POLICE UNDER SCRUTINY

PROTESTERS CALL FOR SWIFT LOCAL REFORM OF POLICE POLICIES, PRACTICES

Read up-to-the-minute news on PaloAltoOnline.com

- **Election** Three more candidates join council race
- **Spectrum** Should Palo Alto police be reformed?
- **Eating Out** Restaurants reopen for outdoor dining
Q: How will Stanford Health Care strive for zero COVID-19 transmissions at our locations across the Bay Area?

A: By continuing the highest standards of safety.

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- Everyone entering Stanford Health Care facilities is given a mask and screened for symptoms of COVID-19. Those with symptoms are directed to a separate waiting area.
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- Patients in waiting areas and clinics are separated by at least 6 feet.
- Each patient is tested prior to planned procedures and surgeries.
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- Secure and simple video visits are being utilized for routine care, limiting the number of patients passing through.

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Even one person at risk is too much for Stanford Medicine.

—Sam Wald, MD | Vice President and Associate Chief Medical Officer, Stanford Health Care
## Congratulations to the Top Real Estate Agents & Teams in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Agent/Team Name</th>
<th>Brokerage</th>
<th>Organized as Agent or Team</th>
<th>Key Team Members</th>
<th>Total Sales*</th>
<th>Listing Sales</th>
<th>Buyer Sales</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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Although all DeLeon Palo Alto sellers work directly with Michael Repka, the DeLeon Team has far more resources and a more robust staff than any independent contractor agent or small team. That, coupled with our innovative business model, creates many operational efficiencies that allow us to do considerably more volume and offer more services than traditional agents. Nevertheless, clients regularly choose between the DeLeon Team’s integrated model, and the traditional approach practiced by most other agents and teams, so we believe a direct and transparent comparison is helpful.

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*Total sales includes both the listing sales and buyer sales; No off-MLS sales were included in the rankings.

†Recip is an amalgamation of many out of the area agents
‡Tom LeMieux operates functionally as a team but splits the team sales amongst the members when reporting sales to the MLS.
RECYCLING

Is More Important Than Ever

Recycled Materials Are Feedstocks for Essential Supplies

The US EPA recently announced that the manufacturing industry is in dire need of raw materials to make the products and shipping supplies we need during this pandemic, including paper towels, sanitizing wipes, toilet paper, and packaging for a wide range of products including boxes for shipping.

TOP TIPS FOR RECYCLING & DISPOSAL

Sort Properly
Properly sort your waste into your recycle, compost, and landfill carts. Make sure your items are empty of food and liquids. Learn what goes where at www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools.

Break Down Cardboard Boxes
Remove all packing material, flatten and place boxes so that they fit loosely in your blue recycle cart.

Avoid Overflow
Have too much for your carts? Please contact GreenWaste Customer Service at (650) 493-4894 or pacustomerservice@greenwaste.com to schedule an additional pickup or increase your service level.

Put Masks and Gloves in the Garbage
These items are not recyclable or compostable. Place them in your black landfill cart. Please do not litter!

For more information, visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools
zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org
(650) 496-5910

Achieving zero waste together
What will police reform look like in Palo Alto?

From ‘carotid hold’ policy to ‘de-escalation’ practices, city appears to fall short in some areas
by Gennady Sheyner

A s the Palo Alto City Council pivots from offering symbolic support for the Black Lives Matter movement to debating real reforms, one question that the city officials have yet to grapple with is: “What should change look like?”

Council members offered little guidance on that point during their June 8 meeting, when they passed a resolution in support of Black Lives Matter and heard from dozens of residents calling for reforms to the Palo Alto Police Department. Some speakers criticized the department for recent incidents involving use of force, called for Police Chief Robert Jonsen to resign and asked the council to “defund the police.”

Jonsen countered that the city’s police department is already “very progressive” and that its existing policies already align well with those proposed in reform campaigns such as “8 Can’t Wait,” which was launched by the police-reform nonprofit Campaign Zero. Council members generally agreed with Councilman Eric Filseth, who called the present moment a good time for “self-reflection” and to consider ways to improve police operations. Mayor Adrian Fine cited “8 Can’t Wait” and former President Barack Obama’s “Mayor’s Pledge” (which asks mayors to review police use-of-force policies, engage communities to solicit diverse input, report findings to the community and reform police policies) as good places to start.

Many residents, including Rev. Kaloma Smith, who chairs the city’s Human Relations Commission, and Greer Stone, who serves

(continued on page 8)

PUBLIC SAFETY

For East Palo Alto cops, trust rather than fear
Over decades, police and residents have built up mutual respect
by Sue Dremann

East Palo Alto residents once held the kind of fear and mistrust of police officers found in many communities of color. The police department in the 1990s was infiltrated by rogue cops who routinely abused residents. One notorious group, who called themselves the “Wolf Pack,” beat people and shook down drug dealers.

In a story in the Palo Alto Weekly at the time, resident Elaine Crooks said she implored police officers “Please don’t kill my son, let him go,” after they beat her son in front of her.

“They said, ‘These are new billy clubs, and you’re the first we’re using them on.,’” Crooks recalled.

Things got so bad that the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury in December 1997 recommended the police department be disbanded.

Pastor Paul Bains, police chaplain for the East Palo Alto and Palo Alto police departments today, recalled that misfits from other law enforcement agencies who often couldn’t be hired anywhere else landed in the city.

“They were very fearful because of the excessive use of power,” he said.

After years of alleged abuses and harassment — together with street violence and killings and open drug dealing — the

(continued on page 10)
Candidates appointed to the independent, volunteer committee for two-year terms in the following categories:

Currently, seven committee members are needed for two-year terms in the following categories:

- Measures G & C Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee

Candidates appointed to the independent, voluntary committee for two-year terms in the following categories:

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter detailing their qualifications, and noting the above category they would represent, to any of the following:

E-mail: chancellor@fhda.edu
Mail: Office of the Chancellor
Foothill-De Anza Community College District
12345 El Monte Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Fax: (650) 941-1638

Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2020. For more information, please call (650) 949-6100 or email chancellor@fhda.edu
With more than four months still to go until Election Day in November, Palo Alto residents are throwing their hats in the ring for the chance to occupy one of four open seats on the seven-member City Council. This week, three civic volunteers, including a former Palo Alto mayor, announced their bids.

Pat Burt, Ed Launing, and Cari Templeton hope to win seats in November by Gennady Sheyner

**ELECTION**

**Council race heats up as three more residents declare candidacy**

Pat Burt, Ed Launing, Cari Templeton hope to win seats in November

**Man wants to start wealth tax in Palo Alto**

Citizen initiative would charge residents with more than $30M in net worth by Gennady Sheyner

**TAXATION**

A proposed wealth tax in Palo Alto would create a 2% wealth tax on net worth above $50 million and a 3% wealth tax on net worth above $1 billion.

Kevin Creaven came to Palo Alto last month with one ambitious goal: restrict sales of gasoline-fueled cars. Before long, he picked up another: tax the richest of the rich.

Creaven, who works as a chemical engineer for San Diego County, hopes local residents will help him achieve both in November when they go into the voting booth. He has just begun to collect signatures to place a wealth tax on the general election ballot, as well as for a separate measure that would ban sales of gasoline-fueled cars that cost more than $50,000. Creaven, 29, makes no secret of why he chose Palo Alto as the place to launch the two efforts. It’s a relatively small city, which means he would need to collect far fewer signatures (2,292) than he would in San Diego. And it has a concentration of well-known billionaires, a list that includes Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, Google co-founder Larry Page and Laurene Powell Jobs, wife of late Apple CEO Steve Jobs and president of social investment firm Emerson Collective.

Creaven hopes that with Palo Alto as a launchpad, the wealth tax will eventually spread to other parts of the country. Creaven, who supported U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren’s bid to be the Democratic presidential nominee, borrows heavily from her wealth tax proposal. His proposal would create a 2% wealth tax on net worth above $50 million and a 3% wealth tax on net worth above $1 billion.

All Palo Alto households would each receive $2,500 from the tax proceeds. The balance would go back to residents to work for general government functions. In addition, the measure would impose a 40% “exit tax” on any resident who is a fortune of more than $50 million who is relocating either abroad or to a place within the United States that doesn’t have an equivalent wealth tax.

While he sees a certain amount of wealth inequality as a natural and acceptable byproduct of capitalism, he believes it is spiraling out of control.

“When you have runaway wealth inequality, you start to see societies start to collapse. It’s a pretty dangerous thing,” Creaven told this news organization.

The initiative states the extreme wealth inequality has historically functioned as “a catalyst for severe unrest and social and political instability.” But the proposal could be tough sell. As a “special tax,” it would need approval from a two-thirds majority of voters.

While Palo Alto voters have supported increases to the state gas tax for general government functions, they have rejected efforts to tax hotel room rates in recent years, they also rejected the city’s effort in 2009 to pass a business tax.

Even if the measure meets the high threshold for passage, it will likely meet legal challenges, much like the wealth tax that Seattle voters approved in 2017. That tax imposed a 2.25% rate on individuals with incomes above $250,000 and on married couples with incomes of more than $500,000. The Washington state Court of Appeals found the tax to be unconstitutional and the ultimate decision is with the state Supreme Court.

Creaven hopes to also pick up some momentum on the Clean Vehicle Initiative, an effort that would ban the sale or leasing of gasoline vehicles that cost more than $50,000 pre-tax, beginning Jan. 1, 2021. It would also add a 2.5% sales tax on gasoline cars that are valued at more than $50,000 and bought outside of Palo Alto but registered in the city. Revenues from that tax would go to the city’s general fund.

The bill would exempt commercial vehicles, RVs and vehicles manufactured before 2021. He said he believes the initiative is politically feasible because “the majority of people aren’t buying gas cars that are over $50,000.”

**Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@paweeekly.com.**
Police

as vice chair of the Santa Clara County Human Rights Commission, also support “8 Can’t Wait.” Citing Campaign Zero, Stone told the council on June 8 that cities that have adopted all eight of these policies have had 72% fewer police-involved killings than cities that have adopted none. “These are common-sense reforms that have been proven to dramatically reduce the amount of deaths caused by police,” Stone said.

What would adoption of “8 Can’t Wait” policies mean to Palo Alto? Jonsen said Monday that the city’s department is already “very closely aligned” with “8 Can’t Wait,” in at least seven of the eight areas. (See sidebar for the eight recommended policies.)

A review of the department’s policies and recent incidents offers a more mixed picture, suggesting some significant gaps between the department’s practices and the policies recommended by the “8 Can’t Wait” campaign. On three of the eight policies, the city appears well aligned. For another one, which pertains to chokeholds and “sleeper holds,” the department’s policy is at odds with the campaign’s recommendation.

On the remaining four, the department has policies that are largely consistent with “8 Can’t Wait,” though recent cases and police audits suggest that these policies have not been consistently followed by local officers.

The Palo Alto Police Department appears to be following the guidelines that “ban shooting at moving vehicles,” “require warning before shooting” and require officers to “exhaust all alternatives before shooting.” The department’s policy manual explicitly states that shots fired at a moving vehicle are “rarely effective” and directs officers to “move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants.”

The policy also bars officers from shooting at any part of the vehicle in an attempt to disable it. The only time an officer is allowed to fire at a moving vehicle is when an officer “reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the officer or others.”

That, apparently, is a rare occurrence. According to the department, no officer has fired at a moving vehicle in at least 25 years. Similarly, the two “8 Can’t Wait” policies that require warnings — and exhaustion of other alternatives — before shooting are captured in the department’s policy manual, which allows an officer to use deadly force only in cases where there is “imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury” to themselves or someone else. It also allows deadly force when an officer is trying to stop a fleeing subject and believes there is “imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death to any other person if the subject is not immediately apprehended.”

“Under such circumstances, a verbal warning should precede the use of deadly force, where feasible,” the policy states.

While the department has been the subject of several complaints about excessive force, deadly shootings have been very rare in Palo Alto. The department reports only one such incident in the past 18 years, the 2015 shoot- ing of William Raff outside of a group home in downtown Palo Alto by an officer. Footage of that incident, which was reviewed and released by the Santa Clara District Attorney’s Office, showed Raff charging at the police officer while holding a kitchen knife and ignoring repeated admonitions by officers to drop the knife before the officer fired his gun.

Neck holds allowed in Palo Alto

The one area in which the department’s policies deviate from the recommendations of “8 Can’t Wait,” the Obama Task Force and other large departments is “carotid control,” a grappling technique in which one person bends their arm around another person’s neck, cutting off the flow of blood to the brain through the carotid arteries on either side of the windpipe.

In the aftermath of George Floyd’s death several police departments, including those in Los Angeles after speaking before thousands of protesters outside Palo Alto City Hall who called attention to police brutality, U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo this week joined federal lawmakers in proposing major reforms for law enforcement and raising concerns over reported surveillance of peaceful demonstrators.

Eshoo is among more than 160 Democrats within the House of Representatives who introduced on Monday the Justice in Policing Act of 2020, “a bold first step to rebuild the trust between police departments and the communities they serve, and help heal our country,” she stated in a press release.

“The deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and so many others demonstrate the lack of accountability and justice when it comes to the killing of black men and women in our country,” Eshoo said. “Importantly, the legislation does not defund police departments. Rather, it requires state and local law enforcement to institute these important reforms in order to receive existing federal grant funding.”

The proposed legislation calls for an end to chokeholds, carotid holds and no-knock warrants by federal officials and restrictions on sending military-grade equipment to state and local law enforcement agencies. Federal officers would also be required to use dashboard and body cameras, the latter of which would also be mandated for state and local law enforce- ment agencies, which would receive dollars from the federal government for the equipment.

The act also seeks to change language in federal criminal statutes so officers charged in court would be prosecuted based on a “recklessness” standard as opposed to a “willfulness” standard.

A National Police Misconduct Registry would also be created to “prevent problematic officers who are fired or leave one agency from moving to another jurisdiction without any accountability,” according to a fact sheet on the legislation.

On Tuesday morning, a Democratic coalition co-led by Eshoo and Rep. Bobby Rush, D-Illinois, signed a letter that demanded that federal agencies stop all illegal surveillance of peaceful protesters across the United States. Signed by 35 members of Congress, the letter addressed to the FBI, the National Guard Bureau, the Drug En- forcement Administration and Customs and Border Protection was motivated by recent evidence that federal officers indicating that the agencies made use of aircraft equipped with surveillance tools during protests that followed the May 25 death of Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis.

The equipment cited in the letter includes tools that can collect cellphone location data; “Stingrays,” which have the ability to collect data on phone calls, text messages and browsing history of nearby cellular devices; vari- ous facial recognition technol- ogy; automated license plate readers; and other surveillance technology.

The letter also expressed “deep and profound concerns” over surveillance tactics that they said “are significantly chilling the First Amendment rights of Americans.”

Bay City News Service contributed to this report. Digital Editor Jamey Padojino can be emailed at jpadojino@paweekly.com.
Gavin Newsom expressed during a June 15 press conference his support for ending the use of ca- rotel holds on detainees, which is similar to the one used on George Floyd in Minneapolis. "Across this country, we train techniques on strangeholds that put people's lives at risk," Newsom said. "Now, we can argue that these are used as exceptions, but at the end of the day, a carotel hold, (which) literally is designed to stop people's blood from flowing into their brain, has no place any longer in the 21st-century practices and policing," he said. He has directed California police departments to end the practice immediately.

Newsom's comments came a day after Assemblyman Mike Gipson, D-Carson, introduced Assembly Bill 392 last August, which is the country's toughest law against the use of force. The bill requires police force used by an officer is justifiable. Under previous law, a homicide committed by a peace officer wasifiable when arresting a person who committed a felony and the officer was fleeing or resisting arrest.

AB 392 limits deadly force to defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person, among other reasons related to a threat of serious injury or immediate threat of death.

That bill hasn't stopped vio- lence by police and mistrust, however, Newsom said. Senate Bill 230, legislation on implicit bias training enacted in September 2019, is set to go into effect in January 2021. Newsom said his staff is looking into imple- menting some of the bill before that time, however.

He added that the state is working to address disparities related to incarceration, pre- natal care, early education and other programs. He noted that only 10% of black students have met proficiency standards by the eighth grade.

Governor calls for end to carotid artery restraint by police

Excessive use of force has ‘no place’ in policing, Newsom says

by Sue Dremann

Los Angeles, San Diego and Phoe- nix, have declared that they will suspend use of the carotid con- trol hold. California Gov. Gavin Newsom also said that state police will no longer be trained to use this technique.

The “8 Can’t Wait” campaign lists “Ban chokeholds and strang- eholds” as the very first of its eight proposals for police de- partments. Allowing officers to choke or strangle civilians, the campaign’s website states, “re- sults in the unnecessary death or serious injury of civilians.” Such restraints “must be banned in all cases.”

Palo Alto’s policy on carotid control holds (or “sleeper holds”) doesn’t go nearly that far. The department’s policy manual states that proper use of carotid control hold “may be effective in restrain- ing a violent or combative individ- ual,” though it restricts use of the tactic to officers who successfully complete training.

It also advises officers to limit carotid control only to those situ- ations in which a subject is “vio- lent or physically resisting” or in which they have “demonstrated an intention to be violent and rea- sonably appear to have potential to harm officers, him/herself or others.”

The department further restricts use of carotid control hold when an incident involves a woman who is known to be pregnant, an elderly individual or an “obvious juvenile.” But even in these cases, the tactic is not prohibited. The policy manual states that its use in these cases “should generally be avoided unless the totality of the circumstances indicates that other available options reason- ably appear ineffective, or would present a greater danger to the of- ficer, the subject or others, and the officer reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of applying a carotid control hold.”

According to the Palo Alto Po- lice Department, there has only been one case in the past decade in which an officer employed the tactic—in 2016, when an offi- cer tried to arrest an individual on suspicion of driving under the influence.

According to a report from the city’s independent police auditor, the officer took the keys out of the ignition to keep the man from leaving and tried unsuccessfully to pull the driver out of his vehi- cle. Ultimately, the man got out of his car and began to approach the officer, who fired a Taser.

When the man kept approach- ing, the officer tackled the man and engaged in a “lengthy wrest- ling-style struggle” with him on the ground. According to the audit, the officer used a carotid hold in an effort to overcome the driver’s resistance and got him into handcuffs just as backup offi- cers arrived.

The auditor concluded that the carotid control hold “appeared to give (the officer) the final advan- tage that he needed to handcuff the suspect.”

When officers don’t follow the policy

On the other four “8 Can’t Wait” policies, Palo Alto’s record is mixed. While the department has policies that are largely con- sistent with the campaign, recent incidents suggest that officers don’t always follow these policies.

Two of these pertain to use of force. “8 Can’t Wait” calls for departments to “only use force”, which restricts the most severe force to the “most extreme situations” and creates “clear policy restrictions on the use of each police weapon and tactic.”

The reform campaign also asks departments to “require de- escalation” and, where possible, to communicate with subjects, maintain distance and eliminate the need to use force.

But video footage from the ar- rest of Gustavo Alvarenga in Febru- ary 2018 and of Julio Arevalo in July 2019 shows officers making little effort to “de-escalate” the situation or to avoid using force. In the Alvarenga arrest, which was captured by his home surveillance system, officers broke the door to his residence at the Buena Vista Mobile Home Park. One point- ed his gun at Alvarenga, who was unarrested.

Then four officers pinned him to the hood of a car and handcuffed him. He was already restrained when the arresting officer, Sgt. Wayne Benitez, slammed him into the car’s windshield. When Alvarenga said he was bleeding, Benitez responded, “You’re going to be bleeding a whole lot more.”

The video from the Arevalo ar- rest similarly showed an officer using force with little apparent provocation. The surveillance footage, which was obtained by The Mercury News and shows Sgt. Thomas DeStefano arresting Arevalo near the en- trance to Happy Donuts on El Camino Real, shows DeStefano pinning Arevalo to the railing in front of the doughnut shop, DeStefano appears to flip Arevalo to the ground. The 23-year-old Arevalo reportedly suffered a concussion and a shat- tered orbital bone and didn’t face any charges.

DeStefano was also involved in the 2013 arrest of Los Al- tos Hills resident Taylor Harney, who reportedly suffered convul- sions during a traffic stop. Har- ney later alleged in a suit that an officer put his knee against Harney’s back and neck, while another one pulled and twisted back his arm, injuring his arm and shoulder (the city approved a $250,000 settlement with Har- ney in 2014).

Consistent with the “8 Can’t Wait” campaign, Palo Alto Police Department already has a “duty to intervene” policy that requires any officer who observes another officer using force beyond that which is objectively reasonable to “intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.”

In the Alvarez arrest, however, none of the officers intervened. Furthermore, the use of force was not mentioned in Benitez’s arrest report, despite department policy that states, “Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, com- pletely and accurately in an ap- propriate report.”

Thus, while the department’s policy on the “8 Can’t Wait” proposal to require “com- prehensive reporting,” both Al- varez’s arrest and the council’s recent actions on police audits raise questions about the city’s commitment to transparency and accountability.

During the June 8 meeting, Jonsen highlighted the city’s use of body cameras and argued that no other department has a more comprehensive video-capturing system.

The department also takes pride, he said, in having an in- dependent auditor to ensure in- creased accountability.

Yet the department’s actions haven’t always followed the spirit of the “8 Can’t Wait” policy or comprehensive reporting. The department has regularly sought requests for the release of video footage from police vehicle body cameras. Police audits, which had traditionally been re- leased twice a year, are becoming both more rare and more narrow in scope.

In March, the city released the first police audit since October 2018. And last December, the California Airports Authority agreed to change the city’s contract with the auditing firm, OIR Group, to shield from review incidents that involve in- cident from Public Safety to the depar- tment. That move followed reports of a 2014 incident in which an offi- cer used a racial epithet toward a man who is black. Af- ter OIR Group reviewed the in- cident in early 2019, city leaders reportedly asked the firm not to publicize that report as they be- gan to change the rules to exclude internal conflicts from the audi- tor’s scope.

Jonsen told the council on June 8 that hearing residents criticize the department was “rough.” But even as he defended the department from public accusations, he said he believes that the police profession “can do better and must do better.”

"Are we capable of improv- ing? Absolutely. Are we willing to improve? Always. That is what we strive for each and every day,” Jonsen said.

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@ paweekly.com.

About the cover: Protesters stand outside the Palo Alto Police Department during a march against police brutality on June 6. Photo by Lloyd Lee.

Upright

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • June 12, 2020 • Page 9
How important is having Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection in Santa Clara County to you?

As our community faces serious public health challenges, it is essential that Valley Water continues to provide Safe, Clean Water & Natural Flood Protection for all. Valley Water plays a vital role as part of the greater public infrastructure system and providing reliable drinking water supplies during emergencies is one of our top priorities.

The Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, a parcel tax overwhelmingly approved by 74% of voters in 2012, is putting your tax dollars to work to make sure your drinking water is safe. Projects funded by the program are also making steady progress to protect residents and businesses from flooding and sea-level rise. At the same time, we are working to repair and replace our aging dams and expand our reservoirs to ensure we have enough water even in the face of natural disasters or droughts. Through steady collaboration with our city partners and the community, we are reducing toxins, hazards and contaminants in our waterways by removing litter from encampments.

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

What matters most to you?

Is it that the water that flows through our community is free of toxins and contaminants? Or that our water supplies are safe in case of an emergency or natural disaster? Perhaps you support our work on projects that keep us safe from floods? We want to hear your voice as we explore designing an updated Safe, Clean Water, and Natural Flood Protection Program that better meets the future water needs of Santa Clara County.

Santa Clara Valley Water District is now known as Valley Water.

What is the purpose of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program?

The Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, a parcel tax approved by 74% of voters in 2012, funds projects to provide safe, clean water and natural flood protection. Projects include maintaining and improving reservoirs, constructing new reservoirs, and implementing initiatives to protect the water supply and reduce flooding.

How can residents get involved in the program?

Residents can get involved in the program by participating in community input surveys, attending public meetings, and providing feedback on proposed projects. They can also support the program by paying the parcel tax or donating to Valley Water.

What projects are currently funded by the parcel tax?

Projects funded by the parcel tax include the construction of new reservoirs, the maintenance and improvement of existing reservoirs, and initiatives to protect the water supply and reduce flooding. Some specific projects include the construction of new dams, the improvement of existing dams, and the implementation of water conservation strategies.

What is the impact of the parcel tax on the community?

The parcel tax has had a significant impact on the community by providing funding for projects that protect the water supply and reduce flooding. It has also helped to improve the quality of life for residents by providing safe and clean drinking water and reducing the risk of flooding in the region.

Why is it important to have safe, clean water?

Safe, clean water is essential for human health and well-being. It is used for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene, and is also necessary for agriculture and industry. Without clean water, communities are at risk of illness and disease, and their economies may suffer.

What is the role of Valley Water in providing safe, clean water?

Valley Water is responsible for providing safe, clean water to the residents of Santa Clara County. It is responsible for maintaining and improving reservoirs, constructing new reservoirs, and implementing initiatives to protect the water supply. Valley Water also works to ensure that its water supplies are safe and free of contaminants.

What is the impact of natural disasters on the water supply?

Natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, and wildfires can have a significant impact on the water supply. These events can damage infrastructure, contaminate water supplies, and disrupt access to clean water. Valley Water works to protect the water supply from these disasters and to quickly restore access to clean water after an event.

What is the role of Valley Water in reducing flooding?

Valley Water is responsible for reducing flooding in the Santa Clara Valley. It does this by constructing new reservoirs, maintaining and improving existing reservoirs, and implementing initiatives to protect the water supply and reduce flooding. Valley Water also works to ensure that its water supplies are safe and free of contaminants.

What is the role of the police department in protecting the water supply?

The police department works to protect the water supply by enforcing laws that regulate the use of water and by investigating and prosecuteing those who violate these laws. Valley Water and the police department also work together to ensure that the water supply is safe and free of contaminants.

What is the role of faith leaders in protecting the water supply?

Faith leaders play a significant role in protecting the water supply by promoting the importance of clean water and by encouraging their communities to support initiatives that protect the water supply. They also provide support to those who are affected by water-related disasters.

What are the potential impacts of climate change on the water supply?

Climate change can have a significant impact on the water supply. As temperatures rise, there is likely to be more frequent and severe droughts, which can reduce the availability of water. Climate change can also increase the risk of floods, which can damage infrastructure and contaminate water supplies. Valley Water works to protect the water supply from these impacts and to ensure that it is able to provide safe and clean water to its customers.
one that was leading. This police department was smart enough to lead by side and to follow what the community wanted, he said during a phone interview on Monday.

Despite the progress, the department had turnover at the top after Davis left, with four interim chiefs before Pardini took charge in November 2014. He inherited an understaffed department with low morale.

‘To miss this opportunity would be a travesty of justice.’
– Ronald Davis, former East Palo Alto police chief

He told staff he would find quality people. “Not a warm body to fill the seat,” he recalled.

Candidates take polygraph and psychological tests. Each must have a successful interview with the chief. He restructured the department and revised the department’s policies and practices manual to follow state policies and training. His officers take a 40-hour course on crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques.

Late last year, they began training on a simulator that teaches officers how their choices can affect the outcome of a situation.

The department hired more officers of color. About 49.4% are nonwhite — 7.8% are black — and 55% of all staff are people of color, according to department data.

Since 2015, the department has sponsored members of the community to become officers through the Community Service Aide Program, in which residents first take on parking enforcement and community aid duties and then attend the police academy for free.

Pardini also worked the streets, knocking on doors in neighborhoods with his commanders and other officers to introduce himself and to listen to residents' concerns. Over time, residents came to trust the department. The tip line, which had been silent for so long, began to light up.

“Over the last five years, there’s been a 60% reduction in violent crime. The community realizes they own a big part of that. The department has 38 sworn officers (and 14 civilian staff members) including me now. With people in the community involved, that has grown tentacles of hundreds of people in the community all working with us,” he said.

A look at the community’s response on social media posts shows the impact of those efforts. As protests of police brutality erupted across the nation in May, Mark Dinan, sponsor of the Facebook page East Palo Alto Neighbors, asked the group how they feel about their own police department. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

Still, there are some who say there’s work to be done. JT Faraji, founder of Tha Hood Squad Art Collective and The Real Community Coalition, a grassroots social justice organization, said East Palo Alto is probably better than most cities as far as community policing goes. But he has heard from people who have had negative interactions with officers from other cities’ departments.

East Palo Alto police “don’t hold other police departments accountable. They call in other departments that are racist for backup. They allow the officers to come in here, and they are terrorizing residents,” he said. “How can you stand by and watch? That’s your residents you are supposed to be protecting and serving.”

Sometimes, he said, there is too much policing. During a recent incident involving an aggressive dog, 13 officers, including four from Menlo Park, arrived on scene. Yet no one called animal control, he said.

Pardini disputed Faraji’s characterization that East Palo Alto fails to hold other agencies’ officers accountable.

“I expect the same from them that I do from my officers,” he said.

When there is an issue, he calls the head of that officer’s agency and asks for them to look into the conduct. On a couple of occasions he has put residents who have a complaint in touch with the chief of the outside agency, he said.

He acknowledged, though, that there will always be some challenges in police departments as new relationships develop and new people come on board who must be trained.

**Momentum for reform**

With a nationwide movement underway to reform or defund police departments, Pardini recently put together a document to explain the achievements and objectives of the department, which has a $12 million budget.

He said he’s concerned that too much is being asked of police officers. Police in recent years are performing tasks they never had to do before, like respond to mental health calls. Municipalities need to make sure there is adequate funding and infrastructure for new agencies to handle the services that officers currently provide, he said.

“It’s a tall order to splinter off militarization and displays of force have trickled down through the decades.

Now is the time for deep change, he said.

“To miss this opportunity would be a travesty of justice,” he said. “I just hope we take a hold of it and don’t lose momentum.”

**Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.**
more caution and less zeal than some of the commission’s staunchest opponents, including Commissioner Michael Alchein and William Riggs. In 2018, for example, he was part of a narrow majority that voted to delay a vote on a new “affordable housing overlay” zone so that the city can further analyze the impacts of the policy change (other opponents included City Manager Eric Garcetti and Supervisor of the new zone, which the council ultimately approved).

Yet he also has been an enthusiastic supporter of numerous housing projects, including a mixed-use development with 17 condominium units that was approved last year at the former Compadres restaurant on El Camino Real.

Before joining the planning commission in 2017, Lauing had spent 16 years working for a national Parks and Recreation Commission, including three as the commission’s chair.

Lauing said that over the past month or so, he has been thinking about the council’s process for adopting a new budget, which includes about $40 million in expenses. He has recommended setting priorities and making cuts based on the city’s values, the council’s need for major cuts in just about every critical department, including public safety and community services. He said he would have preferred to see the city delay some of its major infrastructure projects to preserve services.

Lauing said he believes his de- cade of experience as a commissioner has prepared him well for serving on council.

“I know what the job is. The combination of my business background, my commitment to giving me a great platform to keep making decisions on tough issues,” Lauing said.

Cari Templeton, planning commission head

Templeton, a community volunteer and housing advocate who chairs Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission, announced Monday night that she will be seeking a seat on the City Council.

As the council was preparing to pass a resolution in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, Templeton told the council that the need for Cari Templeton police reform is a long-standing issue that did not start with George Floyd’s death while in Minneapolis police custody last month or the violent arrest of a resident at Buisna Vista Mobile Home Park in 2018.

“What is new is that our community is now doing waiting,” Templeton said of the city’s process for waiting for leadership from members of the City Council on these matters of literal life and death. “This time is now.”

Templeton told this news organization that she sees a tension between the city’s slow and methodical approach and the need for urgent action.

“I feel in this moment, we need to move faster. There are people who are suffering and we need quicker action,” Templeton said. “It’s one of the things I want to help with.”

One other priority, if elected, would be to move ahead with strategies to reduce car traffic and encourage more biking. She also wants to create a voucher program to give people incentives to move from car use to public transportation, which would include waiving fares for students.

As one of the commissioners, Templeton has been an advocate for more bicycling improvements and more housing construction. She typically votes with the more growth-friendly faction, which also includes William Riggs and Michael Alchein, and her votes in 2019 helped ensure that Riggs and Alchein would serve as the commission’s chair and vice chair that year.

This year, however, she secured the vote from her colleagues in becoming the commission chair. While often characterized as a housing advocate, Templeton said she believes it’s not helpful to divide the council into two camps: TIMBY and NIMBY.

“I think it’s better for both of us to reframe how we look at the housing conversation. I think it would be more productive and we’d all be better off,” Templeton said.

Staff Writer Genny Shroyer can be emailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.
Get Tested, Santa Clara County

Palo Alto City Hall Lobby
250 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301

Tuesday, June 16 – Friday, June 19
(10 am – 4 pm)
No appointment needed. Walk-up testing.

COVID-19 Testing is:
✓ Free
✓ Safe & Easy
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And doesn’t:
✗ Require a doctor’s note
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Contemporary design, modern luxury, and unparalleled views of the San Francisco Bay - this stylish 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom home of over 2,700 sq. ft. (per county) offers all of this and more, set on a spacious lot of over one-quarter acre (per county). Clean, fresh lines give this home outstanding curb appeal, while inside, the open floorplan fills the home with a dynamic energy. Enjoy the two-sided fireplace that centers the living room and dining room, cater fantastic dinner parties from the chef’s kitchen, and meet all work-from-home needs from the open office space. Natural light fills the home thanks to skylights as well as tall windows that showcase spectacular views of the Bay and surrounding Peninsula, giving the home a bright, vibrant ambiance. Topping it all off, this great location is close to numerous parks, the Edgewood Park & Natural Preserve, and also offers easy

Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only, walk-up appointments between 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm on Saturday (6/13) and Sunday (6/14).

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties*

* Search criteria as compiled by Broker Metrics® using MLS Data: January 1st, 2019 - December 31st, 2019, Santa Clara County and San Mateo County, Residential Property. No off-MLS sales were included in the rankings.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: [www.771Lakeview.com](http://www.771Lakeview.com)

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www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
Peaceful, Private Retreat in Los Altos Hills

Towering trees populate the grounds of this delightful 6-bedroom, 4-bath home, offering privacy and tranquility on a 1.25-acre lot (per county) in sought-after Los Altos Hills. Spectacular use of glass gives this home a bright, light ambiance and the feel of indoor/outdoor living. Offering 4,602 sq. ft. (per county) plus an amazing sunroom, this home features comfortable living spaces, a remodeled kitchen, and an office, while the downstairs level offers separate living space with an additional kitchen. Enjoy the serenity of the home's verdant surroundings on grounds that include a large deck, two ponds, and a playground, while zip lines built into the shade trees crisscross above. Adding the finishing touch is a wonderful location just moments to nature preserves, close to Highway 280 for Bay Area commuting, and with access to acclaimed schools including Nixon Elementary, Fletcher Middle, and Gunn High (buyer to verify eligibility).

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:

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Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Los Altos Hills.*

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

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

中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Christopher Michael Lundin  
December 21, 1952 – June 4, 2020

Christopher Lundin passed away unexpectedly in the early morning of June 4th at his home in Palo Alto.

Born in San Francisco in 1952 as an early Christmas gift to his parents, Walter Crocker and Alice Ferrera Lundin, Chris was the first of five children and gracefully performed the role of big brother until he died. He attended Our Lady of the Rosary School, Wilbur Junior High School, Cabrillo High School, Foothill College, and earned a B.S. in Business from Notre Dame de Namur University.

Chris met his wife, Nora, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church and they were wed two years later on August 17, 1974. Married for almost forty six years, they raised three beautiful daughters. He was a devoted grandfather to his five grandchildren and loved spending time with them.

Chris dedicated more than half a century to the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parish where he was an altar server at Our Lady of the Rosary Church (OLR), then playing guitar and piano in their folk group, and eventually becoming a Music Director for the parish. He served six years on the diocesan Liturgical Commission and was awarded the Benedictus Award. He chaired various groups within the parish, including the Liturgy Board, Pastoral Council, Communications Group and the Human Concerns Committee. He was always there to lend a hand within the parish.

His work life included ten years at Southern Pacific Railroad in San Francisco and thirty-four years at Stanford University in various capacities in the IT department. He retired in December 2019, hoping to do some travelling with his wife.

He rode his bike, 10 miles a day, to and from Stanford, rain or shine. He was proud to be a part of the Stanford community and loved working there. Chris participated in lunchtime volleyball and was on his department's softball team, The Great Bauds, for many years. In 2002, he was humbled but very proud to be awarded the Amy J. Blue Award, a prestigious award that honors staff members who are exceptionally dedicated, supportive of colleagues and passionate about their work. According to many people he worked with, this was Chris to a T. He continued working with the Amy J. Blue election committee even after he retired.

One of his many passions was volunteering to support peace and justice organizations such as Peninsula Interfaith Action (PIA) and Multi-faith Voices for Peace and Justice (MVVP). He was planning on continuing with MVVP in retirement, once his health improved.

Music was the language through which Chris showed his love. He found every opportunity to play music with others, including singing Christmas carols at San Jose Juvenile Hall, providing music for St. Elizabeth Seton School and mentoring young musicians and singers at his regular Sunday Masses. In 1984, he and a group of friends started the All Name No Star Band, playing rock-n-roll oldies for 20+ years.

Chris was a lover of all things outdoors. He backpacked in the Sierra, camped with his family and their five children, and enjoyed every bike ride from Palo Alto to the beach with his Stanford colleagues. He found joy in bringing greenery into his home as well as his workplace. He spent family vacations in Hawaii, Pinecrest Lake and Kennedy Meadows and was happy to finally have travelled with Nora to Ireland and the Formazza Valley in Italy, his ancestral home.

Chris is survived by his wife, Nora, his children, Sarah Wilson (Dave), Stephanie Lundin-Mixell (Mark), Kerry (Austin Shaffer), his father, Walter C. Lundin, his siblings, Mark (Carolyn), Walt Jr., Kathy Burns (Terry) and Alison. He was a loving grandfather of Everett, Alice, Tyler, Ava, Austin II. He was preceded in death by his mother, Alice Ferrera Lundin.

A funeral Mass is planned for June 20, 2020 at 10:30am and will be streamed online. A link will be provided soon on www.paloalto catholic.net. Private internment will be the same day at Gate of Heaven cemetery in Los Altos.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to St. Elizabeth Seton School, 1095 Channing Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301 or Multi-Faith Voices for Peace and Justice, c/o First Presbyterian Church Palo Alto, 1140 Cowper Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

March

(continued from page 5)

President Donald Trump out of the White House.

Many of the youth members of the protest used this opportunity to talk about their experiences of racism within their own community.

Enola Talbert, 17, a student at Mountain View High School, recalled being in day care when she first “realized she was black.” “I was hanging out with one of my other black friends… and we wanted someone else to join us, so we asked this Caucasian kid,” Talbert said in a speech. “He said, ‘No, I cannot play with you because your skin is dirty.’ I was floored. I did not know why he said that.”

Cheo Goodwin, 20, who is graduating from De Anza College, called for an end to the endless loop of hashtags, videos and “the R.I.P.s” that follow the senseless death of a black individual.

“This city, this country, is too way too comfortable with black people being uncomfortable,” Goodwin said.

During a 4-mile march, which began and ended at King Plaza in front of City Hall, people took their signs and their chants through downtown Palo Alto to El Camino Real, Oregon Expressway and through Old Palo Alto, and drivers, diners and residents along the way were interrupted by shouts of “No Justice, No Peace,” “Black Lives Matter,” and “I can’t breathe.”

In a sea of cardboard signs calling for change, some posters were directed at Palo Alto’s history and presence of racist practices.

Olga Muys, 15, held a sign that read “Palo Alto was built on redlining.”

“In English class, this year, we learned about the history of redlining and the effect that it had on the creation of the Palo Alto and East Palo Alto we live in today,” said Muys, a Palo Alto High School student. “I wanted to bring attention to it because I think a lot of people forgot how we got here.”

Other signs called out the Palo Alto Police Department, stating that the department had not banned chokeholds and that its arrest records revealed “more racial bias than 81% of CA depts,” according to policescorecard.org.

For many black residents of Palo Alto, seeing crowds of protesters recognizing that black lives matter inspired a new feeling of visibility and acceptance within their own community.

“I really wanted to see whether the people of this primarily white community would come out and stand with us,” said Michel-Ange Siabia, 21, a Palo graduate and Palo Alto resident of about 10 years. “This is the first time where I felt like this community, as a whole, stands with me and accepts me.”

Olukotun, a recent Menlo School graduate who had also organized a protest on June 1, said the demonstrations were not only a way to address racism within local communities but also a call-to-action for cities such as Palo Alto.

“It’s not just a problem of underprivileged communities, of communities with a large population of people of color, of communities that have police brutality or over-policing — this is everyone’s problem,” Olukotun, 18, said. “And fixing it is not incumbent on those communities, it’s incumbent on people and communities like Palo Alto that have privilege and have the power to make change.”

Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee can be emailed at llee@paweekly.com.
**Public Announcement**

The Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS) intends to lease a building to the Whistle Stop Child Care Center for the purpose of operating a child care facility on federal property. This is not a solicitation or a sources-sought notice. Comments may be addressed to Jerzy Brozyna, Program Management Analyst, at jerzy.brozyna@va.gov. Please note that this notice is intended for notification purposes only. No request for proposal (RFP) will be issued.

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**ROLAND ALAN FINSTON**

*January 27, 1937 – June 3, 2020*

Roland Finston, 83, of Palo Alto passed away on 6/3/20 after suffering an injury. Roland was born in Chicago, IL and worked at Stanford University as a Health Physicist, and later as Dept Manager. He graduated from University of Chicago in 1957 with a Bachelor of Physics and then a Master in Science in Health Physics from Vanderbilt University in 1959, and graduated from Cornell University in 1965 with a Doctor of Philosophy in Biophysics. He was a Professor of Radiologic Physics at Oregon State University 1965-1966. 1966-1995 Roland was employed at Stanford University. Roland was an expert in radiouclide dosimetry and served on Stanford’s Human Use Radiosotope Committee under an approval by the FDA for Radiopharmaceutical Research. He was called upon as an expert witness in many cases related to radiation exposure and was quoted in the New York Times and other local and national media during the events of Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. Roland testified as an expert witness during the Environmental Impact Hearings for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Reactor. Roland was very civically minded and lent his expertise to many local and political movements. He served on the USE (United Stanford Employees) Executive Committee during its formation in the early 1970’s. He also served on the Board of the Palo Alto Cable Co-op and helped oversee its transition to Comcast during the merger/buyout. Roland enjoyed riding his bicycle and up until his death could be seen riding the streets of Palo Alto for groceries and other errands. He enjoyed bowling at Tressider Student Union at Stanford in the Stanford Leagues and then Homestead Lanes in Cupertino in the Senior Leagues. Roland is survived by Gloria Finston (spouse), Peter Finston (brother) and sons Glen and Alan Finston, Daughter in Law Joni Finston, and Grandchildren Jacob and Isabel Finston.

Roland was an expert in radionuclide dosimetry and served on Stanford’s Human Use Radiosotope Committee under an approval by the FDA for Radiopharmaceutical Research. He was called upon as an expert witness in many cases related to radiation exposure and was quoted in the New York Times and other local and national media during the events of Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. Roland testified as an expert witness during the Environmental Impact Hearings for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Reactor. Roland was very civically minded and lent his expertise to many local and political movements. He served on the USE (United Stanford Employees) Executive Committee during its formation in the early 1970’s. He also served on the Board of the Palo Alto Cable Co-op and helped oversee its transition to Comcast during the merger/buyout. Roland enjoyed riding his bicycle and up until his death could be seen riding the streets of Palo Alto for groceries and other errands. He enjoyed bowling at Tressider Student Union at Stanford in the Stanford Leagues and then Homestead Lanes in Cupertino in the Senior Leagues. Roland is survived by Gloria Finston (spouse), Peter Finston (brother) and sons Glen and Alan Finston, Daughter in Law Joni Finston, and Grandchildren Jacob and Isabel Finston. In lieu of Flowers, donations may be made to Palo Alto Community Fund. Funeral Services will be held at a later date due to COVID-19.

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**Peter Wuntuh Lee**

*June 30, 1942 – May 31, 2020*

If you ever met Peter Lee, you would know. You’d remember his smile, his humor, his unique charm, his blunt honesty. You always knew where you stood with Peter. And you could always count on him for a laugh. Despite his small stature (which he claimed to be 5’7” but was more like 5’4”), he had a huge presence.

Peter was born in Watford Herts, England, on June 30, 1942, to Tuh Yuh Lee and Zeen Nyok申, both from Shanghai, China. He grew up in Larchmont, New York; attended Phillips Academy Andover and Princeton University; and completed his A.B. at Stanford University. He earned his M.S. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he met Mea Lee (yes, same surname) and swept her off her feet. After only knowing each other for two months, the two eloped in Miami, Oklahoma. As Peter would say, this December 23rd would have been “55 years of bliss.”

Peter was proud to have served in the United States Navy. He served in two, Vietnam and Desert Storm, and in the Navy Reserve for 30 years from which he retired as Captain 0-6. He was an active volunteer at the VA Palo Alto — and an avid shopper at the Navy Exchange! Peter built a career in executive compensation, starting at Bell Systems (now AT&T) where he worked for more than 25 years. He tried to retire three times and finally did so after holding executive positions at the University of California in the Office of the President and Catholic Healthcare West.

Peter’s most proud and beloved accomplishment was his family: First and foremost, his wife and soulmate, Mea. And his two daughters, Christina Vo and Maya Watts. Peter and Mea moved to Menlo Park in 1982 to raise their girls and have resided there ever since. His love — and fierce protection of his family — only continued to grow with his grandchildren, Eleanor Vo (15), Jordan Vo (13), Mea Watts (8) and Meilani Watts (6); and his two sons-in-law, Tan Vo and Keith Watts. His favorite adventures included skiing in Tahoe (where he taught both Christina and Maya), family trips to Hawaii, and regular golf outings with his buddies. Peter was with all of his grandchildren and family for the last time in his home on Meilani’s 6th birthday, May 24, 2020.

While Peter’s exact cause of death is still uncertain, he contracted sudden acute lung complications that his care team believes was triggered by one of his heart medications. Up until then, Peter had been successfully battling heart disease, including coronary artery disease, atrial fibrillation, and most recently cardiomyopathy, specifically amyloidosis. But after 4+ weeks at Stanford Hospital, fighting the lung complications, he died on the evening of May 31, 2020. During that stay (which was particularly excruciating giving the COVID-19 no-visitor policy), Peter never once let go of his positivity and his fierce fight to live and be with his family.

While he now joins his sister, Ruth Lee who died in August 2018, Peter is survived by his sisters, Felicia Israel and Vivienne Tooman, in addition to his family members named above.

Peter left a gaping hole that will never be filled. All who knew him — whether for 70+ years or for 5 minutes — will never forget him. His love, his opinions, his priorities were unambiguous. He will be forever remembered for his smile, his jokes, his many sayings, his many many neuroses, and his sheer will.

**Donations in Peter’s honor can be made to:**

1. Stanford Medicine - Marfan Center
   Make check out to “Stanford University” with “Marfan Center” and “In honor of Peter Wuntuh Lee” in the comment field and mail to: Stanford Marfan Center, 300 Pasteur Drive, H2157, Stanford, CA 94304

2. Veterans Affairs - Palo Alto / Menlo Park, CA
   Make check out to “VA Palo Alto” with a note “In honor of Peter Wuntuh Lee”, and mail to: Veterans Affairs, ATTN: Voluntary Service, 3801 Miranda Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304
A community effort during our shelter in place.

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I didn’t happen here,” two Palo Alto City Council members said when discussing the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer and other police conduct during their meeting.

But it almost did happen here. Twice. In 2005, then-Palo Alto Chief Lynne Johnson said that a group of anarchists would be coming to Palo Alto — anywhere from 50 to 800 and — the city had to be prepared for their arrival. She urged residents to stay home that Saturday, June 25, evening. And she asked for help from police in neighboring cities.

Help arrived. By 7 p.m., a helicopter swirled above University Avenue, with police on megaphones leaning out to direct the crowd.

“The anarchists are on their way,” we heard.

I was covering the story that night and was amazed and afraid of what I saw. Hundreds of police (800?) stood shoulder to shoulder up and down University — those with pistols in front and then police with rifles behind them, and then officers on horses for a block, many had shields.

They were lined up across the entire street, from storefront to storefront. Barriers prohibited entrance onto University. I saw this overwhelming number of police suddenly in my downtown. I feared they

were going to take over our city. The helicopter continued to circle above and there were police cars with flashing lights and fire trucks all around.

About 50 young anarchists, dressed in black, entered the downtown and were directed to Lytton Plaza, where they calmly sat for the next two hours.

I asked one of the policemen to direct me to an officer in charge, showing him my press badge, including one from the Sheriff’s Office.

“Lady, get back behind that line,” he told me.

“But I need to talk to your leader to see why there are so many of you out here,” I replied.

“Get back or I will have you arrested,” he yelled, as he raised his rifle.

I walked over to the anarchists. They looked frightened.

“We are here to protest corportation policies and the Iraq War,” one told me.

He seemed all of 19.

Overreaction to an anarchist peaceful assembly! It certainly was, but our police chief wanted to ensure the town was safe. It was, thanks to the mob of police or the frightened anarchists.

Someone told me later the overtime for police cost about $1 million, but no one made an issue of that. What was the big problem for me is how quickly and quietly our city could turn into a police state. Since most residents stayed home, few knew what happened.

When I saw the police in full gear go after the peaceful protestors at Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., on June 1 to clear the area so President Trump could hold up a Bible for a photo op, thoughts of what happened here on June 25 all those years ago came racing back to me. Except this time, in D.C., there was also a video of these rows of armed troops showing they suddenly ran into the demonstrators, batons held high in hand, while tear gas and flashbangs exploded.

It happened there.

Abuses of force by officers

The second incident in Palo Alto occurred in July 2019. Police agent Thomas DeStefano allegedly “violently attacked” Julio Arevalo outside a donut shop. The police have not yet released the tape of that incident, as they are supposed to by California law.

DeStefano had been previously accused of breaking a man’s arm in a 2013 traffic stop. The city settled that suit for $250,000.

There are a series of other “incidents,” such as one last November when Gustavo Alvarez was violently arrested by a Palo Alto police officer and it was recorded on a home surveillance system. Alvarez’s head was slammed onto the hood of a car, and the officer, Sgt. Wayne Benitez, mocked him for being gay. Alvarez and his attorneys received a $372,500 cash settlement from the city.

DeStefano retired with a pension of $98,664.61 for a month. City Manager Ed Shikada would not say whether Benitez retired or was fired.

So yes, we have some trouble right here in River City.

One other problem that disturbs me is the increasing lack of transparency in this city in providing information or videos on cases involving the police.

The council is now discussing police reform, and at this past Monday’s meeting, it asked the staff to return with a plan for improving police policies, reviewing its hiring practices and launching a new initiative to promote diversity and inclusion throughout the city.

This should be a City Council job. Both Mayor Adrian Fine and Shikada declared Palo Alto should be proactive and transparent, but neither provided any details. If staff draws up the plan, the “staff” probably includes Shikada, the police chief and the city attorney, who, presumably, all like things the way they are now.

My reaction? Our transparency over police issues is becoming more opaque every day, in a very disturbing way.

Two years ago, police incidents were immediately sent to a police-auditing firm in southern California that did a wonderful job of investigating any incident and reporting back to the council and the public.

But this past year the council agreed to a change proposed by Shikada and City Attorney Molly Stump to let the city’s HR department handle internal personnel disputes and incidents, instead of the police auditor. And once something goes to HR, it becomes a personnel matter that the public will know little, if anything, about.

So what’s going to happen in our city?

Will this issue just go away, or will there be real reforms? Or can it happen here?

Diana Diamond is a longtime Palo Alto journalist, editor and author of the blog “An Alternative View” at PaloAltoOnline.com/blogs. You can email her at DianaDiamond@gmail.com.

Letters

2020 grad parade

Editor,

To the Palo Alto residents who lined the streets for the 2020 graduate parade, thank you. As we got in our car, decorated with a few handmade signs, my Palo Alto High School grad’s young sister asked, “Will this be lame?” It was anything but.

It was incredibly moving to see so many people applauding, holding signs and cheering these grads. My senior kept repeating, “This is so great!” I confessed, I tear up at times.

There was such a generous outpouring of support from the parade watchers we felt like we might have been young royals on the way to a wedding. People seemed so genuinely happy to have one good thing to celebrate in these crazy times.

But there was more than happiness. In our neighbors’ gazes I also detected a searching, a measuring up, an imploring: We need your voices and compassion and energy to help fix this world; use our encouragement to energize you; we need you to succeed.

Based on the 2020 grads I know, I am filled with hope.

Kristina Klausen Bryant Street, Palo Alto

Let’s fill vacant houses

Editor,

At the end of the Palo Alto City Council meeting in January, to prioritize the most important issues to address, for 2020, Mayor Adrian Fine informed me there were over 200 vacant houses in Palo Alto. That does not include apartments (i.e.11 apartments in three buildings); the 565/571 Hamilton Ave. units and the four-plex next to it, which have been vacant now for nearly three years. We also have lost the President Hotel units, more than 75 apartments that have pushed many tenants out of Palo Alto. How many other apartments and/or houses are sitting vacant this pandemic? How many more people could use this housing? We need to urge the owners to rent, lease, or sell these houses so that more local housing is available. Imagine how many families of our city workers might be able to live in these vacant houses! What about those without shelter? Open them up for people to have access! We need rooms for those who are not sheltered.

Eminent domain has been often used for crises. For example, it has even been used to replace perfectly usable housing for roads. Why not prioritize the most important issues to address, for 2020? We need rooms for those who are not sheltered.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you.

W e reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, factual and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • June 12, 2020 • Page 19
DO YOU WANT TO RECOGNIZE A LOCAL HERO?

Whether they're grocery shopping for a neighbor or volunteering for a nonprofit, you can spread the joy and support our journalism efforts by giving them a shout-out in the Palo Alto Weekly.

For $199, we'll design a quarter-page announcement featuring your Local Hero. Just visit the Google form at the address below and include a 50-word description and an optional photo.

And a huge "thank you" to all the good neighbors in Palo Alto doing their best to shelter in place.

Submit entries at PaloAltoOnline.com/local_hero/

Veronica Calderon

Veronica is a front-line worker at The Market at Edgewood. She is so caring, gracious and professional. Veronica has made social distancing a friendly experience and always has kind words for customers. The Market is such a great addition to Palo Alto providing great quality food and community.

Submitted by: Kathleen Foley-Hughes
On the first days Santa Clara and San Mateo counties allowed restaurants to reopen for outdoor dining last weekend, Mountain View’s Castro Street, Palo Alto’s University and California avenues and Menlo Park’s Santa Cruz Avenue no longer felt like ghost towns, with many people enjoying their first sit-down restaurant meal in nearly three months.

Santa Clara County allowed outdoor dining to resume on June 5 and San Mateo County on June 6. Many restaurants, fighting to survive on only takeout when shelter-at-home orders were first issued in March, rushed to adapt their businesses to the new public health guidelines. They set socially distanced tables with bottles of hand sanitzer, implemented temperature checks for employees, required reservations and swapped printed menus for digital ones.

Sharon Lesec and Philip Stephanou were among the diners having lunch on Castro Street on June 5. They used a menu on their phones to order fish and chips, a burger and beers from St. Stephen’s Green.

“It’s a mood lifter,” Lesec said of dining out after months of takeout and home cooking. “We planned this last week and I have been looking forward to eating at a restaurant. It’s nice just to be able to enjoy the outdoors and socialization, in a safe way. I feel very comfortable.”

At Town & Country Village in Palo Alto, several restaurants now have additional tables set up in “parklets” built in the parking spaces outside. Signage reminds customers to stay 6 feet apart and to keep their masks on unless they’re eating. At Telefèric Barcelona, a waiter wearing a face shield and black nitrile gloves served tables from a safe distance. The Spanish restaurant is taking employees’ temperatures before each shift and has increased sanitation of all front-and back-of-house spaces.

“It was wonderful to put food on plates, drinks in real glasses and serve our guests and friends,” the owners of La Bodeguita del Medio on California Avenue posted to Instagram on June 6.

“The first big exhale in a while.” (The Cuban restaurant only had three outdoor tables capped with two diners each and reservations were required.)

In downtown Palo Alto, the owners of Indian restaurant Rooh worked with the city and their landlord to build a new parklet in just two days. It allowed them to add four more tables, where diners on Friday night used a QR code to access a digital menu on their phones. (Those who prefer a paper menu can ask for a disposable one.)

With the new dining regulations, dining is going to look a little different,” said a masked Rooh waiter, noting that silverware would only come out when dishes were served instead of sitting on tables.

At Salvaje, a downtown Palo Alto wine bar, owner Kasim Syed texted a photo of the limited menu to customers and asked whether they preferred him to wear gloves. He was sanitizing the bathroom every half hour and cleaning tables and chairs between customers. He posted coronavirus posters from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at each entrance to the wine bar’s two outdoor patios.

“It’s all going to be a learning experience as we’re doing it right now,” Syed said.

Over the weekend, some restaurants, including Left Bank Brasserie in Menlo Park, started by allowing customers to eat takeout at outdoor tables before adding full table service. Menlo Park’s Flea St. Cafe reopened this Wednesday, June 10, in a hybrid model, asking customers to continue to place and pay for their orders online in advance with the option of reserving an outdoor table. Staff will bring them their dinner in a bag, including compostable plates and flatware, which they can unpack themselves and eat outside. Afterward, the restaurant will compost everything and sanitize the table for the next diners.

“We are starting very conservatively in order to create a safe and respectful minimal-touch dining experience,” Flea St. owner Jesse Cool said. “We feel protective of our customers, and we want to do our part by taking it slow and ensuring we’re doing this in a way that’s safe and respectful of our future guests.”

(continued on page 22)
Eating Out

(continued from page 21)

Exhale

staff and guests.”

Other owners are also moving cautiously on outdoor dining, tak-

“Once they all receive their re-

ing the time to set up all the nec-

sary procedures and train staff.

Rocco Scordella, who reopened

quiring all of his employees to

gained for the coronavirus on a

weekly basis.

“(We) need to figure a plan out

as we are dead since everyone else

can serve outside or have a patio.”

She and other Los Altos busi-

ness owners are hoping the city
temporarily closes Main and Street
to traffic. The City Council,
despite some members’ concerns

about implementation, decided

this week to pilot the closures from

Thursday, June 18, through Sun-

day, June 22. The council asked

staff to bring back a report on

June 23 before deciding whether to

extend the closures beyond one

weekend.

In downtown Redwood City,

Anne Le Ziblatt eagerly started
planning to serve diners outside her

Main Street restaurant, Nam

Vietnamese Brasserie. Her pub-

lic relations firm sent out an
annoucement that Nam would

reopen for outdoor dining on Tues-

day, June 9 — and then Le Ziblatt

learned from the city that without an

existing outdoor dining permit,

she couldn’t actually do so.

This week, however, she and oth-

er Main Street restaurant own-

ers put socially distanced tables

outside their buildings while pre-
serving the public right of way

and are waiting for the City Council to
temporarily close streets and al-

low restaurants to use sidewalks,
parking spaces and parking lots. A
city task force is exploring full and

partial rotation closing of streets,

including Main Street between

Middlefield Road and Broadway

and parts of Broadway, on

Middlefield Road and Broadway
cities to close main thoroughfares to

people dining out-

ors who choose to patronize the

restaurants that have already re-

opened for outdoor dining.

In downtown Los Altos, res-

taurant owners said the city’s

regulations effectively prevented

them from putting any tables on

sidewalks over the weekend. The
city instructed owners that tables

should be 10 or more feet away from one another and also 10 feet from the public right-of-way or sidewalk to allow pedes-

trians to walk through, according to an email from Economic De-

velopment Coordinator Anthony

Caronececa.

“Our only path to survival is for

outdoor space,” said Vickie Bres-

lin, owner of The Post in Los Al-

tos. “We need to figure a plan out

as we are dead since everyone else

can serve outside or have a patio.”

The Mountain View City Coun-

cil unanimously decided this

week to temporarily close Castro

Street between Evelyn Avenue and Mercy Street to traffic from

June 12 through September. Staff

recommended a “food court-style

layout” where the city will provide

tables and chairs for shared use by

restaurants along Castro Street as

well as participating restaurants on

adjacent side streets.

Under the revised health orders

from Santa Clara and San Mateo
counties, restaurants must space outdoor tables 6 feet apart and limit the number of customers at a single table to no more than six individuals, all of whom must be from the same household. Restau-

rants can only serve alcohol with

food, and bar areas must remain
closed. Hand sanitizer or hand-

washing stations should be made

available in the outdoor dining area.

San Mateo County’s health order

further states that customers are re-

quired to wear face coverings ex-
cet when sitting at dining tables.

People from different households
can use lounge areas and fire pits
together as long as they stay 6 feet apart. Restaurants must

put their host stands at the entry of the outdoor dining area “so as to prohibit patrons from unneces-

sarily walking through the outdoor
dining area.” If a restaurant allows
dogs, the animals must be on a leash and stay at least 6 feet from
customers who are not members of

the same household. Parents

must ensure children 12 years and

younger adhere to social distancing

guidelines at all times.

In an updated FAQ, the Santa

Clara County Department of Pub-
lc Health said people dining out-
door at restaurants must wear a

face covering while waiting in line,
going to or from their table, using

the restroom, ordering their meal

and “at other times the restaurant

may require.” Children 6 years old

and younger or anyone who has

trouble breathing or is unable

to remove a face covering with out

assistance is exempt from this.

Staff Writer Elena Kadvany
can be emailed at ekadvany@
paweweekly.com.

The owners of Rooh Palo Alto quickly built a parklet outside their Indian restaurant at 473 University Ave, after learning outdoor dining would be permissible in Santa Clara County starting on June 5.
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- Rose

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**Across**

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7 Org. advocating pet adoption  
11 CIO merger partner  
14 Singer Watkins (aka T-Boz) of TLC  
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17 Someone who just likes the sky levels in the Mario series?  
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69 Area full of used cars  

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2 PC document  
3 One way to stop a bike  
4 First name in Notre Dame football  
5 Make beloved  
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7 A lot of it is filtered  
8 Settle a bill  
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27 Brewery fixtures  
28 Mate from Manchester, e.g.  
29 Kimmel’s onetime game show cohost  
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“Reed All About It”- at least one famous Reed. By Matt Jones

Answers on page 20.

**This week’s SUDOKU**

Answers on page 20.
IS WORKING FROM HOME WORKING FOR YOU?
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You may view these homes at your convenience by accessing detailed information, photography and a video through each property’s website. We are also available to set up a private showing appointment.

1705 FULTON STREET, PALO ALTO

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1018 FULTON STREET, PALO ALTO

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For questions or further information please contact your Realtor or the listing agents, Carol Carnevale 650.465.5958 or Nicole Aron 650.740.7954, or by email at CarolandNicole@compass.com.

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*Per County Records, unverified