

# The Almanac

THE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR MENLO PARK, ATHERTON, PORTOLA VALLEY AND WOODSIDE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2025 | VOL. 61 NO. 1



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## Portola Valley prepares voter survey

### Town doesn't have contact info for all residents

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

The town of Portola Valley evaluated its revenue enhancement options again during its Town Council meeting on Aug. 27 in preparation for a community survey that the town hopes to release in September.

Town Manager Darcy Smith explained that the survey will help officials understand the community's priorities and needs, satisfaction with town services and to evaluate the feasibility of a revenue ballot measure.

The town is currently evaluating four potential revenue enhancement methods: parcel tax, real estate transfer tax that includes the establishment of a charter city, a new user-utility tax, and modifying an existing user-utility tax. Each would bring

the town an estimated \$100,000 to \$2 million.

The parcel tax would require a two-thirds vote and, a real estate transfer tax would require a super majority to pass. Both of these options would bring in the most for the town with an estimated annual revenue between \$1 million to \$2 million.

The town staff looked to the council to decide what would be included in the survey, which entailed choosing one of the potential measures to gauge voters' opinions. Despite council members' interest in exploring multiple options, Smith clarified that choosing one and keeping the survey simple would be easier for voters to understand.

"It's critical to have this information to design the ballot

See **SURVEY**, page 10



Courtesy Sangini Bedner

## Giant steps

The Alpine Little League All-Stars are still being recognized for their run through the West Region Tournament in August. On Aug. 29, the team was invited onto the field of a San Francisco Giants' game where they met members of the major league team. The local all-stars were close to playing in the Little League World Series. See story, Page 5.

## Stanford Hospital staff calls for patient protections

### Woman discharged 'unresponsive'

By Lisa Moreno

More than 100 demonstrators, including dozens of Stanford Hospital employees, gathered at a Tuesday rally in front of the hospital to protest its administration's treatment of a patient who was arrested by ICE last week and to demand the health institution create a policy to protect patients from federal agents in the hospital.

The Stanford Hospital administration allegedly discharged Aleyda Rodriguez to Immigration and Customs Enforcement before she was healthy, denied her visitation rights, blocked Rodriguez's

family from accessing her medical records and did not inform them of her release, according to hospital staff who protested at the demonstration on Pasteur Drive and Welch Road in Palo Alto.

Rodriguez was apprehended in a targeted arrest by ICE in East Palo Alto on Aug. 25, according to the San Mateo County Rapid Response Network.

Rodriguez fainted when multiple immigration agents pulled her out of her car and carried her away, according to a statement on the woman's Gofundme page. Agents checked Rodriguez, who has a blood condition that

is exasperated by stress, into Stanford Hospital hours after her arrest.

"Despite my dad begging them to stop because she is sick, they drove away with her unconscious," according to the post purported to be written by Rodriguez's daughter.

Rodriguez was discharged on the evening Aug. 29 and was not healthy enough to leave the facility, her primary care physician Yusra Hussain said in an interview with this news organization.

Hussain is not a hospitalist at Stanford, so she is not consistently stationed at the facility — she did not make the decision to discharge Rodriguez. Stanford

staff did not disclose who made the final decision, she said.

"I honestly didn't even think that she was going to be discharged that day," Hussain said. "There was no question in my mind that she was going to be in the hospital for a few more days. She was very frail. She was drenched in sweat. She actually had sepsis just four days before that, with two infections. She was unresponsive. That was not a healthy picture."

Rodriguez could hardly lift her head, squeeze her doctor's hand or speak, Hussain said, and she was in a "catatonic" state when she was transferred to a Bakersfield immigration facility.

ICE agents hindered medical staff from entering the woman's room, forcing them to "sign in," show identification and prove their identification was valid, according to Hussain and Stanford staff who spoke anonymously during the protest.

"I was asked three times, why am I there, attending to my patient, and what brings me here? And I said, 'I'm her primary care physician. It is actually a common courtesy for the primary care doctor to come and see their patients,'" Hussain said. "That didn't sit well with them,"

At times, there were up to

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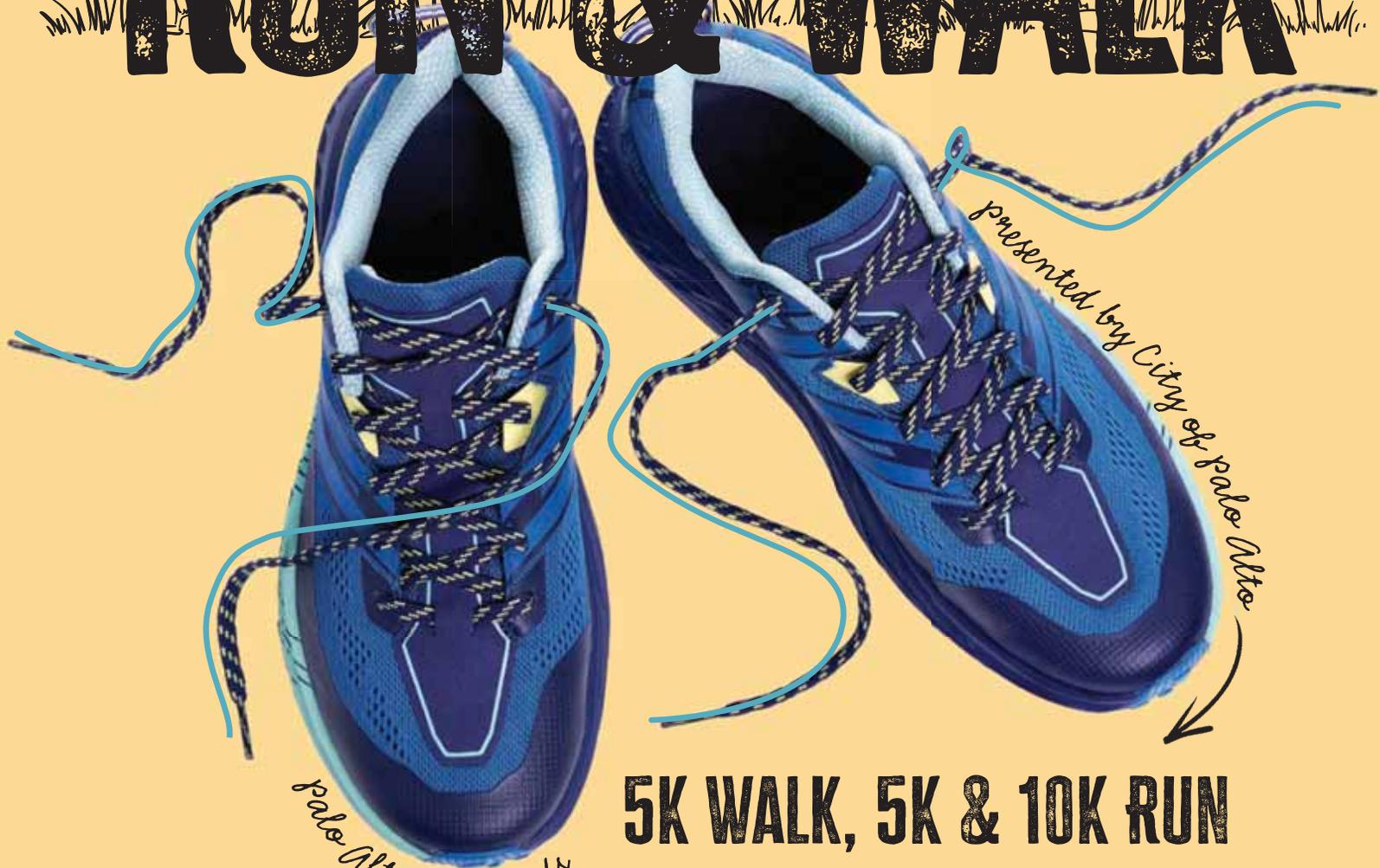
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# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Courtesy Santiago Lyon

First responders work the scene of a fatal collision in Woodside on Aug. 29.

## Cyclist dies following weekend Woodside crash

### Separate collision near Filoli injures another bicyclist

By Lisa Moreno

A bicyclist was killed in a collision at the intersection of La Honda Road and Skyline Boulevard on Friday afternoon in Woodside, according to a statement from the San Mateo County Sheriff's office.

The bicyclist was hit by a person driving a pickup truck at what is often called "the four corners" intersection near Alice's Restaurant. The driver stayed on scene after the collision, according to authorities.

The crash left the biker in critical condition and

emergency personnel provided life-saving medical aid before transporting the person by air ambulance to Stanford Medical Center, where they died on Saturday, according to the sheriff's office.

"This is a heartbreaking reminder that every life on our roads is precious. We must all share the road with vigilance, respect, and care — for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers alike," wrote Sheriff Christina Corpus in a statement.

The San Mateo County Major Accident Investigation Team is currently investigating the

collision and the driver of the pickup truck is cooperating, according to the sheriff's office.

Just two days later, another cyclist was injured when a motorist hit him at Cañada and Edgewood roads near Filoli.

That crash happened just before noon on Sunday, Aug. 31, according to law enforcement dispatches. The man was placed on a stretcher, though the severity of his injuries was not immediately clear. ■

Email Staff Writer Lisa Moreno at [lmoreno@almanacnews.com](mailto:lmoreno@almanacnews.com).

## Woodside holds first committee meeting for Town Center Plan update

### Town seeks to balance a variety of interests

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

The town of Woodside held its first Citizen Advisory Committee meeting for its Town Center Area Plan update on Aug. 26, kicking off the town's pursuit of a new vision for the heart of the town. The 18-member committee discussed the potential constraints, ideas and opportunities that the town has to reenvision Town

Center since its last amended plan in 1988.

The initiative was sparked by the development of a new housing element as the town seeks to find opportunities to build housing within its main community hub on Woodside Road.

The meetings are facilitated by Good City Company, a Redwood City consulting firm that specializes in planning, zoning, housing elements and

city management. The Good City team explained that the advisory committee was created because the firm wanted to hear what aspects of Town Center are important to them and how to enhance the space.

The members of the committee are all residents of Woodside who have dedicated years to the town as volunteers on various

See **TOWN CENTER**, page 17

## Alpine Little League receives outpouring of support

### Team recognized by Menlo Park, Portola Valley, SF Giants

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

After a historic series of wins by the Alpine Little League 12U All-Stars, the young baseball players were recognized by the city of Menlo Park, town of Portola Valley and the San Francisco Giants all within a week's time. Despite the team's elimination from Little League's West Region Tournament in August, the young players returned home to find themselves celebrated by the community.

From traveling to places such as Petaluma and San Bernardino, the team spent the summer months literally and figuratively going places no local Little Leaguer had gone before.

On Aug. 26, the team received a proclamation from the Menlo Park City Council during its regular council meeting.

"Congratulations to the Alpine Little League on an amazing summer season this year, and thank you to the parents, coaches, board members and officials for encouraging athletic excellence and sportsmanship to the youth of Menlo Park and neighboring communities," said Menlo Park Mayor Drew Combs as he recognized the team.

The next day, the Portola Valley Town Council also honored the team with a proclamation during its council meeting.

The team was acknowledged for its historic achievements.

"Congratulations on your grit, your tenacity and your amazingly good attitudes," Council member Helen Wolter told the players.

Alpine Little League Head Coach Dave Levinson said the team didn't expect so many people to be invested in the journey until players and their families saw photos of how many people were cheering them on at the Dutch Goose watch party in West Menlo Park.

"To realize how cool of an experience we were able to bring to the community, as a community baseball league, was really special, probably the most special part of the run outside of the camaraderie among the players and families themselves," he said in an email response.

Dozens of supporters gathered at each watch party to root for the young players as they played against teams from Fullerton and Honolulu in San Bernardino. The Alpine Little League spent a week in Southern California facing the best of the west.

"San Bernardino was just amazing," said Levinson. "If a ball or two had bounced differently against Hawaii, we could've made it to Williamsport, (Pa., scene of the Little League World Series)," he wrote. "But we weren't

See **LITTLE LEAGUE**, page 7



Courtesy Sangini Bedner

Members of the Alpine Little League 12U All-Stars were honored by the town of Portola Valley after their historic run toward the Little League World Series in August.

# Suspect in deadly Redwood City stabbing has felony history

Sentenced in 2023 for separate stabbing, he was out on parole

By Arden Margulis

The man accused of fatally stabbing a 66-year-old San Mateo resident at the Redwood City Caltrain station had recently been released on parole for a prior knife attack, The Almanac has learned.

Jose Gomez-Bustamante, 31, of Redwood City, was arrested Aug. 28, a day after authorities said he stabbed and killed 66-year-old Joseph Carreiro of San Mateo.

It wasn't the first time Gomez-Bustamante had been involved in a stabbing.

On Aug. 8, 2020, prosecutors said he grabbed a knife from the kitchen of Taqueria El Tulense on Spring Street in unincorporated Redwood City and tried to stab a 34-year-old employee. The woman's mother held him back. Prosecutors said the attack was unprovoked, and his mother told authorities he suffers from hallucinations.

Gomez-Bustamante pleaded guilty to felony assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced in June 2023 to six years for the 2020 attack. Records show he was credited for 702 days in custody despite serving 331, due to good behavior

and participation in residential treatment programs.

Despite an extensive criminal history, he was released on parole on April 8 of this year, less than two years after sentencing.

Five years after the unprovoked taqueria attack, Gomez-Bustamante is now accused of fatally stabbing Carreiro. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office said the two men, both on bicycles, got into an altercation around 4:45 p.m. Aug. 27 on the southbound Caltrain platform at the Redwood City station. Carreiro was taken to a hospital and pronounced dead later that night.

A woman was also at the scene. Authorities said she is considered a witness, not a suspect.

According to jail records, his parole has since been revoked. The California Department of Corrections declined to provide details on his parole release.

## Prior cases and convictions

Even before 2020, Gomez-Bustamante faced multiple felony charges.

In 2012, using the name Jose Luis Gomez, he was charged in a gang-related assault that caused serious injury. Facing

up to 27 years, he pleaded no contest to felony assault and a misdemeanor gang charge and was sentenced to three months in jail and three years' probation. Tacked on enhancements were dismissed, and he received credit for 69 days served and 68 days of "good time."

Six months into probation, Gomez-Bustamante violated its terms and was ordered to serve 120 additional days in jail. A month later, he was released on parole and charged with driving under the influence with a blood alcohol level above 0.15%, driving without a license and hit-and-run. As part of a plea deal, only the DUI charge remained. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail for the DUI and two years in prison for violating parole.

In 2015, he was charged with felonies in connection to robbery and, in a separate case, possession of drugs with intent to distribute. He ultimately received a six-year prison sentence.

Also in 2015, while awaiting trial in jail, he was involved in a gang assault at the Maguire Correctional Facility that left two rival gang members hospitalized and injured four correctional officers. Court records do

not show charges for that incident, but media reports at the time say a grand jury indicted him.

"It looked like one of those WrestleMania things you see on TV," District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe told the Mercury News at the time. "They were all going at it."

## Caltrain station stabbing

Friday's stabbing happened on the southbound Caltrain platform. The area, bordering the Sequoia Station shopping center, has been a hot spot of crime in recent years. The Redwood City Police Department decided to open a substation in the shopping center to help address crime in the area.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office's transit bureau is responsible for patrolling the Caltrain station but works with the Redwood City Police Department and the shopping center's private security.

The San Mateo County District Attorney's Office filed charges of felony murder and an assortment of enhancements and additional charges due to his prior history. ■

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# Council allows East Palo Alto project to reduce affordable units

Company allowed to omit units for very low-income households

By Lisa Moreno

Divided East Palo Alto City Council voted on Sept. 2 to allow a major developer's "Four Corners" housing project to defect from the city's inclusionary housing laws by omitting units for very low-income households and building fewer affordable townhomes for purchase.

Conversations took a personal turn as some council members argued that allowing Sand Hill Property Company alternative compliance to its laws sets a dangerous precedent for residents that already struggle to stay afloat. The company is looking to build more than 250 units at the corner of University Avenue and Bay Road.

Mayor Martha Barragan, Vice Mayor Mark Dinan and Council member Webster Lincoln voted to eliminate all very low-income units in the new development at 1675 Bay Road, instead allowing Sand Hill to build some

moderate to low-income units. The trio also voted to allow the company to build half as many affordable units for-sale than required by city laws.

Council member Ruben Abrica abstained from voting and council member Carlos Romero rejected the proposals that included apartment and townhome projects.

The decision applies only to this particular development and will not affect the inclusionary housing ordinance.

Under the city's existing rules, a new housing development must allocate 20% of its on-site rental units to affordable housing, including residents who make 35%, 50% and 60% of the average median income, according to the city's inclusionary housing ordinance. If the units are for sale, 20% of them must cater to median to moderate income levels.

Developers that do not follow these rules typically pay an 'in-lieu' fee, though Sand Hill has

opted not to do so as part of this application.

City staff recommended the council deny the proposal, said program manager Alex Waggoner with San Mateo County's Housing Endowment and Regional Trust, a partner that analyzes city projects.

"There is a significant loss in public benefit from the applicant's proposal with a 58% loss in affordability," Waggoner said.

Dinan believes the inclusionary housing ordinance is a "bad policy" that blocks development, he said at the meeting.

"I think all housing being built is a good thing and so if we have policies that are clearly not working, we need to adjust them," Dinan said. "This was a policy passed in 2019, it's not exactly something that was handed down by Moses, it's something we can change."

Sand Hill Managing Director Mike Kramer argued that the company would still be building low-income housing by

allocating some of its units to residents who make 80% of the average median income.

People who fall into this category are near the top of California's low-income standard, which is defined as those who make 50% to 80% of the median income — a category the developer called "the missing middle."

The company could also qualify for a state bonus by building more moderate-level housing units, Kramer said.

"The inclusionary housing ordinance allows city council to approve at its discretion an alternative compliance option if it provides greater public benefit than baseline compliance," he said. "Therefore, the question for you tonight is: Will this provide greater public benefit than a vacant lot?"

Residents shared a mix of responses to the proposal, but many were interested in

See **HOUSING PROJECT**, page 11

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Photos by Karina Patel

Protesters participate in the 17x17k rally on El Camino Real in front of the Tesla showroom in Palo Alto, left, and along El Camino Real in Mountain View, right, on Sept. 1.

## Labor Day rally draws thousands to El Camino Real

### Protesters denounce range of Trump policies

By Emily Margaretten

Thousands of people lined the sidewalks along El Camino Real on Sept. 1 to protest the Trump administration as part of a mass mobilization movement held across the U.S. on Labor Day.

The “17x17k” rally on Sept. 1 stretched for 17 miles along El Camino Real from Redwood City to Santa Clara, crossing through two counties and six cities.

“Honk for democracy!” protesters hollered as motorists beeped their support up and down the route.

The 17x17k rally called for people to stand in solidarity with each other and reject what organizers described as the “billionaire takeover” and “rampant corruption” of the Trump administration.

More than 17,000 protesters participated in the event, hitting the planned goal, according to IdaRose Sylvester, an event organizer and co-founder of Together We Will Palo Alto Mountain View, a political action network.

The turnout was lower than the No King’s rally held in May, which had roughly 20,000 people, who filled a shorter, 7-mile route.

“We can’t stress enough how important it is to keep coming out in increasing numbers,” Sylvester said ahead of the event. “We can’t just do it once. We have to show elected officials that we still care.”

Protesters held large signs on Monday with messages including, “Stop the tyranny,” “Protect democracy” and “Regular people matter.”

“It took me two days to figure

out what to put on my sign,” said William Kay, a Palo Alto resident standing near the intersection of California Street and El Camino Real. “I had to whittle it down from 40 different issues,” he laughed.

In the end, Kay brought a sign that denounced cuts to Medicare and food stamps and tax cuts for billionaires and expressed support for local police, education and renewable energy.

Several other protesters said they showed up to register their opposition to federal funding cuts, tariff increases and what they described as attacks on democracy and human rights.

“This feels like something we can do,” said Mountain View resident Julie Steury, explaining her reasons for participating in the rally. “We hope it gets people out so

they will vote in the next election.”

For many, the 17x17k rally was an opportunity to make their voices heard. “My son asked why I was coming out,” said Jenny Aronson, a former Los Altos resident. He said it wasn’t going to change anything so why bother, she recounted. “But it’s for me. It’s what I can do,” she said.

Sally Lieber, an event organizer and longtime community activist, also stressed the importance of not giving up. “The stakes keep just getting higher,” she said, adding that it was critical to keep providing opportunities for people to voice their opposition publicly.

While the rally drew thousands to El Camino Real, with particularly large crowds in Mountain View, not everybody came out to participate directly in the event. Clint Morgan, a San Jose resident,

decided to use the day to hand out flyers for his recently opened laundromat in Mountain View.

“It’s a little bit disruptive,” Morgan said, referring to the honking vehicles on El Camino Real and the people gathered in front of his establishment. “But it’s good for people to get out, protest and speak their mind,” he added.

The 17x17k rally wound down on schedule by 1 p.m., with protesters packing up their chairs and signs, many noting that they likely would be reusing them for the next demonstration.

“It’s so moving to see how much work and intention people are bringing to activism,” Lieber said. “It says a lot about the future of America.” ■

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### LITTLE LEAGUE

continued from page 5

too sad about it because we knew we had played so well and were pretty much 50/50 to win.”

After losing 4-3 in a close game against Hawaii’s Honolulu Little League, the Alpine team faced the Fullerton Golden Hills Little League in an elimination game. The local team was eliminated after losing 11-0 against its California counterpart.

As the head coach, Levinson feels proud to be able to help the boys accomplish great feats.

“It feels great to know that positivity and hard work, the two main things I think we focused on, were able to take us beyond what others had been able to achieve,” said Levinson. “Even though we were volunteers and it’s just Little League, I feel like building up these boys into what they were, and bringing the community along, was as great an achievement as some of my best career or more ‘real’

or ‘serious’ moments.”

Alpine Little League player Bodhi Bedner said, “The way our community rallied behind us and supported us felt like a dream. Once in a lifetime experience for sure. We are still feeling the love.”

Beyond local support, the Little Leaguers also had the opportunity to walk onto the field at Oracle Park as the San Francisco Giants recognized the team’s success. During a game against the Baltimore Orioles on Aug. 29, the Jumbotron read, “Welcome Alpine Little League State Champions!”

The celebration will continue into September as the team will be hosting a car parade led by Woodside Fire Protection District trucks from the Portola Valley Town Center to Ford Field. The parade will start at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7. At Ford Field, there will be free ice cream, baseballs and baseball card signings by the players, a photo station and guest speakers.

Local politicians including County Supervisor Ray Mueller

will be present at the event, according to the team.

The players of the Alpine Little League include: Derek Armstrong, Bodhi Bedner, Patrick Breslin, Jack Chambers, Dylan Dossola, Kogan Flannery, Teddy Hourigan, Nolan Levinson, Siméon Ouellette-Massiou, Charles Saste, Max Turner and Garrett Weiss. ■

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## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



### Shade Trees

**Dear Monica: Do trees add value to a property or not? Danielle G.**

Dear Danielle: The hot weather has highlighted the need for shade. As a general rule, trees can add beauty to a property and shelter from the sun on days where the temperature is high.

Builders tend to avoid properties with trees because of heritage tree laws in most communities. These laws limit their ability to remove large trees and thus limit what they can build.

But many homeowners love their trees though and if the temperatures rise, trees will be seen as even more of an asset. So yes, trees can add value to a property.

Contact me at [monica@monicacorman.com](mailto:monica@monicacorman.com): Office: 650-465-5971, COMPASS. WSJ Nationally Ranked. Real Trends Bay Area Top 100 Agents

# San Mateo County seeks to ban nitrous oxide sales

Officials say youth increasingly abuse substance

By Miranda de Moraes

Laughing gas is no laughing matter, at least not for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

The board last week introduced the ordinance, which would ban the sale and distribution of nitrous oxide, informally known as laughing gas, or whippets. San Mateo could be one of the first counties in California to do so.

The ordinance, which would take effect 30 days after passing, is intended to curb youth misuse of the substance, which county officials say has increased compared to several years ago. The scope of the ban is limited to the unincorporated parts of San Mateo County, though the board hopes the remaining 20

cities in the county will follow suit.

If passed, offenders would face a fine of \$1,000 or up to six months in county jail.

Often used in medical settings as a short-term sedative, such as at the dentist, nitrous oxide has been repurposed by youth as a recreational drug. The San Mateo County Youth Commission attributes this to its easy access to local smoke shops, though over-the-counter cans of whipped cream also carry the propellant.

The president of the Board of Supervisors, David Canepa, co-sponsored the ordinance with Supervisor Ray Mueller.

“We’re losing too many lives, too young,” Mueller said in a press release. “Overdoses are taking lives in our community,

and we cannot afford to ignore any contributing factor.”

The inspiration behind the county’s ordinance came from a presentation by Behavioral Health & Recovery Services before the Youth Commission in February. According to the BHRS, kids in the county are using the drug far more readily than four years ago, Canepa’s spokesman, Bill Silverfarb, said.

While the Youth Commission responded by drafting a public health crisis resolution, the board of supervisors decided to “outright ban” the substance in unincorporated San Mateo County because they have the authority to do so.

That decision was modeled after Orange County’s pioneering ban on the recreational sale of whippets in February.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors enacted this ban to address a rise in nitrous oxide misuse among its young residents, as well as to close a “don’t ask, don’t tell” loophole that allowed smoke shops to sell nitrous oxide canisters.

Although California illegalized possession of the substance for intoxication in 1989 and the selling of nitrous oxide to minors in 2009, San Mateo hasn’t found the state laws to be potent enough. The ordinance would include a 21-year-old age verification for purchase, a specific permit to sell nitrous oxide, and a ban on flavored nitrous oxide products altogether.

Down the line, the Youth Commission is looking at banning kratom, which is an over-the-counter supplement that increases alertness and talkativeness, but at high doses, acts like an opioid. The substance has also been known to be used by some as an alternative for chronic pain and to help counteract the symptoms of opioid withdrawal, but many in the health community rebut those benefits. Kratom is not scheduled under the Controlled Substance Act by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Since 2018, smoking rates in

San Mateo County have fallen by half or so, which Canepa’s spokesman attributes to the county’s 2020 ban on the sale of flavored tobacco. He mentions this drop as a testament to the effectiveness of drug ordinances in the county to curb youth misuse.

San Mateo County maintains one of the lowest smoking rates in the U.S. — 3.9% of adults, according to the county’s most recent All Together Better health indicator database. That’s nearly a third of the national rate, 12.1%, and well below the state’s rate, 6.1%. Nonetheless, the board is working toward a totally smoke-free county.

While it’s challenging to determine whether the effects of recreational nitrous oxide use are more harmful than other recreational drugs, it’s true that the risks of acute danger and long-term health damage are higher for whippets over weed, at least. Compared to opiates, though, laughing gas is far less addictive and deadly.

For the board, the ordinance on nitrous oxide is not about dwindling efforts to address other kinds of substance misuse in the county. Rather, it’s about enacting all efforts

See **NITROUS OXIDE**, page 15

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## \$2M lotto ticket sold at Redwood City corner store

Scratcher sales important source of store income

By Miranda de Moraes

In mid-August, a Redwood City liquor store sold the winning \$2 million California Lottery ticket.

The owner of Roosevelt Liquor & Grocery at the corner of El Camino Real and Roosevelt, who declined to give his full name, said he has sold Lotto tickets for two decades. An excellent source of income for his small business, he’s no stranger to selling winning tickets, including one with a \$250,000 prize last year.

“We’re just a normal mom-and-pop shop,” said the owner’s son, who sometimes works as the store’s cashier. “There’s no words to describe what this has meant for us.”

For selling a ticket with a prize that exceeds \$1 million, the store will receive a \$10,000 bonus. With the new cash, the owner plans to visit friends in New York next year to celebrate.

As of Aug. 29, the winner had not yet been announced and

still needed to complete a claims process, which is required for all big wins and vetted by law enforcement. The process takes six to eight weeks, according to lottery officials.

Lotto sales are an important source of income for the small business, which spikes in the morning and afternoon hours, while liquor dominates nighttime sales, the store’s owners said.

One scratcher at the shop on Thursday spent \$392 on tickets. He’s played the Lotto for four decades with his coworkers at a local electrical company. While none of the 43 initial participants have ever won, 18 of them continue to try their luck together.

“If you don’t play, you never know,” the 65-year-old Redwood resident shared, who preferred to keep anonymous so people can’t contact him if he were to win. “Maybe it’s our night.” ■

Email Staff Writer  
Miranda de Moraes at  
mdemoraes@almanacnews.com.



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# Sheriff Corpus cries on stand as hearing wraps up

By Neil Gonzales / Contributor

Embattled San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus broke down sobbing on the witness stand Friday morning when one of her lawyers asked why she continues to come to work despite all the opposition she has encountered amid accusations of corruption and other offenses in her administration.

"I think about the community and the injustices that have happened in the communities," Corpus replied in tears. "I think about my family and what they've had to go through ... I've fought tooth and nail to where I've gotten today with integrity."

It was the second time that Corpus took the stand, capping the 10-day public hearing in San Mateo County Superior Court in Redwood City for her potential removal from office.

**'She can't take responsibility. She can't hold herself accountable.'**

ATTORNEY BROOK DOOLEY

Corpus first gave her testimony early in the proceedings that began on Aug. 18, refuting the county attorneys' portrayal of her tenure as being afflicted with allegations of abuse of power, conflicts of interest, retaliation against subordinates, and an inappropriate relationship with her then-chief of staff.

A 408-page report from a county-commissioned independent investigation by retired Judge LaDoris Cordell laid out those suspicions late last year.

A subsequent investigation by law firm Kecker, Van Nest & Peters — which also represented the county in the Corpus hearing — yielded similar findings and concluded that some of the sheriff's actions could amount to grounds for her removal.

Corpus has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing, and that continued Friday when, before presiding Judge James Emerson, the sheriff called out her accusers as having "no validity" and "just people who want me out."

After Corpus' final testimony, her legal team and the county's attorneys presented their competing closing statements to Emerson.

The county team asserted before Emerson that it met the burden of proof in the hearing showing Corpus committed the alleged violations - including the arrest of deputy sheriff's union president Carlos Tapia and transfers of other employees as forms of retaliation and engaging in an improper relationship with former Chief of Staff Victor Aenlle, among other evidence.

"For the integrity of the office of the sheriff, she must be removed," said Franco Muzzio, a member of the county team.

Brook Dooley, another attorney for the county, urged Emerson not to get distracted by Corpus and her lawyers' attempts to deflect central issues - including her alleged flagrant or repeated neglect of duty and obstruction of an investigation into her administration.

Corpus continually points the blame at everyone else but her, Dooley told the judge. "She can't take responsibility. She can't hold herself accountable."

Dooley added that among

the many pieces of evidence for Corpus' romantic ties with Aenlle are personal text messages between the sheriff and her former colleague Valerie Barnes.

During the hearing, the county team contended that those texts and witness testimony indicated Corpus' relationship with Aenlle went beyond professional. That kind of relationship raised conflict-of-interest issues as it benefited Aenlle in his position and pay, the county team argued.

In its closing arguments, Corpus' team countered that the county did not meet the burden of proof.

Rather, Corpus lawyer Mariah Cooks told Emerson, the county has "tried desperately to string together facts. ... They had a conclusion, and they found people to make that conclusion."

The county's evidence for a romantic relationship between Corpus and Aenlle is weak at best, Cooks also said, arguing that it mostly hinged on a disgruntled employee in Barnes.

Tom Perez, another Corpus attorney and former federal official under Presidents Obama and Biden, described the case against his client as having been "reverse engineered" since she was elected as sheriff in 2022.

Since her election, Perez said in court, Corpus and her efforts to bring culture change to the Sheriff's Office have been met with constant opposition.

That resistance included a flawed Cordell report, Perez said. "It is not worth the paper it's written on."

Outside the courthouse following the hearing's conclusion, Corpus — flanked by her team and supporters — met with the media.



Courtesy Neil Gonzales

San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus, wearing a red pantsuit, stands with her legal team outside of the courthouse in Redwood City on Aug. 29.

"I had the opportunity to tell my story," Corpus told reporters. "I had the opportunity to confront ... the people that are accusing me. ... And yet the county did not prove that I did anything wrong. Because as the sheriff, I can transfer people for the needs of the organization. I can make promotions. I can hire and I can fire people, yet I have everyone that's saying that I'm retaliating because I am doing my job that the voters of San Mateo County voted me to do."

County spokesperson Effie Milionis Verducci also talked with reporters after the hearing.

"We have confidence in the integrity of the process that played out," Milionis Verducci said. The county's attorneys presented evidence that they believe "is compelling, overwhelming and very troubling."

The county team also felt it "established a pattern of gross mismanagement and flagrant disregard of the law," she said.

Emerson now has up to 45 days to recommend whether there is cause to relieve the sheriff of her command. County supervisors, once they receive Emerson's recommendation, then have 30 days to make their final decision on whether to fire Corpus.

The hearing was a result of Corpus' appeal of the supervisors' vote in June to oust her based on alleged misconduct.

Measure A, which voters passed earlier this year, granted supervisors the power to amend the county charter to seek her ouster. ■

*Email Contributing Writer  
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ngonzales92@yahoo.com.*

## SURVEY

continued from page 1

language because that does craft it. ... It's meant to inform you around the critical policy decision which will come to you in the future especially around what the community would like this money to be spent on," Smith said.

Portola Valley resident Nona Chiariello asked the council if the public would be receiving any additional information about the potential ballot initiatives ahead of the survey. Smith responded that the town purposefully does not provide information so as not to affect the outcome.

As for how the survey will be shared, the town will only be contacting residents for whom it has contact information. Although there are about 3,600 registered

voters in Portola Valley, the town only has emails and phone numbers for about 2,000 voters.

"It really comes down to who answers the phone or responds to the email because it's a lengthy survey," Smith said.

Local resident Rita Comes asked whether the survey will also have a question about the town's overdue financial audits and whether residents think that the town should address those before spending money on a ballot measure.

"It's really hard to talk about us giving more money to the town when we don't have a strong history of managing that money and spending a lot of money to correct those problems," said Comes.

### Council's choice

The potential ballot measure would be placed on the November

2026 ballot and as council members eye the real estate transfer tax as their top option, there are also worries about how a state measure being placed by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association to "save Proposition 13" will impact their town.

The Save Proposition 13 ballot initiative would strengthen the protections for a long-standing state provision that sets a limit to how much homeowners and businesses can be taxed. The initiative also exclusively states that it will "prohibit the charter city loophole from being used in the future and also invalidates general transfer taxes that exceed the state limit."

Helen Wolter said although she is in favor of pursuing a real estate transfer tax, she is concerned about the Save Proposition 13

measure which would overturn the town's initiative.

In terms of rates, Vice Mayor Craig Taylor expressed he thinks that a rate that would bring \$1 million of annual revenue would not be enough. He thinks \$1.5 million in revenue is what the town should be aiming for in order to increase its town services, staffing and to fund for emergencies.

Council member Mary Hufty emphasized the town's critical need for stronger finances and encouraged the council to pursue a \$2 million real estate transfer tax and to survey the voters with language including this particular revenue value. An estimated annual revenue of \$2 million in transfer tax would place a rate of "\$10 per \$1,000 for every \$1,000 of the property's sale price,"

according to the staff report.

In spite of the Jarvis risk, Council member Rebecca Flynn said she would support the transfer tax and agreed with Taylor and Hufty that \$1 million would not be enough for the town to build a reserve. She supported aiming for \$2 million in revenue but said the survey would be a strong indicator of whether voters would be willing to pay that tax rate.

Mayor Judith Hasko acknowledged that a parcel tax would be the best way to avoid any risk with the Jarvis initiative but expressed her support for the transfer tax and charter city.

"I don't know how much traction Howard Jarvis will get but I do think we've got to be ready to pivot as information comes in indicating that's going to prevail," Hasko added. ■

**HOUSING PROJECT**

*continued from page 6*

upholding the current inclusionary ordinance.

Under the city's current inclusionary housing laws, a one-bedroom unit would cost \$1,306 to \$2,240. Now, a more affordable one-bedroom unit will cost \$2,986 at the "Four Corners" project that has been in the works for six years.

"I think if we're all about being inclusive and say that we accept everyone from all walks of life, well I think that we should consider [it]," said Mayor Barragan, who said she was in favor of more "middle-class" housing.

Barragan attempted to move on to a vote before Romero, Lincoln and Abrica discussed the proposal — prompting heated debate from council members like Romero who argued that the mayor did not allow the council to engage in "robust" conversations.

"Direct yourself towards me with more respect," Barragan said, before attempting to limit their comments to 15 minutes.

"I'm not wasting time, madam mayor," Abrica said. "I also need to speak on this item and I resent the double standard that you're setting by allowing [Dinan] to take up all the time at the beginning."

Abrica said he recognizes a housing need for people in more moderate income brackets but multiple owners and a lack of action have contributed to the slow development project for the site that has sat empty for over 30 years.

"Don't try to blame the city and the inclusionary zoning law for nothing happening, I just want to make that clear," he said.

Romero said he did not believe the alternative compliance proposal met city needs and that Sand Hill was only concerned with profiting off of "low-income people of color."

"What you are saying is, 'My way or the highway because if I don't get this, I won't build anything,'" he said. "I vote, you lose completely. It's almost like blackmail."

The debate turned particularly fractious when Romero called Lincoln "deaf and dumb." Mayor Barragan demanded Romero apologize for the "inappropriate" comment, but he refused.

Longstanding council members have faced contentious debates against newer council members elected in November 2024, especially regarding subjects like affordable housing. A new council expressed interest in updating its affordable housing policies, and it currently awaits the results of a regional housing study.

Previous council members have not always agreed, Abrica said, but he does not support the current governance style.

"What's happening in recent months is that Mr. Dinan and Mr. Lincoln in particular have created a polarized majority that automatically supports whatever comes before them," he said. ■

*Email Staff Writer Lisa Moreno at lmoreno@almanacnews.com.*







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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE will hold a hybrid public hearing allowing for the option to attend by teleconference/video conference or in person in Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM, to consider:

**2. 3100 Woodside Road ASRB2025-0005; CUSE2025-0001**  
**Adam Bittle, Architecture Allure, Inc. Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner**

**Presentation and consideration of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review (ASRB2025-0005), to demolish an existing single-family residence and attached garage; convert an existing Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) into a pool house; retain an existing ADU, detached garage; and, construct a new single-family residence, detached garage, detached ADU, greenhouse, gym, and associated site improvements.**

**The new greenhouse is greater than 250 square feet, which requires a Conditional Use Permit (CUSE2025-0001). The Planning Commission will consider the ASRB's recommendation on the project design and take action on all requested entitlements.**

**The project is Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to §15303(a), which includes a single-family residence; and, Section 15303(e), which includes accessory structures.**

The application materials are available for public review by contacting Sarah Filipe at [sfilipe@woodsideca.gov](mailto:sfilipe@woodsideca.gov).

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments to [jpaping@woodsideca.gov](mailto:jpaping@woodsideca.gov) and/or attend in person or virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736> and give testimony.



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# Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. M-295628

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):  
MAGIC CLEANING SERVICES  
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E. Palo Alto CA., 94303  
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON:  
10/17/2023

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
OLGA LILIA GUTIERREZ  
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E. Palo Alto, CA 94303  
ALBA JUDITH SEVILLADESIERRA  
1271 Poplar Ave. Apt. #410D  
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THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY Co-Partners.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on August 28 2025.  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE** TS No. **CA-24-1001234-SH** Order No.: **240595917-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/13/2019. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.** A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. **BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.** Trustor(s): **CHAD J. CORRIVEAU, AN UNMARRIED MAN AND STEPHANIE L. NASH, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, EACH AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 1/2 INTEREST, AS TENANTS IN COMMON** Recorded: **11/19/2019** as Instrument No. **2019-097515** of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of **SAN MATEO** County, California; Date of Sale: **10/8/2025** at **01:00 PM** Place of Sale: **At the Marshall Street entrance to the Hall of Justice located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063** Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$1,226,744.45** The purported property address is: **1330 REDWOOD TERRACE ROAD, WOODSIDE, CA 94062** Assessor's Parcel No.: **067-080-220** **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present

at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call **916-939-0772** for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website **http://www.qualityloan.com**, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-1001234-SH**. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call **619-645-7711**, or visit this internet website **http://www.qualityloan.com**, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-1001234-SH** to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT:** Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE POST-SALE OVER BIDDERS:** For post-sale information in accordance with Section 2924m(e) of the California Civil Code, use file number CA-24-1001234-SH and call (866) 645-7711 or login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com>. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: **QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Post-Sale Information (CCC 2924m(e)):** (866) 645-7711 Reinstatement or Payoff Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION TS No.: **CA-24-1001234-SH** IDSPub #0249768 8/22/2025 8/29/2025 9/5/2025 (ALM Aug 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

CLAY'S HAULING  
CLAY'S HAULING & JUNK REMOVAL  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301331  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) CLAY'S HAULING, 2.) CLAY'S HAULING & JUNK REMOVAL, located at 784 ALTA VISTA DR, PACIFICA, CA 94044.  
Registered owner(s):  
CLAYTON RUSSELL TALLMAN

784 ALTA VISTA DR  
PACIFICA, CA 94044  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/08/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 11, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

REDWOOD CITY ART STUDIOS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301431  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) REDWOOD CITY ART STUDIOS, located at 643 Scott Ave, Redwood City, CA 94063.  
Registered owner(s):  
RITA MELAMUD  
643 Scott Ave  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 22, 2025.  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

RONY'S DREAM CONSTRUCTION  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301496  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) RONY'S DREAM CONSTRUCTION, located at 15 S Broadway Apt. 7, Millbrae, CA 94030, San Mateo County. Mailing Address: 1875 Mission Street STE 103 #308, San Francisco, CA 94103.  
Registered owner(s):  
RONY WILFREDO RODRIGUEZ  
15 S Broadway Apt. 7  
Millbrae, CA 94030  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 29, 2025.  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

CENTURY 21 MASTERS LUXURY  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301137  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) CENTURY 21 MASTERS LUXURY, located at 26305 Jefferson Ave, Suite G&H, Murrieta, CA 92562.  
Registered owner(s):  
FULL REALTY SERVICES, INC.  
26305 Jefferson Ave, Suite G&H  
Murrieta, CA 92562  
State of Incorporation/Organization: California  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on July 17, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

EIRENIKON PRESS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301470  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) EIRENIKON PRESS, located at 250 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
MATTHEW SANFORD HORWITZ  
250 Oak Grove Ave.  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 27, 2025.  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

MAGIC CLEANING SERVICES  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301483  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) MAGIC CLEANING SERVICES, located at 1885 E. Bayshore RD. SPC#66, E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
OLGA LILIA GUTIERREZ

1885 E. Bayshore Rd. SPC#66  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303  
FRANCISCA SILVANA FRANCO  
1885 E. Bayshore Rd. SPC #66  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303  
This business is conducted by: Copartners.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 28, 2025.  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

INTEGRAND PRESS  
KATIE ANDERSON CONSULTING  
KBJ ANDERSON CONSULTING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301303  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) INTEGRAND PRESS, 2.) KATIE ANDERSON CONSULTING, 3.) KBJ ANDERSON CONSULTING, located at 231 CANYON DRIVE, PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028.  
Registered owner(s):  
INTEGRAND LLC  
231 CANYON DRIVE  
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Partnership.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on JUNE 1 2020.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 06, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

SQA SOLUTION  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301275  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) SQA SOLUTION, located at 140 San Pedro Rd, Daly City, CA 94014.  
Registered owner(s):  
ASIAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION  
140 San Pedro Rd  
Daly City, CA 94014  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/01/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 01, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

SAVERS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301254  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) SAVERS, located at 875 Main Street, Redwood City, CA 94063. Mailing Address: 11400 SE 6th St., Suite 125 Bellevue, WA 98004.  
Registered owner(s):  
TVI, INC.  
11400 SE 6th St., Suite 125  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
State of Incorporation/Organization: WA  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/30/1967.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on July 31, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY OF PALO ALTO  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301267  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY OF PALO ALTO, located at 325 Sharon Park Dr, #D3, Menlo Park, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):  
J. M. HURNG, DDS, MPH, INC.  
2081 Camino Al Lago  
Atherton, CA 94027  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/19/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 01, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

JB TILE & STONE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301343  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) JB TILE & STONE, located at 509 Howland St., Redwood City, CA 94063.  
Registered owner(s):  
JB TILE AND STONE LLC  
509 Howland St.  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on August 11, 2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 12, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

BAYFRONT LANDSCAPE INC.  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301349  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) BAYFRONT LANDSCAPE INC., located at 2795 Hunter Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303.  
Registered owner(s):  
BAYFRONT LANDSCAPE INC.  
2795 Hunter Street  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/29/2023.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 12, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

TASTEBUDS LECHON  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301333  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) TASTEBUDS LECHON, located at 169 San Bruno Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066. Mailing Address: 2321 Oakmont Drive San Bruno, CA 94066.  
Registered owner(s):  
CHON LE INC.  
2321 Oakmont Drive  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 11, 2025.  
(ALM Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 25-CIV-06055  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Thomas Greenberg and Julie Sherman filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
SOPHIA BESS GREENBERG to KYLE MAX GREENBERG  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10-15-25, 9:00 AM, Southern Division of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 08/14/2025  
Stephanie Garratt  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

*Continued on next page*

## Public Notices

Continued from previous page

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 25-CIV-04072

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Eden Noelle Cahill filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: EDEN NOELLE CAHILL to EDEN NOELLE KINSELLA

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 09/29/2025, 9:00 A.M., Southern Branch: Hall of Justice and Records of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

ALMANAC

Date: July 24, 2025

Stephanie G. Garratt

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 25CIV05788

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Kristine Cam-Tu Luong filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: KRISTINE CAM-TU LUONG to KRISTINE CAM BRADOCK

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/09/2025, 9:00am, Southern Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

ALMANAC

Date: 08/06/2025

Stephanie Garratt

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 25CIV05630

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Rebecca Miranda Remmer filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: REBECCA MIRANDA REMMER to MIRANDA REMMER TANOUS

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/2/2025, 9am, M/C of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

ALMANAC

Date: 7/29/25

Stephanie G. Garratt

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

JANE WONG, JANE DEBORAH WONG, JANE D. WONG, JANE DEBORAH LAULUSA, JANE D. LAULUSA, JANE LAULUSA  
Case No.: 25PRO01151

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JANE WONG, JANE DEBORAH WONG, JANE D. WONG, JANE DEBORAH LAULUSA, JANE D. LAULUSA, JANE LAULUSA.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: BRENT LAULUSA in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO.

The Petition for Probate requests that: BRENT LAULUSA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on September 23 2025 at 9:00 AM in Dept 3 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner in Pro Per:

Brent Laulusa

118 Hillside Avenue

Menlo Park, CA 94025

801-949-0757

(ALM Aug 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

[AlmanacNews.com/legal\\_notices/](https://www.almanacnews.com/legal_notices/)

## PROTECTIONS

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nine ICE agents frequenting the woman's room, she said.

Federal operatives also allegedly cut off Rodriguez's access to her online medical charts, preventing her and a designated proxy from the ability to actually access her own record, Hussain said.

"It's a form of intimidation," Hussain said. "It's a form of harassment when you have someone there constantly interrupting your work, your routine. I can tell you, so many doctors and nurses and other staff really did not feel comfortable."

Protestors demanded that the hospital affirm patient visitation rights and communication standards, prohibit ICE agents in care areas, ensure family members are notified of discharge and deny ICE from discharging a patient without an ongoing care plan.

If Stanford does not take steps toward their demands and host a town hall, medical staff will continue to protest and host their own public outreach events, speakers said at the rally.

During Tuesday's action, local advocates and medical staff — some still wearing scrubs and white coats — took to a busy intersection outside of Stanford Hospital. Many held signs reading phrases like "ICE = Inhuman, Callous, Evil."

Rodriguez's father stood in front of the crowd with an interpreter and said he didn't want to overwhelm attendees with information but simply wanted "justice" for his daughter.

Stanford Health staff said the woman's unfair treatment is just another way the hospital has relented to the current federal

## NITROUS OXIDE

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possible to keep the county healthy, including by making what was an "easily attainable" substance at retail shops harder to access.

The county health department intends to address youth nitrous oxide misuse through non-policy means, such as education and data collection, although no concerted efforts have been made. The director of Behavioral Health & Recovery Services, Jei Africa, said the unit is "just beginning to understand the complexity" and hasn't enacted any specific programs



Lisa Moreno

Dr. Yusra Hussain, primary care physician for Aleyda Rodriguez, was one of dozens of medical professionals who turned out to complain about how the hospital handled the arrest of Rodriguez by ICE agents.

administration and diminished treatment following its decision to revoke gender-affirming care in June.

It also comes at a time California medical personnel across the country are grappling with how to deal with increased federal law enforcement in hospitals that might affect patient health and privacy rights, Calmatters reported.

"Stanford administration will say that our hands are tied. We have to follow the law. We're just following the law. We can't do anything else," said a Stanford Medical staff member who spoke under anonymity to the crowd. "That's a lie. There is no law that says you have to let ICE just walk around the hospital with no identification."

The hospital is prohibited from disclosing the patient medical details but confirmed on Tuesday that the patient was discharged and that it followed "federal law enforcement directives," while delivering the "highest quality care,"

wrote hospital spokesperson Lisa Kim in an email to this news organization.

"Our clinicians provided all necessary medical care, including sharing regular updates related to the patient's care with the designated family member," Kim wrote.

Stanford personnel want more clear direction from the hospital, said a Stanford Emergency Department staff member, who went by the name of Matt.

"ICE has no place in the hospital, but if the hospital insists on following along with federal procedures, however inhumane they may be, it needs to be spelled out clearly," said Matt.

The federal agents were armed and masked, he said.

"It is a situation I never want to watch take place again," Matt said as the crowd cheered. ■

Email Staff Writer  
Lisa Moreno at [lmoreno@almanacnews.com](mailto:lmoreno@almanacnews.com).

## OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include:

**Richard Browne Kilner**, 97, a longtime Palo Alto resident and Stanford University graduate who owned a small business representing the West Coast operations of East Coast trade magazines, who was a devoted Stanford football and basketball fan, and who was an avid surfer and accomplished bridge player, died on Aug. 1.

To read full obituaries, leave remembrances and post photos, go to [Lasting Memories at AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](https://www.almanacnews.com/obituaries). ■

yet, despite conveying the problem to the Youth Commission.

While the health department's communications officer, Preston Merchant, told this news organization the department does not have any local data about nitrous oxide misuse, county officials are interested in dedicating more energy to observing the risks whippets pose to the community, and value collaborating with young people to holistically address the health needs of the community. ■

Email Staff Writer  
Miranda de Moraes at [mdemoraes@almanacnews.com](mailto:mdemoraes@almanacnews.com).

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## TOWN CENTER

continued from page 5

committees. Many have lived in town for decades, some even growing up in Woodside for over 50 years.

The majority of the center is used for commercial purposes with restaurants, stores, a supermarket, gas station and Realtor and financial offices. A small portion of the land is designated for open space and civic uses. Most of the parcels are less than a half-acre and none larger than 2.5 acres.

“The small parcel size is really part of the historic sizing consistent with the 19th century building pattern but for today’s development, it’s pretty small as far as being developable,” said Jane Lin, an architect with Urban Field Studio, another consultant team on the project.

Within Town Center, land ownership is spread out among various individuals. The largest properties are owned by the town, which has eight parcels, LeeAnn and Bill Gilbert, who own four parcels and Christine Roberts, who owns three parcels.

There are also currently three measures that were adopted by the town that limit certain development but also allow some expansions.

Measure J, passed in 1988, was intended to preserve the town’s

rural character and prevent “commercial creep.” This measure, however, “restricts residential zoning and prohibits commercial uses on town owned sites” as well as limits building heights along Woodside Road. A vote would need to occur to change its zoning restrictions, said Lin.

Measure I, passed in 1989 and allowed for the construction of Town Hall and public parking while setting a 50% open space rule.

Measure A was on the 2021 ballot and allowed for the expansion of community-serving functions in Town Center. The measure allows for the development of a public space which might include outdoor dining, parking and an amphitheater. Measure A came into discussion during a controversial application to build permanent outdoor dining spaces and parking expansion at Cañada Corners in November 2024.

### Opportunities and constraints

The Good City team pointed out that currently there is no signage or defined gateway into Town Center as people drive onto Woodside Road. Consultants have identified that there are opportunities to make the center more pedestrian friendly, reinforce the town’s identity and introduce design guidance.

The team also found that constraints included the landscape of Woodside with its many hills and terraces. The Town Center also has fragmented ownership and the community holds a strong belief in land preservation.

Vehicle and equestrian circulation, bicycle network and parking are all recognized to be challenges for the town. Current issues recognized by consultants include limited crosswalks, lack of streetlights and handicap access curbs, cyclists and drivers sharing the road, and safety concerns for equestrians.

Urban Field Studio architect Ryan Call said that the center’s “parking demand exceeds supply at peak hours and private parking conflicts are a key challenge.” He added that the team is committed to help preserve the town’s authentic community and local businesses as they work on improvements.

The consultants noted that Town Center currently has nine parking spaces on public streets and 558 parking spaces in designated parking lots. While the parking locations are evenly distributed throughout the center, the use of all the commercial spaces is not, leading to lack of parking around businesses with heavy traffic.

The area also suffers from environmental and geological limitations due to the range in

elevation, a creek and hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead-based painting in the older buildings within Town Center.

### Committee input

Members of the committee shared with the town and consultant teams their ideas around Safe Routes for Schools, enhancing pedestrian experiences and increasing public gathering spaces.

Local resident Steve Lubin suggested that changing the structure of Woodside Road from Interstate 280 might signal to drivers that the roadway into Town Center is a downtown street and should be driven at a lower speed. He said it currently resembles a highway.

“If we could reshape the roads so that people slowed down, it would make the pedestrian experience much better,” said Lubin. “It would be safer for kids to get to school and for people to walk in town and be in these public spaces.”

Some committee members are concerned that there is not enough money to fund the many ideas. Others were hopeful, sharing ideas for fundraising and utilizing the community foundation.

Local resident Sue Poletti pointed out that Woodside lacks a community center. She explained

that a community center can also serve as an intergenerational space where the older and younger generations come together.

“We could have (the community center) serve as a hub to integrate connection, wellness, local culture, arts, music, hang-out areas for teens, I think that’s lacking in our neighborhood,” said Sue Poletti.

Circulation Committee member Daniel Druker added that housing projects in Town Center should be focused on providing for the town employees and workers, many of whom drive into town from an hour away. This includes firefighters, teachers and town staff.

“For example, we have a big storm and the folks on (the public works) team from the town live an hour away. So we want them to come and (unclog the) drain and they have to drive from an hour away to do that. It’s silly,” Druker said.

“I would like to see the Town Center remain vibrant and relevant and I think we have to allow the commercial property owners some flexibility and freedom to configure their properties for the next 30 years,” said Planning Commission Chair Lyle Weaver. ■

*Email Staff Writer*

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## Dealing with drug resistance is ‘like Whac-A-Mole’

Diseases are a moving target because biology is constantly changing. Brian Hie, assistant professor of chemical engineering at Stanford, aims to flip that model using AI to predict how viruses, tumors, and other diseases will evolve. Hie’s group pursues two strategies: using machine learning to predict and simulate disease evolution, and developing improved models of biological systems to design and control therapeutics. By integrating forecasts with system-level models, they aim to anticipate resistance and create treatments that remain effective as pathogens or tumors rapidly change. **SCAN TO READ THE SPOTLIGHT**



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# Let's educate!

## OUR GUIDE TO SCHOOLS, CAMPS & CLASSES — AUTUMN 2025

### BUSINESS & TECH

#### CareerGenerations

2100 Geng Road, Suite 210,  
Palo Alto  
[careergenerations.com](http://careergenerations.com)

CareerGenerations offers career counseling and group workshops to meet the career needs of a variety of individuals, including college students looking for internships, and graduates and professionals exploring career options or looking for employment.

#### ReBoot Accel

1865 Camino a los Cerros,  
Menlo Park  
[rebootaccel.com](http://rebootaccel.com)

ReBoot Accel keeps members of the community current, connected and confident about reentering the workforce through workshops taught by experts.

### COOKING

#### La Toque De Cindy

904 Cowper St., Palo Alto  
[cindytoquecooking.com](http://cindytoquecooking.com)

La Toque De Cindy offers cooking camps and classes for kids (with a specialty in chocolate), plus cooking experiences for folks of all ages.

#### Nourish & Flourish

Menlo Park and Palo Alto  
(locations vary)  
[nourishflourish.org](http://nourishflourish.org)

Nourish & Flourish offers cooking classes for youth, with an emphasis on sustainable food practices in addition to culinary skills.

#### Sur La Table

Town & Country Village, 855 El  
Camino Real, Suite 57, Palo Alto  
[surlatable.com](http://surlatable.com)

Sur La Table offers hands-on cooking classes, guiding students in making regional cuisines, themed meals and baked goods.

#### Taste Buds Kitchen

2775 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto  
[tastebudskitchen.com/palo-alto](http://tastebudskitchen.com/palo-alto)

The Palo Alto franchise of Taste Buds Kitchen offers cooking classes, camps, parties and events for all ages.

### CULTURE

#### Joy Culture Foundation

934 Santa Cruz Ave., Suite A,  
Menlo Park  
[thejoyculturefoundation.org](http://thejoyculturefoundation.org)

The nonprofit Joy Culture Foundation operates the Little Bookworm Library to provide families a place to immerse in Chinese culture and language. The center has

Autumn's in the air — bring on the pumpkin spice everything, start planning your Halloween costume and let's get learning! For many, autumn means back to school, be it the kids heading back to class for another academic year or folks of all ages ready to take on their next challenge, polish up their skills, or try something new. Our fall guide is here to help get you started on your next fruitful educational path.

*Let's Educate is published quarterly by the Palo Alto Weekly and The Almanac.*

children's books in Mandarin and English available for check out, as well as bilingual language and culture classes.

#### Mustard Seed Learning Center

3048 Price Court, Palo Alto  
[mustardseedlearningcenter.org](http://mustardseedlearningcenter.org)

Mustard Seed Learning Center is an after-school tutoring and care program that teaches local youth to speak Mandarin Chinese, in addition to emphasizing social development and excellence in academics. After-school programs are held at 3048 Price Court, Palo Alto, and Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. The center also offers a preschool program that takes place at the Price Court address.

### DANCE & THEATER

#### Dance Connection

Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road,  
Palo Alto  
[danceconnectionpaloalto.com](http://danceconnectionpaloalto.com)

Dance Connection offers combination and graded classes for youth (age 3 and up) and adults. Ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical, and other instruction are available for students at various levels of ability.

#### Mannakin Theater and Dance

en Avant School of Dance, 1841  
Bay Road, East Palo Alto  
[mannakindance.org](http://mannakindance.org)

Mannakin Theater and Dance offers youth ballet and other dance classes at en Avant School of Dance studio in East Palo Alto.

#### Peninsula Youth Theatre

2510-A Old Middlefield Way,  
Mountain View  
[pytnet.org](http://pytnet.org)

PYT offers theatrical learning experiences for local youth, including stage productions, classes and camps.

#### Stanford Quads

3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley  
[stanfordquads.org/class](http://stanfordquads.org/class)

Square dance class open to singles, couples and families. Sunday evenings 6:30-8:30 p.m. Two "intro nights" (Sept. 28 and Oct. 5) are open to people with no previous experience. The group meets at Ladera Community Church.

#### Zohar School of Dance & Company

Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road, Room  
L-4, Palo Alto  
[zohardancecompany.org](http://zohardancecompany.org)

With roots going back to 1979, Zohar School of Dance holds a range of adult dance classes including jazz, modern, ballet and tap.

### MUSIC & VISUAL ARTS

#### Community School of Music and Arts

Finn Center, 230 San Antonio  
Circle, Mountain View  
[arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org)

The Community School of Music and Arts offers year-round classes (and private lessons) in music, visual and digital arts, with courses for adults and children.

#### EPACenter

1950 Bay Road, East Palo Alto  
[epacenter.org](http://epacenter.org)

The 25,000-square-foot space offers a wide range of creative disciplines and job training for San Mateo County youth.

#### New Mozart School of Music

2100 El Camino Real, Suite C,  
Palo Alto  
[newmozartschool.com](http://newmozartschool.com)

New Mozart School of Music offers music lessons and group classes in a variety of instruments year-round to students of all ages and abilities.

#### Pacific Art League

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto  
[pacificartleague.org](http://pacificartleague.org)

Pacific Art League offers a range of classes for children and adults with varying experience. Instructors teach many media, including

drawing, painting, watercolor, digital art and more.

#### Palo Alto Art Center

1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto  
[cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Community-Services/Arts-Sciences/Palo-Alto-Art-Center](http://cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Community-Services/Arts-Sciences/Palo-Alto-Art-Center)

Palo Alto Art Center classes and workshops — teaching children, teens and adults — cover such areas as ceramics, painting, drawing, jewelry, sculpture, mixed media and more.

### OLDER ADULTS

#### Avenidas

450 Bryant St., Palo Alto /  
Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road, Room  
H-5, Palo Alto  
[avenidas.org](http://avenidas.org)

Avenidas offers classes, as well as lectures and workshops, for seniors focusing on topics such as health, fitness, languages, humanities, computing, music and writing.

#### Little House Activity Center

800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park  
[lpvi.org/littlehouse](http://lpvi.org/littlehouse)

Little House Activity Center offers classes and activities on various topics, including fitness, arts and technology.

### SCHOOLS

#### Athena Academy

525 San Antonio Ave., Palo Alto  
[athenaacademy.org](http://athenaacademy.org)

Athena Academy educates dyslexic and twice-exceptional students in first through eighth grades, with an emphasis on building confidence and helping students embrace their talents and unlock their potential.

#### Bowman School

4000 Terman Drive, Palo Alto  
[bowmanschool.org](http://bowmanschool.org)

Bowman School offers Montessori education for elementary through high school (upper

secondary campus at 835 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto), (plus early education programs at 693 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto and 3801 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto).

#### Castilleja School

1310 Bryant St., Palo Alto  
[castilleja.org](http://castilleja.org)

Castilleja is an independent school for girls in middle and high school with a goal of inspiring young women to become confident leaders and changemakers.

#### Challenger School

3880 Middlefield Road,  
Palo Alto  
[challengerschool.com](http://challengerschool.com)

Challenger School's Palo Alto location is open to students from preschool through eighth grade with an emphasis on preparing students to become self-reliant, individual and independent thinkers.

#### Emerson School

2800 W. Bayshore Road,  
Palo Alto  
[emersonmontessori.com](http://emersonmontessori.com)

Emerson School provides a year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Emerson also offers an infant center and a preschool program.

#### The Girls' Middle School

3400 West Bayshore Road,  
Palo Alto | [girlsms.org](http://girlsms.org)

A progressive school with a focus on hands-on and project-based learning, The Girls' Middle school strives to empower and educate middle school girls with a holistic approach.

#### Keys School

2890 Middlefield Road and 3981  
El Camino Real, Palo Alto  
[keysschool.org](http://keysschool.org)

Keys School, serving elementary and middle school students, emphasizes nurturing the whole child.

#### Menlo School

50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton  
[menloschool.org](http://menloschool.org)

Menlo School is open to students in middle and high school, with a goal of challenging and empowering its students to fall in love with learning.

#### Mid-Peninsula High School

1340 Willow Road, Menlo Park  
[mid-pen.org](http://mid-pen.org)

Mid-Peninsula High School aims to prepare its students for successful college careers and provide an inclusive and collaborative learning environment.

**Peninsula School**

920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park  
peninsulaschool.org

Peninsula School is a progressive institution teaching students from nursery through eighth grade, with an emphasis on choice and experience.

**Phillips Brooks School**

2245 Avy Ave., Menlo Park  
phillipsbrooks.finalsite.com

This independent day school offers child-centered learning for children from preschool through fifth grade.

**Sand Hill School**

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto  
sandhillschool.org

Located at the Children's Health Council, Sand Hill School teaches children from second through eighth grade with language-based learning differences, school-based anxiety and ADHD.

**Silicon Valley International School**

151 Laura Lane, Palo Alto /  
475 Pope St., Menlo Park  
svintl.org

Silicon Valley International School offers bilingual immersion day school with two nursery-to-fifth-grade bilingual programs in French/English, German/English and Mandarin/English as well as middle and high school programs.

**Stratford School**

870 N. California Ave., Palo Alto  
stratfordschools.com

The Palo Alto location of Stratford

School has preschool, elementary and middle school programs, plus after-school clubs and an extended-day program.

**Synapse School**

3375 Edison Way, Menlo Park  
synapseschool.org

Synapse is a TK-eighth grade independent school. Parent education is an integral part of Synapse's experience for families, as is social-emotional learning.

**Woodland School**

360 La Cuesta Drive, Portola Valley  
woodland-school.org

Woodland School is an independent school offering small classes and an emphasis on student-driven projects for children in preschool up through middle school.

**PARENT EDUCATION**

**Children's Health Council**

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto  
chconline.org

Children's Health Council works with families living with child-behavior issues, dyslexia, anxiety and depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and autism.

**SPORTS**

**Baylands Golf Links**

1875 Embarcadero Road,  
Palo Alto  
baylandsgolfinks.com

Private lessons and clinics teaching golf techniques, rules and etiquette are available for sign-up at any level of experience throughout the year.

**Kim Grant Tennis Academy**

3005 Middlefield Road,  
Palo Alto  
kimgranttennis.com

The Kim Grant Tennis Academy organizes an array of tennis classes and programs for adults and children at multiple locations, including in Palo Alto and Woodside. Pickleball clinics are also offered at some locations.

**Spring Down Equestrian Center**

725 Portola Road, Portola Valley  
springdown.com

Spring Down Equestrian Center educates children (beginning at age 6) and adults on horses and horseback riding. Classes and camps held year-round.

**United States Youth Volleyball League**

550 Sylvan Ave.,  
Mountain View  
usyvl.org/locations/mountain-view

Run by the league and volunteers, the youth volleyball program teaches youth ages 7-15 of all skill levels to play and learn the sport in a fun, supportive and co-ed environment.

**Webb Ranch Riding School**

2720 Alpine Road,  
Portola Valley  
webbranchinc.com

Webb Ranch offers instruction for beginning and intermediate horseback riders in both group and private settings, including camps for kids age 7-18.

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

**JobTrain**

1200 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park  
jobtrainworks.org

JobTrain has a variety of training programs for adults — providing instruction in the culinary arts, business administration, health care and more — as well as programs specifically for young adults, to help with GED diploma preparation, job placement and vocational training. The center also offers onsite preschool with income-based fees. Open entry GED/high school equivalency classes run on weekdays.

**The Riekes Center**

3455 Edison Way, Menlo Park  
riekes.org

The Riekes Center offers year-round programming in fitness, arts and nature for individuals of all ages and abilities. The center also provides programs for home-schooled students.

**Sequoia District Adult School**

3247 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park  
seqsas.org

Sequoia District Adult School holds classes in English as a second language and computer and business skills. Students can also earn a high school diploma or GED certificate. Counselors are available to help students transition to college programs.

**Stanford Continuing Studies**

Littlefield Center, 365 Lasuen St.,  
Stanford  
continuingstudies.stanford.edu

Stanford Continuing Studies organizes in-person and online classes in liberal arts and sciences, creative writing, and professional and personal development.

*Let's Educate is published quarterly in the Palo Alto Weekly and the Almanac. Descriptions of classes and schools in Palo Alto, Stanford, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Atherton, East Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Portola Valley and Woodside are provided. Listings are free and subject to editing. Due to space constraints, classes and schools in the above cities are given priority.*

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November 6, 8:45 - 10:00am

**TK & K Open House:**  
December 5, 9:30 - 11:00am



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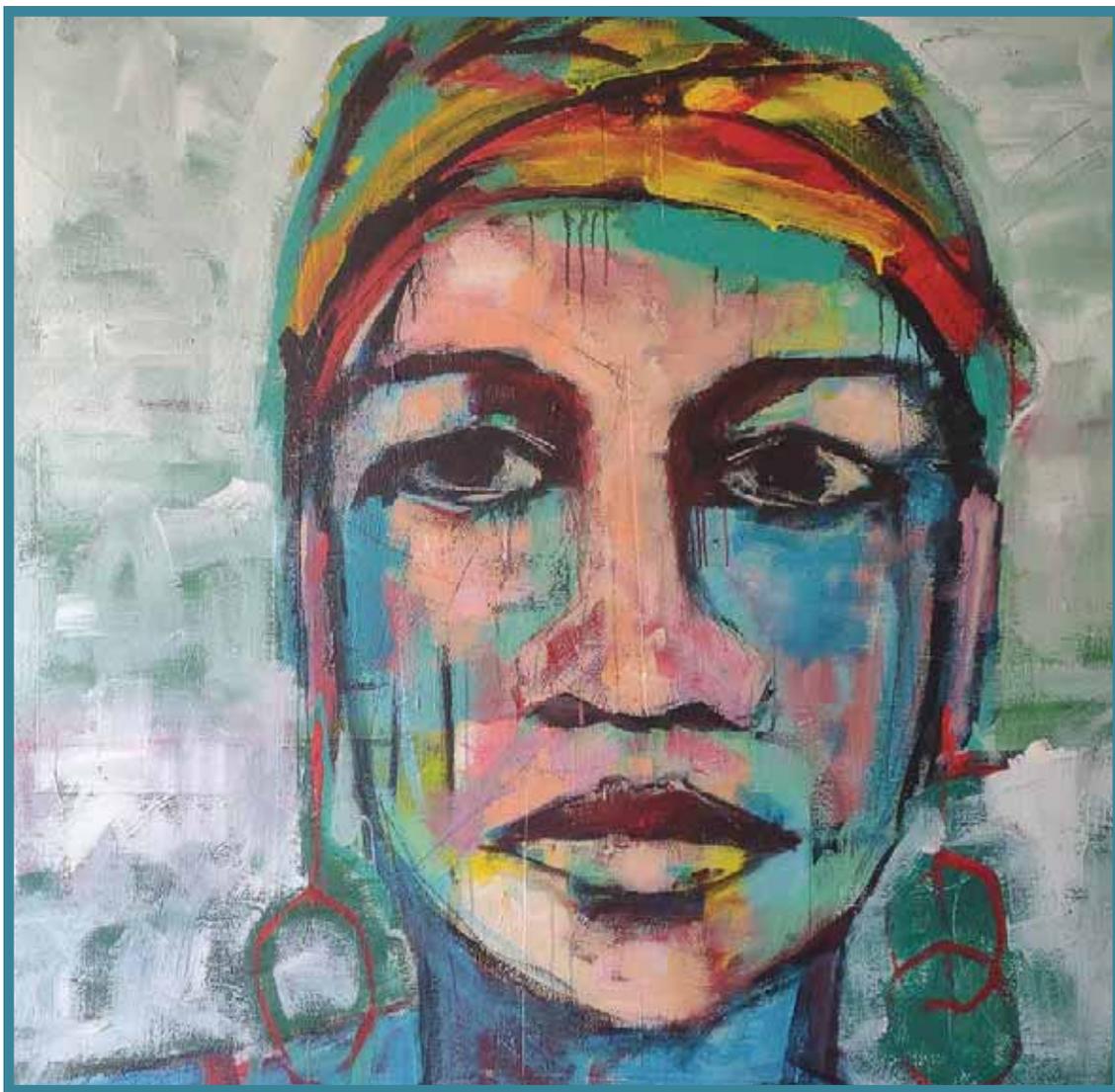


LEADERSHIP - ACADEMICS - CHARACTER - SERVICE

## Rocking the block

The Center for Creativity's new Art + Sound on Broadway series brings concerts right to its doorstep

By Heather Zimmerman



The Center for Creativity is living up to its name. Redwood City's new center for the arts is hosting a series this fall where visitors can see art in the gallery, hear it on stage and also create it.

The Art+Sound on Broadway series, presented by the Center for Creativity, will bring together concerts by area musicians, a visual arts exhibition and hands-on community art-making activities led by local artists. Funded by a grant from the Redwood City Arts Commission, the series, which will be held on three upcoming Sunday afternoons in September and October, highlights Redwood City visual and performing artists.

"We wanted to do some big events where we combined both performing arts and the visual arts, the exhibitions and then the act of art-making together," said Jill Asher, a member of the Center for Creativity's Steering Committee.

The Center for Creativity opened in May in downtown Redwood City in the historic Hotel Sequoia, which it will temporarily call home until 2027.

The Art+Sound series kicks off on Sept. 7 with performances by singer-songwriter duo Alex and Maya Valdivia and vocalist and songwriter Melissa Modifer, with a community art activity of impressionistic watercolor flower painting led by artist Elizabeth Gomez.

On Sept. 21, visitors can learn to make an inlaid wood pendant from artist Gadget and enjoy family-friendly music and movement with Andy Z and dreamy pop with The Corner Laughters. (Full disclosure: Embarcadero Media Assistant Lifestyle Editor Karla Kane is the group's lead singer and songwriter.) Wrapping up the series on Oct. 19 will be all-female trio Ol' Blue Genes playing favorites from the 1950s-70s and folk and bluegrass with Redwood Souls,

plus artist Corinne Feldman will teach visitors to make colorful and quirky cardboard faces.

On view throughout the series' run will be the exhibition "Art of the Community: Redwood City 2025," a juried show of works in a variety of media from over 30 local artists, funded by the city's arts commission as the visual arts component of Art + Sound.

"It's all artists from Redwood City," Asher said.

After taking in some art, visitors can roll up their sleeves and make their own artworks.

"People can come and look at the exhibition of Redwood City artists. They'll be able to sit down, work at a table and create some art, and then they can go outside and listen to wonderful music and performances," Asher said.

In booking the concert series, Asher wanted to highlight local performers. She already knew some area musicians through her work as co-founder of the Peninsula-based Magical Bridge Foundation. "I was looking for performers who have performed in Redwood City before — and a mix of performers, but that (played) family-friendly and community-friendly music that would just uplift the community," Asher said.

"I reached out to some of the performers I knew from when I did concerts for Magical Bridge, and reached out to other artists that have been involved with us and are really talented performers. We're going to take over (the street) for a few hours on a Sunday afternoon."

The Center for Creativity sits at one end of a block of Broadway that's closed off for outdoor dining, and for this series, organizers will place a stage at the barricaded end of the street. The exhibition and art activities will take place inside the center, with performances taking place on the



Courtesy Center for Creativity

Above Left: "Octopus Dreams," ceramics by Mimi Chung. Above Right: "Ti," stained-glass mosaic by Jennifer Kelley. Top: "Bella," acrylic paint by Gail Ragains.

See **THE BLOCK**, page 21

# Palo Alto author's debut novel straddles racial injustice and major league baseball

Rajesh C. Oza's 'Double Play on the Red Line' is a work of historical fiction inspired by the work of The Innocence Project

By Ashwini Gangal

Novelist Toni Morrison famously said “If there’s a book that you want to read, but it hasn’t been written yet, then you must write it.”

For longtime Palo Alto resident Rajesh C. Oza, the process of writing his debut novel “Double Play on the Red Line” was, by his own admission, a way of making good on Morrison’s advice.

Blending genres like historical and autobiographical fiction, the book delves into themes such as racial inequity, immigration law and the American social justice system in the foreground, with Major League Baseball in the background.

Set in 1950s Chicago, the book tells the story of an unlikely friendship between two men of color — Ratan, an Indian-American professor of sports journalism, and Ernie, an African American peanut vendor who loses his shot at a successful baseball career after he is wrongfully convicted of murder. The novel unfolds as Ratan investigates the truth behind the fateful incident that changed Ernie’s life. As Ratan searches for information that will exonerate Ernie, he gets to know him and shares details from his own life. The two men slowly become friends.

That one of his protagonists is the fictional namesake of

baseball legend Ernie Banks is not a coincidence. For years, Oza said that he has harbored a fascination for the “what ifs” of life and has been very taken by the idea that a single moment can tilt one’s fortunes toward tragedy. Taking a real-life hero and creating an alter ego for him on the page was his way of scratching that mental itch. In real life, Banks, who played for the Chicago Cubs, was a hall of famer, a two-time National League MVP, 14-time All-Star and winner of a Gold Glove award.

The character of Ernie shares some of Banks’ background, including launching a career in 1950s with the Kansas City Monarchs, a team in the Negro American League, and serving in the U.S. military during the Korean War. But in the novel, once the fictional Ernie is scouted for the Cubs, their stories diverge.

“This sense of our doppelgänger, this ‘other,’ this alternate sense of who we are ... the reason to use Ernie is to really bring home the fact that this could happen to anyone,” Oza said.

Inspiration for the book first came to Oza back in 2007 when his daughter worked on The Innocence Project, a program at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, aimed at investigating wrongful convictions. The program was

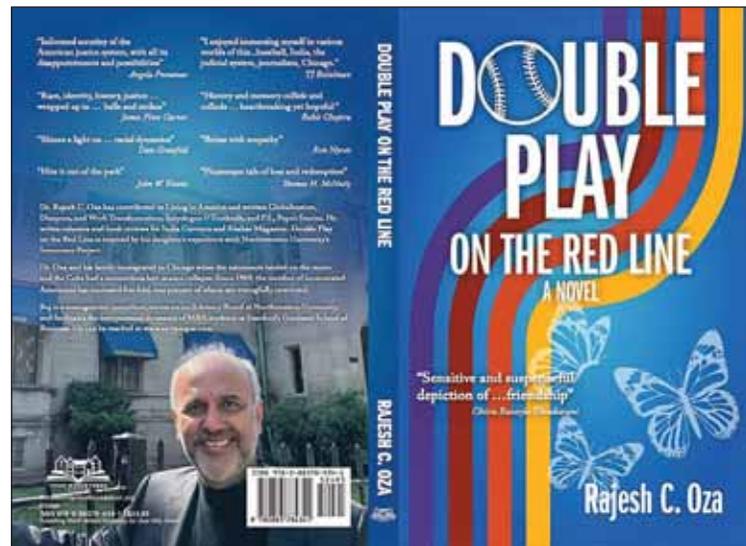
later renamed Medill Justice Project.

Oza’s daughter and the team she worked with helped prove the innocence of an incarcerated person, but that person was not exonerated. Deeply moved by the story, Oza tried turning it into a work of nonfiction but said that he failed because he felt “too close” to it.

Then during the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly two decades after he first heard the story, he hatched the idea to novelize it. He wrote an “ugly first draft,” followed by a two-year novel writing course at Stanford University, after which he was finally able to create a version of the story that he was happy with. “It stayed with me, it just wouldn’t let go, every part of this story had to be told, it truly has been a slow burn,” he said. “It’s been a long, joyous process.”

Oza, formerly a management consultant, has lived in Palo Alto for close to 30 years with his wife, Mangla Oza, who recently retired as a teacher at the Palo Alto Unified School District. Oza has written several nonfiction works, “Satyalogue // TruthTalk: A Gandhian Guide to (Post) Modern Day Dilemmas” and “Globalization, Diaspora and Work Transformation,” in addition to a collection of autobiographically inspired short stories, “P.S., Papa’s Stories.”

Before moving to Palo Alto in 1997, he lived in Evanston,



Courtesy Rajesh C. Oza

Rajesh C. Oza’s debut novel, “Double Play on the Red Line,” is set in 1950s and ’60s Chicago and features a character who is an alter ego of baseball legend Ernie Banks.

a suburb of Chicago, closer to where the novel is based.

Though “Double Play on the Red Line” is set in the past, the themes it deals with persist to the present day.

Oza, who worked on Barack Obama’s presidential campaign, recalls having to reckon with race-related psychological barriers while organizing “Camp Obamas” around the area.

“I was asked to open up an office in East Palo Alto; I tried so hard to get people from Palo Alto to come to the East Palo Alto office, but they just wouldn’t come,” he said, marveling at the irony of having to

deal with racial stigma while campaigning for a Black presidential candidate. “And that’s why this is not a story set in a particular time, that’s why this is a sad story because it’s timeless.” ■

Email Contributing Writer  
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Published by Third World Press, “Double Play on the Red Line” is due to be released in September.

## THE BLOCK

continued from page 20

street just outside the center. Asher encourages visitors to bring chairs or blankets to sit on and watch the performance.

Although each Art + Sound event is free to the public, the arts commission grant ensures that musicians and activity leaders won’t be working gratis. In addition to offering a small stipend for performers, the grant helped fund the jury for the art exhibition and to pay artists leading the community art activities, Asher noted.

“I applied for a grant from the Redwood City Arts Commission for this to make it a three-part series with the goal of actually paying some of the local artists, because most of the artists just never get paid and compensated for their time,” she said. “We received an \$8,000 grant from

them, and we are penny-pinching, but we are paying folks to do this, and we felt like it was really important to kick this off with a way of bringing the community together.”

With the series, the center aims to highlight “that art is alive in this community, that it’s valued and that it’s celebrated, that this is a community gathering space,” Asher said. ■

Email Arts & Entertainment  
Editor Heather Zimmerman at  
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Art + Sound on Broadway takes place Sept. 7, 21 and Oct. 19 at 4 p.m. at the Center for Creativity, 800 Main St., Redwood City. [rwccfc.org/art-sound-on-broadway](http://rwccfc.org/art-sound-on-broadway).



Anna Hoch-Kenney

The Center for Creativity, located inside the Hotel Sequoia, will hold concerts right on its doorstep, at the end of the section of Broadway that has been blocked off for outdoor dining.



### Gourmet Haus Staudt Oktoberfest, Redwood City

This family-owned Bavarian bierstube, market and bottle shop will celebrate Oktoberfest Sept. 6-7 with beer, brats, pretzels and live polka music from The Internationals. Admission is free for those under 21 years old, and entry is \$20 at the door for patrons 21 and over and includes a beer.

Gourmet Haus Staudt was established in 1975 as a flower shop by Joe and Lucie Staudt and has since grown into a hub for all things German.

*Gourmet Haus Staudt, 2615 Broadway, Redwood City; 650-364-9232, Instagram: @gourmethausstaudt. Sept. 6-7 from noon to 8 p.m.*

By Adrienne Mitchel

**R**aise a stein for another season of Oktoberfest events along the Peninsula. Expect returning favorites, such as celebrations in Redwood City and Campbell, as well as an all-new event in Menlo Park. California's Great America in Santa Clara will not be hosting an event this year.

### Ludwigs Biergarten Oktoberfest, Mountain View

The downtown Mountain View beer garden is celebrating Oktoberfest with two events. The first is Sept. 12 with live music by The Internationals from 5-11 p.m. Show up dressed in lederhosen or dirndl to receive a free drink.

Ludwigs' main Oktoberfest event will be

Sept. 27 with the Zicke-Zacke Band performing. Activities include stein-holding contests for men, women and children and booths with old-school Oktoberfest games, such as tin can alley and arm wrestling.

For the month of September, Ludwigs will offer a special menu dubbed Munchen Leuchtet ("Munich Glows"), which includes wurstsalat (sliced bologna with onions and vinaigrette), a biergarten plate (pretzel, Bavarian cheese dip and spiral-sliced white radish), a Bavarian burger (made with veal) and black forest cake.

Ludwigs, which opened in Mountain View in 2021, transitioned to new ownership in October 2024.

*Ludwigs Biergarten, 383 Castro St., Mountain View; 650-282-5342, Instagram: @ludwigsmv. Sept. 12 from 5-11 p.m. and Sept. 27 from 3-11 p.m.*

### Los Gatos Oktoberfest

No admission tickets are required for the fourth annual Los Gatos Oktoberfest, hosted by KCAT Public Media. More than 2,500 people are expected to attend the event, which will offer German and local beer, as well as wine from Ancora Vino. For food, German Guys will grill bratwurst and serve chicken schnitzel and German-style pretzels.

From noon to 5 p.m., expect music from The Internationals, and from 5:30 to 8 p.m., there will be a dance party with music from

The Lucky Devils. The Nature Friends Schuhplattler Dancers will perform polka twice throughout the event, and the Fratello Marionettes will perform two marionette shows.

*Los Gatos Oktoberfest, 110 E. Main St., Los Gatos. Sept. 13 from noon to 8 p.m.*

### Redwood City Oktoberfest

Redwood City hosts the longest Oktoberfest celebration along the Peninsula, with nine days of beer, pretzels, brats and live German music.

From Sept. 19-28, Courthouse Square will feature more than 2,000 feet of family-style bench seating under a Munich-inspired celebration tent. On weekends, ticketholders can expect German dance music, performances and a variety of contests, including dancing, stein-holding and yodeling. Weekdays offer live music only from bands such as Deutscher Musikverein, Alpine Sound Band and The Internationals.

Tickets are required for all attendees ages 2 and up, and the price ranges from \$10-\$25 for those not drinking alcohol and \$16-\$35 for drinkers ages 21 and up. All tickets include a commemorative stein and a drink ticket, redeemable for beer or soda, depending on the ticket type.

Food and extra drink tickets are sold separately. Food options include giant pretzels with or without thinly sliced salami and Havarti cheese, bratwurst with German potato salad and sauerkraut and apple turnovers with vanilla ice cream.

For larger groups, a VIP ticket for \$250 gets a six-person table seating with 12 drink vouchers.

*Redwood City Oktoberfest, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Sept. 19 and Sept.*



Above: The Redwood City Oktoberfest has nine days of celebrations. Courtesy Redwood City Oktoberfest. Top: The 10th annual Mountain View Oktoberfest will be Oct. 11-12, offering yodeling, costume and beer belly contests. Courtesy Mountain View Oktoberfest.



Courtesy Redwood City Oktoberfest

The Redwood City Oktoberfest has 2,000 feet of family-style bench seating under a Munich-inspired celebration tent.

26 from 5-10 p.m., Sept. 20 and 27 from noon to 4 p.m. and 5-9 p.m., Sept. 21 and 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4-8 p.m., Sept. 23-25 from 5-9 p.m.

### Blue Ocean Brewing, Half Moon Bay

This Coastside brewery is celebrating Oktoberfest Sept. 20 with the debut of their new Helles lager Volker Fest and live music from The Vince Charming Band. Expect brats and pretzels as well.

Blue Ocean Brewing, 315 Princeton Ave., Half Moon Bay; Instagram: @blueoceanbrewing. Sept. 20 from 3-5 p.m.

### Fieldwork Brewing, San Mateo

This San Mateo beer garden is celebrating Oktoberfest Sept. 20 to Oct. 5 with its annual Fest & Last Oktoberfest Lager and a special Oktoberfest menu featuring hot pretzels with house-blended mustard (\$8), smoked bratwurst on a pretzel bun with mustard and sauerkraut (\$13), bratizza (\$24) and German potato salad (\$8).

A limited-edition stein, with Fest & Last Oktoberfest lager included (\$15), will be available starting Sept. 20 until supplies last.

On Sept. 21, Fieldwork Brewing San Mateo will have live oompah music from 1-4 p.m. and games from noon to 5 p.m.

Fieldwork Brewing was founded in 2015 in Berkeley and has since expanded to eight locations, including San Mateo. It offers a rotating selection of more than 20 beers, wines, nonalcoholic craft beverages, Detroit-style pizzas, salads and small plates.

Fieldwork Brewing, 3030 S. Delaware St., San Mateo; 650-242-1280, Instagram: @fieldworkbrewing\_sanmateo. Sept. 20-Oct. 5, with special programming Sept. 21 from noon to 5 p.m.

### Springline Oktoberfest, Menlo Park

Menlo Park's Springline is hosting its first Oktoberfest celebration, open to the public Sept. 26 from 5-9 p.m.

The ticketed event costs \$18 for those not drinking alcohol (including children of all ages) and \$25 for those 21 and up who are drinking. Tickets include a half-liter stein and a drink ticket, redeemable for beer, wine or a nonalcoholic beverage, depending on the ticket type.

German beers, local Barebottle Brewing Company beer, pretzels, brats and other Oktoberfest-inspired food will be available for purchase. Expect German music, live performances, games (including stein-holding competitions) and photo ops with festive decor.

Springline Oktoberfest, 1300 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Sept. 26 from 5-9 p.m.

### Taplands Oktoberfest, Santa Clara

The Santa Clara taproom, bottle shop and brewery is hosting an Oktoberfest celebration Sept. 27 with domestic Oktoberfest beers and food specials such as brats and pretzels. Expect Oompah music, a costume contest and Oktoberfest games.

Taplands, 1171 Homestead Road, Santa Clara; 408-709-2990, Instagram: @taplandssantaclara. Sept. 27 from noon to 11 p.m.

### Mountain View Oktoberfest

The 10th annual Mountain View Oktoberfest is expanding its footprint this year and will take over Castro Street from Church Street to Mercy Street.

Unlike Redwood City's and Springline's

Oktoberfest celebrations, Mountain View's is not ticketed, with everyone welcome to participate in its various contests and enjoy the live music. Traditional German ensembles Deutscher Musikverein and BlowMusik will perform Oct. 11-12, and contests include kids pretzel eating, yodeling, stein-holding, costume, beer belly and best chicken dancer.

Expect a 200-foot tent, a variety of classic German, Austrian and American beers, local red and white wines and multiple food vendors, including Ludwigs and German Guys. For those looking to drink alcohol, purchasing glassware and drink tickets is required.

Mountain View Oktoberfest began in 2013 as a collaboration between Steins Beer Garden, Tied House Brewery and the Chamber of Commerce. This is the first year the Chamber of Commerce is the sole host of the event, with Tied House permanently closed and Steins recently changing ownership. The event has grown from about 4,000 people in its first year to about 10,000 in attendance last year.

Mountain View Oktoberfest, Castro Street from Church Street to Mercy Street. Instagram: @mvoktoberfest. Oct. 11-12 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is free.

### Campbell Oktoberfest

Since 1994, Campbell Oktoberfest has brought almost 1 million people to downtown Campbell.

The hub of the event is the Biersche Garden, an open-air 60x30 foot tent with family-style seating, where attendees can find Gordon Biersch beers and ales, Bavarian pretzels, German food vendors and a stage with live German music by the Zicke-Zacke band.

In addition to the Biersche Garden, Campbell Oktoberfest has more than 100 artisan booths, five

stages of live music, a community stage with performances by local musicians, dance teams and martial arts studios, 15-20 food vendors and a kids' zone called Kinderplatz.

At 2 p.m. Oct. 18-19, stein-holding and best-dressed contests will occur. Attendees must pay \$30 to participate in the stein-holding contest, which includes a stein filled with a liter of Gordon Biersch beer. The winner receives a glass boot stein.

Returning for the third year is the Braumeister Competition, where home brewers can submit their Oktoberfest-style marzen beer to the Campbell Chamber of Commerce before 4 p.m. on Oct. 3. Judges announce the top three submissions Oct. 18 at 2 p.m. The top three receive medals, and the overall winner will be awarded an Oktoberfest glass boot from Gordon Biersch.

Like Mountain View Oktoberfest, Campbell's does not require a ticket for admission, but does charge for drink tickets (\$12 for one), ceramic beer steins (\$25), stemless wine glasses (\$12) and entrance into Kinderplatz (\$20). New this year is an Oktoberfest Pass that gives passholders access to special expedited lines at all festival beer booths (\$25).

Campbell Oktoberfest, East Campbell Avenue between Third Street and Harrison Avenue, downtown Campbell; Instagram: @campbellchamber. Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ■

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From left: The Campbell Oktoberfest, held Oct. 18-19, includes stein-holding and best-dressed competitions. Courtesy Campbell Chamber. Menlo Park's Springline will host its first public Oktoberfest event Sept. 26. Courtesy Springline.





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