA, with the pair having both played for the youth soccer club.

“That’s probably one of the coolest connections to have, thinking all the way back to our MVLA days,” Paulson said.

Early Life

A fifth-generation Bay Area resident, she grew up in Los Altos, going to every park in Los Altos and Mountain View to play with her parents and three siblings. Her parents went to Saint Francis, and she went to Saint Nicholas School before St. Francis. On her mom’s side of the family, her mom and grandmother grew up in Los Altos, while her dad grew up in Sunnyvale. Growing up, she lived down the street from her grandparents and had cousins in the area.

“I don’t know another place that’s home,” Paulson said.

Her father, Greg Paulson, played basketball at Santa Clara and Cal Poly, while her twin sister, Sarah, played college soccer with her at Stanford and in high school at St. Francis. Her grandfather, Eric Paulson, played basketball at Santa Clara, while her other grandfather, John Komo, played baseball for the Broncos. Sports was a lifestyle for her and her three siblings growing up, and she took basketball as seriously as she took soccer, along with dance. Playing different sports also allowed her not to get burned out in just one sport, reaching a balance of enjoyment that led her to want to continue sports.

“There was never any pressure to do anything,” Paulson said. “It was just, ‘What do you have fun doing, and what are we good at?’ I always knew I had it in me because of that to want



COURTESY OF BAY FC

Catherine Paulson, center.

to keep playing. It was just part of my lifestyle to play, work hard and have fun with it. It was always fun, which was great and I think that’s why it lasted for so long.”

Entering high school, she and her sister started focusing on soccer after a backyard conversation with her dad when he asked them what ball they wanted to pick up first, helping her realize she was trending towards soccer as her favorite.

“Definitely worked out, I think,” Paulson said.

She joined MVLA when she was eight and played two years of high school soccer, winning a CCS Division I championship in 2018 with the Lancers. She went to Stanford as a freshman in the 2020-2021 season during the pandemic, winning a Pac-12 title in 2022 and appearing in the College Cup in 2023. She and the team also came together during the difficult time after the death by suicide of teammate Katie Meyer in 2022.

“Those experiences after so much hardship too were so special, and (it’s) really cool how much we came together, but I loved Stanford for the place that it is and the people,” Paulson said. “I met some of my best friends there, and I’m still close with the girls on the team, keep up with them and everything. It was a super special place and a super special group of players they always bring in.”

Paulson played for Stanford from 2020 to 2023 and appeared in 47 matches. She graduated with a major in Science, Technology and Society focused on the social sciences and minored in art, her main passion outside soccer, focusing on painting and drawing.

“That is a huge part of what I want to do outside of soccer,” Paulson said.

While she didn’t grow up thinking about playing for a hometown team professionally, her experiences have made her realize how amazing it is to have family, friends and community members who come to the game and support the team. Lots of people from Los Altos still reach out to say they are proud and tell her they will be coming out to see her. Her parents have been with her every step of the way, from her early days to seeing her play against Barcelona. They rarely miss games and love having her close for her pro career, with the Los Altos community reminding her of how fun and worthwhile it is to work hard and put everything into her career.

“People really do show up for you in this area and are there to support you,” Paulson said. “I feel very strengthened by it all.”



COURTESY OF BAY FC

Catherine Paulson, a Los Altos native, waves to Bay FC fans.



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Sports

VOLLEYBALL

From Page 21

set.

“I think I look at it mostly in terms of how we’ve been performing in our previous matches, and I thought we did a really nice job in terms of our defense and some areas we’ve been working on,” Carson said. “I felt like we performed pretty well.”

The second set saw middle hitters Armaan Vaghode and Carson Sias as forces at the net, getting blocks and attacking, with Vaghode leading the team with six kills in the second set and Sias adding two. The two are part of an experienced class of eight seniors on the team who Carson praised for creating a successful and winning culture.

“I think those are two guys who really understand how we are trying to play as a team,”

Carson said. “We are able to do some things as a squad that are unique because of their knowledge of the game and because of their ability.”

The third set proved the closest, with Valley Christian going on several mini-runs to keep it close. Down 10-6, the Warriors went on a 3-0 run to make it 10-9, and at 16-11 starting a 4-0 run to bring it to 16-15. However, St. Francis went on an 8-2 run to make it 23-17 thanks to aces from Timothy Cho and Andrija Ciric.

“They have a huge win against Mitty, they’ve gone five sets with some other really good teams in our league,” Carson said. “I’m not really surprised they found ways, even late in the match, to score some points and make runs.”

St. Francis’ next game will be to host Sacred Heart Cathedral April 29 at 6 p.m. on senior night.



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

St. Francis opposite hitter Daniel DeVine will be attending Pepperdine to play for its volleyball team next season.

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



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Valley Water offers this tax exemption to **qualifying low-income seniors**, potentially saving you approximately \$75 on your property tax bill.

The application window for the Safe, Clean Water low-income senior parcel tax exemption runs from **April 15 to June 30, 2025**.



To qualify for this exemption, you must meet **all** the following criteria:

- You were born **before** June 30, 1961.
- Your total household income for 2024 was below **\$71,640**, including the gross income of all residents aged 18 or older (excluding capital gains).
- You own the property where you reside as your primary home, and it is the site of the assessed tax.

Please note that mobile homes in parks and homes in an irrevocable trust are not eligible.

How to Apply: Visit valleywater.org/senior-parcel-tax-exemption to access the application form. If you meet the criteria, complete and submit the form by mail or email, along with proof of your age.

Accepted documents for proof of age include a copy of your driver's license, birth certificate, passport, or medical card showing your date of birth. **Please ensure you provide only copies—do not mail original documents.**

✉ **Applications submitted via mail:**

Valley Water
Senior Exemption Program
5750 Almaden Expressway
San José, CA 95118

@ **Applications submitted via email:**

SeniorExemption@valleywater.org

For additional information or to begin your application, please visit valleywater.org/senior-parcel-tax-exemption.



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El Camino Health restored Farukh's active lifestyle. Meet Farukh and follow his journey to regaining his freedom of movement.



Happy Easter

INSIDE
Your Health
Business & Real Estate
Datebook

Happy Easter is published the week before Easter Sunday. For advertising information, email sales@latc.com.

Hopping Into Easter celebrations

Town Crier Staff Report

Easter is this Sunday, and for those who wish to celebrate, there are a number of different secular and nonsecular events to attend. From church services to egg hunts, here is how families can celebrate up and down the Peninsula.

Easter egg hunts

- In addition to church services both on Easter Sunday and other days of Holy Week, Bridges Community Church, a nondenominational congregation, will hold an 11 a.m. Easter egg hunt Saturday.

- While adults can buy local fresh produce, children will be able to participate in the Mountain View

Farmers' Market 11 a.m. egg hunt at 600 West Evelyn Ave. on Easter Sunday.

- Los Altos Parks & Recreation will hold its annual spring egg hunt and other spring festivities beginning at 9:30 a.m. April 19 at the Hillview Soccer Field in Los Altos, 97 Hillview Ave.

Church services

- Saint Nicholas and Saint William Catholic Parish will hold Easter services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. (in French) at Saint Nicholas, 473 Lincoln Ave. Saint William Church, 611 S El Monte Ave., will hold services at 9:00 a.m., 11 a.m. livestreamed, and 5:00 p.m. for youth.

- The Los Altos Lutheran Church, 60 South El Monte Ave., will hold a 12 p.m. Good Fri-



SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

A little bunny had fun collecting Easter eggs during the LAVA Los Altos Easter Egg Hunt last weekend.

day service and in-person and online worship at 10 a.m. Easter Sunday.

- VIVE Church, a nondenominational congregation, will hold a 7 p.m. Good Friday service and 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Easter Sunday services at its Mountain View location, 2440 Leghorn St.

- Bridges Community Church, will hold a 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday service, including communion, and a 10:45 a.m. Easter Sunday service.

- The Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., will hold a 7 p.m. Good Friday service and 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Easter Sunday services.

- Multiple Easter services are set to be held during Holy Week at Saint Joseph's Catholic

Church in Mountain View, 582 Hope Street. Stations of the Cross and Liturgy of the Lord's Passion are set for 12 p.m. and 3 p.m., respectively, on Good Friday. An Easter Vigil is set for 8 p.m. Good Saturday and there will be 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. English and 1 p.m. Spanish Easter Sunday services.



Entertaining on Easter: Five tips to make holiday hosting simple

Family Features

Easter signals springtime and provides an opportunity to gather with loved ones to celebrate. However, hosting the get-together – whether brunch, lunch or dinner – requires planning and preparation to ensure the event is enjoyable.

From the guest list and menu to the decor and activities for the kiddos, consider these steps to get ready for Easter hosting duties.

Make a guest list

When planning your gathering, first think about how many people your space can accommodate. Ensure there's a place for everyone to sit and

eat, even if that means bringing in extra tables and chairs or designating a “kids table” so all the adults can sit together. Once you know how many people you can invite – and have a plan for seating – send out festive invitations or create a group on social media with your preferred guests to gather RSVPs.

Do inventory of essentials

Once you have your guest list set, take inventory of serving dishes, utensils, linens and glassware.

Depending on the number of guests, you may need to invest in extra supplies or borrow from a friend or relative to ensure you have everything you need. If you don't have enough of one set of plates and flatware, mixing and

matching is a trendy move and can serve as an additional aspect of your decor.

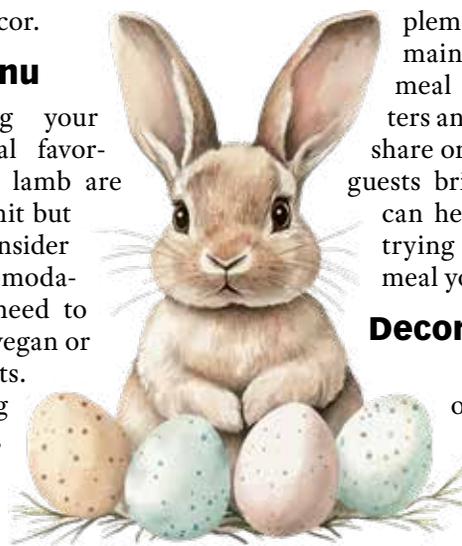
Plan the menu

When setting your menu, traditional favorites like ham or lamb are almost always a hit but remember to consider any diet accommodations that may need to be made for any vegan or vegetarian guests. Dishes featuring eggs, carrots, ginger and other ingredients that call spring to

mind like quiches, soups, galettes and more can be a perfect complement to the traditional main course. Serving the meal family-style with platters and bowls for everyone to share or hosting a potluck with guests bringing assigned dishes can help reduce the stress of trying to prepare the entire meal yourself.

Decorate early

From seasonal wreath on the front door to a well-dressed table complete with



See PARTY, Page 27

Happy Easter

Your Easter meal, your way: Budget-friendly planning tips

StatePoint

If you'll be entertaining friends and family this Easter, make it "eggstra" special with all-day feasting and personalized options to keep everyone at your table happy. Hosting has never been easier!

Need a one-stop shop for all of your hosting essentials? Consider Sam's Club and its private brand Member's Mark. The retailer has tapped into member feedback to ensure that this Easter, it can better meet your needs. The findings uncovered that many celebrants are hoping to spend all day grazing, beginning with brunch.

And, because Easter is happening well into spring this year, many are also planning to fire up their grills for the occasion.

With the majority of Sam's Club members preparing an Easter meal, and most working within a budget, chances are that you're looking to serve up something memorable and delicious without completely breaking the bank.

Whether you see your Easter involving breakfast, a smorgasbord, barbecue, or all the above, Sam's Club's private brand Member's Mark is making it easy



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT

From traditional Easter meals to those that are unique to one's family, an Easter meal brings everyone together.

and affordable to create your Easter, your way with a fully customizable, all-day grazing experience. From brunch to dinner and everything in between, following are some Member's Mark sea-

sonal favorites you can pick up in-store or have delivered for a complete Easter feast.

Member's Mark brunch favorites include croissants, Sous Vide egg

bites, Caesar salad, Brussels sprouts, fruit and cheese tray, spring muffin tray, ribeye steaks, carrot bar cake,

See MEAL, Page 28

STATIONS of the CROSS

april 18 | 3-8 pm

worship at 7:30 pm

A self-guided, interactive journey to reflect on the mystery of the cross. Come anytime to reflect on this sacred story.

EASTER SUNDAY

april 20 at 9&11 am

after 9 am:
Continental brunch + egg hunt

after 11 am:
Full lunch + egg hunt

come eat, and
celebrate the greatest
news ever!

Celebrate Easter at Highway

2050 Miramonte Ave, Mountain View
highway.org

Happy Easter



PHOTO FROM UNSPLASH

Easter hosting can be made easy with prior planning and decorating.

PARTY

From Page 25

place settings and a festive centerpiece, getting your decorating done early can not only reduce stress on the day of your event but also get you into the proper mindset for the celebration. A pastel or light-colored hue can add to the springtime vibes, and flowers, seasonal fruits in bowls and decorated eggs can all add to the tablescape.

Keep the kids in mind

While the meal is likely a highlight of the event for many, the younger guests often look forward to the activities, such as decorating eggs or an Easter egg hunt. You can hard-boil eggs in advance and

set up a decorating station, complete with dyes, markers, stickers and more. Or while you're finishing up inside, designate another adult or older children to hide pre-filled plastic eggs around the yard (weather permitting) and manage the hunt.

Find more ideas for hosting Easter festivities at eLivingtoday.com.

The Los Altos Town Crier wishes a Happy Easter to those who celebrate the holiday. Town Crier offices will be open on Good Friday and the day after Easter Sunday.

Christ Episcopal Church
 1040 Border Road, Los Altos

Epic Easter Egg Hunt

April 20 11:30AM

All are welcome! Bring your basket
FOOD! BOUNCE HOUSE!

(650) 948 2151 www.christchurchlosaltos.org



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EASTER @ THE POST

Special Easter Menu - April 20th

BRUNCH
Brunch 10am-3pm

EGGS FLORENTINE
Sautéed shallots and spinach with poached eggs, served on an English muffin with chive hollandaise sauce and breakfast potatoes

EASTER BREAKY CASSEROLE
Baked eggs, onions, shredded mozzarella, cherry tomatoes, mozzarella pearls, hash browns, and homemade pesto sauce

Served All Day
HONEY BAKED HAM
Baked cotto ham with mustard honey sauce, served with glazed carrots, roasted fingerling potatoes and bacon-wrapped green bean bundles

DESSERT
All Day
CARROT CAKE
Lightly spiced carrot cake with raisins, pecans, walnuts, and cinnamon cream cheese frosting

DINNER
Dinner 3pm-Close

RACK OF LAMB & CAULIFLOWER STEAK
Pistachio-mint crusted lamb rack with tomato hollandaise sauce, and roasted cauliflower steak, topped with microgreens

LEMON SHRIMP RISOTTO
Creamy arborio rice risotto with shrimp, fennel, onions, garlic, white wine, chicken broth, fresh lemon juice, arugula, parmesan, and butter

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 Regular Menu Also Available

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SPECIAL EVENTS:
Live Piano Music
 April 24th
Italian Nights
 Featuring Benito Rossetti and his accordion –
 April 21st

Call us today to reserve your table! Reservations are recommended.

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Sat & Sun 12PM – 3PM	Sat & Sun 3PM – 9PM

See our full menu at www.cafevitale.com
 650-559-1500 | 987 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos

Happy Easter

MEAL

From Page 26

fresh-squeezed orange juice and Prosecco.

Member's Mark traditional favorites include spiral ham, mashed potatoes, mac 'n' cheese, naan bites & spinach artichoke dip, deluxe mixed nuts, strawberry yogurt almonds, Easter cake bites and toffee truffles.

Along with ensuring all your culinary bases are covered, here are a few additional ways to eliminate stress around Easter prep:

- Simplify clean-up. Use Member's Mark disposable paper plates and napkins to make clean-up ongoing and simple, particularly if you'll be encouraging guests to feast all day. Plus, they're easier for backyard hosting, better for the planet and commercially compostable.

- Get a head start on gifts. Don't wait until the last second to plan your Easter baskets. Give them a personalized touch by shopping with a retailer

like Sam's Club, which offers Easter-themed sweet treats, candies, toys and books, all of which are already available online and on store shelves. They also offer festive pre-filled baskets if you're feeling time-crunched or want to rely on the handiwork of professionals.

- Save on décor. Easter décor doesn't have to be complicated. Fresh flowers make for great centerpieces. Sam's Club is committed to floral freshness and backs its arrangements and bouquets with a seven-day fresh-or-free guarantee. However, you can jazz things up with Easter wreaths, bunny-shaped candles and decorative eggs.

While planning a big holiday celebration can feel overwhelming, with a few simple strategies, Easter can be one of the most joyous celebrations of spring for everyone – hosts included.

For more information on Member's Mark Easter meals, visit samsclub.com.



SARA_WINTER/ADOBE STOCK

An Easter brunch can include pastries, fresh fruit, deli meat and more.

Holy Week

SPECIAL SERVICES

Holy Week
at Foothills

Maundy Thursday
April 17 | 6:30 PM
Communion & Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday
April 20 | 10 AM Hybrid Service

 foothills-church.org
461 Orange Ave., Los Altos

COME JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 17TH AT 7PM
Holy Communion & Last Supper Service

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 18TH AT 7PM
Sanctuary open at 5 pm

EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL 20TH AT 10AM
Festive celebration for the whole family!

.....
If you prefer, please join us via **Zoom at 10 am**
Get the link from our ilclosaltos.com website!
.....

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1715 Grant Road, Los Altos
650.967.4906 www.ilclosaltos.com

Easter

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 18
5:30 PM

EGG HUNT
APRIL 19
11:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20
9:30AM BRUNCH
10:45AM SERVICE

Bridges
COMMUNITY CHURCH
625 MAGDALENA AVE, LOS ALTOS, CA 94024
650-948-5698 BRIDGES.CHURCH

Holy Week

SPECIAL SERVICES




Easter Triduum
St. Simon Catholic Parish, Los Altos

Holy Thursday - April 17th
 Mass of the Lord's Supper with The Washing of Feet
 7:00 p.m. (also on livestream)
 Altar of Repose
 8:00 p.m. until midnight in the Parish Center

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion - April 18th
 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
 12:00 p.m. (also on livestream)
 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
 7:00 p.m. (also on livestream)
 Living Way Stations of the Cross with
 St. Simon Youth Ministry

Holy Saturday - April 19th
 Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 p.m. (also on livestream)
 Reception following in the Parish Center

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - April 20th
 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (also on livestream),
 and 11:15 a.m.

Ph: 650 880 1401
www.stsimon.church
 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos CA 94024
www.youtube.com/@StSimonPresentations/streams

SAINT NICHOLAS AND SAINT WILLIAM CATHOLIC PARISH



HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 17
 Morning Prayer: 8:00 AM (St. Nicholas Church)
 Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 PM* (St. William Church)
 Altar of Repose until 10:00 PM - Solemn Adoration & Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 18
 Morning Prayer: 8:00 AM (St. Nicholas Church)
 Confessions: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (St. William Church)
 Presentation on Shroud of Turin - 5:00-7:00 PM (St. William Church)
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
 Liturgy of the Word, Adoration of the Holy Cross, Holy Communion
 12:00 PM* (St. William Church)
 3:00 & 7:00 PM (St. Nicholas Church)

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 19
 Morning Prayer: 8:00 AM (St. Nicholas Church)

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT - APRIL 19
 8:00 PM (St. William Church)
 - Easter Fire, Liturgy of the Word,
 - Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
 - Gather at the place of the Easter Fire

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 20
 Liturgy of the RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM (St. Nicholas Church)
 9:00 AM (10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt), 11:00 AM*
 & French Mass 12:30 PM (St. William Church)

St. Nicholas Church ~ 473 Lincoln Ave. Los Altos
St. William Church ~ 611 S. El Monte Ave. Los Altos

www.snswwparish.org *Livestreamed

Hope your week is meaningful with family and friends!



Los Altos Town Crier



Join us as we celebrate Easter!

Maundy Thursday, April 17
 7 pm - *Portraits of Grace*
 a Choir Cantata with Ensemble

Easter Sunday, April 20
 10 am - Worship Service
 11:11 am - Egg Hunt



Union Presbyterian Church
 858 University Ave, Los Altos
unionpc.org • 650-948-4361

Christ Episcopal Church
 1040 Border Rd, Los Altos
 (650) 948 2151
 Walk With us Through Holy Week

Holy Week Service Schedule

April 17	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday
April 18	12:00pm	Good Friday Service
April 19	7:30pm	Great Vigil of Easter
Easter Sunday		
April 20	10:15am	Choral Service with Guest Musicians
	11:30am	Epic Easter Egg Hunt

Childcare provided on Sunday mornings
 In person and livestream
 (information at www.christchurchlosaltos.org)

Your Health

Stanford encourages organ donation education this month

Town Crier Report

The Dawes Garden at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford in Palo Alto is currently decorated with 30 pinwheels, representing the 30 children currently awaiting organ transplants at the hospital, according to a press release.

April is National Donate Life Month, dedicated to honor those who receive transplants and donate life. Currently, more than 100,000 people are waiting for life-saving transplants; every eight minutes, someone new is added to the national transplant waiting list, according to Donate Life America.

The Stanford Medicine Children's Health Pediatric Kidney Transplant program is rigorous and ranked number one nationally for the number of transplants provided.

Part of the pinwheel event



COURTESY OF STANFORD CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Pinwheels (above) were placed in the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford Dawes Garden earlier this month (right).

aims to educate and inspire those in the community to consider becoming organ donors. Upon one's death, organ donation can save up to eight lives, cornea donation can restore sight to up to two people, and tissue donations would help heal around 75 people, according to Donate Life America.



Understanding pelvic floor dysfunction and its treatment

Staying Active

By Kim Gladfelter

Pelvic floor dysfunction (PFD) is a common yet often misunderstood condition that affects women. The pelvic floor consists of muscles, ligaments and connective tissues that support the bladder, bowel and uterus. When these muscles become weak, tight, or uncoordinated, they can lead to various uncomfortable and sometimes debilitating symptoms.

What's pelvic floor dysfunction?

Pelvic floor dysfunction can manifest in different ways. Urinary incontinence is the leakage of urine due to weak or overactive pelvic muscles. Fecal incontinence is the loss of bowel control due to poor muscle coordination. Pelvic organ prolapse is when organs such as the bladder or uterus drop due to weakened support structures. Chronic pelvic pain is persistent pain due to muscle tension or nerve irritation. Painful intercourse (dyspareunia) is discomfort or pain during sexual activity. Constipation

or difficulty emptying the bowel is caused by poor muscle function, making it hard to pass stool.

How does it happen?

PFD can be caused by a variety of factors, including pregnancy and childbirth because of the strain of carrying a baby, and delivery can weaken the pelvic muscles. Aging contributes to natural muscle weakness over time that affects strength and coordination. Surgery influences your pelvic floor as procedures such as hysterectomies or prostate surgery can impact the pelvic floor. You may get pelvic floor dysfunction from chronic straining. Additionally, obesity and excess weight increase pressure on the pelvic region. Also, trauma or injury, such as accidents, falls or sexual trauma, can damage pelvic muscles and nerves.

Treatment options

Physical therapy, occupational therapy, Pilates Rehab and advanced healing techniques can treat pelvic floor dysfunction. These methods aim to strengthen, relax and restore proper function to the pelvic floor muscles, helping individuals regain comfort and

control.

Specially trained physical and occupational therapists are widely recognized to effectively treat pelvic floor dysfunction. A pelvic floor therapist helps patients using many methods, such as assessing muscle strength and coordination, which identifies weak or overactive muscles. Pelvic floor exercises (kegels and more), which strengthen or relax muscles as needed. Manual therapy is a hands-on technique that releases tension and improves function. Additionally, postural and breathing guidance will address posture and diaphragm function to enhance pelvic health. We also focus on daily activities that may be affected by pelvic floor dysfunction. This approach includes bladder and bowel retraining, which involves techniques to improve bathroom habits. Lifestyle modifications address diet, hydration and physical activity. Also, relaxation techniques are a method of treatment that reduces muscle tension through mindfulness and stress management.

Regenerative shockwave therapy

Regenerative shockwave



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM GLADFELTER

A myriad of treatments, like Pilates, can help pelvic floor dysfunction.

therapy is a non-invasive treatment that stimulates healing in the pelvic and associated abdominal tissues. It works by enhancing blood flow, which promotes tissue repair and muscle recovery. This version of advanced healing also reduces pain and inflammation, encouraging the body's natural healing response. It also involves stimulating nerve function,

which helps restore normal muscle control. Regenerative shockwave therapy will break down scar tissue and adhesions, which will improve flexibility and reduce discomfort.

Stimpod therapy

The Stimpod is a neurostimulation device that aids nerve-related and painful pelvic floor

See PELVIC FLOOR, Page 31

Health week aims to protect health of Black women during pregnancy



PEOPLEIMAGES / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

Prenatal and postpartum care for Black women is the emphasis of Black Maternal Health Week.

Statepoint

Held annually in April, Black Maternal Health Week is a campaign that supports awareness, activism and community-building to amplify the voices, perspectives and lived experiences of Black mothers.

Black women in the United States are three times more likely to die from pregnancy than their white counterparts, regardless of socioeconomic status. Pregnant Black women are also 23% more likely to have a heart attack, 57% more likely to have a stroke, 42% more likely to develop a blood clot in the lungs, and 71% more likely to develop muscle weakness.

With increasing evidence suggesting that the prenatal period impacts the lifelong physical and mental health of children, these statistics show how important it is to eliminate these inequities for the wellbeing of not only moms, but the next generation as well.

“Black mothers deserve far more than the current maternity and health care systems that have failed us and our families for generations. But there are sustainable solutions and actionable steps we can take – centered on physicians, midwives, doulas and other care providers working together as holistic, collaborative care teams – to ensure Black

mamas receive comprehensive, culturally grounded care that honors our needs and supports thriving pregnancies and full, healthy lives,” says Angela D. Aina, executive director, BMMA, Inc.

According to advocates with the National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers, the following policies could help protect Black women during pregnancy and beyond:

- Transforming the delivery of Black maternal care by making investments in social drivers of health that influence maternal health outcomes.
- Widening access to maternal health care services by extending Medicaid 12-month postpartum coverage nationwide, and by growing and diversifying the doula workforce.
- Addressing structural barriers and systemic stigma that prevent Black mothers from receiving treatment and support services for prenatal and postpartum complications.
- Eliminating economic inequities by strengthening equal-pay legislation and raising the minimum wage to at least \$17 an hour.
- Passing legislation that guarantees access to paid leave to meet the needs of pregnant people, caregivers and families.

• Collecting and using intersectional data to better understand the causes of the ma-

ternal health crisis and inform solutions to address it.

- Growing and diversifying the perinatal workforce to ensure Black mothers’ care teams include providers who share their background, and to ensure their care teams include a range of clinical care providers, from obstetricians and midwives to nonclinical support personnel, such as care navigators and community health workers.

To get involved, visit ncit.org/take-action to learn how you can help ensure mothers and their babies have a strong start.

“A future where all individuals, families and communities thrive is possible. Everyday Americans can chip in by contacting their elected officials and lawmakers and telling them to support policies that protect the health of Black mothers,” says Christy Ross, co-chair of the National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers.

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

PELVIC FLOOR

From Page 30

issues. It helps by targeting nerve pain, which stimulates nerve regeneration and reduces hypersensitivity. Stimpod enhances muscle coordination, which improves neuromuscular control in the pelvic floor. Also, stimpod reduces chronic pain, which helps with conditions like pudendal neuralgia and pelvic pain syndrome.

Pilates

Pilates improves core stability, and a strong core is essential for pelvic floor health and can help to reduce pelvic pain and improve symptoms of incontinence. Pilates exercises can help to increase flexibility in the hips, pelvis and lower back, which can help to improve range of motion and reduce pain. Pilates also improves coordination and

balance, which are important for pelvic floor health and can help to reduce the risk of falls, but not many Pilates specialists focus on Pilates for pelvic floor dysfunction.

Pelvic floor dysfunction can significantly impact quality of life, but there are multiple treatment options available. Whether through physical or occupational therapy, regenerative shockwave therapy, Stimpod therapy or Pilates rehabilitation, individuals suffering from pelvic floor dysfunction have a variety of ways to regain control and improve their wellbeing. If you are experiencing symptoms, consult a healthcare professional to determine the best course of action for you.

Kim Gladfelter is the owner, physical therapist and Pilates instructor at PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness, 1000 Fremont Ave., Suite 108, Los Altos.

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Business & Real Estate

New Pokémon trading card machines cause quite a stir

By Prisha Mohapatra
Town Crier Editorial Intern

The recent installation of Pokémon trading card vending machines in Northern California, including Los Altos and Mountain View, have not come without problems.

Just weeks after the machines went live at places like the Safeway in downtown Los Altos, the manufacturer took them offline to work out supply-and-demand issues that surfaced on social media. There is video evidence on TikTok of fans lining up before stores even opened to use the vending machines and men getting into fights in line to purchase the popular cards.

“Unfortunately, there are a lot of scalpers who are buying out the machine and reselling on eBay,” said Louis Hsiao, president of Concept Designs Inc., which worked on the project. “That’s not the intention. It’s supposed to be easier for

kids and fans of Pokémon to access.”

To make that happen, Hsiao noted that the approximately 400 machines nationwide have been shut down until software updates are installed to limit the number of cards a person can purchase at a time.

While uncertain when the machines will be operating again, Hsiao did say Pokémon is working hard to restore them. For the future, he said the plan is to make these Pokémon machines as accessible as Redbox DVD machines once were. Hsiao envisions them popping up in hotel lobbies, airports, malls, movie theaters and convenience stores. He predicted the number of machines could one day be in the thousands.

“This could grow into something bigger, and this is the first step, bringing vending into the 21st century and making it a more interesting experience,” Hsiao said. “A kid remembers this experience, which builds



MCKAYLA KAO/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

A Pokémon machine sits “currently performing maintenance” in the downtown Los Altos Safeway.

customer loyalty and another dimension for (Pokémon) to build on their brand.”

The first Pokémon machines

launched about a year ago in Southern California, according to Hsiao. His Palo Alto-based

company partnered with Flex-

tronics to create the machines; Concept Designs handled the

See POKÉMON, Page 34

Equity-rich? Consider a bridge loan

By Alex Wang

Bridge loans are short-term financing options that “bridge” the gap between buying a new home and selling your current one. Typically lasting 6-12 months, these loans allow homeowners to use their existing home equity to fund a down payment on a new property. Although bridge loans carry higher interest rates than traditional mortgages (often 1-2% higher) and may include origination fees, they provide valuable flexibility in competitive markets.

The Los Altos advantage

Los Altos presents a unique real estate environment where homes consistently attract more buyers than sellers, resulting in quick sales and competitive bidding. With properties sometimes selling within 1-2 weeks, buyer offers with home sale contingencies rarely succeed. This makes bridge loans particularly valuable for both buyers and sellers in our community.

Many long-time Los Altos residents find themselves considering downsizing after decades in their homes. Their motivations include:

- Simplifying and lowering living costs
- Moving to more manageable spaces
- Relocating closer to family

Realtor Field Notes

- Finding homes with fewer stairs or less maintenance.

For retirees especially, sorting through decades of belongings takes time that our fast-paced market doesn’t always allow. Bridge loans solve this problem by enabling homeowners to:

- Purchase their new home before selling their current one
- Prepare their existing home for sale at their own pace
- Avoid the stress and expense of temporary housing

A key advantage for retired homeowners is that many bridge loan programs don’t require employment income – lenders primarily consider the equity in the current home. This makes bridge loans accessible to retirees with substantial home equity but limited ongoing income.

Additionally, many homeowners with significant stock portfolios choose bridge loans to avoid triggering capital gains taxes. Rather than liquidating investments for the 5-6 weeks needed between purchase and sale, a bridge loan preserves their investment position while providing

See LOAN, Page 34

RECENTLY SOLD LISTINGS



155 ALVARADO AVENUE
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022
\$4,200,000 | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



1617 DALLAS COURT
LOS ALTOS, CA 94024
\$4,203,225 | 5 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS



20173 SOMERSET DRIVE
CUPERTINO, CA 95014
\$3,300,000 | 3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS



1084 SYRACUSE DRIVE
SUNNYVALE, CA 94087
\$2,888,000 | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



LYNN NORTH

L.NORTH@THEAGENCYRE.COM
650.703.6437
LIC. #01490039
LynnNorth.com



LOAN

From Page 33

necessary funds.

Buyers' competitive edge

For buyers in Los Altos, bridge loans provide crucial advantages:

- Ability to make non-contingent offers
- Liquidity to act quickly when the right property appears
- Competitive standing against all-cash offers

While carrying two mortgages temporarily may seem risky, securing the right home often outweighs this short-term consideration in our competitive market.

Bridge loan availability has changed significantly. I previously worked closely with First Republic Bank, a local private bank where many clients secured bridge financing until its collapse following the Silicon Valley Bank failure in 2023. While this created a market gap, I still connect clients with alternative lenders offering bridge loans, though terms and qualifications vary.

For homeowners with substantial home equity, there are reliable lenders who understand this unique Bay Area market and offer bridge loans, some even some without employment verification – a crucial distinction when evaluating options.

Considering a bridge loan

Given these current market conditions, bridge loans make the most sense when:

- You find your ideal next home before selling your current one
- You're in a market where contingent offers rarely succeed
- You're relocating on a timeline that doesn't align with selling
- You want to avoid moving twice
- You have significant equity in your current home

Exploring alternatives

Bridge loans are distinctive for homeowners with high equity but limited income, as they leverage substantial

home equity without requiring current employment. However, before committing to one, consider these alternatives:

- Home equity line of credit: This may offer lower interest rates than bridge loans, but typically requires employment income for qualification.
- Securities-backed line of credit: Homeowners with substantial stock portfolios may qualify to borrow against those securities at rates potentially lower than bridge loans.

These are typically offered by wealth management firms and private banks. This option preserves investment positions while avoiding capital gains tax, though market volatility could impact loan terms.

- Retirement accounts or personal savings: Using liquid assets eliminates loan costs but may have tax consequences or deplete important reserves.

- Sale-leaseback arrangements: Selling with an agreement to lease back temporarily might provide needed funds while giving you time to find your next home.

Making your decision

Consider these steps before deciding:

- Consult with a lender about current terms, qualification requirements, and all associated fees
- Work with an experienced real estate professional who understands local market dynamics
- Create a contingency plan in case your home takes longer to sell than anticipated
- Calculate the total cost compared to alternatives
- Assess how long you can comfortably manage two housing payments if necessary

With proper planning, a bridge loan can transform a potentially stressful transition into a smooth, successful move – giving you control over your timeline rather than being at the mercy of market conditions.

Alex Wang is a Los Altos resident, realtor, and founder of Rainmaker Real Estate. For more information, text or call (650) 800-8840 or visit AlexWang.com.

POKÉMON

From Page 33

casing and LED design, while Flextronics took care of the internal technology.

"It's been an exciting ride," Hsiao said. "(It's) great to see the vision being realized and facing the new challenges (having) to do with monumental tasks."

While many Pokémon fans are surely excited to see the machines working again, others are simply intrigued by getting an opportunity to try them for the first time.

"As someone who has seen Pokémon cards when I was growing up throughout elementary school and seen all my friends playing it, I've always wanted to get into it, but I haven't really ever had

an opportunity to," Pinewood School senior Leo Shang said. "But I think I'm very excited for this Pokémon vending machine to be back up, so that I can finally get into something I've found interesting."

He's not alone. The Japanese-based company has been around since the 1990s and has a global fanbase.

"Think about the success of the Pokémon brand, the decades and decades of love for this brand," Hsiao said. "It's rare for any company to have something that is so transgenerational."

Locally, consumers can find the Pokémon machines at three Safeway stores: 161 First St., Los Altos; 1750 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View; and 570 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View.

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/yzme3yjc.

Transactions

Los Altos

114 Cuesta Drive #7, G. Imwalle to T. & I. Brovkovich for \$1,550,000

975 Crooked Creek Drive, Shiplacoff Trust to D. & X. Zhang for \$4,180,000

517 Outlook Drive, Adams Family Trust to L. & S. Myint for \$4,800,000

1570 Wistaria Lane, Crane Family Trust to Jung Living Trust for \$5,200,000

2014 Churton Avenue, Silver Trust to M. & A. Grosul for \$5,265,000

1530 Richardson Avenue, 1530 Richardson LLC to Weir Trust for \$6,350,000

138 East Edith Avenue, C. & Z. Attar to Santos Living Trust for \$6,830,000

Mountain View

271 Fairchild Drive, Nam & Kathy Living Trust to Z. & Y. Zhu for \$1,500,000

194 Greyhawk Court, J. & J. Lu to J. & J. Wong for \$1,550,000

1430 Wildrose Way, Believers Trust to J. & D. Sandin for \$1,550,000

431 Medoc Court, L. Wang to X. Bai

for \$1,720,000

49 Showers Drive #P426, S. Kanduri to S. & R. Abhyankar for \$1,800,000

248 Walker Drive #4, Y. Song to S. Narra for \$1,850,000

876 San Simeon Drive, Ushigome Living Trust to 2408 Uplift Real Estate LLC for \$2,100,000

240 Pine Way, A. Hsu to T. & H. Livingstone for \$2,408,000

186 Espinosa Lane, Wosczyzna Trust to D. & S. Goldklank for \$2,770,000

369 Foxborough Drive, R. & J. Kempf to Y. & L. Ni for \$3,180,000

Total sales

Los Altos

Total sales: 7

Lowest sale: \$1,550,000

Highest sale: \$6,830,000

Average sale: \$4,882,100

Mountain View

Total sales: 10

Lowest sale: \$1,500,000

Highest sale: \$3,180,000

Average sale: \$2,042,800

– *CalREsource*

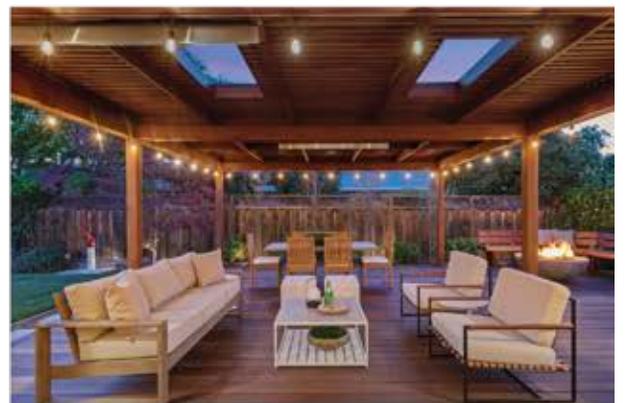


People Over Property

Alex Wang
650-800-8840



DRE 01351503



NORTH LOS ALTOS

343 LUNADA COURT

3 BED | 2.5 BATH | 2366 SF | 10,179 SF LOT

PRICE UPON REQUEST

343LunadaCt.com

Nestled on a peaceful cul-de-sac in coveted North Los Altos, this home has been cherished by the same family for 40 years. Showcasing true pride of ownership, the home was extensively renovated in 2015 by luxury homebuilder Palo Alto Building Company and has been meticulously maintained since. A true testament to quality craftsmanship and exquisite design.

OPEN FRI. 4/18 10AM-2PM
SAT/SUN 2-4:30PM



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JOSH HURWITZ
 DRE 02105069
 REALTOR®
 510.407.0055

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COMPASS



YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



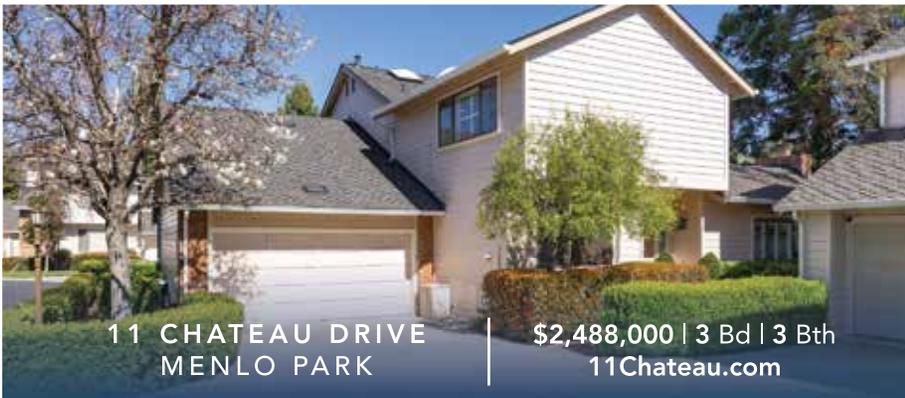
DeLeonRealty_USA



295 BAY ROAD
MENLO PARK | \$2,488,000 | 4 Bd | 2.5 Bth
295BayRd.com



206 PALMITA PLACE
MOUNTAIN VIEW | \$1,988,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
206Palmita.com



11 CHATEAU DRIVE
MENLO PARK | \$2,488,000 | 3 Bd | 3 Bth
11Chateau.com



695 N CALIFORNIA AVE
PALO ALTO | \$3,988,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth
695NCalifornia.com



195 HANNA WAY
MENLO PARK | \$4,488,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
195Hanna.com



1948 EDGEWOOD DRIVE
PALO ALTO | \$2,988,000 | 5 Bd | 3 Bth
1948Edgewood.com



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



8 REYNA PLACE
MENLO PARK | \$9,488,000 | 4 Bd | 7 Bth
8Reyna.com



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Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822
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Your home is where our heart is



1708 WILLIAM HENRY CT,
LOS ALTOS

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DESIGNER HOME & ADU | REMODELED TOP TO BOTTOM | IDYLIC CUL-DE-SAC
4 BED, 2.5 BATH MAIN HOUSE | 1 BED, 1 BATH ADU | POOL | CUPERTINO SCHOOLS



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SAVE
OUR
PLANET



E-Waste & Paper Shredding Event

SATURDAY, APRIL 26
9AM - 1PM | Free Event

CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE SERENO

467 1st Street, Los Altos, CA 94022
(Enter from the alley off Lyell St. behind Los Altos Hardware)

ACCEPTED

- ✓ Televisions/Computers
- ✓ Servers
- ✓ Monitors
- ✓ Laptops/Printers
- ✓ Phones
- ✓ Stereos
- ✓ Cell Phones
- ✓ Wire/Cable

NOT ACCEPTED

- ✗ Toys
- ✗ Alkaline Batteries
- ✗ Bulbs
- ✗ Hair Dryers
- ✗ Household Items
- ✗ Microwave Ovens
- ✗ Fans/Heaters
- ✗ Other Appliances

CANNOT SHRED

- ✗ Plastic items, including report covers, paper protectors, bubble mailers, X-rays, shrink-wrapped items, transparencies, binders, CDs, and floppy disks.
- ✗ Any heavy, dark items, including hanging and Pendaflex folders, brown grocery bags, and photographs.
- ✓ Staples and paperclips are still OK!
Maximum 10 boxes. All subject to acceptance by shredder.



GreenMouse shreds all hard drives to protect personal information.
greenmouse.com | 408.464.9999



InSITE specializes in secure on-site document shredding.
insiteshred.com | 408.292.4372

.....
JUST LISTED
.....

611 MANRESA LANE • LOS ALTOS



\$2,695,000

2 BEDS ■ 2 BATHS ■ 2,428 SQ FT

Steps from downtown Los Altos, this beautifully updated home offers the feel of a single-family residence in a private, gated community bordering Redwood Grove and Shoup Park. One of just 18 homes in an 8-acre enclave, the setting includes a pool, spa, and tranquil walking paths.

Vaulted ceilings, a dramatic skylight, and floor-to-ceiling windows fill the home with natural light. Enjoy wide-plank hardwood floors, a main-level bedroom and bath, and a spacious living room with greenbelt views. The chef's kitchen features an island, sub-zero refrigerator, and wine storage, while the retreat-style primary suite offers a peaceful escape.

Top-rated Los Altos schools: Gardner Bullis Elementary, Egan Junior High, and Los Altos High.

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INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
SERENO



This information was supplied by third party sources. Sales Associate believes this information is correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should verify accuracy and investigate to Buyer's own satisfaction.

Public Notices

KIKU FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN714611

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KIKU, 1060 Lincoln Ave Ste 20-116, San Jose, CA, 95125, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Veronica Kiku Kanno, 1060 Lincoln Ave Suite 20-1106, San Jose, CA 95125. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Veronica Kiku Kanno / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/14/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

096-T

MMW Creative Group FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715038

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) MMW Creative Group, (2) NEW EROS PUBLISHING, (3) FIRE ORCHID MUSIC, (4) BLACK GIRL ABROAD, 2404 Fairview Lane, Santa Clara, CA, 95051, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): MMW Creative Group, Inc., 2404 Fairview Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95051. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/06/2008. /S/ Miriam Wynn / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/28/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

095-T

R & T PAW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715198

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: R & T PAW, 3255 Padilla Way, San Jose, CA, 95148, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): JSR HORIZON LLC, 2108 N St Ste N, Sacramento, CA 95816. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Shuo Wang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/04/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

094-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF THUY TRAM THI NGUYEN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV461451

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
1. Petitioner: Thuy Tram Thi Nguyen filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name:
a. Thuy Tram Thi Nguyen

Proposed Name:
a. Thuy Tram Thi Collishaw

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter ap-

pear 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 06/03/2025 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: 03/20/2025
/s/ LE Jacqueline Duong
Judge of the Superior Court
(04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

093-T

GULRANGI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715070

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GULRANGI, 5272 Rio Lobo Dr, San Jose, CA, 95136, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Kirtan Kapil Vyas, 5272 Rio Lobo Dr, San Jose, CA 95136. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/23/2024. /S/ Kirtan Kapil Vyas / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/01/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

092-T

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office.
BOUND, 828 Onyx Court, San Jose, CA 95117
Filed in Santa Clara County on: 12/01/2021 Under File No. FBN680716
Full Name of Registrant(s): Montserrat Llaurado, 828 Onyx Court, San Jose, CA 95117
This business was conducted by: an individual
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Apr. 4, 2025.
Regina Alcomendras
County Clerk-Recorder
Santa Clara County
File No. FBN715181
(04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

091-T

STANFORD CARPET, UPHOLSTERY & RUG CLEANING CO. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715182

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: STANFORD CARPET, UPHOLSTERY & RUG CLEANING CO., 1140 Karen Way, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Yousri M A Touni, 1140 Karen Way, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/1981. /S/ Yousri M A Touni / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/04/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

090-T

White Peony Acupuncture FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN714943

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: White Peony Acupuncture, 885 N San Antonio Rd Suite M, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Loren Romley LAC, 885 N San Antonio Rd Suite M, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 12/07/2024. /S/ Loren Romley / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/26/2025. (04-16,23,30-25,05-07-25)

089-T

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS STATE OF CALIFORNIA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR

Matadero Creek Restoration and Bank Stabilization Project

1. BID OPENING. Bids will be received at the office of the City Clerk of the Town of Los Altos Hills, California, until **2:00 p.m. on May 1, 2025**, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked on the outside "Bid For Matadero Creek Restoration and Bank Stabilization Project".

2. VOLUNTARY PRE-BID MEETING. A voluntary pre-bid meeting is scheduled on April 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will start at the Town Hall located at 26279 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022, to be followed by a site visit.

3. WORK DESCRIPTION. The work consists of, in general, regrading a portion of the creek channel, installing a rock riprap grade control structure, replanting of the area, removing existing barriers, and installing new guard-rail system. The Engineer's Estimate for this project is \$440,000.

4. WORKING DAYS. The work under this Contract is to be completed in **FORTY (45)** working days, a ONE-YEAR (1) year landscape maintenance period shall commence at the end of the 30 working days after installation of all planting materials is completed.

5. CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE. A **Class "A"** Contractor's License is required for bidders to bid on this project. A **Class "C-27"** Contractor's License is required for planting. No bid will be accepted from a Contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with Chapter 9, Division 3 of the Business and Professional Code.

6. BID DEPOSIT. A Bid Deposit equals to at least ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid shall be placed in the sealed proposal. The Bid Deposit shall be in one of the following forms: cash, cashier's check or certified check payable to the Town of Los Altos Hills, or bidder's bond in favor of the Town executed by an authorized surety company.

7. PERFORMANCE BONDS. Performance guaranty bonds as set forth in Section 3-1.05 of the Special Provisions will be required from the successful bidder.

8. TOWN'S RIGHT TO REJECT BIDS. The right is reserved, as the interest of the Town may require, to reject any or all bids, or to waive any informality or minor irregularity in the bids.

9. GENERAL PREVAILING WAGE RATES. Pursuant to Section 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing wage rates in the county, or counties, in which the work is to be done have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project, available from the California Department of Industrial Relations' Internet web site at <http://www.dir.ca.gov>.

10. OBTAINING THE PROJECT PLANS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. (a) A full set of plans and Contract Documents are available for inspection without charge at the Public Works Department website at <https://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/Bids.aspx>. (b) Complete sets of said Contract Documents may be purchased at \$40.00 dollars per set and are obtainable from the office of the City Engineer/, Town of Los Altos Hills, Public Works Department, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, California 94022. No refund will be made of any charges for sets of Contract Documents.

11. OBTAINING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SPECIFICATIONS. The State of California Department of Transportation Standard Specifications and Standard Plans may be purchased at the State of California Department of Transportation Publication Distribution Unit, 1900 Royal Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95819; Telephone: (916) 445-3520; Fax: (916) 324-8997.

12. WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS. Any bid may be withdrawn at any time prior to the time fixed in the public notice for the opening of bids only by written request for the withdrawal of the bid filed with the Director of Public Works. The request shall be executed by the bidder or his/her duly authorized representa-

ive. The withdrawal of a bid does not prejudice the right of the bidder to file a new bid. Whether or not bids are opened exactly at the time fixed in the public notice for opening bids, a bid will not be received after that time nor may any bid be withdrawn after the time fixed in the public notice for opening of bids.

13. RELIEF OF BIDDERS. As stated in Public Contract Code Sections 5100 to 5108, inclusive (State Contract Act) concerning relief of bidders and in particular to the requirement therein, that if the bidder claims a mistake was made in his/her bid, the bidder shall give the written notice within five (5) days after the opening of the bids of the alleged mistake, specifying in the notice in detail how the mistake occurred.

14. DISQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS. More than one proposal from an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or combination thereof under the same or different names will not be considered. Reasonable grounds for believing that any individual, firm, partnership, corporation or combination thereof is interested in more than one proposal for the work contemplated may cause the rejection of all proposals in which such individual, firm, partnership, corporation or combination thereof is interested. If there is reason for believing that collusion exists among the bidders, any or all proposals may be rejected. Proposals in which the prices obviously are unbalanced may be rejected.

15. PREVIOUS DISQUALIFICATION, REMOVAL OR OTHER PREVENTION OF BIDDING. A bid may be rejected on the basis of a bidder, any officer of such bidder, or any employee of such bidder who has a proprietary interest in such bidder, having been disqualified, removed, or otherwise prevented from bidding on, or completing a federal, state, or local project because of a violation of law or a safety regulation.

16. RESPONSIBILITY FOR VERIFYING CONTRACT ADDENDA. All bidders shall verify if any addenda for this project have been issued by the Town of Los Altos Hills. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that all requirements of Contract addenda are included in the bidder's proposal.

17. ESCROW FOR SECURITY DEPOSIT IN OF RETENTION. Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22300, for monies earned by the Contractor and withheld by the Town to ensure the performance of the Contract, the Contractor, may, at its option, choose to substitute securities meeting the requirements of said Public Contract Code Section 22300.

18. SHORING AND BRACING. Pursuant to the provisions of California Labor Code Section 6707, each bid submitted in response to this Notice to Bidders shall contain, as a bid item, adequate sheeting, shoring, and bracing, or equivalent method, for the protection of life and limb in trenches and open excavation, which shall conform to applicable safety orders. By listing this sum, the bidder warrants that its action does not convey tort liability to the Town, Engineer, and their employees, agents and subconsultants.

19. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELA-

TIONS (DIR) REQUIREMENTS: This Contract will be subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations, pursuant to Labor Code section 1771.4. Under California Labor Code section 1771.1, as amended by SB 854, a contractor may not bid, nor be listed as a subcontractor, for any bid proposal submitted for a public work unless the contractor and its subcontractors are registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to section 1725.5 of the Labor Code. The Bidder and its Subcontractors must be registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to section 1725.5 of the Labor Code, subject to limited legal exceptions under Labor Code section 1771.1. The project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

Dated: April 2, 2025

/s/ Arika Birdsong-Miller, City Clerk
(04-09,16-25)

087-T

RUNDIPITY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN714834

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RUNDIPITY, 1213 W Washington Ave Apt 1, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Dante Paszkeicz, 1213 West Washington Ave, Apt 1, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Dante Paszkeicz / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/24/2025. (04-09,16,23,30-25)

085-T

SOMETHING SPECIAL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN714699

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOMETHING SPECIAL, 112 Prindville Ct, San Jose, CA, 95138, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LOVE TIMES TWO INC, 112 Prindville Ct, San Jose, CA 95138. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/07/2025. /S/ Kimberly Le / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/19/2025. (04-09,16,23,30-25)

084-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: VICTOR V. PLATONOFF CASE NO. 25PR199443

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of VICTOR V. PLATONOFF. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ANGELIQUE ELMENGARD in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANGELIQUE ELMENGARD be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 05/05/25 at 9:01AM in Dept. 2 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner
Diana Dean Gendotti, Esq.
95 Main Street, Suite 7
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 947-0307
(04-02,09,16-25)

083-T

MAGIC CLAW WORLD FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN714746

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MAGIC CLAW WORLD, 447 Great Mall Dr, Milpitas, CA, 95035, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): HUMAN CLAW MACHINE, INC, 528 N Moore Ave Apt A, Monterey Park, CA 91754. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) list-

Public Notices

ed above on: 03/20/2025. /S/ Shen Bing / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/20/2025. (04-02,09,16,23-25)

080-T

**TENTS-N-RENTS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN713807**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TENTS-N-RENTS, 14 Muirfield Ct, San Jose, CA, 95116, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Liza Marie Escobar, 14 Muirfield Ct, San Jose, CA 95116. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/12/2025. /S/ Liza Escobar / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 02/18/2025. (04-02,09,16,23-25)

079-T

**REDEEMING SPEECH
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714830**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: REDEEMING SPEECH, 1548 Meadow Lane, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Natalie Kato, 1548 Meadow Lane, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Natalie Kato / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/24/2025. (04-02,09,16,23-25)

076-T

**MYSTIC POETS SOCIETY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714848**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) MYSTIC POETS SOCIETY, (2) URBAN DEBUG, (3) PURPLE SCREAM, 4173 El Camino Real #41, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): BLURRED WHISPER, LLC, 4173 El Camino Real #41, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/03/2008. /S/ Mojdeh Marashi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/24/2025. (04-02,09,16,23-25)

075-T

**1EYEC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714727**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1EYEC, 3903 Middlefield Rd Apt D, Palo Alto, CA, 94303, Santa Clara County.

The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LED-DYORLD LLC, 3903 Apt D Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/19/2025. /S/ Anthony Leddy / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/19/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

074-T

**Lemon Slice
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714529**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Lemon Slice, 608 Palm Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Infinity AI, Inc., 608 Palm Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/20/2025. /S/ Lina Colucci / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/13/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

072-T

**SOUTH BAY CRANE & RIGGING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714720**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOUTH BAY CRANE & RIGGING, 1800 Russell Ave, 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): ARBORLIFT INC., 1800 Russell Ave, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/30/2015. /S/ Jose Melendez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/19/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

071-T

**SOUTH BAY WATER AND
CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714383**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOUTH BAY WATER AND CONSTRUCTION, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Margaret Manassero, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/01/2025. /S/ Margaret Manassero / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/11/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

070-T

**DESIGNFIX LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714677**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: DESIGNFIX LLC, 779 Glenborough Dr, Mountain View, CA, 94041, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): DESIGNFIX LLC, 779 Glenborough Dr, Mountain View, CA 94041. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/01/2022. /S/ Amanda Giles / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/18/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

069-T

**BIT BOAT TECHNOLOGY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN714653**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) BIT BOAT TECHNOLOGY, (2) BITBOAT TECHNOLOGY, 1695 Fairway Dr, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a married couple. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Charles Stephen Spirakis, 1695 Fairway Dr, Los Altos, CA 94024, Ruth Ann Spirakis, 1695 Fairway Dr, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Charles Stephen Spirakis / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/17/2025. (03-26-25,04-02,09,16-25)

068-T

\$40

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

Email legals at legals@latc.com



Datebook

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

EVENTS

Los Altos Main Library. All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness**, 10:30 a.m. Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic**, 7 p.m., first Monday of every month; **Bay Area Games Day**, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., third Saturday of every month. Other events: **Discover Poetry**, 7 p.m. today (April 16). Read, write, and stodayshare poetry. Presented by Poetry Los Altos. Meet in Pod D. **All About the Rings of Saturn**, 7 p.m. Thursday (April 17). NASA's Jeff Cuzzi will describe the highlights of the Cassini mission, emphasizing the rings of Saturn, which are increasingly believed to be much younger than the planet itself. **Opioid Overdose Prevention Training**, 7 p.m. April 24. Santa Clara County Library District, in partnership with The Q Corner's Harm ReuQion Project, is offering free trainings, open to anyone, to recognize an opioid overdose and administer NARCAN Nasal Spray. **Author Talk with JJ Elliot**, 7 p.m. May 6. Author JJ Elliot will read from her novel, "There Are No Rules for This," talk about the writing and publishing process, and about mental health and suicide prevention. Programs are free and open to the public. No registration necessary. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. 650-948-7683. Information: scclld.org/events/losaltos.

Friends of the Los Altos Library. Used book sale. 6:30-9 p.m., May 2, Members Night, join at the door for \$10; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 3; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 4, books sold by the bag (\$5 per bag). A large selection of fiction and non-fiction, and media in all categories for all ages, plus puzzles, specials, graphic novels and silent auction and featuring a special collection of train-themed books. Proceeds benefit Los Altos libraries. Information: losaltoslibraryfriends.org. Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., in cooperation with the City of Los Altos.

Garden Club of Los Altos Spring Plant Exchange. 10 a.m. to noon, April 26, Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Bring your healthy extra plants, seedlings, cuttings, bulbs, seeds, small trees or shrubs, and take home something new in exchange. Plants must be labeled. Sponsored by the Garden Club of Los Altos and the Los Altos Recreation Department with support from the Los Altos History Museum. Free admission (but must bring labeled plants). Rain or shine. Information: thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

CLUBS/GROUPS

Assistance League of Los Altos. Charitable organization benefiting youth of Santa Clara County. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Located at Third and State streets. (650) 941-2610 and assistanceleague.org/losaltos.

Kiwanis Club of Los Altos. Service organization. Meets at noon every Tuesday at Neutra House Conference Center, 181 Hillview Ave. losaltoskiwanis.org, (650) 735-1552.

Peninsula Harmony Chorus. A cappella chorus cen-

tered in Los Altos. Performs "doo-wop" music from the 1950s and 1960s. Rehearsals Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at Los Altos Lutheran Church. Information: peninsulaharmony.org.

GreenTown Los Altos. Nonpartisan group of citizens helping the communities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills become more sustainable. Information: greentownlosaltos.org.

Foothills Amateur Radio Society. Amateur radio club serving Los Altos and local area. Meets 7 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month. Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. fars.k6ya.org.

HP Retired Employees Club. Open to HP/Agilent retirees. Activities include luncheons, trips (local, regional and foreign), volunteer work and more. (408) 867-5086; hp.com/retiree.

American Association of University Women, Los Altos-Mountain View branch. Open to women (and men) with a college degree who are interested in equity for women and girls. (650) 207-6625; lamv.ca.aauw.net.

Los Altos Las Madres Playgroups. Playgroups for moms and their babies 5 and under. Play dates in and around Los Altos. Expectant moms, new dads and other caregivers welcome. (650) 917-9914; lasmadres.org.

Quota International of Mountain View/Los Altos. Supports scholarships for hearing-impaired students. Noon first and third Thursdays of each month. Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View. (650) 967-5404; quotamvla.org.

Rotary Club of Los Altos. Service group. 12:15 p.m. Thursdays. Garden House at Shoup Park, 400 University Ave. losaltosrotary.org.

South Bay Storytellers. 7 p.m. third Sunday of the month. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. (650) 494-1383; (650) 917-1920; southbaystorytellers.com.

Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club. Non-profit organization, builds vibrant friendships in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills through special interest and social activities. Information: losaltosnewcomers.org.

Sons in Retirement, Branch 5. Small group of men who keep socially and mentally active, have lunch and hear speakers on a variety of subjects. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael's restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. (408) 391-1078.

Morning Forum of Los Altos. Celebrating its 75th year, the Morning Forum of Los Altos announces its spring program of diverse and knowledgeable speakers. May 6: Robert Hartwell, professor of music history, author and lecturer at San Francisco Opera and Foothill College, will discuss "Mozart's Last Year." May 20: Darius Nabors will recount humorous and compassionate tales of visiting all of the national parks in "59 Parks in 59 Weeks." June 30: Steve Cushman, professor of English at the University of Virginia, will provide insightful examination of why Americans became fascinated with people writing about themselves: "My Book About Me, Why do Americans Write Memoirs?" To subscribe and for more information, visit morningforum.org.

IN MEMORIAM

ERNEST L. LITTAUER



March 8, 1936 – April 8, 2024

With profound gratitude and a deep sense of our good fortune for having known him, we mark the one year passing of our charming and irreplaceable friend and colleague, Ernest Littauer. Born in Mill Hill, North London, in 1936, Ernest's parents, Heinz L. Littauer and Ruth Felsenstein Littauer, from prominent families in Leipzig, Germany, relocated to England with Ernest's 3-year old sister Eva, as Hitler and the Nazis rose to power. In London during the Blitz Ernest slept in a metal-topped reinforced cage called a Morrison Shelter. When a German bomb hit their street, it destroyed a corner of their house. Like other children during the war, Ernest became a junior airplane spotter, prompting a life-long fascination with airplanes, and a deep-held conviction that a strong defense was needed to keep dictators at bay, all of which eventually led to a 33-year career in aerospace with Lockheed Missiles and Space.

Ernest attended Haberdasher's Aske Boys School, and University of London-Battersea College of Technology, earning a BSc in Metallurgy in 1961. Despite an offer from Cambridge University, he chose to remain at Battersea and earned a PhD in Electro-Metallurgy in 1961. During his student days he often had to present his research findings in front of large assemblies of fellow students and faculty, honing his public speaking skills which served him well later in his career. Always well-dressed and with a dapper sense of style,

Ernest drove a Jaguar convertible around London, became president of the University of London Union and helped plan student dance hops and special events, often attended by the Queen Mother and, on one memorable occasion, he danced with her. Ernest spent his spare time attending the symphony and concerts, as well as all-night Dixieland jazz clubs. On the recommendation of his dissertation advisor, Lockheed Missiles and Space hired Ernest and in 1963 he moved to southern California, acquired a small house in the Hollywood Hills, the first in his series of Corvette convertibles, and commuted to Lockheed's Jet Propulsion facility in Ontario.

In 1969 Ernest married Deveda McDonough, a Stanford graduate working on her teaching credential at UCLA; in 1973 they moved to the Bay Area and built their home in Los Altos Hills. Deveda earned a Master's degree in Psychology from San Jose State University and embarked on a career in school counseling at Davis Middle School in San Jose while Ernest was now managing the Chemistry Department at Lockheed's Palo Alto Research Labs, where he led pioneering research on the lithium battery for which he was awarded the first of the 20 patents he eventually had to his name.

In 1980 Ernest became Director of the Material Sciences at the Labs, where projects included developing the space shuttle's heat shield tiles; the first use of lithium as an anode

in batteries; a real-time x-ray inspection system for large rocket motors, and designing a strategy for astronauts in space to correct the flawed mirror on the Hubble Space Telescope, enabling it to go on to capture high-resolution and stunning images of distant nebulae and a cosmic "nursery" where stars are born.

In 1989 Ernest was selected Vice President and General Manager of Lockheed's 1500-person R&D Division. There he organized the New Business Acquisition and Proposal Center that became the company model for pursuing and winning R&D contracts. In retirement he consulted with MIT and the University of Surrey, helping their materials organizations establish proposal centers as well. Colleagues at Lockheed and beyond remember him as a mentor, a successful scientist, a self-confident and highly effective communicator and technology manager, all while retaining the sophisticated manners of his British background.

By the time Ernest retired in 1996, his long career had overlapped with Silicon Valley's emergence as a global center of tech innovation. Yet despite the rise of venture capital and proliferation of startups, Ernest chose to spend his entire career at Lockheed, echoing the sentiment that led him decades earlier to remain at Battersea for his PhD: "I liked the faculty, they liked me, and because they supported me I was able to graduate with honors ... and I'm not moving!"

In retirement Ernest pursued his multiple other interests. He and Deveda added a conservatory to their home where Ernest grew orchids and bromeliads. Guests invited for a 'grand tour' of the greenhouses, had Ernest giving them briefings on rare and unusual specimens then in bloom. On the engineering side, he gave full rein to his passion for sports cars, restoring his 1969 burgundy Corvette to pristine factory condition, entering multiple shows and concours, winning accolades and awards, all culminating in the 2012 Bloomington Gold in Chicago.

He indulged his lifelong love of music attending concerts with Deveda, both classical and jazz. In 1998 he joined the Board of Music at Kohl Mansion, the prestigious concert series in Burlingame, CA and during his more than two decades on the MAKM Board, served as President, Chairman and Chairman Emeritus, taking a leadership role to raise funds to

bring world-class chamber music ensembles to perform in Kohl Mansion's elegant wood-paneled hall, as well as out in the community for local schools and libraries.

Friends and family remember with fondness the many gatherings at the Littauers' in Los Altos Hills, when we shouted "Mazel Tov" as Ernest popped the cork and poured champagne into crystal flutes, as conversation flowed in the elegance of their home. As supporters of local artists, their home became a light-filled modern-art gallery, the paintings and sculptures artfully paired with orchids in bloom. Some of these occasions were costumed affairs, others were high teas or full dinner spreads, served on the family porcelain, crystal and silver passed down from Ernest's parents. With Deveda drawing everyone in with her warmth and cheer, Ernest would hold forth with his unique turns of phrase in his posh British accent, and with a knowing twinkle in his eye, leave us all charmed and elevated to a higher plane.

Ernest and Deveda travelled extensively and enjoyed re-connecting with Ernest's far-flung family members, including an epic reunion in 2000 when some 600 members of his mother's branch of the family, the Felsensteins, gathered in Jerusalem. Another important re-connect occurred with Ernest's old College, now the University of Surrey, reigniting a valued relationship. Deveda, as an educator and longtime student counselor, saw the role Surrey had played in Ernest's path to becoming a scientist and a gentleman, and how that education opened the doors to

greater opportunities. Together Ernest and Deveda visited Surrey multiple times, and in 2003 they began providing scholarships and awards to deserving students. In February of this year a plaque was unveiled in the University's student engineering lab reading, in part, "In Honour of Ernest and Deveda Littauer... Their legacy continues to shape the future of metallurgy and materials science at Surrey, ensuring aspiring engineers and scientists have the opportunities to succeed... This plaque stands in recognition of their extraordinary kindness, and lasting impact, which will continue to inspire future generations."

Ernest was predeceased by Deveda, who died unexpectedly in 2018 after their nearly fifty-year marriage. Ernest is survived by niece Este Dinur of Madison, WI; nephew Ilan Dinur of Yessod Hamalla, Israel; first cousin Frank Felsenstein of Chicago, IL; brother-in-law Joel McDonough of Eureka, CA; goddaughter Jackie Kircher of Lafayette, CA; and a large number of dear friends, family and colleagues in the Bay Area, elsewhere in California, across the U.S., and around the world. To our erudite, sophisticated, and one of a kind-of-a-kind Ernest: we miss you Old Chap.

To honor the memory of Ernest & Deveda donations can be made in support of the Littauer Scholars Fund at the University of Surrey:

<https://www.surrey.ac.uk/alumni/giving/littauer-fund>



OBITUARY NOTICE

COLIN W.T. KNIGHT

June 11, 1934 –
January 11, 2025

Born in England in 1934, Colin was always proud of his British heritage. As a child he experienced the horrors of World War II in Ceylon when the house they lived in was bombed by the Japanese. His father, a civil engineer had worked with the British army to fortify the harbor at Trincomalee. The family then relocated to South Africa and by the end of the war they finally settled in Southampton, England.

At the age of 17 Colin learnt about semi-conductors and he decided this was to be his project for life. At Southampton University he met Patricia, they married in 1958 and emigrated to the USA in 1960. In Massachusetts Colin worked for Clevite and Computer Control Company. When Computer Control was purchased by Honeywell and moved to Minneapolis in 1968, he chose instead to move to the San Francisco Bay Area. His time in Silicon Valley was spent researching and developing electronic devices at Fairchild and AMD. You can think of him when you use your cell phone and computer. In the mid 1980s he headed Sematech, formed in Austin Texas, to rejuvenate the US semiconductor industry and counter the loss of business and technology to Japan.

Outside of work, Colin was skilled in architectural design and drew the plans for his home in Los Altos Hills as well as helping his daughters remodel their own homes. He loved classical music and played the piano. From 1984 he helped his wife with her antiques business which intrigued him. When he retired he decided to pursue his interest in pottery and porcelain. He joined the San Francisco Ceramic Circle to learn more about this field and later was elected president of the Ceramic Circle for three terms, working closely with the Legion of Honor. He gave lectures and wrote several articles for different ceramic clubs. His enthusiasm made the collection of ceramics exciting.

He died on January 11, 2025 at the age of 90. He was predeceased by his brother Tony. He is survived by his wife Patricia and his daughters, Heather and Amanda, and by several nephews and a niece. He will be missed.

DOROTHY MORGAN



June 28, 1929–
March 20, 2025

After a full and beautiful 95 years, Dorothy Rea Morgan passed away peacefully on March 20, 2025, at Maravilla Scottsdale.

Born in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 28, 1929, Dorothy was the daughter of Opal Gertrude Dill and Rea Cecil Dill, two dedicated schoolteachers whose passion for education took them all across West Texas. Dorothy grew up surrounded by learning, graduating from Polytechnic High School in South Fort Worth before attending Abilene Christian University for a year. She later earned her degree in Nutrition & Foods from North Texas State College in Denton, TX (now the University of North Texas) in 1949. Dorothy was a proud member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Texas, working for equity and educational opportunities for woman and girls in schools around the state.

It was in high school that she first met Lucien "Lou" Morgan, her future husband. After reconnecting in college, they married September 14, 1950 and began a long and devoted life together. In 1960, Dorothy and Lou moved west to Los Altos, California, where they built a life and a home they would cherish for nearly six decades. Their house became a place of warmth and hospitality, surrounded by Dorothy's lovingly tended garden filled with her favorite flowers; roses and camellias. She was known for her delicious cheesecake, her unwavering faith, and her signature love of the color blue, which she wore with pride.

For nearly 50 years, Dorothy was a beloved member of the Miller Avenue Church of Christ, where she and Lou found community and purpose. Together, they traveled the world, embarking on trips to Africa, China, and Europe.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 69 years,

Lou; their sons, Larry and Miles Morgan; and her sister, Juanice Niestadt. She is survived by her granddaughter, Courtney Morgan, and great-granddaughter, Charlotte Morgan, as well as her siblings: brothers Preston and Terry Dill and sister Sandra Toubassi.

Dorothy's legacy is one of kindness, faith, and quiet strength. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.



EDYTHE ANNE HICKMAN



December 27, 1925 –
January 14, 2025

Edythe Anne Hickman passed away peacefully in Palo Alto, California on January 14, 2025, at the age of 99. Beloved wife, devoted mother, and cherished grandmother and great-grandmother, Edythe lived a life filled with love, resilience, and grace.

She was married for over 72 years to her devoted husband, Bert George Hickman, who preceded her in death in 2019. She is survived by her three children—Wendy Morris (Cris), Paul Hickman (Rebecca), and Alison Mink (Richard)—along with her six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, all of whom were touched deeply by her warmth, wisdom, and unwavering support.

Edythe will be remembered for her generosity of spirit, her quiet strength, and the deep care she showed to everyone around her. Her legacy lives on in the family she nurtured and the lives she enriched.

A memorial gathering to celebrate her life will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2025, in Stanford, California. Friends and family are warmly invited to attend. For more information, please contact Paul Hickman at phickman@hotmail.com. She will be dearly missed and forever remembered.

DIANA COLLINS



August 3, 1933–
February 24, 2025

Diana Collins passed away on February 24, 2025 in Cupertino, CA. Diana was born on August 3, 1933 in Cincinnati OH to Randolph Foster Ware and Hortense DeLan Ware. She grew up outside of Cincinnati where she studied art at the city's Art Museum and began her lifelong love of music while attending symphonies and opera. In 1945, the family moved to Coral Gables Florida where her father was a well-known architect. She graduated from Coral Gables High School in 1951 and the University of Miami in 1955 with a BA in English and Graphic Art.

At UM she was a member of Kappa-Kappa Gamma sorority, Kappa Pi International Art Honor Society and Mortar Board. In 1955 she married Robert O. Collins, a Marshall Scholar at Oxford University. While in Oxford, Diana taught second grade at the Brize-Norton Air Force Base where her first child Catharine was born. Upon returning to New Haven, CT where Robert received his PhD from Yale, Diana continued teaching school and her second child Randy was born.

After moving to Williamstown, MA where Robert served on the faculty of Williams College, Diana taught in local schools and her third child Robert was born. In 1965 the family moved to Santa Barbara. After the couple's divorce in 1972, Diana earned her teaching credential and worked full-time for the Probation Department while going to graduate school and spent time with her children exploring Tijuana, Ensenada and Sequoia Nat'l Park for ice skating and sledding.

In 1980, Diana moved to the Bay Area to be near her children and worked 22 years for the US Geologic Survey in Menlo Park. She enjoyed attending San Francisco symphonies, art museums and ballet, traveling abroad and hiking with the Sierra Cub Singleaires (now Pathfinders). Upon retiring in 2004, she had the opportunity to pursue her first love, art. She reinvented herself as a painter by creating multiple portraits of her grandchildren in many different mediums before moving on to landscapes which can be seen at dianacollinsart.com. Diana was an active member of the Colored Pencil Society of America, the Los Altos Art Club and a Los Altos School District Docent for 10 years.

Her favorite activity was spending time with her whole family. She was so proud of her kids and would boast about her grandchildren to whoever would listen.

Diana is survived by her children Catharine (John) Kristian of Los Altos; Randy (Darlene) Collins of Union WA; Robert (Vardin) Collins of San Jose and grandchildren: William, Emma, Margaret, Elizabeth and Ryan. A memorial service will be held at 11 AM at Christ Episcopal Church on Border Rd in Los Altos.

In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to the Sierra Club, Ocean Conservancy or the Native Indian Education Fund.



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