Los Altos High hosts drive-by graduation

Los Altos High students cheer on vehicles participating in the school’s June 2 graduation car parade. Teachers honored graduating seniors by driving through their neighborhoods.

Los Altos, Mtn. View prepare to close streets for outdoor dining, retail

Car traffic banned on Main & State streets Thursday to Sunday

By Melissa Hartman
Staff Writer/melissa@latc.com

Downtown streets in both Los Altos and Mountain View are going automobile-free beginning this week to make room for outdoor dining and shopping.

The Los Altos and Mountain View city councils voted unanimously at their June 9 meetings to temporarily close their main streets as a way to attract more customers while complying with Santa Clara County’s shelter-in-place restrictions. Los Altos’ program is set to begin Thursday, while Mountain View’s will start the following Monday.

In Los Altos’ pilot program, scheduled Thursday through Sunday, Main and State streets will be closed to cars from First Street to Fourth Street. The council approved the plan on the condition that city staff and business owners would share their opinions on the program’s successes and failures for presentation at the council’s Tuesday meeting.

In Mountain View, Castro Street will close to vehicle traffic between Evelyn Avenue and Mercy Street every day through Sept. 30. Side streets will remain open for car and bus travel across Castro.

Designated areas for curbside pickup for takeout are being explored by both cities.

“City and business leaders, and city staff, reviewed the pros and cons of temporary closures — what’s been dubbed the “slow streets” movement — to allow visitors to practice social distancing and create more space for restaurants to place tables and chairs outside. Although retail stores were permitted to welcome customers once again beginning June 5, the revised shelter-in-place order allows restaurateurs to seat patrons only outdoors.

“This severely reduces restaurants’ capacity and ability to recover financially over the critical summer season,” Mountain View public works staff members wrote in their report for the council’s June 9 meeting.

Staff from both cities studied “slow streets” enacted in Palo Alto and Redwood City among other Bay Area communities.

Los Altos councilwoman apologizes, ‘enraged’ mayor promises reform

Pepper to lead committee studying policing policies

By Melissa Hartman
Staff Writer/melissa@latc.com

Los Altos Mayor Jan Pepper and Councilwoman Jeannie Bruins promised positive change last week in response to a deluge of public comment over the Black Lives Matter movement and Bruins’ controversial May 20 comment that had her fending off charges of racism.

Two weeks after the incident — during which Bruins told black Councilwoman Neysa Fligor that anyone who took her stance on a proposed emergency ordinance was “out of their cotton-picking mind” — Pepper said she, too, was “enraged and engaged” over the deeply rooted racial prejudices that have led to the deaths of George Floyd and others nationwide at the hands of police.

“Racism has no place in this community and will not be tolerated,” Pepper read from a statement. “We must promote and continue to fight for freedom and justice.”

The council received many letters in advance of its June 9 meeting demanding that Bruins be removed from office. City Attorney Jolie Houston confirmed that neither Pepper nor the

See COUNCIL, Page 5

Mixed reaction in Los Altos

Proponents lobbied for blocking off local streets to help revive the economy after most shops and restaurants closed in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Some Los Altos merchants, however, were wary of the idea, citing the retail and personal service businesses whose customers rely on nearby parking and easy access.

See STREETS, Page 4
Join us June 18th, Thursday morning to June 21st, Sunday night for the first Open Streets Los Altos to enjoy outdoor dining and shopping at your Downtown favorites!

MAIN AND STATE STREETS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR SEATING, RETAIL SPACE AND SOCIAWAY-DISTANT STROLLING

New County regulations allow for outdoor seating for restaurants with proper COVID-19 protocols. Tables and chairs will be properly distanced to maintain 6 feet between individuals. Residents will be required to wear a mask when entering businesses and are asked to wear them while enjoying the public spaces.
O
ur coverage of local voices continues at losaltosonline.com — find this week’s print edition in a
shareable format, and also extended commentary. This week:
• Noah Tesfaye talks about growing up black in Los Altos, his reaction to a councilwoman’s racist
comment and the recent Black Lives Matter protest march in his hometown.
• Mountain View Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga and Police Chief Max Bosel write about the work
of the city’s police department in the wake of the killing of George Floyd.
• Los Altos Mayor Jan Pepper writes about a zero-tolerance approach to racism and the city’s
plans to combat it.

Are you a fan of the Town Crier’s Puzzles page? We’d
like to know more about how
and why you enjoy our puzzles — email elizar@latc.com.
Outdoor rec boom spurs unsavory conduct in Los Altos Hills

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

Perhaps they imagined absent signage rendered verboten actions permissible. In any event, those responsible for stealing signs prohibiting bicycles and off-leash dogs around and within Byrne Preserve may soon notice the folly of their thievery; the Los Altos Hills Open Space Committee plans to formally request town staff replace the signs – and add more like them – to all entrances of the bucolic Altamont Road site.

“One thing I had suggested, which is probably impractical, is that they weld a sign onto a metal post,” committee member Sue Welch said during the group’s June 10 meeting. “So they take the post with it?” said member George Clifford, chuckling.

“I know it’s primitive thinking, but I think it might make it more difficult,” Welch replied.

Educating visitors

Ever since the COVID-19 pandemic elevated outdoor recreation as the new great American pastime, Los Altos Hills’ nature preserves and pathways have been inundated with abnormally robust foot traffic. An uptick in the number of vehicles parked illegally along Altamont Road – the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office has issued approximately 15 parking citations in the area since March – suggests the new visitors don’t live in town. Although local residency isn’t required to enjoy the space, following town ordinances related to dog leashing and bike riding is.

“We have people coming from San Francisco to hike in the preserve, and a lot of these people are absolutely ignorant of what a preserve, what that really means,” said Nancy Couperus, associate member of the Open Space Committee.

Sarah Robustelli, the town’s community services supervisor, estimates she’s heard of between 25 and 30 complaints from residents fed up with the recent bad behavior. She confirmed the added activity forced the town to restrict the adjacent Westwind Community Barn parking lot to barn-business only between April 15 and May 30. Sheriff’s deputies also spent most daytime hours between April 18 and April 26 in the preserve, educating visitors about leashing, biking and parking rules and the potential fines that can accompany violations.

“Most of the people who are using the Byrne Preserve are following the rules,” Urena said. “We do have a few people with dogs off-leash, but most people are changing their behavior once we talk to them.”

Couperus witnessed one of the deputies using a megaphone to reach the ears of visitors allowing their canines to frolic freely, including one surprisingly

See BYRNE PRESERVE, Page 7

STREETS

From Page 1

Khatichig Jingirian of Smythe & Cross Fine Jewelry on Main Street wrote a letter signed by 25 other downtown merchants opposed to the closures. He cited financial setbacks in 2011 when Main and State streets were closed for construction.

Parklets in the streets to allow restaurants additional space would serve the area better, Jingirian said.

Restaurant owner Vickie Breslin of The Post disagreed.

“The only way to really give back to businesses is by having open areas where we can all do business,” Breslin said. “Patrons will go somewhere else if we don’t do something now.”

Signs will be posted in downtown Los Altos to alert visitors to the temporary closures, but no barricades will be erected for the trial run. Restaurants will provide any tables and chairs to accommodate outdoor dining, and the city will provide Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant ramps.

If the pilot program goes well, and Main and State streets remain closed through July and August, as suggested by a few members of the council, barricades will be installed.

Mountain View goes all in

There was a more united front at the Mountain View City Council meeting. Mountain View Chamber of Commerce president Peter Katz favored closing Castro to cars, as did residents who wrote letters.

“I am thrilled to see (the proposal), to see Castro closed to car traffic … so the community can more safely gather, socialize and support all local restaurants and businesses,” resident April Webster said. “Everyone will be more likely to go downtown if they don’t have to worry about social distancing on the side-walks, which are already crowded.”

Signs, bollards and barricades located at each end of Castro will alert visitors to the change. The city will provide tables and chairs for shared use in a food-court style layout, as well as garbage and recycling cans, handwashing stations and ADA-compliant portable toilets.

Both Los Altos project head Jim Sandoval and Mountain View counterpart Dawn Cameron acknowledged that some details are still being figured out.

“Some things may not work at first; we may have to switch things up,” Cameron said. “That’s part of what we are asking council to trust staff with.”
Calls to reform, defund police dominate council conversations

By Melissa Hartman
Staff Writer/melissah@latc.com

During last week’s Los Altos and Mountain View city council meetings, the cities’ respective police chiefs shared their plans for reviewing department policies amid national protests against police brutality.

One change promised by both Los Altos Police Chief Andy Galea and Mountain View Police Chief Max Bosel was to immediately discontinue the use of the carotid hold, a chokehold that goes against one of the requests of the “8 Can’t Wait” initiative, a project of Campaign Zero to bring quick change to police departments. Gov. Gavin Newsom last week ordered state law enforcement agencies to discontinue the use of the carotid hold.

No other types of chokeholds, including the one used when Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on George Floyd’s neck for 8 minutes, 46 seconds until he died May 25, are permitted by either the Los Altos or Mountain View police.

“All police policies are being scrutinized, and rightfully so,” Galea said during the Los Altos council’s meeting.

Reallocating resources

Local residents requested revisions to city budgets in addition to police practices, a message city leaders across the country are facing in the movement to defund police. The campaign to defund and divert the financial resources to other social services comes at a time when the Los Altos Police Department needs funds for a study on upgrading its police station and Mountain View officers need new cars and rifles.

A study session on Los Altos’ 2020-2021 budget, which occurred prior to the June 9 council meeting, featured intense dialogue on the role of police officers, with Galea listening in. Residents upset by the lack of racial profiling data provided on the Los Altos Police Department’s website compared with the Mountain View department’s website questioned why the city’s public safety budget was higher than that for community development, recreation and community services, and maintenance services combined.

The “8 Can’t Wait” campaign focuses on three goals: immediate harm reduction, comprehensive community safety and fully defunding the police with the proposal to abolish existing institutions and build a new system that “ends the carceral state.”

In the Town Crier’s coverage area, demands from those residents who weighed in included taking only a portion of the funds allocated to law enforcement and, as Campaign Zero organizers recommend, “reinvesting it into the community.”

Residents who spoke at the meeting suggested withholding part of the requested $5 million patrol services budget and using it to address deeper-seated issues in Los Altos, such as establishing a fund for mental health services and social workers or hiring psychologists trained for handling crises.

“I call on you guys … to have the courage to decrease police funding between 5 and 10% and reallocate those funds to services that support lower-income and black and brown residents,” resident Ashley Cai said.

Because the meeting was a study session, the council did not take action, but Mayor Jan Pepper said an item may be placed on the council’s agenda in the future.

See POLICE, Page 7

COUNCIL

From Page 1

COUNCIL as a whole has the legal power to oust Bruins — an action more than 5,000 people as of June 10 had called for on a Change.org petition.

Residents also have requested that the city enact a series of “8 Can’t Wait” police reforms. Pepper and Fligor committed to studying the reforms as leaders of an ad hoc committee. They plan to collaborate with Los Altos Police Chief Andy Galea, city staff and local residents to ensure that policies and practices “reflect the values of the (Los Altos) community,” Pepper said. The committee will return to the council at its June 23 meeting with specific goals and processes outlined in a resolution.

Accountability

After Pepper read her statement, Bruins offered a public apology for the words she chose. She said she didn’t want to make any excuses.

In an effort to make a “meaningful difference” in supporting the Black Lives Matter movement, Bruins is moving forward by having conversations with residents like Los Altos High School graduate Kenan Moos, who led the peaceful protest through downtown Los Altos June 5.

Bruins said Moos invited her to sit down and have an honest conversation after he called her out at the protest for not coming to the microphone and addressing the crowd.

Moos plans to share with Bruins more about his experiences of being black in Los Altos and put forth solutions for dealing with the inequality in the community.

“We cannot make changes if we cannot see what needs to be changed,” Bruins said of meeting with Moos. “I encourage you to contact me to begin a conversation.”

Moos confirmed his offer to Bruins and explained that knowing the councilwoman is termed-out in November, he would rather spend the last few months of her tenure educating her and her colleagues and trying to effect real change.

He and fellow activists are in the process of researching laws recently passed across the country to improve the lives of blacks in their respective communities.

“Her public statement that she and (Pepper) are committed to work with me to hold them accountable to make changes is what we really want,” Moos said.

We thank these companies and their employees for their commitment to support Los Altos during the Shelter In Place

AQUA CLEANERS: Thanks for keeping us spotless on Zoom!

LOS ALTOS POST OFFICE: Thanks for getting our mail and packages to our houses.

SHEAR THERAPY: Stephanie James thanks for the special packages for our hair! Another Zoom necessity.

TOWN CRIER: Thanks for giving us something to look forward to in Wednesday’s mail!

WALGREEN’S LOS ALTOS: Thanks for making prescription pick up so easy and safe!

We appreciate you being there, helping us look better, feel better and keeping us up to date on local happenings!

The Schneider

Mike and Nancy
Michele and Samantha

June 17, 2020 / Los Altos Town Crier / Page 5
While the COVID-19 crisis has wreaked havoc on health care and the economy, some of its less dire effects have proven a catalyst for Los Altos Hills Community Fiber, a mutual benefit corporation aiming to bring high-speed internet to underserved parts of the town and neighboring communities.

“Not that I would rather have it this way, but we’ve gotten a lot more interest and there’s a lot of people,” said Scott Vanderlip, a Los Altos Hills resident and chairman of the nonprofit. “They have basically said, ‘My internet worked before, but now it doesn’t.’” They’re going crazy basically said, ‘My internet worked before, but now it doesn’t.’ They’re going crazy because it went from working to literally not working.”

Blame bandwidth sucks like video teleconferencing and 4K video streaming, much more frequent pastimes now that shelter-in-place directives have forced so many people to work, school and entertain themselves from home. Amid the lingering frustration, Community Fiber launched a survey last week to glean information about local residents’ most-pressing internet gripes. As of Friday, 41 people had responded.

Although 30 survey respondents (73.2%) indicated wired, broadband service is “super important” to them, 18 (43.9%) said their level of service has dropped significantly since the COVID-19 outbreak. Twenty-three respondents (56.1%) use Comcast as their primary provider. AT&T is the second-most popular provider, used by six respondents (14.6%). When asked whether they are interested in joining Community Fiber, 30 people (75%) indicated they are, with 11 (27.5%) among them expressing willingness to become “champions” to inform their neighbors of the possibility.

Sharing the cost

Vanderlip and other Hills residents formed Community Fiber last year as a solution to their own struggles trying to convince telecom giants like Comcast and AT&T to expand and improve service despite the town’s low population density and hilly terrain, both of which provide them with little incentive to do so. Comcast quoted Vanderlip $170,000 to connect his own home five years ago. Service availability is “literally house-to-house,” he said. “One house may have it and the next house doesn’t, and then they have these astronomical install fees.”

Through its contract internet provider Next Level Networks of Sunnyvale, Community Fiber aims to offer 10-gigabit upload and download speeds for a fraction of what AT&T and Comcast charge by dividing the cost of installing fiber infrastructure among subscribers; the more subscribers who sign up, the less installation costs each one. If, for example, Next Level Networks determines installation for a particular Los Altos Hills street will run $50,000 and five residents are interested in participating, each would pay $10,000. Later, if their neighbors join, each neighbor’s contribution would help reimburse the early adopters. Everyone pays a monthly membership fee between $60 and $140.

“The cost of doing this will be distributed over years, but increasing the number of people who want to participate, it will essentially rebate the people who came first,” said Dr. Gautam Agrawal of the Olive Tree Lane neighborhood. “As a Comcast business-class customer with a backup AT&T DSL line, Agrawal doesn’t experience the latency issues many of his neighbors do, but he’s excited about Community Fiber’s promise of faster speeds at less cost and has become a champion for the initiative. His home, located 900 feet up a hill, provides him with enough line of sight to facilitate a wireless connection from his roof to Next Level Networks. He could then provide a wired fiber connection to his neighbors.

Similar setups are possible for other neighborhoods too, Agrawal said. “It can be done very inexpensively if we want to, as long as we as a community or a group or a sub-group decide, hey, let’s share our resources, share our expertise and share our knowledge and get it done,” he said. “We don’t have to rely on a third party to do it, and we can provide it faster, better and cheaper than what that third-party could do. That’s the goal.”

While not everyone who has taken Community Fiber’s survey so far agrees 10-gigabit speeds are crucial for remote work, many admit more bandwidth would certainly make some tasks more manageable.

“With my current internet, I can’t reliably do a zoom conf. call,” one respondent wrote. “It’s pretty embarrassing considering we’re in the center of Silicon Valley and can’t get a decent internet connection.”

Another respondent imagined increased bandwidth might improve their personal life. “My son and daughter would probably visit me more often,” the respondent wrote.

Survey highlights COVID-era internet woes, offers nonprofit’s solution

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

Thank You!!!!

These past 3 months, THE POST quickly changed from indoor dining to takeout and delivery meals. We—as well as other local restaurants like Aldo’s, Amanda’s, Asia, Ceterella, Chef Chat, Morsey’s, Pompeii, Rick’s, Rustic House, State of Mind, Sumo, and Tres Monti, to mention just a few—tweaked our menus, developed innovative meals, expanded our social media presence, and survived. (Believe me, moving to all takeout is nothing like preparing just a few takeout orders a night!!!!!) YOUR extraordinary support has been amazing; YOU have made it possible for us to hang on, and we THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts. Now, we are excited to announce the return of outdoor dining with a twist!

Main and State Streets will be closed from Thursday, June 18, through Sunday, June 21.
We invite you to return to downtown &

STRUT, STROLL, ‘n’ DINE!

Put on your best hat and come support your favorite business in Los Altos! Stroll Main and State to visit your favorite shops & dine outside on the delicious offerings of our fabulous eateries.

“We have all missed each other dearly, so get gussied up and support your community.”

We hope we can join other Bay Area Cities such as Mountain View and Palo Alto (California Avenue) in making outdoor and open air dining, as well as leisurely shopping, a part of your summer fun.

THANK YOU for sticking with us during this difficult time and WELCOME BACK!!!!

Victoria Breslin and the entire staff of The Post, Los Altos.

*Of course, to make this safe and comfortable for all, please wear a mask. The open streets will make social distancing easy!
Planning commissioner, cited in 2018 for Tesla DUI, resigns after absences

By Melissa Hartman
Staff Writer/melissah@latc.com

A lleric Samek has resigned from his job as a member of the Los Altos Planning Commission.

Samek sent a letter of resignation to the Los Altos City Council last week, according to an email from community development director Jon Biggs sent June 9.

Samek wrote that his resignation, effective immediately, is due to the “severe impact” the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the hospitality industry; he is co-founder of Proper Hospitality.

Proper Hospitality’s LinkedIn page reports that the company designs, brands and operates “high-end lifestyle hospitality experiences” under the Proper, Avalon and June names. The hotels are scattered throughout California, from San Francisco to Palm Springs, and one is located in Austin, Texas. Samek and his team were scheduled to open a hotel in downtown Los Angeles this summer.

“I have been dealing with the immediate repercussions of this crisis on my business and, as the country begins to reopen, I must now focus on and prioritize the reopening of our hotels and other real estate projects across the country, enabling opportunities for our colleagues to return to work,” Samek wrote.

History of absences

Although Samek cited his professional life as the reason for his exit from the Planning Commission, he has missed several meetings since his high-profile DUI 18 months ago.

CHP officers found Samek asleep in the driver’s seat of his Tesla on southbound Highway 101 near Whipple Avenue in Palo Alto at approximately 3:37 a.m. Nov. 30, 2018, according to their report. Samek, traveling at approximately 70 mph with his Model S’s autopilot programming engaged, failed to respond to the CHP’s warning lights and sirens. Three officers surrounded his Tesla and used the car’s technology to safely stop it in the third lane. It’s alleged that an officer rapped on Samek’s window to wake him.

Samek refused a breathalyzer test after being escorted to a nearby gas station, and he submitted to a blood test only after the CHP secured a warrant. He was booked into the San Mateo County Jail and posted $15,000 bail a few hours later. He pleaded not guilty to two related misdemeanor charges and is scheduled to appear in court July 2 to hear the status of his appeal filed late last year. Samek’s charges were enhanced due to his refusal to take the breathalyzer test.

In 2018, several local residents called for Samek’s removal—the most public of the pleas made by a resident at a council meeting in the weeks following his arrest. Then-city spokeswoman Erica Ray said it was “up to council’s discretion” whether to keep or remove Samek as a member of the Planning Commission. The council did not act at that time.
Letters to the Editor

Group offers support for street closures

We fully support the Los Altos City Council’s June 9 decision regarding street closures to experiment with ways to support downtown restaurants and retail and personal service businesses and the community as a whole.

Los Altos Property Owners Downtown believes a key to having a successful downtown Los Altos has always been striving to increase “feet on the street,” which serves all the downtown businesses. Obviously, the COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders have necessarily severely limited public health reasons “feet on the street,” causing great damage to most if not all businesses in our community.

Now that shelter-in-place orders are being revised to allow businesses to increase activities, we believe this pilot project is a good first step toward fully balancing the interests of various members of the community, including residents and restaurant and retail/personal service businesses.

We understand the city will be flexible in advancing this pilot project and encourage city leaders to seek input from and close-listen to all those involved to learn what works and what could work better so necessary adjustments can be rapidly made.

This pandemic is an existential threat to many people and businesses in our community, and to downtown Los Altos itself.

We fully support the council’s decision to quickly advance this pilot project and to guide it through necessary iterations to enable our residents and businesses to do the best they can to get through this crisis.

Kim Cranston
Chairman
Los Altos Property Owners Downtown

Pepper appears to have ‘strong bias’

My wife is a passionate cook, so we replaced the original electric stove with a gas range. Los Altos city staff and Mayor Jan Pepper are pushing reach-code revisions to ban natural gas ranges for new homes and likely for remodeled ones and barbecues, with zero public transparency. Purchasing a new home could cause us to lose our cooking joys, simply because three council members concluded natural-gas items would harmfully damage our environment, regardless of what citizens believe.

We live under enormous environmental damage otherwise, from cars, trucks, construction, garbage, etc., but local government leaves cures for such damage alone. Staff and the council’s attempts to rush reach code/natural gas ban change codes has arisen during the COVID-19 pandemic, which is causing huge negative impact for communicating among city staff and council members, and high cost increases; also, it’s frustrating for citizens.

Continuing to consider reach-code changes should be delayed for at least a year, hopefully after COVID-19. We supported Mayor Pepper previously, and voted for her twice. She was elected to support us citizens. City surveys have shown that the vast majority of residents are opposed to the city mandating our energy use.

I’m surprised and disturbed that Mayor Pepper is not recusing herself from voting on reach codes that would ban new natural-gas installations. These codes were written by her employer, Peninsula Clean Energy. As the CEO of Peninsula Clean Energy, whose No. 1 goal is to “secure sufficient, low-cost, clean sources of electricity,” and a board member of CAL Community Choice Aggregation, a model that allows communities to join together to purchase electricity, Pepper seems to have a strong bias.

Thus, in the spirit of the Brown Act, and to avoid any appearance of prejudgment, I strongly encourage her to recuse herself from voting on these reach codes.

Al Rooney
Los Altos

Residents: Face reality of climate change

Just to be clear, the proposed reach codes only apply to new construction in Los Altos. That said, California has goals for carbon-neutral construction. No more gas appliances is on the horizon.

We live in an area and a state that overwhelmingly support action to combat climate change. And yet, when faced with the reality of how change actually translates to everyday life, some people will only go kicking and screaming into the future.

Change is not easy. But as a human race got ourselves in this climate mess by doing what is convenient and self-serving at the expense of the environment. The argument that gas ranges are more efficient is no longer true. But some people love cooking with gas. I get it. But some people like their wood stoves, too, and plastic bags from the grocery store. It took leadership to transition the public away from these negative environmental elements.

We, as citizens of the world, need to face the reality that if we are going to effect change, the change starts in each of us, in our own homes, and in our own town.

Tami Mulcahy
Los Altos

Financial challenge to LAH ‘disingenuous’

As a 30-year resident of Los Altos Hills (and a resident of Los Altos for six years before that), I was surprised and somewhat offended by your editorial in the June 3 edition (“They don’t care about small businesses”) in which you asserted that the Los Altos Town Council “showed its disdain and lack of concern for small business in Los Altos” by declining to match Los Altos’ $250,000 grant to the Los Altos Small Business Relief Fund, though the Hills council did approve a small grant.

Los Altos is to be commended for its generous grant to the relief fund, but its request that Los Altos Hills match that grant dollar-for-dollar makes no sense and, at worst, was simply disingenuous. To begin with, the population and revenue budget of Los Altos Hills are both roughly 25% of Los Altos’. So a matching grant would have effectively cost a Los Altos Hills resident four times as much as it cost a resident of Los Altos.

Secondly, as pointed out by one of the Hills council members, while many Los Altos residents have second homes in the Hills, the reverse is not true.

Tiff Martin
Los Altos

Los Altos History Museum congratulates Class of 2020

The Los Altos History Museum congratulates the Class of 2020 by sharing this photo of a graduating class from 1915—eighth-grade students graduating from Los Altos Grammar School.
Comment

The message is clear: Racism will no longer be tolerated

By Jan Pepper

Note: Following is Los Altos Mayor Jan Pepper’s statement read at the June 9 council meeting in the wake of the local Black Lives Matter protests.

The last couple weeks have been a tumultuous time in our country and in our community. It highlights how very far we still have to go to fight racism in this country. I want to make it clear that I firmly support Black Lives Matter. I am engaged. And I am enraged.

There is systemic racism toward the black community in this country. I honor the memories of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Trayvon Martin, and the too many others who have been killed or harmed by the racism that persists in this country and continues to divide our society. Growing up as a child of the ‘60s, we thought we were making progress. As the Rev. Martin Luther King said in December of 1967, “There can be no justice without peace and there can be no peace without justice.” There still is not justice, there still is not peace. Rampant racism still exists.

The color of our skin should not matter – we are all humans – we share a common humanity and a desire to live a meaningful life. We are born into this world as equals, with no say as to who our parents are or what color skin we have. None of this should matter – we should all have the same opportunities to make the best of our lives. But unfortunately, that is still not the reality in this country. Black citizens are not treated the same as others, and that is wrong. The peaceful protest march that was held in Los Altos (June 12) made it clear that thousands of us here in Los Altos agree: Black Lives Matter. Racism has no place in this community and will not be tolerated. We must promote and continue to fight for freedom and justice. This also applies to how the police treat people. Just the other day, I witnessed a moment. This applies to the words we use in expressing ourselves. There is no place for racist speech, particularly among our elected officials, and this will not be tolerated in Los Altos.

I have received hundreds of emails from residents regarding the inappropriate words that have a racist history recently used by council member Jeannie Bruins at one of our council meetings in May. I do not condone such language. Hundreds of residents have further demanded that I, as the mayor, take action to remove Ms. Bruins from office.

State election law does not provide for the mayor to remove any council member, nor for the council as a whole to remove any council member. I checked with our city attorney and she said, “There is no process and/or action the city council can take to remove an elected official.”

The brutal police killing of George Floyd and so many other black citizens is wrong and unjust. We cannot sit idly by when this kind of action continues to take place across our country. We have received hundreds of emails from residents and others urging Los Altos to adopt the “8 Can’t Wait” policies and to defund the Los Altos Police Department.

Tonight I propose that Vice Mayor Neya Fligor and I form an ad hoc committee to work diligently with Los Altos Police Chief Andy Galea, members of our community, and other city staff to ensure that our training, policies and practices reflect the values of our community. I propose that this subcommittee be in line with the call issued by President Barack Obama to mayors and other city council officials to introduce common-sense limits on police use of force. The My Brother’s Keeper Alliance is calling on mayors to commit to the following actions:

1. Review your police use of force policies.
2. Engage your communities by including a diverse range of input, experiences and stories in your review.
3. Report the findings of your review to your community and seek feedback.
4. Reform your community’s police use of force policies.

The vice mayor and I will be coming back to the council at our next meeting on June 23 with a specific agenda item and a resolution outlining the goals and processes of this subcommittee’s work. I hope that the council will fully support this proposal so that we can quickly get to work. This can start the process without delay.

As your mayor, I will do all that I can to promote justice in Los Altos – to fight for equality, to respect each other’s humanity, and particularly to recognize that Black Lives Matter.

LETTERS

From Page 8

Hills residents view Los Altos as their principal shopping district, many others do as much or more of their shopping in Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale or Cupertino.

And, perhaps most significantly, sales-tax revenues from Los Altos’ small businesses (the prospective recipients of grants from the relief fund) benefit Los Altos – not Los Altos Hills.

In short, the Los Altos Hills City Council did not deserve your attack for failing to respond to Los Altos’ irrational financial challenge, one which a Hills council member referred to as just “too big an ask.”

Dennis Sullivan
Los Altos Hills

LAH council members: You can do better

It was saddened to read last week that the Los Altos Hills City Council had denied a request to match the Los Altos City Council’s donation of $250,000 into a new fund to support small businesses in the city of Los Altos.

Clearly many of these businesses have suffered greatly during the extended period they have been shut down for the greater good of our community, during this once-in-a-lifetime global pandemic. Many are in desperate need of financial support. Many will not survive.

To then read the June 10 letter to the editor from the mayor of Los Altos Hills in which she defends the city council’s unanimous choice to not significantly contribute to the small-business support fund, saying “Los Altos Hills is a community of strong, successful individuals” and that they love dining out and buying things in the small businesses in Los Altos but the “gift” was “simply too large for them to consider,” well, that greatly disturbed me in its self-centered-ness and lack of compassion toward those struggling during this period of economic freefall.

There are many kind and generous people in the town of Los Altos Hills, but I do not think their city council is representing them. I would ask Los Altos Hills residents to please stop and consider what your city council is saying in this time of great tragedy and great need. Is this who you want representing you?

Words matter; actions matter. Please, as a community, think hard about how you want to be viewed by your neighbors and insist that your representatives support that.

A $5,000 donation to assist struggling local businesses from the fifth-richest city in the United States is an embarrassment. You can do better, Los Altos Hills.

Julia Martino
Los Altos

Contrary to audit, fire district spends wisely

I was reading the recently published audit report on the Los Altos Hills County Fire District, and a few little things did not make sense to me.

All the members of the fire district board are appointed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, and they serve at the county board’s pleasure. The fire district board submits a budget to the county board every year, which is reviewed and approved unanimously by the county. The checks for all the expenses are reflected in the budget and written by the county.

This is the picture of a tightly controlled fire district board, not the picture of an out-of-control board as pictured in the audit.

When I consider some of the ongoing expenses that were criticized in the audit, I wonder if the local history was considered. Take the Liddicoat Lane fire of 1985, where 10 Los Altos Hills homes were burned to the ground in just a few hours. The fuel reduction program has as a goal to never have another Liddicoat Lane.

Another example was the collapse of a 1-million-gallon water tank during the 1989 earthquake. The work with the water districts to update and upgrade the water facilities was to ensure that even in an emergency there would always be sufficient water to fight a fire.

The money spent by the fire district is our tax money, collected locally and spent locally. The Los Altos Hills Fire District with the review of the County Board of Supervisors is spending our tax dollars wisely for our district’s fire protection. Tax money collected here should be spent here, not elsewhere in the county.

John Harpootlian
Los Altos Hills

LA resident voices for Sorensen, project

I am a 34-year resident of Los Altos. I’ve been active in this community that whole time, having raised three sons, been through the Los Altos School District school system, along with many extracurricular events and all it entails. In those years of experience, I have met Jerry Sorensen many times. Especially out on the Little League baseball fields, where he too was active as a parent and supporter.

I have always found Jerry Sorensen to be a positive person, usually with a smile on his face. And while I don’t know his brother, I am convinced they would not pursue their development at 40 Main St. if it were not for the benefit of this community.

Sure, it will potentially benefit them as the property owners, but the developer always must bear huge risks (seen and unseen) in pursuing any project. Most importantly, though, if not them, then it would be somebody else pursuing a similar development. No need to vilify these guys.

Development happens in every city. Every city in the nine-county Bay Area has evolved in the past number of years. It is inevitable that things will change.

Greater density is needed, and with greater density comes greater inclusivity, I support these guys and hope that their project will come to be accepted as a good and valuable addition to downtown Los Altos.

Roger Strom
Los Altos

June 17, 2020 / Los Altos Town Crier / Page 9
History Museum plans reopening strategy

As Santa Clara County amends its shelter-in-place order, a task force for the Los Altos History Museum is planning ways to safely reopen its indoor galleries and gift shop.

For now, the museum remains closed to the public, with the exception of the outdoor courtyard and agricultural exhibit. Visitors may stroll through the garden courtyard and learn about the history of local agriculture as they browse the outdoor exhibit, which includes a historical tank house, apricot drying shed and walnut huller.

Museum officials request that visitors follow county guidelines regarding social distancing, and refrain from touching exhibit equipment.

Parking is limited due to construction work as the city of Los Altos builds its new community center and a pathway between the center and the library.

Shoppers may now purchase gifts from the Museum Store online at losaltoshistory.org/shop. Volunteers will deliver merchandise free of charge within a 5-mile radius of the museum. Anyone living beyond the delivery zone must pay postage to have packages mailed to their residence.

For the foreseeable future, the museum will offer any programs online via Zoom. The current exhibition, “In the Fields of the North/En los Campos del Norte,” is available to view on the museum’s website through Aug. 2. The exhibition highlights the social reality of contemporary migrant farm workers, told through black-and-white photographs by David Bacon and accompanied by narrative text.

“We can’t wait to welcome the public back to the museum, and we are working hard to make sure that when we do reopen our doors, we do so in a way that keeps staff, volunteers and visitors safe,” said Amy Elison, exhibition curator and chairwoman of the Reopening Task Force Committee.

The Los Altos History Museum is located at 51 S. San Antonio Road.

For more information on upcoming programs and exhibitions, follow the museum on social media, call 948-9427, email hello@losaltoshistory.org or visit losaltoshistory.org.

City of LOS ALTOS
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
June 23, 2020 - 7:00 P.M. Virtual

Please Note: Per California Executive Order N-29-20, the City Council will meet via teleconference only. Members of the public may join the Council meeting at https://webinar.ringcentral.com/j/1497092546. Members of the public may also call 1-650-242-4929 (Meeting ID: 149-709-2546) to listen to the City Council meeting. Please note that members of the public who call in using the telephone number will not be able to provide public comments. Members of the public who wish to provide public comments will need to join the meeting using the above link. Those wishing to comment on an agenda item are asked to text their name and which item they wish to speak on to 650-823-6911 to better organize the public comment period. An opportunity will be provided to those who do not text to speak on each item. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at council@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

CONSENT CALENDAR
1. Council Minutes: Approve the minutes of the June 9, 2020 Study Session and June 9, 2020 Regular Meeting (A. Chelemengos)
2. Youth Commission Appointments: Appoint individuals to serve on the Youth Commission as recommended by the Council Youth Commission Interview Committee (A. Chelemengos)

PUBLIC HEARING
3. Resolution No. 2020-23: New preschool at 1860 Grant Road. Hold Public Hearing and adopt Resolution No. 2020-23 to approve a conditional use permit modification, variance and design review for 1860 Grant Road for a new, one-story preschool addition to the existing school building for a new multi-use classroom. (S. Golden)

DISCUSSION ITEMS
4. Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating Budget and Fiscal Year 2020-24 Capital Improvement Plan: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-26 adopting FY 2020-21 Operating Budget, adopt Resolution No. 2020-27 adopting the FY 2020-24 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program; adopt Resolution No. 2020-28 establishing the 2020-23 Transient Occupancy Tax; adopt Resolution No. 2020-29 establishing the FY 2020/21 Utility Users Tax; adopt Resolution No. 2019-30 establishing the FY 2020-21 Appropriations Limit; and adopt Resolution No. 2020-31 approving adjustments to the compensation ranges and the benefit package for the confidential employee group and approving the salary schedule for employees for FY 2020-21 (S. Eteman, C. Jordan)
6. Emergency Measures for Addressing COVID-19 and Discussion of Mandatory Face Coverings; Receive an update from the City Manager regarding emergency measures, discuss the mandatory face coverings order, and approve an order requiring members of the public to wear face coverings (C. Jordan)
7. Resolution No. 2020-25: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-25 forming a Council Subcommittee and a Citizens Task Force to review and make recommendations regarding the Los Altos Police Department’s policies and procedures (C. Jordan)
8. Legislative Update: Discuss pending legislation and provide direction (C. Jordan)

Agendas, Reports and associated documents for City Council items may be viewed at losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/meetings
Local music makers transition to online classes

By Alisha Parikh
Staff Writer/alishap@latc.com

As small businesses navigate the fluid shelter-in-place orders, Music For Families transformed its highly interactive in-person classes to a comprehensive online course.

A music and movement program for children under age 5 and their parents, Music For Families previously offered classes at Los Altos Lutheran Church and Opus 1 Music Studio in Mountain View.

Kristine Dunn, director of Music For Families, said she suspended in-person classes at the onset of the pandemic, as they were held in large groups in community spaces. She brainstormed potential online business avenues with colleagues and fellow teachers, while tracking shelter-in-place updates via the Santa Clara County website.

She also looked for guidance from fellow music programs in the area as she grappled with the unprecedented situation.

"I like to joke that I made eight different business plans in that time," Dunn said.

In the interim, Dunn and fellow Music For Families teachers recorded and uploaded short lessons to the organization's website to ease the transition to online classes.

"I spent about three weeks thinking, 'OK, how do we still provide value?' Because the reality is we could be doing this for a year," Dunn said.

Music Together, the parent company of Music For Families, rapidly rolled out research and data to optimize online music education. With that research in mind, Dunn introduced a combination of live, 20-minute online classes and short pre-recorded lessons; in-person classes usually ran 45 minutes. The combination allows for maximum attention and greater flexibility for both parents and teachers, while remaining true to Music Together’s vision of deepening participants’ knowledge of music, Dunn explained.

One of the challenges of online classes is ensuring that families have the necessary props and instruments, usually provided in class, to engage with the music. Many teachers are uploading tutorials to guide parents on creative ways to make instruments such as shakers and drums from household items.

Mountain View residents Shaomei Wu and Ben Lickly have attended Music Together classes with their three children for more than four years. Even with the classes offered online, Wu said her kids still get a lot out of the program.

"I think moving classes to at-home is even better in a way," she said. "It makes it even easier to bring music into the home when it’s at home."

In the last virtual class Wu attended with her kids, the teacher introduced drums, using spoons for drumsticks and Tupperware for the drum set. Since the class, Wu said she hears her 3-year-old, Archer, banging on his makeshift drum set throughout the day.

Wu and Lickly noted they were surprised that the attention to detail and the community atmosphere they cherish from the in-person-classes transferred to the online setting as well.

"It’s like nothing is different. Teachers still respond to what
See MUSIC, Page 12
In debuting the online program, Dunn instituted some changes to the class routine, including adding a show-and-tell time to ensure that the authenticity and community atmosphere of the program also were palpable in the online classes.

Drew Wanderman, a longtime teacher at Music For Families, acknowledged that there have been some minor technical challenges, like learning to optimize Zoom for a class of 15 families.

“One hard part is that I have to mute everybody – because of the way the lag time works, it’s impossible to sing all together, so you miss that group-making ability,” she said.

Despite the difficulties, Wanderman said she can see her students mouthing the lyrics and floating their scarves to visually represent the rhythm.

“The idea is they’re watching me and seeing me and hopefully they’re doing what I’m doing, especially the grown-ups ... and they can see everyone else on the screen doing it, too,” she said. “It’s still a group activity and they seem to really enjoy it.”

**Parent participation**

A core pillar of the program relies on parent participation to model music making skills for their young children. Teachers usually wait until the third week of class to emphasize the importance of the parental role.

“We’ve had to tell the parents a lot more, up front, ‘By the way, this isn’t about putting your child in front of the screen – you are the music makers,’” Dunn said.

Most parents, especially ones in the program previously, are receptive to the idea.

The real benefit of the Music Together program is providing parents and kids with the tools to make music at home, achieved in both the in-person and online classes, Wanderman said.

The flexibility of the online program offers Dunn the opportunity to slowly reintroduce in-person classes in the future, allowing families to choose either option, depending on their comfort level.

“We are just in the beginning stages, but if we can continue providing value, we will continue fulfilling a need, which is the goal,” she said.

For more information, visit music4families.yourvirtuoso.com.

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**Summer Reading Program goes virtual at libraries**

Special to the Town Crier

The Santa Clara County Library District’s Summer Reading Program, “Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover,” is underway and registration is open.

The free program, which runs through July 31, encourages readers of all ages to dig below the surface, investigate the unknown and discover new things.

Drews of online events, ranging from family-friendly activities to adult classes, are planned over the next two months. All events and programs will be held virtually amid the pandemic.

Children’s librarians will host special events 3 p.m. every weekday on Facebook Live, including book clubs on Mondays, live performances and shows on Wednesdays and STEAM events on Thursdays. July will feature virtual concerts for children, with performers such as Latin Grammy winners 123 Andrés.

Teens events will include an Open Mic Night today, College Application Help Thursday, Virtual Teen Trivia and craft activities. For adults, librarians have scheduled Virtual Film Clubs, live master gardener presentations on plant-based eating, and more.

Summer Reading Program participants can earn a prize for reading five books and completing discovery and investigative activities.

See LIBRARY, Page 13
**Community**

**Schola Cantorum showcases ‘Poetry to Music’ work on video**

Special to the Town Crier

Mountain View High School student Sophia Smith won Schola Cantorum’s “Poetry to Music” contest for her entry “Gilded Land.”

The Mountain View-based community chorus invited Santa Clara County high school students to submit poems suitable for setting to music on the theme “The Natural Beauty of California.”

Schola Cantorum received 45 poems from 42 students who attend 10 local high schools. Two community judges helped select 10 finalists, and three earned cash prizes.

Smith’s “Gilded Land” proved to be the best suited for translating into a choral work for a large, four-voice choir and piano, according to Schola Cantorum representatives.

Smith said she was “blessed” to view California’s natural beauty from a very young age. “Writing about the places that have shaped who I am was a total joy,” she added. That joy, along with her adept imagery, inspired composer Eric Tuan to complete “Gilded Land” in just three days.

Schola Cantorum sponsors its “Poetry to Music” as part of its mission to “connect the community with the wonders of choral music through outstanding live performances, educational outreach programs and collaborations with local artists.”

“We view our ‘Poetry to Music’ program as an opportunity to forge artistic relationships with local students and schools, breathe life into the aspirations of local composers and budding poets, and foster the creation of significant art,” a Schola Cantorum rep said.

Schola Cantorum presented the world premiere of “Gilded Land” at its “Into the West” concert at the beginning of March. In the course of rehearsing and performing the piece, the group decided to add visual accompaniment and made a video.

“We hope that it will provide a ray of sunshine during this difficult time, and long after,” said Sharon Newton, chairwoman of the “Poetry to Music” contest committee.

To view the video, visit tinyurl.com/y97en2kk.

**Museum asks residents to share pandemic stories**

Town Crier Report

To document the impact of COVID-19 on the community, the Los Altos History Museum seeks stories, photos, diary entries and other materials from residents of Santa Clara County. The material and online submissions will be archived for the museum’s permanent collection and preserved for future historians, researchers and visitors.

“We want to hear how you and your loved ones are experiencing this extraordinary event. How has it disrupted your lives? How are you getting through it? How have everyday routines changed in your household?” said Amy Ellison, exhibition curator. “Our grandkids and great-grandkids will wonder what life was like during this pandemic.”

The Los Altos History Museum has in its collection more than 8,000 photographs; 6,000 artifacts; many cubic feet of archival material including newspapers, deeds, maps and documents; and more than 200 oral histories of local residents. “Documenting history in the making is one of the responsibilities of museums,” Ellison said. “Collecting and preserving stories about COVID-19 is our way of honoring the people in our community and helping to facilitate healing, while also providing valuable insights to future generations.”

The deadline to submit to the collection is open-ended, as museum officials want to allow time for residents to process their thoughts.

For updates on the project, follow the museum on social media or sign up for its e-newsletter at losaltoshistory.org.

To contribute, visit losaltos-history.org/sharecovid-19stories.

**LIBRARY**

From Page 12

To register and for more information, visit sccl.beanstack.org/reader365.

Curbside service

The library district will begin offering curbside service later this month, including contactless holds pickup and material returns at all district libraries. For further updates, monitor the district’s website at sccl.org and on social media (@SCCLD). Patrons are asked not to return items until curbside service commences.

The district is temporarily expanding eCard registration to all residents, enabling free access to eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines and digital newspapers, streaming movies and music, and dozens of online resources for students, job seekers and people of all ages. Video tutorials can help patrons navigate the resources.
The Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Explores Supporting Expansion of Pacheco Reservoir in Southern Santa Clara County.

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is currently developing one of our biggest projects in decades, the proposed expansion of Pacheco Reservoir, located 60 miles southeast of San Jose. The proposed project would increase Pacheco’s capacity from 5,500 up to 140,000 acre-feet—enough water for up to 1.4 million people for one year in an emergency. The project could reduce the frequency and severity of water shortages during droughts, protect our drinking water supply and infrastructure, and improve habitat for fish.

Valley Water is exploring the opportunity to include this important project under an updated and enhanced Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, which was overwhelmingly approved by 74% of voters in 2012.

Currently, projects funded by the program ensure our drinking water is safe and reliable, while protecting our water quality by reducing toxins and contaminants in our waterways. In addition to efforts that repair and replace our aging dams, these projects protect residents and businesses from flooding and sea level rise. Including the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion as a potential program update would contribute to ensuring that our county also has a secure water supply for the future.

What matters most to you?

We know our community is contending with new challenges such as emergencies, natural disasters, climate change, population growth, and uncertain imported water supplies. We are seeking your input as we explore potentially updating and enhancing the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program to meet Santa Clara County’s current and future needs.

Take our two-minute survey at www.SafeCleanWater.org and let us know what matters most to you!

Los Altos resident Shalini Gupta, customer advocate for AnewVista Community Services, reported that her nonprofit last month arranged for delivery of 400 meals to underserved students and families in the Upward Scholars program. “Our students work so hard, balancing so many responsibilities to pursue their goals. During these unprecedented times with so many losing jobs and wages, even access to food is a real challenge,” said Linda Prieto, executive director of Upward Scholars. “Our partnership with AnewVista and the drive-thru meal program helps provide a little bit of relief.”

Participants also included Redwood City’s Veterans Memorial Senior Center, Sancho’s Taqueria and Blue Rock BBQ, pictured above.

BRIEFS
From Page 10

for all ages.

The prompt: Use any choice of two-dimensional medium, including paint, pastels, crayons or watercolors, to depict a favorite place at Hidden Villa, the Los Altos Hills farm and nature preserve.

Prizes will be awarded to winners in three age groups: 9 and under, 10-17 and 18 and over.

The first-place winner in each age group may choose from Hidden Villa olive oil, a floral bouquet or strawberries.

Second- and third-place winners will each receive three-day passes.

To enter the contest, email a photo or scan the artwork with the title, artist’s name and age to lhedgecock@hiddenvilla.org by Sunday. Include a photo of the artist holding the artwork, as it may be featured on social media.

Second- and third-place winners will each receive three-day passes.

To enter the contest, email a photo or scan the artwork with the title, artist’s name and age to lhedgecock@hiddenvilla.org by Sunday. Include a photo of the artist holding the artwork, as it may be featured on social media.

For more information, visit hiddenvilla.org/programs/catalog/362-hidden-villa-art-contest/region-HV.

Shoreline Lake begins partial reopening

Boathouse operations at Shoreline Lake in Mountain View have restarted on a limited basis, including watersports-based summer camps for children.

Per the latest revised Santa Clara County shelter-in-place order, the easing of restrictions on supervised child care formalized the reopening, giving housebound kids the opportunity to participate in outdoor activities, parents a compliant and safe child care option and Shoreline Lake the means to get people back to work.

Shoreline Lake is accepting registrations for all summer camp programs. However, according to the order, the number of campers per program group is limited to 12, with each group assigned staff.

For more information, visit shorelinelake.com.
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[Image: Woman with tools]

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St. Francis grapples with racist online posts

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/wzoem@latc.com

Parents and students at St. Francis High School are calling on administrators to take action to combat racial injustice on campus in the wake of racist online posts connected to St. Francis students and recent graduates.

In early June, administrators discovered a racist Instagram post mocking George Floyd’s death that school officials say was connected with recent graduates.

A Change.org petition demanding discipline for the students involved includes a screenshot of a post, which appears See RACISM, Page 19

MVLA approves new bell schedule

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/wzoem@latc.com

Local high schools have a new bell schedule, but its implementation is uncertain as the coronavirus pandemic upends the school day.

“That’s the million-dollar question right there,” board president Sanjay Dave said. “What schedule are we going to have for the fall?”

The Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with the teacher’s union June 8, which includes the new bell schedule. The deal also calls for teachers to receive a one-time 2% lump sum payment, but no ongoing salary increase as the district faces financial uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

Under the new bell schedule, school would start at 8:40 a.m., a half hour later than before. See UNION, Page 21

Summer camps are open – with restrictions

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/wzoem@latc.com

After months of being stuck indoors and completing schoolwork online, kids are now able to attend summer camps in person. However, that camp experience looks different than it has in years past.

Santa Clara County’s most recent public health order allows summer camps to operate but places requirements on the safety precautions they must take. Among them, campers have to be in “stable groups” of 12 or fewer, they can’t move between camps more often than every three weeks, and shared equipment must be sanitized between each group of kids.

“Camp is about connecting with other kids, and we want to try to make it as normal as possible, while trying to be safe,” said Vaibhavi Gala, founder of Camp Imagination, which has a location at Covington School.

During the month of June, Imagination is running an online option and then opening an in-person camp at Covington in July. Staff will be checking every child’s temperature daily when they are dropped off and then monitoring for symptoms throughout the day. Each classroom will have no more than 12 students and within each class Galas is planning to have pods of three to five kids, who eat and play together, socially distanced from anyone else.

“We have to be on our toes and really be flexible in terms of what we’re doing,” Gala said. “We’re doing our best to keep up to date with what the county is sending and with what other camps are experiencing.”

Other camps also have been adapting their operations. DesignX, which will be operating camps at Egan Junior High School, is capping classes at 10 students and designating lunch and play areas for each group.

“We are putting a lot of safety procedures in place so that we can have a fun experience for the kids,” founder Durga Kalavagunta said.

The YMCA is running camps this summer, but they are all being held on YMCA property, with no field trips or bus travel. That has given staff more control over the environment, said Daniel Koba, executive director of youth development.

Social distancing is required and staff are also adapting games so campers don’t have to touch.

“There’s going to be a lot of things that are going to be adjustments for kids,” Koba said.

“Some of their favorite things might look a little bit different.” See CAMPS, Page 20

Mountain View High School welcomes new principal

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/wzoem@latc.com

Mountain View High School students will have a new principal when classes start up in the fall.

The Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously Monday to appoint Michael Jimenez as Mountain View High’s new principal.

“I appreciate the opportunity to be able to work with the staff, the students, the parents and the community at Mountain View High School,” Jimenez said at the board meeting.

He currently serves as the assistant superintendent overseeing high schools in the Mount Diablo Unified School District. That’s the same district Superintendent Nellie Meyer came from. He has 30 years of experience in education, including over 20 as an administrator.

He will replace Dave Grisom, who is taking a job as commissioner of the California Interscholastic Federation’s Central Coast Section.

To read a longer profile of Jimenez, check out next week’s Town Crier.

LASD and BCS agree to extend current facilities deal

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/wzoem@latc.com

The charter school’s board voted unanimously June 8 to approve the extension. The school district’s board had previously approved it at a May 26 meeting.

The facilities agreement, which had been set to expire June 30, 2021, will now run through June 30, 2023. Under the terms of the deal, the charter school will remain split between Egan Junior High School and Blach Intermediate School, with an enrollment cap of 1,111 students remaining in place.

The district’s board originally proposed extending the current facilities agreement in April, because the pandemic and resulting school closures made it harder for the two sides to reach a longer-term solution.

“It would be foolhardy at best to be trying to make plans for the next 15 years in the middle of a pandemic,” Board President Daniel Greiner said. See FACILITIES, Page 21

Summer camps are open – with restrictions
RACISM
From Page 18

to use the N-word, partially covered by an emoji, to refer to Floyd. The petition has garnered more than 7,800 signatures as of the Town Crier’s Monday press deadline.

The Instagram account has since been taken down and St. Francis has launched a disciplinary investigation. In the course of that investigation, additional posts connected with St. Francis students were found, president Jason Curtis said in an email statement.

Last week, dozens of parents, students and local residents marched from the school to the corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real to protest racism at St. Francis and demand action taken against the students who made the offensive posts.

St. Francis parent Alicia Labana organized the protest and said in an interview that administrators need to take swift steps to correct racial inequities at the school, including disciplining the students and updating curriculum to directly tackle racism.

“There’s got to be some serious consequences, and I’m talking expulsion,” Labana said. “I don’t want my daughter going to a school with a bunch of racists.”

Curtis said the school’s leadership team has learned of “overt acts of racism and misogyny that transpired within our community,” which are in “complete contradiction of our Holy Cross mission and values.” However, he declined to release details about the posts, the results of the disciplinary investigation or the punishments for the students involved.

“Due to issues of confidentiality, we are unable to share details of a disciplinary investigation or outcome,” Curtis said in an emailed statement. “We have issued extremely serious consequences, and will continue to investigate if other incidents are brought to our attention.”

Labana said that at the very least, she wants to know what the repercussions generally are for students who make these types of posts. However, she said that when she has asked administrators, they haven’t been able to say.

Beyond the Instagram post mocking Floyd, Labana said she has also seen other racist posts by members of the St. Francis community, including one of students in black face. When Labana saw them, she emailed administrators wanting to know how the school will be responding.

“I was upset, I was disappointed in the school,” she said. “All my admiration for the school went out the window, I’ll be honest with you.”

Since moving to the Bay Area from New York several years ago, Labana said she has personally experienced racism locally, including being called the N-word and told to go back to her country.

“I don’t want my kids to be experiencing what I’ve experienced,” she said. “I can handle it, I can take care of that. But my children shouldn’t have to be in an environment where they’re not safe, where they’re not welcomed or where they’re not nurtured. It’s simple.”

‘Now is the time’

The school held a listening session over Zoom last week, where Labana said parents shared negative experiences with the school. She said she’s also heard from alumni that there have been racist incidents in the past, without sufficient response from the administration.

“Unfortunately, we cannot change past incidents or actions, but we can demonstrate our commitment to equity, anti-racism, and inclusion,” Curtis said. “We are working hard to ensure these types of behaviors do not occur on our campus in the future, and we are grateful for the partnership of our faculty and staff, students, parents, and alumni in this important work.”

School officials announced they would audit the curriculum in all subjects and hold teachers accountable for implementing an anti-bias curriculum. St. Francis also will add an ethnic studies graduation requirement for incoming students, to be rolled out in the fall of 2021.

Labana said that after speaking with Curtis, she is hopeful changes will be made but plans to hold administrators accountable for following through. She added that parents also have an obligation to teach their children about the importance of racial equality from a young age.

“You have to speak up for what’s right,” Labana said. “You have to stop racial injustice, it’s just not acceptable. Now is the time.”

Dozens of parents, students and local residents marched from St. Francis High School to the corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real to protest racist online posts connected to St. Francis students and recent graduates.
**GRADS**

From Page 19

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**Menlo School**

Jackson Gray Aldrich
Brandon Lee Aprill

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**CAMS**

From Page 18

Athena Camps, an all-girls camp with a location at Coyote Run, is similarly adapting activities to maintain social distance, founder Aby Ryan said. That includes using Hula-Hoops, chalk lines and carpet squares to indicate for campers how far apart they should be.

Camp staff are also modifying any activities that would typically require touching, playing games like shadow tag, where kids step on each other’s shadow. It has been relatively easy to keep each group of 12 separated, but maintaining distance within the groups has been more challenging, Ryan said. The camp is explaining social distancing to kids with the idea of “helicopter space,” meaning that campers should be far enough apart that if they each stand with their arms out and spin, they don’t touch one another.

“I’m super excited to have camps,” Ryan said. “It’s definitely been a challenge to make it work with the new guidelines and make sure that we’re keeping everybody safe.”

**Interpreting rules**

One particular challenge has been adapting to the requirement that children not move between programs more often than every three weeks, Ryan said. When that rule came down, Ryan said parents had lots of questions about just what was required.

“That caused a lot of confusion for parents and a lot of extra work for people like me,” Ryan said.

The county’s guidance states that camps should maintain enrollment and attendance records and should verify compliance “to the extent feasible.”

Athena Camps maintains those records, Ryan said, but can’t track the other camps a child may have attended. Instead, the camp is alerting parents to the requirement, who then need to manage their own schedule.

Gala similarly said that while she is doing her best to explain the rule, the ball is in parents’ courts to ensure they are following the requirement. As the nuances of the county’s order are worked out, Gala said she is happy that she’s waiting until July for in-person camp to begin.

“This is why we waited until July, to learn from people’s experiences,” she said.

As some programs have opened in-person, others have decided that they can’t run on-site camps this summer. Among them is Hidden Villa, a longtime staple of the Los Altos camps scene. In mid-May, Hidden Villa announced that in-person summer camp was canceled for the year. Camp staff are now working to roll out remote options.

According to Marc Sidel, Hidden Villa’s senior director of programs, camp is core to Hidden Villa’s legacy and identity, and the decision to cancel camp for the summer was difficult.

“It was painful. It was a really painful decision to make,” Sidel said. “I think we’re still a little bit in mourning from it.”

Hidden Villa’s camps weren’t designed such that they could be adapted to the county’s requirements, Sidel said. Among other things, campers only do single sessions, making the restriction on switching between camps difficult.

The camps are also “residential” in nature, with a mixture of day and overnight camps. Camp staff live on-site throughout the summer. The activities themselves are also often in confined spaces, such as animal pens, with many high-touch surfaces.

“Ultimately we decided that regardless of the onsite camp model, we weren’t confident we could operate a viable camp within a pandemic environment,” Sidel said.

In lieu of the traditional camp experience, Hidden Villa camp director Brenda Jones said that staff are planning at-home activities for campers. The focus will be on hands-on activities that don’t require the use of screens and are flexible.

“That is the feedback we got from our parents, that a lot of kids are burnt out on screen time and are really looking for different connections with nature,” Jones said.

Ultimately, Sidel said families have been largely sympathetic and shared in the sadness that Hidden Villa staff are experiencing.

“Currently, we plan to be back next summer and stronger than ever,” he said. “We just have a little more time for planning.”
Amid uncertainty, LASD passes ‘placeholder’ budget

By Zoe Morgan
Staff Writer/zoom@laltc.com

T he Los Altos School District has approved a budget for next school year, but the coronavirus pandemic means that much is still subject to change.

The district is waiting for the state to finalize its budget, to receive more information about if and how schools will be allowed to reopen in the fall, and to learn what property tax revenue will ultimately bring.

“The uncertainty, Kenyon said, comes from the board’s lack of control and the people they serve. “More than anything else, we’re trying to do what’s best for our students.”

In the coming months, Kenyon said, the district will hold budget workshops with teachers to ensure they receive a fair share.

In the meantime, the district has set aside $100,000 for new technology and $100,000 more is set aside for cleaning costs.

The district also plans to increase reserves in preparation for potential future recessions.

In the spring, the districts reserves are set to remain roughly flat, dropping slightly from 7.96% to 7.92%.

Before the pandemic hit, Kenyon said the board had been looking to increase reserves in preparation for a potential future recession. That’s more difficult now, Kenyon said, but in the fall the district may look for ways to trim spending and increase savings.

The sooner cuts are made, the better off the district will ultimately be, Kenyon said. At the same time, he added that it isn’t yet clear what the long-term impact of the pandemic will be.

“The longer the pandemic goes on, the deeper and the wider the potential economic impact could be.”

— Randy Kenyon

UNION
From Page 18

Four days of the week will also now be block days, with half the classes meeting each day for longer, 85-minute periods.

The district has been working in earnest since last fall to create a bell schedule that pushes back the classes meeting each day.

Four days of the week will also resume discussions in the fall. That’s been put on an agreement by the end of the tie plan and hoping to reach facilities, La Poll said.

… that it would be nice to have and the charter school to focus on able, allowing both the district district’s suggestion was reason-

La Poll said at the time that the district was engaged in a public outreach process, gathering feedback on a long-term facilities plan and hoping to reach an agreement by the end of the school year. That’s been put on hold for now, though Johnson has said he hopes to be able to resume discussions in the fall.

Schools

Pandemic precautions

In next year’s budget, the district has set aside money to address some likely pandemic-related costs. Roughly $300,000 extra is included in the technology budget to accommodate remote learning, about $50,000 is added to the food service budget to provide more meals with free meals and approximately $100,000 more is set aside for cleaning costs.

According to Kenyon, the true cost may end up being higher, but potential state or federal reimbursements also haven’t yet been factored into the budget.

Enrollment is expected to continue to drop next year, from 3,996 to 3,929 students. That drop will correspond to five fewer teachers, reduced through attrition rather than layoffs.

The budget doesn’t include any salary increases, beyond the automatic raises teachers receive for the length of their employment.

The district’s reserves are set to remain roughly flat, dropping slightly from 7.96% to 7.92%.

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The sooner cuts are made, the better off the district will ultimately be, Kenyon said. At the same time, he added that it isn’t yet clear what the long-term impact of the pandemic will be.

“There’s a lot of unknowns, a lot of uncertainty,” he said.

“That’s why we’re going to be adjusting the budget a couple of months from now.”

The Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District approved its budget at a Monday meeting. For details, check online and see next week’s paper.

FACILITIES
From Page 18

of this situation,” district board president Bryan Johnson said in an interview last month after the 5% 2020

2020 Summer Writing Camps

Every summer, Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton open their doors and offer their innovative programs in a camp-like setting to outside students who want to share in the summer learning adventures.

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Creative Writing — concentrates on a variety of literary forms (stories, plays, poems), literary descriptions, authentic self expression, and writing mechanics.

Emerson: 7/13-7/17; Hacienda: 7/27-7/31

Presentation Skills — (“Posters and PowerPoints” this year) develops students’ public speaking skills in creating communications using a variety of tools.

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All courses are directed by the distinguished faculty of Emerson School and Hacienda School. Breaks are taken for snacks, lunch, physical exercise, and social interaction. Parents are welcome at afternoon presentations.

June 17, 2020 / Los Altos Town Crier / Page 21
Perfectionism pays off for St. Francis swimmer

Nicole Oliva’s success as a swimmer – she ranks among the best to ever represent St. Francis High – is not just about talent. It also has to do with her mindset.

“T’ve grown up being a perfectionist,” said Oliva, who graduated with honors last month and is headed to UC Berkeley. “My life is more balanced now, but developing those habits early on have paid off.”

The coronavirus pandemic has altered her habits even more, of course. She hasn’t even dipped a toe in the pool since mid-March. That’s a long time for a high-caliber swimmer like Oliva, who has not only excelled at the high school and club levels, but is also a member of the Philippines national team.

“I started swimming competitively at 7, and this is the first time I’ve taken more than two weeks off since then,” she said. “It will take a couple weeks to get a feel for the water again.”

Despite being stuck on dry land, Oliva has continued to train for her sport.

“I’m not in bad shape at all,” she said. “My (club) coach gives us workouts three times a week.” Those workouts include aerobics for conditioning and exercises to strengthen her core and improve power.

“I also do extra ab work,” she added.

Hard work rewarded

Oliva isn’t one to take shortcuts. And her devotion to swimming – which includes more than a decade of nearly year-round, early-morning practices – has paid off. She leaves St. Francis as one of the most decorated swimmers in school history.

A three-time individual Central Coast Section champion, Oliva advanced to the state finals her freshman, sophomore and junior years (this season’s meet was canceled because of the pandemic).

“On paper, CCS was the highlight (of my high school career), and that pool was my home pool for a while,” she said of the Santa Clara International Swim Center. “But as far as personal connections and having fun, it’s states. The travel experience is so much fun and it feels like summer.”

The St. Francis relay teams she swam on at state, held annually at the Clovis Olympic Swim Complex, placed in the top three each year. Her 400-yard freestyle relay team set the school record at last year’s state meet with a second-place time of 3 minutes, 22.31 seconds. Oliva’s

See SWIMMER, Page 23

High school boosters’ run/walk raises more than $3,000 for CSA

The MVLA Strong virtual 5K walk/run – organized by the sports boosters at Los Altos and Mountain View high schools – has raised more than $3,000 for Community Services Agency.

“From my view the MVLA Strong virtual 5K was a raging success,” race director Kjersti Nelson said. “In less than two weeks, we put together a fantastic community event that helped build community pride, school spirit and do something worthwhile for CSA.”

Participants had the option of running, walking or even biking the 5 kilometers June 5, 6 or 7 in an area of their choosing. The only rule: follow the county’s social-distancing guidelines.

Nelson said that of the 262 people who registered for the event – for a fee of only $5 – 128 of them submitted their results. Among those, Andrew Black ran the fastest time, finishing the 5K in 20 minutes, 20 seconds. Ellie Montgomery placed second (20:37) and Evan Markelz took third (20:55).

Initiated by Mountain View High, the event raised $3,265 in total, according to Nelson. Organizers said that every cent went to CSA, which helps those in need in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. Race registration fees brought in $1,135; the additional $2,130 came from direct donations.

As for the friendly competition component – the rival high schools vied with one another to raise the most money – Mountain View won in a landslide. The 72 participants who joined Team MVHS at registration produced $1,840 (including donations), according to Nelson, and the 20 who identified as Team LAHHS brought in $250. While Los Altos High School Sports Boosters co-president Angela Player said that “any funds raised for CSA make for a successful event,” more prep time could have resulted in even more money.

“We could have been much more successful if we had more time to get the word out there,” she said.

See RUN, Page 23

Sports on the Side

MV Sports Boosters award scholarships

Salia Khuntia and Francisco (Javier) Hernandez III are this year’s winners of the Mountain View High School Sports Boosters Scholarships. Khuntia and Hernandez, who both graduated earlier this month, will each receive $1,500 to help pay for their continuing-education expenses in the next school year.

Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High and Mountain View High seek head coaches for the upcoming school year. Los Altos needs coaches for varsity girls basketball and wrestling, both winter sports, and cheer/rally, which runs fall through winter. To apply and for more information, contact athletic director Michelle Neth at 960-8857 or michelle.neth@mvla.net. Mountain View High seeks a coach for girls golf, a fall sport. To apply and for more information, contact athletic director Shelley Smith at 940-4600, ext. 1421, or shelley.smith@mvla.net.

NFHS provides free officiating classes

With so many people home due to the coronavirus pandemic, the National Federation of State High School Associations has made its officiating courses available online for free through July 1. Current high school officials and those interested in joining the officiating ranks are welcome to access the 11 courses at nfhslearn.com. Courses include basketball, football, soccer, swimming and diving, volleyball, wrestling and softball, in addition to a general course titled Interscholastic Officiating. Multiple courses are offered in basketball, soccer and volleyball. Those interested in becoming an official after taking a course may visit HighSchoolOfficials.com for more information.

See SIDE, Page 23
CIF announces guidelines for resuming sports in fall

Town Crier Report

T he California Interscholastic Federation has issued its guidelines for restarting high school sports in the fall amid the coronavirus pandemic. After several days of meetings with commissioners from the state’s 10 sections, the CIF said in a press release Friday that it will determine by July 20 if fall sports will continue as currently scheduled. The CIF is prepared to offer alternative calendars if it is determined by that date that fall sports may not start as scheduled due to ongoing public health and safety concerns.

The CIF also announced guidelines for returning to physical activity/training in preparation for playing sports in the upcoming school year. It allows for a coordinated reopening following the initial stay-at-home orders and also may be used if conditions dictate the need for increased restrictions in the future. In anticipation of returning to physical activity, the CIF is providing resources to assist member schools and student-athletes at its website.

To address the impact that COVID-19 and school closures have had on students – recognizing that families may experience delays in obtaining appointments for their student for a preparticipation physical examination – the CIF said governing boards of school districts and private schools may elect to provide a one-time, temporary waiver of the requirement. The waiver would allow the student-athlete to participate in athletics for a maximum of 30 days from their school’s first day of practice in that fall sport.

The CIF also will grant a financial hardship waiver to students who transfer to a new school during the first semester of the 2020-21 school year “when there is a demonstrated and verifiable hardship condition due to financial difficulties,” according to the release.

For more information on the waivers, resources and guidelines, visit cifstate.org.

RUN

From Page 22

out and it wasn’t just word-of-mouth/emailing about 10 days before the event,” she said. “June 5-7 also turned out to be a busier time for many preoccupied with graduations and schools wrapping up. I was hoping to see more people out and about, but I guess if you allow a 5K race to be done anytime over 72 hours in any MV or LA neighborhood, that’s wishful thinking!”

Player certainly did her part – she did the 5K twice. After running that distance June 3 with youngest daughter Tessa, who just completed her freshman year at Los Altos, Player said she walked it with her husband Sam June 5. Player added that their older daughter Nicole, who graduated from Los Altos this month and will run track at Pomona College next school year, participated by doing a socially distanced run that weekend at Arstradero Preserve with a few of her future teammates.

For complete results and more information on the event, visit MVLAstrong.com.

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COURTESY OF NICOLE OLIVA

Nicole Oliva commemorates her graduation from St. Francis High last month.

Olympics could follow Cal season

With her summer club season in limbo, Oliva is preparing for what’s next. The 18-year-old, who committed to Cal more than a year ago, is already looking at which classes to take in the fall.

“I’m so excited,” said Oliva, who plans to major in either psychology, global studies or media studies. “I fell in love with the atmosphere and vibe when I first visited. The academics are great, there’s so much diversity, and the women’s swim program is so prestigious.”

Not long after her freshman season ends next spring, Oliva could be on her way to Tokyo for the 2020 Summer Olympics – which have been postponed until July of next year – to represent the Philippines. A dual citizen who has family in the Philippines, Oliva competed for the country at the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics in Argentina. The Philippines’ Olympic qualifiers will be determined by international standards, according to Oliva, meaning that if she swims fast enough this year, she’s in.

“Hopefully, I can make it,” she said. “It’s cutting it close, but, hey, why not?”

While time is running out, it’s probably not wise to bet against the perfectionist.

SWIMMER

From Page 22

200 free relay team also set a new school standard at the meet, finishing in a third-place time of 1:33.93.

Individually, she placed third in the 500 free (4:46.03) and seventh in the 200 free (1:48.20), breaking her own school record in the latter.

Oliva almost surely would have returned to state this year – with a chance to make even more school history – but the season ended days before St. Francis’ first scheduled meet.

“It would have been nice to swim this season – I really missed not having Senior Night – but it’s not in my control,” the Santa Clara native said. “I’m satisfied with what I did my first three years.”

A win for swimming & schoolwork

Oliva still won something this year. She was recently named one of the 14 recipients of a CCS Scholar-Athlete Scholarship for the 2019-20 school year.

Recipients were nominated by their schools and put forth to their leagues for selection; one female and one male was chosen from each league in the CCS. The nominees’ applications were then submitted to the CCS Scholarship and Awards Committee, which made its selections in late April.

“I didn’t expect (to win) – not at all,” Oliva said. “I was kind of scrambling to finish (the application),” too.

That application included a glowing recommendation from St. Francis guidance and college counselor Annette Nassif.

“For Nicole, many of her school and club swim teammates are like family; they lean on one another for support and help each other through tough times in and out of the pool,” she wrote.

“Humble to the core, Nicole quietly goes about her business attending international swim meets as the No. 2-ranked (ages 16-18) member of the Philippine National Swimming program. During her swim career, Nicole has felt immense pressure – sometimes from her family and other times due to coaches and peer expectations – but she never let this sour her love of swimming.”

Oliva’s work in the classroom also factored into the committee’s decision to award her a $500 scholarship, according to a CCS press release. Along with her 4.15 GPA, Oliva was a member of the Anime Club, Filipino-American Student Union and Audio-Visual Club at St. Francis, along with the California Scholastic Federation. In addition, she has volunteered at HOPE Services and the Crest Nursing Rehabilitation Center.

Women’s golf group seeks members

Tuesday Toppers, a women’s nine-hole golf group with local members, tees off 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Pruneridge Golf Club in Santa Clara. Cost is $5, plus $22-$27 per round. To join and for more information, visit pruneridgegolfclub.com/clinics.

TC invites readers to submit story ideas

If you have an idea for a local sports story or would like to comment on the section, email Pete Borello at peteb@latic.com.

SIDE

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CIF offers newsletter for parents, guardians

The California Interscholastic Federation, the governing body for the state’s high school sports, issues a free monthly newsletter via email for parents/guardians of student-athletes in California. The newsletter aims to keep parents informed of issues such as health and safety, eligibility and state championships. To subscribe and for more information, visit cifstate.org.
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El Camino Healthcare District board OKs $2.4M for widespread COVID testing

By Melissa Hartman
Staff Writer/melissah@latc.com

With a $2.4 million shot in the arm from the El Camino Healthcare District’s board reserves, El Camino Healthcare officials hope to test 20,000 local residents for COVID-19.

The testing, offered at El Camino Health’s Mountain View campus, is available by appointment for anyone who lives, works or attends school within the district — an area that incorporates most of Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, a large portion of Sunnyvale and small sections of Cupertino, Santa Clara and Palo Alto.

People who are tested do not have to exhibit symptoms or show a doctor’s note to undergo the RT-PCR coronavirus test, much less invasive than the original test administered with a long swab through the nose into the throat.

The district will fund the entire cost of the test. For people with insurance, billing will be submitted to the insurance agencies. The district will pay any balance not covered by insurance.

El Camino Healthcare board director Gary Kalbach said he and fellow member George Ting met May 7 with El Camino Hospital CEO Dan Woods to discuss how best to use surplus budget funds. When someone suggested at a board meeting May 19 to set aside $1.2 million each year for two years to underwrite the free, no-insurance-needed testing, there was no debate. Kalbach said he was blown away by the unanimous support.

“There was no contest — everybody jumped on it,” he said. “If you listen to Dr. (Anthony) Fauci or (Santa Clara County public health rep) Dr. Sara Cody about testing, we have known that it is pitifully inadequate not just in the county, but across the state. They are never going to figure out the track of COVID-19 unless we test a lot of people. So the conversation lasted maybe five or 10 minutes.”

Kalbach noted that the decision “caught the hospital off guard.” But, according to Woods, in the two days after the announcement, 30 people had taken advantage of El Camino Health’s offer. There’s an option to renew the program past its two-year mark if the need continues, Kalbach added.

Ahead of the curve

The board’s decision came about before Cody’s mandate that all large health-care providers offer free testing to high-risk populations. Kalbach said the board’s “jump ahead” is already enabling vulnerable service workers in grocery stores and restaurants to get tested.

The aim, Woods said in a press release about the funding approval, is to remove as many barriers to testing as possible for district residents and employees. Arguably among the greatest limitations preventing people from getting tested are misconceptions about the discomfort of COVID testing.

See TESTING, Page 27

To be safe or to be free: Choosing liberty over anxiety

By Ernest S. Schmidt

To be safe or to be free? I often pose this question when talking about anxiety, worries and fears. That’s because we really do have a choice to make between anxiety and freedom, and this question makes us think about what it is we truly want.

When we are anxious, so much of our time and energy is spent on avoiding risks and dangers. We often get caught up in the mindset that if we try hard enough, we can reduce our risks and thereby avoid our fears, but ultimately we end up feeling more afraid. It’s a common, vicious cycle.

You can think of it as a “pursuit of fear.” The more you pursue that you are afraid, the more you feel afraid. It’s a contradiction: The more you try to make yourself safe, the more you actually feed the fear and anxiety.

For instance, when someone with obsessive compulsive Disorder repeatedly checks their stove to ensure it is off, they increase the doubt that their mind tricked them.

It’s true that some of our anxiety behavior does lead to less risk. However, it often leads to more emotional fear and hypervigilance, where you’re constantly on guard. This stance might keep you “safer” in some ways, but how does it make you feel? When we’re hypervigilant, we’re tense, on edge, worried and panicky. In addition to those feelings, being on guard requires energy and leads to emotional fatigue.

Being on guard also teaches us that we’re only safe because we’re on guard. As a result, we often mistakenly believe that it’s our vigilance that is keeping us out of harm’s way. This further reinforces the idea that life is dangerous, that we must be cautious to avoid bad things happening. Sometimes, we form a superstitious connection between our hypervigilance and our safety, which just accelerates the cycle.

Avoiding danger

When our focus is on staying safe, we tend to avoid perceived dangers. We become so protective that we begin to believe there is no way we could handle whatever it is we fear. For example, many of us fear being socially embarrassed. We may spend countless hours worrying about how to act or how we will be perceived, all to protect ourselves from embarrassment. There’s even a common expression about this fear: “I died from embarrassment!”

In reality, embarrassment is, well, embarrassing, but typically it is short-lived. And the actual embarrassing moments we open ourselves up to are nowhere near as bad as we envisioned. Our guarded behavior and the fear of being embarrassed is where 90% of the pain and anxiety lies. It is in the perception, not the actual outcome.

When we’re so intent on avoiding danger, we’re really limiting ourselves. We hang back from experiencing new things, we never get to learn how resilient we really are, and that we have the ability to tolerate difficult outcomes. The truth is, we often cope much better than we think we will.

So this brings us back to the question of whether it’s better to be safe or to be free from our anxiety and the consequences it brings. In anxiety therapy, we generally do not make our clients any safer or take away the inherent risks of living life. So how do we reduce anxiety?

The first step is to carefully consider whether you really want to be safe from anxiety. Are you willing to let go of some safety if that’s what it takes to gain freedom from anxiety? Or is safety of utmost importance to you, even if it causes you to feel more anxious?

See ANXIETY, Page 27
Passion Fit founder Reena Vokoun suggests embracing the “new normal” of the coronavirus era by participating in routine activities – like the Los Altos Farmers’ Market, above – while practicing social distancing, wearing face masks, and washing and sanitizing hands.

Changing behavior in a challenging time

By Reena Vokoun

In many cases, these challenging times – COVID-19 pandemic, economic strife and racial unrest – can be impacted by our behaviors, especially with regard to education, collaboration and action. There are also other health, medical, social and financial shifts we all may need to consider making over the next months and years, which will take time and effort.

Following are tips on behavior change, based on my certifications in this area, that may help you thrive during this unforeseen era.

• Understand how long it takes to make a lasting behavior change. As I mentioned in my February column, B.J. Fogg, a professor at Stanford University, reports that it takes approximately 66 days to make a behavior change. For most of us in the Bay Area, we’re nearly three months into the quarantine, so hopefully many behavior changes we’ve had to make are starting to stick.

• Accept reality and our new normal. While times are tough and the current situation can be difficult to bear sometimes, accepting reality and our new normal can go a long way in making behavior changes. The more we try to resist and fight it, the harder it will be. Letting go and accepting reality and our new normal can go a long way in making behavior changes.

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• Injury Prevention
• Pediatric Sports
• Injury Prevention
• TRX training and AlterG Anti-Gravity Treadmill
• Injury Prevention
• AlterG Anti-Gravity Treadmill
• Shoulder, Arm, and Hand
• Injury Prevention
• Shoulder, Arm, and Hand
• Injury Prevention
• TRX training and AlterG Anti-Gravity Treadmill
• Shoulder, Arm, and Hand
• Injury Prevention
• Shoulder, Arm, and Hand
• Injury Prevention

Passion Fit is a health, wellness and fitness lifestyle company. It is currently livestreaming fitness and dance classes on Zoom 9-10 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. For a class schedule and more information, visit passionfit.com.
Your Health

Steps to freedom

To truly live life with less anxiety, you need to practice embracing the risks, sometimes actually throwing caution to the wind. Amazingly, by exposing ourselves to more risk and danger, we will often feel freer and more at peace. Acting in this way is the exact opposite of hypervigilance – it’s seeking out risks.

Do I want to be safe or be free? If you decide on freedom, follow these three steps:

1. Identify the areas where you attempt to control certainty and are hypervigilant.
2. Practice consistently opening yourself up to risks in these areas.
3. Observe the outcome and the impact on your anxiety over time.

We learn to cope with uncertainty, danger and anxiety through structured practice. As we practice taking risks, we no longer fear the uncertainty or react to it as much as we once did. And each time you face any anxiety or uncertainty in the future, you can ask yourself again: To be safe or to be free?

Los Altos resident Ernest S. Schmidt is a certified cognitive behavioral therapist with practices in Palo Alto and San Jose. For more information, call 461-9026 or email him at schmidt@paloaltotherapy.com.

ANXIETY

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TESTING

From Page 25

the test and its availability.

“Anybody can do it, and I’ve talked to a number of friends over the last couple of days still under the impression you have to put a swab 12 inches up into your brain,” Kalbach said with a laugh. “We are here inviting anyone who lives or works in the district.”

Bottom line

The bottom line is that hospitals are safe to return to once again, Woods and Kalbach stressed. Because both the Mountain View and Los Gatos El Camino Hospital locations prepared for a surge in coronavirus cases that never materialized, the containment phase that followed mitigation efforts has been much smoother.

“We had respiratory clinics, accelerated care units, for anybody that had symptoms,” Woods said. “We have used that kind of process and workflow to be able to test patients very rapidly.”

Visitor policies at the hospitals have been relaxed, elective surgeries have resumed and emergency rooms are that much safer and able to protect medical staff and patients alike. Woods said those with respiratory symptoms will continue to be separated from other patients at El Camino Health facilities as an added safety precaution.

“The district has really helped enable us to identify and contain to stop the spread of the virus,” Woods said of the funding for testing.

Testing appointments are available 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. To schedule an appointment, call 940-7022, ext. 4.

For testing location updates and more information, visit elcaminohealth.org.

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Stepping Out

Broken Box takes ‘Check Please’ online

By Nikki Suzani
Town Crier Editorial Intern

For drama teacher Nancy Moran’s Acting II class at Los Altos High School, COVID-19 probably could not have come at a worse time. Moran had just assigned her students roles in “Check Please,” the final Broken Box Theatre Company production of the school year.

With more than a dozen seniors in her class, Moran knew how devastated they would be if the show were canceled. So she decided to stage it online.

“It was a natural progression for me because these students, many of them have been with me for two, three or four years, so their culminating work is always the production,” Moran said. “I had 13 seniors this year, who would be losing that final show if we didn’t do it in some manner. As we kept getting the updates saying that we’re not coming back (to school), I just quickly shifted gears.”

“Check Please” turned out to be an almost perfect production for an online format, according to Moran. The play, which follows main characters simply named Guy and Girl as they go through a mess of blind dates, is designed to have only two to four scenes.

The actors have really done amazing; they’ve brought the same enthusiasm and concentration that they would to a stage production,” she said. “I think that there is always more than one take.”

With assistant costume designer Ella Freda-Eskenazi volunteering to do the editing with software she’d never used before, Adobe Premiere Pro, and working with the record function on Zoom, the class made it happen.

The process seemed simple enough. First, actors used an online spreadsheet to post availability and schedule times to work with their scene partners. They hopped on a Zoom call, recorded the video and music, cropped the Zoom video and merged the scenes.

“They made their own props and menus, and worked with the costume designers to find things at home that would fit,” Moran said. “Luckily, it was just all in the cards that this show worked for this format, and they really wanted to try it because they were excited about the show and it was the last hurrah for the seniors.”

With assistant costume designer Ella Freda-Eskenazi volunteering to do the editing with software she’d never used before, Adobe Premiere Pro, and working with the record function on Zoom, the class made it happen.

The process seemed simple enough. First, actors used an online spreadsheet to post availability and schedule times to work with their scene partners. They hopped on a Zoom call, recorded the video and audio, and sent the recording to Freda-Eskenazi. She used editing software to add the sound effects and music, cropped the Zoom video and merged the scenes.

“Check Please” turned out to be an almost perfect production for an online format, according to Moran. The play, which follows main characters simply named Guy and Girl as they go through a mess of blind dates, is designed to have only two to four scenes.

The actors have really done amazing; they’ve brought the same enthusiasm and concentration that they would to a stage production,” she said. “I think that there is always more than one take.”

Still, the lack of interaction, especially off-stage, was hard for the students: friends who had grown closer and closer over the year.

“It’s really sad that we can’t all see each other because we’re just a random group of a bunch of people from different parts of campus and friend groups and grades, but we all get along so well over our shared love of acting,” Gaylord said. “They’re just all really great people.”

Ultimately, Freda-Eskenazi is proud of how far they’ve come and hopes people will view the show.

“The actors have really done amazing; they’ve brought the same enthusiasm and concentration that they would to a stage production,” she said. “I think as a whole the entire class really adjusted nicely. With the given situation, everyone handled it really well.”

For a link to view the play, visit facebook.com and search “Broken Box Theatre Company.”

Smuin streams ‘Stabat Mater’ ballet today through Friday

Michael Smuin’s “Stabat Mater” is the next installment in Smuin Contemporary Ballet’s Hump Day Ballets series, free video streaming of a ballet from the company’s archives.

A response to the events of 9/11, the ballet is set to composer Antonin Dvorak’s composition. Smuin artistic director Celia Fushille will introduce the video. The performance will be available for 48 hours, starting today. Streaming instructions are available through Smuin’s email list (sign up at smuinballet.org) or via Smuin’s Facebook (facebook.com/SmuinBallet) and Instagram (instagram.com/smuinballet).
Street closure plan concerning for struggling retailers

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The impending downtown street closures – a Los Altos City Council decision meant to encourage outdoor dining and shopping – prompted mixed reaction from local retailers.

“If restaurants are vibrant, retail is vibrant,” said Jacquie Gladney, owner of Gourmet Fine Jewelry on Main Street. “Restaurants really do bring people down here.”

However, the Thursday-through-Sunday closure of Main and State streets to vehicular traffic, set to begin this week as a pilot program, has some retailers feeling they’re being put at a disadvantage.

“It’s not realistic for retailers to have product on the street instead of having it on the sidewalk where it can be monitored closely,” said Katherine Janes, owner of Cooks’ Junction on Main Street.

However, Janes said she will have some merchandise outside.

Chris Kendall, owner of the Yum Yum Tree women’s clothing store on Main Street, said putting merchandise outdoors would be difficult to monitor as well as risk damaging material in the sun. But she was more concerned the lack of nearby parking as a result of the street closures would discourage her older customers.

“Parking is precious to us,” she said.

Loosened Santa Clara County public health restrictions have only recently allowed limited in-store shopping and curbside pickup, prompting an obvious uptick in downtown activity in recent weeks.

“People are thrilled to be shopping again,” said Belinda Chung, owner of the BK Collections gift store on State Street.

“Over the weekend, people were very enthusiastic the stores are open. They can’t wait to come in – online is not the same (as in-person shopping).”

Supporting both retailers, restaurants

Backers of the street closure effort, including the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce and the Los Altos Village Association, see the decision as a compromise. They point out the partial-week closure, as opposed to a full-time closure as with Castro Street in Mountain View, gives the retailers Monday through Wednesday for nearby parking.

The Thursday-through-Sunday time frame was chosen to accommodate restaurants’ busiest days.

“They’re busy days are our busy days,” said Khatchig Jingirian, president of Smythe & Cross Fine Jewelry on Main Street.

“Now we’re going into our busy season, and we’re being pulled back.”

Jingirian led a city council petition of more than 25 local retailers opposing the street closure move. His believes street closures are bad for retail business.

“This was presented as a compromise,” he said. “There was no compromise, whatsoever.”

While Jingirian is supportive of the restaurants – he stressed he is not coming from an “us versus them” position – he felt city leaders and other supporters treated the retailers as an afterthought.

See RETAIL, Page 30

COVID-19 pandemic spending prompts massive government debt

By Artie Green

The COVID-19 pandemic has required the U.S. government to spend a massive amount of money. There are two primary concerns. The first is whether or not the cost of the CARES Act and the other federal government rescue/stimulus spending packages could drive the U.S. government into bankruptcy. The second is the impact the mountain of federal debt will have on our children and grandchildren. (Full disclosure: I am not an economist.)

The answer to the first concern is an unequivocal “no.” I wrote a column on this topic in the Town Crier back in 2016, and I think the explanation applies as well today as it did then. Basically, it can’t happen because the federal government has the ability to create as much money as it needs, and because the U.S. has grown so large relative to the global economy over the past century that our currency has become not only the standard for stability, but also the most popular exchange mechanism for international trade.

Was the CARES Act stimulus worth it? According to Bond Capital’s analysis based on data from the St. Louis Federal Reserve, after the 2008 recession, the federal government spent nearly $1.8 trillion (in today’s dollars) to stimulate the economy. The outcome: It took less than three years for real (inflation-adjusted) GDP to return to its previous fourth-quarter 2007 peak and seven years for employment to recover. Contrast that with the Great Depression, when the government spent only $800 billion (again, in today’s dollars) to revive the economy.

That time GNP (the precursor to today’s GDP measure) did not return to 1929 levels for more than 10 years, and unemployment remained high until well into World War II.

So I would expect that the $2.5 trillion-plus that the government will end up spending this year has the potential to stimulate economic recovery faster than in either of the previous big recessions.

The best way to minimize long-term damage from any recession is for the federal government to act as the funding source of last resort, pumping money into the economy when it has slowed down too much. That’s exactly what it has been doing.

Legacy of debt?

What about the legacy of debt? The U.S. debt-to-GDP ratio had exceeded 100% by 2018, partly due to Trump’s massive 2017 business tax cut without a concomitant reduction in spending. It could rise as high as 150% or more before the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent stimulus spending plays out.

How will such a large debt burden impact future U.S. economic growth? Frankly, nobody knows. Even economists appear to be conflicted on this topic. Consider Japan as a positive case study. Despite having the highest debt-to-GDP ratio in the world (currently more than 250%), its economy has been performing relatively well. Japanese unemployment slid from 5% in 2008 to less than 3% in 2017, and its inflation rate – the biggest threat from government overspending – has not topped 3% for the past two decades.

It’s quite possible that despite a large federal debt balance, the U.S. might be able to continue positive economic growth in future decades just as Japan has been able to do.

The federal government has the ability to use its unlimited spending power to mitigate the COVID-19 health threat while at the same time reducing the associated economic fallout. It has demonstrated a willingness to deal with the latter. I hope it is prepared to provide the support needed by the states for the former.

As for the accumulated debt, it will have to be addressed at some point, but for now it is of lesser priority.

Los Altos resident Artie Green is a Certified Financial Planner and principal at Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, email artie.green@cognizantwealth.com or visit cognizantwealth.com.
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Janes echoed Jingirian’s sentiments. “When attending the first meeting with the city, it seemed like a decision was already made instead of weighing out all perspectives,” she said.

In mulling over partial or full street closure options, council members decided the full closure would allow restaurants the maximum number of outdoor diners while adhering to social-distancing guidelines.

Chamber president Kim Mosley stressed support for both retail and restaurants. “Our businesses are in an unprecedented time of financial hardship due to this pandemic. We must provide safe opportunities for our community members to come out and support both retailers and restaurants again,” she said. “Social distancing is absolutely necessary, and the Thursday-through-Sunday opening of the streets to pedestrians is something many residents are excited about. We now need our residents to come out and shop and dine. … Together we can help all of our businesses survive.”

Janes said she’s willing to move forward and give the street closure plan a chance. “We need to see how it works and make adjustments,” she said. “We may all have a different perspective of what’s right for our business, but need to weigh out what’s best for everyone. … There is obviously a lot of change happening, and it’s clearly uncomfortable, but I am grateful that the city is making an effort to help us all.”

Have an idea for a business story we should be covering?
Email Melissa Hartman at melissah@latc.com.
Business & Real Estate

Transactions

Los Altos
1663 Newcastle Drive, Fair Family Trust to E. & W. Park for $2,600,000

Los Altos Hills
25055 La Loma Drive, M. Ringler to De Brouwer Trust for $8,630,000
10776 Mora Drive, Winchell Trust to S. & P. Govindaswamy for $3,100,000

Mountain View
1033 Crestview Drive No. 318, Ryznar Trust to Khoo Trust for $675,000
50 E. Middlefield Road No. 33, A. Bayard to A. Malloy for $550,000
550 Ortega Avenue Unit A101, M. Fridlib to J. & C. Ryu for $1,100,000
1241 Wasatch Drive, Cozzolino Family Trust to I. Welker for $1,950,000

Cupertino
10280 Phar Lap Drive, Dabadghav Trust to M. Borohovski for $2,650,000
22125 Regnart Road, Gholson Trust to Zhou Family Trust for $1,840,000
10271 Scenic Boulevard, Patrick Family Trust to Kwan Living Trust for $2,550,000
20488 Stevens Creek Boulevard No. 1815, Ku Trust to J. & B. Wong for $1,825,000

Overall
Los Altos
Average sale: $2,600,000

Los Altos Hills
Average sale: $5,865,000

Mountain View
Average sale: $1,068,800

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*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Los Altos Hills, All Residential Properties.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 | 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
## Congratulations to the Top Real Estate Agents & Teams in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Agent/Team Name</th>
<th>Brokerage</th>
<th>Organized as Agent or Team</th>
<th>Key Team Members</th>
<th>Total Sales*</th>
<th>Listing Sales</th>
<th>Buyer Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DeLeon Team</td>
<td>DeLeon Realty, Inc.</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Ken DeLeon Michael Repka</td>
<td>$811,146,401</td>
<td>$434,887,401</td>
<td>$376,259,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Stanley Lo</td>
<td>Green Banker Realty</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Stanley Lo</td>
<td>$313,987,178</td>
<td>$213,720,178</td>
<td>$100,267,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>David Troyer</td>
<td>Interereal Estate Services</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>David Troyer</td>
<td>$208,460,828</td>
<td>$193,079,380</td>
<td>$15,381,448</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Judy Citron</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Judy Citron</td>
<td>$203,714,900</td>
<td>$111,222,200</td>
<td>$92,492,700</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Brent Gullixson</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Mary Gullixson Brent Gullixson</td>
<td>$192,910,000</td>
<td>$137,010,000</td>
<td>$55,900,000</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Andy Tse</td>
<td>Interereal Estate Services</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Andy Tse</td>
<td>$184,183,716</td>
<td>$133,268,216</td>
<td>$50,915,500</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>David Lillo</td>
<td>DPL Real Estate</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>David Lillo</td>
<td>$158,687,788</td>
<td>$136,596,288</td>
<td>$22,091,500</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Billy McNair</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Billy McNair</td>
<td>$156,072,000</td>
<td>$90,242,000</td>
<td>$65,830,000</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>The Patty Dwyer Group</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Patty Dwyer</td>
<td>$133,016,500</td>
<td>$79,211,500</td>
<td>$53,805,000</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Keri Nicholas</td>
<td>Parc Agency Corporation</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Keri Nicholas</td>
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<td>$81,107,700</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>The Hanna Group</td>
<td>Real Estate 38</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Zaid Hanna</td>
<td>$117,255,116</td>
<td>$45,843,116</td>
<td>$71,412,000</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Boyenga Team</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Eric Boyenga Janelle Boyenga</td>
<td>$114,778,950</td>
<td>$66,266,450</td>
<td>$48,512,500</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Kathy Bridgman</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Kathy Bridgman</td>
<td>$113,376,555</td>
<td>$97,966,555</td>
<td>$15,410,000</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Recip. Team*</td>
<td>Out of Area Office</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>$108,660,945</td>
<td>$17,680,000</td>
<td>$90,980,945</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Juliana Lee</td>
<td>JLee Realty</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Juliana Lee</td>
<td>$101,509,488</td>
<td>$31,343,600</td>
<td>$70,165,888</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Jim Arbeed</td>
<td>Coldwell Banker Realty</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Jim Arbeed</td>
<td>$99,692,276</td>
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<td>Sternsmith Group</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Casey Sternsmith</td>
<td>$99,409,000</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>LeMieux Associates‡</td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Tom LeMieux Jennifer Bitter</td>
<td>$99,328,000</td>
<td>$74,923,000</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Len Stone Group</td>
<td>KW Peninsula Estates</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Len Stone</td>
<td>$99,170,500</td>
<td>$60,761,500</td>
<td>$38,409,000</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Dave Clark</td>
<td>Keller Williams Realty - Silicon Valley</td>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>Dave Clark Troy Bambino</td>
<td>$97,507,500</td>
<td>$94,107,500</td>
<td>$3,400,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Although all DeLeon Los Altos/Los Altos Hills sellers work directly with Michael Repka, the DeLeon Team has far more resources and a more robust staff than any independent contractor agent or small team. That, coupled with our innovative business model, creates many operational efficiencies that allow us to do considerably more volume and offer more services than traditional agents. Nevertheless, clients regularly choose between the DeLeon Team’s integrated model, and the traditional approach practiced by most other agents and teams, so we believe a direct and transparent comparison is helpful.

Search criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1st, 2019 - December 31st, 2019, Santa Clara County and San Mateo County, Residential Property (Single Family Home, Condominium, Townhouse, Manufactured Home, Floating Home, Duet Home, Multi-unit on Lot, Farm Ranch, Other Residential, Double Wide Mobile Home, Duplex). †Recip is an amalgamation of many out of the area agents. ‡Tom LeMieux operates functionally as a team but splits the team sales amongst the members when reporting sales to the MLS. For purposes of accuracy, we have combined the sales of the individual members of the LeMieux team. * Total sales includes both the listing sales and buyer sales; No off-MLS sales were included in the rankings.

Michael Repka | Managing Broker | DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com
DeLeon Realty, Inc. | www.deleonrealty.com | DRE #01903224

June 17, 2020 / Los Altos Town Crier / Page 33
1065 FREMONT AVENUE
LOS ALTOS

VISIT 1065FREMONT.COM FOR VIDEO & 3D TOUR!  |  Available to Show within County Mandate
EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY  |  EXTRA-DEEP LOT IN SOUTH LOS ALTOS  |  4 BEDS  |  3 BATHS  |  LIGHT-FILLED ROOMS
2 FIREPLACES  |  LARGE REAR YARD  |  POOL & TENNIS COURT  |  STEPS TO SHOPPING & DINING  |  TOP-RATED SCHOOLS
1065FREMONT.COM  |  $3,298,000

1489 BROOKMILL ROAD
LOS ALTOS

VISIT 1489BROOKMILL.COM FOR VIDEO & 3D TOUR!  |  Available to Show within County Mandate
UPGRADED WITH DESIGNER STYLE  |  4 BEDS  |  2 BATHS  |  SEPARATE GUEST HOUSE  |  WIDE PLANK WOOD FLOORS
FABULOUS GREAT ROOM  |  CHEF’S KITCHEN  |  REAR YARD WITH PATIO, LAWN, & PERGOLA  |  TOP-RATED SCHOOLS
1489BROOKMILL.COM  |  $2,998,000

DAVID TROYER  Lic. #0123450
650.440.5076  |  DAVID@DAVIDTROYER.COM  |  DAVIDTROYER.COM
Puzzles Page

Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

Across
1. Ad ___ committee
4. Like centenarians
8. Confess ending
11. Duffer's obstacle
13. Large book
14. Peacock Network
15. Computer speed measurements
17. Actress, Long
18. "... of a Community" - Los Altos book
19. ___ rule
20. Winnie the Pooh's favorite jar
23. Emirates, for short
26. Bering, e.g., abbr.
27. Be still, at sea
30. Safe places
32. Cheated
33. Hong Kong neighbor
34. Beer container
35. Chinese basketball giant
36. Evaluate
39. Teasers and trailers
41. Qualified
45. ___ de vivre
46. Hairy crawler
47. New England's Cape
48. Flaw
49. Dixie pronoun
50. Remnant
52. Chase scene maneuver, slangily

Down
1. Start of many addresses
2. Chocolate cookie
3. Mystery writer, John
4. Falcons' home
5. More viscous
6. Drain
7. Moines lead-in
8. Inherently
9. Kyoto cummerbunds
10. Org. with eligibility rules
12. Walkway
16. Ice over
21. Connects
22. Lamp liquid
23. Mil. branch
24. Auto insurer with roadside service
25. Completely covering
28. Indian export
29. ___ meter (measures distance travelled)
31. Graduation gown's partner
32. Plucked instruments
34. Artist friend of Max Ernst
37. Topic of city survey: ___ codes
38. "Combat" painter, William
39. Cracked open
40. Corleone's wife
42. Island cookout
43. Stylish magazine
44. Former Pistons coach Chuck
46. Sugar amt.

Answers to puzzles on Page 28

-- Los Altos related clues bolded

Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult. Level: Medium

Find A Word

Fifteen words related to summer are listed by this puzzle. They may go across, up and down or diagonally in the puzzle. Circle each one when you find it.

Beaches
Bronzed
Cool
Drinks
Heat
Jetskiing
Parasailing
Sandcastle
Shade
Sunsets
Sunshine
Suntan
Umbrellas
Volleyball
Waves

Are you a fan of the Town Crier's puzzles?
We'd like to know more about how and why you enjoy our puzzles – email elizar@latc.com.
Datebook

Datebook items are run on a space-available basis for entertainment, events, classes and groups run by nonprofits in our circulation area (primarily Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View). The deadline is noon Tuesday for the next week's paper. Submit notices via email to peteb@fate.com and include a contact name, phone number and fee to participate (if applicable). Note that some items may be postponed or canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

PRESENTATIONS


ACTIVITIES

Pickleball. Game open to seniors. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. Los Altos Youth Center, 1 N. San Antonio Road. 947-2797.

EXHIBITS

“Distant Lands.” Photography exhibit featuring Jim Colton’s newest works. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road. 941-7222; jmcolkata@photography.com.

Moffett Field Historical Society Museum. Memorabilia, artifacts, photos and aircraft models connected with the former Naval airbase. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Building 126, Moffett Federal Airfield, Mountain View. $3-$8; free children under 12 and active military. Photo ID required for adults. 964-4024; moffettfieldmuseum.org.

AUDITIONS

Foothill Symphonic Winds. Seeks percussionists for its performance season. conductor@fswinds.org.

Schola Cantorum. Choral group invites talented adult singers of all musical and cultural backgrounds to audition. Previous college choral experience preferred. Rehearsals 7:15-10 p.m. Mondays. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. 254-1700; info@scholacantorum.org.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Guided Meditation. Thirty-minute guided meditation session with instructor Manisha Kumar to inspire regular meditation. 6-6:30 p.m. Mondays. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. 948-7683.

Tai Chi for Arthritis. Developed by Dr. Paul Lam and endorsed by the Arthritis Foundation. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave. Directed by Foothill College. All are welcome. Free. Register in person. 269-2589; wdelange@ymail.com.

Jazzercise. Dance fitness class. 8:30 a.m. Sundays and 9 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Grant Park, 1575 Holt Ave., Los Altos; 8:30 a.m. Saturdays, 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Blach Intermediate School, 1120 Covington Road. First class free. (408) 505-2048.

Square Dance. Led by Bows & Beaus Square Dance Club. Open to adult singles and couples. 7-9 p.m. Mondays. Loyola School, 770 Berry Ave. (408) 219-4239; bowsandbeaus.org.

Gym Ventures. Parent-child classes. Offerings include youth sports, swim lessons and more. El Camino YMCA, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. 969-9622.

Fitness Boot Camp. Sixty sessions of exercise. 6-7 a.m. weekdays or just Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Shower facilities available. Foothill College, 1234S S. El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Less than $4 per class. Registration: foothills.augusoft.net.

Morning Flow Yoga. Led by Duann Hurd. 7-8 a.m. Saturdays. Yoga of Los Altos, 377 First St. $135-50-$18; proceeds benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. 600-8108.

StrongStep. A Jacki Sorensen fitness class focused on low-impact workouts to upbeat music, incorporating aero -bics, strength training, abdominal work and stretching. Offered through the Los Altos Recreation Department. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Grant Park, Room 2, 1875 Holt Ave., Los Altos. $65/10 classes. 961-5411.

Wellness classes. Guest speakers with Gregory Dabb, DC, as host. 6:30-7 p.m. first and third Tuesdays of the month. Better Life Chiropractic Center, Los Altos. Free. 949-0154; betterlifechirocenter.com.


Parent-Child Gym, Swimming, Drama, Sports, Art, etc. YMCA of the Mid-Peninsula El Camino Branch, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. 969-9622.

CLUBS/GROUPS

Mediation group. Meditations drawn from Buddhist teachers, including Thich Nhat Hanh and Jack Kornfield. Meeting online through June 16; contact Susan Murphy at somurphy@earthlink.net for Zoom login. Free.

Los Altos Library’s Monthly Writing Group. Casual writing space offering motivation, such as optional prompts, for a community of writers. 7 p.m. second Wednesday of each month, Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Free. 948-7683; sccl.org/losaltos.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) Los Altos Branch 35. Active mature men who meet for lunch to socialize, enjoy good food, and listen to speakers. Third Wednesday of each month. Palo Alto Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real. (408) 313-6852; pschutz3@comcast.net; sirim2.org/branch35.

Los Altos & Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club. Helps new residents become better acquainted with their neighbors and new community. Activities include programs, luncheons, hiking, bridge and book clubs. 948-3421; losaltosnewcomers.com.

Duplicate Bridge Club. All levels of play. Classes and lectures available; lunch included. Bring a partner or be placed with one. 11:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; 10:30 a.m. Wednesday and Friday; noon Saturday. 432 Sierlin Road, Mountain View. First time fee; $15 afterward. 940-1824; paloaltobridge.org.

Garden Club of Los Altos. Garden or floral expert speaks at each meeting. 1:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month (except July, November and December). Los Altos United Church, 460 S. El Monte. Guests $5. 391-4654; thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

InSpirit Praise & Prayer Healing Room. Healing service for those battling an illness or injury, or feeling discouraged, 10 a.m. to noon, the second Saturday of each month. See DATEBOOK, Page 37.

Obituary Notice

THOMAS ADAM ROHRER

Residents of Cupertino

November 24, 1926 - May 23, 2020

Thomas Adam Rohrer was great man with a big heart, very charming and gentlemanly with a unique sense humor.

Thomas Rohrer was born on November 24th, 1926, he entered the world with as much zest and an expediency for life. Tom spent his days milking cows, cascading and sheering sheep on the family farm. Hard work was in his genes, which later proved to be a great strength during the Depression.

Tom loved to travel to many new and existing places with his companions while speaking several languages. He broke bread with his family and friends while speaking several hole-in-one trophies. He was a very charming, person and well liked by all he encountered.

He will be surely missed Thomas Adam Rohrer passed away May 23, 2020 at the age of 93. He will be laid to rest at the Alta Mesa Memorial Park with his family and friends as like went on, Tom and Jean spent many hours developing pressing stories for their local community newspaper and creating thrilling works of fiction - many of which provide a clear window into his life long journey around the world and back.

His beloved wife, Jean, passed away in 2016. Tom was a lifetime member of the Los Altos Country Club, he was an avid golfer, and earned several hole-in-one trophies. Tom was a lifetime member of the Los Altos Country Club.

Jean, like Tom had the same curiosity of the human condition which resulted in writing and publishing many books to his name manifesting in thrilling fictional writings.

The books were based on his journeys and adventure of the years he was in the War while serving in the Merchant Marines.

Tom shared his stories with his family and friends of his life’s many journeys.

He earned an engineering degree and founded a patent while serving his terms.

Tom met his first wife Joan in 1944, at an officers dance while serving his term. It was love at first sight and they were married on Valentine’s Day in 1948.

Tom and Joan both earned degrees, built a business, traveled the world and pursued philanthropy. Joan passed away in 1996, after battling ovarian cancer.

A few years passed, Tom was set up on a blind date at the Los Altos Country Club, where he met the ever enchanting Jean Hollands.

Jean was the second love of his life. Jean, like Tom had the same curiosity for the human condition. The two were married in 2005. Tom and Jean had the same excitement for traveling and loved their journeys together on many continents furthering their love for fine wine.

The two documented their adventures through narrative stories and published writings. The couple was well known for hosting large family gatherings by the pool. He provided a unique tale telling of his adventures and experiences which he shared with family and friends.

As like went on, Tom and Jean spent many hours developing pressing stories for their local community newspaper and creating thrilling works of fiction - many of which provide a clear window into his life long journey around the world and back.

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GARDENING


OLD WRISTWATCHES - Los Altos horologist likes to collect, trade and restore. Will buy watches, bands, parts, boxes, etc. Tom (408) 712-3430.

FLOORING

Professional Services

CONSTRUCTION N.S.

CONSTRUCTION: carpentry, decks, fences, remodels, handyman, e-quake retrofits.
Lic.#579225 (408) 367-7814.

HOUSE CLEANING - by Diana. Prof. exp. low rates, family bus. reliable/depend. Great L.A. refs. Lic. # 447435. (408) 806-1415 or (408) 576-5489 Cristina.

ROTO-TILLING: Weed trimming, yard cleanup, dependable. FREE estimates (408) 707-8470.

HANDYMAN

Merchandise Wanted


OLD TUBE EQUIPMENT - radios, hi-fi tuners/amps, speakers, hand gear, tubes, parts, literature. (650) 279-9931.

OLD WRISTWATCHES - Los Altos horologist likes to collect, trade and restore. Will buy watches, bands, parts, boxes, etc. Tom (408) 712-3430.

ASP ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF LOS ALTOS.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF LOS ALTOS. Non-profit volunteer group that develops and runs programs benefiting children and others in need in nearby communities of Santa Clara County. Year-round volunteer opportunities for adults and teens. 169 State St., Los Altos. 940-4625; losaltos-assistanceleague.org.

Glass and Decorative Arts Club. Speakers and light lunch. 11:45 a.m., fourth Monday of the month, September through May. Foothills Congregational Church Parish Hall, 461 Orange Ave., Los Altos. Free for newcomers. gcbristal@sbcglobal.net.

Young Adults Bible Study. For those ages 18 and up who want to learn and spiritually read the Bible and be part of a small community. For ages 18 and up. jamesshgnd@gmail.com.

Sons in Retirement, Southern Peninsula Branch 5. Devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity of retirement. Small group of men who get together each month to socialize, have lunch and hear speakers on a variety of subjects. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael’s restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. 299-9479; stmrc2.org/branch5.


Tuesday Toppers. Women’s nine-hole golf club with local members. 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Pruneridge Golf Club, 400 N. Saratoga Ave., Santa Clara. $22-$27 per round. pruneridgegolfclub.com.

Horticulturalists welcome. Full 60-member orchestra is sponsored by Mountain View-Los Altos Adult Education. 493-3798.

Quota International of Mountain View/Los Altos. Supports scholarships for hearing-impaired students. El Camino Hospital Infant Hearing Screening Clinic, Community Services Agency and CHAC. Noon first and third Thursdays of each month. Michael’s at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View. 967-5404; quotamvla.org.

See DATEBOOK, Page 38.
abused and neglected children who have been placed in the foster-care system. (408) 573-329-0888.


Farm/nature guides. Needed at Hidden Villa, Los Altos Hills, to introduce children to cows, sheep and other farm animals, explore the vegetable garden and hike in the wilderness area. Training provided. 949-8643; hiddenvilla.org.

Avenidas Senior Center. Help children improve their reading skills, make a friendly visit or give someone a ride to a doctor’s appointment. 289-5412; jhalliburton@avenidas.org.

Community Services Agency. Help a few hours a week to drive frail seniors to medical appointments or take home-bound seniors grocery shopping. 964-4630.

Stanford University Auxiliary. Volunteers for 3-4 hours weekly in a variety of areas: the reception area of the intensive-care units, the emergency department, escort service, gift shop, surgical reception area and the auxiliary office. 723-6636.

Pathways Hospice. Seeks caring volunteers to help patients and their caregivers manage care at home. Volunteers provide companionship, practical help and emotional support at a crucial time. Training schedule: (408) 773-4219.

City of Los Altos. Helps handy people to work in the Senior In-Home Repair Program performing minor home repairs. Telephone greeters at City Hall are also needed. Flexible hours and basic training provided. 948-1491, ext. 229.

Breast Cancer Action. Seeking volunteers to assist in events, task force, activist work and in office. (415) 243-9301.

Child Abuse Prevention Center. Needs volunteers to work four hours a week in San Mateo or Santa Clara counties. 327-8120.

Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital. Needs help with various programs. 497-8915.

Wildlife Rescue. Needs help in its Palo Alto shelter to provide care for sick, injured and orphaned wild birds and small mammals. Training provided. 494-7417.

American Cancer Society Discovery Shop. Needs a few more volunteers in Los Altos. 949-0505.

West Bay Opera Guild. Needs people to usher and/or serve refreshments at West Bay events. 494-7355.


Alzheimer’s Association. Needs people to staff its help line, which provides free literature and assistance to the public. 962-8111.

Hidden Villa Farm and Wilderness Preserve. Needs help around the farm. 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills, 940-8655.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. Outdoor educational leaders needed during the week to share nature with children at Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve. 991-6120.

Stanford Hospital’s Hospice Program. Needs people to work with dying patients in their homes. 203-6586.

Environmental Volunteers. Needs nature guides to lead hikes and do classroom presentations. 961-0545.

Community Breast Health Project. Help needed for research and hot line. Four hours a week. 725-1878.

Center for Economic Conversion. Mountain View organization needs help with database, library management and administration. 968-8798.

Volunteer Exchange of Santa Clara County. Seeks tutors and teachers’ aides. 965-2426.

Westwind 4-H Riding for the Handicapped. Needs volunteers for classes 4-5 p.m., Mondays and/or Thursdays, in Los Altos Hills. 947-8680.

Clearinghouse. Needs teens to connect junior and senior high school students with nonprofit agencies. 941-0950, ext. 315.

City of Mountain View. Needs office assistants, translators and assistants at Deer Hollow Farm and docents at Rengstorff House. 903-6607.

Los Altos Flower Arranging Team. Seeks those interested in donating and arranging flowers for city offices and events. 948-1491.

Visit elderly Los Altos residents. People needed for weekly one-hour visits to lonely seniors. 329-0888.

Jesus Retreat Center of Los Altos. Needs office help on a regular basis. 917-4040.

WOMEN’S. Nonprofit weekly support group for victims of affluent abusers. 996-2200; Dear-Ruth2200@gmail.com (from safe community only). 949-5673.

Huntington’s Disease Support Group. 7-8:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month. First Baptist Church, 305 N. California St., Palo Alto. 967-0679.

Sexual Assault Survivors Counseling. Confidential group and individual counseling sessions for survivors of sexual assault. Women meet 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays; men 6:30 p.m. Drop-in counseling: 2-5 p.m., Thursdays. Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4611 Alma St., Palo Alto. $5. 949-0993, ext. 316.

Young Survivors Group. Weekly support for those 30-60 grieving the loss of a spouse. Facilitated by Sue Shaffer, Ed. D. MFT. 7-9 p.m. Mondays or Wednesdays. Sliding fees. 323-1535; sueshaffer@aol.com.

Divorce Care. Recovery seminar for people who have experienced or are experiencing divorce. 7:30-9 p.m. second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in Los Altos. 947-0846.

Breast Cancer Support Group. 7:30-9 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays. Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4611 Alma St., Palo Alto. 988-6612.

La Leche League. International non-profit, non-sectarian organization providing information and support to women planning to breastfeed. 873-6525.

Center for Healing and Wellness. Support for children who have a parent with a serious illness. 2235 Grant Road, Suite 6, Los Altos. 625-1987.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Twenty-four hour help for those with drinking problems. Some meetings held in Los Altos. (408) 374-8511.

Surviving the Death of Our Child. Support group for bereaved couples. 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesdays. 900 Welsh Road, Suite 400, Palo Alto. $50/week. 948-8601.

Postpartum Emotional Support Group for Women. Supportive environment to discuss transition into motherhood, nurturing the nurturer and other women’s postpartum issues. 766-9223.

Support groups for those with heart problems, diabetes, seizures and arthritis. El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View. Free. 940-7202.

Shoreline Chapter of Parents Without Partners. Open to any single parent. Introductions 5 p.m. Saturdays. (408) 275-9057.

South Bay Fibromyalgia Support Group. Sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. third Saturday of the month at El Camino Hospital, Park Pavilion Building, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View.

Bay Area Alzheimer’s Association. 7-9 p.m. third Monday of the month; 4-6 p.m. first Thursday of the month. Older Adult Resource Center, 2400 Hospital Drive, Mountain View. Free. (800) 660-1993.

Emotions Anonymous. Twelve-step program of recovery for those suffering from emotional problems 6-7 p.m. Mondays. St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. 968-5637.

Workaholics Anonymous. 7 p.m. Tuesdays. First Presbyterian Church of Mountain View, 1667 Miramar Ave., Room 103. 949-3216 (evenings).

Personal Growth and Problem Solving. Di- vine recovery for men and women, working at home and dysfunctional families. 6-7:45 p.m. Mondays. 949-5673.

Touche Support Network. Support for children with chronic or life-threatening illnesses and their families. 6:30 p.m. first and third Mondays of the month. Foothills Congregational Church, 461 Orange Ave., Los Altos. 328-4495.

Kara of Palo Alto. Provides bereavement support for people with life-threatening illnesses and their families and those who recently lost a loved one. 321-5272.

Diabetes Anonymous. 7-8:30 p.m. Sundays. Spinal and Sports Care Center, 2290 El Camino Real, Suite 8, Mountain View. Free. (408) 749-0579; 321-4783.
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