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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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## A doggone good time in LAH



PHOTOS BY MCKAYLA KAO/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos Hills residents and their doggy family members enjoy a pleasant Saturday morning at Byrne Preserve during the 22nd annual Hoppin' Hounds Biscuit Hunt. Dogs on leash enjoyed sniffing for biscuits and meeting fellow canines, while their owners enjoyed coffee and treats beforehand. Event proceeds will benefit Pets In Need's Palo Alto Animal Shelter.

## PG&E transformer location has residents fearing the worst

Traffic safety chief concern among Grant Park neighbors

By Bruce Barton  
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Grant Park area neighbors are concerned about the impending installation of a PG&E transformer that they said poses public safety issues.

The transformer location is at a bend along Grant Park Lane in the rear of Grant Park. Residents, who also assembled before the Los Altos City Council April 8, said the 6-foot-tall electrical box would be placed at a blind curb, and further impede travelers' line of sight.

Further, residents fault the city for a lack of transparency and public notice, and dismissal of their concerns.

Chief among them is the

positioning of the transformer increasing the possibility of accidents for pedestrians and cyclists.

James Lee, a 40-year resident of the neighborhood, said the area in question is "really dangerous - I almost got hit by the car. ... There's no walkway and cars are parking there."

"I walk by the corner where they plan to put the transmission box every morning to walk my dog," said Shumiao Wang, who showed photos to council members. "When I walk through the corner there's no sidewalk, so I had to walk on the road, but from the corner, I could see the incoming traffic from the main road, and it's a quite high traffic during the morning."

Wang showed a second, AI-generated image of the intended transformer and its resulting blockage of sight from around

See TRANSFORMER, Page 6

### Online Poll of the Week



What do you think of the new bike lanes on El Camino Real?

- I like them - a welcome addition for cyclists
- I don't like them - on-street parking taken away
- Either way, there continue to be safety issues

Vote online at [losaltosonline.com](http://losaltosonline.com).

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# Around Town



PHOTOS BY DANIELLE AMARAL/TOWN CRIER

## Champions of coloring

Pictured in the above main photo, from left, are the winners of the 2025 Easter Coloring Contest, sponsored by the Town Crier: Antara Barambe (age 5), Rosa Chin (5), Sumire Hiraguri (6), Jaana Grover (11) and Sophia Skakkebaek (12). Pictured in inset photo is Abrielle Ching (9). Winners received \$15 for first place and \$10 for second place, courtesy of Baskin Robbins–Mountain View, located at 1249 West El Camino Real, Mountain View.



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# News

## Los Altos Hills plans to pick fire risk map

By Curtis Driscoll  
Staff Writer/curtisdriscoll@latc.com

Facing concerns about increased insurance scrutiny and defensible spacing, Los Altos Hills plans to adopt a new fire hazard severity zone map required by the state that meets minimum labeling requirements but doesn't go further.

Residents and the council at an April 17 Los Altos Hills council meeting discussed the fire maps, which are tools to improve and more accurately identify wildfire safety and risk in California, with areas on the maps divided into moderate, high and very high based on factors like vegetation, slope, terrain and fire weather history. Option 1 from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection was the map favored by most for adoption because it did not add additional high and very high zones to Los Altos Hills like other map options.

"I agree with the gist of what I am hearing from a lot of people, which is keep it simple and not go overboard," Councilmember George Tyson said at the meeting.

The maps are being updated because of 2021 state legislation requiring the California fire marshal to identify moderate and high fire severity zones and have cities adopt an ordinance based on the fire marshal recommendations within 120 days of the recommendation, city staff said.

The town received the updated map from the state in February. Cal Fire last published its maps in 2007, with local jurisdiction adoption optional, with the town choosing not to adopt the

See FIRE, Page 7

## Los Altos talk addresses benefits, drawbacks of AI

By Bruce Barton  
Staff Writer/brucebarton@latc.com

Los Altos served as ground zero for a wide-ranging April 11 discussion on the benefits – and potential consequences – of artificial intelligence.

The event, "A.I. in Everyday Life – What Seniors Need to Know," drew a full house of mostly older adults to the Los Altos Community Center.

Led by the nonprofit AnewVista Community Services, the event featured keynote speaker Gregg C. Vanderheiden, professor emeritus, University of Maryland, and a panel of experts, including Jennifer Kelly, senior agenda manager, county of Santa Clara; Aparna Pujar, founder and CEO of Zemplee, Inc.; Chris Navrides, senior software engineer with Apple, Inc.; and Richard Adler, distinguished fellow, Institute for the Future.

Vanderheiden laid the groundwork for the talk, describing artificial intelligence as a fundamental technology (enabling computers to perform human tasks such as problem solving and learning) that was first coined back in the 1950s.

"It's going to be part of everything, and everything that we do, anything that's electronic or electric, even, is going to have AI built into it," he said. "One of my concerns



BRUCE BARTON/TOWN CRIER

From left, Richard Adler, Aparna Pajar, Jennifer Kelly and Chris Navrides discuss the benefits of artificial intelligence during an April 11 forum organized by the nonprofit AnewVista Community Services.

is that we are racing ahead with AI, but we're not creating any codes (of conduct) for it. We're not creating any rules for it. It's just kind of like, who can get there fastest, who can put AI into more things, and who can advance it faster?"

There are three types of AI, Vanderheiden said: Narrow AI, which performs specific tasks (think Siri); generative AI, blossoming now (machines learning to create new content); and general AI – future technology that will offer human-like, cognitive abilities.

The rapid advancement of generative

AI, he said, poses questions of how it will revolutionize our world and change how we work. He pointed to agriculture in the early 1900s employing 40% of the population. By the year 2000, agriculture occupied 1% of the workforce but it generated six times the output. Changing technologies made us more efficient and Vanderheiden indicated a similar pattern ahead with AI – only changing much faster.

"How will we handle a shift that happens in 10 or 20 years?" he said. "If we find

See AI, Page 5

## Local officials dismayed over federal funding freezes

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinacasillas@latc.com

The most vulnerable – from medically fragile and special needs students to people without health insurance – are expected to be the most affected locally by federal funding freezes and budget cuts, local leaders noted during a Los Altos Community Coalition (LACC) meeting last week.

Speakers at the April 18 LACC meeting included Santa Clara County Board of Education Trustee Jessica Speiser, Santa Clara County Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga and Los Altos Mayor Pete Dailey.

Abe-Koga, a former Mountain View city council member, replaced Joe Simitian as District 5 supervisor this year as he'd termed out. The biggest impact that will be felt by the county is related to Medicaid, she said. The House of Representatives passed a budget resolution that would cause significant budget cuts (about \$880 billion over 10 years to pay for the administration's priorities) to Medicaid, known as Medi-Cal in California, which is government-provided health coverage.

The county receives about \$1.9 billion for Medicaid and Medi-Cal, Abe-Koga said during the meeting.

"We serve about 456,000 residents through our health care system, and most

of those patients are Medi-Cal patients," she said. "We also serve Medicare patients and the uninsured. So this would really be quite significant, quite dire, and we're talking a lot about how we're going to deal with this."

But it's not only going to affect the uninsured, Abe-Koga emphasized: The cuts would also affect the county's four hospitals. The county's healthcare system is one of the largest public hospital systems in the state, second to Los Angeles. If money gets too tight, drastic measures may need to take place, she said.

"The economics of this assault on us can lead to a closing of a hospital, and that really is something that we have had to start thinking about," Abe-Koga said during the meeting. "So no one really is free from the threats that we are looking at, as anybody could end up in a hospital for it with an emergency."

Many vulnerable students will also be affected by federal funding cuts. Students in alternative and juvenile detention schools, the Head Start Program (which provides education, school readiness and healthcare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers from financially unstable households), and those with specialized needs will also feel financial cuts the hardest.

"The cost of Head Start for us, and it was completely born by federal grants, is

\$40 million a year," Speiser said during the meeting. "Because we're at the end of that cycle, we ended up on March 15, having to give pink slips to the entirety of our Head Start Program, because we are unsure that starting July 1, we are going to have the next rev of our grant."

The Head Start Program is a nationwide program completely financed by federal funds. The local Head Start Program is a funded by a non-competitive grant the county applies for, but since some cuts made by the presidential administration, the program's future is dubious.

"There are words that are not necessarily liked by the current administration, and it's important to note that they have consolidated a lot of the regional Health and Human Services (HHS) offices," Speiser said. "Head Start is a program under the HHS, not under the Department of Education. They consolidated them about a week ago. We don't even have a rep to talk to as to how our application is coming along."

A community member also asked Speiser about ICE potentially entering schools and disrupting classrooms while looking for undocumented children, but Speiser noted there has been no ICE activity at county public schools.

For a longer version of this story, visit [tinyurl.com/fundingcutrepercussions](https://tinyurl.com/fundingcutrepercussions).

# News

## PG&E performing upgrades – expect traffic delays

Town Crier Staff Report

PG&E is performing power upgrades in Los Altos neighborhoods now and through May 5. Expect one-way traffic and detours in these areas.

The upgrade, PG&E said, is to a 12kV system, which will support technology like EV charging. The work is being done in two phases. The first phase began April 9 and will go through April 30. The second is scheduled April 30, May 3 and 5, and May 5 through May 10.

Lane closures on South Clark Avenue are in effect through April 29. PG&E has submitted an extension request with the city of Los Altos, which is under review.

According to PG&E, work involves the following:

- Replacing multiple poles
- Installing multiple overhead transformers
- Pulling primary and secondary cable
- Installing service wire

The following streets are impacted: Amador Avenue, Benvenue Avenue, Camellia Way, El Monte Avenue, El Monte Court, Giralda Drive, Hawthorne Avenue, Hawthorne Court, Higgins Avenue, Lerida Avenue, Mills Avenue, North El Monte Avenue, Otis Way, Paco Drive, San Luis Avenue, South Clark Avenue, Springer Terrace and Stardust Lane.

## On your mark, get set – hunt!



The city of Los Altos-sponsored egg hunt, held this past Saturday, had dozens of kids scrambling for colored eggs that were scattered across Hillview Soccer Field. Parents reached for their cell-phones, top, to capture the moment. At left, a young lady is ready for the hunt with her basket. Below, not everybody was happy to see the Easter bunny.

PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



## AI

From Page 4

that we can do so much more with each person, then we'll need fewer ... in each job. And what's going to happen? How do we educate ourselves? How do we teach or train others to prepare them for a career that's likely to continually change every decade?"

Questions from the audience were laced with some trepidation. Concerns ranged from privacy issues to accuracy of content and the technology encouraging laziness. But the panelists, steeped in tech backgrounds, were optimistic about the powerful technology.

Navrides offered several examples of AI helping people complete tasks, particularly people with disabilities. Speech-to-text AI can help the hard of hearing; eye tracking can aid those with limited movement; self-driving cars mean seniors no longer need to fear losing their independence that comes with the ability to drive.

Adler related how AI is helping in the medical field from automating records to improving

diagnosis and treatment. He also talked of the educational benefits in which children of various abilities will learn at their own pace with the interactive technology.

There are social benefits as well, panelists said. An AI "friend" can help seniors living by themselves better cope with loneliness.

Some questioned whether the personal touch would be lost in the name of AI progress – one questioner even suggested people in the future might be dating robots.

But panelists indicated human abilities such as creativity, compassion and wisdom would still be in demand, even in the world of AI.

"All of this technology isn't necessarily very wise," Adler said. "It doesn't really have much wisdom, and that's really something all you have and that you can contribute to helping shape (AI)."

The April 11 event was co-sponsored by El Camino Health and the Mountain View Los Altos Community Foundation. AnewVista connects seniors with technology. For more information, visit [anvcs.org](http://anvcs.org).

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

LAMVCF.org

## TRANSFORMER

From Page 1

the corner.

“This box is six feet high,” she said. “I cannot see any traffic coming through the main road. So this clearly creates a blind spot for the dog walkers like me.”

City officials offered a stark contrast in response to the residents’ concerns. They said they

gave public notices, met with residents and complied with public information requests.

“It is important to state that there is no public safety issue with the placement of the transformer,” said Nick Zornes, assistant city manager. “Additionally, the proposed location is not at a blind corner. The road leads to a cul-de-sac with approximately 13 houses on the street, and the transformer will

be placed adjacent to the (Grant Park senior center) so as not to obstruct sight lines. There is no accident or documented speeding history in the area, and the proposed location meets all safety standards and complies with the city code and all other regulations, including those of PG&E.”

Zornes said the utility company is dictating the location.

“The upgraded electrical

and HVAC required approvals and design from PG&E. Specifically, to complete the work, PG&E needed to design the new electrical and approve the transformer’s location,” he said. “There were many requirements, but 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 they approved is where the transformer will be placed. Additionally, the work of a public utility transformer upgrade and placement of such equipment is determined to be ministerial by virtue of city ordinance, and state law.”

Residents met with Los Altos Mayor Pete Dailey and City Manager Gabriel Engeland on March 25 and 26, respectively, but felt their concerns were not taken seriously.

“There is no safety concern with the location of the transformer,” Dailey reiterated. “It meets all city code requirements and PG&E requirements. The location residents are proposing was already ruled out by PG&E as it didn’t meet their specifications, and the transformer could not be placed there. The city has no plans to move the transformer, or to consider such a move. Construction is moving forward finally after long delays involving PG&E.

“Traffic is but the latest con-

cern these residents have expressed,” Dailey added. “I have heard concerns about radiation, noise and other complaints. When one is debunked, they move to another. My personal opinion, after spending quite a bit of time with them, is that their concern is, at best aesthetic, and more likely ginned up.”

But residents stood by their assertions, many offering first-hand observations. They set up an online petition through change.org that had more than 60 signatures as of last week.

“I have kind of a unique perspective,” Ken Hargis told council members April 8. “I have a home office directly across from the area in question. So for 25 years, I’ve seen this site every single day – I can see what happens at that corner. It’s a very dangerous corner. A lot of speeding traffic swerves around this corner. If children see this other electrical big box in front of them, I think they’ll kind of swerve more out into the street to try to avoid it.

“I think you have a model of how to do this the right way, as it was done at Hillview (park), where (the transformer is) put in a place away from a lot of foot traffic. I think there are significant life safety issues and significant liability issues for the city.”

Upcoming work includes relocation of the sewer line with PG&E trenching work to begin in late May.

## SETHI

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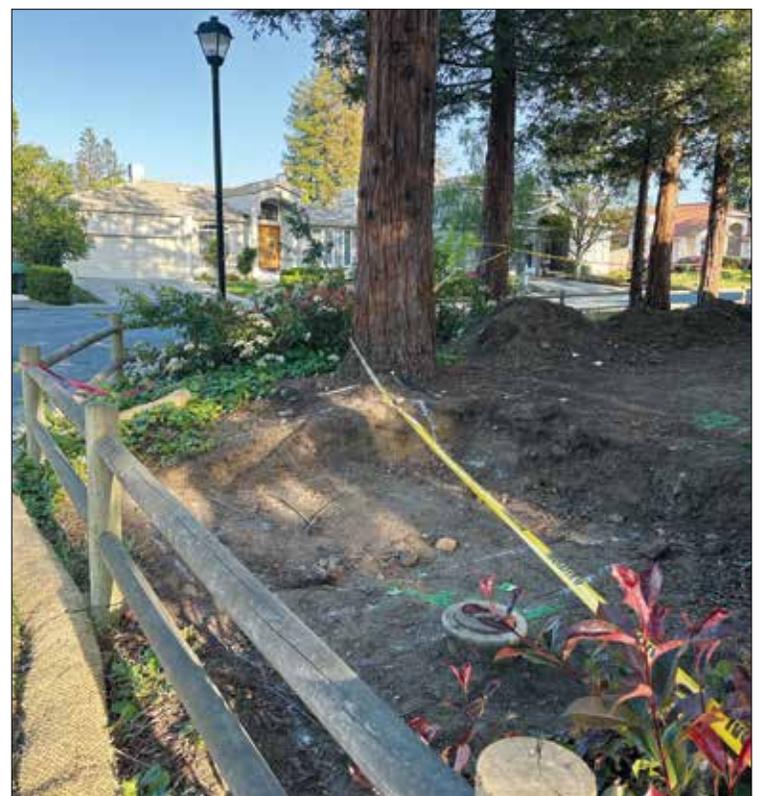


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BRUCE BARTON/TOWN CRIER

**A transformer planned for this location behind the Grant Park multipurpose center has residents voicing traffic safety concerns. They fear pedestrians and cyclists won’t be able to see around the corner with the 6-foot-tall transformer in the way.**

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## FIRE

From Page 4

proposed map at the time.

Homeowners would have additional defensible space responsibilities for fire prevention efforts in certain area designations for high and very high zones under state law. Very high includes defensible space requirements from structures, an ember-resistant zone within 5 feet of a structure, maintenance of roofs free from leaves, new property development standards, real estate disclosure about the property being in a high or very high zone and certification of compliance from the building official required before new construction or rebuilding.

City staff said the town maps would not be used by the home insurance industry. However,

several residents and some on the council remained concerned that certain map options that included all of Los Altos Hills in high or very high zones may harm real estate sales and resale value.

Resident John O'Connell wanted to encourage property owners to be as fire-safe as possible but was against adopting any map that added fire severity zones to Los Altos Hills maps.

"I am completely opposed to doing anything to change the state maps because those maps will become precedent and history," O'Connell said. "We will have them published, and no matter what is said, people will shy away."

City staff will now bring back mapping recommendations through an ordinance at the May 15 meeting.

## Another protest in Mtn. View

Following an April 5 protest railing against the Trump administration, protesters walked El Camino Real again April 15 to protest the administration's wrongful deportation of Salvadoran national Kilmar Abrego Garcia. Former Mountain View City Councilmember Lenny Siegel said he organized the rally after watching the news the day before about the deportation.

PHOTOS BY ALFRED LEUNG/  
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



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# Comment

## Letters to the Editor

### Will \$5 million sustain your soul?

Mayor Pete Dailey wants to make Los Altos an arts destination: “We’re striving ... for the sustenance for our soul that the arts provide.”

To that end, council increased the city budget \$300,000 to pay a consultant to raise \$25 million so the Los Altos Stage Company (LASC) can build a new theater.

Staff says \$25 million won’t cover construction costs unless the building is scaled down, negating previous feasibility estimates, though LASC admits a theater would never be self-sustaining.

Dailey says, “Our community deserves a theater.” Which community? Did he ask you if a theater is on your city priority list or if you’re willing to pay for it?

Subsidizing this vanity project is fiscally irresponsible and a betrayal of public trust, particularly in today’s chaotic economic environment.

**Pat Marriott**  
Los Altos

### Reconsider transformer location

This letter is in response to some of Nick Zornes’s observations, regarding the transformer project at Grant Park (April 16).

The first time that neighbors learned about said project was

in mid-March of this year. Contrary to his statement, our neighborhood was never made aware of any public meetings.

The location where the transformer is planned to be located does present a safety issue because of limited visibility in that area of the street. Over the years, I have personally witnessed many near collisions because this area is a blind corner. The park and its surroundings are not just for the use of the 13 families of the cul-de-sac. Hundreds of children, adults, and pets use this area of the park on a regular basis. The 6-foot transformer would be placed next to the street fence, obstructing even more the view of cars and pedestrians.

The residents of Grant Park are only asking the city of Los Altos to reconsider the location of the transformer in the park. Hillview Park already provides a blueprint of what can be done in Grant Park, because the transformer there is placed near a structure in front of the park. As concerned citizens, we are asking for our voices to be heard and considered when making this significant decision. That’s what a democracy is all about, listening to all stakeholders in making a decision that will affect them.

**Irene Corso**  
Los Altos

## Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

A wedding party poses on the steps of Union Church on the corner of San Antonio Road and Third Street in downtown Los Altos, May 22, 1921. The “Little Brown Church” as it was known, built in 1914, was torn down in the late 1950s after its congregation moved to its new church on University Avenue.

## Aspirational goal becomes a wrecking ball

By Ann Duwe

When Governor Gavin Newsom declared he wanted 2.5 million new housing units in California, he failed to see how his “aspirational goal” would transform the Golden State into a matrix for high-rise, rental development. Newsom’s number became the basis for the 6th-cycle RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Allocation) numbers, the outsized housing demands now at the heart of every city’s housing element.

And that’s not all. Since 2017, Newsom and the state legislature have passed more than 100 housing bills; there are more than 20 awaiting passage during the current legislative session. Yet the maze of legislation fails to provide more than a tiny fraction of homes needed by people with very low, low or even moderate incomes. What all that legislation does is pave the way for very deep-pocketed real estate investment companies to buy property and build whatever they believe may prove most profitable to them in the long run.

Even the name RHNA is a whopping misnomer. What California city do you know that “needs” more rental apartments in buildings of four stories or more? That’s what

## Other Voices

many developers propose. Cities are under enormous pressure to approve the plans in frantic attempts to reach their RHNA numbers. In theory a developer who builds a large market rate project must set aside 20 percent of the units for “affordable housing.” When density bonuses and other concessions are calculated, what typically gets built is 10 market rate units for every one labeled “affordable.” Since “affordable” can be applied to units priced for those earning between 0 and 80 percent of the area median income, units labeled “affordable” are often beyond the means of teachers, nurses, retail and restaurant workers.

Portola Valley is headed for bankruptcy in attempts to meet its 253-unit RHNA requirement; Woodside is laboring with a requirement to build 328 units and Los Altos Hills to find room for 489 additional units. The burden on the city of Los Altos is 1,958 units. In all cases the cost of providing services and infrastructure falls on existing residents. One has to ask, “Whose needs are cities scrambling to meet?”

If Newsom and the legislature wanted to address the

housing needs of working people, they would tackle the underlying difficulty – over the last 50 years, the cost of construction has risen exponentially while wages have remained nearly flat. According to the National Association of Homebuilders, fewer than 80,000 new homes have been built in California in each of the last 10 years. The demands of the 6th-cycle RHNA cannot be met even if cities abandoned all their local housing ordinances.

The 6th-cycle RHNA applies a wrecking ball to the California dream of a house and yard of one’s own. What kind of built environment are we handing off to our children and grandchildren? I hate to think they will only be able to stay in the Bay Area if they are willing to choose among rental apartments in dense, high-rise buildings. Peninsula residents must shower their legislators with letters expressing the belief that a massive program of forced residential building will not make anyone’s housing more affordable. Peninsula cities must unite to resist Newsom’s number and the maze of recent housing legislation. Until then, we are all complicit in turning paradise into another Manhattan or Hong Kong.

**Duwe is a Los Altos Hills resident.**



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# Community

## 'Living electric' fair to light up downtown Los Altos May 4

By Dorie Xie  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos' first Living Electric Fair is coming to town Sunday, May 4, at State Street Market.

"This fair is a great opportunity for the community to meet experts who can answer questions about electrification in their personal lives," project manager Emily Ting said. "Los Altos is a really supportive community, but because there's so much information related to climate change, carbon footprint and EVs, people can get overwhelmed."

The free fair, which will run 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., focuses on advocating for the benefits of using electricity over gas appliances in the home. Volunteers and electricity experts will discuss changes households can make to "live electric," according to GreenTown vice president Con-



COURTESY OF LIVING ELECTRIC FAIR ORGANIZERS

This "Dream Home" will be one of the exhibits at the upcoming Living Electric Fair on May 4 in Los Altos.

nie Miller.

"Electric vehicles are already about one-third of all registered vehicles in the county," Miller said. "So, we wanted to evolve it into, 'What can somebody do at home to help reduce greenhouse gases and, more importantly, to create a healthier home environment?'"

The event will feature four zones, each with a different target purpose. For example, the micromobility zone focuses on electric personal mobility solutions such as electric bikes and scooters, while the zero-waste zone showcases local upcycling organizations.

In addition, Miller said the

biggest attractions should be the family discovery zone and Electric Avenue.

"The family discovery zone will have an arcade where people can play hands-on games and learn about the benefits of electrification and the health risks associated with its environmental impact," Miller said. "And we're gonna have a craft station for the kids."

Miller added that Electric Avenue will feature a Ford F-150-powered tiny home from Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE).

"The whole house is gonna be powered by the car – the washer, dryer, stove, heating, air conditioning, everything," Miller said. "The purpose is to show that, if you do it right, what the future is and how you could have your own power station in the event of an outage."

The fair will be almost entirely volunteer-run and organized

by GreenTown, Los Altos Village Association, the city of Los Altos, State Street Market, Los Altos Rotary Club and the Anne Wojcicki Foundation. Its sponsors include SVCE and Acterra.

"We really are trying to get younger people involved in this mission, in our community, whether it's toddlers or high school students," Ting said. "We're trying to make it all-inclusive because this is a topic that affects everyone."

Ting emphasized the flexibility and relaxed style of the fair, and encouraged all members of the community to sign up.

"You can show up at any time and you could leave at any time," Ting said. "Location-wise, it's super easy to access right downtown. You'll really love everything you can learn at the event."

For more information and to RSVP for the Living Electric Fair, visit [tinyurl.com/living-electric](http://tinyurl.com/living-electric).

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## DAR presents community service awards to American Legion leaders

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recognized Pamela Baird and Cindy and Ken Newman March 21 with their 2025 community service awards.

The DAR Community Service Award recognizes unpaid voluntary community service of individuals and organizations through voluntary heroic, civic, benevolent service, or by organizing or participating in community activities.

The 2025 awards recognized Baird for her work and service to the Mountain View Historical Association (MVHA), and

the Newmans for their service to the American Legion Post 558 and its veterans.

Baird has played a significant role in documenting and preserving Mountain View area history and sharing it with the community. She leads a monthly walking tour of the history of downtown Mountain View. She hosts the quarterly MVHA History Events and started a history speaker's series with the Mountain View Library. She gives Mountain View history presentations in local elementary schools. Baird leads production of the MVHA newsletter, researching and writing articles on local history topics. She has served as president of the MVHA board



SUSAN KETTERING/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, represented by Ann Hepenstal, left, recognized Cindy and Ken Newman, center and right, of American Legion Post 558 in Los Altos, with community service awards.

for four years. She has been a Mountain View resident since 1998 and a business owner for more than 35 years.

The Newmans are instrumental to the functioning of American Legion Post 558 in Los Altos, its service to the Los Altos community and to veterans. Ken Newman is a third-generation member of the post and a Vietnam veteran. He has served the post formally as its president and treasurer, and has contributed in a myriad of other leadership and service roles. Cindy Newman actively

serves the post with project management and fundraising and in many other ways, such as preparing and serving the monthly dinner for veterans at the post. The Newmans spearheaded the work to get the post designated as a Los Altos landmark, as well as championing needed renovations. Cindy organizes the annual Veterans Day ceremonies in Los Altos and Mountain View, which are cosponsored by Post 558. Ken and Cindy formed and led the MVVM committee to establish the Mountain View Vet-

erans Memorial 10 years ago. Ken and Cindy are residents of Mountain View, and Cindy is also a member of Los Altos Chapter, DAR.

The Los Altos American Legion Post 558 was formed in 1938 by World War I veterans who built the main hall and opened the doors in 1940. The post was granted historical landmark status by the city of Los Altos on March 8, 2022, recognizing its role providing meeting space as the city organized to incorporate in 1952. The main hall has been used for decades by a variety of community organizations. Veterans from Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale meet regularly on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. with dinner, social time and a program. For more information, visit [calegionpost558.org/](http://calegionpost558.org/).

For more information about the Mountain View Historical Association, visit [mountainviewhistorical.org](http://mountainviewhistorical.org). For more information about the Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, visit [losaltos.californiadar.org/](http://losaltos.californiadar.org/).



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Whether you're just exploring your options or ready to make a move, we're here to help you make informed, confident decisions.

*We'd love to see you there!*



## Garden Club of Los Altos celebrates spring

Town Crier Report

The Garden Club of Los Altos celebrated on March 25 with their annual spring potluck salad luncheon; more than 80 people attended. They also installed the new 2025-26 board, which consists of president JoAnn Connor, vice president/program chairperson Karen Stoneham, treasurer Barbara Capron, recording secretary Ann Hunt/Kris Gulesarian and corresponding secretary Lynne McCord.

The floral design program "Spring Forward: Maximizing Impact with Early Blooms" was presented by Kren Rasmussen, owner and lead designer of Bloomster's in San Jose. Rasmussen has been bringing artistry and innovation to the floral industry since founding Bloomster's in 1987. His passion for floral design was nurtured from an early age. With a father who was a landscaper and a mother who was a skilled seamstress, Rasmussen was immersed in the worlds of nature, design and craftsmanship. He started a ga-



JUDY HOGAN/GARDEN CLUB OF LOS ALTOS

Kren Rasmussen works on an arrangement.

rage floral shop as a young teenager. Along with his love of floral artistry, he credits his accounting degree and CPA certificate for helping manage the business side of Bloomster's. When asked if he has a favorite flower, Rasmussen said, "No, but I have one I hate - I'm allergic to it!"

Rasmussen talks quickly and works quickly - he completed seven arrangements in under an

hour and donated two of them to the club's giveaway drawing for members.

The Garden Club of Los Altos meets the fourth Tuesday of every month except July, November and December. Meetings are held at 12:30 p.m. at the Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave. For more information, visit [thegardencluboflosaltos.org](http://thegardencluboflosaltos.org).

## 500 trees campaign celebrated at Los Altos Arbor Day event Friday

Town Crier Report

**A** Los Altos Arbor Day celebration is scheduled 4 p.m. Friday (April 25) at Lincoln Park, 199 University Ave.

Gary Hedden of GreenTown Los Altos, who led the planting of 500 trees throughout the city, will lead in the celebration. Santa Clara County Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga is scheduled to attend.

Hedden started the campaign in 2019 and planted the 500th tree last December. He credited numerous youth volunteers who helped in the plantings, including local scouts and high school green teams.

"I am inviting everyone who got a tree, everyone who helped me along the way," Hedden said.

He explained the idea for the 500 trees campaign.

"Back in 2018 a lot of trees were dying after several years of drought, so GreenTown decided to plant some trees, 500 to be exact," Hedden said. "It took years, but it was fun. We met a lot of good people and put a lot of great volunteers to work. Everybody loves trees and why not, they're beautiful, capture carbon and offer measurable health benefits.

In addition to remarks from local leaders, the event will include informational tables from Canopy, Valley Water and the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation (LAMVCF). GreenTown Los Altos, Valley Water and the Los Altos LAMVCF are co-sponsors.

Also at Friday's event: Cookies, regular and vegan, and a prize drawing.

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



CHRIS SHUM PHOTOGRAPHY, CHRIS SHUM PHOTOGRAPHY.COM

From left are: Katelyn Gainey, Mary Kate Outten, Margaret Lint, Elle Najarian, Ginger O'Grady, Maddie Kacin, Katie Weyer, Emily Bennion, Quillan Casem, Sammy Tong, Chelsea Zhou, Ella Chan, Meagan Angelo, Mia Han, Naveli Singh, Noor Bhandari, Zoe Lin and Chloe Wu. Not pictured: Ingrid Gomard, Sophia Hale, Anam Khan and Audrey Liao.

## NCL Orchard Valley celebrates class of 2025

Town Crier Report

**T**he National Charity League (NCL) Orchard Valley Chapter celebrated its Class of 2025 during a heartfelt senior recognition event held at the Fremont Hills Country Club. The evening honored 22 remarkable young women from 10 local high schools who have collectively dedicated more than 3,500 volunteer hours over the past six years.

Surrounded by family and friends, the seniors were recognized not only for their long-

standing commitment to community service, but also for their leadership and compassion. As a capstone to their journey with NCL, the class completed over 300 hours of service together for the Ronald McDonald House as part of their senior project – offering support and care to families facing serious childhood illness.

"This event is a celebration of who these young women have become through their years of service and leadership," NCL president Sindey Lai said of the

event. "They leave behind a legacy of kindness, empathy, and community spirit."

The class of 2025's impact reaches across the Bay Area, reflecting NCL's mission of fostering mother-daughter relationships through philanthropic work, leadership development, and cultural experiences. For more information about the National Charity League Orchard Valley Chapter and its programs, please visit [nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/orchard-valley](http://nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/orchard-valley).

## Leadership Mountain View welcoming applications for the class of 2026

Town Crier Report

**L**eadership Mountain View (LMV) is now accepting applications for its class of 2026. For more than 30 years, LMV has fostered meaningful connections, developed leadership skills and inspired graduates to become active and informed community leaders.

Two events are planned. An open house will be held from 5-7 p.m., today (April 23) at the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce, 580 Castro St., to learn more about the LMV program, enjoy cookies and get questions answered. RSVP is suggested but not required. For more information, contact Marn-Yee Lee at [director@lmv.education](mailto:director@lmv.education).

Visit the class of 2025 Project Showcase from 6-9 p.m. April 30 at the Mountain View Community Center Redwood

Room, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave. See what community projects the class of 2025 has been working on, ranging from housing, education and sustainability to community relations, homeless outreach and more.

Presentations will take place 6:30-8:30 p.m. with networking before and after. Refreshments will be served.

Organizers said LMV offers a unique opportunity for those who live and work in Mountain View to learn what makes the city special, all while building invaluable personal and professional connections.

Sessions are typically held on the second Friday of each month from September 2025 through May 2026.

*For more information or to submit an application, visit [lmv.education/apply](http://lmv.education/apply). For a program overview, visit [lmv.education/whatwedo](http://lmv.education/whatwedo).*

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## Forgiveness: Out of the darkness, into the glorious light

By Laurie Kurgas

**F**orgiveness is the greatest gift. It is the difference between life and death.

Forgiveness can restore the life in a relationship, whereas a lack of forgiveness can lead to the death of a relationship. As we reflect back on Holy Week, and as we look at the Cross of Christ, we see the greatest gift of forgiveness that there is. Jesus was crucified because of our sins, our evil words, actions, deeds, even thoughts. Jesus gave His life to forgive us of our sins. To reconcile us in

our relationship with God, our Father in heaven. Sin separates us from God. For God is holy and He cannot have any sin, any evil, any hate or anger, any discourse or division, in His Holy Presence. In heaven, there is no evil, no sin, no pain, no struggle. Jesus said that He is the way to God in heaven (John 14:6). Through Him, we are offered a free ticket through the gate into heaven,

where peace, love, joy abound forever.

In the same way, through forgiveness among one another, we can share in peace, love, joy in our relationships with one another, here on earth. As we extend kindness toward each other, as we offer grace and mercy to one another, as we forgive one another, our lives are much richer and our communities thrive. We all

struggle in relationships. We have such a variety of upbringings. We have different perspectives. We have differences of opinion. We have pain from our past. We cause harm to relationships. We say or do things that we regret. We hurt those close to us, even without intending to. How do we reconcile our relationships? How do we bring unity and love? Through forgiveness. The Bible says to confess our sins to one another and we will be healed (James 5:16). Confession, recognizing our wrongdoing and asking for forgiveness, brings healing to our relationships, as well as to our bodies, our minds, our hearts. It's not always easy to confess, to ask someone for forgiveness. It's an act of surrender, of laying down our pride, our indignation, our weaknesses. Apologizing, saying we're sorry, is a critical step in bringing healing to our relationships.

In the same way, God says that we are to forgive one another, as we have been forgiven (Matthew 6:14-15, Ephesians 4:32). It is an act of kindness and compassion. And, it is a release from carrying a heavy burden in our heart or our

mind. It's not always easy to forgive someone, especially for something grave and deeply wounding, or when someone does not apologize, does not repent or confess. God calls us to forgive because He knows the healing that it brings. And, He says to leave the vengeance to Him (Romans 12:18-19).

If you are struggling with forgiving someone, or with asking for forgiveness, go to God and lift it up in prayer through Jesus. When we ask for forgiveness or extend forgiveness to someone who has harmed us or offended us in some way, it's like breathing new life into a relationship. And, it moves us from the darkness in our heart into the glorious light of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6).

Our new life starts with our relationship with God. Go to Him first, confess, and receive His loving, eternal forgiveness through Jesus. Forgiveness moves us from the darkness in our heart into the glorious light of Christ.

*Laurie Kurgas is BASIC Living Water Pastor, InSpirit Healing Rooms Director. For more information, email In-SpiritPrayer@yahoo.com.*

### Spiritual Perspective



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**Mass Schedule**

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**Los Altos Town Crier**

### Community Briefs

#### Climate change event coming to Los Altos Hills

The League of Women Voters has scheduled a panel of experts to speak on what local governments are doing about climate change 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at the Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills.

The speakers scheduled for "Sustainability Update: What Local Governments Are Doing About Climate Change" will include Los Altos City Councilmember Sally Meadows; Mountain View City Councilmember Pat Showalter; and Los Altos Hills City Councilmember George Tyson.

Learn and ask questions about what local governments are doing to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change. Refreshments will be served and parking is available.

For more information contact Trity Pourbahrami at [trity.pourbahrami@gmail.com](mailto:trity.pourbahrami@gmail.com).

#### CSA hosts Sundaes on a Sunday

Community Services Agency supporters are holding an ice cream sundae party this coming Sunday in support of their homeless services programs.

The event, previously called Empty Bowls, is scheduled 2-4 p.m. April 27 at Rengstorff Park in Mountain View. It features ice cream from Baskin-Robbins, handmade bowls donated by Orchard Valley Ceramic Arts Guild and children's activities.

Purchase tickets online at [csacares.org/events](http://csacares.org/events).

Community Services Agency provides services to elderly, low-income and homeless residents of Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. CSA provides critical support services that preserve and promote stability, self-reliance and dignity.

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

## Los Altos artists showing in Silicon Valley Open Studios

Town Crier Report

Los Altos mixed-media artist and printmaker Jan Davis hopes her artwork sparks viewers' curiosity and encourages them to look more closely at the world around them.

From exploring exotic landscapes like Antarctica, Greenland and Iceland, to simple walks in her garden, she finds dynamic energy and visual inspirations everywhere. She draws her inspiration from nature and intertwines elements of urban environments, such as lines, geometric forms and typography, often through layers of collage, paint and tactile elements.

Davis is one of the more than 340 visual artists from San Francisco Bay Area and Coastside communities who will open their studios and galleries to the public during the upcoming Silicon Valley Open Studios 2025 (SVOS) event. More than 50 Los Altos and Los Altos Hills artists are participating.

For 39 years, SVOS has given art lovers and collectors behind-the-scenes access to established and emerging artists from South San Fran-



FROM SILICON VALLEY OPEN STUDIOS WEBSITE

Jan Davis' "Avalanche of Color" is among her works utilizing geometric forms through collage, paint and tactile elements. Davis is one of 340 visual artist participating in this year's Silicon Valley Open Studios.

cisco to San Jose and Pacifica to Half Moon Bay. Silicon Valley's premier visual arts show, SVOS features painting, sculpture, jewelry, photography, woodworking, mixed media, pastels, pottery, metalwork,

textile art and more. This year's event focuses on community engagement with talented local artists.

Silicon Valley Open Studios 2025 will be held the first three weekends in May, highlighting



Davis

artists from a different region each weekend:

- Weekend 1 – May 3-4: Coastside and Northern Peninsula
- Weekend 2 – May 10-11: Mid-Peninsula, including Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View
- Weekend 3 – May 17-18: South Bay

Studios are open on Saturday and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

To see an interactive map of the more than 100 artist locations, view a gallery of all the participating artists and learn about their work, visit the SVOS website at svos.org.

Note that each weekend highlights a different region, but artists may show their work on any or all of the weekends.

Silicon Valley Visual Arts, the producer of SVOS, has scheduled three SVOS 2025 preview exhibitions:

- Silicon Valley Artist Spotlight North at Burlingame Public Library, 480 Primrose Road, Burlingame. The exhibition runs through April 28. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

- Silicon Valley Artist Spotlight South at Sobrato Gallery at the Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. The exhibition runs through April 27. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. weekdays; 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

- Silicon Valley Open Studios 2025 Preview at Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. The exhibition runs through Monday (April 28). Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday (closed Monday).

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## Intrepid explorer takes Morning Forum audience up the Amazon

By **Allyson Johnson**  
Special to the Town Crier

**A**ndres Ruzo, self-described geothermal scientist, communicator and educator, led a Morning Forum audience up the Amazon on April 1.

Ruzo described how the Conquistadores were told of a city of gold deep in the Amazon basin, where the rivers ran with gold.

The conquistadores never found this city, but centuries later, Ruzo's aunt led him on an expedition which after an hour's plane flight, four hours on a rocky road in a 4-by-4, and several hours by canoe, ended at the Boiling River (Shanaytimpishka). Its water steamed at between 173 and 210 degrees due to volcanic activity deep within the earth, he said.

Ruzo remembered that to the Incas, gold was the tears of the Sun God, and the shaman of the tribe living near the river told him that the river "boils with the heat of the sun." He said it's like-

ly that the Spaniards misunderstood the word "hot water" for "gold." Certainly, drinking the water of the Boiling River would be a serious punishment, he mused, as it is easily hot enough to cook ramen or steep tea.

The myths surrounding the river are associated with the Sun God – one holds that the Sun God was attacked by demons and a snake swallowed the god's blood, then vomited out the boiling river. One of the hot springs at the source of the river emerges from a giant snake head-shaped boulder.

The Boiling River has been cared for by local tribal leaders, or shamans. "We can no longer conceal this," said the shaman to Ruzo. "We must share it."

Sixteen new Amazon species have been discovered in its jungles in just the past two years, Ruzo said. "But we are losing the equivalent of half a soccer field in the Amazon every minute," due to illegal clearing for farmland.

The problem is worldwide,



ALLYSON JOHNSON/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

**Andres Ruzo, left, unrolls anaconda skin with help from the Morning Forum of Los Altos audience.**

Ruzo explained. "The population of the world has tripled in the past 60 years, and we are losing 30 soccer fields every minute around the world," he said.

Ruzo's mission is to get people outside where they can experience the awesomeness of nature, and to encourage the protection of our home planet.

In a Q&A session after his talk, Ruzo was asked how to balance protection of the Amazon with possible overexposure from

too many visitors. Ruzo admitted the risk, but said it was small compared to the risk of clearing. The Boiling River is now listed as a protected site, and the local people now own their land. They are excited about diversifying and having alternate sources of income along with preserving their culture.

"When I had my first child," Ruzo said, "I knew why I cared about the things I care about, and what I was fighting for. ...

We have the technology (to protect the planet), we have the willingness in the public sector, but we don't have leadership. ... But I believe in communication and in building community – that's where the solution will come from."

*Morning Forum of Los Altos is a membership lecture series held Tuesdays at the Los Altos United Methodist Church. For more information, visit [morningforum.org](http://morningforum.org).*



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# Stepping Out

## Sunnyvale's 'Midsummer' updates a love comedy into a reality show

By **Brandon Roth**

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

As one may know, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a comedic Greek-inspired tale by William Shakespeare. The story draws upon the complicated relationships of Athenian citizens and fairies. Shakespeare's story takes us into the ancient world to show how fate can change, sometimes out of our control due to unknown factors.

The fluctuation of the dating world is never in our hands – it could be how we look or just a mysterious force we never see. Sunnyvale Community Play-

ers adapted the story into a reality show where the characters are surrounded by cameras and mocked by the audience for their over-the-top attitudes. The production kept the original script of Shakespeare but was inspired by the premises of shows such as "Love Island" where couples are always insecure or facing a cheating scandal.

The play opens with a taping of "Cupid Isle," a show where four famous Athenians search for love. Among them are Hermia (Kristen Soriano), Lysander (Grégoire J. Martineau), Demetrius (Joshua Bao) and Helena (Delaney Bantillo), who all kind of remind one of the ridiculous reality stars from

the early 2010s. All the actors have love on their minds and the characters are messy with their relationships.

Hermia and Lysander, while on the show, fall for each other. However, Hermia's mother and the producers behind the scenes want her to date Demetrius. Hermia, disappointed, tells Lysander to run away with her to start a new life so they can get married and not listen to the external pressures that try to control them. At the same time, Demetrius is in love with Hermia but Helena wants his attention and does whatever she can for him to notice him.

The entire play showcases the toll that pain and manipulation in love can take on someone. Helena, for instance, feels disrespected by Demetrius and releases her anger through a long monologue confession to the cameras. To make things even more complicated, some fairies interject with the humans' lives and complicate their relationships even further. It was fun to see the chaos ensue when



BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

**Hermia (Kristen Soriano) and Lysander (Grégoire J. Martineau) are a couple in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," but many forces – out of their control – try to drive them apart.**

Puck (Astra Brown) watches and smirks from a distance as she casts a spell on Lysander by accident, making him obsess over Helena. Puck also plays a trick on her master Oberon's (Brian Jebian) wife Titania (Ali Wallace) for refusing to help with a favor.

Many of the characters fall victim to Puck's malicious ideas, but it represents the silly nature of

relationships and how every moment is something new, whether a couple gets in a fight or falls in love with someone unexpectedly. Sunnyvale's take on this timeless story shows we are obsessed with drama – whether it is a fairytale or reality show.

*For more information and to buy tickets, visit [sunnysvaleplayers.org/a-midsummer-nights-dream](http://sunnysvaleplayers.org/a-midsummer-nights-dream).*

**To pitch a story for Stepping Out, email section editor Brandon Roth at [brandonr@latc.com](mailto:brandonr@latc.com).**



BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

Sunnyvale Community Players' "A Midsummer Night's Dream" transformed this William Shakespeare comedy play into a reality show. There are many love triangles, drama and mistakes the characters make in the play and it is all shown in front of a screen for people to get invested in. The play runs until April 27.

### Let's Talk Measure A.

The audit is done – now we need your feedback.

The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) invites you to provide your input on 2000 Measure A expenditures, including the results of the annual compliance audit for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024.

Join us at the annual public hearing:

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. (time certain)**

**In Person:** VTA Headquarters, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95134 – Conference Room B-106

**Via Zoom:** [us02web.zoom.us/j/86577185373](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577185373)  
Webinar ID: 865 7718 5373

Contact the Office of the Board Secretary for questions. Sign language and interpreter services will be provided upon request at least five days prior to the meeting. Written comments are accepted until 10:00 a.m. on May 6, 2025 by email to [board.secretary@vta.org](mailto:board.secretary@vta.org).

### The Audit Results are In!

The Committee commissioned an audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for FY 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024). Crowe LLP, an independent certified public accounting firm, conducted the compliance audit and issued an unqualified ("clean") opinion on Measure A Program compliance with the ballot, making this the 18th consecutive audit receiving a clean opinion.

The Audit results are available on VTA's website at [vta.org/cwc-fy24audit](http://vta.org/cwc-fy24audit) and at the VTA Administrative Office at 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95134 in the Building B Main Lobby.

### Here's the Back Story!

In November 2000, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure A, a half-cent sales tax for specific public transit capital improvement projects and operations. Revenue collection began in April 2006. Highlights for FY 2024 include key activities for VTA's BART Silicon Valley Extension project, Eastridge to BART Regional Connector project, and Caltrain Electrification efforts.

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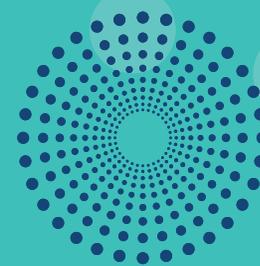
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# Schools

## Local educator housing project is almost complete

By **Brandon Roth**  
Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

The 231 Grant Housing Project, located at 231 Grant Ave. in Palo Alto, is expected to open this June, allowing educators in Santa Clara and San Mateo County school districts to live near their workplaces.

The project, which is in conjunction with the County of Santa Clara, Facebook and Palo Alto, was ratified by former County Supervisor Joe Simitian in 2021. According to the 231 Grant website, the project was first discussed in February 2021 and began construction in July 2023. As of March 2025, it was 86% complete.

Local school districts participating in the project include Los Altos School District, Foothill-De Anza Community College District and Mountain View Whisman School District. Other participants include Palo Alto Unified School District, Menlo Park City School District, Menlo-Atherton High School District and East Palo Alto Academy.

The housing project will have 110 affordable units available for teachers, school employees

and their families that include studios, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments. The average rent will be \$2,500.

Erin Green, the director of student and staff services at LASD, said the district has been involved since the early development of the project. Green said she has hosted several meetings with staff members on what the project is about and to learn some of their interests. Since February 2025, more than 16 staff members have applied to the 24-unit site.

“People are very interested in specifically the two bedrooms,” she said. “I’ve heard there’s a lot of competition around the units. There are some one-bedroomss or studios as well, but we’re super excited, because we know that that’s one draw that will help us to retain the very best teachers and have them live in the community and cut their commute a bit.”

The property will be county-owned but will be managed by Mercy Housing California and Abode Communities. The management team operates throughout California, serving over 8,261 family homes and 20,616 residents.

Besides working in the school



COURTESY OF ERIN GREEN

Erin Green, the director of student and staff services at Los Altos School District (second from left holding the clipboard), visits the almost-completed site of 231 Grant educator apartments with a few colleagues from left: Alexndra Schroeder, Joe Simitian, Vaishali Sirkay, Sandra McGonagle and Bryan Johnson a couple of months ago. The project is expected to be available for some employees within LASD and other participating school districts.

district, one person in a family must make between 60% and 140% of the area median income for Santa Clara County to qualify to live in the apartments. Amenities will include

one parking spot in an on-site garage, storage space available on the ground floor, laundry facilities on the second, third and fourth floors, and dog runs.

Green said a lottery system

will decide who gets picked. She said the apartments are going to enhance the school community and provide the

See GRANT, Page 19

## Ninth annual surf rock benefit concert supports Foothill College radio

By **Brandon Roth**  
Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

A nice melodic, rock breeze filled Foothill College’s Smithwick Theatre last Saturday. Heavy strums on the guitar, fast drumbeats and chill vibes built the atmosphere and sound of the ninth annual Battle of the Surf Bands.

The event was hosted by Foothill College’s independent radio station KFJC 89.7 FM and all the proceeds from the event supported the radio station’s operations, electric bills and equipment.

Over 12 bands were at the event and comprised of people from all over the Bay Area and beyond. Many of the bands offered their fresh take on surf music, a combination of internationally inspired melodic sounds and rock and roll, with other subgenres. The group Del-Novas of-

fered a heavy metal, punk sound that made one want to punch the air while the Sea Monsters had a mysterious tone in their music with bellowing guitar echos that roared through the speakers. The audience members also dressed the part, with colorful Hawaiian flower shirts, straw hats and shell necklaces.

Robert “Doc” Pelzel, KFJC’s station supervisor who has worked for the radio station for more than 40 years, said that their radio station following is made up of people who are not drawn to the top billboard hits. The audience is drawn to surf music and other California music subgenres that developed in the 1960s-80s. The listeners also can into the station because they take the time to curate sounds that deserve more recognition.

“What drew me to this station

See SURF, Page 20



BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

Sea Monster (above) is just one of the 12 bands that performed at KFJC’s ninth Battle of the Surf Bands at Foothill College. The event was a live performance for community members and was available for live stream on the radio’s website. The event proceeds benefitted the radio station with upkeep and the various bands sold their merchandise and CDs in the front of the theatre.

## Schools Briefs

### The power of poetry and art at St. Simon



COURTESY OF MIKE ABBOTT

Preschool to eighth grade students from St. Simon Parish School designed a mosaic (above) made out of 1,500 unique popsicle sticks. Once the mosaic was completed, many students were asked to create a poem out of the art piece as part of National Poetry Month.

April is National Poetry Month, when poetry is celebrated across the country. One local school went above and beyond in their efforts to honor the written art form. Students of the Los Altos preschool to eighth grade St. Simon Parish School elevated every aspect of their on-site experience by launching a poetry invasion.

Students from fifth grade crafted poems inspired by everyday items on campus and then installed the pieces. Rhyming lines about the lunch tables, inspiring verse about the American flag, acrostic poems about the art room, and gratitude-imbued stanzas about the health office are just a few examples of students' writing. Seventh grade students selected aspirational poems by inspiring poets to discuss and share with one another. Eighth grade wrote poems based on newspaper articles, and practiced high school-level poetry analysis. More poetry-based lessons at the school are planned through the month.

"Poetry allows students to explore their creativity, imagination, and intellectual curiosity," said St. Simon's poet-in-residence, Christine Moore. "Poetry is a catalyst for learning core academic subjects, accelerating emotional development and supporting personal

growth. Students who express themselves through poetry become adults who bring compassion, understanding and appreciation to their communities."

Poetry as public art has a long history throughout the world, with displayed poems serving as community-builders and thought-provokers. Thanks to the poetic installations around the St. Simon Parish School campus, students will interact with poetry throughout their days – offering new ways to relate to familiar aspects of their lives.

While most of the poems will come down at the end of the month, one installation will be permanently installed in the next month beside the school's impressive, and collaboratively created popsicle stick quilt art piece, which hangs prominently in the school's foyer.

The vibrant one-of-a-kind quilt was the vision of art teacher Angela Schaufler. "We asked students from kindergarten to eighth grade to paint bright and intricate patterns. In the end we had more than 1,500 decorated sticks, which we wove together to form a stunning four feet by seven feet quilt," said Schaufler. "Each stick is unique, colorful and meaningful. Together, they make something that truly rep-

resents our school. We are each unique and made stronger as a community."

After some transport and framing challenges, the quilt was framed and prepared for its big reveal. Once framed, the quilt was presented to the entire student body during the morning assembly. The students greeted it with awe and loud cheers, excited to see the spectacular result of their collective effort.

The popsicle stick quilt is now on permanent display in the school's foyer, where it serves as a vibrant reminder of the creativity, collaboration and diversity at St. Simon School.

"It was only fitting that our community art project would have a community poem," said director of admissions and marketing Theresa Clark. "To start the poem off, we asked students to share what word or words came to mind when they looked at the popsicle stick quilt."

Once all words were submitted, a group of eighth graders, with the first grade buddies, gathered to organize the words, find themes and craft a poem.

"The resulting poem is about community, togetherness, diversity and joy – true to the intention behind the quilt and the experience of being a student at St. Simon's," Clark said.

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Free e-waste collection event at Montclair Elementary School, on Saturday April 26 at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday April 27 at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A truck and helpers will be located in the front parking lot at 1160 St. Joseph Ave. Los Altos, ready to

help unload the e-waste from cars. Proceeds will go towards the kid's programs at Montclair Elementary School. Email HemaLakhani@intero.com with any questions and for the list of acceptable and unacceptable items.

## GRANT

From Page 18

teachers with an opportunity for reduced-priced housing while living closer to their workplace.

"This will help to develop and

support our workforce," she said. "They can do important work and have a work-life balance so they're not commuting two hours a day. It makes them want to be part of the community and not just go there for work."

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# Schools

## SURF From Page 18

wasn't the music," Pelzel said. "It was the idea of having a station that was independent and not just trying to draw an audience by playing hits. It involves a lot more DJ thought creativity and there's no dependency on some program director who's running 15 stations out of Nashville. I originally come from an

independent station KALX in Berkeley, which was run the same way."

Robert Emmett, a producer and radio host at KFJC since 1982, was raised in the Midwest and began working for the station when he first moved to California. The station stood out to him because it was at the forefront of the 1980s alternative scene. He said it was "cool" to be at the forefront of showcasing

the music.

Emmett said the station has a long history with the surf community and that one of their DJs, Cousin Mary, has helped elevate and promote the music to their listeners. He said Cousin Mary has attended surf shows across the world and has become an icon.

"Radio is important on campus because it is a way to bring people together with music," Emmett said. "It's much more personal than the kind of satellite, algorithm-driven kind of stations because it is curated by real people."

Pelzel said the station used to be part of the college's academic program with over 192 students participating but has since become a community education course, an uncredited activity on campus, with now 40-50 active students. The station functions as a mentorship program for students to learn to get experience in hosting, curating, filling out logs and operating



emergency test systems. Pelzel said many of them have regular shifts, but the program is more of a step-by-step course for students to get familiar with all the functions.

Pelzel said every May, they have an event called Month of Mayhem that allows students to build a set around one performer or genre within a two-to-eight-hour broadcast. During this event, many of the students will even reach out to artists for interviews to share insights during their airtime.

"We don't take requests, but usually the staff is sort of into music enough that they have enough of a background," Pelzel said. "When they get to look in our library database, they can start, they can start experimenting and almost all of them will tell you that they've learned a whole lot of new stuff now that they didn't know when they came here. And they did that by saying, 'Okay, I like this performer,' It's all growth for them and provides them a good mental portfolio."

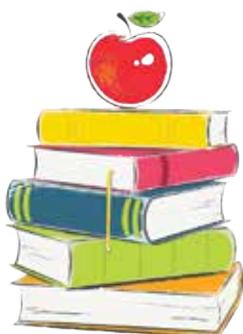
BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

Frankie and the Pools drummer (above) plays fast beat, thrilling drum patterns during his set. (Left) Students at Foothill College have access to KFJC's radio station with its collection of records and CDs of various genres of music such as hip-hop, country and jazz. Doc Pelzel and Robert Emmett (below) have worked at KFJC for the last 40 years. The station broadcasts alternative music that is usually non-commercial. The radio is also a big outlet for the local surf community.



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# Sports

## Gunn overwhelmed by Los Altos softball

By Curtis Driscoll  
Staff Writer/curtisdriscoll@latc.com

Home runs from Sabrina Neal and Makayla Mase provide enough offensive firepower for the Los Altos softball team to beat Gunn 11-5 Thursday as the Eagles look to make a playoff run.

Neal, the team's sophomore leadoff hitter, blasted her three-run bomb in the bottom of the second inning over the left-center field fence to make it 4-0 for the Eagles, the first home run of her career.

"I was just looking for something in my zone, and I got a pitch that was pretty perfect, a little outside and in the middle," Neal said.

Neal had a team-leading .460 batting average going into the Gunn game and went 2 for 4 on the day, while freshman Mase was just behind with a .459 average. Mase hit her fourth home run of the year in the third inning to make it 5-2 and got a sacrifice fly RBI in the fourth inning. Los Altos

coach Robert Herrera praised both for giving the team an early lead and a fast offensive start and helping move the Eagles to 9-6 overall this season and 2-3 in the SCVAL De Anza Division.

"She's (Neal) pretty fearless at the plate, same thing as Makayla (Mase)," Herrera said of the pair. "They play travel ball, and they're both very good with their travel ball teams; they're very aggressive. They don't get flustered no matter what the speed of the pitcher is, fast, slow."

Mase is one of three freshmen getting major minutes this season, with catcher Emily Hanken and Isabella Cirimele playing in the infield. The team also has three sophomores starting in Neal, pitcher Chloe Caldbeck and infielder Lily Whiting.

"It bodes well as we move towards the future, so we're excited about that," Herrera said.

Gunn kept within striking distance throughout the game, adding two runs in the top of



MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos' Lily Whiting slides home underneath the throw of the catcher during the game against Gunn Thursday. Los Altos won 11-5 and now has a 9-6 record for the season.

the third to make it 4-2, one in the fourth to make it 5-3 and two in the fifth to make it 8-5. Los Altos pulled away in the sixth inning after a throwing error from Gunn and an RBI single from Zoe Aguilar to make it 11-5. Caldbeck made her second pitching start of the season, filling in for injured Kaylyn Cox. Caldbeck, a soph-

omore, gave up three earned runs over seven innings, getting four strikeouts.

"She's done well," Herrera said. "I think the more she gets to pitch the more comfortable she will be."

Herrera was happy the Eagles kept the energy up throughout the game and was aggressive with stealing bases

and answering when the Titans scored. Los Altos only failed to score in the fifth inning.

"I thought overall it was a good game," Herrera said. "I think Gunn did a nice job of answering back. They had us thrown off balance a little bit with their second pitcher

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 22

## St. Francis track and field teams closing regular season out

By Shaona Das  
Town Crier Editorial Intern

After breaking a school record and medaling four times at a national meet, the Saint Francis High varsity girls track and field mid-distance runners are closing out the regular season dominantly, helping bring the team to first place in the West Catholic Athletic League as championship season approaches.

Saint Francis attended the Arcadia Invitational April 11-13, a meet that boasts 650 teams in attendance. The Lancers put out strong finishes in the girls mid-distance relay categories, securing a school record in the 4x1600 category, placing seventh in the invitational category, and a school record runner-up in the 4x800, placing fourth in the invitational category. The team also medaled in the invitational distance medley relay, placing eighth.

"The 4x8, since it started at CCS and state a couple of years ago, has been a focus for us," coach Sam Pompei said. "We like to chase. So our strategy has been to lead off with maybe our weakest of the four legs and then get after it.

Go hunt people down; go track people down. And I think that worked out really well for us."

Senior Sabrina Zanetto anchored the 4x800 for the team, bringing them to their fourth-place spot. Zanetto, committed to running at UC San Diego, also competed in the seeded 800 meters, placing 10th, and anchored the DMR.

"The opportunity to even get into these amazing invitationals ... it's just an overall amazing experience," Zanetto said. "To do that with the people you've been training with, I think it makes it really special. I've done a couple of individual events, but nothing's as fun as winning with your team."

Another standout athlete for the Lancers is freshman Brinley Pickett, who ran in all three relays.

"(Pickett) was our top finisher at the California state championships in cross country. So she's a phenomenally skilled athlete," Pompei said. "It's exciting to see how much of a factor she is for us. She's a kid with an attitude of 'put me in and I can do it,' and that's why we put her in three relays."

After closing out their final dual



SHAONA DAS/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

St. Francis senior Sabrina Zanetto runs during the most recent track meet for the Lancers. Zanetto is committed to UC San Diego.

meet and placing first in WCAL, the team awaits the championship season.

"We want to go after as many points to CCS as we can ... The 4x800 is a point

of pride for us. We want to win that again," Pompei said. "Last year was the

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# Sports

## SOFTBALL

From Page 21

throwing all those changeups to us, but I thought we responded well. So, overall, I'm happy; it's been a good week. We didn't end before the break as we wanted to, so this is good to get back into the swing of things, and hopefully, this will carry over."

Herrera wants the team to reduce mistakes to make the Central Coast Section playoffs for the ninth year in a row. The top four teams in the De Anza

Division make it automatically, while teams in fifth can often make it. Los Altos is 2-3 in league play, a game behind Homestead in fourth place.

"We had high expectations, and we were a little disappointed to be 1-3 in the league when we finished with the break, but we weren't far away," Herrera said. "One of the things we've had a problem with is a lot of errors that we typically don't have. In the past, our teams have not had errors, so now we've shored those up."



MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos pitcher Chloe Caldbeck on the mound for the Eagles in the game against Gunn.



MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Lead-off hitter Sabrina Neal, No. 6, celebrates hitting a home run against Gunn Thursday. Neal, a sophomore shortstop for the Eagles, is one of the offensive statistical leaders for Los Altos.

## Los Altos High holds college signing



JANAVI RAMDE/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos High held its annual signing Wednesday in the main gym to celebrate its senior athletes who are signing on to play a sport in college. The 16 Eagles attending were: Tyra Bogan, University of St. Andrews, soccer; Maddie Ross, Emory University, track and field; Eedha Mehta, Yale University, squash; Penn Kaplan, Claremont McKenna College, soccer; Kai MacQuiddy, Amherst College, baseball; Weston Carballar, Long Island University, water polo; Idan Garten, Carnegie Mellon University, soccer; Henry Josef Heit, UC Santa Barbara, swimming; Isaac Shang, Tufts University, swimming; Sophia Costa, Sarah Lawrence College, volleyball; Camille Thai, Columbia University, golf; Kyle McKinney, Cañada College, baseball; Darrion Wesley, North Central University, baseball; Emmett Heath, Pitzer College, baseball; Anya Lin, UC San Diego, soccer; and Elizabeth Cruden, Brandeis University, soccer.



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# Sports

## TRACK

From Page 21

very first year in five years that we didn't win the 4x400, and we didn't even make state. ... So there's a little chip on these girls' shoulders to get back and to, if not win the 4x400, at least make the state championships. So we're focused on points, and we're focused on getting the state championships."

Zanetto is looking forward to closing out her final season as a high school athlete on a high

note.

"Going into championship season, a lot of it for me was, this time last year, I was just getting out of a boot. I had a stress fracture, and championship season was where I started. So the fact that I even got to do dual meets and then now, look into my championship season, ... I'm just really grateful to be here, especially in my senior year, and finish it off."

The team will compete in CCS trials and finals in early May, with the state championships later that month.

## SCVAL league winter awards announced

Town Crier Report

The Santa Clara Valley Athletic League has named its high school winter season 2024-2025 award winners, with Mountain View High School coaches Xavier Cook and Jim McGuirk honored for their work in girls basketball and boys soccer, respectively.

Cook won the girls basketball coach of the year award in the SCVAL El Camino Division for leading the Mountain View girls to its second El Camino league title in a row, finishing 19-5 overall and 12-2 in league play. McGuirk led the Mountain View boys soccer team to a 2025 NorCal Division II championship in March to go along with a SCVAL De Anza Division title, with the Spartans finishing with a 20-2-3 record overall and 12-1-1 in league play.

### All league: Girls basketball

In girls basketball, Los Altos guard Ella McFarlane made the SCVAL De Anza Division first team. Chloe D'Amico made the

second team, while Natalie Barton made the third team. In the SCVAL El Camino Division, Mountain View guard Alana Hernandez was named co-MVP. Guard Kanya Patwardhan made the first team and Fiona Lee the second team.

### Boys basketball

In boys basketball, Mountain View guard Jayden Minor was named to the SCVAL De Anza Division first team, while teammates Jaden Feller (second team) and Ben Maller (third team) were also recognized. Los Altos guard Colin Chou was named to the third team.

### Boys soccer

Mountain View boys soccer defender Patrick McGuirk was named SCVAL De Anza Division Defensive MVP and Mountain View goalkeeper Parker Lunn was named goalkeeper MVP. McGuirk, Lunn, midfielders Aidan Wong and Niko Dekovic and forward Cyrus Shafie were named SCVAL De Anza Division first team. Caddell Heatley

and Akshay Chugh were named to the second team for the Spartans.

The Los Altos boys soccer team had four players picked for the first team in defender Connor Salita, forward Kapil Jakatdar and midfielders Berto Palfreyman and Jonah Altschuler. Midfielder Walter Guzman and goalkeeper Jonah Schaal made the second team.

### Girls soccer

Los Altos goalkeeper Tyra Bogan was named goalkeeper MVP for girls soccer in the SCVAL De Anza Division. Bogan and midfielder Anya Lin were named to the SCVAL De Anza Division first team. Defender Fernanda Mendieta and midfielder Brooke Neschleba made the second team. Mountain View defender Kalea Dwelle, midfielder Meera Mathew and forward Charlotte Higgins were named to the first team, while goalkeeper Madeline Huang and Arianne Gillete made the second team.



COURTESY OF BRYAN MATSUMOTO

The Mountain View girls basketball team, led by coach of the year Xavier Cook, celebrates winning the 2025 SCVAL El Camino Division league title.

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

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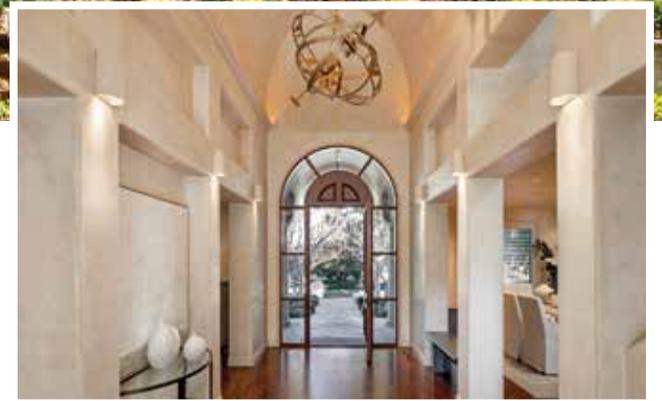
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**INSIDE**  
 Business & Real Estate  
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## I definitely have killed some plants, but I've gotten better

Here are some herb garden tips provided by my trial and error

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Like many people, I associate April – and other spring months – with blooming flowers, green trees and new life. The month is also exciting almost every year because I can expect to plan, and plant, my garden around that time. While my family and I usually grow fruits and veggies – zucchinis, tomatoes, a variety of chiles and watermelons – my passion lies with herbs.

I'm not a master gardener in any way, shape or form – I've self-described myself as a plant murderer on multiple occasions – but the positive feelings I get from seeing the herbs in my planter thrive is unmatched. Here are some tips for an herb garden from a former plant-killer.

Before planting, it's important to decide not only what you want to grow, but what you can grow. The first thing to do is to determine in what USDA hardiness zone you're in. Hardiness zones provide gardeners knowledge of what sort of plants will thrive where based on the highest and lowest average temperatures of the surrounding areas. Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View all range between 9B (most of



EXCLUSIVE-DESIGN/ADOBE STOCK

An herb garden, which can provide delicious aromatics to dishes and make some exceptional teas, is a great spring project.

Los Altos) and 10A (Los Altos Hills and Mountain View); to know exactly what area your garden will be planted in, visit [planthardiness.ars.usda.gov](http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov).

An especially helpful tool when it comes to planning any garden is Gardenate, a website-accessible database that lists various plants and herbs along

with when they're best sowed or transplanted to a garden bed based on USDA hardiness zone ([gardenate.com](http://gardenate.com)).

I've had general success planting the following herbs:

- Rosemary
- Lavender
- Sage (garden and grey varieties)

• Mint

I've also planted cilantro and parsley (both coriander plants) in April, and while I had short-term success, they didn't do well into the summer as they were planted too late. They usually do

See HERB GARDEN, Page 27

## You're healed, but what do you do with those unwanted medical supplies?

By Lyn Rogers

“It's easier to take than to give. It's nobler to give than to take. The thrill of taking lasts a day. The thrill of giving lasts a lifetime.”  
 –Joan Marques

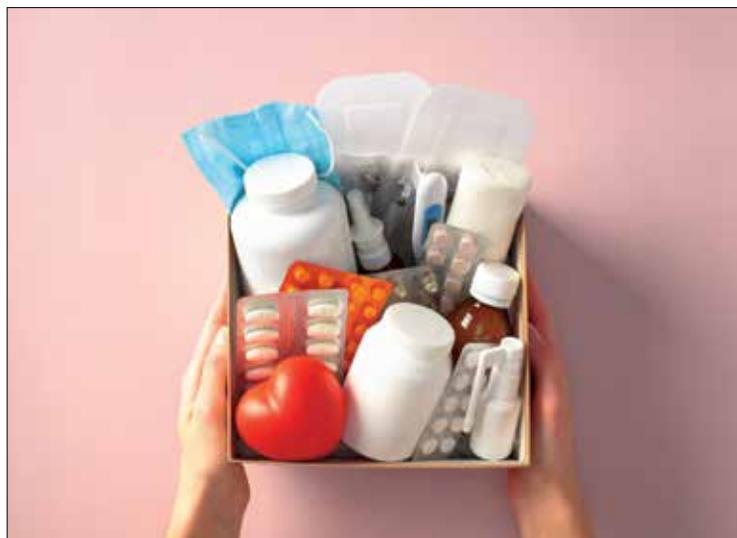
It's not a good day when you or a family member becomes ill or injured. There are multiple doctor's appointments and trips to the pharmacy or medical supply store. You start accumulating bottles of pills, tubes of ointments, and vials of meds. You may be in need of equipment such as a shower chair, walker, commode and so on. Often, it can feel like your home looks more like a medical clinic than the homey atmosphere that you're used to.

Eventually, you won't need

### Conquering Clutter

all of these items anymore, but you'd loath to just throw them away or donate to a random charity. You'd really like to make sure that these items end up making a difference in someone else's life, just like they did for your family member. But what are your options?

Medications that are open or expired cannot be used by another person, so they need to be taken care of safely. Pills can be removed from their bottles and placed in a baggie, then taken either to your local pharmacy, police station, or fire station and deposited



PHOTOGUNS/ADOBE STOCK

Medical supplies should be disposed of responsibly.

in their medication disposal bins. The empty bottles can be recycled after you use a wide-tip Sharpie to cover up the prescription number and the

patient's name.

For sharps containers, please contact your local pharmacy or police department to ensure that they are cur-

rently accepting them. Do not throw them in the trash or the recycling bin. Tubes of creams and ointments can be thrown away, as they can't be recycled. Inhalants, such as those used for asthma, are a gas, and must be emptied by repeatedly pumping them until empty, then disposing of them in the same medication disposal bin at a location near you.

Always check with your doctor or pharmacy for specific requirements for proper disposal in your location. For medications that are unopened and not close to expiration, your doctor may know of charities that may be grateful to pass these on to patients in need.

See SUPPLIES, Page 26

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## Business & Real Estate

### Door design tips that enhance a home's beauty



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT

There are a multitude of different doors, like French doors, that can be chosen for your home.

Statepoint

When choosing doors for your home, remember that careful selections can improve not only your home's beauty and value, but also your quality of life. Here are a few door types to consider, along with their benefits:

Elevate with exterior French doors: French doors double the design impact and elevate the front entryway and curb appeal of any home. Manufacturers like ProVia offer customizations on every element of French doors so you can make a truly unique statement. Start by choosing from various styles, materials and finishes. Then, consider the addition of sidelites, transoms and decorative or privacy glass. Given how many factors you have control over, it's helpful to use a design tool to configure the door of your dreams. Visit [provia.com/design-center](http://provia.com/design-center) to get started. Rest assured, no matter what your end results look like, there are a few factors you won't have to worry

about with ProVia doors: durability and energy efficiency. Virtually every possible combination of door style, glass, sidelite and transom is built to last a lifetime and is ENERGY STAR certified.

Protect with storm doors: Storm doors provide doors and homes with an extra layer of protection from moisture, heat, wind, rain and other elements. Everyone has different requirements though. Fortunately, storm doors can be individually customized to meet your practical and aesthetic needs. Depending on where you live, factors like the thickness and construction of the storm door can make a big difference in its performance. You'll also want to investigate your glass and screen options for added fresh air circulation in your home. While storm doors are often thought about more in terms of their functionality, it's important to keep in mind that varying hardware options, styles and paint finishes allow you to seamlessly blend yours in with the aesthetic of your home.

Bring the outside in with sliding glass patio doors: Want to bathe your home interiors with light and the beauty of your natural surroundings? One of the most effective, low-maintenance ways to do just that is with vinyl sliding glass patio doors. Those from ProVia are tested against the most stringent industry standards for air and water infiltration, wind load resistance, ease of operation and more. This means you'll have lower heating and cooling costs and increased comfort all while offering your household full, unparalleled views of your outdoor spaces. Customization options, such as the materials and colors of the interior frame and the type of glass you choose, can help you tailor the look and functionality of your sliding glass doors.

For a true return on your home improvement project, consider how a door replacement can elevate your home's style while protecting it from the elements.

For more design tips, visit [provia.com](http://provia.com).

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### SUPPLIES

From Page 25

Medical equipment is often needed by patients, but not always covered by insurance. When you have to pay out of pocket, it can get to be expensive when you need many items to manage your disability. Contact your doctor or hospital for a list of local charities in need of your specific equipment. Doing an online search for

places near you will show many organizations. You can utilize sites such as Next Door, Trash Nothing, or Craigslist and offer them to your neighbors.

Eyeglasses can be used by others around the world by taking them to your optometrist's office or library and placing them in the box labeled Lions Club.

Passing on needed items such as these benefits you, too. The clutter is gone, the visual

mess has been reduced, and it's such a joy knowing that you are helping others.

As Charles Dickens wrote in his novella "Doctor Marigold," "No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of another."

Los Altos Hills resident Lyn Rogers, a professional organizer, is owner and CEO of Lyn At Your Service. For more information, visit [LynAtYourService.com](http://LynAtYourService.com).

## A sustainable lawn starts with the right grass seed



PHOTO COURTESY OF OUTSIDEPRIDE

A healthy lawn starts with selecting the right grass seed.

By **Melinda Myers**  
Special to the Town Crier

**G**rowing a healthy lawn in a more sustainable manner is better for the environment and can also help reduce maintenance. As a major component of landscapes, they provide living surfaces for play areas and pathways while protecting the soil from erosion and slowing stormwater runoff.

When starting a new lawn, selecting the best lawn grass is as critical as selecting the right plant for your gardens. Look for a mixture of grasses that thrive in your growing conditions and activity level, provide the aesthetics you prefer and with the care you are willing and able to provide.

Fescues are known for their shade and drought tolerance and ability to thrive in warm and cold climates. Tall fescues are among the toughest with their dense root system, ability to tolerate heavy foot traffic and other wear and compaction. Turf-type tall fescues have finer leaf texture, denser growth, and tend to spread better than the bunching tall fescues.

When selecting a tall fescue grass seed, look for one with

several varieties to create an attractive, resilient and low maintenance lawn. Varieties like Annihilator, Marauder, Rhizing Moon, and Bloodhound have excellent heat resistance while Channell is great for high traffic and low maintenance areas. Barbarian can be managed at a moderate height. Roman tolerates diverse soils and Warhawk produces a beautiful dark green lawn.

Using a mixture of grass seed allows the various varieties to fill in where they excel, tolerate the often-challenging growing conditions and work together to create an attractive lawn. Grass seed mixes, like Combat Extreme Transition Zone (Outsidepride.com), contain several tall turf type fescue seeds to create a heat-, cold-, and drought-resistant lawn that looks good and requires less watering and fertilizing and is suitable for zones 3 to 8.

Prepare the soil and begin planting the seeds when the soil temperature is 55 degrees and warmer or up to six weeks before the first fall frost.

Broadcast the seed over the soil surface and lightly rake to ensure adequate seed to soil contact. Water often enough

to keep the soil slightly moist and mulch to conserve moisture. Look for seedlings to sprout in 7 to 14 days and be ready to start mowing in 21 to 30 days.

Mow high, 2 1/2 to 3", and often enough to remove no more than 1" at a time. Regular mowing is less stressful on the lawn and the short clippings quickly decompose, adding nutrients and organic matter to the soil.

Save even more time, fuel and water with sharp mower blades when cutting the grass. You can cut more efficiently when the blades are sharp, your mower will consume 22% less fuel, and the lawn will use up to 30% less water when using sharp blades.

Put away the rake and mow over fall leaves in the lawn. As long as they are the size of a quarter or less, they will not pose a problem to the grass. You may need to make several passes, but the leaf pieces will decompose, adding nutrients organic matter to the soil for your lawn to benefit.

Selecting the best grass seed for your climate and growing conditions and making a few changes in maintenance can help you grow a beautiful lawn.

## HERB GARDEN

From Page 25

well up until early summer and should be planted early in the year.

Mint is also easy to grow in the early spring months in my experience, and although Gardenate suggests not growing it in 10A regions, I've had no issues with its growth in my 10A garden. Sage is usually sown in fall, but there are no rules about when to plant or not plant; lavender, on the other hand, is best planted in the late fall and early winter months so it can grow a strong root system to support it when the summer heat rolls around.

It's also important to know the type of soil in which the herbs you're going to grow thrive. Some plants like alkaline, sandy soil, while others may like basic soil that retains moisture; it depends on the plant. Once you decide what you're going to plant, that's when I recommend doing research into what specific herbs like: Lavender, for example, likes a well-draining, neutral or slightly alkaline soil. Mint likes a soil that is neutral to slightly acidic and main-

tains moisture while also being well-draining.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of planting, harvesting the fruits of your labor in a way that encourages the herbs to continue to grow is important for a healthy garden. For more brush-like plants, like rosemary, it's important to keep harvesting shears away from woody parts of the plant, instead focusing on the stems that are bendable and green. Avoid overvigorous harvesting, as it may cause harm to the plant.

Some other herbs, like mint, grow pretty quickly and can take a heavy-hitting harvest if it's overgrowing its allotted space; ideas of what you can use the leaves and stems for include mint teas, essential oils, and for integration into recipes.

At the end of the day, no one is born with a green or black thumb. Like most things, creating a stable herb garden is based on research and trial and error. Hopefully, these tips will give you hope and strength to start planting if you've been hesitant to do so, or if you've been scared off from doing it in the past because of previous experiences.



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# Business & Real Estate

## Longtime Los Altos businesses are looking for new homes

Four State Street business owners' leases not renewed by new landlord

By Christina Casillas  
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Cambric Limited, a women's clothing store in downtown Los Altos, was opened 35 years ago by then 24-year-old Simone Corne-Tregon. The business has weathered many changes and challenges, but after the owner of the building where Tregon's business is located told occupants their leases would not be renewed, Tregon and three other business owners are looking for new spaces.

The building, located at the corner of Second and State streets, includes 292 Plaza Central, 197 Second St., 295 and 292 State St. All of the businesses are women-owned and include Cambric Limited, Uncommon Threads, Cranberry Scoop and Mimi and Coco the Salon.

The business owners were told in a December 2024 Zoom meeting that the building, which was sold by previous landlord Sean Corrigan that same month, that their leases would not be continued moving forward. All of the tenants have been operating for more than two decades.

Tregon opened Cambric Limited on Sept. 1, 1990; although she later opened, and sold, a fashion store in Los Gatos, she said the State Street store has always been her home base.

Uncommon Threads, a yarn shop, has served the community for more than 40 years. Current owner Stephanie Hein took over the shop in 2009 after previous owner Louise Spangler decided to retire and the economy was in a recession.

"The knitters are still out there and they need to feed their habit," Hein told the Town Crier in 2009. "(Knitting) is something that they turn to when the economy is bad – it's soothing and something homey."

Cranberry Scoop, an accessory, gift and home goods shop,

has had multiple owners in the past, but it has been in the same location since it opened in 1971. Ellen Biolsi – current and longest-standing owner – said while she's disheartened about needing to leave, she's positive about the future and plans to keep the business going.

"I have a lot of memories here; it will be sad to leave the corner I've called home for the last 25 years," she said in a written statement. "But I'm looking forward to the next chapter and where I take Cranberry Scoop."

Currently, Biolsi's looking for a place to rent, preferably of equal or greater space, in the downtown Los Altos area.

Mimi & Coco the Salon was founded in 2000 and is self-described as the "warmest and friendliest salon in the area," according to the business's Facebook page.

"I am so sad that four women-owned businesses that have been in this downtown location will have to leave," Tregon said in a phone call. "A small piece of my heart will remain in this location."

The Town Crier reached out to Scott O'Brien, vice president of the commercial real estate services firm that sold the building, Cushman and Wakefield, but did not receive a response to our questions or request for the landowner's contact information.

Although the landowner's plans for the building are not clear, some in the community have speculated the intended use of the building is set to shift from retail to services. Some have also speculated the owner may have plans to turn the 4,602 square-foot building, built in 1957, into a gym. As the Town Crier could not contact the landowner, not much is known about what the future of the building looks like.

Gyms and workout studios in downtown Los Altos include Empowered Body Pilates, Momentum Cycling Studio and Precision Training Solutions.

The business owners, who are currently working with the landowner, have no complaints about how the landlord has collaborated with the busi-



TOP: TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO, RIGHT: COURTESY OF SIMONE CORNE-TREGON

**Top: Cranberry Scoop, located at the corner of Second and State streets, is decked out for Christmas; Right: Simone Tregon, owner of Cambric Limited, stands behind the counter of her downtown Los Altos store shortly after it opened.**

ness owners. Biolsi remains positive about the change and is grateful for the landowner's flexibility as related to her lease. Although her lease was up this month, the owner said she could stay until the other businesses' leases expired, which is set to be around spring of next year.

The biggest issue being faced by the four business owners is finding spaces that fit the businesses' needs. Unlike downtown Mountain View, with an ample number of empty storefronts along Castro, downtown Los Altos is for the most part occupied.

"I did meet with Anthony Carnessecca from the city and we walked around," Tregon said. "But you know, all that they can do is keep their eyes open for empty spots."

Tregon said she, and some of her customers, are worried that downtown Los Altos may be changing. She hopes that although the downtown market may ebb and flow, the diversity



of what's offered to community members remains.

"Ten to 15 women have come through between Cranberry Scoop and myself, and they're so upset. Our building is the heart of downtown. Our businesses are part of the beat of the heart of downtown.

They're so distraught that retail keeps falling by the wayside," Tregon said. She continued on later, "Part of the community is coming to our beautiful, tree-lined town and visiting the stores. It would be a shame to lose the village feel if all that's left are services."

## An investment expert's view of President Trump's tariff war

By Artie Green

In a word, I believe it's extremely misguided. Here's why.

First, what problem is President Donald Trump trying to solve? The only justifications he has made are that, No. 1, the U.S. is being economically "ripped off" through other countries' tariffs, and No. 2, we need to bring manufacturing back onshore (presumably to increase jobs).

Let's tackle the rip-off first. How is the current global trade system harming the U.S.? According to wealth advisory firm Henley & Partners the U.S. currently accounts for nearly a third of the entire planet's investable wealth. Our share of global equity market capitalization has climbed above 60%. We have the highest GDP of any country. And all this has occurred under a trading system that's been pretty stable for the past 75 years. From an economic standpoint it's hard to make the case that we've been harmed by other countries' trade practices. And if Trump is mostly concerned about our trade deficits, the Cato Institute has

found that higher deficits do not correlate with either greater unemployment or with lower GDP growth. In other words, it's far from America's biggest problem.

Will the tariff war bring back more manufacturing onshore? Financial advisor Cullen Roche argues that factory jobs will all but disappear in the future anyway due to robotics and AI. If Trump wants to stimulate job growth, manufacturing is the wrong sector on which to focus. And even if it were a good idea, there are better ways to encourage companies to invest more in domestic factories. For example, offering tax breaks and other financial incentives that have worked in the past to incentivize capital investment locally.

Which brings us to another question: Is Trump's approach to solving the so-called tariff problem effective?

My impression of Trump's style of deal making is that the other party has to lose in order for Trump to win. Instead of trying to negotiate a solution that each party can feel good about, Trump uses threats and bullying tactics

to try to coerce the other party to capitulate. Wouldn't it have been more effective and less disruptive to have begun negotiations with each country individually and privately rather than unilaterally announcing punishing tariffs? Trump's manner has caused our allies to question the mutually-supportive relationship they've had with the U.S. for decades. And our adversaries have unsurprisingly reacted with their own escalating threats, which can lead to global turmoil.

Even worse, Trump's back and forth flip-flopping on tariff amounts and timing has additionally created a level of uncertainty not seen in the past 80 years of American economic policy. What U.S. business leader would take any action relative to Trump's pronouncements knowing that they could be completely reversed in a matter of days? The process of rebuilding manufacturing capacity in the U.S. is costly and time-consuming. By the time such a major project will have reached completion, Trump's term of office will be close to finished. Under these circum-

stances business leaders are much more likely to freeze their capital spending until such time as they can see some rational policy stability emerging. The most likely outcome of such a scenario would be a recession in the near term.

The single biggest factor supporting the growth of human civilizations has been trade. Where trading has flourished historically, so too has the prosperity of nations. Despite Trump's view of tariffs as a tool for punishing other countries for his perceived slights, they are in reality a tax on imports which will drive prices higher for American businesses and ultimately consumers. He was elected in part on the promise of reducing inflation. The way he's conducting things is far from any practical way to accomplish that.

*Los Altos resident Artie Green is founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, visit [cognizantwealth.com](http://cognizantwealth.com).*



## Transactions

### Los Altos

4880 El Camino Real #53, A. Joki to Fong & Li Family Trust for \$1,310,000

5100 El Camino Real #107, Lin & Choi Trust to Kodiyalam Family Trust for \$1,735,000

2006 Fallen Leaf Lane, Perry Family Trust to P. Agarwal for \$4,000,000

1035 Golden Way, D. Lathrop to E. & G. Garriga for \$4,600,000

1236 Miraflores Way, Moody Trust to A. & A. Behara for \$5,400,000

640 Giralda Drive, Moffat Nilsen Trust to X. & W. Wang for \$5,700,000

100 Doud Drive, Meyer Family Trust to Poltrack Family Trust for \$5,900,000

500 Pine Lane, N. & R. Gould to Poehler Living Trust for \$6,100,000

1390 Miravalle Avenue, Johnson D Prime LLC to B. & X. Wu for \$6,500,000

97 Pepper Drive, Moss-Yamanouchi Family Trust to Mmbnkt Family Trust for \$7,548,000

641 Spargur Drive, Green House Properties Inc to Chun Living Trust for \$8,058,000

### Los Altos Hills

13643 Wildcrest Drive, Szekely Living Trust to Z. & Y. Jiang for \$5,200,000

26011 Todd Lane, Awc Remainder Trust to Tassa Trust for \$6,350,000

24601 Voorhees Drive, Vorhes Ltd LLC to Herespot LLC for \$14,300,000

### Mountain View

116 Evandale Avenue, M. Dong to

G. Cole for \$1,450,000

161 Gladys Avenue, Wang Family Trust to C. & G. Huening for \$1,500,000

338 Circuit Way, Wang Family Trust to X. & S. Chen for \$1,533,000

172 Ada Avenue #3, S. Panigrahi to H. & S. Kwon for \$1,780,000

112 Avellino Way, L. & Y. Chen to Y. & J. Zhang for \$2,241,000

355 Palo Alto Avenue, A. Sadiq to S. & Y. Chen for \$2,600,000

956 Tulane Drive, Baltic Trust to R. & B. Singh for \$3,020,000

1129 Sladky Avenue, Horan Family Trust to Zhang & Sun Family Trust for \$3,250,000

1496 Lloyd Way, D. & D. Mitchell to M. & X. Wu for \$3,630,000

1771 Fordham Way, Roberts Family Trust to Chen Family Trust for \$4,750,000

### Total sales

#### Los Altos

Total sales: 11  
Lowest sale: \$1,310,000  
Highest sale: \$8,058,000  
Average sale: \$5,168,300

#### Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 3  
Lowest sale: \$5,200,000  
Highest sale: \$14,300,000  
Average sale: \$8,616,700

#### Mountain View

Total sales: 10  
Lowest sale: \$1,450,000  
Highest sale: \$4,750,000  
Average sale: \$2,575,400

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LOS ALTOS HILLS | 27690Briones.com



1932 EMERSON STREET | \$10,500,000 | 6 Bd | 6 Bth  
PALO ALTO | 1932EmersonStreet.com



119 KELLOGG AVENUE | \$3,988,000 | 5 Bd | 3 Bth  
PALO ALTO | 119Kellogg.com



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



295 BAY ROAD | \$2,488,000 | 4 Bd | 2.5 Bth  
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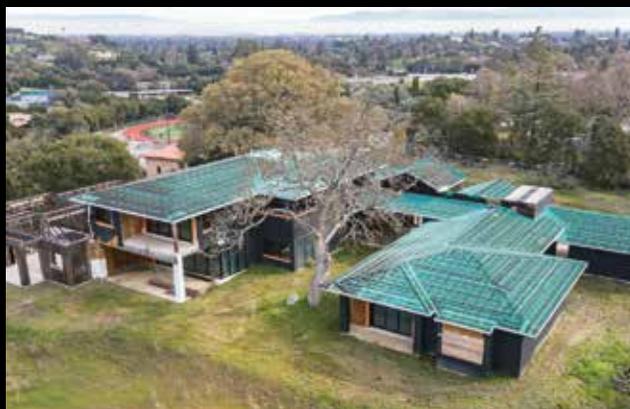
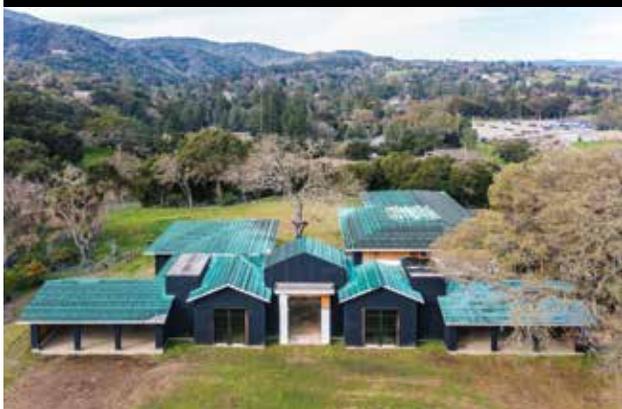




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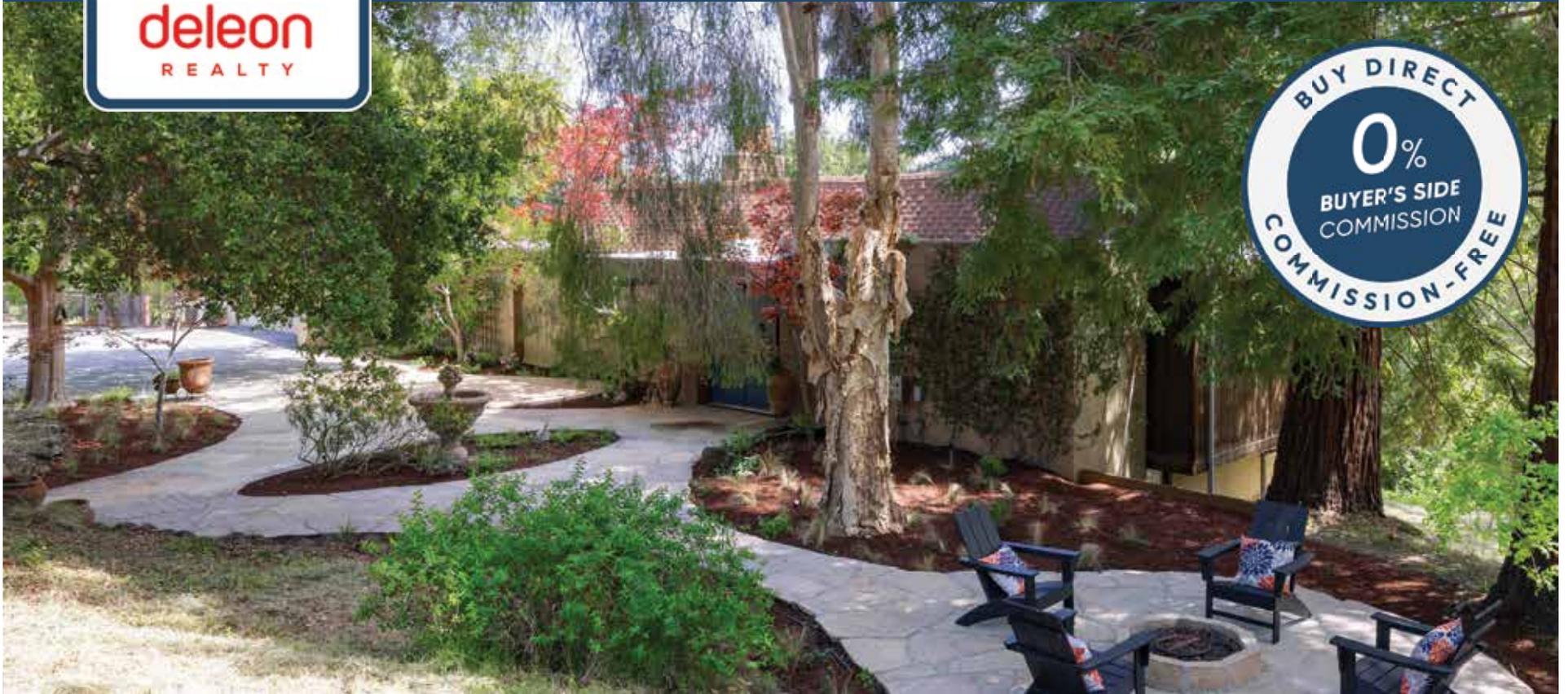
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Seniors & their families

Over

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Jerry Haslam has been a top producer in the Los Altos Coldwell Banker office for 31 years, during which time he has helped sell over \$700 million in real estate. Prior to his career in real estate, Jerry taught philosophy and comparative religion, and hand built two of his own homes. His experience is wide reaching, from large estates to starter homes, from equestrian properties to raw land. Jerry is known for his straightforward honesty, professionalism, and being energetic beyond the call of duty in the service of his clients.

### JERRY HASLAM

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ELITE

(650) 996-2797  
jhaslam@cbtnorcal.com  
BRE# 01180022



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**SUZANNE O'BRIEN**

Realtor® | Suzanne.O'Brien@TheAgencyRE.com | 650.996.9898 | LIC. #01467942

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RG

Ryan  
Gowdy

REALTOR®

Ryan.Gowdy@TheAgencyRE.com  
408.309.8660  
Lic. #01322889  
@ryangowdy  
The Agency Los Altos

As one of the top agents in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, I provide personalized, hands-on service from start to finish! I am a second-generation realtor who lives, breathes, and loves everything Los Altos. My children attend our local schools, and I am a proud sponsor of LAEF. I still live in the wonderful community where I was raised. I take great pride in providing exceptional service to my clients who trust me for guidance in all things real estate. No assistants- just my direct expertise and commitment to your success. I'm your full-service partner, always placing your interest at the forefront. The results speak for themselves.

—Ryan

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2024

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**SUSAN SIMS**  
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**650.743.1838**

SUSAN SIMS | SUSAN.SIMS@THEAGENCYRE.COM

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Today's market demands the attention of a full-time, experienced agent. As a long-time resident, Edie's mission is to elevate the way real estate is discovered, and serviced. She uses an honest, ethical and dedicated approach to produce the best results for her clients. "My team and I see ourselves as stewards of an incredibly special place and take pride in raising the bar when it comes to showcasing our neighborhoods unparalleled lifestyle and exceptional real estate".

## Edie Halenbeck

Realtor®  
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COMPASS

## Julie Tsai Law

Founder & Broker

650.799.8888

Julie@JulieTsaiLaw.com

DRE #01339682

Julie has been a consistent top-performing agent since the start of her real estate career in 2002. She has completed hundreds of real estate transactions for buyers, sellers, and investors at every level. She was named one of the top 250 Realtors nationwide and Bay Area by the Wall Street Journal and RealTrends.

Julie inherited a passion for real estate from her parents who ran a successful real estate development company in Taiwan for over 20 years. She specializes in guiding clients through buying and selling new construction, home remodeling or expansion, and investment properties.

Fluent in Chinese Mandarin and Taiwanese and knowledgeable in Asian culture, Julie provides a unique edge for her clients when negotiating and navigating real estate transactions in the Bay Area.

Julie holds a BS in EECS from UC Berkeley, and an MBA.

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Properties Sold

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Buyers Transactions

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**90+** Homes Sold in Los Altos/Hills, Mountain View

**130+** Homes Sold in Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Saratoga, Santa Clara, San Jose



# Having The Right Agent Makes All The Difference

Michael Repka leads the listing team at DeLeon Realty and holds two law degrees, including an LLM in taxation from NYU School of Law. He has years of experience as a real estate and tax attorney, giving his clients a unique advantage. Further, Michael studied negotiation and conflict management in graduate school at Rutgers School of Law and Rutgers Graduate School of Business, as well as Harvard University.

Meet with Michael to discuss any preliminary tax and legal questions about selling your home, and let him tell you more about what makes DeLeon Realty's innovative approach to real estate so successful. There is no cost or obligation for this consultation.

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## Michael Repka

Managing Broker & CEO | DRE #01854880

 650.488.7325  michael@deleonrealty.com

**RECENT SALES**



**27885 Fawn Creek Court**  
Los Altos Hills

Multiple Offers Received  
Sold for \$1.1M+ Over Asking  
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent



**435 Fernando Avenue**  
Palo Alto

Multiple Offers Received  
Sold for \$500K+ Over Asking  
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent



**13643 Wildcrest Drive**  
Los Altos Hills

Received An All-Cash Offer  
Sold for \$5.2M  
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent

Disclaimer: Legal services are provided by the Integra Law Group, LLP after signing a retainer agreement, if necessary.



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DRE #01903224



# Public Notices

## COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF SHAUNA KANANI ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV463276

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
1. Petitioner: Shauna Kanani filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present Name:  
a. Shauna Kanani

Proposed Name:  
a. Shauna Kanani Ferreira

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 07/01/2025 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: 04/14/2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (04-23,30-25,05-07,14-25)

101-T

## SILVER MOON FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN715408

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SILVER MOON, 20387 Kent Way, Los Gatos, CA, 95033, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Sabina Kapunov, 20387 Kent Way, Los Gatos, CA 95033. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Sabina Kapunov / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/14/2025. (04-23,30-25,05-07,14-25)

100-T

## COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF MATTHEW TELLO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV463318

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
1. Petitioner: Matthew Tello filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present Name:  
a. Matthew Tello

Proposed Name:  
a. Matthew Aguilar Braham

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hear-

ing 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 07/01/2025 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: 04/14/2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (04-23,30-25,05-07,14-25)

099-T

## TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS STATE OF CALIFORNIA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR CORPORATION YARD LOCKER ROOM PROJECT – PHASE 1

1. BID OPENING. Bids will be received by the City Clerk of the Town of Los Altos Hills, California, until **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2025**, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked on the outside **"Bid For The Corporation Yard Locker Room Project Phase 1"**.

2. WORK DESCRIPTION. This project consists of an interior remodel to convert the existing 122 SF ground floor storage room into a single occupancy unisex ADA restroom and shower, with a new tanked electric water heater heat pump at ground floor hallway. Two ductless multi-split heat pump systems to condition the entire building are proposed, with removal of existing attic mounted furnace. Close off existing ductwork at second story attic, and all appurtenant work as shown and described in the contract documents with the title of **CORPORATION YARD LOCKER ROOM PROJECT PHASE 1** and on file in the office of the Public Works Director. The Estimate for the project is \$220,000. The project Plans and Specifications/Contract Documents can be downloaded from the Town of Los Altos Hills website at <https://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/Bids.aspx>.

3. WORKING DAYS. Work under this Contract is to be completed in **SIXTY (60)** working days.

4. CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE. **Class "B"** Contractor's Licenses is required for bidders to bid on this project. **If a bidder does not have the required license classifications, the bidder's bid proposal shall be considered as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected.** 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.

5. 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, or bidder's bond in favor of the Town executed by an authorized surety company.

6. PERFORMANCE BONDS. Performance guaranty bonds as set forth in Section 4-2 of the Special Provisions will be required from the successful bidder.

7. 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.

8. PRE-BID METING (MANDATORY). A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 7, 2025** at the Corporation Yard Building located at 27400 Purissima Road in the Town of Los Altos Hills. This meeting is to inform bidders of project requirements and subcontractors of subcontracting and material supply opportunities. Bidder's attendance is **required**.

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 full set of plans and Contract Documents are available for inspection without charge at the office of the Public Works Department, Town of Los Altos Hills, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. They can also be downloaded from the Town's website at <https://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/579/City-Council-Meeting-Documents> at no charge.

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 representative. 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 the California Public Contract

Code Sections 5100 to 5110, 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 Public Works Director 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 LIEU OF RETENTION. Pursuant to the California 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 California Public Contract Code Section 22300.

18. SHORING AND BRACING. Pursuant to the provisions of the California Labor Code Section 6707, each bid submitted in response to this Notice to Bidders shall contain, as included in each 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 consultants.

19. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (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 public work on or after March 1, 2015, and contracts en-

tered into on or after April 1, 2015, 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.

April 11, 2025  
/s/Arika Birdsong-Miller, City Clerk  
(04-23,30-25)

098-T

## CITY OF LOS ALTOS NOTICE OF FOUND PROPERTY PER CIVIL CODE 2080.3

The following property is currently held by the Los Altos Police Department: FOUND GIANT BICYCLE (Los Ninos Way). This item has been turned in as Found Property in case 25-0036. If you, as the rightful owner, wish to identify and claim the above item, please contact the Los Altos Police Department at (650) 947-2823 within seven days from the date of this publication. Proof of ownership is required.

/s/ M. Thurman, City Clerk  
(04-23-25)

097-T

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 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) list-

ed 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 Llaurodo, 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

# Public Notices

**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 Prindiville 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 Prindiville 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**

**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) listed 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 ficti-

tious 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**

**\$40**  
is usually all it costs to publish your Fictitious Business Name in the Los Altos Town Crier

Email  
legals@latc.com  
by 2pm on  
Thursday



*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: **Opioid Overdose Prevention Training**, 7 p.m. Thursday (April 24). Santa Clara County Library District, in partnership with The Q Corner's Harm RequQion Project, is offering free trainings, open to anyone, to recognize an opioid overdose and administer NARCAN Nasal Spray. **Spring Card-Making With Dei!** 7 p.m., April 30. Join local instructor Deidre a for a spring-themed card-making program, designed for adults and teens. All materials will be provided, and seating will be determined on a first-come, first-serve basis. **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. Gardening demonstration, 7 p.m. May 21. UC Master Gardener Monique Frappier shows how easy it is to grow a variety of plants that connect one to nature. **Wednesday Travel Night: Focus on Cuba**, 7 p.m. May 28. Photographer Harlan Crowder offers a visual tour of the Caribbean's "most fascinating island." Programs are free and open to the public. No registration is necessary. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. 650-948-7683. Information: sccl.org

**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: losaltoslibrary-friends.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 ad-

# Datebook

mission (but must bring labeled plants). Rain or shine. Information: thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

**The League of Women Voters of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area** is presenting a panel on what local governments are doing about climate change. The League of Women Voters is presenting a panel on what local governments are doing about climate change. Panelists will include: Sally Meadows, Los Altos City Council member; Pat Showalter, Mountain View City Council member; and George Tyson, Los Altos Hills City Council member. The event is scheduled 3-4:30 p.m. May 4 at Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills. Refreshments will be served, and parking is available.

## 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 centered 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 Thurs-

days 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 Ls 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.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**Midpeninsula Widows and Widowers Association.** Nonprofit volunteer group organizes activities for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. Meets 1:30 to 3 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month and 7:30 to 9 p.m. the remaining Tuesdays at the Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos. More information at mpwwa1.org.

**Grief Recovery After a Substance Passing (GRASP).** Support group provides help for individuals and families suffering the loss of a loved one as the result of drug use. 7-8:30 p.m. second Wednesday of the month. Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave. To register, email eshow818@gmail.com

**Vasa Order of America, Lindbergh Lodge.** Organization for experiencing the Swedish culture. 6:30 p.m. second Friday of each month; supper 7 p.m. American Legion Hall, 347 First St., Los Altos. (650) 948-7030; (650) 773-0199.

# OBITUARY NOTICE

## LINDA DIANE NEWTON

November 16, 1948 –  
December 29, 2024

With heavy hearts, we share the news of our mother Linda Newton who passed away on 12-29-2024.

Linda, a widow to Richard Newton, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and a great friend to everyone that knew her. She taught us a lot about life, love, to laugh and cry, dance, read, work hard, help others and never give up. She loved her husband, children, and family fiercely.

Linda was a force of nature. Her career was interior design and she was a business owner, industry leader in professional organizations and licensed interior designer. She was avid about always learning and taught interior design and environment design at West Valley College. Linda later got her second degree in Human Resources in 2012 from Menlo College Business Program. She loved to volunteer and help whenever she could helping children, local organizations benefiting children, and the environment. Some of the volunteering she did was helping build homes in Mexico with a non-profit organization, knitting stuffed wild animals for foster children. Linda was passionate about travelling the world. She would not pass a dog without trying to bond with it and especially loved elephants.

With her strength and constant energy, she loved to walk in many marathons with Team in Training around the world and wore out many running shoes.

Linda is survived by son Joseph Newton, daughter Bryana McKay, step son Craig Newton, step daughter Patty Newton and step daughter Mija Newton plus her children's spouses and grandchildren.

Celebration of Life for Linda Newton will be held at Los Altos History Museum on May 16th 2025, 3:30-6:30 pm.



## MATTHEW ALLEN



April 27, 1930 –  
April 11, 2025

Matthew Arnold Allen, former Mayor of Mountain View, CA, passed away peacefully of natural causes at the Vi at Palo Alto on April 11, 2025 at the age of 94.

Matthew lived a rich and full life, devoted to science, public service, and family. Born Matthew Arnold Avner on April 27, 1930, in Edinburgh, Scotland, to William and Clara Avner, he grew up during the austerity of the Second World War. In 1943, his father changed the family name to Allen, for "business reasons" but more likely to avoid rising antisemitism.

A gifted student, Matthew attended George Heriot's School and graduated with honors from the University of Edinburgh with a B.S. in Physics. Following university, he served as a Radar Officer in the British Army for two years.

In 1955, Matthew emigrated to the United States and earned his Ph.D. in Physics from Stanford University in 1959. While at Stanford, he met Marcia Katzman. They married in September 1957 and began a life together filled with family, travel, civic engagement, and intellectual pursuits.

The couple moved to Boston in 1961 when Matthew joined Microwave Associates, where their first son, Bruce, was born. Their second son, Peter, arrived in 1965. Shortly thereafter, the family returned to California when Matthew accepted a position at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC), where he would work for more than four decades, ultimately serving as an Associate Director. Their youngest son, David, was born following their return to the Bay Area.

Matthew's contributions extended far beyond the world of physics.

Deeply engaged in his community, he served on the Mountain View Planning Commission from 1971 to 1974, and was elected twice to the City Council, serving from 1974 to 1982. He held the position of Mayor during two separate terms, in 1977-1978 and 1980-1981. Throughout this time, he also served on numerous regional and county boards, always driven by a deep commitment to civic responsibility and thoughtful urban planning.

Matthew and Marcia shared a love of travel, culture, and the arts. They were longtime patrons of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland and dedicated supporters of the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST). Known for their hospitality, they often hosted friends, neighbors, and colleagues in their Mountain View home of 40 years.

In 2005, they moved to Vi at Palo Alto (then known as Classic Residence by Hyatt), where they were among the original residents. Matthew and Marcia were instrumental in shaping the vibrant community there, helping to establish many of the social groups and committees that continue today.

They spent 16 happy years in the "independent living" section before transitioning to the care center side in their final years. The family extends heartfelt thanks to the Vi staff for their attentive care, and to the hospice team for their compassionate support in Matthew's final days. A special thank-you goes to his devoted caregiver, Sabino Aspiras, who was by Matthew's side during his last four years.

Matthew was a beloved friend, a sharp mind, and often the life of the party. He and Marcia, married for over 65 years, were a shining example of enduring partnership and love. They are deeply missed by their family and friends.

Matthew is survived by his sons Bruce (Rina), Peter (Marlon), and David (Jane); grandsons Ryan and William; and a wide circle of friends whose lives he touched deeply. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marcia.

A celebration of life is scheduled for 2 pm Friday May 30th at Vi at Palo Alto. For more information, please contact his son Peter at peterjallen@hotmail.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations to the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), a cause close to both Matthew and Marcia's hearts: <https://openspacetrust.org/donate/>

## WILLIAM HEINRICH



September 17, 1953 –  
April 2, 2025

William Ross Heinrich passed away from cancer on April 2, 2025, at the age of 71.

Born and raised in Los Altos Hills, William attended St. Nicholas School, St. Francis High School, and Foothill College before moving on to Sonoma State University and the California School of Professional Psychology. He later settled in Campbell with his wife and son.

A gifted athlete and passionate sports fan, William shone on the basketball court in high school and remained an avid follower of college and professional basketball

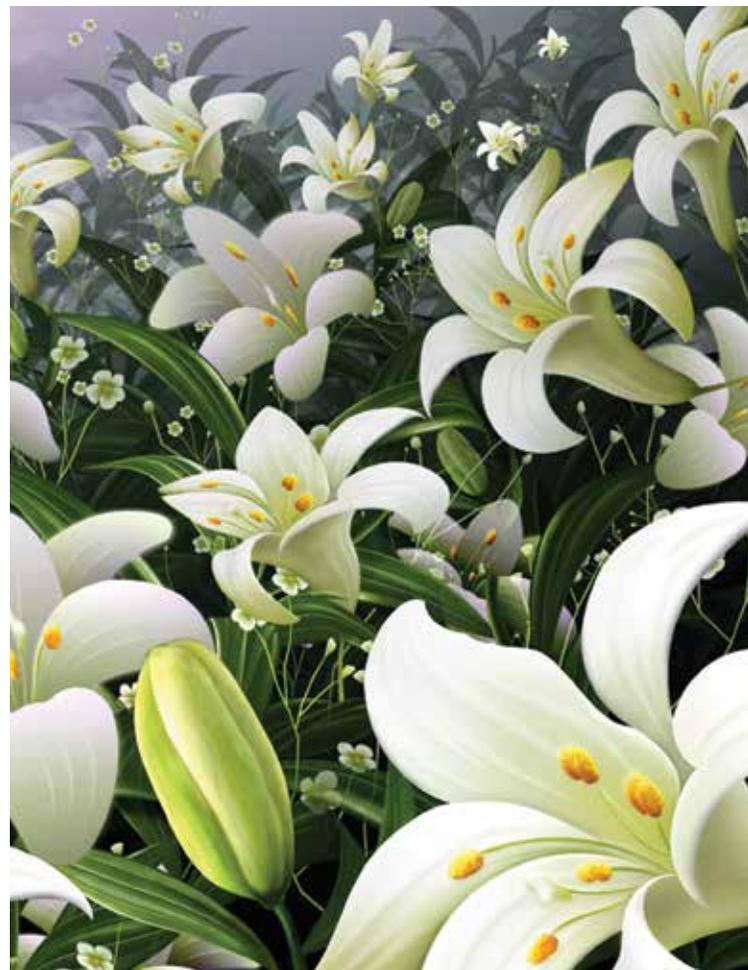
throughout his life. He had a remarkable capacity to pick up languages and an insatiable curiosity about the world, which fueled a love of travel as he got older. During his time in college, he lived in Spain and traveled widely across Europe, immersing himself in local cultures with a genuine curiosity and respect.

William brought his travels home with him—especially through food. An inspired and intuitive cook, he delighted friends and family with dishes like his famous seafood paella and guacamole. His kitchen, although often chaotic, was a place of creativity, improvisation, and supremely wonderful flavors.

A natural conversationalist, William had an uncanny ability to connect with people from every walk of life. His quick wit and irreverent humor left a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to get to know him.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Suzanne Jansson; his son, Kristopher Heinrich (Angel); his siblings, Catherine Sullivan (John), Joseph (Susan), Anne, and Teresa Heinrich; and nieces Caitlin and Kirsten Heinrich.

A memorial celebrating William's life will be held at Shoup Park in Los Altos on May 18 at 11:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Poverello House ([www.poverellohouse.org](http://www.poverellohouse.org)), a Fresno shelter close to his heart.



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For over 25 years, I've proudly called Los Altos "My City, My Home." This community's unique blend of small-town charm and vibrant downtown energy makes it a truly special place to live! I'm deeply passionate about sharing the many advantages of Los Altos and have the expertise to most effectively position its homes in today's market. Whether you're buying your dream home or preparing to sell, I'm here to guide you through this competitive market and help you achieve your real estate goals.

**20+ Years  
in Real Estate**

**25+ Years  
Los Altos Resident**

**\$250M+ Sold  
Since 2021**

**OVER 60**  **yelp**  **REVIEWS!**

*“Shilpa's professionalism, organization, and expertise made the sales process a seamless experience. Thanks to her market knowledge and dedication, the sales price exceeded our expectations!” - Steve, Seller, March 2025*