State orders monthlong curfew

Palo Alto asserts region’s housing mandate is a recipe for failure

Thanksgiving  Residents deliver free meals, comfort  Page 8
Election  Lopez now ahead in East Palo Alto council race  Page 10
Shop Talk  The RealReal opens at Cheesecake Factory  Page 28
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To protect your health, we are:

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Welcome to your oasis on a quiet cul-de-sac in vibrant Barron Park! This three bedroom, two bath ranch-style home with an updated kitchen & hardwood floors throughout offers easy indoor-outdoor living and everything a gardener could desire. The richly landscaped, park-like 10,180 sq. ft. lot includes a private rear yard with a spacious lawn, large patio, gazebo, and raised bed garden. The light-filled home of 1,832 sq. ft. features a great room with direct access to both the kitchen and the rear yard, as well as an oversized living room complete with built-in bookshelves and fireplace. Excellent Palo Alto Schools: Juana Briones Elementary, Fletcher Middle, & Gunn High.
Give your parents a gift that helps them live better in their own home...
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Act now to support the independent path your parents have chosen with a personalized gift certificate. For more info or to purchase, visit www.AvenidasVillage.org/gift or call (650) 289-5405 today!

Redeem by 12/31/20 to lock in lower 2020 rates.
Accommodating 10,000 new homes by 2031 is an ‘impossible’ ask, Palo Alto leaders say by Gennady Sheyner

Faced with a mandate to plan for 10,000 new housing units, Palo Alto’s elected leaders vowed early Tuesday morning to lodge a protest, even as they acknowledged that their resistance will likely prove futile.

The City Council approved by a 6-1 vote, with Mayor Adrian Fine dissenting, a letter to the Association of the Bay Area Governments (ABAG) challenging its recently approved methodology for dividing up 441,176 housing units among the Bay Area’s nine counties and 101 cities. The regional planning organization, whose executive board is made up of elected leaders from throughout the Bay Area, agreed last month to adopt what’s known as “Option 8A,” which places more housing in areas with jobs, transportation services and educational opportunities.

While the actual housing allocations won’t be formally released until early 2021, the methodology is expected to present Palo Alto with one of the toughest assignments in the Bay Area. Because the city has jobs and public transit stops and because it’s designated as a “high opportunity” zone based on economic, educational and environmental factors, it is being asked to grow by 36% over the eight-year period between 2023 and 2031, more than any other city in Santa Clara County.

More than half of these units would be designated for below-market rate, according to the projected numbers. This includes 2,573 units in the “very low” income category, 1,482 in the “low” income category, and 1,673 in the

HOLIDAY FUND

Catching students who are falling through the cracks

At 49ers Academy’s learning hub, East Palo Alto kids get individual help so they succeed at distance learning by Jocelyn Dong

When the new academic year started at Ravenswood City School District with full distance learning, staff at the nonprofit San Francisco 49ers Academy knew there would be students who would fall through the cracks: Homeless children, Special education students, Youth who take care of younger siblings because their parents are working all day, Students without reliable internet access. Immigrant children who are just starting to learn English.

These, the neediest of those in need, are the ones the 49ers Academy wanted to provide with consistent, individualized attention as well as coordinated help to keep them both in school and thriving.

So in partnership with the Ravenswood City School District, the 49ers Academy opened a community learning hub in September at Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School. The hub provides a safe, quiet, tech-connected, structured learning environment where students participate in distance learning.

The program started with three groups of eight students each who meet in separate classrooms, socially distant and masked and with hand sanitizer at the ready. Now, two months in, the middle-school hub has expanded to six groups, or about 45 students, according to Tahisha Victor, the deputy director for the 49ers Academy.

Each group is led by a 49ers

Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Council: Housing mandate is a recipe for ‘failure’

By Gennady Sheyner

The City Council approved by a 6-1 vote, with Mayor Adrian Fine dissenting, a letter to the Association of the Bay Area Governments (ABAG) challenging its recently approved methodology for dividing up 441,176 housing units among the Bay Area’s nine counties and 101 cities. The regional planning organization, whose executive board is made up of elected leaders from throughout the Bay Area, agreed last month to adopt what’s known as “Option 8A,” which places more housing in areas with jobs, transportation services and educational opportunities.

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PUBLIC HEALTH

Curfew ordered as COVID-19 cases rise

New rules restrict non-essential work, gatherings

In an attempt to rapidly stanch the spread of COVID-19 in California, Gov. Gavin Newsom on Thursday ordered a monthlong curfew, prohibiting all non-essential work, movement and gatherings between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. in counties that are in the state’s purple tier because of high rates of positive cases and hospitalizations.

The Thursday announcement came three days after Newsom pulled an “emergency brake” on the state’s virus response, reimposing restrictions on business activities and gatherings throughout much of the state. The decision moved Santa Clara County back from the orange tier, which connotes moderate risk, to the purple tier, which signifies widespread risk. San Mateo County remains in the less restrictive red tier.

The order will take effect at 10 p.m. on Saturday and remain in place until 5 a.m. on Dec. 21, according to Newsom’s announcement.

“The virus is spreading at a pace we haven’t seen since the start of this pandemic and the next several days and weeks will be critical to stop the surge,” Newsom said in the Thursday announcement. “We are sounding the alarm. It is crucial that we act to decrease transmission and slow hospitalizations before the death count surges. We’ve done it before and we must do it again.”

(continued on page 34)(continued on page 30)
OUR TEAM IS IN MOTION FOR YOU

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We’ve all got to dig in and really double down.

— Cindy Chavez, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, on stricter COVID-19 health orders. See story on page 5

Long Live Caesar ...
Life hasn’t been easy for Caesar. The terrier mix, who was missing Sept. 20 — the day he was adopted — during a trip with his new owners to Pet Food Express on Middlefield Road, stirred worries for nearly seven weeks, said Paul McDermott, foster and adoption coordinator at Doggie Protective Services. Before he was paired with a new family, Caesar was part of a group of dogs that came out of a hoarding situation and was taken in by the organization. The nonprofit quickly launched a search for Caesar. The effort ended on the morning of Nov. 7 when Palo Alto Animal Control Officer Jeannette Washington responded to a call of a stray dog near the California Avenue Caltrans station huddled behind a wall near the tracks. Washington recognized the dog as Caesar based on a flyer, “I approached the dog slowly at an angle and threw a few smelly liver treats,” she said. When that didn’t work, she placed a leash over him and slowly brought him out. “He was a sweet little dog. After we picked him up, a train came by.” Aside from malnourishment and losing 5 pounds, Caesar wasn’t ill, according to McDermott. He’s now eating properly, thriving and will receive either the vaccine or a placebo. “We’re interested in those who feel like they know who we were,” the committee heard from a group of supporters of the project but stopped well short of fulfilling their request to help fund the $10.5 million rehabilitation of the Roth Building. Instead, it directed staff to help fund the “cold shell” of the building, a $6 million effort that would result in long-deferred structural and seismic upgrades but require further construction before the museum can occupy it.

Testing Underway ... Stanford Medicine is hosting one of about 180 sites worldwide conducting tests of an experimental COVID-19 vaccine, it was announced on Oct. 30. The medical school plans to enroll about 1,000 people, who will be among roughly 60,000 people taking part in the large Phase 3 trial for the vaccine by the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson. Participants will receive either the vaccine or a placebo. “We’re interested in enrolling a wide variety of participants, but we’re particularly interested in those who feel like their home or workplace exposure puts them at risk,” Dr. Philip Grant said in a statement. To learn more, visit ensemblestudy.com.
Facing public pressure for more police accountability, the Palo Alto City Council agreed on Monday to empower the city’s independent police auditor to investigate more incidents and to explore a new program in which some emergency calls would be taken by mental health professionals instead of armed officers.

In discussing the city’s efforts to promote race and equity, the council generally agreed that it’s time to expand the scope of OIR Group, the Los Angeles-based auditor that has been reviewing all police shootings, use-of-force deployments and citizen complaints since 2008. The auditor has also traditionally reviewed internal complaints made by officers against their colleagues, though the council decided in December to remove this duty from the auditor’s scope, thus shielding these complaints from public disclosure.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Following Newsom announcement, secondary schools’ reopening could be delayed

Palo Alto elementary schools to remain open

by Elena Kadvany

A s Santa Clara County moves into the state’s most restrictive tier, Palo Alto’s elementary schools will remain open but worsening coronavirus trends could mean the middle and high schools won’t reopen in January as planned.

Schools that reopened when counties were in a less restrictive tier do not have to close, according to the state.

In a message to families and staff on Monday, Superintendent Don Austin emphasized that the local spike in cases is outside of Palo Alto and that the elementary schools are permitted to continue in-person instruction. In-person instruction for small groups of special education and struggling students at the secondary schools will also continue.

“We will follow California’s localized solution to measure the spread of illness in our schools and determine when a school or district closure is required. Our elementa- ry schools have demonstrated an ability to follow rules, maintain distancing, and operate within co-horts,” he wrote.

Austin said the Weekly that he hasn’t yet received any guidance from the county. If Santa Clara County doesn’t move out of the purple tier before second semester begins, he will recommend that middle and high schools continue with distance learning — which will ultimately be subject to a vote by the school board.

The district still asked secondary school families to make their decision between distance learning or a hybrid in-person model for the second semester by Nov. 18, however.

“I understand there will be many questions,” Austin wrote in his message. “I will be in contact with the agencies who guide us and will provide updates throughout the week.”

Opposition to reopening remains strong among teachers. Gunn High School’s English, social studies and special education departments signed a Nov. 13 open letter to the board and Austin urging them to reconsider reopening, arguing the district’s plan is “pedagogically unsound” and “does a disservice to our students and exacerbates inequity.” Nearly 80 Palo Alto High School teachers and staff signed their own letter in support of the Gunn teachers.

Moving into the purple tier means cases are “widespread” and requires closing indoor dining as well as all indoor activities associated with gyms, museums, zoos and aquariums, places of worship and movie theaters. Shopping malls and all retail establishments must reduce to a maximum capacity indoors of 25%.

Under state guidelines, if the county moves back into the red tier, secondary schools can open after two weeks.

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

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION — The commission plans to get an update on the Rinconada Park interpretive solar system and receive annual reports on the city’s aquatics program and on Baylands Golf Links. The virtual meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 24. Those wishing to participate by Zoom can do so by dialing 699-900-6653 and using Meeting ID: 929 5175 7803.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

In a reversal, Palo Alto moves to increase police oversight

City Council prepares to broaden scope of independent police auditor

by Gennady Sheyner

The December action left Palo Alto as the only city that the OIR Group works with that explicitly excludes internal complaints from the scope, auditor Michael Gennaco told the council in September. The city made the change just as Gennaco was preparing to release a report of a 2014 incident in which a white police supervisor used a racial slur when talking to a Black officer.

The Monday vote does not re- store the auditor’s prior scope. Rather, it directs the council’s Policy and Services Committee to consider returning to the audi- tor’s oversight internal complaints related to harassment, discrimina- tion or retaliation. It will be up to the committee to decide what the bar should be for triggering an au- ditor’s review.

Vice Mayor Tom DuBois and Council member Lydia Kou sup- ported going further and giving the auditor the power to oversee internal complaints that result in city investigations of uniformed officers. Others, including council members Eric Filseth and Alison Cormack, felt that this mandate would be too broad. Cormack suggested limiting oversight to complaints that result in officer discipline.

The council has seen some pushback after its December decision. Numerous community activists, including Pat Burt and Greer Stone (both of whom were elected to the council on Nov. 3), have advocated for reversing the December action. Some speakers at Monday’s meeting also urged the council to restore the auditor’s power to review internal complaints. Winter Dellenbach, a Barron Park resident and police watchdog, encouraged the council to get internal police investigations “out of the dark cave of HR (human resources)” and back into the purview of the

(continued on page 29)

News Digest

New history museum faces funding shortfall

Plans to transform the dilapidated Roth Building at 300 Homer Ave. into the Palo Alto Museum will most likely remain in limbo for the foreseeable future following the City Council Finance Committee’s reluctance on Tuesday to make the kind of investment that would really move the project forward.

Members of the Palo Alto Museum board requested that the city help it complete the first phase of the project, the restoration of the building to turn it into an occupiable space. The museum has about $1.9 million of the first phase of the museum but remains $2.4 million shy of its goal.

Rich Green, president of the Palo Alto Museum board of directors, told the Finance Committee that moving ahead with the construction of a museum at the Roth Building is “the fastest, most cost-effective way to restore this historic building.”

But rather than giving the museum the funding it requested, the committee recommended a more limited investment: the construc- tion of the “cold shell” for the new museum at a cost of $6 million. The allocation would enable seismic and structural upgrades to the dilapidated building, bringing it up to safety standards. It would not, however, be sufficient to actually be usable for occupancy. That would cost about $10.5 million, staff and museum leaders have estimated.

—Gennady Sheyner

One nabbed in College Terrace burglaries

A man who allegedly burglarized two homes in Palo Alto’s Col- lege Terrace neighborhood was arrested on Wednesday morning, Nov. 11, police said in a statement released on Nov. 13. Detectives are investigating whether he and another man are connected to a se- ries of early-morning burglaries in the city that occurred in October while residents were at home. The second person remains at large, police said.

On Nov. 10, police responded to a residential burglary call in the 2300 block of Cornell Street. Home surveillance cameras captured two males attempting to pry open the garage door at 4:07 a.m. When they were unsuccessful, the men opened a side door leading into the garage and stole the bicycles.

Officers discovered video footage captured on a neighbor’s sur- veillance camera of the men arriving and leaving in a white pickup truck.

Police also responded to a second call at about 8:30 a.m. regarding a white 2010 GMC Sierra C1500 truck, which had been stolen over- night between midnight and 6:40 a.m. in the 2000 block of Amherst Street. The stolen truck matched the one seen on the surveillance video being driven by the alleged burglars, police said.

Then on Nov. 11, at about 6:29 a.m., police responded to a suspi- cious circumstance call at a residence just down the street from the home burglarized the prior morning. An officer searching the area located the stolen GMC Sierra parked and unoccupied nearby in the 1300 block of College Avenue.

Officers located a man matching the description in the video sit- ting on a bus bench next to a bicycle in the 3000 block of Hansen Way.

He was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail on suspicion of two counts of residential burglary, possession of stolen property, probation violation, which are all felonies, plus three misdemeanors: possession of methamphetamine, narcotics paraphernalia, and burglar- ing tools. ■

—Sue Dremann

Cantor Arts Center head asked to leave

Following an external investigation into workplace problems at Stanford’s Cantor Arts Center, Susan Dackerman, the director of the museum since September 2017, is stepping down, an email from Stanford University stated Wednesday, Nov. 18.

No date for her departure or explanation of the situation that led to Dackerman’s exit was given in the message from Matthew Tiews, the interim senior associate vice president for the arts and associate vice president for campus engagement. However, Tiews wrote, “The univer- sity will be issuing an internal communications strategy as part of improvements so that the museum is best positioned for success going forward.”

 Allegations that Dackerman led a “toxic workplace” surfaced this summer when the resignation letter from Director of Academic and Public Programs Peter Tokofsky became public.

According to a list of staff departures obtained by this news or- ganization, at least 14 people departed from Cantor in 2019-2020, including three full-time, four part-time, and several temporary, visitors, board members, col- lection, communications, security and membership. At least another 16 left between 2017, when Dackerman arrived, and 2019, including those in development, visitor services, conservation. ■

—Palo Alto Weekly Staff

Upfront

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • November 20, 2020 • Page 7
Imagine, during this year of isolation, having to spend Thanksgiving alone. Maybe you don’t even have enough money to buy a holiday meal. It’s a scenario that Howard Kushlan refuses to accept for his Palo Alto neighbors. So he and nearly 20 volunteers have decided to deliver Thanksgiving dinner and a bit of holiday cheer to the doors of the city’s most vulnerable: seniors.

If things work out right, they might even hold a community Thanksgiving get-together on Zoom, he said.

Kushlan recently invited seniors ages 70 and older to contact him if they would like a free meal. Volunteers also poured forth to assist or to provide names of people they know who are in need. That led to plans to deliver about 100 Thanksgiving dinners, and Kushlan expects there could be more requests by next week. The meals are being offered on a first-come, first-served basis until food runs out, he said.

The Thanksgiving deliveries are just a small subset of what Kushlan and other volunteers have been doing to help the most vulnerable since the COVID-19 pandemic started. In April, Kushlan spearheaded a community-based group that’s grown to more than 200 volunteers who help those in need with everything from groceries pickups and dog walking to a friendly phone call to check in.

“If COVID has taught me anything about social networks, it’s that we’re all interconnected,” he said by phone this week.

In true community style, catering companies, restaurants and individuals are gathering to prepare the meals, with some offering home cooking. His group has taken donations, and some of the cost is being covered out of pocket. One person even donated Christmas-decorated COVID masks to deliver with the meals, he said.

The need in affluent Palo Alto is eye-opening, he added. Since posting the free dinner offer on the social-networking site Nextdoor, Kushlan has received dozens of emails from people about the trying circumstances under which many in the community live. The stories gnaw at him. “I’m OK, but my neighbor is 97 years old,” wrote one person. Others say they don’t have enough money for food or that they’ve got no family to help them.

“The emails are heartbreaking and devastating,” he said. So the volunteers seek to deliver dignity along with turkey legs and thighs, to make the holiday meals “as seamless as possible” for the recipients, he said. They plan to deliver the dinners at the recipient’s preferred time.

But food alone is not enough for human sustenance. Kushlan also wants to create companionship on the holiday. He’s planning a big Zoom Thanksgiving gathering next week, if he can find a way to do it.

COVID-19 has taken so many basic human connections away, he said.

“I refuse to live in a world where I bring a meal and leave someone to eat it alone, staring at their walls,” he said.

Even if no one joins in the Zoom event and he ends up eating alone on the call, he’ll still be there, he said.

Kushlan said he assumes his group will do something similar for Christmas. But beyond the holidays, he’s hopeful that out of the tragedy of COVID-19 people will build a new web of connections.

“Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. - Psalm 107:8,9

What better way to start the holiday than joining together in song & prayer to express gratitude? This Christian Science service includes scriptural readings & expressions of gratitude from attendees.

Everyone is welcome to attend online at either church.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Menlo Park
(650) 322.5600  |  www.csmenlopark.org

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Palo Alto
(650) 493.7870  |  www.cspaloalto.org

Howard Kushlan waits in line outside Piazza’s Fine Foods in Palo Alto. The Palo Alto resident plans to deliver Thanksgiving meals to local seniors.

The need in affluent Palo Alto is eye-opening, he added. Since posting the free dinner offer on the social-networking site Nextdoor, Kushlan has received dozens of emails from people about the trying circumstances under which many in the community live. The stories gnaw at him. “I’m OK, but my neighbor is 97 years old,” wrote one person. Others say they don’t have enough money for food or that they’ve got no family to help them.

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Kushlan said he assumes his group will do something similar for Christmas. But beyond the holidays, he’s hopeful that out of the tragedy of COVID-19 people will build a new web of connections.

“Maybe it becomes an initiative that connects younger families with older people,” he said. “I hope Palo Altans continue engaging with people year round. Nothing feels better than this — nothing.”

Kushlan said his thinking and action is encapsulated in a quote he once heard: “The gap between your professed values and what you actually do is where justice goes to die,” he said.

“Capitalizing on the community’s sense of urgency is how we’re going to drive change.”

Anyone who wants to have a meal delivered, or who wants to donate or volunteer, can contact Howard Kushlan at howardkushlan@gmail.com or by text at 415-497-6581.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.
Welcome to this 3-bedroom quintessential mid-century style Eichler home with clean lines and a classic open floor plan flooded with natural light. Handsome ceramic tile floors throughout, vaulted ceilings, and a newly remodeled kitchen with marbled Quartz countertops and backsplash, an expansive island with a breakfast bar, and new appliances and cabinetry. Mature landscaping, raised garden boxes, and citrus trees can be enjoyed in the spacious rear yard. This 1,357 square foot home is nestled on a 6,421 square foot lot conveniently located near excellent Palo Alto schools and parks.
More than two weeks after the Nov. 3 election, the results are more clear: Antonio Lopez will be the youngest and newest member of East Palo Alto’s City Council, joining a five-seat governing body with two veteran incumbents who have comfortably secured another four-year term this election season.

Lopez maintains a lead against one of his challengers, Webster Lincoln, with just 67 votes, according to San Mateo County’s election data released on Wednesday evening. He will be replacing veteran incumbent Larry Moody, who received 3,298 and 3,201 votes, respectively, will be going on their third term serving the city.

“I’m not worried,” Lincoln said in an interview on Nov. 13, when results increasingly showed the candidate was losing his initial lead. “At the end of the day, I’m running to represent East Palo Alto. If the people don’t think I’m the right person, then that’s how it is. I really can’t complain.”

Lopez, a 25-year-old, Stanford University doctoral student, has remained silent on his campaign’s social media accounts and reluctant to call the race in his favor before all the votes have been counted and the county certifies the results on Dec. 3.

“It would be a disservice to the county election officials to call it prematurely,” Lopez said on Wednesday. “Let the democratic process play out.”

But Lopez’s win seems all but certain. Throughout the entire county, 99.9% of votes have been tallied, and, according to East Palo Alto City Clerk Walfred Solorzano, the city makes up 2.67% of registered voters. Based on that number, Solorzano said there could only be about six to 12 ballots left to be counted for the city election.

“It’s highly improbable that we’re going to have a significant change, but we’ll wait for the official certification of the vote,” Solorzano said.

Assuming an unexpected batch of votes don’t overturn his lead, Lopez said his immediate attention as a new council member will turn to the city’s response to COVID-19 and addressing the housing insecurities exacerbated by the pandemic.

“The housing crisis has been at the forefront of my mind,” he said. “If Lopez does take a council seat, there will definitely be three very progressives on the council, and I think that will help move some of the equity and social-economic issues forward that East Palo Alto has to address during this pandemic.”

Lopez called it a “wonderful situation” to join a body with so much institutional memory and said he is eager to share his perspectives.

“What I’ll remind all of them is that I have had the humble privilege of canvassing every inch of this city, so I’d like to think that I have an organic sense of what the community’s needs are,” he said. “And in particular my passion is for the youth, who might not give a damn about politics, but maybe, with someone like me, they might pay attention.”

Lopez’s appeal among younger and Latino voters of the city helped boost the doctoral student’s shot at the third seat. But also critical to overturning the initial optimistic outlook for Lincoln could have been his race-to-the-finish campaign method, which stirred controversy among some local residents.

On Election Day, Lopez hosted a taco stand nearby St. Francis of Assisi Church, one of two voting centers that were available in the city. The candidate publicized the event on social media beforehand, sharing posts that said “Vote & Eat Free Tacos” in English and Spanish. Lopez, Romero and Julian Garcia, who was a candidate for the Ravenswood City School District Board of Trustees, were present on the day of the event.

Some community members have called into question the legality of giving out free food near the church, since there are rules against campaigning within 100 feet of a polling location and offering incentives for voting or to vote for a certain candidate or measure.

But according to Solorzano, he and a few county field technicians investigated the stand on Nov. 3 and found that Lopez held the event outside of the 100-feet boundary and determined he was compliant.

### ELECTION 2020

In election squeaker, doctoral candidate wins third East Palo Alto council seat

Two incumbents keep their spots for another four-year term

by Lloyd Lee

There’s more news starting on page 29.
Read about the Palo Alto planning commission’s recommendation on Castilleja’s proposed expansion.
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65 Kirby Place, Palo Alto
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Special Features: Studio, Lot Size 16,131 sqft

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For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 1-855-200-9227 or, for TTY users, 711. *You may reach a messaging service on weekends from April 1 through Sept. 30 and holidays. Please leave a message, and your call will be returned the next business day. Stanford Health Care Advantage is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Stanford Health Care Advantage depends on contract renewal. Stanford Health Care Advantage complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Webinar
Sat., Nov. 21 | 10 a.m.
Webinar
Mon., Nov. 23 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Webinar
Tues., Nov. 24 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Webinar
Mon., Nov. 30 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Webinar
Tues., Dec. 1 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Webinar
Wed., Dec. 2 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

For the first time, Best Of and Readers’ Choice won’t include public voting. Instead, we’ll be publishing inspiring stories about how local businesses have taken positive steps to respond to the pandemic and highlighting all they have done for the community.

Don’t miss our Nov. 27th special edition featuring inspiring stories from those behind the scenes.

Learn more at TheAlmanacOnline.com/best_of or PaloAltoOnline.com/best_of
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Diana Hawley Thomas

January 2, 1945 – July 15, 2020

Diana was the rare individual who, once she decided what she wanted, could accomplish most anything. She was most of all the perfect mother and wife, but she squeezed so much more into her life. Her greatest dream was to have children and raise them to be productive, loving people. She succeeded beyond expectation with Chad, Devon, and Katrina. Diana was the life partner of her husband Stan, whom she met when they were 16, and were never apart (save three years of Navy duty for Stan).

She was the most stalwart of friends to so many – if a friend needed help, Diana was always there to provide it. She had an innate sense of what might be wrong and always had clear ideas on how to proceed. Not only did she care for family and friends, she also worked for 40 years as a speech and language pathologist specializing in head trauma and stroke. She had the special ability through non-verbal communication, a high amount of empathy, and years of experience to reach a patient on a basic level, and then find a way to bring them therapy that would allow their recovery. Many of her patients became long-term friends.

Diana had a multitude of interests: horses, dogs, gardening, painting, music, travel, and fine food. She spent many years as a dressage rider at Stanford Equestrian Center, taking Katrina along from the age of three. She thought dogs should be well trained and took three Golden Retrievers and one Australian Shepherd through obedience competitions. She felt that if dogs misbehaved, it was usually the owner that needed training, and that it was a disservice to the animal if the owner didn’t get it! Diana studied and practiced botanical art for more than twenty years, and as was her way, she taught many friends in her weekly painting class in San Francisco. She decided to pursue playing the dulcimer after a hiatus of forty years, and was finding joy in the music.

Diana could carry a loaded backpack, sleep on the ground in a tent, make a fire and cook over it, and never complain. Even in the rain.

Diana loved travel, any travel, from a weekend in Carmel to weeks in Bhutan. She most enjoyed those places and cultures that were very different from what we are familiar with. Major travel in recent years included Argentina, Costa Rica, Cuba, Bhutan, Cambodia, Mexico, Italy, and Iran. Trips to Tanzania and Egypt were in the works for 2020.

Diana also loved plants, and had the same ability to bond with them as she did with people and animals. Her gardens are a testament to her as the plants are extremely happy and love the bees with their hives that she recently acquired.

Diana was born in Inglewood, California to Perry and Peggy Hawley. She spent her earliest years in San Bernadino and moved to Riverside for high school. There she met Stan, whom she was married to for 53 years, but joined to for 60. She received her Bachelor’s degree from UC Riverside and a Master’s from University of Redlands. She was a member of St. Marks Episcopal Church in Palo Alto.

Diana leaves behind her husband Stan and her dearest prizes: Chad Thomas, his wife Cathleen and their children Griffin and Colín; Devon Thomas, his wife Amy and their children Cole and Natasha; and Katrina Sitter, her husband Matt and their children Declan and Nathan. Diana’s family was everything to her, and she is missed terribly.

Diana died suddenly on July 15. She was 75.

Diana was an ardent supporter of women and would appreciate any support given to Puente de La Costa Sur in Pescadero. Donations can be made at www.myPuente.org or by sending a check to PO box 554, Pescadero, CA 94060.

Diana Hawley Thomas
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Photos and Video Available at 69CornellRoad.com

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Support our Kids with a gift to the Holiday Fund

Each year the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs serving families and children in the Palo Alto area. Since the Weekly and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation cover all the administrative costs, every dollar raised goes directly to support community programs through grants to non-profit organizations.

And with the generous support of matching grants from local foundations, including the Packard, Hewlett, Peery and Arrillaga foundations, your tax-deductible gift will be doubled in size. A donation of $100 turns into $200 with the foundation matching gifts.

Whether as an individual, a business or in honor of someone else, help us reach our goal of $400,000 by making a generous contribution to the Holiday Fund.

With your generosity, we can give a major boost to the programs in our community helping kids and families.

Give to the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund and your donation is doubled. You give to non-profit groups that work right here in our community. It’s a great way to ensure that your charitable donations are working at home.

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Please consider donating online, which enables your gift to be processed immediately. The secure website is: siliconvalleycf.org/paw-holiday-fund

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The Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
Put parking costs where they belong — on businesses

by John Guislin

It is alleged by some that RPPs privatize a public resource, i.e., street parking. In fact RPPs do the exact opposite; they stop business employees from all-day monopolization of parking spaces, reducing availability for all others who are blocked from accessing on-street parking.

Ending all-day business parking in all residential neighborhoods is a straightforward goal that contributes to making our streets safer, reducing single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips, reaching our CO2 emissions goal and protecting residential quality of life (which is prioritized in our Comprehensive Plan). Our state Legislature is pushing to eliminate single-family zoning and dramatically increase the density of residential neighborhoods, while at the same time reducing the amount of parking required from new construction. On-street parking is going to be the only option for most new residents. Giving that parking away to commercial enterprises it won't be there for a growing population. We need to make the commitment, now, that the costs of commercial parking will fall squarely where they belong, on businesses.

Why has our council talked for decades about the problem and not been able to address it? Because the business community employs a paid lobbyist with local government connections, Judy Kleinberg from the Chamber of Commerce, whose sole purpose is to deliver benefits to the business community. For decades, the Chamber’s tactics have been delay and denial. While residents have struggled to get RPPs in place, the business community has done nothing to address their parking needs other than lobby our City Council. Even with the new publicly funded garage for California Avenue, the Chamber still lobbies to retain all-day commercial parking in adjacent neighborhoods. It is past time for businesses and landlords to address their parking deficits and bear all the costs.

An effective model exists today in College Terrace where there are no all-day commercial parking permits issued. It is successful and warmly endorsed by residents. Why is it not available to all neighborhoods? Because of intense lobbying by the business community and some disingenuous City Council members. These council members clamor for reduced SOV traffic, reduced CO2 emissions, increased funding for the Transportation Management Association (which provides no meaningful metrics or enforcement) but refuse to reduce or to remove all-day commercial permits available in our residential neighborhoods — the simplest and most cost-effective way to reduce the number of cars coming into Palo Alto. One council member lives in College Terrace, where this rule is currently implemented. There is no legal or moral justification for giving this benefit to all other neighborhoods.

For the about-to-open California Avenue garage, some council and Chamber of Commerce members are trying to rewrite history by claiming that the garage was built solely to provide additional parking for businesses. This is a fiction. Residents supported building this garage, funded by public dollars, to provide parking for local-serving retail and to remove all commercial parking from near-by residential neighborhoods. Mayor Adrian Fine acknowledges this at 6:40:40 in the recording of the Nov. 9 council meeting: RPPs were designed to “Get the employees out of the RPPs and to provide additional parking for visitors and businesses in that district.” It is important to note that residents have consistently supported small business owners by endorsing high-priority and low-cost permits for local-serving businesses and low-wage workers. Council can also demonstrate its support for these groups through three simple actions:

1. Give local-serving businesses priority for purchasing permits in public garages, including a streamlined renewal process.
2. Make reduced cost permits for low-wage workers available in all public garages.
3. Support the city’s SOV and CO2 reduction goals by ending the sale of all-day commercial permits in residential neighborhoods.

Finding a lasting solution to this problem is important for the environmental and quality of life benefits it will bring. But in economic terms there is also an important opportunity cost. I want our city officials to be addressing the safety and traffic congestion issues we face. The recent traffic death of a pedestrian in a downtown crosswalk is a tragedy that we cannot afford to ignore. Let’s put our resources to work on making our streets, sidewalks and crosswalks safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. Let’s reduce traffic and return our public streets in residential neighborhoods to what they were designed for, for residential activity.

We all deserve no less.

John Guislin lives in Crescent Park, is actively engaged in efforts to reduce traffic and parking impacts and serves on the Palo Alto Police Department Chief’s Advisory Group.

Letters

More housing is the right side of history

Editor,

I’m a Menlo Park resident, currently serving as the Chair of the Menlo Park Housing Commission. I’m writing for myself, as an individual, to urge the Palo Alto City Council to reject suggestions to protest Palo Alto’s Regional Housing Needs Allocation numbers, and instead to embrace the challenge and opportunity of planning for 10,000 new homes in the next housing element.

Protesting the Regional Housing Needs Allocation numbers for being too high would perpetuate exclusion. Exclusion not only exacerbates the injustice of racial segregation, it also denies all of us the joy of living in a complete and diverse community with neighbors who are teachers, health aids, clerks and other workers who earn a range of incomes.

All of us will rest more easily knowing that we are planning for every person and all families to have a healthy home. And finally, we are staring down a climate crisis. We are out of time and must plan for complete communities in which people can live, work, access healthcare, education and grocers without driving cars.

Be on the right side of history, and embrace the opportunity to welcome new neighbors.

Karen Grove

Alameda de las Pulgas

Menlo Park

Time to meet our housing needs

Editor,

I appreciate the City Council and community members for resolutely supporting both the housing proposal at 788 San Antonio Road and the expansion of the Housing Incentive Program (HIP) boundaries to selected areas along the San Antonio Corridor. This action helps Palo Alto come closer to meeting our regional housing needs and demonstrates how zoning and incentives can make homes more feasible in this opportunity-rich city. There are many possibilities yet to be explored.

Despite our ongoing rhetoric about affordable housing, the council’s past actions have disheartened applicants — only one affordable housing project has been approved in the last two years. Developers and nonprofits have increasingly decided to make proposals in other cities. I hope this project is the start of a welcome attitude toward housing applicants and the creation of a wide range of multi-unit housing choices to address affordable housing demands.

I hope we can begin to demonstrate our willingness to do our part in meeting Regional Housing Needs Allocation goals, which will require multifamily feasibility in neighborhoods and travel corridors across Palo Alto.

Gail A. Price

Orme Street, Palo Alto

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

What do you think about the mandate to build 10K housing units in Palo Alto?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words or so to editorial@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can publish your letter online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

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A rt historians are prone to categorizing artists into groups or movements based on style, technique and philosophy. But for every such pigeonhole there are rogue artists or outliers who deviate from the set standards. Richard Pousette-Dart (1916–1992) is generally positioned within the Abstract Expressionist movement, but the current exhibition at Pace Gallery, his first in the Palo Alto venue, demonstrates how he veered away from his better-known colleagues (Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning and Mark Rothko) in order to find his own path.

On view until Dec. 23 (by appointment only), the show consists of 16 paintings and works on paper that range in date from the late 1960s to the early 1990s. Pace Gallery usually makes a point to refrain from a lot of didactic labeling, but this show opens with five densely patterned roundels from the artist’s “Cosmos” series and a lengthy essay that helps to explain Pousette-Dart’s philosophy and working method. This is a good idea, since most people are not familiar with him, in spite of his association with the Abstract Expressionist group by being a scholar, teaching at the Students League, and working method. This is a good idea, since most people are not familiar with him, in spite of his association with the Abstract Expressionist movement.

Born in Minnesota, Pousette-Dart found fame in New York City as one of the pioneering artists working in the new, avant garde style of abstraction. He was included in the groundbreaking “Forty American Moderns” exhibition of 1944 and, along with Pollock, Robert Motherwell, Hans Hofmann and Mark Tobey, in Peggy Guggenheim’s “Spring Salon for Young Artists.” He was one of the youngest members of the “Invisibles,” a contingent of artists who dared the Metropolitan Museum of Art to display nonrepresentational art. He claimed a place at the notorious Cedar Bar, along with his hard-drinking, rebellious colleagues but, by 1945, sought a quieter life and eventually moved with his wife to Suffern, New York.

Liz Sullivan, president of Pace Palo Alto, noted that the exhibition reflects the artist’s fluid working style, from the paintings bordered by thick black contour lines to his lighter, almost pointillist paintings that focus on spiritual ideas. She also commented on how Pousette-Dart further distanced himself from the Abstract Expressionist group by becoming a scholar, teaching at the New School for Social Research, Columbia University and the Art Students League.

“He was a highly independent innovator among 20th-century abstract painters, and this presentation is a reminder of Pousette-Dart’s ability to explore visual possibilities and create paintings and drawings that represent the unknowable,” she said.

“Imploding Black” — “Radiance Number Eight” and “Presence Number Three (Black)” all employ tiny dabs of paint, applied in the characteristic all-over style of the Abstract Expressionists. Unlike Pollock, who used ordinary house paints in much of his work, Pousette-Dart used acrylic and oil paint to achieve these large-scale color studies. And it is amazing how the viewer’s mood can be manipulated as you move from the bright, almost sunny, oranges in “Radiance” to the somber, serious tones of gray and black in “Presence Number Three.” There is no doubt that Pousette-Dart shared Pollock’s philosophy toward abstraction but their approach is noticeably different. Pollock worked in a free-form, spontaneous way — practically dancing above the canvas. In these paintings, we see that Pousette-Dart was much more methodical, deliberate and planned in both his application of paint and how he approached color and optics.

The next room in the gallery contains works that could be perceived as having a kinship with the color squares of Mark Rothko. These paintings tackle the subject of geometry and the juxtaposition of circles, squares and rectangles within bordered canvases. Unlike Rothko, whose colors bled and transfused into each other, Pousette-Dart contains the forms, painted in deep black, as they float within the grey background. Stand before “Transcendental Red” and gaze at the scarlet oblong, painted in such a thick impasto it almost seems like a carpet. Texture, form and color contrast are the themes here and how the manipulation of these facets impact the viewer’s mood and perception. Although Pousette-Dart believed that all art was abstract, to a degree, he eschewed the Abstract Expressionist label and preferred to call his paintings “presences” and “implosions of color.”

In a talk at the Boston Museum School in 1951, the artist said, “For me it’s the heavens forever opening up, like asymmetrical, unpredictable, spontaneous kaleidoscopes. It is magic, it is joy, it is gardens of surprise and miracle.”

The last room of the exhibition reflects the artist’s delight in contrasting modes of expression. “Le Jardin Rouge” is red, bold, large and most aggressive in the thick application of small dots of complementary blue, green and yellow paint. This is not the angst-filled outpouring of a Pollock, but rather the patient study of a man who believed that “art is energy, impulse. It is the question and the answer.” Directly across the gallery is “Radiance Number 3” in which subtle gradations of soft pastels evoke a dreamlike state, calm and introspective.

In writing about this exhibition, it really is not enough to try to place Pousette-Dart within the canon of an art historical movement or to try to describe his work. And it does not come across effectively in reproduction; it should be seen. The artist himself would probably agree. During the above-mentioned talk, Pousette-Dart said, “Paintings can not be explained, they have a life and a being and a voice of their own, they must be personally experienced.”

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

中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.3822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Eating Out

Our guide to Thanksgiving meals on the Peninsula

Where to get smoked turkey, a prime rib feast, pies and more

By Elena Kadvany

We all know this Thanksgiving isn’t going to feel normal. Many of us are staying home and scaling down instead of spending much-needed time with extended family and friends.

Consider taking the glass-half-full approach this year and seize the opportunity to create the Thanksgiving you’ve always wanted — no pressure to perform for relatives or politely eat your aunt’s mediocre mashed potatoes. If you want to order dim sum and have three kinds of pie for dessert, you can! (Wait, this sounds great.) Or maybe you only have the mental and physical energy to make a few side dishes and you want to outsource the turkey and dessert. Look to your local eateries to help, and support them in turn during a time when their dining rooms would usually be packed with holiday gatherings and events.

And if you are attending or hosting a small gathering, find the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s guidelines for safely doing so at tinyurl.com/cdc-holiday-2020.

Here’s our list of Peninsula restaurants and eateries offering takeout meals.

Camper, Menlo Park

Camper is making eight Thanksgiving sides, including buttermilk cornbread, chestnut and sausage stuffing and garlicky mashed potatoes, that you can order all together or in subsets. Plus, desserts from Tart de Feybesse (hello, pumpkin Parisian flan), Thanksgiving flowers from NovoBloom, housemade sourdough bread, wine and other add-ons. Reheat instructions will be provided. Pickup is Wednesday, Nov. 25, noon to 5 p.m.

To order, go to exploretock.com/camper.

Zola, Palo Alto

French restaurant Zola is offering a Thanksgiving meal for two ($100): roasted Diestel turkey, herb gravy, cranberry relish, cornbread stuffing, sweet potato-gouda gratin and roasted Brussels sprouts with homemade pancetta. You can also order dinner rolls ($9 for six), pumpkin pie, apple-pecan crumble ($14 each) or up your game with caviar, served with buckwheat blini and chive lemon crème fraîche ($100). Pickup will be on Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2-6 p.m. When you place your order, type your desired pickup time in the notes and it’s the default pickup time.

To order, go to zolatogo.com.

Alexander’s Steakhouse Group, multiple locations

Not a turkey person? Go big with a prime rib feast ($325) from The Sea by Alexander’s Steakhouse in Palo Alto and Alexander’s Steakhouse in Cupertino. The to-go meal serves six people and comes with a par-cooked 7-pound prime rib, au jus, creamed horseradish, mashed potatoes, Caesar salad and wine. The meal requires some cooking to temperature at home and is available for pickup or delivery Tuesday-Sunday (you must order by 7:45 p.m. the day before).

The Sea by Alexander’s is also offering a 52-ounce Wagyu F1 tomahawk chop with three loaded baked potatoes, mushroom gravy and a bottle of Alexander’s Steakhouse cabernet sauvignon ($395). Alexander’s Patisserie in Mountain View and Cupertino are also making Thanksgiving pies for pickup or delivery. To order, go to alexanderssteakhouse.com/thanksgiving.

Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley, East Palo Alto

Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley is making a three-course to-go meal for the holiday, including a glazed turkey breast with sides and pecan pie cobbler for dessert.

To order, go to bit.ly/FSPATurkeytogo or email richard.lanau@fourseasons.com by Nov. 20 for pickup at the hotel on Nov. 26.

Coconuts Caribbean Restaurant, Palo Alto

Jerk-roasted turkey with jerk pan gravy, candied yams and rice and beans? Coconuts will be closed on Thanksgiving Day but has a range of Caribbean Thanksgiving meals available for takeout ($90 to $190). Preorder by Nov. 20.

To order, go to coconutspaloalto.com/thanksgiving.html.

Vina Enoteca, Palo Alto

Head to Vina Enoteca for handmade filled-pastas like agnolotti, ravioli, tortelloni and tortellini this Thanksgiving. While you’re at it, pick up some wines, fresh bread and Italian snacks at the restaurant’s new Vina Mercato.

To preorder, go to vinaenoteca.com.

Little Sky Bakery, Menlo Park

You can stock up on Little Sky Bakery’s popular breads, rolls and other baked goods at local farmers markets before Thanksgiving (at Menlo Park on Sunday and at...
the Portola Valley farmers market on Wednesday, Nov. 23, instead of its usual Thursday). On Thanksgiving Day, owner Tian May mim will be baking early and offering deliveries from noon to 3 p.m., as well as some specials: cookie and some samplers and a season al special bread (likely polenta pumpkin seed bread or pumpkin seed lougasse). To order, go to littlekyssbakery.com/order.

Manresa Bread, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Campbell

Get your orders in now for butter buns, levain bread, pumpkin cheesecake mousse, spiced apple crumble pie and other holiday baked goods from Manresa Bread. Available for pickup Nov. 24 and 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at any location. To order, go to pre-ordermanresabread.com.

Thanksgiving produce boxes
If you’re immunocompromised or want to avoid grocery stores crowded with holiday shoppers, Sigma’s in Palo Alto and Redwood City will deliver Thanksgiving produce boxes the weeks of Nov. 16 and 23. Locally baked pies are available as add-ons. Local delivery is free for orders over $75.
To order, go to sigonashome.com/shop/home-delivery-produce-boxes/

Farm Box will be offering its usual local produce boxes for delivery with Thanksgiving add-ons like yams, celery, leeks and Three Babes Bakeshop Pies. Orders close Thursday at noon.
To order, go to farmbox.409.co.

Baumé, Palo Alto

The two-Michelin-star Baumé will be serving a seven-course prix fixe ($298) or nine-course prix fixe ($398) tasting menu to go, with dishes such as kabocha squash soup and prime ribeye beef with polenta. To order, go to exploretock.com/baume/.

Selby’s, Redwood City/Alhambra

Selby’s is closed until next year but is still offering a customizable to-go Thanksgiving meal with ready-to-roast turkey, stuffing, scalloped parmesan potatoes, sweet potato rolls and other dishes (from $6 to $254). Selby’s sister restaurant, The Village Bakery, is baking pumpkin, Dutch apple, bourbon cran and Meyer lemon pies. Orders must be placed by Monday, Nov. 23, for pickup on Wednesday, Nov. 25.
To order, go to eventbrite.com/e/selbys.

Backhaus, San Mateo

Backhaus’ pies are sadly already sold out but you can still round out your Thanksgiving table with the San Mateo bakery’s excellent breads, from seeded sourdough to whole-wheat pan loaf. (You’re going to need great bread to make your leftovers sandwich on, right?) While you’re at it, order a few croissants or a pear-dark chocolate scone for the morning-after breakfast. All Thanksgiving orders must be placed before noon on Sunday, Nov. 22. Backhaus will be open for preorder pickups only on Thanksgiving Day, with coffee and espresso drinks but no baked goods available.
To order, go to backhaus-thanksgiving.square.site/order.

Keith’s Chicken and Waffles, Daly City

Lean into the nontraditional this year and make fried chicken from Keith’s Chicken and Waffles the centerpiece of your Thanksgiving (plus sides like mac and cheese, candied yams and cornbread). Email orders to keithshickenwaffles@gmail.com by Nov. 23 at noon.

Number5Kitchen, San Carlos

Number5Kitchen has the Thanksgiving sides down — stuffing, Braised red cabbage, roasted Brussel sprouts and more — plus a black truffle roasted chicken if turkey isn’t your thing, kabocha pumpkin tart with chantilly cream and all the fixings for a holiday appetizer plate. (And maybe add on the restaurant’s Dungeness crab fried rice, while you’re at it?) Pickup is Wednesday, Nov. 25, from noon to 5 p.m. Reheat instructions will be provided.
To order, go to number5kitchen.com/thanksgiving.

Pasta Moon, Half Moon Bay

Italian favorite Pasta Moon will have an extensive Thanksgiving menu available for indoor or outdoor dining on Nov. 26, including hand-carved turkey, Guiness-brased short ribs, la sagna, sausage-spinach-parmesan stuffing and sweet potato caserole ($88 per person; $25 for children under 12 years old).
To make a reservation, go to pastamoon.com.

Belcampo, San Mateo

You can order one of Bel campo’s pasture-raised, organic turkeys or, for smaller groups, a seasoning turkey breast, plus prepared sides like Brussels sprouts with bacon and cranberry sauce. Available for pickup or delivery. To order, go to belcampo.com/pages/san-mateo-hillside.

Mojitos Bakehouse, Palo Alto

Gluten-free bakery Mojitos Bakehouse will be making pumpkin pies, cro Gunheads and several flavors of paleo, keto baklava (including pistachio, black sesame and pecan-walnut) as well as its usual bread and baked goods offerings. Available for local pickup and delivery. Local orders placed by 5 p.m. are available for next day pickup or delivery Monday through Friday. Shipping orders placed by 5 p.m. Tuesday and are shipped Monday-Wednesday via UPS second day air (free for orders over $99).
To order, go to misfits.kitchen/

The Smokepoint, San Juan Bautista

It’s a bit of a drive out to The Smokepoint, the new barbecue spot opened this month by Jarak Gallagher, the former executive chef of Chez TJ in Mountain View. But maybe this year you have time to spare or no relatives to pretend to please. If so, The Smokepoint is making smoked turkey with gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, yams, cranberry relish, sauteed greens, salad and berry cobbler ($45 per person) for pickup. Email crew@thestokepoint.com to place an order.

Just desserts
Is dessert the most important part of Thanksgiving? Maybe. Here are a few recommendations for local pies and sweet treats.
Dianda’s Bakery, San Mateo: Dianda’s Italian baked goods are to die for. Do get the famous almond torte, which is so subtly sweet and light that it’s socially acceptable to have it for breakfast as well as dessert.
Shampa’s Pies, Pacifica: Owner Hariun Wesley’s pies are worth driving to the coast for. Go traditional with sweet potato...
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$363,027.42, plus all interest thereon, and advances, if any, under the terms of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and
advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, to-wit $363,027.42
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The best way to verify postponement
in March, the company has announced that its more casual
restaurant, which initially shifted
to takeout only in the spring and
then resumed outdoor and indoor dining
two months ago with limited capacity. Under normal
requirements in place at the sale, you are
or may be responsible for paying off all liens
on the property, if any. 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
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the notice of sale on or before the time of
the sale, you are required to have a valid
state-issued photo ID with you at the sale. You are
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The name of the store being auctioned
is to attend the scheduled sale. "The best way to verify
postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale." T
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Police

(continued from page 7)

independent police auditor. “It is completely inappropriate, and he needs to have the oversight he has always had over internal affairs.” Dellenbach said.

While the council did not reach a decision about internal complaints, members were more unified about expanding the scope of the auditor to include a wider range of incidents that involve the use of force. The council also unanimously agreed to hold meetings with the police auditor twice a year.

The vote to expand the auditor’s scope to include these incidents was one of more than a tor’s scope to include these in- auditor twice a year.

The vote to expand the auditor’s scope to include these incidents was one of more than a tor’s scope to include these internal complaints.

The commission agreed that the auditor should have a wider range of incidents that involve the use of force. The council to consider hiring a more realistic model for the audit process.

Even if that program is imple- ments that the under- ground garage is illegal in a single-fami- ily residential neighborhood. And if even if it were allowed, it should count toward the school’s gross floor-area-ratio, they have argued.

Policemen reached numerous build- ings with new ones (Com- missioners reached numerous build- ings with new ones).

By the same vote, the commis- sion voted to approve findings for the zoning variance that Castille- ja had requested to replace aged buildings with new ones (Com- missioners William Riggs was absent).

But even as planning com- missioners reached numerous compromises over conditions of approval, they hit a stalemate over one key concern: the need to expand the school’s planned underground garage. For months, residents opposing the project have argued that an underground garage is illegal in a single-fami- ly residential neighborhood. And even if it were allowed, it should count toward the school’s gross floor-area-ratio, they have argued.

City staff concluded that the prohibition on underground gar- ages is limited to residential uses, thus making Castilleja exempt. They acknowledged, however, that the zoning code is unclear on whether the garage should count toward floor area and have gone along with it because a request not to count it. In explaining the decision, staff pointed to Congre- gation Kol Emeth, a synagogue where a newly constructed un- derground garage did not count toward floor area.

Faced with a variance request from the zoning code, the commission deadlocked 3-3 over whether the school’s planned underground garage should be allowed and, if so, whether it should be included in the school’s floor area. Summa, Lauing and Chair Cari Templeton rejected staff’s position that the underground garage is an appropriate and zone-compliant use in the residential neighborhood. Com- missioners Michael Alcheek and Barton Hechtman and Vice Chair Giselle Koo Roorparvar all supported the staff position and recom- mended making the necessary finding to advance the project.

The commission’s division over the proposed parking prevented it from approving the necessary findings to formally approve the adoption of the conditional use permit. Its split vote means that it will be up to the City Council to parse the zoning code, hear the various arguments and do what the commission could not: reach a majority decision.

The planning commission was more decisive on other aspects of the application, including the condi- tions of approval that Castilleja would have to meet to move ahead with its campus reconstruction and enrollment expansion. In its third reading, the commission voted 4-2 to accept a long list of conditions, including ones that limit special events of 50 or more attendees at the school to 74 annually and that require the school to diligently monitor and regularly report traffic conditions around the school.

Most critically, the conditions of approval comply with Castille- ja’s request to raise the enrollment cap to 540, provided its traffic im- pacts don’t increase over time.

“I don’t think there’s a problem with having 540 or however many students, as long as there’s no im- pact on traffic — and that can be managed,” Lauing argued.

The commission’s votes mark the conclusion of a critical phase for a project that has been in the city’s pipeline for the past four years and that has pitted the school’s neighbors against one another.

Unlike their colleagues, Lau- ing and Summa both supported granting Castilleja permission to increase enrollment to 450 instead of 540. Both said the school can always return at a later date to re- quest further growth. The incre- mental approach, Lauing argued, would give the school a chance to demonstrate that its traffic-reduc- tion programs are working and alleviate neighborhood concerns about the project.

There’s no reason, he said, for the city to immediately start allowing 540 students.

“I don’t think it’s penalizing the school at this point to give them 450 instead of none,” Lauing said.

And I don’t think the extra stu- dents will do very much — you just perform and regain trust.”

Others suggested that the city’s proposed conditions already go far enough to mitigate the pro- posed traffic impacts. Hechtman pointed to the commission’s Nov. 4 vote to institute a “no net new trips” requirement on Castilleja, which the school strongly op- posed. The new conditions also require regular traffic monitoring by Castilleja and strict adherence to limits on average daily trips (1,296) and on morning peak hour trips (440). If the school exceeds these limits in consecutive report- ing periods, it would be subject to fines and reductions in future en- rollment allowances.

To further assuage anxiet- ies about traffic impacts, the commission specified that the school’s ability to expand would be based on reviews of three traf- fic reports, including two from the prior year and one from the year during which the expansion is requested. The list of condi- tions also includes a long list of transportation-demand manage- ment measures to reduce daily traffic, including use of carpool programs, shuttles and incentive programs for faculty, staff and students to use alternative means.

Given the city’s strict prohibi- tions on increasing traffic im- pacts, there’s no reason to keep the school from adding more than a 100 students, Hechtman said.

“I think the safety net is fan- tastic,” Hechtman said. “It’s fool- proof. And it’s that way because it’s been labored over by so many consultants for so many years to keep things right on. It’s the right one. It’s the right plan.”

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@ pawweekly.com.
moderate category. For most council members, this is an impossible ask. Palo Alto has struggled to meet its existing regional mandate to accommodate new market-rate housing, and it has fallen well off the mark when it comes to affordable housing. Over the past two years, the only major below-market-rate project that the city approved was a 59-apartment complex known as Wilton Court, which required a subsidy of more than $10 million from the city.

The new allocation also represents an exponential increase from the city’s current housing target of 1,998 units in the present eight-year Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycle. But even as council members acknowledged Tuesday morning that they need to do more on affordable housing, the majority argued that the RHNA process is misguided and that the regional targets set Bay Area cities up for failure. Council member Eric Filsen called the projected allocation numbers “impossible” regardless of what type of zone changes the city undertakes, short of opening the Baylands for development.

“Intentionally or not, we’re heading toward a sea change in how land use is done across the state of California,” Filsen said. Vice Mayor Tom DuBois said the problem isn’t so much the allocation method but the number of units for which the Bay Area is required to plan. The target of 441,176 units was determined by the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), which assigns allocations to every region in California and then leaves it up to regional agencies like the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to determine the allocation for each city and county in its jurisdiction.

“The zero sum” nature of the process means that the city’s proposed plans are unlikely to succeed. Any reductions that Palo Alto could potentially obtain would increase allocations in other Bay Area jurisdictions. And as recent meetings of the various ABAG boards and committees have indicated, other cities aren’t too eager to absorb Palo Alto’s numbers. While the various boards ultimately settled on Option 8A as a compromise, many local officials argued that Silicon Valley cities should get even higher housing allocations, commensurate with the high job growth that they have been promoting and experiencing over the past several decades.

In the council’s letter to ABAG, Palo Alto leaders argue that the region’s housing burden is far too high because it’s based on projections in Plan Bay Area 2050, a long-range vision document, rather than on existing conditions. For Palo Alto and other cities in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, the allocations would “result in the need to plan for a population growth equivalent to building a new small city in eight years within existing built-out jurisdictional boundaries.”

Palo Alto alone would see its population of about 66,000 go up by 23,000 residents over the eight-year period, or nearly 3,000 annually. This, the letter argues, would require “significant increases in municipal services, including more parkland, expanded public safety services, greater access to libraries and public schools and other services.”

The city is requesting in its letter a limit on the housing allocation of a certain percentage of new housing units compared to the city’s existing housing stock. “Development at this scale and pace is not realistic and not feasible for a built-out community,” the letter states. “A growth cap is necessary to ensure jurisdictions can reasonably plan for and produce more housing.”

While council members agreed Tuesday that they should challenge the methodology and ultimately appeal the numbers after they are formally released, they have little hope that their opposition will bear fruit. Over the course of ABAG’s protracted methodology discussion, the city has submitted five comment letters challenging the agency’s assumptions. Planning Director Jonathan Lait acknowledged that the letters have “not been terribly effective in influencing the steady march forward of the RHNA methodology process.”

Resident Kelsey Banes, a housing advocate, said that the prospect of ABAG changing its methodology at this point is highly unlikely and urged the city not to challenge the baseline on which the numbers are based.

“The main things we look at is access to opportunity and jobs, and Palo Alto has both of those things,” Banes said. “We don’t really have a case to make in terms of why we shouldn’t get homes here because this is a place that needs a lot more homes.”

Others supported a more aggressive stance by the city. Greg Schmid, an economist and former Palo Alto vice mayor, called the RHNA numbers for Palo Alto “overwhelming.” They are also, he added, flawed because they concentrate housing in job areas and neglect to consider the impact of job dispersion.

While the council is pushing back on the allocation of housing to Palo Alto, several speakers and council members simultaneously criticized city staff for citing in their comment letter an analysis issued in September by the research group Embarcadero Institute, which is composed of Palo Alto residents who favor slow-growth policies.

Council member Liz Kniss argued that the group’s paper should not be included or cited in the city’s complaint because the researchers are known to “be particularly rabid.” The group’s board includes Greer Stone, a teacher who was elected to council earlier this month, former Planning and Transportation Commission member Asher Waldfogel and downtown resident Danielle Layton. Both Waldfogel and Layton have been major donors in recent council elections to candidates affiliated with the council’s “residentialist” members. Stone has also been loosely aligned with the slow-growth camp in both his recent council campaign and in his prior council bid in 2016.

The Embarcadero Institute’s paper was the only institute alleged in its September report that the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) used to allocate Bay Area regional housing needs. Southern California, the Bay Area and the Sacramento area by more than the 5% rate that had been the “double counting.” The document specifically challenges the state agency’s determination that the 5% rate is reasonable for rental properties, a more reasonable figure for owner-occupied housing would be 1.5%.

The paper also asserts that state agencies double counted factors pertaining to overcrowding and cost-burdening, further driving up numbers.

The council’s approach to determining the housing need must be defensible and reproducible if cities are to be held accountable,” the Embarcadero Institute paper states. “Inaccuracies on this scale mask the fact that cities and counties are surpassing the state’s market-rate housing targets but falling far short in meeting affordable housing targets. The inaccuracies obscure the real problem and the associated solution to the housing crisis — the funding of affordable housing.”

Since its release, the Embarcadero Institute paper has become a political hot potato. Even as local officials in cities such as Palo Alto and Beverly Hills have cited it as evidence that state projections are flawed, numerous economists and academics have challenged the paper’s assumptions and conclusions.

Stephen Levy, an economist who worked with the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop projections, argued in his letter to the city that the 5% vacancy rate is the agency’s “normal assumption for the state’s housing stock” and that the rate reflects “important state housing priorities in light of very large price and
HOUSING

City approves first major housing project of 2020

Council signals its desire to see more residential projects on Palo Alto’s southern edge

by Gennady Sheyner

A housing project at 788 San Antonio Road in Palo Alto approved by the City Council on Nov. 17 includes 32 studios, 66 one-bedroom units and four two-bedroom units.

But the vast majority of the roughly 30 residents who attended the virtual meeting urged the council to approve the project and add much-needed housing.

“I think San Antonio is an underappreciated resource in Palo Alto and this project at 788 San Antonio can be an anchor — an anchor tenant if you will for revitalization of that density housing in Palo Alto,” housing advocate John Kelley said.

Former Councilor Gail Price, who now serves as board president of Palo Alto Forward, a nonprofit that advocates for more housing, said the project will help the city come closer to meet its regional housing allocations.

“Approval of the project and needed zoning changes will send a signal to regional and state agencies that Palo Alto is taking our increased housing goals seriously and providing zoning and incentives to make such housing feasible,” Price said.

The zone change would apply to 16 properties that are currently zoned “service commercial,” a designation that typically includes auto services, motels and appliance stores.

The new designation would allow — and encourage — housing by roughly doubling the density allowed for residential projects. The housing program also lets developers develop balcony spaces and rooftops to meet the city’s requirements for providing open space.

While some council members lamented the lack of services, citywide opposition candidate Lisa Kniss observed that there is one benefit to approving a project at a relatively remote site: little neighborhood resistance.

“Normally we get pushback from people who live close by, who don’t want something of that size,” Kniss said. “It’s kind of a pleasure to not be in somebody’s backyard. That makes a big difference.”

Kou, who supported the housing development, voted against the extension of the zone change to other areas on San Antonio, saying that the move goes against the city’s Comprehensive Plan and its prior housing vision.

“We’ve just upzoned a lot of these parcels to provide these parcel owners with more profitability,” Kou said. “Essentially, what we’ve done is increase the value of land all around the corridor.”

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

City seeking to make a small dent in addressing the region’s housing need

The Palo Alto City Council approved on Tuesday morning its largest residential project of the year: a 102-apartment development on San Antonio Road.

By a unanimous vote, the council unpacked a proposal by 788 SAPA Land LLC to construct a four-story building with 102 apartments and 1,800 square feet of retail at 788 San Antonio Road, near Leland Street.

The project’s residential component consists of 32 studios, 66 one-bedroom units and four two-bedroom apartments. Sixteen would be restricted to below-market-rate households.

While the developer plans to rent these as apartments, the city’s approval allows for them to be converted to condominiums at a later time.

“Most of the project is to serve a range of renters and a range of income levels,” said Ted O’Hannon, who represented the project applicant. “That’s both for the inclusionary housing but also for the other renters — or maybe owners of the property.”

“Generally, we are studios and one-bedrooms. So this will certainly lend itself to single dwellers or perhaps couples.”

In supporting the project, the city signaled its desire to both approve a major new housing development for the first time this year and to raise the stature of San Antonio Road as a location for housing.

In addition to back- ing the residential project, the council voted to extend some of the zoning and housing incentives to 16 other properties on the two-block stretch of San Antonio, between Middlefield and Charleston roads, with the goal of attracting additional developments.

By a 4-3 vote, with Vice Mayor Tom DuBois, and council members Eric Filsen and Lydia Kou dissenting, the council established new with projected household growth," Elmdorf wrote in a series of tweets challenging the study. The Embarcadero Institute study likewise proved contentious at Tuesday’s discussion, with the council voting 4-3 along its usual political lines to exclude references to the report from the city’s protest letter. DuBois, Filsen and Council member Lydia Kou all supported referencing the study in the city’s letter; Fine, Kniss, Greg Tanaka and Alison Cormack voted for exclusion.

Fine characterized the report as “positional” and argued that it is based on the group’s known opposition to new housing. He also voted against the letter, which will bear his signature despite his vote of dissent.

“We have all the tools at our disposal to be able to solve this problem, to meeting our own Comprehensive Plan goals, and this council is split on using that tool and extending it to a certain area called ‘San Antonio,’“ Fine said, alluding to the council’s 4-3 vote earlier in the meeting to approve the council’s “housing incentive program” — which gives density bonuses to housing developments — to a two-block stretch of San Antonio Road.

“That’s why other cities are not happy with us. That’s why we are dark red on that map and getting one of the highest assignments in the entire Bay Area.”

Despite the council majority’s critique of the Embarcadero Institute analysis, most council members supported challenging the proposed RHNA numbers.

DuBois called the projections a dramatic increase that is “really setting us up for failure.”

“I’m not interested in shifting our allocation to other cities,” DuBois said. “I’d rather see us align with other cities to ensure that the total is something that is achievable and makes sense.”

He also suggested that the city should be prepared to support or join lawsuits that challenge the Department of Housing and Community Development housing allocation.

“Government can’t be arbitrary and capricious,” DuBois said.

“We need numbers that are based on realistic assumptions. If we get numbers that are not achievable and those have repercussions on our ability to govern our city, then we have an obligation to defend ourselves and defend our city.”

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

About the cover: Under new housing allocations, Palo Alto may have to build 10,000 new housing units. Photo by Olivia Treynor. Cover design by Douglas Young.
Charming Palo Alto
Crescent Park Setting

756 University Avenue, Palo Alto
Bedrooms: 2 | Bathrooms: 2 | Living: +/-1,313 sq ft
List Price: $1,698,000

Nick Granoski | 650-269-8556
Nick@GranoskiWeil.com
DRE 00994196

David Weil | 650-823-3855
David@GranoskiWeil.com
DRE 01400271

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Upfront

RECOGNIZING LOCAL HEROES

Palo Alto Stanford Community

Thank you to the PALO ALTO STANFORD COMMUNITY for coming to the rescue when we lost our home to fire; giving shelter, meals, clothes, advice, and notes of love. We are deeply grateful! Please help us now BRING HOPE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS for our less fortunate neighbors at covid19.fgt.org.

Submitted by: Megan Sweezy Fogarty

BY THE NUMBERS

Santa Clara County COVID-19 trends in the past month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Oct. 18</th>
<th>Nov. 18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New cases</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative cases</td>
<td>23,224</td>
<td>29,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newly hospitalized patients</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total hospitalized</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven-day rolling average of new cases per day</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Santa Clara County

Curfew
(continued from page 5)

The order’s intent is to target social activities and gatherings that have a higher likelihood of including participants who do not adhere to safety measures like wearing a face covering and maintaining social distance. COVID-19 cases in California have increased by about 50% in the first week of November, according to state officials.

The curfew is just the latest action to curtail activity, following his Monday decision to place more than 94% of the state’s population in the most restrictive tier. Under the purple tier, restaurants are limited to outdoor service only, and only outdoor gatherings in Santa Clara County are allowed for places of worship, museums, family entertainment centers, movies and professional sports without live audiences. All retailers, including shopping malls, are restricted to 25% of capacity indoors.

The return to a red tier means that San Mateo County restaurants must limit indoor dining to 25% of capacity, and other businesses, such as fitness centers, will face additional restrictions. Santa Clara County officials had already announced on Nov. 13 that they would again ban indoor dining and add other yet-to-be determined restrictions to public gatherings in response to a rapid rise in COVID-19 cases.

It was the second time in a week that the county addressed the growth in cases. The infection rate and hospitalizations have continued to increase since Nov. 9, mirroring trends seen across the Bay Area, the state and in many other parts of the country, county Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody said at a press conference.

“Unfortunately, I’m here to deliver more sobering news,” Cody said. “It is absolutely imperative that we take action now.”

The local curve has been shooting “straight up” since about Nov. 3. she said. “The steepeens of that curve required that we act swiftly.”

On Nov. 16 during a press conference in San Jose, Cody reiterated the importance of adhering to state and county guidelines regarding social distancing, wearing masks and businesses’ compliance with restrictions. Santa Clara County had 388 new confirmed cases on Nov. 16. On Nov. 13 she had said there were 110 hospitalizations, an increase from an average of 80 hospitalizations per day in October.

“We need every citizen and business in our county to take this extremely seriously,” she said.

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez said on Friday that she realizes that people are growing weary of the restrictions.

“As a community we tried really hard to fight this back,” she said. “So this is really bad news and it’s really hard to hear. We’ve all got to dig in and really double down.”

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner contributed to this story, Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.

Bob Roth

Bob Roth has spent 25 years curbing non-native plants at Foothills Preserve. As a charter member of Friends of Foothill, a group dedicated to habitat restoration, Bob has shared his knowledge widely. The preserve needs more heroes of his kind as it enters its new phase.

Submitted by: Ruth Marshall & Roger Smith

Have a local hero you want to recognize? Spread the joy and support our journalism efforts by giving him/her a shout-out in the Palo Alto Weekly. Submit entries at PaloAltoOnline.com/local_hero/
Holiday Fund (continued from page 5)

Academy staff member who is equipped in classroom management, but the leader is not a teacher and the hub doesn’t provide in-person instruction. Instead, the staff member is a much-needed troubleshooter, a guide who helps students to stay on track.

From 9 a.m. until noon, students participate in synchronous, real-time learning online with their Ravenswood classes. After lunch, they engage in independent study.

The program has made a huge difference for its youth, both academically and socio-emotionally.

“The ﬁrst week, they were in awe that they could see other kids,” Victor recalled. Even though the nev-ness of that has worn off, and the restrictions of though the newness of that has worn off, and the restrictions of the hub. That both reduces the coro-

Beyond providing a safe and quiet space, the hubs are also venues for 49ers Academy staff to give targeted assistance to the students. Victor, who started coming to the hub after having missed several weeks of school, the hub leaders help them to catch up on their assignments. For kids who would beneﬁt from talking with teachers during their virtual ofﬁce hours but aren’t aware that option is available, their hub leader helps them to make the connection.

“We’re noticing that infor ma-
tion that’s being given is lost in translation,” Victor said. “Navigating has been the key.”

Other times, the middle school leaders simply offer someone to them understand an assignment, Victor said. “Some students have an individualized education plan (IEP), and they just need extra support to get through certain classes.”

So much of what the 49ers Academy hub leaders do is per-

A day count matters.

County data shows Romero and Lopez ultimately performed the best at voter centers out of all seven candidates, receiving 485 and 450 votes, respectively, through in-person. The rest came from mailed and drop-off ballots. (In contrast, Lincoln outperformed speaks with the two largest hubs, but only by 20 votes, according to the latest data.)

Perhaps the biggest upset of the race was Council member Larry Moody’s loss, which was apparent at the outset of election night when the ﬁrst set of results was released. Like Gauthier and Romero, who both contributed their win to their long history in the city, Moody is a prominent community leader — with experience in East Palo Alto going back as far as 1993 — who was seeking a third term on the council. Support from residents, endorsement from the county’s Democratic Party, and the nearly $15,000 raised through donations pointed to signs of the candidate’s status as a local household name and his strong chance of retaining his seat.

But latest results showed Moody only landed the sixth most votes in this election, with 376 more votes than Stewart Hyland — a nonprofit director and ﬁrst-time challenger who only participated in the race — and 395 fewer votes than Juan Mendez, another younger, ﬁrst-time chal-

City Council (Nov. 16)

City of Palo Alto: The council approved a 102-apartment complex at 788 San Antonio Road.

Housing Incentive Program: The council approved the extension of the city’s "housing incentive program" to San Antonio Road, between Middleﬁeld and East Charleston roads. Yes: Cormack, Fire, Kniss, Tanaka No: Dubbs, Fire, Kniss, FV.

RHNA: The council approved a letter to the Association of Bay Area Governments protesting the methodology for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process. Yes: Cormack, Dubbs, Fire, Kniss. FV: Tanaka

The council approved a 102-apartment complex at 788 San Antonio Road.

Yes: Cormack, Fire, Kniss, Tanaka No: Dubbs, Fire, Kniss, FV.

Council Finance Committee (Nov. 17)

City of Palo Alto: The committee recommended that staff move forward to construct a "cold shelf" for the Roth Building, which would be used to sequester and structural documents, so that the building can later accommodate the Palo Alto Museum. Yes: Unanimous

Planning and Transportation Commission (Nov. 18)

Castilleja: The commission voted to recommend conditions of approval for the school’s new community permit, which would impose new requirements for trafﬁc mitigation and allow the school to gradually expand student enrollment from 830 to 900. Yes: Alchack, Hachmon, Roopnarain, Templet No: Lauten, Summa Absent: Rigs

Architectural Review Board (Nov. 19)

Objective standards: The board continued its review of objective standards for evaluating new developments. Action: None

Moody’s loss didn’t discredit the role the high stakes presidential election played in driving those numbers up. But he also empha-

I’m very happy because the community is taking hard on voter registration.

Solorzano said. “Anything less than a record turnout would have been surprising.”

Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee can be emailed at lle@pawekly.com.
Welcome to 319 Walsh Road, Atherton

4 Beds | 3.5 Baths | 3,185 Sq Ft | New Price: $3,900,000

Built in 2014 and situated on prestigious Walsh Road in Atherton, this Craftsman style home offers the best of California living.

With designer finishes throughout and a spacious main level open floor plan, this home is perfect for any gathering. The lower level has a media area, an office/bedroom, and full bath, ideal for guests and work from home. Experience a backyard oasis with gardens and space for lounging and entertaining. Steps form highly acclaimed Las Lomitas Elementary School.

For a video tour & more info visit: 319walsh.com

Karin Riley
650.465.6210
karin.riley@compass.com
DRE 01725481

Across
1 1 of 100 still being finalized in D.C.
4 Company with “counting sheep” ads
9 Beginning (of the hour)
12 “The Clan of the Cave Bear” author Jean
14 It may have a big impact
15 “___ Been Thinking About You” (1991 Londonbeat song)
16 Greetings from trained bears?
18 Shirt marker
19 “Can you wait just a freaking minute!?”
20 It had a baby face in “Teletubbies”
21 Escapees from Pandora’s box
22 “George of the Jungle” creature
23 “___ and Juice”
25 California ballplayer
27 Burn a little
29 Modern, to Merkel
31 Annoying
34 Deployed with alacrity?
37 “The Princess and the Frog” princess
40 Heavy metal singer Ronnie James ___
42 Way to keep your spiky sea creatures fastened?
45 City that shares Seattle’s airport
46 “The King and I” actor Brynner
47 Chaka who sang “I Feel for You”
51 Discharges
53 Back-to-school mo.
55 Fertility clinic supply
56 Disinfectant sheet
58 Burj Khalifa’s loc.
60 Alloy containing tin
62 Bug that might bug you in the kitchen
63 Tool to help build a city?
65 Descend diagonally
66 Battleship blasts
67 “The Flintstones” pet

“UR Here” — as if it isn’t obvious, by Matt Jones

4 Across: 30.5
5 Across: 33.5
6 Across: 35.5
7 Across: 35.5
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63 Across: 34.5
64 Across: 34.5
65 Across: 34.5
66 Across: 34.5
67 Across: 34.5
68 Across: 34.5
69 Across: 34.5
70 Across: 34.5

Down
1 People get steamed there
2 One side of “the pond”
3 Arzona alternative
4 Fix a button
5 HHH, in Greek
6 Accelerate
7 Polish site
8 “___ ilonga, vita brevis”
9 Golf ball brand
10 Like the head of a tennis racket
11 Lite-Brite bulbs, really
13 “Hamilton” creator ___-Manuel Miranda
14 Asking for a tiny bit of fish, maybe?
17 December cartonful
21 Siberia’s neighbor on a Risk board
24 Lists of basics
26 Shriviel
27 Hurry back, perhaps
30 Cohnesiveness
32 “Born” in some notices
33 E. Berlin was its capital
35 “Army of Darkness” director Sam
36 Donut, mathematically
37 Boy king of Egypt
38 Levin who wrote “Rosemary’s Baby”
39 Be resigned to one’s fate
43 Quick learner
44 Hebrew alphabet starters
48 It’ll pick up the faintest of noises
49 Oat-based skin product brand
50 Like some margins
52 Weasel cousin
53 Paper nest builder
54 Shepherd’s pie bit
55 Calligrapher’s supply
59 Icicle lights locale
61 2000s Iraq war subject, briefly
63 Charging port, maybe
64 “Mmhmm” motion

Answers on page 28.
NEW CONSTRUCTION BLENDING MODERN SOPHISTICATION AND EUROPEAN FLAIR

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