As state reopens, people start to gather again

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Health leaders make recommendations, institute mandates as COVID cases rise

By Barbara Feder Ostrov, Sue Dremann, Lloyd Lee

Local, state and federal health agencies are once again stepping up their public health restrictions as COVID-19 cases have spiked over the past month and a half, fueled by the delta variant and the relaxation of health rules since June 15.

On Wednesday, the California Department of Public Health updated its mask guidance to recommend that vaccinated Californians cover their faces in indoor public spaces. The update follows new guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which on Tuesday urged residents of areas where COVID-19 is surging to return to wearing masks indoors.

The federal announcement reversed an earlier CDC recommendation, issued in mid-May, that it was safe for vaccinated people to remove their masks in most settings.

The new CDC guidelines were prompted by evidence showing that the delta variant may be more likely than other variants to cause breakthrough cases in vaccinated people, and those people may still carry large quantities of the virus that can be passed to others, said CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky.

But she also noted that such breakthrough cases remain rare.

In California, about 21,000 breakthrough cases have been identified among nearly 21 million fully vaccinated people — just 0.1%, according to state health data.

Locally, Stanford University announced on July 22 that seven vaccinated students had tested positive for COVID-19 and were isolate indoors? Time to mask up again

High school students challenge own political beliefs through domestic exchange program

First cohort of the American Exchange Project arrives in Palo Alto to explore — and listen

By Alicia Mies

Two weeks ago, recent Castilleja graduate Divya Ganesan got to shoot at a gun range, do ranch work in a pair of cowboy boots and eat real Southern barbecue in the oil-rich Kilgore, Texas — an experience she called total cultural immersion.

Ganesan admits she initially didn’t feel a “human connection” with the South, but as part of the American Exchange Project, a free, two-week domestic exchange program for high school seniors, she lived with a homestay family.

“I was able to see them not just as people who are conservatives and Christians from the South, but like a mom and dad who took me in and fed me, gave me vegetables, things like that,” she said with a laugh.

A Bay Area native who felt like she grew up around people with similar political perspectives, Ganesan found that homestaying in Kilgore allowed her to put a face to the Southern conservatism she often read about in the media. The experience helped challenge her beliefs about the South and understand the nuances of the region’s politics.

“Not a single person I met in Kilgore had the exact same perspective,” Ganesan said. “We often put everybody under the same umbrella of ‘conservative,’ when really, everyone thinks so differently.”

David McCullough III, grandson of the noted historian with whom he shares a name, created the new program, passed into law on July 9, requires that every public school district offer the remote learning option to students who might feel at risk inside the classroom and goes well beyond the state’s earlier independent study protocols: Student-to-teacher ratios have to be equal to the in-person ratio; access to Wi-Fi must be made available; qualifying students have to be provided free or reduced-price meals; and students must be able to transition to in-person classes if they choose to do so, among other criteria.

But what’s not dictated is who must teach the remote classes.

On Thursday, Palo Alto’s...
State bans mug shot postings

New state law AB 1475, which Gov. Gavin Newsom signed last week, prevents law enforcement agencies from posting mug shots of people arrested for nonviolent crimes on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter.

The bill’s author, Assembly member Evan Low, D-Campbell, drafted the bill after what he described as an alarming trend where police and sheriff’s departments were posting mugshots to “shame” suspects, with no real public safety purpose behind the postings.

Some police departments and news organizations, including the Weekly, have already adopted policies in recent years that reflect the new bill.

AB 1475 has some exceptions. Along with violent crimes, police can post mugshots on social media if the suspect is a fugitive or an imminent threat to public safety, or if the photo could help locate and detain the suspect. There’s also a broad exemption for “exigent circumstances” to allow for posting mugshots on social media.

Though AB 1475 is not retroactive, police and sheriff’s departments will be required to remove photos if a person is found not guilty, has had their records sealed or has had their conviction dismissed, pardoned or expunged.

— Kevin Forestieri
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Federal funds aid city’s bid to replace aged fire station
Palo Alto set to receive $6M in earmarks for long-planned project

By Gennady Sheyner

It’s easy to see why Palo Alto wants to replace Fire Station 4. Quaint and charming, with a statue of a Dalmatian gracing its entrance, the station near Mitchell Park is set to be rebuilt, thanks in part to a $6-million federal earmark that Palo Alto expects to receive.

The replacement of Fire Station 4 near Mitchell Park is set to be rebuilt, thanks in part to a $6-million federal earmark that Palo Alto expects to receive.

A worker examines a bucket of sludge at the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant. The sludge is being tested to determine the amount of genetic material from SARS-CoV-2 virus, which indicates that the virus may be infecting the sewer systems served by the plant.

The samples are collected daily and are taken to a commercial lab for analysis. The results are usually ready within 24 hours after the samples are dropped off. The quick turnaround and posting is one of the major advantages of utilizing this data, according to the public health department. Michael Balliet, deputy director of public health, said the data is tracking well with other sources of data.

It really does a good job and gives us a broader perspective of what’s going on in the community.

It’s particularly helpful if testing rates decline,” he said, referring to the testing of individuals for the virus.

The county can compare the wastewater data with other metrics it gathers to understand trends. The staff looks for commonalities, but divergent data can also be helpful.

“We haven’t seen major increases in emergency room visits as we have in the wastewater data,” which could indicate that fewer people are making their way to the ER, he said. He stopped short of attributing the discrepancy to the effectiveness of the vaccine, however.

All of the steepest rises in the past year have been about a week to 10 days after the July 4 holiday weekend, with the exception of Gilroy, according to the data.

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COMMUNITY

Inspired by pandemic, phone buddies are born

Friendly Voices volunteers provide isolated seniors with conversation, connection

By Kate Bradshaw

When the pandemic triggered widespread shutdowns last year, Menlo Park resident Laura Steuer had already put herself in lockdown, as she had a preexisting condition that made her vulnerable to COVID-19.

As the isolation wore on while she was stuck in her home, she said, she couldn’t shake her thoughts about how much worse seniors in nursing homes must be feeling. Reports were emerging about seniors stuck in single rooms nearly never leaving. Some of the transmission of a deadly virus that may be similar to smoking, obesity and physical inactivity, and is associated with about a 50% increased risk of dementia.

Davis said she was partly motivated to get involved with the project because of the experiences she’d seen her 98-year-old mother go through during the pandemic. Her mother lives in an assisted living community and has been confined to her room for about the past year and a half.

“I felt so sorry for her and so sad,” she said. “This program is just what she needs. That made me want to get on board with it.”

So they reached out and began recruiting volunteers. So far, many of the volunteers have come from their extended networks of friends and friends of friends. Of the volunteers, about 39 of 43 live within the extended Peninsula region, Steuer said.

The volunteers started working with a cohort of isolated seniors in the Midwest, Steuer said, but, several months ago, Friendly Voices began a partnership with Avenidas in Palo Alto. It’s an expansion of the program to work with seniors who are homebound or aging in place alongside those in assisted living facilities or nursing homes.

Volunteers are trained to document each call while maintaining privacy in accordance with federal laws, but the gist of the program comes down to engaging in a friendly conversation that’s built around respect and flexibility, Steuer said.

They talk about how to respectfully navigate topics like religion and politics and help listen to and validate the experiences of their conversation partner. Group leaders help fellow volunteers talk through what to do if any red-flag issues come up.

“I love helping people become better listeners,” said Davis, who runs the trainings.

Steuer said that she’s found the conversations she’s had with her phone buddy to be rewarding. They differ in their upbringings, political and faith backgrounds but listen to each other’s stories and connect over the woes of parenting, daily life, and the books and movies they like. Not every phone buddy pair connects as easily, but “we know every senior is glad to get the call,” she said. “It means they have not been forgotten.”

While there are other phone-based programs that do outreach to seniors, Steuer explained that Friendly Voices fits a unique niche, focusing more on conversations over the long term rather than quick fixes.

Researchers from the Joint Initiative for Metaforology in Biology at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory Stanford, the Stanford University School of Medicine Department of Genetics, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and the University of San Francisco Department of Engineering.

The sewage data is available online at covid19.sccgov.org/dashboard-wastewater.

Email Staff Writer Kate Bradshaw at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com.

Outsource (continued from page 5)

board of education was scheduled to meet for a special meeting to approve a contract with Stride Learning Solutions, which provides customized online curriculum for K-12 students. With Stride, students will have asynchronous and synchronous instruction with a teacher from the company’s online faculty.

Austin said the district sees the new program as an opportunity to provide an alternative to families whose children feel at risk or who can’t wear a mask.

“It is for anyone that feels their health is at risk, and there’s no criteria beyond that,” Austin said. “There is no pre-existing health condition requirement; there’s no documentation of health issues requirement; and now, although I don’t believe it’s written in the guidelines, if somebody is opposed to wearing a mask, that can be a reason.”

If the contract with Stride is approved on Thursday, the service will cost the district around $3,000 per student or $1.8 million for the school year, assuming a 6% student enrollment, Austin said. As of July 22, roughly 400 students in the district had requested a remote learning option in a recent non-binding district-wide survey, according to Austin.

“It’s not a small number,” he said.

Email Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at llee@paweekly.com.

Sewage (continued from page 7)

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Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com.

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council has no meetings scheduled this week.

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PUBLIC

W

We lead a phone outreach nonprofit for experiences. Steuer had previously dent she’d met years ago through reached out to her friend Donne spread easily indoors. Some of the transmission of a deadly virus that may be similar to smoking, obesity and physical inactivity, and is associated with about a 50% increased risk of dementia.

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While there are other phone-based programs that do outreach to seniors, Steuer explained that Friendly Voices fits a unique niche, focusing more on conversations over the long term rather than quick fixes. She pointed to research that found that conversa-

tion, in and of itself, can provide value by improving memory and focus, helping to offer not just a balm for loneliness but tangible cognitive benefits.

In addition, using phone calls, as opposed to other technology-based platforms like FaceTime or Zoom, creates one less barrier for seniors to navigate in getting connected with others.

Information about the program is posted at friendlyvoices.org.

Email Staff Writer Kate Bradshaw at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com.
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The disturbing trend prompted the California Health and Human Services and Government Operations agencies and Gov. Gavin Newsom to announce on Monday that all state employees and health care workers will be required to prove they’ve been vaccinated.

Under the new order, all state employees must show proof of vaccination by Aug. 2. Unvaccinated employees will be required to follow a testing protocol and must wear masks indoors, the state agencies said. Verification of vaccination status would be through a vaccination card or a vaccination code through the state Department of Public Health.

Unvaccinated hospital workers in both public and private facilities and employees working in congregate care settings would be required to be tested twice weekly and wear N95 masks. Unvaccinated workers in outpatient settings must be tested once per week and wear surgical masks by Aug. 9. Officials stopped short of issuing a mandate for proof of vaccination verification from employees at private businesses, but the state is encouraging employers to put a similar plan in place.

Vaccination is key to keeping the economy going and schools open, the agencies stated.

Nearly 30% of eligible Californians remain completely unvaccinated, along with children too young to be immunized.

The current COVID-19 trend shows a striking disparity between rates of infection among unvaccinated patients and vaccinated patients. The seven-day average for unvaccinated patients who tested positive for COVID-19 is 14 cases per 100,000 compared to just 2 cases per 100,000 for those who are vaccinated, the agencies said.

“We are now dealing with a pandemic among those who truly can’t get vaccinated, likely to be vaccinated, those who truly can’t get vaccinated, our children and our economy. Vaccines are the way we end this pandemic.”

While vaccination rates in California slowed down for multiple weeks, there have been some signs that people are starting to take the delta variant more seriously. The state saw a 16% increase in vaccination rates last week, the agencies said.

San Mateo, Santa Clara counties react

On the local level, San Mateo County on Monday started to require visitors and county employees to wear face coverings at county offices, clinics or other public facilities, regardless of vaccination status.

The requirement is out of an abundance of caution, due to a “troubling rise in coronavirus cases,” county officials said in a July 22 news release.

Also on July 22, health officers of Santa Clara, San Francisco and Contra Costa counties urged employers to consider implementing a vaccination mandate in the workplace.

“The current surge is really being driven by unvaccinated, working age adults, mostly in the 20- to 50-year-old age range,” said Dr. Chris Farnitano, Contra Costa County’s health officer, adding that the age group has seen the most cases since seniors are more likely to be vaccinated.
After loosening mask restrictions in June, the California Department of Public Health on Wednesday recommended that Californians cover their faces in indoor public spaces.

The current case numbers in Santa Clara County are far below the rate the region experienced at the beginning of the year. On Jan. 5, the county recorded 2,251 cases — the highest one-day total so far this year. On July 15, the county recorded 162 cases, but that is still seven times higher than the year’s lowest count: 22 infections on May 31.

The health officers also recommended that employers acquire documentation of vaccination statuses rather than self-attestations to ensure workers are following workplace policies.

For employees who refuse to get vaccinated, the officers recommended employers require medical-grade masks such as N95s for the entire workplace as well as weekly COVID-19 testing for the unvaccinated. However, if all employees within a workplace show proof of vaccination, Farntano said, “It would be very reasonable for them to unmask.”

The announcement was only a recommendation and not a mandate, but the health officers reminded the public that state and federal laws allow workplaces to implement a vaccination requirement. Some major employers already have done so, including the city and county of San Francisco and smaller local businesses such as Kepler’s Books in Menlo Park.

On Wednesday, Google CEO Sundar Pichai announced only employees who are inoculated will be allowed on campus of the Mountain View company.

In addition, the company’s work-from-home policy, which was scheduled to end Sept. 1, is being extended through Oct. 18. “We recognize that many Googlers are seeing spikes in their communities caused by the delta variant and are concerned about returning to the office,” he wrote.

In trying to make the case for a universal vaccination policy in the workplace, Dr. George Han, deputy health officer of Santa Clara County, on July 22 pointed to the financial incentive in keeping a safe workplace environment. “While health and safety are the most important concerns, there’s also a strong financial argument for business owners to get behind vaccine requirements that help their bottom line by reducing lost productivity from employees that have to isolate or quarantine or take sick time off due to a COVID case or exposure,” Han said. “And remember, some people who get severe cases of COVID or long COVID may be out of work for months.”

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Seven new ‘breakthrough’ COVID-19 cases reported at Stanford in a week

Students who have the illness were vaccinated

By Sue Dremann

Seven vaccinated students at Stanford University have tested positive for COVID-19 this week, university leaders said in an announcement to students and staff on July 22.

The positive cases are among students living on or near campus. The students are experiencing mild or moderate symptoms, according to the announcement from Russell Furr, associate vice provost of environmental health and safety and Dr. Rich Wittman, medical director of Stanford University Occupational Health Center.

The "breakthrough" cases of COVID-19, which are infections that occur in some vaccinated people, are often due to the delta variant, they said. “The vaccines are very effective at preventing serious illness from COVID-19 in these situations, but individuals still may experience symptoms,” they added.

Stanford is requiring the use of face coverings in indoor spaces that are open to the public and is recommending the use of face coverings in any indoor spaces that are crowded. The university has face covering requirements for classrooms, public transit, health care facilities and other places and has additional requirements for unvaccinated people.

The university is closely monitoring the situation and the circumstances around the COVID-19 variants, they said. Vaccination rates at Stanford are above 90% for those who are reporting their status in Stanford’s Health Check system, but the university is encouraging anyone who isn’t yet vaccinated to do so if they are able. Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com.

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www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • July 30, 2021 • Page 11
the Exchange Project after embarking on a two-month road trip through Texas, South Dakota and Ohio. While on the road, he spoke to hundreds of residents, many of whom expressed concern about their children growing up in political bubbles.

To that end, the project’s ultimate objective is to confront political polarization and show young people, like Ganesan, that they have more in common with others across the country than they may realize.

Last week, 11 of the program’s first cohort of 20 exchange students arrived in Palo Alto, while the rest traveled to Wellesley, Massachusetts. The prior week, those who didn’t go to Kilgore stayed in Lake Charles, Louisiana. After two years of conducting the program virtually, this is the program’s first year of providing the youth with an in-person experience.

Locally, students went kayaking in Elkhorn Slough, visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium and saw a mariachi concert at Stanford’s Frost Amphitheater. They also explored Ananda Valley Farm in Half Moon Bay.

While Jordan Hoffman, a rising senior from Lake Charles, has admired the natural beauty during the group’s excursions through northern California, she has also picked up on the competitive nature of the region.

“I can see that it’s very status driven here, just driven in general,” she said. “Down South, it’s good to get into college; here, it’s good to get into Stanford. It seems like the beauty comes at a cost.”

On Tuesday night of the group’s stay locally, Hoffman was eating pizza with students in the backyard of a house in Old Palo Alto while others played cornhole and ping pong. The cohort had just come back from a visit to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and students were taking time to rehearse the events of the week and the impressions of California. Like other Southerners in the group, Hoffman talked about some of her own assumptions about Californians before visiting Palo Alto.

“The South, we have this idea that Northerners really look down upon us and think we’re like these ignorant, uncultured, racist, homophbic people,” she said. “Coming up here and seeing the type of world they live in, I realized it’s not out of malice and it’s more out of ignorance of how the South actually is.”

With so many different people from diverse perspectives coming together, there are bound to be confrontations during debates. But while tensions have risen sometimes, students say they have found more understanding than division.

Last year, recent graduate Wumi Ogunlade advocated for the Green New Deal as a part of Palo Alto High’s speech and debate team. However, after hearing from Hoffman, a Louisiana native, she realized how nuanced the issue could be.

“Yesterday, we were arguing about this whole idea that the South doesn’t support the Green New Deal and Jordan was like, from the perspective of the South, (oil and gas) is literally your livelihood. It’s been generations and generations of your people just doing that and you can’t expect them to just drop that,” Ogunlade said. “I thought she was absolutely right. Last year, when I was arguing that we need the Green New Deal immediately, I said it’s bringing new jobs, but it might not bring new jobs to Southerners.”

Exchange Project students said that the program allowed for more open conversations — discussions in which the main objective wasn’t to be right, but to engage with new perspectives. To Ogunlade, age also played a large factor in the group’s open-mindedness.

“We build our beliefs from when we are little, so it’s so hard to throw those beliefs away when you get older,” she said.

Shelby Maring, a graduated senior from Kilgore, chimed in, saying that younger people are more malleable, while Ganesan added that the mindset the group has is to listen — not to respond, but to understand.

Olivia Segal, the Exchange Project’s director of program development, has helped facilitate the group’s discussions by centering on acceptance and empathy. Growing up in a household where one parent was watching Fox News in one room and another parent was watching CNN in another room, Segal used to view politics as something really divisive.

“When I joined the Exchange Project, I realized it’s not about having a debate, it’s about building friendship,” Segal said. “You know, at 3 a.m. when your car breaks down, you can call Josh from Kilgore, Texas, and you’re not going to care who he voted for.”

Last year, the project hosted virtual Zoom hangouts for high school seniors everywhere in the U.S. Discussions during hangouts, which were hosted six to seven times a week, included political debates and talks about the future after high school. Eventually, students who regularly attended began to suggest topics and take more agency in leading conversations.

While fruitful, the virtual program was never intended to be the final form of the program. With all students and staff now being vaccinated and health precautions being lifted throughout the country, the in-person exchange program began on July 10.

Staff members have high hopes of expanding the Exchange Project to 30 to 40 new towns in about 20 states, including a stop in Alaska. Eventually, they aim to help 100,000 students travel across the country for free every summer.

The project is funded primarily by individual contributions from hundreds of people as well as from a few foundations and corporations, according to McCullough.

While the staff is hopeful about the project’s future, students now Exchange Project alumni — expressed just as much optimism for the heights that they believe the program can reach.

“When AEP has a ton of government funding, I’ll be so proud to have been one of the first kids to join the program,” Hoffman said.

Email freelance writer Alicia Mies at aliciamies@gmail.com.

CityView
A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week
City Council
The council did not meet this week.

Marketplace
The Palo Alto Weekly offers advertising for Home Services, Business Services and Employment.

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Martin Marcus Berndt
July 29, 1933 – July 17, 2021

Martin Marcus Berndt, age 88, of Palo Alto, California, departed this life on July 17, 2021. After a courageous battle with cancer, he passed peacefully with his daughters by his side. He was born on July 29, 1933, in Darregueira, Argentina, to Pastor Markus and Bertha (Young) Berndt. In his fifth grade, he told stories of tutoring younger siblings, slaughtering chickens for dinner, playing soccer with a pig bladder for a ball, and hearing tango music wafting through the nights. Though his older brothers followed their father into the ministry, Martin was encouraged to pursue his interests in mechanical things, even eventually leading to a career in engineering.

When Martin was 16, his father and most of the family immigrated to the US, leaving behind the older siblings, and Martin was Widowed.

While attending the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Martin met and eventually married his first wife, Barbara, on May 21, 1958. After the birth of Andrew in 1960, Martin’s engineering degree led to an opportunity for a year abroad in Hamburg, Germany, from where he and Barb launched many adventures in their blue VW bug with their big orange tent covered. Martin continued Barb’s goal of supporting their son Andrew to live as independently as possible in spite of developmental challenges. Always up for a good debate about current events, he enjoyed outings and mountain trips with his daughters and SLAC buddies, had regular season tickets to the symphony, and supported countless charitable organizations. He celebrated his 75th birthday while cycling across the U.S., and had a passion for repairing and rebuilding bicycles.

Martin was predeceased by his wife, Heidi, in 2020. He is survived by his three children, Andrew, Esther and Ed, and Martha Berndt, together with Martha’s husband, Don Young, and his two daughters Elise and Erin; his stepdaughter Kathy Pasin, together with her husband Dave Pasin and sons Ben and Max; brothers Lee, Ted, Ernie Berndt; sister Dorothy Fletcher; goddaughters Monica Berndt and Annick and Carole LeGall; many in-laws, nieces and nephews; and countless wonderful friends.

Martin will be missed!! However, he wanted us to have a party when he’s gone, writing, “My only regret will be that I won’t be able to attend such a celebration.” So let’s crack some crabs, share some good Malbec, and toss the wine bottles when we’re done. Happy Birthday Martin whenever you are now, and hang on, we’ll be coming short!

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to one of the following organizations:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West, 10650 Road 256, Terra Bella, CA 93270
Sempervirens Fund, 419 South San Antonio Road, Suite 211, Los Altos, CA, 94022 https://sempervirens.org/
Bayshore Christian Ministries, 1001 Beech St, East Palo Alto, CA 94303
https://www.bayshore.org/
Silicon Valley engineer, entrepreneur, author Jon Ferraiolo died on July 16 after a seven-year battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. His journey with ALS was the subject of a Palo Alto Weekly cover story, “A vibrant life,” published on July 27, 2018, along with accompanying video. The longtime Palo Alto resident was 67 years old.

Born Jonathan Ferraiolo in suburban Chicago on Jan. 26, 1954, he was the third of four children of Frank Charles, a physician, and Ruby Barbara Ferraiolo, a housewife. In elementary school in Des Plaines, Illinois, he had a penchant for eating the same foods for weeks and months at a time. He excelled in track and field. Later, became the defacto football coach in eighth grade after the coach found he couldn’t honor his obligations, Ferraiolo wrote in his memoir, “Kinda Ugly: How I Triumphed Over a Fatal ALS Diagnosis (and an Oversized Nose).” He had a gift for writing winning football and basketball plays for his teams, going beyond the league’s rulebook.

A self-described cerebral “Spock” from the television series Star Trek, Ferraiolo also had a puckish sense of humor that sometimes got him in trouble. Once, he couldn’t resist kicking his mother in the backside when she bent over, exposing her derriere, he said in his memoir.

He could also use humor to charm even the most formidable teacher. As an adult, his sense of humor became a gift to his family and sustained him throughout his diagnosis and progressively worsening illness, his wife of 47 years, Karen Kang, said.

Ferraiolo attended Stanford University starting in 1972. He graduated in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematical sciences. He spent one quarter of his sophomore year studying in Tours, France, where he met his future wife, Kang. Ferraiolo planned to hitchhike around France during a two-week break; Kang had little money after a postal strike held up her check. At the suggestion of a friend, they paired up to hitchhike together. Ferraiolo was game to the idea in part because he thought an attractive American girl would help get rides, he said during his interview with the Weekly.

It didn’t take long for them to become more than acquaintances. After three days of hitchhiking, on her 20th birthday, Ferraiolo admitted his love. They marked that day as their beginning as a couple.

Ferraiolo decided to extend his stay in France, taking a job as a teacher in Cannes at the Internatiional Riviera School. When he returned to Stanford, he reunited with Kang, a Mills College student, who had broken off their romance while they were still in France. He approached their renewed relationship with a more positive world view. They soon married and had three daughters.

Ferraiolo also obtained a master’s degree in business administration in 1983 from Santa Clara University Leavey School of Business. In Silicon Valley, he had a distinguished career in software engineering. He was director of engineering at Cimlinc Inc. in Menlo Park from 1986 through 1990. As founder and developer at Soltis Development Corporation in Palo Alto, a software and consulting services company, he focused on engineering change management from 1990 to 1992.

He spent more than 13 years at Adobe Systems in San Jose as an architect, engineering director, engineering manager and senior engineer. He joined the Advanced Technology Group as a senior engineer, where he was one of the driving forces behind the W3C standard Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG). Ferraiolo served as engineering director for Photoshop Album. He served as original editor of the ePUB 1.0 standard, according to his LinkedIn profile.

Ferraiolo was a distinguished engineer at IBM from 2006 to 2014. He was part of emerging technologies in IBM’s software group. He was managing director of Open Ajax Alliance, an industry consortium of companies and individuals devoted to promoting open Web technologies. He also worked as software architect, engineering manager and product manager on Adobe products such as Illustrator, Acrobat and Premiere.

Ferraiolo was diagnosed with ALS in July 2014, a neurodegenerative disease. He continued to find ways to thrive, writing books and staying engaged with the tech community by using assistive technologies such as Eye gaze. Ferraiolo also had great insight into his illness, Kang said.

People will go through certain stages of their illness: denial, fear, anger, acceptance, she noted. “He just leap-frogged all that stuff. He never got angry; he never dwelled on that. That was the secret to his happiness and satisfaction with his life,” Kang said.

He is survived by his immediate family: wife, Karen Kang; daughters Nicole Ferraiolo (husband Taunton Painey); Natalie Ferraiolo (Paul Manning); Allison Ferraiolo (Nicholas Calkane); two grand-children, Theo and Grafton; and his devoted dog, Pepe. He is also survived by sisters Bobbe Ferraiolo of Napa and Robin Lenna (Paul Manning); Allison Ferraiolo of Des Plaines, Illinois.

He was predeceased by his mother, Ruby Barbara Ferraiolo, his father, Frank Ferraiolo, brother, Scott Ferraiolo and half-sister Andrea Steffens.

A celebration of his life will take place Aug. 27 at 5 p.m., Lucie Stern Community Center, outdoor patio near the community room, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

If desired, gifts can be made to Ferraiolo’s memorial page at ALSAssociation, donate.als.org/jonferraiolo.

Watch a 15-minute documentary about Ferraiolo at you.be/20UVfvgvm. Q. Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com.
Rethink bike upgrades
Editor,

The neighborhood’s primary objection to the city’s proposed bikeway changes in south Palo Alto are due to safety concerns. The Meadow residents, many of whom are bicyclists, agree with the proposed changes to five of the six plan segments. They’re only opposed to the proposed changes on East Meadow Drive from Middlefield Road to Louis Lane. With the exception of the recently added “too-small” roundabout at Ross, this segment is a safe bikeway. Currently, there are wide bike lanes bordered by solid white lines to separate bicyclists from motorists and parking. With rare exception, cars park well within the solid white line, minimizing the chance of “dooring” bicyclists.

The roundabout is too small for fire trucks and other long vehicles to make a left turn. The serious safety problem is that white arrows in the bike path just before the roundabout direct bicyclists into the motorist lane without any warning, to bikers or motorists, that they are merging. This is an accident waiting to happen.

Removing parking from the south side creates two additional safety problems:

1) It will double the cars on the north side, which students use in the morning to rush to school. The change will significantly increase the number of car doors opening and cars backing and pulling out across the bike lane at this busy time.

2) Ramos Park is heavily used for children due to the playground and after-school K-2 sports. The park doesn’t have a parking lot, so parents park on the south side so their children don’t have to cross four lanes of bike and motor-ist traffic. Removing south side parking will create a significant safety problem.

Residents recommended two safety improvements:

1) Paint the bike lanes green with white bike stencils.
2) Remove the roundabout.

If parents aren’t letting their children bike to school, I highly doubt it’s because of this segment.

Chuck Wilson
East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto

Too much sprawl
Editor,

In his letter to the editor on July 23, Linval DePass said that the Association of Bay Area Governments’ (ABAG) plan for housing “has no concern for the severe drought that currently exists in California.”

1) Water management in the state is a hot mess.

2) Nobody seems to be willing to consider recycling waste (sewer) water.

3) It’s the sprawl that has exacerbated the climate change that is responsible for the severity of the drought in the first place.

By his own reasoning, DePass should be in favor of ABAG’s plans. Unlike DePass, I don’t think solutions to our problems should be predicated upon people who already live in Palo Alto being allowed to continue to do so “comfortably.” Neither, apparently, does ABAG. Besides, how is it anyone would decide that based on their ZIP code they have more rights to water than someone else? Eight billion humans on the planet and growing; yeah, water’s a problem. But living in Palo Alto — or Los Altos, or Los Altos Hills or Menlo Park, etc. — doesn’t give you more rights to it than other people.

Deborah Golden
Birch Street, Palo Alto

No to mask mandate
Editor,

The answer to your July 23 question is an emphatic “No.” Mandating indoor masking is a sure-fire way to encourage vaccine hesitancy. Democrat Party officials, both elected and unelected, started this trend. During last fall’s campaign, then vice presidential candidate Kamala Harris said, “If Donald Trump tells us that we should take the (vaccine), I’m not taking it.” When the election was over, she and Joe Biden changed their minds and got vaccinated but insisted on virtue signaling by wearing masks for months afterward.

The latest reason for vaccine hesitancy is the return of mask requirements as announced in Los Angeles County. What better way to make people question the vaccine than to continue to insist on wearing a mask? Now unelected health bureaucrats in the Bay Area are once “recommending” masks for all indoors. Again, one must ask what is the point of getting vaccinated if the mask insanity will continue indefinitely?

Bill Hough
Mount Hamilton Avenue, Los Altos

This week on Town Square

Town Square is an online discussion forum at PaloAltoOnline.com/square

In response to ‘Only 60% of Palo Alto police report being vaccinated’

Posted July 22 at 2:07 p.m. by Cheryl Litten,
residency of Bayshore Park:

“The city council has a duty to protect public welfare.

Public employees should be required to be vaccinated, or be terminated.

All services funded by the public should have this requirement, as should hospitals. A vaccination is not a private matter, it’s a moral response to a public health emergency, like polio vaccines, mumps, measles, and rubella. An unvaccinated employee should be given a chance to get vaccinated or be terminated because, in this case, the public health emergency is more important than individual choice.

I would even go a step further at this point: I don’t think taxpayer money should pay the salaries of or be spent on the medical care for anyone who has had the opportunity to get vaccinated and who has refused. Unvaccinated people who are holding a “principled stance” against government intrusion don’t deserve the taxpayers’ support for their jobs or hospitalization. The logical end to vaccine resistance is to require unvaccinated people to pay out of pocket for their own medical care and for those they have infected.

Please get the vaccine.”

In response to ‘School district fires contractor after trapped ground squirrels die’

Posted July 21 at 3:28 p.m. by Miriam Palm, a resident of Old Palo Alto:

“Cruelty to animals often leads to other types of bad behavior. This cruelty and torture sets a terrible example to students at a place of learning. I am grateful the school district was called out on this one. All creatures great and small deserve humane treatment and compassion, Mr. Macartney describes several preferable alternatives in the article that would minimize animals’ suffering.”

In response to ‘Palo Alto looks to revamp review process for housing projects’

Posted July 21 at 3:05 p.m. by Andrew Boone, a resident of another community:

“An effort to move toward more objective building design standards could also include ways to cut motor vehicle traffic -- such as better bicycle parking and discounted or free public transit passes. Vehicle traffic can be minimized by consistently incorporating better multi-modal-friendly design into future Palo Alto buildings. Some of the city’s current design standards, such as minimum vehicle parking requirements, do exactly the opposite by increasing vehicle trips while reducing the use of transit, bicycling, and walking.”
In the peaceful enclave of Crescent Park rests this stylish, stately home that personifies the grace and elegance of Palo Alto. A garden pathway through vibrant plantings and a towering Japanese maple tree leads to the front door, and inside, luxurious appointments are everywhere you turn including hardwood floors, crown molding, and detailed wainscoting. Tremendous natural light from a stunning skylight helps to illuminate nearly 3,100 square feet of refined interior space that offers ideal venues for both entertaining and everyday living. A Craftsman-style fireplace centers the living room, the dining room is catered from the kitchen with appliances from Dacor, Miele, Sub-Zero, and Jenn Air, and the spacious family room provides its own fireplace as well as backyard access. The home’s 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms include the primary suite with a spa-like bathroom, as well as a main level bedroom that easily converts into office space. Relax and unwind in the peaceful backyard highlighted by a trellis-covered brick patio and a lush lawn. And appreciate the convenience of a sought-after location just blocks to University Avenue, convenient to Stanford University, and with top-ranked schools minutes away.

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On an expansive lot of 10,000 square feet in sought-after Old Palo Alto rests this stately, stylish home with a floorplan perfect for a modern Silicon Valley lifestyle. Outstanding curb appeal begins with two towering cypress trees introducing a brick-lined pathway, leading to the front door adorned with beautiful leaded glass inserts. Inside, elegant appointments include fine millwork and crown molding, while ample natural light highlights refinished hardwood floors that extend throughout over 3,200 square feet of living space. Highlights include the living room with fireplace, the formal dining room with outdoor access, and the chef’s kitchen that flows into the family room outfitted with a fireplace all its own. The home’s 5 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms include the palatial master suite with a walk-in closet, a convenient guest suite, and a main-level bedroom that can also be used as a den. The sprawling backyard offers outstanding space for outdoor enjoyment with ample patio space, colorful plantings, and a play structure, while the extended driveway leads to a detached 2-car garage with a bonus room of 252 square feet. Just moments from vibrant public spaces such as Rinconada Park and Gamble Garden, this home is also convenient to University Avenue, Stanford University, and Caltrain, with top-ranked schools Walter Hays Elementary, Greene Middle, and Palo Alto High all located within approximately 1 mile.

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A First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto prepared for a memorial service on July 17, its first indoor gathering since the campus closed 16 months ago, organizers recognized that after more than a year of avoiding large crowds, some people might not know exactly how to greet each other.

So to make things simpler, color-coded stickers and bracelets were handed out to the 85 masked attendees: green for hugs and high fives, yellow for elbow bumps and red for greet from 6 feet — an efficient way to avoid the awkward millisecond in which one person goes in for the handshake while the other goes for the elbow.

The celebration of life ceremony was dedicated to the late Sarah Johnson, a former Palo Alto resident and longtime member of the church who was described as a “gracious Southern lady” with a strong passion for political activism. She died of COVID-19 complications on April 18, 2020. Her family, who flew in from different states, had postponed services until things felt safe.

That Saturday afternoon, Pastor Diana Gibson went up to the lectern in her signature blue clergy shirt and began: “Let us gather in remembrance.”

Though many are reluctant to say the pandemic is over, fear of the coronavirus among the public has simmered down thanks to recent advancements, mainly effective vaccines, which have allowed California to drop most health restrictions and revive once lost and now cherished practices.

Since the state “reopened” on June 15, gatherings have restarted throughout the Midpeninsula. Relatives from multiple generations are coming together to celebrate 100th birthdays; concerts and other entertainment productions are happening; and people are now flying in from other states and countries to see family and friends as their comfort level increases.

Leah Hwung, founder of Two Perfect Events in Palo Alto, which organizes large and small celebratory gatherings, is on the front lines of the resurgence: Her calendars for this year and the next are now packed with parties — some of which include postponed weddings from the previous year. Her company is booked with around 30 events for the summer and fall, which is typical for a normal year, she said.

At Mitchell Park on July 23, about 160 masked and unmasked parents and children gathered at the Magical Bridge Playground for its second community concert of the summer. Alice Tang, who was visiting from New York, joined her friend and her friend’s three kids — comfortable in a low lawn chair and enjoying the outside air without a mask.

“When I’m outdoors I feel very comfortable,” Tang said. “Indoors is when I’m a little bit more cautious.”
At Pioneer Saloon, a long-standing bar in Woodside, most regulars have come back and colleagues from work are filling up the modest-sized space once again for drinks. Recently, the bar also restarted its regular live music showings.

Angeles Valdez, the sole bartender of the establishment, was serving maskless customers indoors on a recent early Thursday evening. Valdez didn’t have a mask herself since most customers at the bar were longtime, trusted regulars, she said. But when the crowds have picked up in recent nights, she’d opted to put on her mask.

“I kept my mask on because I didn’t trust the crowds just yet,” Valdez said.

Some of the hesitancy comes as new cases of the more infectious delta variant are being reported throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, where health officers have said the cases are largely among unvaccinated individuals.

But even as cases increase, an air of cautious optimism remains in the Midpeninsula as Bay Area counties report high vaccination rates: Among people 12 years old and up, 78% were fully vaccinated in Santa Clara County and 80% in San Mateo County as of July 28.

“I’m optimistic,” Tang said. “I don’t think we would do well if there was another backward-slide shut down.”

The vaccines have even empowered high-risk facilities such as the Avenidas Rose Kleiner Center, an adult day clinic in Mountain View, to finally reopen. At the center on July 23, Loretta Austin helped celebrate a 76th birthday by having one of the seniors play a joyful rendition of “Happy Birthday” on the piano while others at the clinic, still masked, sang along. Celebrating birthdays at Avenidas transitioned to Zoom and phone calls while the facility was closed for 16 months.

On July 12, Avenidas reopened its doors to seniors at 50% capacity after conditions became safer and all staff members were vaccinated. “Everybody feels like they’re home when they’re here,” said Austin, the activities manager at Avenidas.

(continued on page 20)
Businesses make a comeback

Business owners are benefiting from the public’s growing confidence to come back in larger numbers.

At the Mountain View Farmers’ Market on July 18, a river of people flowed in between vendors, making pit stops at fruit and food stands to try free samples — an offering that was only resumed the prior week.

For Patti Knoblich, the “Apricot Queen” of ApricotKing Orchards — which sells dried and fresh fruits, nuts and chocolate covered goods — sales have doubled in recent months, at one point going from $1,000 to $2,000 “easily,” she said.

ApricotKing has had a stand in Mountain View for nearly three decades, during which Knoblich has seen children grow into adults. She cherishes the camaraderie that comes with interacting with customers. But during the pandemic, Knoblich said there were times when the market was a “ghost town.” “It was no fun,” she said.

Adrienne Rush experienced even more challenging days in the past year at Title Boxing Gym, which she opened in Mountain View in 2015. While some gyms were able to adapt to online and outdoor services, Title Boxing Club confronted more limitations due to its location at Mountain View Shopping Center and because the type of workout it offers, which requires special equipment like heavy bags, doesn’t easily lend itself to online or outdoor classes. “We were closed with no revenue,” Rush said. “It was no fun,” she said.

But with capacity restrictions now gone, Rush said she can allow more people into group classes, which is the core product of Title Boxing Club. Vaccinated clients can also now take off their
masks as they exercise.

“It's good to see people taking care of themselves,” Rush said. “So many people have told me that they’re so glad to be back because people have gained weight and were under stress.”

**COVID has left its mark**  
Though people are eager to gather and lives have begun to move forward, the impacts and trauma of the pandemic are still felt today.

Grace Kim, a 17-year-old recent high school graduate, was at Bayer Ballet Academy on July 23 for a six-week summer intensive, as the school was rehearsing for a new production, “The Rose and the Butterfly: A Love Story.”

For several months, the academy held group classes at an outdoor studio, complete with wood floors, mirrors, barres, fans and other fixtures. Some instructors taught remotely, while others taught in-person while significantly adjusting the way they interact with the dancers.

“I think COVID has left that mark on us,” Kim said. “We're still a little scared to get too close.”

Rehearsals this summer were particularly significant for the academy. The production will be the first live and in-person performance since December 2019, which will open at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. Previously the school had resorted to pre-recorded shows online, which stitched together separate recordings of the dancers. According to Christine Wood, Bayer’s administrative assistant, the academy finalized the contract to perform at the Mountain View center a few weeks ago.

At the Palo Alto memorial service, Johnson’s daughter and son, Lynn Hoffman and Stephen Johnson, were thankful to at last join their mom’s closest friends in remembering her vibrant life.

Their mother’s death at the age of 81 came to the family as a shock, Hoffman said. A memorial service, surrounded by loved ones, offered Hoffman some comfort. But before the ceremony, the daughter spoke of the frustrations she still had and continues to push herself through till this day.

“I’m very mad and sad,” said Hoffman, who directs blame toward the Trump administration’s handling of the pandemic. “It’s one of those things that was just so unnecessary, in my opinion.”

For Hoffman, working through the anger involves delving more into “political activity” like her mom. Recently, she worked on get-out-the-vote campaigns and was proud to share that she helped Andy Kim, a Democratic U.S. representative, get re-elected in New Jersey, where Hoffman currently resides.

But time hasn’t made it easier to cope with her mom’s passing just yet.

“The whole COVID thing is still shocking,” she said. Thinking about the significance of having in-person services, Pastor Gibson had two perspectives to offer during an interview — one more theological and the other more broadly existential. As Christians, she said, “God comes to us in flesh to one another, just as God came to us in Jesus.”

As humans, Gibson said, there will always be something about in-person interactions that Zoom conferences can never replace.

“Human beings were made so all of our senses want to connect,” she said. “I just think that’s really essential to what it means to be human.”

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**Cover Story**

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**Email Chief Visual Journalist Magali Gauthier and Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at mgauthier@paweekly.com and llee@paweekly.com.**

Clockwise from top left, Tom Reavis, general manager and head trainer at Title Boxing Club, demonstrates a move during a class in Mountain View on July 22. Bartender Angeles Valdez pours a beer for a customer at the Pioneer Saloon in Woodside on July 22. Ken Clark reads a book in the fiction section of the main library in Menlo Park on July 22.
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The tranquility of Los Altos Hills takes center stage in this spacious and bright 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home set on over an acre of verdant, vibrant land. A circular driveway leads past the beautifully manicured front garden to the column-framed front porch, and inside, 4,400 square feet of interior space features luxurious appointments including beautiful hardwood floors, new carpeting, plantation shutters, and crown molding. Grand-scale spaces include the living room that leads into the formal dining room, the marble-appointed kitchen with a sunny breakfast nook, and the spectacular family room with a beamed cathedral ceiling as well as a focal-point fireplace. Find comfort in the palatial primary suite that offers a fireplace and access to a private patio, and appreciate the convenience of the office with stylish work-from-home space. And for outdoor enjoyment, the backyard is an entertainer’s dream, with a pool, spa, gazebo, and a large patio, while the attached 3-car garage ensures plenty of parking is always available. This incredible location takes full advantage of the privacy that Los Altos Hills affords, yet is still just moments away from tech firms including VMWare and Tesla, a short drive from downtown Los Altos and Palo Alto, and is served by acclaimed Los Altos schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

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中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 | 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
A courtyard entrance welcomes you to this stylish Mediterranean home, built in 2014 and located in the charming Willows neighborhood of Menlo Park. High ceilings give the home a sense of openness, and excellent use of glass fills the interior space with natural light, highlighting engineered hardwood floors that extend throughout most of the home’s 1,934 square feet of living space. The modern floorplan includes the living room with fireplace, the dining room with a wet bar and outdoor access, and the marble-appointed kitchen with stainless-steel appliances. Accommodations include 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, including the primary bedroom suite with an adjacent room of around 160 additional square feet perfect for use as an office or nursery. And for outdoor enjoyment, the backyard includes ample patio space and multiple fruit trees. Just minutes to Willow Oaks Park, this home is also a short drive away from downtown Menlo Park and Palo Alto, and offers access to acclaimed Menlo Park schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.1968Menalto.com
Offered at $1,998,000

Listed by Audrey Sun of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

For more information contact: Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 我們精通英語和華語
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Tucked away in complete privacy on gated grounds of over an acre, this spectacular estate offers luxurious living and a quintessential Atherton lifestyle. A stone pathway through a vibrant garden entrance leads to the front porch, and inside, high-end rustic charm evokes the feel of a mountainside retreat, with appointments that include gorgeous hardwood floors, fine millwork, and soaring beamed ceilings. Offering 5 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, and over 8,500 square feet of space, including the guest home, this estate provides expansive spaces perfect for both entertaining and everyday living. Highlights include the living room centered by a stone fireplace, the gourmet kitchen with appliances from Viking, Thermador, and Bosch, the handsomely appointed office, and the family room with a delightful wood-burning stove. The expansive primary suite offers a spa-like bathroom, while additional bedrooms including a guest suite provide comfort and convenience for friends and family alike. Plus, the guest house features a full kitchen, bedroom suite, and an attached exercise/yoga room. And for true indoor/outdoor living, multiple points throughout the estate open to the immaculate grounds with a sprawling lawn, pool, outdoor kitchen, and fire pit, all shaded by towering trees along the perimeter.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.327Stockbridge.com
Offered at $12,988,000

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Atherton
Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in Atherton, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
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中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 | 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
We need independent journalism. I appreciate the research that all of you do ... Thank you for not succumbing to click-bait strategies and instead giving a clear play-by-play.

- Karin H.

Will you join the thousands of others supporting local journalism?

Now’s your moment to step up when we need you the most.
RECOUNTING A LOST PARADISE... San Francisco Chronicle journalist Lizzone Johnson will talk about her book, “Paradise: One Town’s Struggle to Survive an American Wildfire,” in which she recounts her firsthand reporting of the Camp Fire as it raged through the town of Paradise in November 2018. During an online presentation hosted by Kepler’s Literary Foundation at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, Johnson was there as the town of Paradise burned. From the rubble of a historic covered bridge to the beloved diner, she covered the wreckage on the ground, sharing the stories of residents and rescuers during one of the deadliest and most untamable fires on record. Johnson, who has covered more than 15 of California’s most destructive blazes, has stayed with Paradise in spirit since, training professionally as a firefighter in 2019 as she continued to report on the human impact of the blaze. To RSVP, go to keplers.org.

‘TRACKING THE DATA TRAIL’... San Mateo resident Amy Jussel, founder of nonprofit Shaping Youth, a media literacy organization focusing on media and marketing’s impact on kids, recently released a children’s book series to fortify children professionally as a firefighter in 2019 as she continued to report on the human impact of the blaze. To RSVP, go to keplers.org.

BOOK TALK

Title Pages
A monthly section on local books and authors

Six new children’s releases focus on road trips, camping, family and friends

Close out the summer with these outdoor adventures

By Chris Saccheri

With school out for at least a couple of more weeks, there’s still time to get in some last-minute fun reads this season. Here are some favorite new summer-themed books for kids that feature families on road trips, bud- ding friendships and — for young adult readers — some swoony summer romances.

Fatima’s Great Outdoors,” by Ambreen Tarig, illustrated by Stevie Lewis; Kokiwa; $17.99; ages 4-8.

Following a rough week at school — where classmates make fun of her lunch and her accent — Fati- ma can’t wait for her family’s first camping trip. Eager to take part in a “great American pastime,” they enjoy samosas and Bollywood mu- sic during the drive; her dad even gets beef at the Halal butcher shop so they can fry breakfast bacon over the campfire “just like the other American families.”

In the wilderness, Fatima’s wor- ries melt away and her confidence grows as she pitches the tent with her dad, builds a fire with her mom, and eventually succumbs to the “warm, deep sleep that only camp- ers enjoy." A sweet, beautifully illustrated picture book that will inspire kids of all backgrounds to visit the great outdoors.

“Monster Friends,” by Kaeti Vandoren; Random House Graphic; $12.99; ages 4-8.

After falling out with his adventuring partner, Reggie looks for- ward to spending a quiet summer house-sitting for his cousins — that is, until Emily shows up at his door. The bouncy, gregarious Emily coaxes Reggie out of his shell and introduces him to a host of new friends, including a tiger shuffling creatures around the forest and an enormous (but friendly) sea serpent. This adorable graphic novel for early readers feels like a Studio Ghibli film, with gentle pacing and a lush seaside setting. But it’s the charming, budding friendship between reluctant Reggie, slowly shedding the weight of his recent disappointment, and ebullient Em- ily, ready for any adventure, that makes this book shine.

“Much Ado About Baseball,” by Rajani LaRocca; Little Bee Books; $17.99; ages 8-12.

Twelve-year-old Trish is a math whiz and pitching ace, but that doesn’t make things any easier when her mother’s job forces their family to move again. Especially when she learns Ben, the boy she bested in a recent math tourney, is on her new baseball team and the team itself is, well, horrible. But when strange pregame snacks im- prove the team’s performance and a book of mysterious math puzzles brings the former rivals together, can they keep the good luck going or strike out looking?

A sparkling, middle-grade up- date of Shakespeare’s “Much Ado About Nothing,” told in alternating chapters from Trish and Ben’s per- spectives, this book is a hit for any reader who enjoys math, baseball, music — or salty snacks.

Amber’s parents are spending the summer in San Francisco, which is perfect for Nozomi, who’s trying to forget a humiliating rejection by her crush back home. She quickly finds a new crush, the gorgeous Willow, who’s dealing with a rejection of her own. When Willow suggests Nozomi pose as her girlfriend to make her ex jealous, what could go wrong?

Local author Sugira takes the story far deeper than the typical fake dating trope, however, as No- zomi deals with her parents’ di- vorce, a difficult relationship with her mother, and the homophobia of her very traditional grandmoth- er. More than a straightforward rom-com, this funny, thoughtful story will have you hooked from the start.


Max, are spending the summer in San Francisco, which is perfect for Nozomi, who’s trying to forget a humiliating rejection by her crush back home. She quickly finds a new crush, the gorgeous Willow, who’s dealing with a rejection of her own. When Willow suggests Nozomi pose as her girlfriend to make her ex jealous, what could go wrong?

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When a heat wave throws New York City into darkness, sparks fly for a group of Black teens caught in the blackout. In this collection of interwoven stories from six of today’s bestselling YA authors, we meet characters like exes Tammie and Kareem, up for the same in- ternship, replaying how their love went wrong. There’s basketball star JJ stuck on the subway, try- ing to reconcile his feelings for his friend Tremaine. Best friends Lana and Tristan are stuck in the library. Grace makes an unexpected con- nection with her rideshare driver. The book is full of hilarious and heartbreaking stories shining a light through the darkness.

By Chris Saccheri — co-owner of Linden Tree Children’s Books in Los Altos. Email him at csaccheri@lindentreebooks.com.
SUPERB OPPORTUNITY ON .20 ACRES IN COLLEGE TERRACE

An extraordinary opportunity awaits on over one-fifth of an acre in the sought-after College Terrace neighborhood of Palo Alto. Set at the end of a non-through street, and currently occupied by a 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom, single-family home, and a 2-car garage with a 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom studio loft, this property also provides opportunities for rental income thanks to its close proximity to Stanford University, which is just minutes away. This outstanding location is also just a short drive from many of the area’s top destinations, including the shops and restaurants of University Avenue in downtown Palo Alto, the Stanford Shopping Center, the venture capital firms of Sand Hill Road, and downtown Menlo Park. For commuters, the entirety of the Bay Area is within reach thanks to easy access to major freeways as well as eco-friendly public transportation. Plus, children may attend acclaimed schools including Escondido Elementary (approximately ½-mile away), Greene Middle, and Palo Alto High (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.2000Amherst.com
Offered at $1,970,000

Listed by Alexandra Wilbur of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Palo Alto

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in Palo Alto, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

For more information contact: Alexandra Wilbur, DRE #01926475 | 650.459.3888 | alex@deleonrealty.com
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
STYLISH LIVING IN OLD PALO ALTO

Stylish living awaits in this bright, spacious home in the coveted neighborhood of Old Palo Alto. Preceded by a large paver courtyard encircled by a linear fence, this home offers over 1,550 square feet of interior space perfect for both entertaining and everyday living, with refinished hardwood floors extending throughout, and excellent use of glass filling each room with natural light. Highlights of the home include the living room with a centerpiece fireplace, the dining room that adjoins the remodeled kitchen for great dinner parties, and the bonus 26 x 14 sunroom. The home’s 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms include the sizable primary suite, while the low-maintenance backyard provides great space to relax and unwind. Plus, this home also includes an attached 2-car garage. Topping it all off is a location just moments to Rinconada Park, a short drive to downtown Palo Alto and University Avenue, and within one-half mile of top schools Walter Hays Elementary and Greene Middle.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.2080Middlefield.com
Offered at $2,988,000

Listed by Audrey Sun of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Palo Alto

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in Palo Alto, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

For more information contact: Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話：650.785.5822 我們精通國語和粵語
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
State Street Market coming soon

Michelin-starred chefs bring Korean and Taiwanese fare to new dining hall in Los Altos

By Sara Hayden

State Street Market is slated to open before the end of the summer, bringing to downtown Los Altos a foodies gathering place of sorts that includes a teaching kitchen, a restaurant and a 20,000-square-foot food hall dedicated to showcasing local talent and developing new culinary concepts.

“The aim is to create a community gathering space where people will connect with friends, family and food,” Robert Hindman, food-hall managing director of State Street developer Los Altos Community Investment, stated in an email.

The food-hall lineup at 170 State St. includes Tin Pot Creamery, which founder Becky Sunseri first launched from her home kitchen in Los Altos; Cowgirl Creamery of Point Reyes; and Anchor restaurant (and speakeasy) El Alto (scheduled to open in the fall, which was developed by Traci Des Jardins, who has been twice recognized as a James Beard Award winner.

In the restaurant space at State Street Market will be Bao Bê — the latest concept from Michelin-starred chefs Meichih and Michael Kim, who formerly led the kitchen at Maum in Palo Alto. The restaurant’s name, Bao Bê, which means “treasured one” is in part inspired by the couple’s son, Meichih said. “Bao Bê” is what I like to call our son … a term of endearment. Our son is kind of our muse because he’s multicultural, being Asian American,” Meichih said.

The couple describes the restaurant as a co-mingling of Korean and Taiwanese flavors. Bao Bê will feature noodle dishes, seasonal banchan and other dishes that incorporate Taiwanese and Korean herbs and spices, such as white pepper, cilantro, black vinegar, fried shallots, sesame oil and gojuchang.

“The whole idea behind (Bao Bê) was behind our cultural identities. ... Michael being Korean and me having Taiwanese parents,” Meichih said. “It’s the co-mingling of the flavors, bringing them together in our concept.”

The Kims also plan to serve beverages that complement the food, including a selection of Taiwanese and Korean beers, mandarin sodas and makge-olli (a milky Korean alcoholic beverage).

While food and drink are a serious focus for the Kims, who’ve cooked in top restaurants across the country, State Street Market brings an additional appeal, Meichih said.

“The big draw was the community aspect,” Meichih said. “Given how the pandemic forced us to stay indoors, I think we lost touch with connecting and that feeling of being around others.”

Meichih said they hope to provide a space where people from different generations can come together time and time again, and try different foods to suit the appetites of the day.

“There’s a big variety,” she said. “It’ll make you keep going back.”

Email Digital Associate Editor Sara Hayden at peninsulafoodist@paweekly.com.
Across
1 Disappear gradually
5 Olivia of 2018’s “The Predator”
9 Off-price event
13 “Armandeau” director Forman
14 Mayberry kid
15 “Father’s and Sons” novelist Turgenev
16 Lazy attempt at a scare?
18 Repair books, in a way
19 Gather in the field
20 1,000,000,000 years, in geology
21 Secondary songs, once
23 Celeb’s promoter
25 2020 Pixar offering
26 Santana hit based on a bank?
32 Actor Whishaw
35 Detach, as a trailer
36 Small jazz combo
39 “Ah, I see”
40 Many are empty for the 2020 Olympics
41 East, in Spain
42 Deliberately misinforms
44 Primus frontman Claypool
45 News anchor Lester on location in California?
48 Spike Lee’s “___ Gotta Have It”
49 Incurred mobile charges, maybe
53 With 61-Across, cheap price on some granular seasoning?
56 Lower, as lights
58 Almond ___ (toffee candy)
59 Singer Ora
60 See 54-Across
63 God on an eight-legged horse
64 “Voice of Israel” author Abba
65 Mother of Perseus
66 Social Distortion frontman Mike
67 Prepare the laundry
68 Bedframe strip

“‘Yes, Lieutenant’—an unexpected ending. By Matt Jones

This week’s SUDOKU

Down
1 Clerk at work
2 “Half ___ is better than none”
3 Strong drink also called double espresso
4 Sixth sense letters
5 “Got My ___ Working” (Muddy Waters classic)
6 Second word of “The Raven”
7 Nothing, on scoreboards
8 Laptop with a smaller screen
9 Make a hissing sound
10 Ready and eager
11 “Stay in your ___”
12 Has a series finale
13 Abbrev. on a new car sticker
14 Country home to Mocha
22 Its U stands for “utility”
24 Olympic runner Jim who later became a congressman
25 Squish down
26 Groups on risers
28 Gazped with amazement
29 River through Kazakhstan
30 Miller beer brand
31 Play some Cornhole
32 Make kombucha
33 Lack of intensity
34 They can be picked
35 They may have tickets at Barclays Center
36 Millennium Falcon pilot
37 Brother of Ophelia, in “Hamlet”
38 Singer nicknamed “The Velvet Fog”
39 “___; Legacy” (2010 sci-fi sequel)
40 Like the Amazon River
41 “It just ___ my day”
42 Brother of Ophelia
43 Singer nicknamed “The Velvet Fog”

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Answers on page 14.
773 Berry Ave, Los Altos
Exceptionally Large, Park-Like Sanctuary

Light-Filled Contemporary Surrounded by Mature, Serene Landscaping

An amazing oasis in the heart of Los Altos

- Centrally located near schools, shops, restaurants and much more
- Curved tree-lined driveway sweeps you into your own private sanctuary
- Enormous, mindfully landscaped wrap-around yard - bring your farm to table dreams with its enclosed, prolific, vegetable garden
- Contemporary home boasts clean lines, a spacious living room with raised, open beam ceilings, walls of windows and a large family kitchen
- Seamless indoor-outdoor integration with abundant natural light

- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Oversized two car garage with separate workshop
- Directly across the street from Loyola Elementary School
- Home size: 2,182 SqFt *
- Lot size: 23,117 SqFt*

* approx., per County records

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Listing Agent: Tim Foy
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