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Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 78 No. 38 • 50 cents losaltosonline.com WEDNESDAY • September 24, 2025

Muscle car madness on Main



S.M. LIEU /SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER
The annual Corvette Spectacular, presented by Santa Clara Corvettes, zoomed through Main Street in downtown Los Altos Sunday. From classic to new Corvettes, there was a lot of muscle to be seen during the event, which was under the auspices of the National Council of Corvette Clubs.

Rep. Sam Liccardo talks local impacts of federal cuts

By Curtis Driscoll
Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Potential federal funding cuts being discussed in Washington could result in significant local ramifications on health and social services in Santa Clara County, Rep. Sam Liccardo, D-San Jose, said Monday.

Standing in front of the nonprofit Community Services Agency (CSA) in Mountain View, Liccardo laid out how recent and proposed funding cuts in the most recent continuing resolution that passed in the U.S. House of Representatives but stalled in the Senate last week, will increase health insurance costs and hurt local organizations like CSA.

“This administration has to stop making it harder for families to pay their bills,” Liccardo said. “The bottom line is, what we have seen in the most recent budget and what we are about to see is going to make it brutally difficult for families who are struggling every day to pay for their rent, pay for their groceries.”

A continuing resolution is a temporary spending bill needed when Congress and the president cannot reach an agreement on federal spending levels by the start of the fiscal year, Oct. 1. Continuing resolutions generally keep funding similar to the previous fiscal year and seek to avoid government shutdowns. Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives passed a continuing resolution last week, opposed by Democrats, that has stalled in the Senate and leaves the federal government just a few days from a shutdown. Liccardo said before he votes yes on any continuing resolution, he wants to see an extension of pandemic-era Affordable Care Act tax

credits designed to help reduce the costs of health insurance. He estimated that 28,000 residents in the CA-16 district will face increased premiums of approximately 112%, the equivalent of \$3,200 per family annually if the continuing resolution passes in its current form.

“The tax credits have to be passed now; they have to be extended today, because if we wait until after November or December, families will not be eligible,” Liccardo said. “I am not going to vote for a continuing resolution unless those tax credits are approved. I am also not going to vote for any deal unless we know that the president can be held to the deal.”

CSA provides food and social services to thousands of residents in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills and is one of the organizations that spoke Monday about the funding cuts. CSA Executive Director Tom Myers said federal funding cuts in the last few months and current proposals will hurt CSA’s ability to serve the community. While donors have temporarily stepped up to fill needs, asking them to contribute more consistently is not sustainable and cannot fill the gap.

“We are looking at 13% in our funding for food because of federal cuts. We are looking at a 32% reduction in funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and 7% from perhaps the most vulnerable members of our community, our seniors,” Meyers said. “Some of these funds are frozen, some of the funds, we’ve been told we are not going to get them.”

For a longer version of this story, visit losaltosonline.com.

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Around Town

Courtyard By Marriott Palo Alto-Los Altos renovation unveiling



BRANDON ROTH/TOWN CRIER

From left, Jane Challas, the owner of the the Courtyard By Marriott Palo Alto-Los Altos; Manny Singh, vice president of Johnson Hospitality; Cathi Bonnifield, daughter of Jane Challas; and Nadar ElKabbany, general manager of the hotel, hosted the renovation unveiling party on Sept. 17. The party was jazz-themed with live musicians, cocktail spritzes and charcuterie. The hotel staff also took guests on a tour of the hotel to see new room features and amenities.

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News

Police Blotter

Vehicle stop leads to firearm-related arrest

Los Altos police arrested a female minor for firearm and magazine violations after a vehicle stop led to the discovery of a firearm and ammunition in the vehicle, according to a Los Altos Police department Facebook post shared last week.

The vehicle stop occurred along Foothill Expressway near Springer Road, according to the post. The driver was on active post-release community supervision and the passenger was a female minor. After police searched the car, they found a loaded Glock 26 firearm with a high-capacity magazine. The passenger was arrested and booked into Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall, according to the post.

Battery

Sept. 18, 8:14 p.m.: 800 block of Fremont Avenue, Los Altos

Sept. 21, 6:24 a.m.: 3500 block of Truman Avenue, Mountain View

Sept. 21, 10:27 a.m.: 500 block of Sylvan Avenue, Mountain View

Commercial burglary

Sept. 19, 4:47 p.m.: 0-100 block of Showers Drive, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 4:50 p.m.: 900 block of West Middlefield Road, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 4:59 p.m.: 100 block of Granada Drive, Mountain View

Sept. 20, 9:40 a.m.: 700 block of East Evelyn Avenue, Mountain View

Domestic Violence

Sept. 18, 2:10 p.m.: 900 block of San Antonio Road, Los Altos

Residential burglary

Sept. 20, 9:11 a.m.: 0-100 block of Moonbeam Drive, Mountain View

— Christina Casillas

Los Altos demos hanging planters



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANTHONY CARNESECCA

The city is demoing two hanging planters in downtown Los Altos. While they currently look like the left day-one photo, the city expects them to look like the two photos on the right within 45 days.

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Visitors to downtown Los Altos may have noticed something new when walking down Main Street: Hanging planters.

The city is currently demoing the planters – one that’s 16 inches in diameter in front of the Los Altos Village Association Office and one that’s 22 inches in diameter in front of Wells Fargo – as potential replacements for pre-existing planters.

According to Anthony Carnesecca, assistant to the city manager, the hanging planters would ideally require less water and maintenance than the

preexisting planters because they have a reservoir for water storage, resulting in less need for watering. An exact savings estimate is still unavailable, Carnesecca said.

They will take up less of the narrow downtown sidewalks “while maintaining a beautiful flower arrangement that would be visible from both pedestrians and drivers through the downtown.”

“They need time to grow over the sides and look more like the envisioned hanging flower pots we are hoping for,” he said. “I would request that we wait for judgement on the pots until they are able to grow a little more fully over the edge of the planters.”

Mountain View extends contracts for LASD’s new school site

By Brandon Roth

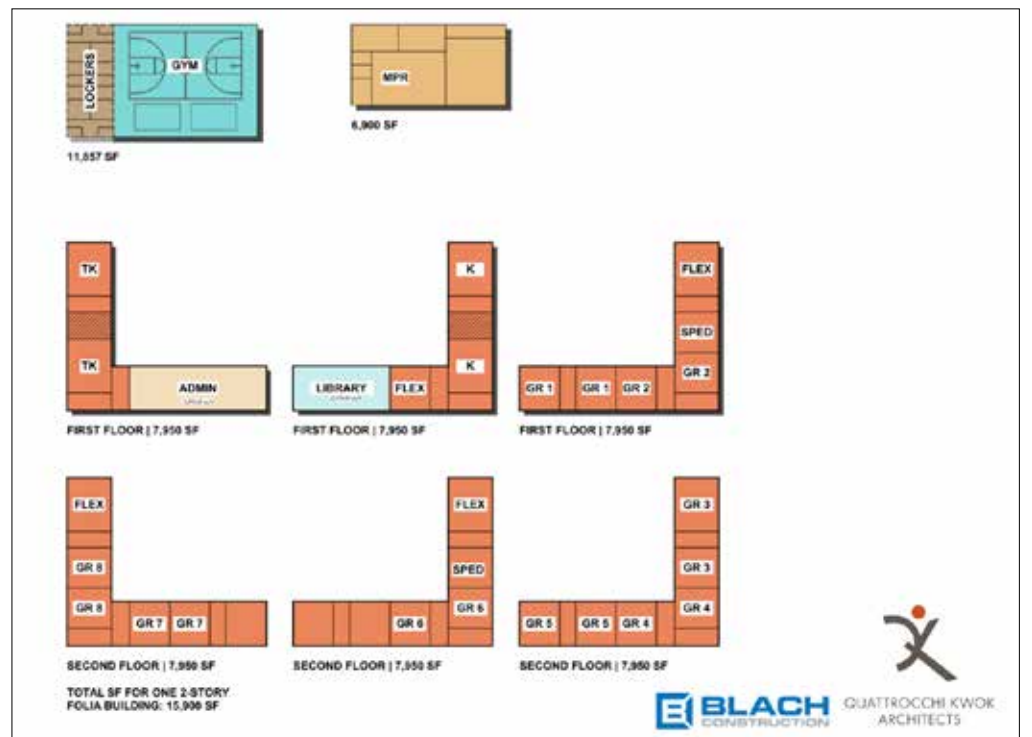
Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Mountain View City Council has renewed two contracts for Los Altos School District’s (LASD) new 10th school site, providing more time to complete the site’s construction due to pandemic delays.

The council members voted in a 4-2 decision at the Sept. 9 council meeting to extend the Funding Joint Use Agreement (FJUA) – a LASD partnership agreement with the city to purchase Kohl’s department store in 2019. The FJUA will also allow the city access to the school’s facilities such as play areas, gymnasium and outdoor sports fields. The Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Agreement – a contract that was created in 2018 to allow developers to obtain unused property at \$130 per square foot – will ensure LASD and the city will split profits 50%.

The FJUA is expected to expire on Sept. 30, 2030, and the TDR agreement will expire on Jan. 29, 2039. The council will also hand over property rights to the school district once the contracts conclude.

The two dissenting votes were from Councilmembers Emily Ann Ramos and Pat Showalter, who both expressed that there



SITE DESIGN COURTESY OF QUATTROCCHI KWOK ARCHITECTS

Above are concept designs of Los Altos School District’s new construction site classrooms.

should be more outreach with the neighborhood community that surrounds the site and to be clear what student community will be using the site.

“As the leaders of the community, there

are a lot of things we need to consider besides just money,” Showalter said. “I do think these neighborhoods and social

Construction comes to Castro

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Downtown Mountain View will periodically be alive with the sound of construction as crews bring parts of Castro Street to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Crews are focused on non-compliant median pathways and curb ramps along Castro Street from Fairmont Avenue to California Street, according to a city of Mountain View press release. The work, which began Monday, will include some vehicle detours and require some sidewalk closures resulting in pedestrian detours.

Despite the construction, which is estimated to take five to six weeks, businesses in the affected areas are expected to remain open.

The construction is part of the city’s various street projects funded by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (State Bill 1). In addition to the ADA improvements, which will make it easier for people using wheelchairs, bicycles, or pushing strollers to navigate downtown, crosswalks will also be upgraded to improve visibility along heavily used portions of Castro Street.

News

LAHS tennis court removals in the works

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

Four tennis courts at Los Altos High School could be converted into a parking lot within the next year, causing mixed community reactions about the potential outcome.

For the past six years, four of the 12 tennis courts at LAHS have been used as a material storage area for the recent Measure E school bond construction projects. The Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees discussed at an Aug. 18 special session that the projects are nearing their tail end, and they are now looking at development ideas on how to utilize the space for new parking.

According to the parking lot layouts developed by Mike Mathiesen, the associate superintendent of business services at MVLA, and Quattrocchi Kwok Architects, option one would keep eight courts with 78 parking spots, option two would keep eight courts with 76 parking spots, option three would keep nine courts with 45 spots and option four would keep 10 courts with 31 spots. Option one would remodel the existing closed courts, while the other three options would transform the courts next to the baseball field. Each layout also shows there will be 12 additional parking spaces alongside the existing closed courts.



MAX ASMAR/LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

The MVLA Board of Trustees in the next few weeks may decide to have four of the Los Altos High School tennis courts converted into a parking lot.

Eric Volta, the superintendent of MVLA, said at the meeting that he recommends options one and two to maximize the number of spots available. He said for option one, demolition would be easier and that there is a driveway available, but there are concerns that it could be shared with pedestrians and bikes. Option two would also allow for a similar amount of parking spaces, Volta said, and could be a safer option to avoid pedestrians.

By the end of the meeting, Volta and the board said that since the city of Los Altos put stricter parking rules near schools, the need for school parking is important to bring in people for sports and after-school activities. They also are considering whether to make it student or staff parking and to hear from traffic engineers to

determine what could be the best option for student safety.

“We want to explore option two pending working with the city engineers, working with the Division of the State Architect (DSA) and so on,” Volta said. “It sounds like option two. We want to continue down that path so long as that’s safer than option one.”

He said there have been no plans submitted to the DSA. Once an option is approved by the board, the DSA will still need to ensure that the site is accessible and contains enough shade. He also said all the numbers of parking spaces are still an estimate, but they hope to have between 70 to 80 more parking spaces.

Volta said the existing closed court still has “lingering

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10TH SITE

From Page 4

considerations are quite vital, but at the same time, I recognize we have a good relationship with the Los Altos School District, which is great. I hope that continues and I would like to see another round or two of negotiations before this is passed.”

According to the LASD San Antonio Site master plan, it is expected to be a K-8 campus with three two-story buildings placed throughout the campus, one multipurpose building and a gymnasium.

Lenka Wright, the chief communications officer for the city of Mountain View, said the city is still waiting to hear back from the school on which community it will serve. She said the partnerships between the school and the city enable new develop-

ment that will support both the school district and the nearby residents. She said that the sale of the TDR could provide a total of \$79.3 million in proceeds.

She also said there are additional agreements, such as the FJUA and Open Space Park Property Transfer Agreement, in which the city and LASD provided \$23 million to fund four acres of joint use recreational and open space and two acres for a public park.

“City and LASD staff have successfully worked together on a master planning pro-

cess to determine the location of the public park and the layout and design of the joint use facilities,” Wright said. “This strong collaboration on the planning and operation of the joint use area will continue.”

She said the city’s total contribution is \$43 million, with \$23 million for the four-acre joint use area and \$20 million for the two-acre public park. She said the extension of the two contracts will support the overall development of the site.

Correction

In the story “Lucas Ramirez announces run for local environmental nonprofit,” which appeared in last week’s Town Crier issue, only four candidates were listed as running for the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Executive Committee; there are actually eight. The four not included in the story were appointed by the chapter’s nomination committee. They are Sue Chow, Robin Montoya, Nicole Lee and Shruti Chandrasekhar.

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El Camino Health Medical Network welcomes new president, Dr. Alan Muster

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

The El Camino Health Medical Network – which connects various independent and affiliated specialists and physicians to El Camino Health and its community members – recently announced the appointment of a new president.

Dr. Alan Muster, hailing from the Wellstar Medical Group Specialty Division in Marietta, Georgia, will provide direction and leadership to the independent practice association, medical group and physician alignment strategy after he takes on the role Nov. 17. He will specifically be responsible for overseeing primary and specialty practices and heavily influence the integration and development of long-term strategic initiatives throughout the El Camino Health Medical Network.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Alan Muster to El Camino Health Medical Network at a pivotal time in our growth as we expand to bring high-quality, personalized care closer to where people live,” Dan Woods, chief executive officer at El Camino Health, stated in the release. “Alan is a proven leader whose passion for people and healthcare aligns perfectly with our mission and his commitment to patient-centered care will help us strengthen physician partnerships, expand access, and continue delivering trusted, compassionate care throughout Silicon Valley.”

While part of the Wellstar Medical Group Specialty Division, Muster directed operations, physician leadership and financial performance for a team of more than 3,000, including 400 ad-

vanced practice professionals, 550 surgical and medical specialists and 2,100 covering 36 specialties. The El Camino Health Medical Network includes 300 specialist and primary care physicians across Santa Clara County.

In addition to a medical degree attained at Rutgers University, New Jersey Medical School and a Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering from Brown University, he acquired a Master of Business and Health Administration from Georgia State University.

“I’m thrilled and honored to serve as medical network president of such a highly esteemed and accomplished healthcare system,” Muster stated in the release. “As a physician and healthcare leader, my focus has always been on delivering exceptional healthcare and improving patient outcomes. El Camino Health is well positioned to help improve the lives of those we serve in the South Bay and greater Silicon Valley communities, and I look forward to working alongside a dedicated leadership team.”

Muster’s appointment came approximately nine months after his predecessor, Dr. Robert Quinn, died just three weeks into his tenure as president.

For more information on the El Camino Health Medical Network, visit elcaminohealth.org/about-us/el-camino-health-medical-network.



Dr. Alan Muster



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Los Altos Library Highlights - October 2025

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scclld.org/passport




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COURTS

From Page 5

supplies” on the site and is still unusable, with no nets and neglected tennis court paint surfaces. He said there is a pause on the site until they can determine where the parking is going to be placed.

“Architects met recently in the city just to understand how the parking lots will interact with the city,” Mathiesen said. “If we have to create a driveway in the sidewalk, we have to coordinate with the city. We don’t want to submit plans to DSA, and then the city says, ‘Wait, you need to do X, Y and Z.’ It’s better to plan all that in advance before the cost determination. Nothing’s been approved, nothing’s gone out to bid. I think cost considerations will need to be taken into account.”

Mathiesen said he has received a few resident complaint emails and is aware of the disruptions that can occur, such as long wait times. He said the tennis courts are popular among residents on the weekends and many groups have the option to obtain a permit to rent the courts out. He said the physical education classes and tennis teams also utilize it all year long. He said there is no data available to see who uses them on an average day.

“I think if we go through with this,

the board would approve the funding and the design for it ideally next summer,” Mathiesen said. “A lot of it has to do with DSA and their approval on timelines and review to get it all done.”

Tennis players’ response

Steve Apfelberg, the head tennis coach for the girls’ junior varsity team, said he had been a coach at the school for eight seasons and it wasn’t until going into his third year that they closed off the four courts. He said the team has been able to make the tennis court closures work after all these years, but he said it would be a great benefit for them to have 12 courts. He said that due to the tennis team’s large size, they had to cut some people off the team because there wasn’t enough space to practice per court.

“If we had the four additional courts, or some portion of ... (them), we would probably be able to take even a slightly larger roster. And some kids who have a decent tennis background probably would be able to make other university teams.”

He said this season includes 42 players – 21 girls on varsity and 21 girls on junior varsity. He said both teams practice at the same time on four courts each and while some players are on the court, he makes others do drills so it won’t be

overcrowded.

Apfelberg said at the end of the day, it is up to the board to do what is good for the school. However, he is aware of how important the courts are not just to the tennis team, but to the surrounding community. He said that by the end of practice, people are already queued to get on the courts, eager to play and sometimes even going on the court when they see it open for a minute. One of the reasons the courts are open to the public, he said – compared to MVHS and other public schools in the area – is that it is right off of Jardin Drive and not tucked into a campus.

“There’s one gate from Jardin Drive to the court, but we lock the gates that kind of lead into the school,” Apfelberg said. “There’s such a good relationship between the team and the public. I’ve seen other high schools that have tennis courts completely locked down, besides for their high school team and for us – the public’s just completely used to that. The courts are always open to the public, just completely used to sharing.”

Barbara Zieroth-Hoffman, a resident of Los Altos for more than 30 years, said her entire family are tennis players. She used to teach tennis on one of the closed courts and her son used to be involved in the tennis team. She said on any given day, it is crowded, with the mornings

during the school week and the weekend from early morning until noon being impossible to play. She estimates that more than 100 people play during peak times.

“There’s like a real variety of players,” Zieroth-Hoffman said. “There’s the regular old timers, the young families, there’s a group such as the ACEing Autism group that comes on Sunday morning. They take four courts, and then, of course, there are instructors giving lessons. So it is very bustling.”

She said there are no other nearby courts or parks in North Los Altos that people can walk to and play tennis. She said Egan Junior High School used to have tennis courts, but they were removed to install Bullis Charter School portables. She said the LAHS courts were crowded before the pandemic, but have exploded in number in the last five years and she would be devastated to see the removal of some considering the community demand for them.

“It’s obvious that there are too many students driving cars,” Zieroth-Hoffman said. “Obviously, there are more students than when my son went there, but there are also more students driving cars. There needs to be an incentive for more students to start biking or walking. I don’t know what the solution is.”

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Community

Gala for soldiers in Ukraine set for Saturday in Los Altos

By Dorie Xie
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Revived Soldiers Ukraine will host its 10th anniversary fundraising gala Saturday night at the Los Altos Golf & Country Club.

Featuring a keynote speaker, auction and musical performances, the nonprofit hopes to raise awareness of Ukraine's war with Russia, form local partnerships and raise funds to support wounded Ukrainian soldiers.

"I want to share the important work that the fund is doing," said Los Altos resident Ruslana Deykun, a RSU volunteer and gala organizer. "We're also very grateful for the support of the American people because none of this – the equipment or complicated sur-

geries – could happen without their support."

Iryna Vashchuk, who received the highest civilian honor from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, founded RSU in 2015. For a decade now, the American nonprofit has provided free medical services to wounded Ukrainian soldiers. Vashchuk said RSU operates two rehabilitation centers in Ukraine, serving about 45 wounded soldiers daily.

"The money running both facilities in Ukraine comes from the U.S., including the funds raised from this gala," Vashchuk said.

She added money raised will repair destroyed infrastructure on Ukrainian military bases and provide hospital



COURTESY OF RUSLANA DEYKUN

Dmytro Nyshyk (front), Iryna Vashchuk (second from right) and Ruslana Deykun (far right) at a recent Bay Area event.

equipment, including ultrasound machines, ambulances and generators.

In the U.S., RSU partners with hospitals and prosthetic specialists to provide treat-

ments unavailable in Ukraine, whether due to undersupplied

See UKRAINE, Page 12

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Los Altos teen brings Human Library to downtown Los Altos

Town Crier Report

The Human Library event where people bring their personal life experiences and stories for discussion is coming to the Los Altos Community Center Sept. 27 from 1-4 p.m.

People are the books and readers engage in honest, one-one-one conversations about an experience often misunderstood or stigmatized in society. Visitors can ask questions and challenge their own perceptions in a safe and respectful setting. Past event topics include PTSD, cult members, formerly homeless, chronic pain, depression and blindness. The event is free to the public. Los Altos resident and St. Francis student Avery Simonsen was responsible for bringing the event for the first time to downtown Los Altos.

People can sign up at <https://humanlibrary-losaltos.eventbrite.com/>.



A Human Library dialog at an event.

Community Briefs

LAMVCF sponsoring Compassion Week

The Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation (LAMVCF) returns as the primary sponsor of Compassion Week 2025, a weeklong gathering of neighbors, service and community spirit from Oct. 4-12 for the Santa Clara and San Mateo communities. More than 4,000 community members will celebrate the 13th year of Compassion Week. This year will feature dozens of local nonprofits, community impact projects and forums on teen mental wellness, housing and immigration.

For more information on Compassion Week and to volunteer, visit compassionweeklosaltos.org.

Compassion Week blood drive


Vitalant is asking the public for donations of blood between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6 at St. William Hall, 611 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos. Appointments can be made at vitalant.org using the blood drive code: compassion week.

Fall plant exchange

Bring your healthy extra plants, seedlings, cuttings, bulbs, seeds, small trees or shrubs to Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 27, and take home something new in exchange. Plants must be labelled. No privets or invasive plants. Admission is free, with labelled plants. The exchange is sponsored by the Garden Club of Los Altos and the Los Altos Recreation Department with support from the Los Altos History Museum. For more information, contact Linda Dewi at ldewi2000@yahoo.com.

Mountain View High School reunion class of 2000

Calling all class of 2000 MVHS graduates! Join the 25-year reunion on October 4 and reconnect with fellow classmates. The event will run from 6-10 p.m. in Los Altos; tickets are \$60 per person. For more information and to RSVP, visit bit.ly/mvhs2000.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

September 30, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

In Person

Note- This is not the Final Agenda

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Dyett & Bhatia for the preparation of a comprehensive General Plan Update and associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
2. Adopt a resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Greenfields Outdoor Fitness, Inc. to design, purchase, and install outdoor fitness equipment to replace the old fitness equipment at Hillview Park
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 1 on behalf of the City with Dewberry Engineers Inc. in the amount of \$17,228 and approximate additional \$30,000 contingency for design professional consulting services for the Fremont Avenue Pedestrian Bridge Rehabilitation Project, TS-01055, for FY2025/26, and find that this action is Exempt from Environmental Review Pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the State Guidelines Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Introduce and waive second reading of draft ordinances and consider June 5, 2025, Planning Commission recommendation for the adoption of the proposed ordinances which include:
 - A. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos Adding Chapter 14.93 (Historic Preservation) to the Los Altos Municipal Code; and
 - B. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos Adding Chapter 14.95 (Mills Act Program) to the Los Altos Municipal Code; and
 - C. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos Repealing in its Entirety Chapter 12.44 for Existing Historic Preservation Regulations; andFind that the proposed amendments are exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Authorize staff to move forward with the development and implementation of a Drone as First Responder (DFR) Program to enhance emergency response capabilities, improve situational awareness for first responders and promote public safety

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

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"La donna è mobile" and the curse: Verdi's 'Rigoletto' revived

By Duanni Hurd
Special to the Town Crier

Excitement for the curtain-raiser of San Francisco's cultural season poured in with the crowd at the War Memorial Opera House, decorated with red and burgundy flowers arranged as cynical clown faces across the balcony rails and in the lobby. Giuseppe Verdi's "Rigoletto" opened San Francisco Opera's 103rd season on Sept. 5.

With a prominent place in the canon, Verdi is well regarded as a composer and storyteller who dramatized power, morality and the human condition. Operas serve as cultural touchstones with enhanced storytelling through drama and music. As one of the most celebrated pieces in history, the 1851 opera "Rigoletto" is no exception.

The story of "Rigoletto" is centered in the 16th century on a morally complex anti-hero, Rigoletto – a deformed, hunchbacked court jester – whose daughter's tragic death exposes the corruption of the powerful. Rigoletto often gets carried away as he amuses the

Duke of Mantua by hurling insults at courtiers and mocking their suffering, sometimes, with cruelty, even though he knows the duke is a careless and merciless womanizer. Rigoletto's cruelty causes a curse to be laid on him by Count Monterone, whose daughter is dishonored by the duke. Rigoletto's beautiful and innocent daughter, Gilda, fell victim to the seductive ruler, who abuses women with his charm and lies. Rigoletto's attempted revenge on the duke ends with the ultimate tragedy, as Gilda's blind love for the duke makes her willingly sacrifice her life to save him from being killed by Rigoletto's hired assassin Sparafucile.

There are several famous arias from this opera; the most universally recognizable has to be "La donna è mobile" ("Woman is fickle"). Rapid and energetic, "La donna è mobile" is an impossibly catchy tune with irresistible buoyancy. Ironically, as a celebrated entertainment in the 19th century, it carries blatant confidence without conscience, provoking reflection in the 21st century as



PHOTO BY CORY WEAVER

Amartuvshin Enkhbat as the title role in Verdi's "Rigoletto", which opened San Francisco Opera's 103rd season Sept. 5.

it collides with our cultural debate over gender-based power plays and inequality masked by charisma and charm. Music director Eun Sun Kim leaned into the bright and breezy cynicism with sinistry simmering beneath; contrasted with the

looming weight of the curse, such beauty in music carries a striking darkness.

The international cast includes Amartuvshin Enkhbat, the Mongolian baritone who will have played the title role more than 120 times after the

conclusion of the current production. Enkhbat possesses musical and dramatic power in portraying an aggressive jester, yet a deeply loving and protective father tormented

See OPERA, Page 16

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Community

UKRAINE

From Page 9

labor or equipment, according to Vashchuk.

“There are high cases of amputations and Ukrainian prosthetic centers are unable to help,” Vashchuk said. “We bring those guys to the U.S., for leg prosthetics in Orlando, and for arms in Philadelphia. Soldiers stay with us from six months to two years, so it’s a long-term treatment.”

RSU has partner hospitals across the East Coast and Midwest, including Massachusetts General Hospital, Northwestern Medicine and Yale New Haven Hospital. Saturday’s gala marks RSU’s first event in Northern California.

“We would like the Silicon Valley crowd to support Ukraine,” Vashchuk said. “And maybe we can find hospitals in California that will want to accept our guys, either pro bono or with a price we can afford.”

Deykun hopes the Bay Area’s tech scene can help them even more – one of the main goals of the gala.

“We’re trying to build more partnerships with hospitals, but also various biomedical and robotics startups in Silicon Valley,” Deykun said.

Partnerships aside, Deykun hopes the gala will bring more awareness of the Russia-

Ukraine war in the local community.

“We get strong support from the Ukrainian community, Ukrainian diaspora, but we really want to engage more Americans here,” Deykun said. “They don’t know much about our nonprofit, so we’re doing what we can.”

Bill Cole, a Bay Area local and founder of the Peace Through Strength Institute, will deliver the gala’s keynote speech. He also hopes to increase RSU’s visibility in the local community.

“What Revived Soldiers Ukraine is doing, it’s very compelling,” Cole said. “It’s an amazing nonprofit, and I hope that people see that and contribute. There’s been too much ignorance. If people would really rally and speak from their hearts, I’m convinced that change would happen.”

The gala will also feature live and silent auctions – including a Ukrainian flag signed by Zelenskyy and helmets of Ukrainian pilots killed in battle – and performances by Ukrainian singers Arina Domsy and Sonya Sukhorukova.

Also that night, six Ukrainian soldiers will share their war and recovery stories.

Among them is 30-year-old Dmytro Nyshchuk, who lost both his legs in battle. He is

receiving prosthetic treatment in Orlando and lives with three other wounded soldiers, all supported by RSU.

“When RSU fundraises, it’s going towards helping the next soldier like me, the next comrade,” Nyshchuk said through a translator. “It’s important for me to be part of these events that help wounded soldiers.”

These stories should be the highlight of the night, according to Deykun.

“It’s a great opportunity to meet Ukrainians and hear their stories, relate to the culture, hear from the wounded and their stories of why they joined the army and why they fight,” Deykun said.

For all its organizers, RSU’s gala is more than just raising money – it’s for the local community to connect, learn about soldiers’ resilience and celebrate the work the organization has done.

“We don’t want people just to come in and give money,” Vashchuk said. “We want people to have a great time, enjoy themselves. See some interesting artists, hear some great stories.”

The gala begins at 5 p.m. at the Los Altos Golf & Country Club, 1560 Country Club Drive. Tickets start at \$135.

For tickets and more information, visit rsukraine.org/events.



COURTESY OF RUSLANA DEYKUN

Wounded Ukrainian soldiers helped by the Revived Soldiers Ukraine organization.

Community

Del Monte Avenue neighbors gather for food, fun and friendship

Town Crier Report

The Del Monte Avenue Neighborhood Block Party lit up on Sunday evening, Aug. 10, as 136 residents from Carmel Avenue, Carmel Court, Del Monte Avenue, Paso Robles Avenue, West Portola Avenue and Pleasant Way gathered for a summer celebration.

Hosted by Robin and Paul Bantz along with the Kanyal, Koch and Ramasamy families, the party featured a lively potluck, outdoor games and visits from the Los Altos Police and Santa Clara County Fire Department.

One of the highlights was a display of historical maps, vintage photographs and neighborhood stories, researched by Robin Bantz and beautifully assembled by neighbors Barbie Koch and Paul Bantz. The collection included artwork by Birgit and Stefan Calhoun and Annie Knapp Fitz, pairing visual history with local narratives.

The evening brought many charming moments: two pet chickens mingling with guests, a child cruising in a Radio Flyer Star Wars Landspeeder and neighbors enjoying Jenga, badminton, foosball and ring cone toss. To close the event, Koch shared hollyhock seeds from her garden so neighbors could plant a piece of the block party at home.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROBIN BANTZ

Top: A child rides around in a Radio Flyer Star Wars Landspeeder at the Del Monte Avenue Neighborhood Block Party. Bottom: Residents gather for a picture at the block party that brought out 136 residents Aug. 10.





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Midpen expands volunteer program

By Andres Baisch

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Los Altos-based Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District recently expanded its volunteer program dedicated to maintaining trail ecosystems.

The program, which launched earlier in the summer, has grown in popularity, according to Midpen public affairs specialist Ryan McCauley. Starting this month, the program has gone from

one to two opportunities per week.

On Sept. 11, six volunteers led by program lead Judd Volino improved the accessibility of the High Meadow and Farm Bypass trails at Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve in Cupertino. They repaired fencing on trails commonly referred to as split-trail fencing and restored fencing damaged by a fallen tree.

“Over time, because we use natural materials, sometimes

(fences) degrade and have to be replaced,” Volino said.

Volino, who began as a volunteer, said that anyone participating in the program can learn about maintenance while getting the chance to work outdoors. Volino added that volunteers can learn a lot in a short amount of time.

“Volunteers like to work outside, especially people who have office jobs here in

See MIDPEN, Page 15

RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

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ANDRES BAISCH/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Volunteers with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District repaired fencing at Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve in Cupertino Sept. 11. The volunteers, including Rachel Tsai, right, repaired fencing commonly known as split-trail fencing.

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Community

MIDPEN From Page 14

Silicon Valley,” Volino said. “Everybody here is going to be basically certified to build fence(s) by the end of the day today.”

Volino said participants can sign up to do either resource management – involving removing non-native species from parks – or trail and infrastructure work.

Frequent volunteer and Los Altos resident Glen Kuo said he has volunteered on six projects at Midpen. The for-

mer tech worker said he has enjoyed the opportunities to work in nature and that learning new skills keeps him coming back.

“It’s these little things that nobody really teaches you in school,” Kuo said. “That’s another great benefit to me, teaching yourself basic skills.”

Kuo added that he is now taking classes in park management, hoping to someday pursue a career in parks as a full-time professional.

Sunnyvale resident Rachel Tsai said she has been volunteering since the program’s

launch this summer. In her first several projects, Tsai participated in flattening bumpy terrain from water damage on Midpen trails.

“I’m a trail runner, so when the trail is bumpy, I’m worried for my ankles, so this has been a really rewarding experience!” Tsai said.

Tsai, who is between employment situations, said volunteering is a good activity to meet others while getting physical activity.

To volunteer and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/2s426tzz.

Troop 33 recognizes new Eagle Scouts

By Jennifer Whiteley

Los Altos Troop 33 highlighted five exceptional local Scouts who recently achieved the prestigious Eagle Scout rank, the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America.

Scouting welcomes both girls and boys, and these dedicated young men exemplify leadership, perseverance and community service. Their accomplishments were celebrated at an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony on Sept. 20, and we are excited to recognize their achievements and the bright futures that lie ahead.

Soveen Agarwal, a current senior at Mountain View High School, recognized the critical need for reliable student technology at MVHS. He organized the refurbishment of more than 500 Chromebooks to ensure all students had access to dependable devices for the 2025/26 school year. His effort fostered a more equitable and productive learning environment for his peers.

Varchas Athreya, who graduated from Monta Vista High School, built benches and a custom-designed display case for Our City Forest, a nonprofit that advocates for urban forestry. A local tree nursery in San Jose contributed greenery and beautification to the neighborhood. Our City Forest had a need for additional infrastructure in the previously neglected education center.

Jack Boublik-Whiteley, a junior at Los Altos High School, recognized the grow-



COURTESY OF JENNIFER WHITELEY

Troop 33’s new Eagle Scouts, one of the highest honors you can get from the Boy Scouts of America. Top row from left, Varchas Athreya, Soveen Agarwal and Frederick Cieslicki. Bottom row from left Jack Boublik-Whiteley and Utsav Lal.

ing issue of homelessness in the area and combined his passion for science and helping others to coordinate donations and assembled 250 first aid and hygiene kits for vulnerable populations in San Jose. The kits included hygiene items and medical supplies, providing essential support through a partnership with the local nonprofit organization CityTeam. Jack plans to attend university in the fall of 2027, studying science and eventually medicine.

Frederick Cieslicki, a MVHS senior, chose to support his former elementary school, Loyola, by transforming its neglected garden. He cleared weeds, built a new workbench and created shelving to revitalize the space, providing a meaningful outdoor learning environment for students and the community. Frederick is a senior at

MVHS and plans to attend university in the fall of 2026, studying business or economics.

Utsav Lal, a student at Proof School in San Francisco, worked to support solitary bees by building bee habitats and raising awareness about their importance. He constructed 20 bee houses, which have been installed at schools in Los Altos and Mountain View to help expand and sustain local bee populations, ultimately benefiting the ecosystem. Utsav plans to attend college in the fall of 2026 to study mathematics.

We congratulate these remarkable Scouts on their outstanding achievements and look forward to seeing the incredible impact they will continue to make in their communities and beyond.

For more information on Troop 33, visit troop33.org.



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Yaning has been a devoted Soil&Water Garden volunteer for three years, generously contributing her time, skills, and resources to help the project thrive. From organizing projects and coordinating volunteers to designing gardens and growing transplants at home, she consistently goes above and beyond.

Her positivity and solution-oriented spirit have made her an anchor for the team and an inspiration to those around her. We are grateful for her leadership and commitment to cultivating both gardens and community.

Soil&Water Garden is a fiscally sponsored project of the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation's Local Impact Collective.

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

LAMVCF.org



Community

OPERA

From Page 11

by hatred and revenge. Adela Zaharia is the Romanian soprano, whose supple and shimmering voice grows Gilda's character from girlish innocence to heart-wrenching agony and sacrifice.

Stage and lighting designs frame the storytelling in a dramatic, uncanny and melancholic setting with high contrasts. Michael Yeargan's staging, inspired by Italian surreal artist Giorgio de Chirico's cityscape painting, consists of towering arcades, empty alleyways and flat buildings with hollow windows, etched in ominous

elongated shadows under Justin Partier-designed stark red, green, blue, purple and yellow lighting, creating visual echoes of the curse, drama and tragedy. The contrast between light and shadow mirrors the opera's moral polarity: charisma and cruelty intertwined, beauty sacrificed for brutality.

Through "La donna è mobile" and the curse, Verdi wraps cynicism in gleaming musical charm, tying together mockery, hubris, fate and tragedy in "Rigoletto."

The opera runs through Sept. 27 at the War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco. For more information and tickets, visit sfopera.com.



PHOTO BY CORY WEAVER

Amartuvshin Enkhbat, right, as the title role in Verdi's *Rigoletto*, with Adela Zaharia as Gilda. The opera runs through Sept. 27 at the War Memorial Opera House in San Francisco.

Have a comment or idea? Reach out

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



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Schools

Former longtime local resident retires as director of Kids In Common

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

For 25 years, Dana Bunnett has shown through her leadership and her work to address the importance of being involved in every aspect of a child's life.

Bunnett, a resident of Los Altos for 22 years who now resides in Santa Cruz, retired this past June as the co-director of Kids in Common (KIC), a nonprofit within Santa Clara County that aims to improve the lives of children by sharing insights with organizations such as the Santa Clara County Board of Education – using data and research – to inform them on policy and system changes at the county and state levels. Bunnett was honored with a luncheon last Thursday by the KIC board of directors, which includes Dr. Mary Ann Dewan as the chair and Judge Leonard Edwards as the vice chair, to celebrate her advocacy for keeping children safe and healthy.

Bunnett said that before working at KIC, she worked in parks and recreation, assisting children and families with disabilities. She also spent some time working with the Red Cross's

Safe Rides Program. She said she has always been drawn to helping children reach their special milestones and that the context when going into KIC was her openness to doing good work.

"I kind of believe things go the way they're supposed to and for me at least," she said. "I was like 42 when I took this role. You never think your career is gonna be dedicated to this work. And it's really true. I came in and felt like a baby, specifically around children's issues, and I've never been bored in the 25 years. I've been doing the work because there's always something to learn."

Bunnett said she enjoyed the aspect of creating systems of change to see every student thrive. Through her job, she learned how hard it is to be a parent with limited resources. Bunnett is a parent herself and believes being a mother was the hardest job. She said it was a different level seeing that role with families who can't afford to provide medicine to their sick children or to feed their families. She said her compassion for families has grown since taking the role.

"I began to wake up sometimes feeling angry that people didn't care as much as I did or people



COURTESY OF SHERRY TESLER

Former Los Altos resident Dana Bunnett, center, just retired as the co-director of Kids in Common (KIC), a Santa Clara County-based nonprofit, that is aimed to improve the conditions of children through research. Bunnett is pictured with the KIC board of directors who organized the event in her honor. From left, Fernando Mendoza, Mary Ann Dewan, Judge Len Edwards, Jessica Bautista, Jamie Wang and Mary Cheryl B. Gloner.

needed to get their act together and really care about kids," she said. "But then you realize that people are working in systems, and they have to have compassion for them, because the sys-

tems don't let them do their best work sometimes."

She said it is important to see the big picture when caring for the kids. Although she doesn't work directly with families,

her work advocates for children in a different way by bringing together people from different sectors in government to address

See ADVOCACY, Page 20

Local student reflects on visiting New Orleans, sees damage from Katrina

By Lara Leon

Town Crier Editorial Intern

When St. Francis High School senior David Chang traveled to New Orleans with the school's immersion program, he didn't know what to expect. A week later, he had a new understanding of community service and climate change.

From May 29 through June 4, Chang joined nine other students (juniors and seniors) and two teacher chaperones on the trip, which partnered with the St. Bernard Project, a hurricane relief organization. Students volunteered at a food kitchen, built hurricane-resistant housing, nailed rivets onto windows and painted homes for residents affected by past storms, including Hurricane Katrina.

"I went there with a blank slate," Chang said.

The Los Altos resident said

he had originally pictured New Orleans to be similar to the Bay Area, but he was struck to see areas that had not fully recovered from hurricane damage 20 years ago.

"When I arrived, the roads were very bumpy and I thought maybe they didn't have a lot of money to fix the roads," he said.

Chang added that she said her organizations are not the leaders or policy makers, but a cross-sector of different parts of a child's life, such as education, health care and mentorship. at he later learned that frequent flooding continues to damage infrastructure, leaving potholes across the city.

He said the experience also shifted his perspective on why people remain in disaster-prone areas.

"At first I wondered, if this city is so prone to natural disasters, why would people actually



COURTESY OF THE ST. BERNARD PROJECT

Back row left, David Chang, a senior at St. Francis High School, joined nine other students to build hurricane resistant homes and learn about the affects of natural disasters in New Orleans.

live there?" Chang said. "But the culture is so rich that it's like, how could anybody who grew up here want to leave? The culture is part of the location, tied

to who they are."

During the trip, the students also visited a fellow Holy Cross High School in New Orleans that was rebuilt and relocated

after Hurricane Katrina. Visiting both the ruined campus and the new building with the stu-

See KATRINA, Page 19

Schools

KATRINA From Page 18

dents, St. Francis activities director and teacher Grant Lucas said the experience helped them connect with peers at another Holy Cross school and understand the impact of the disaster.

“You see things on the news and you’re not sure if you can relate, but when you take high school kids from a Holy Cross school in Mountain View and show them students in New Orleans, that’s something they can directly relate to,” he said. “They understand some of the same principles and philosophies that both of our schools are built on.”

Lucas, a 2016 St. Francis graduate who oversees the immersion program, said the school offers about a dozen such trips each year, both domestic and

international. Students can apply to participate during spring break or over summer, with each trip focusing on service and cultural exchange.

“You can talk about whatever you want in the classroom, but actually putting your feet on the ground at a different location – walking through the ruins of one high school and then meeting the people from the new one – you get a sense of how that feels for a community,” Lucas said.

Lucas added that he went on the same immersion trip as a junior. As part of this year’s program, he took students to a house he had helped build years earlier to show the long-term impact of service.

“It was impactful for the students as well, because when we got to the location, the house was still there, it looked nice and

there was a family living in it,” Lucas said. “You might be here for only a week, getting just a taste of what this community is like and what they go through. But the work you’re doing right now is impactful. It’s going to support a family and a community for decades.”

For Chang, the biggest takeaway was the importance of preparing for natural disasters and acknowledging climate change.

“From a perspective in Los Altos, we might not have hurricanes, but we do have fires, so don’t think of climate change as a dumb problem,” he said. “Everybody is affected in one way or another, no matter where you are.”

Through these immersion trips, Lucas said he hopes all students walk away with a similar sense of empathy and an expanded worldview.

Schools Brief

Bestselling author Jeffrey Selingo speaks at LAHS



GABRIELA DE CARVALHO TELES/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Jeffery Selingo, a New York Times best selling author, spoke at the MVLA Parent Education Speakers Series event on Sept. 17. Selingo who writes about the different perspectives of higher education, provided local families advice on how students can pick better colleges and to make the degrees pay off.

By Gabriela de Carvalho Teles

Town Crier Editorial Intern

Parents packed the auditorium at Los Altos High School on Wednesday, Sept. 17, for an MVLA Parent Education Speaker Series event. The guest speaker, New York Times bestselling author Jeffrey Selingo, discussed how families can help their children find the right college fit.

Selingo, the author of three books about university admissions, encouraged families to broaden their perspective when considering higher education.

“I want to help our students succeed by looking beyond the top 25 schools,” he said. “Many families have to have a plan B.”

He also advised students and parents to visit campuses and engage with current students to get a sense of what

college life is like. “Walk around the campus and ask students what it is like (to be there),” Selingo recommended, emphasizing the importance of finding a school that aligns with each student’s desired experience.

As a parting gift, families left not only with new perspectives on the college search but also with a free copy of Selingo’s “Dream School: Finding the College That is Right for You” book.

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Los Altos Town Crier

Event

Celebrate the *Mid-Autumn Festival* with mooncakes, lantern crafts, games, and live performances. Presented with the Greater Los Altos Chinese Association. \$10/person, free for children 12 and under and seniors over 65. Oct 5, 1–5pm.



Exhibit

Explore *Building El Sueño: Isabel Merriman, Sarah Winchester, and the California Dream* to learn more about local legend Isabel Merriman—an eccentric, energetic, whirlwind of a woman and Sarah Winchester’s lesser-known sister. On display through Nov 30, 2025.



Program

What did Sarah Winchester have to do with apricots? Author Robin Chapman will reveal another side of the heiress in *A Winchester Mystery in the Valley of Heart’s Delight*. \$15/person, free for Museum members. Oct 15, 5:30–7:00 pm.



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ADVOCACY
From Page 18

systemic issues. Her accomplishments include the creation of the Bill of Rights for Children and Young Adults, a guideline of promises that the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors adopted in 2010 that ensure all children and young adults would have the right to health care, mental health services, guidance, life skills, education and many more areas.

She said the county really believes that children need to be at the center of policy-making. She said the county has even adopted a children’s budget to track how much money is being spent on children and to keep them in the narrative. Some of the big targets that the organization is looking at the homelessness and the hardships some children face with immigration issues. She said they are also looking at the effects of social media and finding solutions on how children can take control over the many implications of it.

“Kids need meaningful adult

connections because those adults and peers, too, can help them process what they’re seeing, hearing and doing. I think there’s not enough going on.”

Bunnett and her team collect data from secondary sources such as census data, state databases on school outcomes and demographics, public health data from the county and survey data such as Project Cornerstone, a YMCA of Silicon Valley program that works with struggling students. They then use this data to collect information on students for their work and report. KIC every year publishes an amalgamation of the data points in their Children’s Data Book that reflects the need for investments or advancements of “advancing racial, economic, health, education justice, and the intersectional context of sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability.”

She said the organization was small when she started and is proud of everyone who stuck by her because they “weren’t paying anybody to be at the table.” People showed up to her organization who wanted to make a big



COURTESY OF SHERRY TESLER

Second from left, Margaret Abe-Koga with Dana Bunnett receiving a Board Supervisors Commendation for years of service at Bunnett’s retirement party.

difference in the county. She said her organization does not lead or make policy, but provides for a cross-sector of different parts of a child’s life, such as education, health care and mentorship. She is excited to see how Joy Murrie-

ta, the current executive director of KIC, flourishes and is confident in her new ideas.

“She brings a different perspective,” she said, “She comes from working with children in the arts, which I think is also

so important for kids. She even knows social media, which I didn’t really do very well. I think that it’s just important to have new people.”

To learn more about KIC, visit kidsincommon.org.

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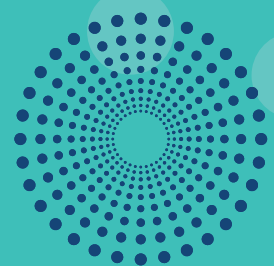
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Sports

Flag football season brings new changes for Los Altos

By Curtis Driscoll
Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

It's a new year for the Los Altos girls flag football team, and between rule tweaks and the addition of CCS playoffs, the changes are being felt all over the field.

Gone is having to start rushing the quarterback seven yards off the line of scrimmage from last season, which added an extra four or five seconds so quarterbacks could pass. Now, defenses are allowed to rush the quarterback just one yard off the line of scrimmage as many times as they want, while the quarterback can run as often as they want instead of being limited to certain downs last year.

"Basically, we are playing a completely different game

than you saw last year," Los Altos head coach Gabe Stewart said.

Blocking is now more of a strategic necessity, although you can't make contact and must beat a rusher to a spot, according to the new rules, with some blockers acting like screeners in basketball. Stewart is now teaching pass blocking, and the rules and interpretations of what is and isn't pass blocking are still being figured out. Last year, the game was on a running clock, while this year has stoppages in between plays.

"The rushing has changed how this game looks compared to last year," Stewart said.

The rule changes were on full display during a non-league game between Los Altos (5-2) and St. Francis



MIA SCOTT/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos quarterback Sabrina Neal runs for yardage during the game Sept. 17 against St. Francis. The Eagles won 7-0.

(2-4-1) Wednesday, when Los Altos quarterback Sabrina Neal ran in the game's only touchdown with 5:23 left in the third quarter in a 7-0 win for Los Altos. Neal finished 10-16 for 89 yards

passing while running 15 times for 114 yards and a touchdown on the ground. While Neal might have typically thrown for hundreds of yards in a game last year due to the time in the pocket,

this year, there is less time to throw the ball. Luckily, Neal is one of the fastest players on the team. In addition to using her speed to steal bases in softball, she has

See FLAG, Page 23

Brothers from Los Altos shine in state triathlons

By Ananya Kota
Town Crier Editorial Intern

While most traditional sports tend to focus on the mastery of one skill or activity, triathletes are required to master many. Their races comprise swimming, biking and running consecutively.

Two brothers from Los Altos have been competing in triathlons since age 4, finding success at the local and state levels. Jack and Owen Dickins have combined to compete in more than 25 triathlons, with more on the horizon.

Owen, 15, placed eighth in the high school division of the California State Championship Triathlon in August at Donner Lake. Jack, 12, finished third in his age division of the same event.

Owen, a sophomore at Homestead High School, said his biggest motivation for competing is his parents – also triathletes – while Jack, a seventh grader at Cupertino Middle School, said he likes the sport's variety.

"I enjoy the different segments of training," Jack said. "(There are) different sports – swimming, biking,



COURTESY OF TAMI DICKINS

Above, Owen Dickins crosses the finish line in the Donner Lake Triathlon. Right, younger brother Jack competes in a triathlon.

running ... you can be very free with them."

The boys' mom, Tami Dickins, has been competing in the sport for more than a decade. A former Team USA triathlete, Tami coaches her sons.

"It's going to hurt, and you've got to learn how to adjust to that," Tami

said. "There's going to be hard days and some races aren't your best day, but just the mental perseverance for sure (helps)."

Despite their training and dedication to triathlons, competitions can still prove to be challenging and unpredictable. Owen planned to compete in last weekend's Santa Cruz Triathlon, which involves swimming in the ocean with a wetsuit before a long bike ride and run.

"My goal right now is to qualify for Team USA and go to the world championships," Owen said. "But to qualify, I'd have to place really well in my upcoming triathlon in Santa Cruz."

After his success at the state championship, Owen qualified for the national in Wisconsin, but the August event was cancelled due to severe weather that resulted in flooding. Tami said Owen will get another opportunity to participate next year.

In the meantime, both boys are expected to train for other triathlons. They start training about six to eight weeks before a competition, according to their mom. Tami builds their training schedule, running Monday



through Friday, incorporating proper nutrition, hydration and sleep to help with school workload balance.

"Scheduling and training is where I come in and where I help and provide guidance," Tami said.

In the future, Owen and Jack said they see themselves continuing to compete in triathlons through at least high school.

"The sky's the limit," Tami said. "Good things ... will come from their adventure and journey in this sport."

Sports

FLAG From Page 22

benefited from the new flag football rule changes and has found ample space to run at the beginning of the season to avoid the increased pass rush.

“Now I really have to use my legs a lot more to get yards,” Neal said.

Stewart noted that the new rules unlock the skill of a running quarterback, because the rushers have to learn how to contain, with gaps and space for quarterbacks if not kept in the pocket.

“She is the catalyst,” Stewart said of Neal. “She is so multidimensional and she has a real grasp of what we are trying to do offensively.”

Los Altos held St. Francis scoreless thanks to timely defensive stops and an in-

terception, along with two sacks each from Lily Whiting and Natalie Stavrakos. Oshea Orozco has eight total tackles for the Eagles to lead the team, while Ruby Gibson had seven. Willow Tock had six tackles and two pass breakups that were nearly interceptions.

League play will begin next week for Los Altos, and there is more at stake this year thanks to the addition of Central Coast Section playoffs awarded to teams based on league finish. After no playoffs in the first season of flag football last year, teams like Los Altos that did well in 2024 are now in the upper division league, the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League De Anza Division. Los Altos, Mountain View, Gunn, Milpitas, Los Gatos and Santa Clara are the six teams in the upper division.

There will be multiple divisions of CCS playoffs, with one based on the best teams in the section in an open division. The other divisions will be based on the enrollment size of schools. Stewart said De Anza will get three automatic bids, with a chance to have more at-large bids.

As Los Altos moves toward its league season, Stewart is looking to Erin Jesensky, an all-league player last season, and Ida Amren to be stalwarts offensively and defensively. Younger players like Chloe D’Amico and Charlotte Wolfe are also expected to be key players for the team this season in its quest to make the playoffs.

“The expectation is if we play the best that we can be, we will always give ourselves a chance to win against any opponent,” Stewart said.



MIA SCOTT/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos’ Charlotte Wolfe dodges St. Francis defenders during the game Sept. 17 against the Lancers. Los Altos starts league play away against Mountain View today.

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

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Bridging tradition and birth at Oxomohco Birth and Body Work

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Abisai Moreno, a Sunnyvale resident, was nervous about the birth of her only daughter three years ago. Though she didn't realize it, she had internalized a belief that she was weak. Doubting her body's strength, she feared the pain of childbirth would overwhelm her – that was until she met Jasmin Olvera-Dena.

Olvera-Dena is the founder of Oxomohco Birth and Body Work, a Los Altos-based maternity resource center rooted in Mexican Indigenous tradition that provides expectant mothers with care that prepares them mentally, physically and spiritually for birth and the weeks following.

Olvera-Dena was able to alleviate Moreno's fears by listening, Moreno said. Moreno, who had some background in mental health, said that many of the conversations she had with Olvera-Dena were similar to those one would have with a therapist.

"Anyone else would have been like, 'Yeah, that's normal,' because you hear (birth is) very

painful. I didn't know that it was very loaded when I said that I'm very scared about how much it's going to hurt and I don't know if I can do it," Moreno said. "And (Olvera-Dena) said, 'Let's talk about that, why do you think that? Tell me more.'"

Olvera-Dena said she initially went to school for business, and while she served as an accountant for a time, she always planned to start her own business. While an accountant, she enrolled in massage therapy classes and decided that being a doula called to her in a special way. While she also provides pregnancy and post-pregnancy massages to clients, she provides the other doula responsibilities. The work of a doula is to guide a pregnant woman and her family through pregnancy, birth and the days after, providing information, resources and support. Since then, she's also started hosting trainings for prospective doulas, especially emphasizing outreach for Spanish-speaking doulas.

Olvera-Dena started as a volunteer doula at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in 2019, and in 2020 she founded



PHOTO COURTESY OF JASMIN OLVERA-DENA

Jasmin Olvera-Dena, founder of Oxomohco, provides a client the rebozo de fajada, or belly binding.

Oxomohco Birth and Body Work. Olvera-Dena's decision to start her own practice was inspired by the women in her family and the care they have for each other, from pregnancy loss to birth. She

said her paternal grandmother even dabbled in midwifery in her Mexican hometown, and Olvera-Dena felt a deep connection to that.

"I learned that my grandmoth-

er had all 12 (of her) children at home, either by herself or with my grandpa, or if somebody else was around, they would help her," Olvera-Dena said. "But she pretty much did it on her own, and she shared with me that after she had her children, she would go check in on the people in her community that were also pregnant, and there were times where they would volunteer her as their midwife. She would have to stay and help them have their babies, even though that wasn't like her plan or her goal."

Unlike other doula and birth practices, Olvera-Dena's approach is heavily influenced by her indigenous Mexican roots. She provides her clients special care related to the latido, or pulse, that many believe is centered in the belly.

"It's believed to be connected to the spirit," she said. "So I'm paying attention to that pulse in the belly and checking in with the clients about how their emotional and mental well-being is doing."

While she doesn't provide mental health services to her

See OXOMOHCO, Page 26

Building core strength: The foundation of physical health and vitality

By Kim Gladfelter

In today's fast-paced world, where sedentary habits clash with physical demands, maintaining a strong core has become a cornerstone of overall health. The core is often misunderstood as "abs," but it is far more integral to daily life. A resilient core enhances performance, prevents injury and safeguards against common ailments like back pain and instability.

Anatomy and composition

The core represents the body's central hub – a network of muscles stabilizing the spine and pelvis. The hips, with their ball-and-socket joints, connect this hub to the lower body and drive efficient movement. The back's erector spinae muscles provide vertical support and alignment for the spine. At the base, the pelvic floor forms a hammock-like structure of muscles that anchors and stabilizes the pelvis. When these areas work together, they distribute

Mindful Movement

force evenly, maintain posture and allow the body to move fluidly whether walking, bending or lifting.

Core functions

The core's role extends well beyond mechanics. It influences posture, breathing and even organ support. The pelvic floor regulates abdominal pressure, enabling continence and sexual function. The back muscles protect the spine from excessive strain and absorb the demands of daily activity. The hips generate power and absorb shock during movement. If these areas are weak or dysfunctional, everyday tasks become inefficient and strain shifts to other muscles and joints. Over time, compensation patterns can create pain, imbalances and injury.

Core strength matters

A strong core improves performance, muscular control and efficiency in movement. Athletes rely on it for stability in complex lifts, while everyday individuals benefit from reduced pain and increased energy. Weakness, on the other hand, creates a chain reaction of problems. Poor posture can lead to neck and shoulder tension. Hip instability may contribute to knee pain or lower back stress. Pelvic floor weakness can cause discomfort, incontinence, or instability during movement. For desk workers, new mothers, or aging adults, neglecting the core often increases risks of sciatica, hernias, chronic back problems, or stress incontinence. In this way, core strength functions like preventive medicine, protecting the body from long-term damage.

Among the muscles of the core, the hips, back and pelvic floor form its most essential pillars. The hips are central to stability, with muscles such as the gluteus

medius and iliopsoas providing balance and generating power for activities like walking, running or lifting. When these muscles are weak, the torso may sway during motion, which contributes to back strain and knee pain. The back plays an equally important role, as strong spinal stabilizers reduce chronic discomfort, improve posture and extend endurance. The pelvic floor is often overlooked, yet it is a critical element, as it supports vital organs while stabilizing the pelvis during activities such as lifting, jumping or impact. Research suggests that a strong pelvic floor not only improves continence and pelvic health but also enhances overall stamina and athletic ability. These three areas are deeply interconnected: weakness in one can overload the others, destabilizing the entire system. Focusing on all three ensures lasting strength and resilience.

See CORE, Page 27

The importance of gender-affirming care

By Susie Driscoll

Gender-affirming care saves lives. This statement (although hotly debated) is grounded in scientific evidence and the experiences of the people most affected by gender-affirming care – transgender and gender nonbinary people.

As a licensed therapist working with transgender clients, multiple people told me they would not be alive right now if they had not received gender-affirming care. This sentiment is backed up by a recent survey, the 2022 US Trans Survey, which collected data capturing the personal experiences of the gender-expansive community. Researchers of the largest survey of transgender people in America, the 2022 US Trans Survey, interviewed 92,329 transgender and non-binary participants from all 50 states and most U.S. territories. The survey

Authentically You

results were published in June, making it recently accessible to the public. As the sociopolitical landscape has changed drastically since 2022, reviewing the findings helps compare periods when gender-affirming care is more accessible to times like now, when there are significantly increased barriers to accessing gender-affirming care.

The 2022 US Trans survey highlights the importance of gender-affirming care. It is not a form of mutilation instigated by parents or healthcare professionals. It is a lifeline for many in the gender-expansive community, across age groups. Over half of the survey participants received some form of medical transition

(like gender-affirming hormone therapy or surgery). Medical transition was reported to be a profound source of life satisfaction, happiness and thriving. For example, 98% of participants on gender-affirming hormone therapy (GAHT) and 97% of participants who had received gender-affirming surgery reported being more satisfied with their lives afterward.

Araceli (one of the participants in the 18 to 24 age range) stated, “Ever since I have been able to medically transition, I have been happier than I have ever been. I can actually look at myself in the mirror and recognize who I am.”

As a licensed therapist working with transgender clients, I’ve heard similar stories about how gender-affirming care increased clients’ quality of life and reduced the distress haunting them daily. Many of my transgender clients want to discuss medically or socially transitioning. Despite what anti-transgender rhetoric might claim, I do not push clients to medically transition. Instead, I provide a safe place for clients to talk about their goals.

One of the concerns voiced about gender-affirming care is that people who medically transition later detransition. In

OXOMOHCO

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clients, Olvera-Dena said that she provides guidance and resources to those that need them.

Moreno said her birth experience – unmedicated at the Redwood City Kaiser Permanente hospital with a Kaiser-provided midwife – was made easier not only by Olvera-Dena’s presence, but her support before, during and after birth. Olvera-Dena’s preparation of and words to Moreno, reminding her to remain calm and keep her breathing low, made the birth a beloved memory for her. After the birth, Moreno said she benefitted from a practice Olvera-Dena provides, the rebozo de fajada, or binding of the belly.

“(Rebozo de fajada) is something that I offer if someone is going through their fertility journey, if somebody has lost a baby – whether by choice or by chance – and also in the postpartum period,” Olvera-Dena said. “So whether they’ve had a vaginal birth or a cesarean, I do postpartum belly bindings in a safe and sustainable way, in addition to connecting to that traditional aspect of like supporting the body, making sure they’re not hurting themselves, but also maintaining the body warm.”

Part of the cuarentena – the 40 days after birth that are observed by many in Latin America – keeping the body warm after birth is

crucial to the healing process that Olvera-Dena provides clients. During the 40 days after birth, she provides services like an herbal body bath, bodywork including the rebozos and full-body wrapping.


Birth – which Olvera-Dena said is a “cold” process – needs to be followed by a period of warmth and restoring warmth. In addition to the wrappings, she makes warm, aromatic foods like Atole and Mexican hot chocolate, that not only warm the body, but the soul.

Moreno said the cuarentena made her feel connected to her ancestors, like her grandma in Oaxaca, Mexico, who were cared for after giving birth the same way Olvera-Dena took care of her. Moreno said she’s more connected to her culture as ever and she’s grateful that the positive experience Olvera-Dena provided.

Moreno noted while she was in Mexico visiting her grandmother, “I felt so much more connected to my heritage and my culture, and just so proud. And my daughter, I feel like it’s spilling over to her, because I only speak Spanish to her and it’s like a little seed that just keeps growing, and it’s just amazing. I’m so thankful that I came across (Olvera-Dena).”

For more information on Oxomohco Birth and Body Work, located at 4546 El Camino Real, ste. 246, visit oxomohco.com.

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Your Health

CORE

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Strengthening the core

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Another option is Stimpod therapy, which uses pulsed radiofrequency stimulation to reset irritated or damaged nerves. By restoring communication between the nervous system and muscles, it reactivates strength in areas such as the hips, pelvic floor and back. This therapy is particularly effective for conditions such as sciatica, offering

long-term relief without the need for surgery or medication.

Physical therapy and occupational therapy remain foundational methods for restoring strength and function. Physical therapy emphasizes targeted exercises, such as pelvic tilts, bridges and resistance-based training, to build stability in the hips, pelvic floor and back. Occupational therapy reinforces these movements by integrating them into daily activities, ensuring that core strength supports real-life function. Both approaches reduce pain, improve neuromuscular control and prevent re-injury.

Finally, Rehab-Based Pilates is a low-impact yet highly effective way to strengthen deep stabilizing muscles. Through controlled, precise movements and mindful breathing, Pilates targets the pelvic floor and spinal stabilizers while improving flexibility and alignment. Adapted for rehabilitation, these exercises help reduce pain, build balance and aid individuals in regaining confidence after an injury.

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

GENDER

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other words, people reverse or halt their gender transition. All survey participants in the 2022 US Trans Survey currently identify as trans or nonbinary, but 9% went back to living as their sex assigned at birth, at least for a period of time. Only 4% of those participants went back to living in their sex assigned at birth because gender transition was not for them, representing only .36% of all participants who medically transitioned. The majority of participants who detransitioned stated doing so because of pressure from their community or loved ones. Approximately 33% started detransitioning due to experiencing too much harassment and discrimination for being transgender.

The 2022 US Trans Survey researchers stated respondents who were verbally harassed, denied equal treatment or service at businesses, government agencies, in public, etc. or were physically attacked had a higher prevalence of considering, planning and attempting suicide.

Coming out as transgender requires a great deal of courage. For those medically transitioning, it also involves in-depth conversations about sensitive topics like reproductive decisions, body anatomy and mental health. Particularly for transgender youth, it requires significant trust building with their families and healthcare providers to have these conversations. Unfortunately for many transgender youth, sensitive information discussed during

medical appointments may be shared with the public without their consent. The U.S. Department of Justice sent subpoenas for private health records from major hospitals and healthcare systems that provide gender-affirming care. The subpoena to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia demanded the name, date of birth, social security number as well as address and parent/guardian information of patients receiving GAHT. By doing this, the Department of Justice violated these patients' rights to confidentiality, a pillar in the medical and mental healthcare fields.

I wonder how safe a teen in this situation would feel about receiving important medical care? How likely might they be to even go to the doctor if they knew their medical information was not private? One could argue that using confidential health information without consent is substantially more invasive than healthcare providers discussing potential risks and benefits of surgery with youth and their families.

The participants in the 2022 Transgender Survey (43% of whom were ages 18-24) chose to share their medical and mental health information. If we truly care for the health and well-being of youth, we need to listen to their perspectives and support their right to privacy. Let the transgender community share what is needed, not policymakers.

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

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Kim Gladfelter
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Stepping Out

Sunnyvale's 'Little Shop of Horrors' bites for attention

By Brandon Roth

Staff Writer/brandonr@latc.com

As the catchy songs and enduring characters in "Little Shop of Horrors" make everyone in the crowd want to get up and dance, there is a malevolent presence on the stage that will keep everyone on the edge of their seat.

In Sunnyvale Community Players' production of the 1982 Broadway play "Little Shop of Horrors," life in Skid Row, New York, is portrayed as unbearable and rough. Residents struggle to pay their rent and express a desire to move uptown away from the slums. Seymour (played by Peter Spoelstra in the afternoon performance and Anthony Eiras in the evening performance) is the main protagonist of the show, who desires to be noticed and escape his impoverished life.

Seymour works at a flower shop alongside the owner Mushnik (played by John Mannion in the afternoon and Steve Shapiro in the evening), and his coworker Audrey (played by Gabrielle Goodman in the afternoon and Katie Lannin in the evening). Mushnik is a hard-working man who has spent decades working at his shop and refuses to move to a new location to attract new customers. Audrey, a love interest of Seymour, struggles with her own personal demons with her controlling boyfriend, Orin (played by Naeem Salameh in the afternoon and Zack Goller in the evening) and working at the flower shop is her only escape.

Seymour's character is initially recognized as the laughingstock character. He is always making mistakes on the stage, either tripping as he enters the room or having a sense of nervousness around women. None of the characters see him as a real man and none of the characters believe he has any sense of how to survive in the real world.

Seymour, to prove his worth to others, introduces his co-workers to a plant named Audrey II, a new type of species similar to a Venus Flytrap. This plant shocks everyone with its

large teeth and mouth and soon becomes an overnight sensation among the community and the media. Seymour is glad of his success, but quickly realizes his good luck charm plant may be his biggest regret yet.

I attended the afternoon or the Feed Me Cast performance and enjoyed each aspect of the characters' flaws. Seymour at first was a character who was good-natured, but his ego to use the plant to elevate him in society was his biggest downfall. Audrey's lack of awareness of how bad her situation was made the audience care for her and Goodman's portrayal of a lack of judgment gave her some innocence. Mushnik as well stood out as moral ground for the characters, who are all figuring themselves out throughout the show. He guides them in their decisions and criticizes when he knows they are being foolish.

The music was what drove the plot along and marked the story in the world of the 1960s doo wop and early rock and roll era. Each song was catchy, lively and upbeat among a plot that is heading to disaster. In songs such as Prologue ("Little Shop of Horrors"), performed by Sydney Reiko Bamberg (Crystal), Milcah Morrison (Chiffon) and Mercedes Dawnte Long (Ronette), gave a good introduction or warning to the events that are going to occur. Other songs, such as "Feed Me (Git It)" performed by Audrey II (John Ramirez), Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal and Ronette, question the morals of Seymour as he decides whether he should compromise his life or listen to the needs of the plant as it grows.

The play clearly asks the audience to beware what is ahead in the play and by the end of the show, one is left wondering what becomes of the rest of the world. These same questions also drive the nature in us as human beings, but right now, threats are silent and lying dormant.

The play will performed at Sunnyvale Theatre at 550 E Remington Drive, Sunnyvale For tickets and more information, visit sunnyvaleplayers.org/tickets.com.



COURTESY OF EVELYN HUYNH

From left, Sydney Bamberg (Crystal), Mercedes Dawnte Long (Ronette), Gabrielle Goodman (Audrey; "Feed Me Cast") and Milcah Morrison (Chiffon) perform.



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Business & Real Estate

Local therapy organization opens second Los Altos location

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Mindful Child and Family Therapy, a provider of mental health services for families, adolescents, children and adults, recently opened its fourth office – this one located near the Mountain View-Los Altos border.

The newest addition, which opened at 4984 El Camino Real, Ste. 208 in July, provides patients with a number of personalized therapy services to best fit their needs. There are three other Mindful Child and Family Therapy offices in Half Moon Bay, San Jose and one on Fremont Avenue in Los Altos.

The organization offers a variety of options for those in the community, from individual therapy across different age ranges to parenting support, family or couples counseling, and women's wellness groups.

The Mountain View-Los Altos location is the largest space the therapy provider offers, with eight offices in suite. The Los Altos and San Jose locations have five offices, respectively, while the Half Moon Bay location offers three, according to Sarah Buller, Mindful Child and Family Therapy director of operations.

The new office will offer trauma-informed therapies including eye movement desensitization and reprocessing and cognitive behavioral therapies and the internal family systems approach, according to a press release. The goal for many of the services is to foster resilience, emotional wellbeing and growth. Services offered there are created to address a number of issues, from anxiety, depression, grief and trauma to behavioral concerns, family conflict and communication skills.

Some of the therapists at the

new location will also be able to help children and adolescents with oppositional-defiant disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, autism spectrum disorder and bereavement, and others specialize in supporting those in the LGBTQ+ community.

"Our expansion into the Mountain View-Los Altos area comes at a critical time, as parents continue to search for high quality mental health support for their children and teens," Jaclyn Long, organization founder and director, stated in a press release. "We are excited to bring our personalized and compassionate services to this vibrant community, where we know our elegant blend of warmth and skillfulness will make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families for years to come."

Long founded Mindful Child and Family Therapy in 2018, four years after she

founded Mind Body Moms in 2014. As it became clear that the mothers supported by Mind Body Moms needed more support, including individual therapy, she decided to open a private therapy service – Mindful Child and Family Therapy – that helped them, their children and families alike.

The new space will also provide education to local therapists and parents.

"The MVLA office has a large conference room where we envision hosting parent education nights focused on positive discipline, hand-in-hand parenting and internal family systems – as well as offering learning opportunities and courses for other therapists in the community interested in learning more about evidence-based practices such as Internal Family Systems (parts work)," Buller stated in an email.

Mindful Child and Family

Therapy is considered out of network for many insurance providers, but Buller noted that "many insurance plans will still cover some portion of the therapy – even for 'out of network' therapists. We provide a superbill, so clients can submit the superbill to their insurance provider to request 'out of network' reimbursement for sessions."

For more on Mindful Child and Family Therapy, visit mcaft.com.

Reach out

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

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Skipping college? A 529 plan still helps

By Artie Green

If you're a parent of a teenager in their sophomore or junior year in high school, you've probably discussed with them your hope that they will be going to college. While it's true that jobs requiring a college degree do tend to pay more than those that don't, not everyone has the wherewithal to become a college graduate.

The good news for those that choose not to attend college: the recent OBBA ("One Big Beautiful Bill Act") legislation passed by Congress and the president has expanded the use of 529 education savings plans to include other forms of education besides college. Money in 529 accounts can now be used to pay for workforce training, for preparation and testing required for certification or licensing and for required continuing education to maintain skills or credentials. That includes funding education for non-college careers such as health care and construction and for jobs such as plumbers and repair technicians. The money can also be used to pay for continuing education in professional fields such as accounting, tax and legal.

If you're not familiar with 529 education savings accounts, they were first created over 30 years ago to help families and students save for their college education. They are state-sponsored and managed by mutual fund companies such as Vanguard or Fidelity. Money deposited in

a 529 account grows tax free and can be withdrawn tax free when used for eligible college expenses such as tuition, room and board, books and some supplies.

With this latest expansion, a 529 plan can be used not only for the above expenses but also for licensing fees and even job-related tools. Certification costs for courses at shorter-term credentialing programs such as Certified Professional Food Manager for food safety experts, Automotive Service Excellence for auto mechanics and Certified Financial Planner for financial planners are also covered. Of course, tax-free payments from 529 plans will only be available to legitimate credentialing programs, namely those that are recognized by your state's Eligible Training Provider List or in the Web Enabled Approval Management System database maintained by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Expanding 529 plan benefits to additional educational opportunities should help increase their appeal. You need to have discretionary income to be able to fund them. Until now it's been mostly higher-income families saving for their offspring's college education. It remains to be seen how broadly other job seekers and/or their families will take them up.

Los Altos resident Artie Green is founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, visit cognizant-wealth.com.

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This 3 bedroom and 2 bath home includes a remodeled primary suite, plus mirrored closets and ample storage; comfort meets style at every turn. Outside, enjoy new landscaped front and back yards with attractive fencing. Added perks include an individual room heating/AC, and a detached 2-car garage with epoxy flooring. Newly painted inside this home is ready to move right in. Unbeatable access to top tech hubs and major commuter routes, this location delivers the ultimate Silicon Valley lifestyle.

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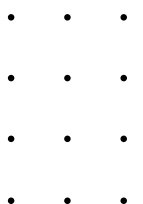
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Glide through a harmonious floorplan featuring high-end finishes, expansive gathering spaces, a chef's kitchen with top-brand appliances, and a walk-out family room, while a temperature-controlled wine cellar, an office, and multiple fireplaces add comfort and functionality. The primary suite encompasses the entire upper level, while three additional bedrooms provide comfort and privacy for family and guests. Outside, an expansive spa deck offers the perfect setting to take in the surroundings, complemented by a new lawn and a screened-in porch for outdoor entertainment and relaxation. Additional features include radiant heated floors and a three-car garage, with access to top-rated schools (buyer to verify).

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Notice to Buyers:

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Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



1271 PETERSEN COURT LOS ALTOS



STYLISH LIVING ON OVER A QUARTER ACRE

Set on a private cul-de-sac, this elegant, modern home rests on more than a quarter acre and blends timeless sophistication with fresh, contemporary design. Great curb appeal begins with a paver driveway, stacked stone accents, and beautifully landscaped grounds, while over 3,000 square feet of refined interior space showcases richly hued engineered wood floors, skylights, and tasteful wall coverings. Bright, inviting areas include a living room with fireplace, a media room with ceiling-mounted projector and screen, a chef's kitchen with a statement Bertazzoni range, and a walk-out family room that connects seamlessly to the backyard. Four bedrooms include a comfortable guest suite and a luxurious primary suite with its own fireplace, and the home also offers a dedicated office, air conditioning, and a 2-car garage. The newly planted lawn, hot tub, and patio create an ideal outdoor retreat, all in a prime location just moments to parks, the Rancho Shopping Center, and Highway 85, with top-rated schools less than a mile away.

OPEN HOUSE
SAT & SUN 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

1271Petersen.com
Listed at \$4,988,000

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850 ARROYO COURT PALO ALTO



CLASSIC CHARM, MODERN COMFORT ON MORE THAN ¼-ACRE

Tucked away on more than a quarter acre of land near the Los Altos border, this classic home pairs timeless curb appeal with thoughtfully refreshed interiors and a wonderfully versatile layout. Refinished hardwood floors, new carpet, and abundant natural light create a warm and inviting atmosphere across two spacious levels. The main living areas are ideal for both relaxing and entertaining, with large formal rooms, two cozy fireplaces, and a granite-appointed kitchen that flows into a casual breakfast area and walk-out family room. Five bedrooms offer flexibility for a variety of needs, including a comfortable primary suite and a privately situated guest suite perfect for visitors or extended family. Outside, a generous deck shaded by mature trees offers a quiet spot to unwind amid lush surroundings. All of this in a prime location just minutes from downtown Los Altos and The Village at San Antonio Center, with top-ranked Fletcher Middle and Gunn High School a short walk away.

OPEN HOUSE
SAT & SUN 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

850Arroyo.com
Listed at \$3,488,000

Notice to Buyers:

Although a good buyer's agent can add significant insight and value, you are not required to use one to purchase a DeLeon listing. If you would like to submit an offer to us directly, please contact the DeLeon Buyer's Team at **650.543.8528** and we will waive 100% of the buyer's-side commission.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team

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Closed Doors May Cost You More

Don't *Trust* a Brokerage That Prioritizes Commission Over Clients

Some brokerages pressure sellers to keep listings hidden from buyers who are not represented by that same brokerage on the buy side. While this "office exclusive" approach can dramatically increase the brokerage's chances of collecting both sides of the commission, it often comes at the seller's expense – reducing exposure, limiting competition, and ultimately lowering the final sales price.

DeLeon Realty welcomes competition from all buyers, irrespective of their choice of agent. And if a buyer isn't represented, Ken DeLeon's Buyer's Team will represent them on our listings – at no cost to either the buyer or the seller. Simply put, we always put our clients' interests first.



For more information, please see the following articles on the DeLeon Realty website:



Court Ruling Fails to Halt Commission Collusion and Price Fixing in Real Estate - *The DeLeon Insight* (May 2025)



Off Market Listings - A Hidden Sale or a Discriminatory Practice? - *The DeLeon Insight* (May 2025)



Agents Push for "Pocket," "Private," or "Exclusive" a.k.a. Hidden Listings - *The DeLeon Insight* (July 2025)

CONTACT US TODAY

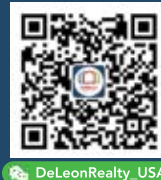
Michael Repka (DRE #01854880) **650.488.7325**
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun (DRE #01933274) **650.785.5822**



Michael Repka | DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | Ken DeLeon | DRE #01342140 | 650.543.8501
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YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty_USA



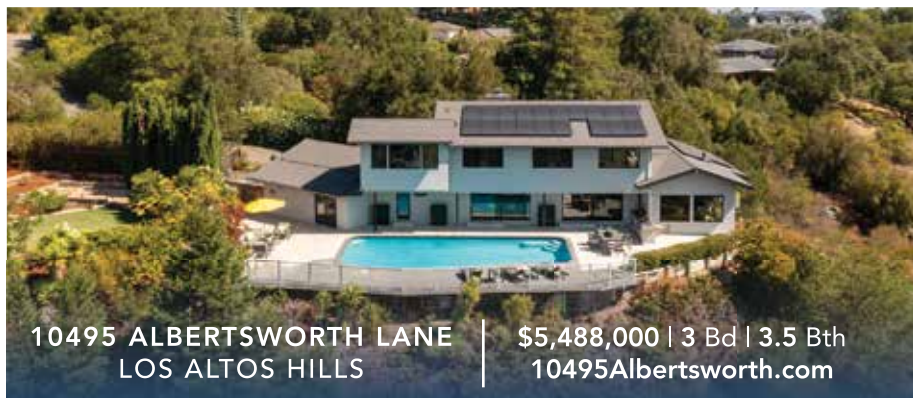
11722 PUTTER WAY
LOS ALTOS | \$2,988,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
11722Putter.com



1271 PETERSEN COURT
LOS ALTOS | \$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
1271Petersen.com



12008 EMERALD HILL LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS | \$7,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
10495Albertsworth.com



10495 ALBERTSWORTH LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS | \$5,488,000 | 3 Bd | 3.5 Bth
10495Albertsworth.com



706 N SAN ANTONIO RD
LOS ALTOS | \$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth
706NSanAntonio.com



23171 MORA GLEN DRIVE
LOS ALTOS | \$7,500,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
23171MoraGlen.com



27500 LA VIDA REAL
LOS ALTOS HILLS | \$39,988,000 | 5 Bd | 12 Bth
27500LaVida.com



240 3RD STREET #301
LOS ALTOS | \$5,988,000 | 2 Bd | 2.5 Bth
240Third.com

Don't Overpay to Sell your Home List with Us for **3% Total commission**

Michael Repka (DRE #01854880) **650.488.7325**
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun (DRE #01933274) **650.785.5822**
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YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty_USA



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



850 ARROYO COURT
PALO ALTO | \$3,488,000 | 5 Bd | 3.5 Bth
850Arroyo.com



5 OAK FOREST COURT
PORTOLA VALLEY | \$5,188,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth
5OakForest.com



1932 EMERSON STREET
PALO ALTO | \$9,988,000 | 6 Bd | 6 Bth
1932EmersonStreet.com



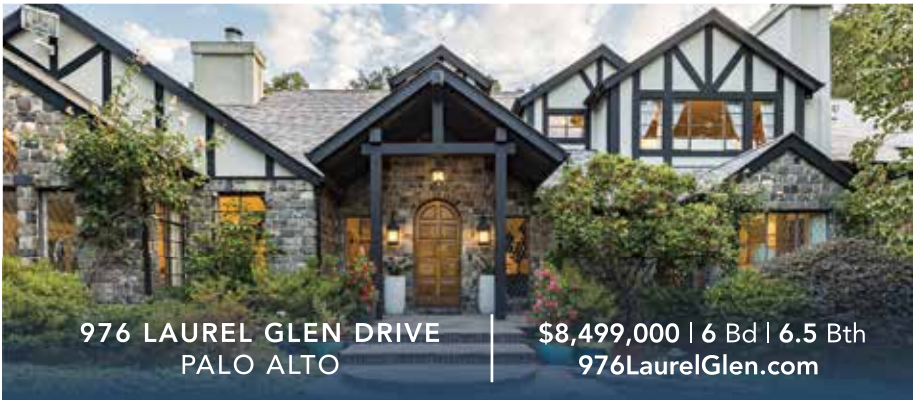
140 FARM ROAD
WOODSIDE | \$9,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
140FarmRd.com



653 WILDWOOD LANE
PALO ALTO | \$5,490,000 | 6 Bd | 4 Bth
653Wildwood.com



779 HOLLY OAK DRIVE
PALO ALTO | \$3,988,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth
779HollyOak.com



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



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Public Notices

SOCIAL THINKING PUBLISHING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719668

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) SOCIAL THINKING PUBLISHING, (2) SOCIAL THINKING, (3) THINK SOCIAL PUBLISHING INC., 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): THINK SOCIAL PUBLISHING INC., 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA 95008. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/11/2006. /S/ Pamela Crooke / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/11/2025. (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

231-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF JOE QUANG ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV475191

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

Proposed Name: a. Joe Kwong

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 12/23/2025 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date : 09 / 16 / 2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

230-T

SOLID DESIGN BUILDERS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719796

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOLID DESIGN BUILDERS, 2147 Newhall Street Apt 217, Santa Clara, CA, 95050, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Ha-

meed Yunesi, 2147 Newhall Street Apt 217, Santa Clara, CA 95050. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/16/2025. /S/ Hameed Yunesi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/16/2025. (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

229-T

NSSRISE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719810

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: NSSRISE, 161 E Portola Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): NSSRISE NEW STAGE SYNERGIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING LLC, 161 E Portola Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/10/2025. /S/ Sivapackia Ganapathiappan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/16/2025. (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

228-T

KDM ENERGY, INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719452

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KDM ENERGY, INC., 43 Del Monte Avenue, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): PAR-MAN & ASSOCIATES, INC., 43 Del Monte Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/03/2025. /S/ Joshua Parman / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/04/2025. (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

227-T

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s) / registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office. LORETZ HOMES, 1335 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA 94024 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 03/04/2021 Under File No. FBN673077 Full Name of Registrant(s): Thomas Michael Loretz, 1335 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA 94024 This business was conducted by: an individual This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Aug. 11, 2025. Margaret Olaiya County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN718711 (09-24-25,10-01,08,15-25)

226-T

7-SEAT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719634

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 7-SEAT, 959 Sladky Avenue, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): 7-SEAT LLC, 959 Sladky Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/20/2025. /S/ Jeff Baher / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/10/2025. (09-17,24-25,10-01,08-25)

225-T

SMART CITY MOBILITY COUNCIL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719588

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) SMART CITY MOBILITY COUNCIL, (2) SCMC, 5532 Milligan Drive, San Jose, CA, 95124, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SMART CITY MOBILITY COUNCIL, LLC, 5532 Milligan Drive, San Jose, CA 95124. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/14/2014. /S/ Paul Frederic Hoekstra / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/09/2025. (09-17,24-25,10-01,08-25)

224-T

PRADERA TREE SERVICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719488

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PRADERA TREE SERVICE, 3228 Coldwater Dr, San Jose, CA, 95148, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Mariela Jimenez Ciriaco, 3228 Coldwater Dr, San Jose, CA 95148. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Mariela Jimenez Ciriaco / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/05/2025. (09-17,24-25,10-01,08-25)

223-T

BRANDCRAFTED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719167

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BRANDCRAFTED, 760 Peach Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jonathan Rios, 760 Peach Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Registrant began transact-

ing business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/21/2025. /S/ Jonathan Rios / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/26/2025. (09-17,24-25,10-01,08-25)

222-T

TEAM OFBJ FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719308

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TEAM OFBJ, 914 Turley Dr, San Jose, CA, 95116, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): OFBJ CONSTRUCTION INC, 914 Turley Dr, San Jose, CA 95116. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/22/2025. /S/ Oscar Carbajal / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/29/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

221-T

LITTLE ECONOMISTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719069

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LITTLE ECONOMISTS, 1525 Gold Street Unit 72, Alviso, CA, 95002, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): ECON FOR KIDS LLC, 1525 Gold Street Unit 72, San Jose, CA 95002. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2025. /S/ Yi Li / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/21/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

220-T

CaliSun Roofing FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719337

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CaliSun Roofing, 3790 El Camino Real #509, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Hajaj Builders Group, 3790 El Camino Real #509, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Michael Hajaj / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/29/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

219-T

ALTOS CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719119

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ALTOS CARE, 10511 Mag-

dalena Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): ALTOS TELEHEALTH, 10511 Magdale-na Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Nara Rajagopalan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/22/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

218-T

BAY AREA JUNK KNIGHT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719133

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BAY AREA JUNK KNIGHT, 5824 Falon Way, San Jose, CA, 95123, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Zachary Glenn Knight, 1058 South 5th St Apt 307, San Jose, CA 95112, Andrew Charles Steinberg, 5824 Falon Way, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Zachary Glenn Knight / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/25/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

217-T

CUPIDLY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719376

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CUPIDLY, 809 Cuesta Dr Ste B PMB 5043, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jonathan Ziyuan Liu, 809 Cuesta Dr Ste B PMB 5043, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/21/2025. /S/ Jonathan Ziyuan Liu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/02/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

216-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: GEORGINE H. ACLY CASE NO. 25PR200429

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of GEORGINE H. ACLY. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BRYAN C. ACLY in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BRYAN C. ACLY 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: 09/25/2025 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 John C. Foster, Esq. 30 Keystone Avenue Morgan Hill, CA 95037 (408) 779-2106 (09-10,17,24-25)

215-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF HAYDEE GUTIERREZ SANTIAGO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV470669

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Haydee Gutierrez Santiago filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Miliano Santiago Garcia

Proposed Name: a. Miliano Gutierrez Santiago

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and

must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING 10/14/2025 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date : 07 / 16 / 2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

214-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF DAVID KNIGHT, SOYOUN PARK ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV473768

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: David Knight, Soyoun Park filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Mi Ah Rose Knight

Proposed Name: a. Miah Rose Knight

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

NOTICE OF HEARING 12/09/2025 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date : 08 / 29 / 2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

213-T

First Choice Business Brokers San Francisco Bay FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719316

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) First Choice Business Brokers San Francisco Bay, (2) First Choice Business Brokers SF Bay, (3) First Choice Business Brokers Silicon Valley, 100 S Murphy Ave Ste 200, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation.

Public Notices

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SF Bay Business Sales inc, 100 S Murphy Ave Ste 200, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/31/2024. /S/ Michelle Koblas / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/28/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

212-T

JR CAR AUDIO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719222

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: JR CAR AUDIO, 1097 S First St, San Jose, CA, 95110, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Agustin Nieves Jaimes, 458 Beth Dr, San Jose, CA 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/07/2024. /S/ Agustin Nieves Jaimes / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/27/2025. (09-10,17,24-25,10-01-25)

211-T

Edenbridge Homes FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN718950

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Edenbridge Homes, 21801 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 204, Cupertino, CA, 95014, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Edenbridge, Inc., P.O. Box 1825, Los Altos, CA 94023. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/23/2004. /S/ Diane M. Downend / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/15/2025. (09-03,10,17,24-25)

210-T

CALI LUNA & COAST FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN718229

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CALI LUNA & COAST, 151 Calderon Ave #135, Mountain View, CA, 94041, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Cristal Dos Santos, 151 Calderon Ave #135, Mountain View, CA 94041. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Cristal Dos Santos / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 07/24/2025. (09-03,10,17,24-25)

209-T

TRACY STONE LEADERSHIP FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN719098

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: TRACY STONE LEADERSHIP, 1030 Varsity Ct., Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Tracy Stone, 1030 Varsity Ct, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2024. /S/ Tracy Stone / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 08/22/2025. (09-03,10,17,24-25)

208-T

\$40

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

Email
legals@latc.com
by 2pm on
Thursday



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 christinac@latc.com and include a contact name, phone number and fee to participate (if applicable).

EVENTS

Los Altos Main Library. All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness**, 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic**, 7 p.m., first Monday of every month; **Bay Area Games Day**, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., third Saturday of every month. Other events: **Meditative Banig Drawing**, 11 a.m. Oct. 3. Join Kenneth Tan, author of "Crescenciana: A Memoir in Words and Illustrations," for an engaging class on drawing banigs – traditional Filipino woven mats. In this beginner-friendly workshop, you'll explore a variety of line patterns inspired by Filipino weaving and tattoo designs. You'll then apply these patterns to create your own distinctive banig illustration. This creative process is not only accessible to all skill levels but also offers a calming, meditative and enjoyable experience. **¡Viva! at the Library Featuring Singer/Songwriter Diana Gameros**, 7 p.m. Oct. 8. This intimate and up-close performance features original songs and melodies that celebrate the cultural richness and vibrancy of Mexico and Latin American countries. Diana Gameros immigrated to the United States as a teenager, has released two albums of original music in both Spanish and English, and has been recognized by NPR's Tiny Desk concert series.

CLUBS/GROUPS

American Association of University Women - Silicon Valley Branch. Open to women (and men) with a college degree who are interested in equity for women and girls. Information: (650) 464-2830, siliconvalley-ca.aauw.net.

Los Altos Hills Club. Historic social club promoting friendship and social contacts among women with a Los Altos Hills mailing address. Activities include luncheons, book groups, bridge and card games. Information: (650) 948-5382, jensensylvia@hotmail.com.

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

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

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

Peninsula Harmony Chorus. A cappella chorus centered in Los Altos. Performs some "doo-wop" numbers from the 50s and 60s, plus show tunes, ballads, pop, folk, world music and holiday music at year end. Rehearsals Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at Los Altos Lutheran Church. Information: peninsulaharmony.org.

OBITUARY NOTICE

PATRICIA "PATTI" ROBISON



April 5, 1944 - July 26, 2025

Patricia "Patti" Robison, a woman who cared about her family and those she knew, passed away peacefully on July 26, 2025, at the age of 81. Her lasting footprint on those that knew her is much larger than the petite size-five shoe she wore.

Born in Woodland, California, Patti Robison, née Johnston, was the eldest of seven siblings and the daughter of an Army colonel. Moving every three years instilled a deep curiosity and appreciation for different cultures. From Japan to Germany, Arizona to California, her parents' growing family moved to finally settle in Mountain View where Patti's life took a beautiful turn. On a blind date in 1965, she met the love of her life, Peter Robison. Their love story blossomed into 57 years of marriage. First living on Lassen Street, then eventually Covington Road, they raised Michael, John, and Victoria in a world where exploring, traveling, and family traditions were paramount.

Patti cast the deciding vote when TWA provided her and Peter the opportunity to take the family abroad on a two-year assignment to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in 1977. Between shopping trips to the souq and traveling with Peter around the Arabian Peninsula, Patti instilled in her children a love of travel and the excitement of experiencing different cultures. After returning to Los Altos, Patti put her efforts into volunteering as a Bellarmine mom and taking over a successful catering business. Her creative abilities landed her a job at Sunset Magazine in their entertainment kitchen, where she met wonderful friends. In one of her most

iconic photographed moments, Patti graced the cover of Sunset Magazine's October 1984 edition.

Never one to stop learning and growing, Patti began her real estate career with Seville Properties in 1988 where she and her business partner, Ursula, ran a successful real estate team for the next 30 years. By Patti's own account, the two "were the very first team ever in real estate!" Often identified as the "gals in the white blouses" in the Los Altos Town Crier, their "roll up their sleeves and work" attitude helped many families to own their first home and raise their families in a community Patti loved deeply. Patti continued to give back to her community when she joined The Rotary Club of Los Altos in 2020. She also served on many committees as a member of the Los Altos Golf and Country Club with Peter. She enjoyed golfing, dancing tango, seeing her friends for book club, traveling, sailing adventures, playing bridge, and celebrating family milestones with her children and extended family.

Patti was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Peter. She is survived by her 6 cherished siblings and their families; her devoted sons, Michael (Stephanie) and John (Deisy); her adored grandchildren, Mateo, Julian, and Marco; her loving sister Victoria, and treasured nieces Kathleen and Mary. Her memory will live on in the countless hearts she touched and lifted.

"Patti Robison" Memorial Service

Will be held at:

St. Simon Catholic Church
Friday, September 26th, 2025

11:00 am

1860 Grant Road, Los Altos CA



**SOLD! MULTIPLE OFFERS
FOR OVER ASKING PRICE!**

Stunning single-level home with 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths for 2,338 +/-sf

Set on a beautiful tree-lined cul-de-sac on an 8,214 +/-sf lot

Bright eat-in granite kitchen, with premium appliances, opens to backyard and family room

Family room with dual-function fireplace, custom built-in cabinetry, and sliding glass door to rear patio

Luxurious primary suite with high ceilings and sliding door to rear yard and walk-in closet with built-ins

Versatile fourth bedroom with built-in cabinetry for a 3-workstation office

State-of-the-art 2-car oversized garage with metallic epoxy floors and retractable TV; wired for EV charger

Esteemed Los Altos schools

Offered at **\$4,398,000**
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**SOLD! MULTIPLE OFFERS
FOR OVER ASKING PRICE!**

Single-level light-filled 4-bed, 2.5-bath home for 2,657 +/- sf of living space

Large lot with 48,292 +/- sf and MFA of 5,731 sf/MDA of 13,134 sf

Hardwood floors in dining room and 3 bedrooms

Spacious kitchen with dining area and adjacent family room with wet bar

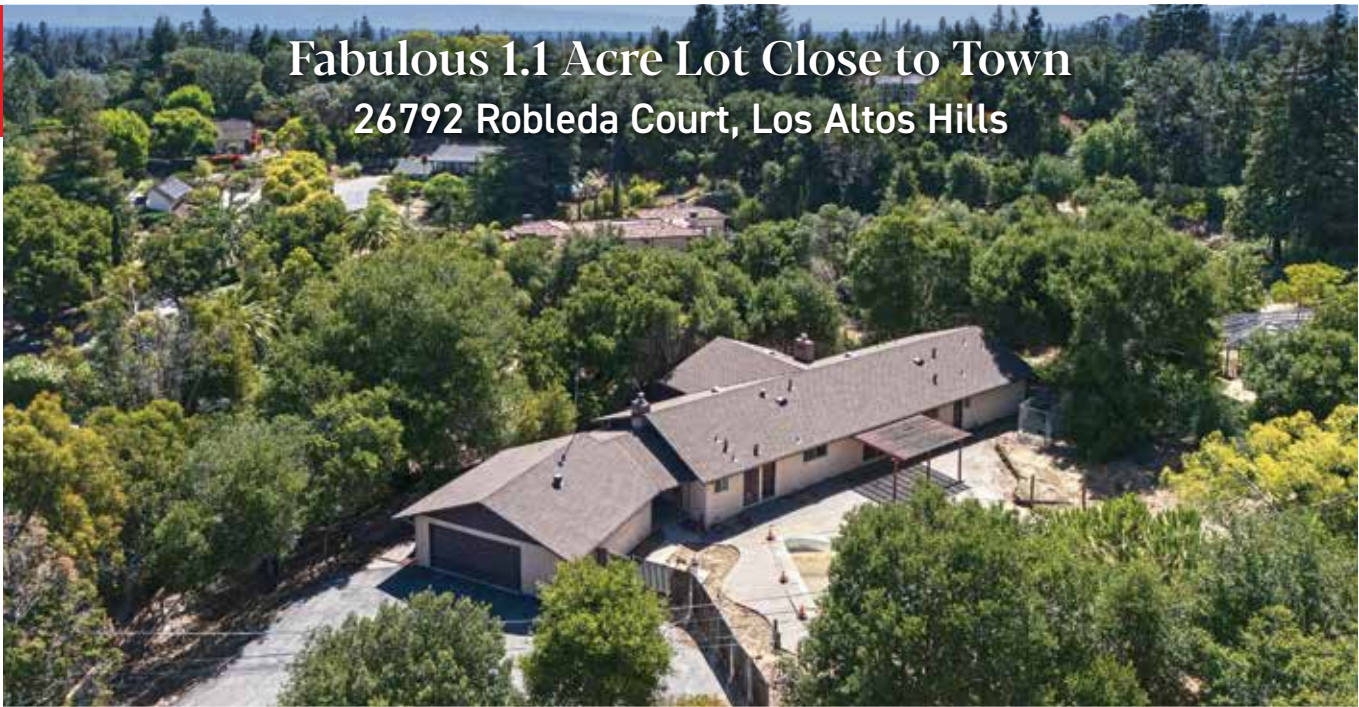
Expansive primary suite with multiple closets and large dressing area

Office/4th bedroom with built-in cabinetry

Detached 2-car garage

Excellent Los Altos schools

Offered at **\$4,488,000**
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Measurements for illustration purposes only.

**JUDY &
CINDY**
BOGARD-TANIGAMI TEAM



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