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Los Altos Town Crier

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WEDNESDAY • August 19, 2026

Los Altos brings crossing guards in-house



CLARKE CONDÉ/TOWN CRIER

This is David Eisenberg's fourth school year serving as a crossing guard at the busy corner of N. San Antonio Road and Portola Avenue. He says that in the fall, it takes about four weeks for people moving through the intersection, cars and people, to get acclimated to a safe pace. He likes to keep it upbeat and safe. "Yeah!" he says to the kids. "School day!"

By Julia Baum

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

As the new school year gets underway, the city of Los Altos has taken direct control of its crossing guard program following the expiration of its contract with outside vendor All City Management Services.

The city recently began hiring and managing crossing guards directly through the Los Altos Police Department and Human Resources. Guards are part-time, seasonal city employees, with the police department handling background checks,

pedestrian-safety training and direct supervision.

Danielle Kang, the city's communications and community engagement supervisor, said the city has hired and trained guards in preparation for the school year. A majority of the city's crossing guard locations are currently staffed, she said, with officials expecting to finalize schedules and have full coverage within the next few weeks.

Superintendent Sandra McGonagle said the Los Altos School District's crossing guard locations are staffed as expected

and that the district has received no complaints about the transition.

The transition also establishes a new cost-sharing arrangement between the city and local school districts. The city will continue to operate and pay for the overall crossing guard program, while districts contribute toward the cost of locations serving their schools.

A new memorandum of understanding between the city and Los Altos School District (LASD) covers the 2026-2027 through 2028-2029 school years. The agreement says the

district's contributions are intended to cover approximately 10% of the city's estimated crossing guard program costs, based on the scheduled service levels at locations serving the district.

For the 2026-2027 school year, LASD will pay between \$1,315 and \$2,039 annually per location, depending on scheduled service hours.

McGonagle also said LASD worked with the Mountain View-Los Altos (MVLA) High School District last year to request an additional crossing location at Truman and Oak avenues near Mountain View High School and Oak Avenue Elementary, citing heavy traffic in the area.

A Mountain View parent raised concerns about the intersection at an MVLA school board meeting in March. The parent told the board that her 11-year-old son was walking through the intersection when a student driver turned left before he had finished crossing. The car came so close that it crushed the boy's stainless steel water bottle and ripped his backpack, according to the parent. Her son was not injured.

The city's current agreement lists the Oak/Truman intersection as serving Mountain View High School and says the location is 100% funded by MVLA.

The city retains final authority over where crossing guards

SEE CROSSING, PAGE 6

Heyder candidacy ruled invalid, not on ballot

By Giovanni Albanese Jr.

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

Election cycles are not created equal, with the early stages of the 2026 version shaping up to have no shortage of storylines.

In Los Altos, a last-minute dash by Roger Heyder to qualify for the ballot in the City Council District 4 race was all for naught.

Heyder, who ran for council in 2022 as a write-in candidate, waited until the 11th hour, pulling papers on the final day, Aug. 7, and racing against the clock, attempting to file his papers the same day before the 5 p.m. cutoff.

The city's election page had listed that Heyder filed his papers on Aug. 7, however, it was later ruled invalid.

"After reviewing your submitted candidacy paperwork," the city wrote in a statement to Heyder Aug. 11, "the City Election Official determined that the submission was incomplete and did not adhere to the city's candidate requirements. We appreciate your participation in

SEE HEYDER, PAGE 7

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Sidewalk Talk

What are you most excited about for the new school year?

Interviews and photos by Max Asmar, Town Crier Editorial Intern

This week, we met up with students at the Downtown Los Altos Farmers' Market to ask: What are you most excited about for the new school year?



"I'm excited about all the clubs and all the new people, as there's way more than in middle school. There's a lot of people that I don't know. I'm excited to meet all of them and I'm excited to take all the fun classes, like art."

– Anna Dymar, LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN



"I'm excited to see my friends and dance because I get to do my dance showcases every quarter. And I think I'm taking hip hop, so that should be cool."

– Siv Thoppai, UC SAN DIEGO JUNIOR FROM SAN JOSE



"I'm most excited about getting to live in a new area, meet a lot of people and get away from home a little bit."

– Joshua Chai, 2026 LOS ALTOS HIGH GRADUATE/
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News

Beloved Rinconada Court oak tree slated for removal

By Giovanni Albanese Jr.

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

The city has decided to remove a longstanding oak tree on Rinconada Court imminently.

Earlier in the year, a resident of Rinconada Court contacted the city with concerns about the coast live oak tree and its limbs overhanging their property, sparking an arborist assessment in April. The certified master arborist determined the tree was in fair condition and recommended a Level 3 Risk Assessment to get more information about the tree's condition and the risk it poses.

In July, that assessment was conducted with the arborist determining the oak was in poor condition. The arborist determined that the likelihood of failure was probable; the likelihood of a tree limb falling on the resident's property was medium; and should a limb fall on a person or property, the consequences would be severe, including significant damage, severe injury or death.

The Level 3 Risk Assessment arborist recommended "removing the subject tree to grade level immediately" in the report.

According to resident Afshaneh Behdad, city workers



CLARKE CONDÉ/TOWN CRIER

The oak tree in the middle of Rinconada Court was once flanked by palms when the street was a farmhouse driveway, before the homes on the street were built.

posted a sign on the trunk of the tree at the beginning of August that simply said, "Notice: Tree Removal. 7-Day Notice."

Los Altos Community Services Director Manuel Hernan-

dez said that they have not yet scheduled the removal of the tree yet, despite the sign. Hernandez said the city is still in the process of finding and securing the largest oak tree pos-

sible to replace it with.

"We want to replace the removed tree right after removal," said Hernandez. "So we will not schedule until we have the replacement tree."

Behdad, a 27-year resident of Rinconada Court, is saddened by the decision to remove the tree, which she believes still

SEE TREE, PAGE 7

Lang warns parking initiative could reshape downtown

By Julia Baum

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

Los Altos City Council Vice Mayor Larry Lang urged residents to look beyond the question of downtown parking when considering a citizens' initiative that would restrict how the city can use its downtown parking plazas.

Speaking at a recent Los Altos Community Coalition meeting, Lang said he was participating as a private citizen rather than representing the City Council. He argued that the measure could have consequences extending well beyond parking.

Lang said the measure could constrain the city's abil-

ity to plan for housing, potentially complicating efforts to meet state housing requirements and creating legal and financial risks for the city.

A central concern, he said, is the effect on the city's housing element. If the initiative limits development on downtown properties that had been identified as potential housing sites, the city could have to find replacement housing capacity elsewhere.

"We have legal responsibilities to find more housing," Lang said. He said he also believes the city has an ethical responsibility to pursue housing solutions rather than identify sites that are unlikely to be developed.

Lang said city staff have already begun compiling potential alternative sites that could be used to meet the city's housing requirements if the initiative passes. Possible areas could include commercial centers and properties near major corridors.

According to Lang, the measure could expose the city to litigation, pointing to a letter from a law firm representing housing proponents that threatened to sue if the initiative is adopted. He said the city could also face substantial legal costs, including costs that could be awarded to a prevailing plaintiff.

Unlike a normal council decision, Lang said, a voter-

approved initiative could not simply be reversed or modified by the City Council if problems emerge. Changing it would require another ballot measure.

Lang urged voters to reject the initiative, saying the potential legal and financial consequences warranted a "no" vote.

The discussion also touched on the city's long-running effort to create a downtown park. Lang said the park proposal is part of a planning process that dates back more than a decade and was formalized in the city's 2018 Downtown Vision.

That vision contemplated a central downtown gathering space as well as housing

and parking improvements. The city is now studying concepts that would combine park space with changes to the existing parking plazas.

Lang said no final decision has been made to build a park and that he has not made up his own mind about whether the city should do so.

"I don't frame it as should we convert a parking plaza to a park," Lang said. "I frame it as should we reserve space in our downtown for people to gather as future density pressures build up."

He acknowledged that some residents oppose a park because they would prefer to use the downtown land for housing.

News

MV Fire crews quickly extinguish commercial structure fire



COURTESY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT

TOWN CRIER REPORT

Mountain View fire crews quickly put out a blaze that caused thousands of dollars in damage to a commercial building on Grant Road the morning of Aug. 10.

Firefighters responded to a call about flames coming from an exterior structure attached

to the building in the 1300 block of Grant Road. Crews arrived about five minutes later in the exterior enclosure used to store utility meters and dumpsters to the rear of a commercial shopping building.

The crew quickly extinguished the flames, preventing the fire from spreading into the businesses of the commer-

cial structure, according to a news release.

No one was injured in the blaze. The cause remains under investigation. The fire is estimated to have caused about \$5,000 in structural damage.

Mountain View Police provided traffic control for about an hour while fire units and equipment were at the scene.

Woodland Library



ALEXANDRA DONGNGUYEN/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

A process that began in 2019 culminated in Saturday's opening for the new terrace and native habitat at Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road, in Los Altos. The event featured food, music, games and a ribbon-cutting with Los Altos Mayor Sally Meadows.

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Los Altos teenager holds neurodivergent-focused fair



A fair attendee gets their hand painted as part of the day's festivities.

AVA ACHARYA/TOWN CRIER

By Ava Acharya
TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

The end of summer may feel like the perfect time to spend a day at the fair or carnival. But between loud noises and flashing lights, these events are often inaccessible for people with Autism spectrum disorders.

Maya Vijay, a Los Altos teenager and student at St. Francis High School, set out to create a neurodivergent-accessible space that captures that same sense of summer fun.

"I wanted this to be a fun celebration for the end of the summer, which is an event that a lot of these kids typically don't get to experience specifically for them," Vijay said.

Vijay's event, titled "Together Day," was hosted at Grant Park on Aug. 15. Neurodivergent kids and families gathered for a serene day full of accessible games and activities.

The fair included three main tables with different games and activities, such as hand and arm painting, bowl-

ing and paper crafts. It also featured various toys and prizes, including fidget and stim toys.

Vijay felt that it is important to hold events like this, since neurodivergent children often do not have access to such celebrations.

"This event is filling the gap between purely clinical spaces and then inaccessible events for them," Vijay said.

Vijay added that she has been working with neurodivergent children, through tutoring programs and occupational therapy, for around six years. Vijay also started a club at her school called the Buddy Program, which focuses on accessible tutoring.

"It's really become a passion of mine," Vijay said. "I thought, in addition to working in those special ed classrooms, maybe there was a more fun way to bring together many families from all over the Bay Area."

While this is the first accessible fair that Vijay has planned, she hopes to host similar events throughout the year.

CROSSING

FROM PAGE 1

are needed, according to the agreement. While the city and school districts will work together on adding or removing locations, the city can make the final determination based on traffic safety assessments, operational needs and city policies. Districts can request guards at locations the city has not deemed necessary, but would

then be responsible for 100% of the direct costs, including wages and benefits. The city does not guarantee those additional positions can be filled.

The program covers 25 crossing locations serving LASD, MVLA, Cupertino Union School District and other schools, including Los Altos High School, several elementary and junior high schools, and crossings in Los Altos Hills and Mountain View.



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News

El Camino Healthcare District ballot measure seeks term limits on district directors

By Giovanni Albanese Jr.
TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

As the Nov. 3 election inches closer, voters in some races have some decisions to make, while in others, the result is a foregone conclusion. Such is the case in the El Camino Healthcare District, as the Town Crier reported earlier in the month. But a ballot measure could alter things in the future.

This year's election is a formality at this point in the El Camino Healthcare District, with incumbents Peter C. Fung and George O. Ting the lone

candidates running for the two seats up for grabs. But Measure S could change the number of times incumbents can run.

The measure, if approved by a majority vote, would limit the board of directors to four, four-year terms. Currently, the board of directors have no term limits.

El Camino Healthcare District includes Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, most of Sunnyvale, and a portion of Cupertino, Santa Clara and Palo Alto. Arguments for or against, and rebuttals, are expected to be released later this month.

TREE

FROM PAGE 4

has a bit of life left and is not really sick.

"It's the center of the history of this cul-de-sac," Behdad told the Town Crier, accepting the city's decision to remove the tree. "It's holding everything together."

Several limbs branch out from the 62-inch trunk, with arborists pointing out in their respective reports decay, cracks, major cavities and fungal fruiting.

"It's really emotional. It's like losing your old friend," she said. "It's losing a big part of what this cul-de-sac stands

for and (is) changing the landscape."

Behdad said some residents of the street made an effort to appeal the removal of the tree but their requests were not pursued because the tree belongs to the city.

"It's the center of the history of this cul-de-sac. It's holding everything together."

Afsaneh Behdad, RESIDENT

Hernandez said the tree will be removed as soon as they can schedule but added that they cannot yet estimate how long it will take.

HEYDER

FROM PAGE 1

the electoral process."

The city did not elaborate on what Heyder did incorrectly. In the end, the District 4 ballot will have Larry Lang, a sitting council member, running unopposed for the new district council seat.

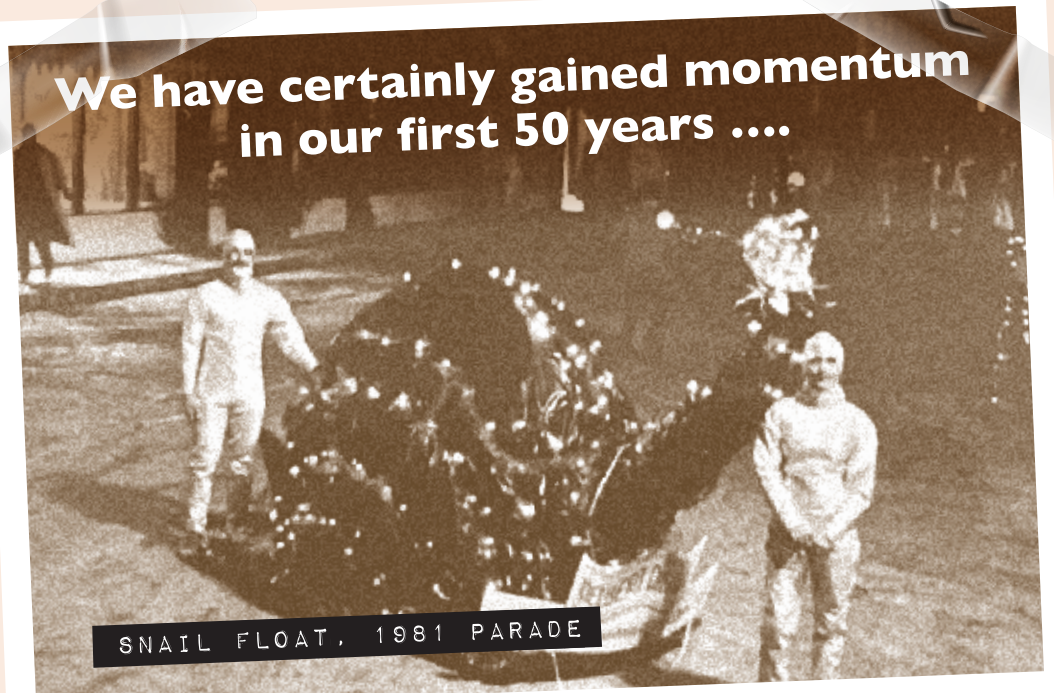
Lang had long been established as a candidate for the inaugural District 4 election. While he is currently serving as a councilmember from his at-large selection in 2022, he is not running as the incum-

bent, though his place in the council is now all but a formality. Lang pulled papers to run for the seat on the first day of the nomination phase, July 13. By July 21, he had fully qualified for the ballot.

Over a week went by until someone stepped up to run against Lang: Juno Szalay, a community activist and vice regent of the Los Altos chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Szalay pulled papers on Aug. 3. She, however, did not file those papers before the Aug. 7 deadline.



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Measure D's simplistic appeal masks a complicated and costly reality

Measure D, the “Downtown Parking Plazas” ballot measure, comes wrapped in an appealingly simple message: “Just let voters decide.”

Who could object to that?

The problem is that Measure D is not nearly as simple as its slogan suggests. What may sound like a straightforward vote to preserve downtown parking could have consequences extending well beyond Parking Plazas 7 and 8, potentially affecting housing, zoning, state compliance, parking, litigation and the city's finances.

The City of Los Altos commissioned an independent analysis under Elections Code Section 9212 specifically to examine the initiative's potential impacts on city finances, land-use policies, infrastructure, public works and services. The City Council received that report in June and subsequently placed the measure on the November 3, 2026 ballot.

According to the 9212 report and city staff analysis, several assurances made by Measure D proponents do not tell the whole story. Pro-housing non-profit YIMBY Law states the claims are “deliberate misrepresentations of the law.”

Here are some of the concerns voters should consider:

- Measure D may not guarantee the affordable-housing exemption its supporters suggest for Parking Plazas 7 and 8. The measure does not clearly identify which definition of “affordable housing” applies, potentially leaving an important question open to legal interpretation and potentially costly litigation.

- The measure could put Los Altos' housing-element compliance at risk. Los Altos' housing element is the city's state-approved plan for meeting its housing obligations. If the measure conflicts with state housing requirements, the city could face challenges to its compliance. That is not a theoretical concern: California housing laws have already resulted in litigation involving Los Altos.

- Measure D would change our agreement with the state's Housing Department and so the city could become vulnerable to

the state's builder's remedy. If a city loses compliance with its housing-element requirements, state law can limit the city's ability to rely on local zoning to reject certain housing proposals. The result could be development that would otherwise not conform to Los Altos' local zoning rules. The Town Crier highlighted one project on last week's front page (Town Crier, Aug.12 – “Planning Commission reluctantly moves forward builder's remedy project downtown”). Even the planning commissioners looked offended.

- The measure could have implications beyond downtown. State law “no net loss” requirements and housing obligations could ultimately require Los Altos to identify additional housing capacity elsewhere in the city. Up to 1,000 housing units. That could mean zoning changes or “upzoning” in residential and commercial areas, potentially affecting neighborhoods, shopping centers and properties along major corridors such as El Camino Real and San Antonio Road.

But wait, there's more.

The consequences may not end with housing and zoning.

If affordable housing were ultimately developed on Park-

ing Plazas 7 and 8, City staff estimate that Los Altos could lose between 266 and 427 parking spaces. That would be a significant change for downtown businesses, employees, residents and visitors who rely on convenient public parking.

And then there is the question of litigation.

YIMBY Law has indicated that it is prepared to challenge Los Altos over the initiative. At the same time, critics argue that Measure D could expose the city to substantial legal expenses by authorizing litigation and appeals over how the measure is interpreted and implemented.

That is a risk Los Altos taxpayers should take seriously.

The city has already spent more than \$4.2 million on the 40 Main and 5G lawsuits, according to opponents of Measure D. Those are millions of dollars that could otherwise support streets, police, fire protection, emergency services and other community priorities.

Why invite another potentially expensive legal battle?

A simple slogan does not make a simple measure.

There is nothing wrong with giving voters a voice. In fact, vot-

ers absolutely should have a voice when important decisions affecting their community are at stake. But voters also deserve the full picture.

Measure D is being presented as a simple choice about protecting downtown parking. Its opponents argue that the measure could instead have far-reaching consequences for Los Altos' housing obligations, zoning, parking supply and finances. The city's own 9212 process recognizes that the initiative raises questions involving land use, finances, infrastructure and public services. Los Altos voters rejected the “Costly and Confusing” Measure C in 2018. Measure D deserves the same scrutiny – and, in our view, the same answer.

Before voting, read the measure. Read the 9212 report at losaltosca.gov/781/Citizen-Initiative-Downtown-Parking-Plaza. Consider the potential consequences, not simply the slogan.

Vote no on Measure D.

Robin Abrams, Curtis Cole, Kim Cranston, Bill Sheppard and Marie Young

LOS ALTOS COMMUNITY VOICES

STEERING COMMITTEE

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Students from St. William School on Rosita Avenue line up in front. The school opened in 1961 and closed in 1990, making way for today's Rosita Park. St Nicholas School used the site from 1953 to 1961, when it moved to Los Altos Hills.

Community

Kiwanis Club of Mountain View celebrates 100 years of service

TOWN CRIER REPORT

Nearly 100 community members, local leaders, non-profit representatives and Kiwanians gathered Saturday, Aug. 8, at Don Giovanni's in Mountain View to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View.

The Centennial Gala celebrated a century of service dating back to the club's founding in 1926 and highlighted the many ways generations of Mountain View Kiwanians have served children, families and the greater community. Over the decades, the club and its foundation have contributed more than \$4 million to local organizations and community programs.

Mountain View Council-

member Ellen Kamei presented the City of Mountain View's Centennial Proclamation to Dee Dee Fager, president of the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View and Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis Division 34. Kamei also presented Fager with a Certificate of Commendation from the County of Santa Clara on behalf of Supervisor Margaret Abe-Koga, recognizing the Mountain View Kiwanis Club on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary Gala.

Club historian Mark Lindberg presented a special historical program tracing the club's story through photographs and milestones spanning from its founding in 1926 to the present.

SEE KIWANIS, PAGE 11



CHERISE WONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Nearly 100 guests gathered at Don Giovanni's in Mountain View on Aug. 8 to celebrate the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View's 100th Anniversary Gala, marking a century of service to children and the community.



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Local group offers community to single adults over 60

By Ava Acharya
TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

Aging without a spouse can feel isolating, but it does not need to be. Oftentimes, community is the strongest remedy to combat loneliness.

Heather Kenvin wants to foster this community. A recent transplant to Los Altos, Kenvin is restarting a group that she originally saw success with while living in Portland, Maine.

Coffee Together brings together widowed and divorced people aged 60 and older. The group meets at 1:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every

month at Red Berry Coffee Bar, 145 Main St.

“It’s a chance for people to get out of the house once a month and meet other folks who are navigating life with-

literally coffee and conversation, because we know that social connection is good for our health.”

Kenvin started the Maine group in 2024, after the Unit-

“I’m outgoing, I love having coffee with people,” Kenvin said. “But I didn’t realize (social connection) can also help our brain health, our heart health, our immune sys-

calls, “single by chance or by choice.”

Kenvin added that her group in Maine started small, but their email list grew to include around 150 people by the time she left Portland. Each meeting had around a dozen attendees, all of whom wanted to build this sense of connection with people living with circumstances similar to their own.

“It is mutual support because I do think navigating life without a partner is a really different experience for a lot of people,” Kenvin said. “Many of us are fine with that, but we still like to see people.”

“It’s not a dating service. It’s not got an ulterior motive. It doesn’t have an agenda. It’s not a meeting or a club. It’s literally coffee and conversation, because we know that social connection is good for our health.”

Heather Kenvin, COFFEE TOGETHER

out a partner,” Kenvin said. “It’s not a dating service. It’s not got an ulterior motive. It doesn’t have an agenda. It’s not a meeting or a club. It’s

ed States surgeon general declared loneliness a public health epidemic which carries serious risk to personal wellbeing.

tem. It’s just good for us.”

Although it’s a fact of life for many people, Kenvin saw a lack of support for older people who are, what she



City of
LOS ALTOS

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
AUGUST 25, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.
In Person
Note- This is not the Final Agenda

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt a resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Diabloe Roofing Incorporated, to replace and repair the roofing at the Los Altos History Museum in an amount not-to-exceed \$147,500 with a contingency of up to 15% (not-to-exceed \$22,125.00), for a total combined project cost not-to-exceed \$169,625
2. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 4 to the Maintenance Service Agreement with Bear Electrical Solutions, Inc. to increase the total agreement amount by \$300,000.00
3. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Bockmon & Woody Electric Co., Inc. of Stockton, California, to complete the Maintenance Yard EV Chargers Project in an amount not to exceed \$363,220, and authorize up to 15% construction contingency in an amount not to exceed \$54,483, for a total amount not to exceed \$417,703
4. Approve the draft responses to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Reports: Pothole Damage: Improving claims processes within Santa Clara County and VTA’s Management and Oversight of BART Silicon Valley Phase II

PUBLIC HEARING

5. Adopt a Resolution approving a Vesting Tentative Map for condominium purposes (Application No. TM23-0002) for the creation of 19 condominium units at 349 First Street, subject to the recommended findings and conditions of approval; and find the project is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.66
6. Adopt a Resolution approving a Vesting Tentative Map for condominium purposes (Application No. TM25-0002) for the creation of 33 condominium units at 966, 994, and 988 Sherwood Avenue, and 987, 994, and 1005 Acacia Avenue, subject to the recommended findings and conditions of approval; and find the project is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080.66
7. Staff recommends that the City Council receive the resident petition and provide direction on whether to 1) rename Lee Street to Tubman Street or 2) forward to Historical Commission, or other relevant Commission, for further study and recommendation

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Discuss and provide direction to staff on how the Joint Volunteer Awards Committee shall proceed

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

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Morning Forum announces fall 2026 speaker schedule

TOWN CRIER REPORT

The Los Altos Morning Forum, a lecture series that brings distinguished speakers, both local and national figures, to Los Altos, will open its Fall season on Sept. 15. The year will include 16 total lectures on issues ranging from local to cosmic. The spring series will be announced in January. Speakers and topics for the fall series will include:

Sept. 15: Lowell Bergman, investigative journalist, former producer at ABC News, CBS's "60 Minutes," PBS's "Frontline" – "Digging Deeper: Over 50 Years of Investiga-

tive Journalism"

Oct. 6: Gordon Clark, president of the Peninsula Open Space District – "Connected Landscapes: Linking Land, Wildlife, and Communities"

Oct. 20: Allyson Hobbs, historian, Stanford professor – "The History of Black Women in America"

Nov. 3: Peter Landsberger, trustee of Foothill-De Anza College District – "Continuity and Change at Foothill-De Anza College"

Nov. 17: Rebecca Boyle, journalist and astronomer – "Our Moon and Ourselves"

Dec. 1: Jonathan Chen, physician, Stanford professor

– "AI in Medicine: Real Magic or Illusory Imitations?"

Jan. 19: Nicholas Rosenlicht, psychiatrist – "Listening to Profits: Abandoning the Mentally Ill in America."

Morning Forum meets live from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Lectures

are also livestreamed, and recordings are sent to subscribers afterwards.

For more information, see morningforum.org.

KIWANIS

FROM PAGE 9

One of the Mountain View club's most enduring contributions to local history is the Los Altos Pet Parade, which will celebrate its 80th year in 2027. The tradition was started by the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View and grew into a beloved Los Altos event enjoyed by generations of local families. The parade also helped spark the formation of the Kiwanis Club of Los Altos, extending the Kiwanis tradition of community service into the

neighboring community.

The Mountain View club's century of service has also included scholarships for local students, grants to nonprofit organizations, programs benefiting children and seniors, and involvement with Mountain View's Heritage Park and historic Immigrant House.

The evening brought together representatives from many of the organizations and communities that have been part of the club's work over the years. The celebration concluded with live music and dancing.



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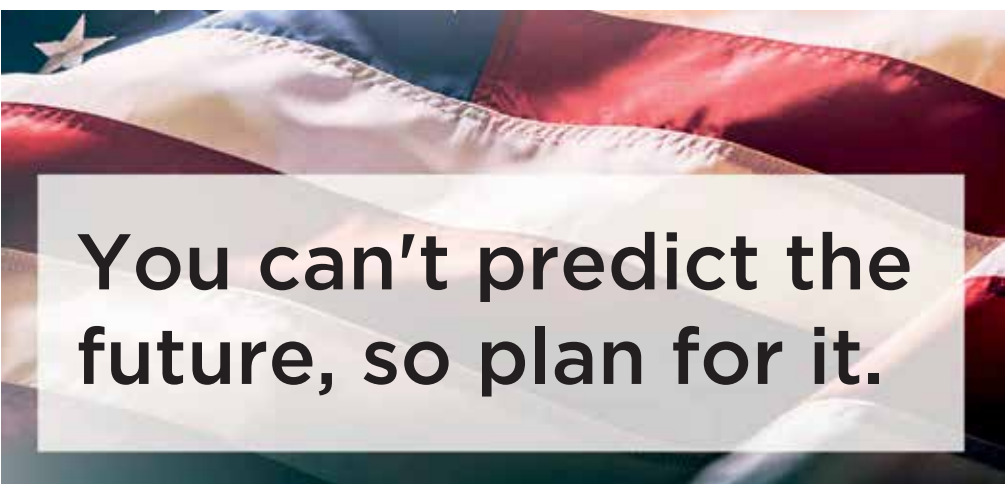
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Community

Pet of the week: Tai Lung



COURTESY OF PETS IN NEED

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Tai Lung is a 7-year-old male cat located at our Redwood City shelter. Tai Lung was surrendered to Pets In Need when his family could no longer care for him. His name means "great dragon," and although he's a smaller cat, he definitely has the heart of a great warrior!

Tai Lung is sweet, affectionate, playful and a total lap kitty once he's comfortable in a home. He loves finding the highest perch in the room, gets extra playful when the mysterious feather toys appear, and has a very cute meow to let you know what's on his mind. When it's time to relax, he's also been known to stretch out in a sunny spot like a little beached whale.

At 7 years old, Tai Lung has a manageable energy level that can fit nicely into an everyday routine or apartment lifestyle. He enjoys affection on his own terms and is good at letting you know when he's ready for some personal space. He would do best in an adult household where he can be the only cat and settle in at his own pace.

This handsome guy has serious king-of-the-castle energy and will make a wonderful companion for someone who appreciates a confident, independent cat with plenty of personality. And just look at him, he's gorgeous!

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For more information, see petsinneed.org/pet/tai-lung/



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Stepping Out

Pear Theatre celebrates milestones, inclusion in 25th season

By Sachin Chandran

TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Whether through subversive takes on classic musicals or adaptations of recent blockbusters, The Pear Theatre in Mountain View looks to celebrate its own persistence and defiance in its 25th season, according to artistic director Sara Kannen Dean.

Dean said this year's theme – "Defiant Voices. Vibrant Art. 25 Years Bold" – "really solidifies who we are as an organization. What we're uplifting over the next 12 months is challenging our audiences to think outside of the box."

The lineup comprises five plays and the annual Pear Slices, a series of one-act plays that caps the season.

The season opener, "Private Lives" by Noel Coward, is a tale of love against society. It follows two former lovers who rekindle their relationship while on a honeymoon with their current spouses. Pear puts its spin on the play, swapping the genders of one of the main leads.

"The idea that we came up with was changing the gender of one of the female characters, so that the main couple is a gay couple," Dean said. "(We want to explore) what that might have looked like to be in the early 1900s, if that were accepted back then."

Dennis Licktieg directs the drama, running Sept. 25 through Oct. 11.

The next play, Sarah Gordon's "Underdog: The Other Bronte," follows the struggles of three sisters who fight the publishing industry more than a century ago. It explores their competitive nature and the challenges plaguing women at the time, Dean said.

"It takes a very modern take on issues that happened many years ago," Dean said, "I think audiences will be able to connect with the challenges that women continue to face."

Wynne Chan directs this modern retelling, running Nov. 6-22.

The award-winning musical "Guys and Dolls" – featuring music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling – is the third play of the season and the first of the new year. Set in 1940s New York City, it tells the story of two gamblers who want to establish their own game while balancing their romantic interests, according to director Lysander Abadia.

Similar to "Private Lives," Pear is using gender to subvert the original story of "Guys and Dolls." Abadia said the plan is to cast actors regardless of gender, opening the door for a re-contextualization of the source material.

"A lot of the storylines are going to be enhanced by the fact that you're presented with an actor who may be a different gender representation than

the character that they're playing," Abadia said. "Not only are we able to enjoy the story of 'Guys and Dolls' and the music and the characters and the comedy, but we're also able to look at it through the lens of a modern audience."

"Guys and Dolls" runs Feb. 19 through March 7.

Next, Pear switches gears to a modern narrative with "Water by the Spoonful," opening in the spring.

Quiara Alegria Hudes' Pulitzer Prize-winning play is about a group of former addicts who find each other online and a military veteran who reckons with his past. The characters' stories come together to form a story grounded in humanity, according to Pear's website.

"It takes very much of a lens of society's expectations on individuals and how people can connect in this modern age," Dean said. "It's not just meeting somebody face to face, but it is through Discord servers, and that's becoming the new norm."

"Water by the Spoonful" runs April 16 through May 2, and is directed by John R. Lewis.

"The Book of Will" rounds

out the season's traditional plays. Lauren Gunderson's work follows the creation of Shakespeare's first folio and the journey of the two men who pieced it together. It serves as a love letter to theater, according to Dean, who directs.

"The women that are written into this show are incredibly powerful," Dean said. "I think it's again helping shift and reiterate the importance of not

diminishing women throughout history."

"The Book of Will" runs June 11-27.

Pear Slices, a collection of eight 10-minute short stories from Pear's Playwright Guild, wraps up the season. It is planned for July but the dates have not been announced.

Ultimately, Dean said each story in Pear's 25th season comes together to tell the story

of nonconformity while championing inclusion and representation on stage.

"I'm hopeful that somebody who has never been to our theater before and who's never seen themselves on stage might feel connected, and that they can see themselves reflected back," she said.

For more information, see thepear.org/season25.

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Los Altos Town Crier

August 19, 2026 | Los Altos Town Crier | Page 13

Schools

MVLA moves to ban smart glasses over privacy, cheating

By Julia Baum

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

The Mountain View-Los Altos High School District is moving to explicitly prohibit students from wearing or using AI-enabled eyewear, including smart glasses, on school campuses, as trustees grapple with privacy concerns and the rapid development of AI-powered devices.

The proposed change to the district's mobile communications policy would make clear that smart glasses are prohibited on campus during the school day. The policy already regulates students' use of smartphones and other mobile communication devices.

At an Aug. 3 board meeting, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services Teri Faught said the change was intended to remove uncertainty over whether the devices were covered by existing mobile-device rules.

"We added this because we wanted to eliminate any ambiguity that may be around smart glasses versus smartphones," Faught told trustees.

The district knows of at least two instances in which students had smart glasses on



CERISE WONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

LAHS Junior Ryan Lee sports a pair of recently banned AI-enabled eyewear in the band room.

campus, Faught said. She did not know whether either case involved a policy violation.

"We want to, instead of waiting for an incident to occur, to be in front of this and make the communication clear," Faught said, adding that students should know the glasses should be left in their bags or not brought to campus.

Privacy was a major concern raised during the dis-

cussion. Trustees pointed to the ability of smart glasses to quickly capture video and images, including in sensitive settings. Trustee Catherine Vonnegut also raised concerns about academic cheating and the possibility of students being recorded without their knowledge in compromising circumstances.

"We didn't think about the possibility for cheating," Vonnegut said. "We didn't

think about the possibility for people having pictures of people in compromising positions ... because they used their glasses in the restroom or something like that."

Vonnegut said the revised policy makes clear that smart glasses will not be allowed on campus.

The district has not identified a significant educational benefit from the devices that would outweigh those concerns, according to Faught.

"The risk is not worth the reward," Faught said, adding that the ability of smart glasses to quickly record video or provide directions "does not surpass what the current teaching staff is able to do with the devices that they're using in their classroom for instruction."

Board President Thida Cornes agreed that smart glasses should be restricted for now but argued that the district should ultimately address the issue through a broader AI policy rather than regulating individual devices.

"Rather than being device specific, I'd like to create a device-neutral policy," Cornes said, arguing that AI-enabled recording could soon extend to smartphones,

smartwatches and devices "that we've never heard of."

The concern, Cornes said, is that focusing on glasses could quickly become outdated as similar capabilities appear in smartphones, smartwatches and other devices.

"I think we need to think about it holistically," Cornes said. "I'm very concerned about privacy."

Los Altos School District is also considering whether to broaden its policy governing personal electronic devices, Superintendent Sandra McGonagle told the Town Crier.

"We have not had any instances of students using smart glasses on campus but will likely look at our cell-phone/smartwatch policy this year to be more inclusive of all personal electronic devices," McGonagle said. "The district has not looked deeply into the educational value of AI glasses."

The board's consideration of the policy comes as school districts increasingly grapple with regulating AI-enabled recording and surveillance as the technology moves beyond glasses and into increasingly common consumer devices.

Meet three new Eagle Scouts

By Daniel M. Green

TROOP 37

The Eagle Scout designation is the highest achievement in Scouting America, with approximately 4% to 6% of Scouts attaining it. To earn the Eagle Scout rank, Scouts must complete a minimum of 21 merit badges, lead a community service project, hold multiple troop leadership positions and perform community service, culminating in an Eagle Scout project. On Aug. 2, 2026, Troop 37 in Los Altos celebrated three young men – Logan Crawford, Tayen Ganesan and Sebastian Green – who earned the Eagle Scout rank. All three are recent graduates of Los Altos High

School who built friendships through their many years of scouting together.

Combining his love for music education with community service, Logan Crawford completed his Eagle Scout project by designing and building 48 cubbies to serve young choristers at the Ragazzi Boys Chorus in Redwood City.

For his Eagle Scout project, Tayen Ganesan designed and built four redwood benches for the campus garden at Los Altos High School. Tayen hopes that the benches will encourage future LAHS students to enjoy the natural beauty of the campus garden as a place to study, hang out and share student life experiences.

Sebastian Green decided

to design and build a set of four picnic tables and eight benches for the Edge and Intersection middle and high school programs at St. William Catholic Church in Los Altos. Sebastian led a team over three months sorting, cutting, sanding and fitting the wood pieces into finished products. Sebastian grew up attending church services at St. William Catholic Church, and hopes that his hard work will result in many years of use by the teens at St. William as they gather outside for activities and meals.

Troop 37 was founded in 1917 and is known as the "Kayak Troop" for its longstanding tradition of encouraging younger Scouts to build



PHOTO BY JACQY ALQUEZA

New Eagle Scouts, from the left: Logan Crawford, Tayen Ganesan and Sebastian Green.

and float individual kayaks each summer. Troop 37 has a long and proud history of serving the Los Altos area community and producing many Eagle Scouts over its history. Boys from 11 to 17 are welcome (10 if completed fifth

grade or earned the Arrow of Light Award). Meetings occur at Covington Elementary School in Los Altos on Monday nights from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

For more information, see troop37losaltos.com.

Study shows female athletes face a greater likelihood of ACL injuries than males

By Katherine Manassero
TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

As Los Altos High School flag football player Natalie Stavrakos planted her foot to stop herself from running out of bounds, she felt a pop in her knee.

It happened on a rainy day last fall when the Eagles were playing rival Mountain View. She knew right away that something was seriously wrong.

“My leg fully extended and bent the wrong way,” Stavrakos said. “It popped and I fell over.”

A few days later, Stavrakos learned she not only tore her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), but also her lateral and medial meniscuses – two other crucial structures of the knee.

ACL injuries aren’t uncommon for athletes, especially

tors worsens knee stability and increases female athletes’ likelihood of ACL injuries.

“The angle between the thigh and lower leg, called the Q-angle, is wider in females,” Iyengar said. “That puts the knee at increased strain if an athlete lands awkwardly.”

Iyengar explained that differences in anatomy, movement patterns and muscle activation all contribute to greater susceptibility to ACL injuries among female athletes.

Preventing such an injury begins with educating and training the athletes, according to Iyengar and athletic trainers at two local high schools.

Scott Heinrichson, head athletic trainer at St. Francis High School, recommends the FIFA 11+ workout to athletes recovering from ACL injuries and those looking to avoid them in the future.

“It focuses on neuromuscular coordination, so that athletes can make better landings, working to reduce the risk factors through strengthening and stretching,” Heinrichson said.

Los Altos High athletic trainer Lucas Okuma pointed to a combination of dynamic exercises such as FIFA 11+ and lower posterior chain strengthening as key injury-prevention approaches.

“Lower posterior chain means the glutes, hamstrings and calves,” Okuma said. “Deep squats, a full range of motion and pre-game workouts are the best potential ACL-tear prevention.”

Iyengar noted that targeted conditioning and injury-prevention exercises are especially important because, unlike many other sports injuries, roughly 70% of ACL tears occur without direct contact from another player.

“The risk is a combination

of how you’re physically built, how you move and the work you put into compensating for those factors,” Iyengar said. “That’s where sex-specific differences really magnify for ACL prevention.”

For Heinrichson, one of the most overlooked aspects of injury prevention is allowing the body time to recover.

“You can do all these prevention strategies, but if you’re not allowing your body to rest and recover, you won’t see progress,” Heinrichson said. “Even professional athletes have days off.”

Stavrakos has spent many of her days since the injury occurred working toward a return to the field for the fall season. Two months after surgery, Stavrakos said she no longer needed a knee brace. She was jogging two months



PHOTO BY TIM WOLFE

Natalie Stavrakos, a flag football player at Los Altos High who tore her ACL last season.

later and continues to make progress.

“I still can’t cut super hard, sprint at full speed, or pivot,

but I’m at practice when I can,” Stavrakos said. “Nothing’s 100%, but being back on the field is really motivating for me.”

“You can do all these prevention strategies, but if you’re not allowing your body to rest and recover, you won’t see progress.”

Scott Heinrichson, HEAD
ATHLETIC TRAINER AT ST.
FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

females. Researchers at the Orlando College of Osteopathic Medicine last year found that female athletes are two to eight times more likely than male athletes to experience ACL injuries, according to an analysis published by the Cureus Journal of Medical of Science. The likelihood of such an injury depends on the sport and the level of competition, the researchers noted.

Dr. Jaideep Iyengar, an orthopedic surgeon at El Camino Health with 17 years of experience, said a combination of biological and hormonal fac-

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Sports

Mountain View football eyes playoffs in tough De Anza Division

By Curtis Driscoll

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

Another season is set to begin for the Mountain View High football team, with hopes that its potent offense will lead the team to a CCS playoff berth.

Mountain View's high-powered offense has key multiyear senior starters returning at the skill positions, including quarterback Ishan Devarapalli, running back and linebacker Dom Kristof, wide receiver and defensive back Micah Perkins and wide receiver Brady Gilbert. The offensive line returns several multiyear starters as well, including starting guard and inside linebacker Jackson Blake, starting offensive lineman Benny Cittadino, and Brandon Binn, who will be a starter on the offensive and defensive line.

Devarapalli is in his third year starting at quarterback, and Mountain View head



CLARKE CONDÉ/TOWN CRIER

Mountain View High Head Coach Rick Esparza keeps a sharp eye on the drills during practice Aug. 13.

coach Rick Esparza is looking at using his athleticism and running ability more to open up options.

"He's seen a lot of football; he is a team leader for us," Esparza said of Devarapalli. "Extremely hard worker, and we are looking for him to take

the next step and hopefully lead us into the playoffs."

Kristof was the Peninsula Athletic League De Anza Division offensive back of the year last year as a junior and will look to continue leading the rushing attack.

"Extremely talented ath-

lete," Esparza said of Kristof. "He will be playing both in the offensive and defensive backfield. Very much looking forward to him coming back and helping us carry the load."

Mountain View returns only three starters on the defensive and will feature a mix of new starters and several new varsity players up from junior varsity as it looks to improve on defense this year.

"We play in a tough league with the likes of Burlingame, Half Moon Bay, Woodside and San Mateo," Esparza said. "Their offenses can light up the scoreboard just like ours can, so we gotta figure out a way to stop them. Doesn't matter if we are scoring 35 points if we are giving up 42. We need to get much better on that side of the ball."

Mountain View finished 3-7 overall and 1-4 in league last season and will face tough opponents in the De Anza Division of the Peninsula

Athletic League (PAL), the second-highest division in the PAL, with the Bay Division at the top. Burlingame, Half Moon Bay, Palo Alto, San Mateo and Woodside join Mountain View in the De Anza this year. Palo Alto drops down from the Bay Division, and last year's De Anza champion The King's Academy goes up to the Bay Division. Woodside and Half Moon Bay come up from the Ocean Division, while Carlmont and Capuchino went down to the Ocean. Only two teams in the De Anza Division receive automatic playoff berths instead of three due to recent restructuring of the Central Coast Section playoff structure. However, Esparza said the restructuring will likely mean more at-large berths for the teams that finish third and fourth in the De Anza. Mountain View opens the season at home against Capuchino 7 p.m. Aug. 28.

Local 8-year-old speed skater represents US in Thailand

By Skye Casem

TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Mountain View 8-year-old Amy Blitzzer was among 10 athletes selected to represent the U.S. at this year's International Skating Union (ISU) Asian Short Track Speed Skating Camp in Thailand. The ISU hosted skaters from 11 countries at the camp, held July 27 through Aug. 2.

Amy said.

Renee said her daughter is a self-starter when it comes to skating.

"She doesn't complain and she gets herself ready," Renee said. "She starts to breathe this identity of being a speed skater. ... Like that's all she's about. ... In second grade they were like, 'Who are you?' and she said, 'I'm a speed skater.' It became her identity."

EVD. "Sometimes it's dry land and ice, but it's the combination of the two."

Renee helped Amy submit her ISU camp application in June and by August, Amy and Renee were in Thailand attending the ISU Speed Skating camp. Renee said the wide age ranges of athletes in attendance helped make the experience special.

"Some of these countries have athletes who are older, but there are a couple of younger kids there," Renee said. "I think that's probably one of the reasons why (Amy) was selected, because she's young. She represents the young people in the sport."

The camp included seminars, as well as ice and dry land training sessions. Renee said a highlight of the camp was a seminar by U.S. Olympic speed skater Andrew Heo, who reviewed his race videos and expressed the importance of "racing smart" with joy rather than only focusing on race times.

Renee added that it was



COURTESY THE FIGURE AND SPEED SKATING ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND

Mountain View eight-year-old Amy Blitzzer skating in Thailand.

"In second grade they were like, 'Who are you?' and she said, 'I'm a speed skater.' It became her identity."

Renee Blitzzer, AMY BLITZER'S MOM

Amy began her skating journey rollerblading with her dad and quickly transitioned to speed skating, according to her mom, Renee Blitzzer.

Amy, a third grader at Bullis Charter School, said she enjoys the competitiveness of the sport and the feeling of moving fast across the ice.

"(I like to go) fast on the track with special blades,"

Amy trains at the Evergrande Speed Skating Club (EVD) in San Mateo under coach Stephen Chen. The Blitzzers said they are grateful for EVD's supportive community of mentors and Olympic coaches, as well as access to top skating equipment.

"Some days we do sprints," Amy said in describing her typical 7-9 p.m. practice at

special to watch Amy build a friendship with Kuwait National Team speed skater Musesaed Al-Muzal.

"He noticed that her knee started to hurt and he stopped his training and took care of her," Renee said.

The Blitzzers' agreed that the strong support system of the speed skating community is what makes the sport rewarding. To promote and grow the local speed skating commu-

nity, Renee started the non-profit Bay Area Speed Skating to foster local Bay Area speed skaters.

"We're hoping that maybe by the end of the year we'll do some sort of skating event, and next year my hope is that we can do a school district-wide camp and friendly race," Renee said. "I think it'll be really fun if we can get kids from each school to come and learn something new."

NorCal Aquatics reaches new highs in club summer season

By Curtis Driscoll

TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

The NorCal Aquatics 2026 summer season saw several of its club water polo teams achieve the highest placements in club history at the 2026 USA Water Polo Junior Olympics in July.

The Junior Olympics, held in Orange County this year, is the largest water polo tournament in the country, allowing over 500 club teams across the nation to compete and showcase for college coaches. The highest division at the Junior Olympics is the championship division, which is the top 48 teams in the country. After the first day, the 48 teams are divided into the top 24 and bottom 24, with each running its own bracket and championship tournament. The top 24 enter the Platinum Division, while the bottom 24 enter the Gold Division.

The boys championships were held July 23-26, with the 18u boys finishing eighth in the nation in the Platinum Division, the highest finish in club history, while the 14u boys finished sixth in the nation in the Platinum Division, also its highest in club history.

“We are really showing that we can compete on this national level across all of our age groups and across our entire club.”

Seth Tasman, NORCAL AQUATICS CLUB DIRECTOR



COURTESY OF SETH TASMAN

The NorCal Aquatics 18u Girls team finished 26th in the nation at the 2026 USA Water Polo Junior Olympics.

years,” Tasman said.

Meanwhile, the 18u boys have been playing together since they were 12, with many now going on to college. 18u Los Altos High star Ferran de Witt will play at St. Mary’s this fall, and former Los Altos High star Tiernan Braun will play at Pomona-Pitzer this year.

“Throughout the years of all their hard work and determination, we just had a really great tournament for them to finish

ing Los Altos, Mountain View and the general Bay Area in a tough Northern California region and offering competitive teams ages 10 and up, along with a noncompetitive splash ball program for ages 6-9 who want an introduction to water polo. For the 18u boys division at Junior Olympics, five of the top 10 teams were from Northern California.

“I think overall, we just had the most teams finish in the highest position,” Tasman said. “To have two of our boys teams in the top 10, a handful of our teams in the top 30 in the country. We are really showing that we can compete on this national level across all of our age groups and across our entire club.”



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The 10u boys finished 26th in the nation and second in the Gold Division, also a club record for that age group. The 14u boys team has had success before, winning the 12u division of the Junior Olympics two years ago. One of their 14u boys, Dominic Palandrani, was unavailable as he was selected for the United States Youth National Team to compete at the World Aquatics U16 World Championships in Croatia, according to NorCal Aquatics Club Director Seth Tasman.

“To have two of our teams finish in the top 10 in the country is an amazing result of the hard work and dedication our athletes have been putting in and (shows) how our club is growing over the last couple of

up their careers,” Tasman said.

The girls championship was held July 18-21, with the 18u girls for NorCal Aquatics placing second in the Gold Division and 26th in the nation overall. Sophia Boschken was a key player for the team. Boschken was the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League player of the year for Los Altos High last year and will play for Loyola Marymount in the fall.

“The girls team just continued to improve throughout the year, and it was a really exciting opportunity for them to play for a medal and a championship at the national level for this last summer for most of the team,” Tasman said.

Tasman believes this is the best season NorCal Aquatics has had yet, with the club serv-

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Living Well

Why I built a Pilates program around groups of just 2 to 4 people

By Kim Gladfelter

STAYING ACTIVE

If you have ever stood in the back of a fitness class quietly working around a body that hurts, you already know the problem I am about to describe.

The class is moving. The instructor is calling out the next position. Everyone around you seems fine. And you are in the corner making a private negotiation with your low back, or your hip, or your shoulder, trying to guess which version of the movement you can get away with. Nobody notices. Nobody adjusts anything. You leave having done a workout, but not the workout your body actually needed.

I have heard that story from so many people over the years that I finally decided to build the opposite of it. Every Therapeutic Pilates group at PhysioFit is capped at two to four people. Not 10. Not 15. Two to four.

Small is not a detail. Small is the method.

Most studios call their classes small when they mean 12 instead of 20. I mean something different. When there are only two to four people in the room, the entire nature of the hour changes.

In a big class, an instructor leads a sequence and hopes it fits most of the room. In a group of two to four, there is time to actually watch each person move. To notice when you are hiking your shoulder on every rep. To see that your left side is doing the work your right side is avoiding. To catch the moment a movement stops being productive for you and swap it for one that is.

Pilates is one of the most adaptable movement systems ever created. That is its great strength for people dealing with pain and limitation. But adaptability means nothing if nobody has the time to adapt

it for you. I built our program around small groups because that is what makes the adaptation possible.

A program that meets you where you are

Because everyone walks in the door at a different point, our Therapeutic Pilates program is not a single class. It is a range of small groups at different levels, so there is a right place to start whether you are brand new, coming back after time away or ready to be challenged.

If you are new to Pilates, or working around pain or a limitation, our beginners group is the natural entry point. It meets on Fridays at 10 a.m. at our clinic in Los Altos, and no experience is needed. From there, the work grows as you do. You are never stuck at the level the room happens to be at, because the rooms are small enough that there is no single level. There is your level, and our job is to keep it moving forward.

That is the real advantage of a program built entirely on groups of two to four. You are not shopping for the one class that might fit you. You are stepping into a progression, with people paying enough attention to move you through it.

Who I see thrive in groups this size

The people who get the most out of a truly small group are the ones a big class quietly fails.

If you have chronic low back pain, you need someone to notice how you are moving, not just what you are doing. The difference between core work that protects your spine and core work that irritates it often comes down to small details of form, and small groups exist so those details get caught.

If you are returning after an injury or surgery, pacing



COURTESY OF KIM GLADFELTER

Kim Gladfelter works with the physical therapy Pilates group.

is everything. A small group lets you rebuild gradually and deliberately instead of asking you to keep up with a sequence that was never designed around a healing body.

If you are working on core weakness or pelvic floor issues, precision matters more than intensity. As a pelvic health specialist, I know how subtle these systems are, and training them well takes the kind of attention that only exists when the group is small.

If you have osteoporosis or low bone density, some positions serve you and some do not. With only a few people in the room, your movement can be kept within what is right for your bones without you having to sit out half the class.

And if you are simply stiffer and less capable than you used to be, with no single injury to blame, a small group gives you the space to rebuild range and confidence at a pace that respects where you are starting from. Honestly, this is one of my favorite groups of people to see come through our doors, because the change they feel often surprises them the most.

The confidence factor

Here is something I have learned over many years of working with people in pain.

The biggest obstacle is rarely the body. It is the fear of making things worse.

That fear is what keeps people on the couch, and it is what makes them hold back even when they do show up. In a large class, that fear is rational, because nobody is watching closely enough to stop you before a movement goes wrong. In a group of two to four, someone is always close, always watching, always able to adjust. That safety is what finally lets people stop bracing and start working. And the working is where the change happens.

Not sure where you fit? Come talk with me first.

Some people are ready to jump into a group right away. Others have questions. They want to know whether Pilates makes sense with their history, whether their particular pain or limitation can be worked around, or which group is the right starting point for them.

If that is you, I would love to meet you. Anyone considering our Therapeutic Pilates program is welcome to sit down with me for a consultation, completely free of charge, to talk through where you are, what you are dealing with, and where you would fit best. No pressure, no obligation. Just an hon-

est conversation about your body and your goals before you decide anything.

Getting back to the life you love

What I hear most from people after a few months in the program is not just that they are stronger. It is that they trust their body again. They get back in the garden and on the trail. They pick up their grandkids without a second thought. They stop planning their day around what might flare up.

That is why we do this work at PhysioFit. We want you to move freely, live fully and stop organizing your life around pain.

Take the first step

Every Therapeutic Pilates group at PhysioFit stays small on purpose, just two to four people, with a place to start at every level, including our beginners group on Fridays at 10 a.m. in Los Altos. Reach out to our team to find your spot, or to set up a free consultation with me if you would like to talk first.

Kim Gladfelter, MPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, is the executive director, a physical therapist, pelvic health specialist and a Pilates instructor at PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness. For more information, see physiofit.com.

Living Well

El Camino emergency nurses win 2nd Lantern Award

By Ava Acharya
TOWN CRIER STAFF WRITER

For their commitment to safety, quality and collaboration, El Camino Health's emergency department has been awarded a 2026 Lantern Award by the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA).

Lantern Awards celebrate emergency departments that showcase excellence in five main pillars: leadership, clinical practice, education, advocacy and research. This is the second year that El Camino Health has earned an award.

"I personally believe our emergency department is top notch, but getting recognition from a national organization like the Emergency Nurses Association just solidifies that our emergency room nurses are at the top tier of performance across the country," said Chief Nursing Officer Cheryl Reinking.

Reinking added that emergency medicine requires nurses to be prepared for anything and everything, in situations that are quite literally life or death.

"They take care of newborns, all the way to quite elderly patients and everything



COURTESY OF EL CAMINO HEALTH

Emergency nursing staff with their banner for the ENA Lantern Award.

in between," Reinking said. "So the depth and breadth of knowledge in nursing and medical care is essential. For nurses that choose emergency nursing, it can be challenging."

This award is well deserved for the emergency department's absolute commitment to advanced and high quality care, Reinking said. And patients seem to agree, as El Camino Health's emergency department ranks in the top quartile, nationally, on patient satisfaction scores.

Reinking attributes the department's quality of care to their ability to implement ev-

idence-based research, as well as their ability to collaborate seamlessly across specialties and disciplines.

Reinking noted the exemplary work of the emergency department's clinical manager, Jumana Baluom.

"Without her leadership and guidance, we wouldn't really be able to have received this award," Reinking said. "Leadership is essential (for) creating a practice environment where nurses want to be and where nurses have the tools that they need to take care of our patients at all times, no matter who comes through the emergency room doors."

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Business & Real Estate

Leftover 529 plan? There are tax- and penalty-free options

By Artie Green

NEST EGG BRIEFS

Despite the burgeoning cost of higher education these days, some parents might still find themselves sitting on a 529 account that was not depleted after the beneficiary (their child) has graduated from college. As you may know, if you withdraw that money for purposes other than for your child's education, you'll have to pay taxes plus an additional 10% penalty on the earnings in the account. Is there another way you can utilize the leftover money while avoiding the taxes or penalties?

Yes! Here are some tax-free and penalty-free withdrawal options for your child as of 2026:

- Use it for additional education. The money can be utilized for graduate school for your child just as it was for college. It can even be applied to qualified vocational and trade schools and even for qualified certificate programs and continuing education courses.

- Use it to fund a Roth IRA account. You can make a Roth contribution from your 529 account to your child's Roth account if (1) the 529 has been open for at least 15 years, (2) the funds have been in the account for at least 5 years, and (3) your child has earned income. The amount you can contribute each year counts towards the child's Roth contribution limit and is also constrained to a \$35K lifetime maximum. Note, however, that some states do not recognize a distribution for this purpose as being tax and penalty-free. California will tax the withdrawal as well as impose a 2.5% penalty.

- Use it as an estate-planning vehicle. Since there is no time limit for spending money in a 529 plan, you can bequeath the account to your child for the benefit of their children. You retain control of the account until you die and can continue to make annual gift-tax exclusion amount contributions (currently \$19,000) until the lifetime contributions reach your state-mandated limit (\$529K in California). Plus, after you pass away, the 529 account is not counted as part of your estate for estate transfer tax purposes.

Here are some ways you can help others while still avoiding any taxes and penalties:

- Use it for another child. You are allowed to change the beneficiary of the 529 plan to another qualifying family

member without any tax consequences. If you have other children soon to enter or currently in college, the money can be used to pay for their qualified expenses even if you have other 529 plans set up for them. Money in 529 plans can also be used for younger children's private elementary and secondary education as well (although limited to \$20K per year as of 2026).

- Use it for another relative. The IRS allows you to change the beneficiary not only to siblings but also to parents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, stepparents, and even first cousins. However, check with a tax professional before changing the beneficiary to a grandchild or other lower generation family member. That could trigger a generation-skipping estate tax.

- Use it for your own career. Either parent qualifies as a successor beneficiary. Whether you are interested in improving or changing your career or simply want to enjoy earning a new degree in retirement, the 529 can be used tax and penalty free.

There are also ways to avoid the 10% penalty (although still incurring taxes on the earnings):

- Use it to offset any scholarships your child received while in college. You can withdraw an amount equal to all tax-free scholarships received without penalty. The withdrawal will be taxed based on the percentage of earnings in the account,

since it's only the earnings (not the original contributions) that are taxable. You cannot choose to distribute the contributions first.

- Use it for a disabled beneficiary or for one who enlists in the military. As with the above, you'll still need to pay taxes on the distributions but will avoid the 10% penalty.

- If none of the above apply, you can always withdraw the money and pay the taxes and the 10% penalty (plus any state taxes and penalties). If the distribution is made directly to the beneficiary, the taxes and penalty will be owed by them, not you. If that's your child, their tax rate might be lower than yours. And since none of the original 529 contributions are taxable, the amount owed to the IRS may be less than you think.

Artie Green is the founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors dba Perigon Wealth Management, LLC, a registered investment advisor. For more information, see cognizantwealth.com.

Transactions

Los Altos

450 1st Street #204, Dd 1St Street Group LLC to S. & C. Chen for \$1,220,000

23 Los Altos Square, C. Hiraguri to Stegina Trust for \$1,788,000

19 Farm Road, Cohen 1991 Trust to H. & T. Singh for \$2,500,000

900 Loyola Drive, Lee Living Trust to Re Refined LLC for \$3,150,000

1710 Penny Way, Dehart-Reeves Trust to Sf23L LLC for \$3,900,000

1345 Arbor Avenue, Christensen Living Trust to Park Family Trust for \$4,188,000

1520 Awalt Court, Rivera Trust to Feng Family Trust for \$4,410,000

1138 Laureles Drive, X. & A. Zhao to X. & X. Chen for \$4,680,500

2091 Robinhood Lane, Dean Family Trust to Ckapoor-Rmittal Trust for \$4,945,000

540 Shelby Lane, Gaskill Trust to Maltiel Living Trust for \$6,065,000

1330 Villa Drive, F. Poonen to Kirpekar Living Trust for \$8,200,000

Los Altos Hills

13321 La Paloma Road, Landesmaki Family Trust to Vandeventer Trust for \$8,276,000

12681 Miraloma Way, Mirahoma

LLC to Yellowfish Living Trust for \$9,800,000

Mountain View

183 Del Medio Avenue #215, Pineau-Fedoruk Trust to J. Go for \$660,000

453 North Rengstorff Avenue #19, Z. Wang to K. & R. Velasco for \$740,000

1983 San Luis Avenue #22, Chen Trust to D. & M. Ozen for \$960,000

928 Wright Avenue #902, P. Evans to R. & J. Boutelle for \$1,175,000

107 Infinity Way, Attri Family Trust to H. Chen for \$1,700,000

2360 Toledo Terrace, R. Wang to B. & M. Bartsch for \$1,960,000

758 Telford Avenue, M. & T. Lee to Micallef Family Trust for \$2,100,000

180 Espinosa Lane, 2Mp Family Trust to J. & F. Wang for \$2,400,000

1797 Pilgrim Avenue, S. Subberwal to Wang & Ding Family Trust for \$2,862,000

200 Monroe Drive, Jula Survivors Trust to W. Chen for \$3,200,000

202 Monroe Drive, Sf23L LLC to Chan-Lai Trust for \$3,575,000

– Transaction information is obtained from public county records and provided by CalResource.

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Business & Real Estate

Hills resident shifts career from engineer to contractor

By Skye Casem

TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Tilu Arora took an unusual path to becoming a contractor. The former tech worker said her interest in construction and design came after she and her husband purchased land in Los Altos Hills to build their home in 2008.

“I didn’t realize that this (contracting) would be my career,” Arora said. “I got so entrenched in it. Being from an engineering background, you question everything and you get the details of everything.”

Arora immigrated to the U.S. in 1991 with a degree in computer engineering from Shivaji University in India. The following year, she graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Master of Science in engineering and moved to Silicon Valley to work for SAP Sybase and later E*TRADE.

After the birth of her third child, Arora left tech to focus on her family. With the help of a local contractor during the construction of her home, Arora said she became interested in design, as well as civil and structural engineering. She established her own

contracting company in 2022, Intellix Design Inc., where she manages and develops projects from ground-up construction to interior design.

Arora said she takes inspiration from European and Israeli architecture. She manages projects across the South Bay – from ADUs and interior remodels, to landscaping and large-scale construction. Arora is currently working on two landscaping projects in Los Altos and remodels in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

“You have one life to live. ... If you have the passion, then you will come out much happier on the other side.”

Tilu Arora, INTELLIX DESIGN INC.

Breaking barriers from engineering to contracting was not an easy feat for Arora, who acknowledged the lack of Indian and female representation in the contracting community.

“People tell me they’ve never come across anyone who is a female (contractor) living here,” said Arora, adding that she might be the only woman

contractor in the Los Altos area. “Some people say as a female, you’re doing this and all that, but on the other side, you have to try harder (to prove yourself).”

She takes pride in her own home’s integrated design and her ability to leverage building in phases to lower financial risks and spread out construction costs.

“We built the house in two phases because I had a vision and I didn’t want to compromise on the materials and the vision,” Arora said. “I can visualize things. Even if I’m looking at a picture, I can see details in it which nobody else would question.”

Arora said she hopes to expand her client connections and continue creating spaces that feel timeless and functional. Her advice to others considering a career change is to follow their passion with perseverance.



COURTESY OF TILU ARORA

Tilu Arora went from working in tech to owning her own contracting company.

“You have one life to live,” said Arora. “If you have the passion, then you will come out much happier on the other side.”

For more information, see intellix-inc.com.

Coffeebar coming in September

By Skye Casem

TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Coffeebar is scheduled to open in downtown Los Altos by the end of September. The State Street Market location will mark the coffee chain’s 11th store.

Originally set to open in the summer, the opening was pushed to fall due to construction delays, according to founder and CEO Greg Buchheister.

Buchheister hopes Coffeebar will give Los Altos a positive communal space to create meaningful connections and fuel every lifestyle.

The Los Altos layout includes a baking production center near the front of the store, located between Third and State streets. Customers can enjoy the coffee, pastries and other breakfast and lunch items while seated inside or outside State Street Market.

“You queue up right in front of all the pastries and get your coffee,” Buchheister said. “We’re going to have a whole other patio area that’s seating, and one of the nice things about Los Altos is that it’s really nice all the time. Sitting outside is part of the fun.”

This will be Coffeebar’s fourth Bay Area location and will produce baked goods for the Menlo Park, Sunnyvale and Redwood City stores as well, accord-

ing to Buchheister.

Coffeebar originated in Truckee in 2010. Buchheister, who has been in the coffee business since 1998, said he’s wanted to open in Los Altos for several years because it’s a city of well-traveled people who appreciate high-quality products.

“I think it was a bit of Los Altos also chose us,” Buchheister said.

Customers can choose not only coffee but also tea and an array of sweet and savory baked goods. Buchheister said the most popular items on the menu are the cappuccino and matcha latte, along with the breakfast burrito and avocado toast.

Buchheister is especially proud of the house chai concentrate, which he said is inspired by traditional Indian chai tea he fell in love with on a trip to India.

Coffeebar’s atmosphere takes inspiration from Italian coffee bars, he added.

“One of the things I loved when we opened up Menlo Park (in 2018) was that people came out of nowhere, and you could see all these people, and they hadn’t seen each other in months or years,” Buchheister said. “It created this spot or this hub for people to gather and see each other, and I hope that’s what happens in Los Altos.”

Coffeebar @ State Street Market, 170 State St., Los Altos. For more information, see coffeebar.com.



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SEMINAR

The AI Wealth Wave: How IPOs Will Reshape Silicon Valley Real Estate

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Public Notices

KINDCENTRIC PSYCHIATRY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729380

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KINDCENTRIC PSYCHIATRY, 330 2nd St Ste 4, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a corporation. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): KINDCENTRIC PSYCHIATRY INC, 330 2nd St Ste 4, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Kathrine Casillas / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/11/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

214-T

CLC Construction FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728530

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CLC Construction, 1585 Bradford Way, Morgan Hill, CA, 95037, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a corporation. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Mineral Selective Technologies Corp, 1585 Bradford Way, Morgan Hill, CA 95037. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Christopher Camire / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/15/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

213-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CATHERINE M. VALLONE, aka CATHERINE MARCIA VALLONE CASE NO. 26PR203161

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of CATHERINE M. VALLONE, aka CATHERINE MARCIA VALLONE. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ROBERT P. VALLONE in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ROBERT P. VALLONE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/14/2026 at 9:01AM in Dept. 2 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner Dina Hoffman 736 Chestnut St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060 PHONE (831) 423-1411 (08-19,26-26,09-02,26)

212-T

SAGE PRODUCTIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729377

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SAGE PRODUCTIONS, 1059 Park Ave, San Jose, CA, 95126, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Vanessa Maria Marrufo-Lerma, 1059 Park Ave, San Jose, CA 95126. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/03/2026. /S/ Vanessa Maria Marrufo-Lerma / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/11/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

211-T

EMProductions FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729062

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: EMProductions, 826 Terrace Drive, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Elliot Michael Gorelick, 826 Terrace Drive, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Elliot Michael Gorelick / This statement was filed with the

County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/03/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

210-T

Puro Michoacan Restaurant Inc FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728995

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Puro Michoacan Restaurant Inc, 1065 S 1st St, San Jose, CA, 95110, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a corporation. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Puro Michoacan Restaurant Inc, 1065 S 1st St, San Jose, CA 95110. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/29/2026. /S/ Juan Luis Villegas Martinez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/31/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

209-T

PISTON DORADO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729256

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PISTON DORADO, 237 Leo Ave, San Jose, CA, 95112, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): GOLDEN PISTON DIAGNOSTICS LLC, PO Box 8371, San Jose, CA 95155. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/23/2026. /S/ Jesus Gomez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/06/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

208-T

CDEE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729255

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CDEE, 237 Leo Ave, San Jose, CA, 95112, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): CALIFORNIA DIESEL ELECTROMECHANIC ENGINEERING LLC, PO 8371, San Jose, CA 95155. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2026. /S/ Senette Ortega / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/06/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

207-T

ECHELON CONSULTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729094

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) ECH-ELON CONSULTING, (2) ECHELON, 2091 Huntington Lane, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company.

The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): ECH-ELON CONSULTING PARTNERS LLC, 2091 Huntington Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Andrew Kryzan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/04/2026. (08-19,26-26,09-02,09-26)

206-T

CEDAR DOULA CO. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728898

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CEDAR DOULA CO., 2310 Homestead Rd, Suite C1 #321, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Ella Maluf, 2310 Homestead Road Suite C1, #321, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/26/2026. /S/ Ella Maluf / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/28/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

205-T

ALLURE DESIGN & EVENTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN729118

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ALLURE DESIGN & EVENTS, 2227 Bikini Ave, San Jose, CA, 95122, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Don Phung, 2227 Bikini Ave, San Jose, CA 95122. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Don Phung / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/04/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

204-T

Julie Graham PsyD FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728838

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Julie Graham PsyD, 230 California Avenue Suite 107, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Julie Graham Lunn, 1715 Selig Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/30/2004. /S/ Julie Graham Lunn / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/27/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

203-T

BRITO CONSTRUCTION LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728300

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BRITO CONSTRUCTION LLC, 1075 Space Parkway Spc #249, Mountain View, CA, 94043, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): BRITO CONSTRUCTION LLC, 1075 Space Parkway Spc #249, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/12/2026. /S/ Ramiro Brito / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/07/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

202-T

LEMON TREE FLORAL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728946

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LEMON TREE FLORAL, 809 Cuesta Dr B 1008, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Yuning Liu, 809 Cuesta Dr B 1008, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/15/2026. /S/ Yuning Liu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/29/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

201-T

CHICKADEE TREE CONSULTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728934

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CHICKADEE TREE CONSULTING, 3451 Grass Valley Ct, San Jose, CA, 95127, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): CHICKADEE TREE LLC, 3451 Grass Valley Ct, San Jose, CA 95127. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/26/2026. /S/ Kaitlyn Shelton / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/29/2026. (08-12,19,26-26,09-02-26)

200-T

INSPIRED BY ROHINI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728896

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: INSPIRED BY ROHINI, 18085 Idalyn Dr, Los Gatos, CA, 95033, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Rohini Sharma, 18085 Idalyn Dr, Los Gatos, CA 95033.

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Rohini Sharma / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/28/2026. (08-05,12,19,26-26)

198-T

MCLENNAN CONSTRUCTION LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728797

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MCLENNAN CONSTRUCTION LLC, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): MCLENNAN CONSTRUCTION LLC, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/15/2026. /S/ Margaret Manassero / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/24/2026. (08-05,12,19,26-26)

196-T

SOUTH BAY WATER LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728796

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOUTH BAY WATER LLC, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): SOUTH BAY WATER LLC, 649 Distel Dr, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/15/2026. /S/ Margaret Manassero / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/24/2026. (08-05,12,19,26-26)

195-T

Pacific Ballet Foundation FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728839

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Pacific Ballet Foundation, 1103 Lisa Lane, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a corporation. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): San Jose Ballet Association, 1103 Lisa Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Diana Lee / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/27/2026. (08-05,12,19,26-26)

194-T

AA FOUNDRY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728642

The following person (persons) is

(are) doing business as: (1) AA FOUNDRY, (2) AA-FOUNDRY, 1467 Phantom Avenue, San Jose, CA, 95125, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Andrew Apodaca, 1467 Phantom Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/01/2026. /S/ Andrew Apodaca / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/20/2026. (08-05,12,19,26-26)

193-T

MILA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728780

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: MILA, 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a limited partnership. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): 330 Distel Circle EAH, LLC, 22 Pellican Way, San Rafael, CA 94901. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Welton Jordan GP of LLC / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 06/17/2026. (07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

191-T

TING HAO HOME KITCHEN FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728594

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TING HAO HOME KITCHEN, 17985 Cantabria Ln, Morgan Hill, CA, 95037, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Zhehao Chen, 17985 Cantabria Ln, Morgan Hill, CA 95037. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/16/2026. /S/ Zhehao Chen / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/17/2026. (07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

190-T

THRIVE THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN728505

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: THRIVE THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, 197 First Street, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: an individual. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Melinda Cathryn Pacheco, 197 First Street, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Melinda Cathryn Pacheco / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa

Public Notices

Clara County on 07/15/2026.
(07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

189-T

**TMP AUTO REPAIR LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN727864**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TMP AUTO REPAIR LLC, 2923 Nicholas Way, Modesto, CA, 95351, Stanislaus County. This business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): TMP AUTO REPAIR LLC, 3725 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95051. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/09/2026. /S/ Edilberto E Munoz Sanchez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 06/17/2026. (07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

188-T

**NINA'S BEAUTY SALON
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN728470**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: NINA'S BEAUTY SALON, 1782 Clear Lake Avenue Ste 256, Milpitas, CA, 95035, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: married couple. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): Nina Deepak Tolia, 410 N White Rd. Apt 1106, San Jose, CA 95127, Deepak Tarachand Tolia, 410 N White Rd. Apt 1106, San Jose, CA 95127. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/14/2015. /S/ Nina Deepak Tolia / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/14/2026. (07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

187-T

**BODIES IN MOTION PHYSICAL
THERAPY, INC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN728522**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BODIES IN MOTION PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC, 305 South Drive Suite 3, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: a corporation. The name and mailing address of the registrant(s) is (are): BODIES IN MOTION PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC, 1536 Fordham Court, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/01/2005. /S/ Colleen O'Kane / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/15/2026. (07-29-26,08-05,12,19-26)

186-T



Datebook

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

EVENTS

Junipero Serra and 1776: The West and East Coasts. Aug. 19, 5:30-7 p.m. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road. A program exploring two pivotal events that occurred just one day apart in 1776 – the presentation of a draft of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia and the founding of Mission Dolores in Spanish California. Santa Clara University professors Robert Senkewicz and Rose Marie Beebe will examine how these parallel histories shaped the nation and the lasting impact of British and Spanish colonial systems on Native Peoples. For more information, visit losaltoshistory.org/events/junipero-serra-and-1776-the-west-and-east-coasts.

Summer Nights. Aug. 21, 6 p.m. Power4 Pilates, 2310 Homestead Road, Suite G. 100 Women Charitable Foundation is partnering with Power4 Pilates for a community evening that brings together two organizations with deep roots in Los Altos. It is an evening of community, connection, and a little friendly bingo competition.

BBQ and Bluegrass. Aug. 22, 4-7 p.m. 169 State St., Assistance League Building, Los Altos. Live music and food hosted by the Stanford Singles Club. Cost is \$35 per person. Pay and RSVP at stanfordsinglesclub.org.

15th Annual Train Day. Aug. 30, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road. This popular family event features model trains, local railroad hobbyists, robotics demonstrations, classic train films, and a train-themed Festival of Lights Parade float, along with food for purchase. For more information, see losaltoshistory.org/events/train-day-26.

The Music of Wayne Shorter – Community School of Music and Art Fall Concert series. Sept. 4, 7:30 p.m. Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Pianist and keyboardist Michael Echaniz and his trio present and acoustic-electric tribute to the music of Wayne Shorter, one of the most prolific and influential jazz composers and improvisers of the last century. Reserve tickets at arts4all.org/events.

Los Altos Art & Poetry Walk. Sept. 11, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Join Arts Los Altos in conjunction with Salt & Poetry and Poetry Los Altos for an event featuring local poets reading original poems in front of the artwork in downtown Los Altos. Meet at 260 State St., site of “Los Hills Mural.”

Bye Bye Kids Cancer. Sept. 12, 1-3 p.m. Valencia Park at Santana Row, San Jose. Kids from around the Bay Area get up and sing or dance or play something, and every dollar goes to pediatric cancer research at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford. For more information, check out byebyekidscancer.org.

Scout Troop 30 reunion. Sept. 13, 3 p.m. Los Altos Troop 30 troop room. Join Troop 30 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its troop room. For more info and to RSVP, visit tinyurl.com/troop30reunion.

American Sketches: Tales of a Continent – Community School of Music and Art Fall Concert series. Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m. Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Gabriela Calderón and Astrid Morales Torres celebrate the musical landscapes of North, Central, and South America in the vibrant program of piano for four hands, featuring both well-known and lesser-known composers. Reserve tickets at arts4all.org/events.

K-Pop Dance Night. Oct. 2, 7-8:30 p.m. Peterson Middle School, Sunnyvale. A space to connect in person, perform, and celebrate Korean pop culture together. While many students in the Bay Area share an interest in K-pop, there are not always many local opportunities for them to gather, dance, and express themselves as a community. The event will include live dance performances, a random play dance, and free K-pop merch raffles sponsored by KCloud. Attendance is free.

Backroads and Crossroads – Community School of Music and Art Fall Concert series. Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Local duo Bagwell & Troy present a lively program of foundational blues and country music by musicians such as Elmore James and Johnny Cash, as well as their own stirring, original songs. Reserve tickets at arts4all.org/events.

Colors of Sound: An Evening of Piano Imagery – Community School of Music and Art Fall Concert series. Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m. Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Naoko Kasai transforms the piano into a storyteller, revealing the distinct voices of four composers: Haydn, Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin. Through them, she explores the full spectrum of human emotion. Reserve tickets at arts4all.org/events.

The Davin-Levin Duo – Community School of Music and Art Fall Concert series. Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. CSMA Merit Scholar student ensembles and soloists perform favorite selections in the popular annual event. Experience the joy of music from these outstanding rising stars. Reserve tickets at arts4all.org/events.

Obituary Notice

RICHARD ALAN CARLSON



1939 – 2026

Richard Alan Carlson, a longtime Los Altos resident, died on Monday, July 20th after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's. He was 87 years old.

Richard was predeceased by his loving wife of 46 years, Cathy Carlson. He is survived by his two children Steve Carlson and Amy (Gary) Carlson Speck, and his two grandchildren, Margaret Speck and Gabriel Speck.

Richard was born in the Ballard neighborhood of Seattle, Washington to Eunice and Carl “Oliver” Carlson in 1939.

Richard graduated Ballard High School, served 2 years in the Army and received a B.S. in Engineering from the University of Washington.

After graduating from the University of Washington, Richard moved to Mountain View and started work as an aerospace engineer at Philco-Ford. He also worked for Ford Aerospace, Loral and Lockheed Martin as a result of a series of acquisitions and corporate transactions. Lockheed honored Richard's 40 years of service shortly before he retired at the age of 70.

Richard was a proud member of the SLO-Mo softball team that was founded in the late 1960s by fellow engineer transplants and sponsored by the Woodland Bottle Shop. Known for his ability to “stretch a home run into a single”, Richard rarely missed a game or post-game pizza party. He was an avid reader and could often be found working on his aging fleet of cars.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the late Fall in the Seattle area. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in his memory to an organization supporting Alzheimer's research or hospice care.

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