City braces for state housing laws

Page 5

Palo Alto's warehouse district is home to a celebration of wilderness and watercolors

Page 17
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DRE 00927794

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Nearly 75 years of vital services, enabling seniors to age in place.

Peninsula Volunteers, Inc.
800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025
Tax ID # 94-1294939

Hunger has more than tripled in the Bay Area.
Our senior community is most affected.

Let’s ensure no senior in our community goes hungry.

With your support PVI’s Meals on Wheels delivered 288,000 nutritious meals during the pandemic.

LEARN MORE AND DONATE TODAY AT PENVOL.ORG

Aging seniors still most affected

We’ve shared an historic journey together since March 2020. As we all learn to live with COVID-19, aging seniors are still most affected, and the challenges are now much larger in scope for our diverse senior community.

Peninsula Volunteers, Inc.’s vital services for seniors are more critical now than ever. The pandemic’s disproportionate impact on older adults has led to more widespread loneliness, isolation and health vulnerabilities. Hunger has more than tripled in Bay Area counties, jeopardizing the health and well-being of older adults. Now nearly 1 in 6 seniors is facing hunger risk and cannot cover the cost of basic needs.

Your generous impact is ongoing

You have been with us every step of the way. Because of you, we extended our reach during the pandemic, preparing and home delivering almost 288,000 nutritious Meals on Wheels from our Menlo Park kitchen; placing over 47,500 wellness care calls and visits; holding 12,462 combined virtual and in person sessions with active seniors and with Alzheimer’s clients to engage in exercise and stimulating learning activities; providing 4,093 transportation rides for medical and grocery needs and 23,750 volunteer hours. We continue to partner with local companies and restaurants to secure additional meals for those in need and continue to envision new and better ways to expand our support for our senior community in the new environment.

You may ask “how can I help local seniors like Raymond right now”?

Join us as we continue strengthening the senior community by helping us provide high-quality programs that keep your loved ones fed, engaged, and living independently. Your gift of any size* made securely online at penvol.org/donate will change the lives of seniors now.

* A $500 donation will support one month of daily Meals on Wheels for two seniors, or full services for a week at Rosener House for an adult with Alzheimer’s; or sixteen 30-minute personal training sessions at Little House; or 100 transportation rides at the subsidized rate.

VISIT US ONLINE TO READ THE STORIES OF LOCAL SENIORS LIKE NORMA, WESLEY, AND ANNETTE.

For nearly 75 years, Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., a duly recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has enabled seniors to age in place, driven by a profound legacy of caring and our core values of respect, commitment, trust, dedication, and compassion. Our essential programs serve over 6,000 Peninsula households and address the most pressing issues of aging adults by offering critical services to sustain their daily physical, nutritional, emotional, and mental health while achieving dignity and independence in their lives. PVI’s innovative programs: Nutrition Services; Meals on Wheels; Adult Day Services at Rosener House; Health, Wellness and Lifeskills Enrichment offerings at Little House; and on-demand Transportation Services at Little House, the Hedylyn G. Morris Activity Center.

USE YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA TO SCAN OUR QR CODE AND DONATE TO PVI’S CRITICAL SENIOR CARE PROGRAMS FROM YOUR PHONE.
Upfront
Local news, information and analysis

With state law looming, Palo Alto tightens housing rules

City Council adopts standards for homeowners looking to split their lots and build additional units

By Gennady Sheyner

When state lawmakers approved a law this year that allows homeowners in single-family zones to split their lots in two and build up to four total dwellings, they hailed it as a sensible way to encourage residential construction in communities that have little appetite for dense apartment complexes.

But in Palo Alto, city leaders see Senate Bill 9 as a threat to the city’s land-use powers and to the character of single-family neighborhoods. On Monday, they sought to address this threat by passing a series of new design standards that builders will have to meet to get approval for additional housing on residential lots in single-family zones.

The city unanimously approved an urgency ordinance that establishes a set of “objective standards” governing everything from garage widths, roofline styles and the size of second floors. One new rule requires at least one second-floor bedroom to have its largest window facing the front lot line. Another rule prohibits the height of a building’s first-floor eaves or parapets from being more than 18 inches higher than the average height of eaves or parapets of homes on abutting lots.

And if at least 50% of the homes on the block have street-facing porches, the proposed house also would have to include a street-facing porch no less than 6 feet deep and 8 feet wide.

By adopting these design rules, as well as many others, the city is looking to shift from its traditional approach of using subjective criteria to review housing proposals in single-family zones to quantifiable, or “objective,” proposals.

A field to call their own

Rich May Field offers youth a space to play, get exercise through sports

By Jamey Padojino

A ngel Tafolla has big dreams. The 13-year-old soccer player hopes to one day play for one of the world’s most renowned teams: Futbol Club Barcelona.

And thanks to the 2-acre Rich May Field in East Palo Alto, he has ample space in his hometown to hone his skills in the sport that he loves.

“This space means a lot to me because there’s kids here in East Palo Alto that go out to Sunnyvale or San Leandro just to play on a team that has a field with lights,” said Angel, who’s on the Ravenswood Junior Soccer Club’s Manchester U14 team.

The club is one of many community groups that work with the Rich May Foundation to rent the Bay Road field, which stands between St. Francis of Assisi Church and Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School. The field operates from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Many users rent space starting in the mid-afternoon and in the evening, with their play aided by lights on six posts that border the space.

The full-sized field is named after Rich May, an East Palo Alto police officer who was killed in the line of duty in 2006. His family and friends banded together to turn the 2-acre plot into a synthetic turf field that opened in 2016 for children to practice and compete in sport.

“The field doesn’t just allow children to get physically active, it keeps them away from problems on the streets, said Horacio Barrera, president of the Ravenswood soccer club, which runs 20 teams. About 300 students ages 4 to 18 are on its roster and most live in East Palo Alto.

Angel’s teammate, Joshua Barrera, 13, considers the field to be his second home, where he

HOLIDAY FUND

Demand soars for COVID boosters

Counties scramble to offer more appointments, increase accessibility

By Sue Dremann

W ith the omicron COVID-19 variant spreading in the Bay Area and a possible fifth-wave surge of cases on the horizon, residents in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties are flocking to get booster shots. In Mountain View, Palo Alto and Los Altos, 41% of eligible residents have received the boosters, according to Santa Clara County.

Public health leaders in both counties say they’ve also seen a good start on vaccinations of children ages 5 to 11, the latest eligible group, but they want to push harder to get children in that age group inoculated.

Santa Clara County began administering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to the 5 to 11 year olds on Nov. 3, the day after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved emergency use authorization. The pediatric dosage is one-third of that given to adults.

As of Wednesday, 39% of children in that group have been vaccinated with at least one shot, according to county data. Half of those 65,938 children have been fully vaccinated, state data shows.

In Santa Clara County, vaccinations of 5 to 11 year olds have plateaued, Dr. Ahmad Kamal, Santa Clara County’s COVID-19

(continued on page 12)
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www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • December 10, 2021 • Page 5
It is what it is, and if you don’t like it, call your assemblyman.

— Eric Filseth, Palo Alto council member, on adopting tighter housing rules. See story on page 5.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

**Around Town**

**MEMORIES TO SAVOR ...** Despite dazzling the judges with a three-course meal in the final episode of “Top Chef Family Style” that aired last week, Palo Alto residents Anika and Anu Kumar edged out of first place by Daniel and Delillah Flores of Anaheim Hills. Judges lauded the offerings from both teams, which in Anika’s and Anu’s case featured seafood samosas, steak and potatoes and cardamon rosewater ice cream, but judges described the steak dish as “so flavorful, so magical, so great” while co-host Marcus Samuelsson said Anika and Anu are “great at making samosas.” The mother-and-daughter duo took the verdict in stride. “I’m disappointed but still I don’t believe I’m runner-up of Top Chef Family Style,” Anika says in the episode just after the judges reached their decision. “I’m extremely grateful that my mom gave up so much to be here just for me, and I’m proud of us.” Anu said she believed her and Anika’s valuable experiences on the show will help Anika down the road. “If she can do this now, I don’t have to worry about her future,” Anu said.

The Kumars held a watch party on Dec. 2 at Cubberley Community School. The episode aired last week, Palo Alto residents Anika and Anu Kumar competed in a regional and-daughter duo took the verdict in stride. “I’m disappointed but still I don’t believe I’m runner-up of Top Chef Family Style,” Anika says in the episode just after the judges reached their decision. “I’m extremely grateful that my mom gave up so much to be here just for me, and I’m proud of us.” Anu said she believed her and Anika’s valuable experiences on the show will help Anika down the road. “If she can do this now, I don’t have to worry about her future,” Anu said.

**SUPER RAD ...** Palo Alto’s efforts on fighting climate change may amount to just baby steps at this point, but the city can find a bright spot through Palo Alto Utilities “refrigerator recycling program, which was recognized last month by the Environmental Protection Agency. The federal agency selected the city’s utility company for this year’s Responsible Appliance Disposal (RAD) champion award. Palo Alto Utilities partners with the EPA’s RAD program, where utilities, retailers, manufacturers and state and local governments voluntarily collaborate on recycling refrigeration materials. Palo Alto Utilities “was among 14 partners who were recognized for their accomplishments in reducing ozone-depleting substances and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through insulation foam recovery, significant growth of an appliance recycling program, and in demonstrating a notable commitment to advancing the goals of the RAD program,” the department said in a Dec. 7 press release. “This award demonstrates their commitment to recycling 100% of the devices as they process the RAD way, and we look forward to their continuing efforts to help avoid climate-damaging emissions and sending recyclable materials to landfills,” RAD program manager Sally Hamlin said in the release. Palo Alto Utilities has processed 1,161 refrigerators since joining the federal program in 2009. “An older refrigerator or freezer can be one of the highest energy-using appliances in a home and contribute to global pollution, so we set out to create a program that makes it as easy as possible to remove these appliances from use,” city Utilities Director Dean Batchelder said.

**AN EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFT ...** The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative has selected 75 organizations that will receive two-year grants of up to $200,000 through its Community Fund, which is distributing a total of $7 million. The funds will support the organizations as they pursue “build equity and opportunity” in San Mateo County. Since its 2017 launch, the grant program has grown from 31 organizations to 75 through its fifth iteration by expanding its reach and budget, and by providing multiple-year awards of up to $200,000 for organizations working across San Mateo County through a community-centered and trust-based approach, and are we grateful for their thoughtful inputs on how to improve and shape the program this year and going forward,” Cristina Muzio, CFI’s vice president of community, said in a statement. Some of the grantees are familiar to many on the Peninsula, including the Ecumenical Hunger Program, JobTrain, Ravenswood Family Health Network, Peninsula Community Foundation, and Stanford Children’s Teen Health Van and Friends for Youth. ■

**OUR TEAM IS IN MOTION FOR YOU**

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**Notice is hereby given: That Palo Alto Unified School District is inviting bidders to submit a request to be included in the District’s Bidders Book for 2022.**


Please send us the following information: Trade categories (list each separately)

Company Name
Address
Phone
Fax
Email
Contact person
License Number (list all Classes)
DIF Number

Send information no later than January 14, 2022, by 3:00 PM.

Send all information to:
Veronica Melero
Palo Alto Unified School District
Facilities and Construction
25 Churchill Avenue, Building D
Palo Alto, CA 94306-1099
vmelero@pausd.org
Phone: (650) 329-3927
Fax: (650) 327-3588
New city program pairs officer with clinician for mental health calls

Psychiatric Emergency Response Team would take the lead on responding to reports involving people in crisis

By Gennady Sheyner

It is now the second in the county to launch a PERT program, following the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office. “This long-anticipated program seeks to consider and quickly discard the resources to help those in need of urgent assistance,” Mayor Tom DuBois said in a statement.

The city’s announcement notes that the program combines the two entities’ unique resources, training and expertise to provide “the highest possible level of service to someone in mental health crisis before the situation worsens or requires hospitalization.” The partners will operate out of an unmarked car, and the officer will be in plain clothes rather than in a police uniform.

The city team will be charged with responding to calls involving people in “acute mental crisis,” according to the announcement. PERT officers will help contact with the unhoused population. Its responsibilities will include following up on referrals from other police officers who encounter individuals who may benefit from PERT’s services. The team will also respond to calls and respond to any scene where a police supervisor believes their expertise would be of benefit.

“I firmly believe programs like this are going to become part of all police agencies in the future, supporting people in acute mental health crises in getting the help they need,” Palo Alto Police Chief Robert Roberts said in a statement.

The team will be on duty between Sunday and Wednesday, typically from noon to 10 p.m., according to the regular working hours, according to Meghan Horrigan-Taylor, spokesperson for the city.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Tom DuBois said, he believes the partnership will “reduce the potential for tragedy and help save lives.” It’s a model that the county should expand, he said. “PERT provides an opportunity to de-escalate if it’s at all possible and can help move folks toward mental health services rather than the criminal justice system.”

In addition to the new PERT program, the city is exploring a partnership with Los Altos and Mountain View to create a program after Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (Cahoots) in Eugene, Oregon, which relies on public health professionals rather than police officers to respond to certain emergency calls.

Sherri Teraro, director of the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services Department, said the PERT teams “add an important element” to the department’s crisis response team.

“Mental health crisis response services are a vital part of any mental health service system,” Teraro said. “As we’ve seen the provision of services people need “when and where they are needed.”

San Mateo County is testing a similar program in its four large cities, including Redwood City. The Community Wellness and Crisis Response Pilot Project pairs mental health professionals with police officers in their response to people experiencing mental or behavioral health crises.

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

Palo Alto to shop around for housing proposals on downtown lots

Council endorses idea of building apartments, with Hamilton Ave. as the leading contender

By Gennady Sheyner

The idea of building housing on downtown parking lots in Palo Alto hasn’t always enticed city leaders, who briefly considered and quickly discarded the proposal when they were devising the city’s housing plans in 2018.

The suggestion of constructing large parking structures on these lots has fared only slightly better, with the City Council spending more than $1.3 million to design a five-story, 324-space structure on downtown parking lots. And while the local Surface lot on 375 Hamilton Ave. across from the Hamilton lot at 375 Hamilton Ave., across downtown parking lots. And while the localSurface lot on 375 Hamilton Ave. across from the Hamilton lot is now in the works, the prospect of building the garage has been fall-out of vogue even before the pandemic. The council included a downtown garage on its 2014 list of infrastructure priorities, a list that also includes a new California Avenue garage, a pedestrian/bike corridor U-Highway 101 and a rebuilt fire station at Rinconada Park. But while all three of those projects have already been completed and the largest project on the list — building a $18 million public safety building — is now in the works, the prospect of building a new downtown garage fizzled in February 2019, when the council agreed to halt the project and explore more comprehensive solutions to the area’s parking shortage.

As the city’s growing wherewithal, the idea of actually building the garage has been falling out of vogue even before the pandemic. The council included a downtown garage on its 2014 list of infrastructure priorities, a list that also includes a new California Avenue garage, a pedestrian/bike corridor U-Highway 101 and a rebuilt fire station at Rinconada Park. But while all three of those projects have already been completed and the largest project on the list — building a $18 million public safety building — is now in the works, the prospect of building a new downtown garage fizzled in February 2019, when the council agreed to halt the project and explore more comprehensive solutions to the area’s parking shortage.

Concerns about downtown parking lots are one of a few candidate locations in this area and how can we use the mix, the council is now preparing to resurrect and modify those garage plans. While some members, most notably Mayor Tom DuBois and council member Greg Tanaka, suggested that they would be interested in supporting a parking structure even without housing, most of their colleagues strongly favored alternatives that include both housing and parking.

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

Uptown

LAW ENFORCEMENT

New city program pairs officer with clinician for mental health calls

Psychiatric Emergency Response Team would take the lead on responding to reports involving people in crisis

By Gennady Sheyner

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Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.
**Give back locally 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 $500,000 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.

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### Last Year’s Grant Recipients

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<th>Non-profit</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>All Students Matter</td>
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<td>Rosalie Randi Center</td>
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<td>Silicon Valley Urban Debate League</td>
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<td>St. Francis of Assisi Youth Club</td>
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<td>Christmas Bureau</td>
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<td>Friends for Youth</td>
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<td>Pets in Need</td>
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### Non-profits:

Grant application and guidelines at PaloAltoOnline.com/holiday_fund

Application deadline: January 14, 2022

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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

Enclosed is a check for $__________________________

Name_________________________________________

Business Name_________________________________

Address_______________________________________

City/State/Zip__________________________________

Email__________________________________________

Phone__________________________________________

I wish to designate my contribution as follows: (select one)

- [ ] In my name as shown above
- [ ] In the name of business above

OR: [ ] In honor of: [ ] In memory of: [ ] As a gift for:

________________________________________________

(Name of person)

---

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.

Donate online at 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.
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<th>Name</th>
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**Thank you, donors**

As of December 6th, 156 donors have contributed $120,467 to the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund.

**New Donors**

15 Anonymous ...................... $3,810
Carolyn Williams .................. 200
Lenore Jones ....................... 100
Bonnie Packer ........................ 100
Rosalie Shepherd .................. 100
Karen Olson ........................ 250
Richard Zunich ........................ 100
Janis Uelvich ....................... 125
Lovinda Blohm ........................ 20
Larry Hyde ................................ *
Vickie Martin ........................ 100
Thomas Rindflesch .................. *
Elene & Rick Brooks ................. $1,000
Connie Fasani ....................... 100
Irene V Schwartz .................... 75
Sara Hammond ........................ 100
Graceann Johnson ................... 100
Jan Thompson & Roy Levin ........... $250
John Tang .................................. *
Ed & Linda De Moe .................... 500
Micki & Bob Cardelli .............. 150
Patti Yanklowitz .................... 150
John & Mary Schaefer ............... $100
Judy Kramer ........................... 50
Penny & Greg Gallo .................. $500
Marc & Margaret Cohen ............... 300
Harriet Benson ...................... $10,000
The Dong Family ..................... $200
Elaine & Eric Hahn ................... 50
Stephanie Klein & Larry Baer ...... 50
Bill Reifer ............................. 250
Bruce & Jane Gee ..................... 250
Arthur Keller ......................... 500
Bruce & Apol Robinson ............... 500
Lawrence Yang & Jennifer Kuan .... $10,000
Richard Johnsson .................... $5,000
Bruce & Mary Beth Train .......... $1,000
Julius Guccione ..................... 100
Leo & Marys Keoshian ............... 250
Sally O’Neil & Ken Bencala ......... $100
Carolyn Brennen ..................... $100
Linda & Steve Boxer ................. $100
Diane Moore ........................... $100
David & Betty Fryberger .......... $100
Alicia Newman ....................... $250
Karen & Steve Ross .................. $250
Charles & Barbara Stevens ......... $250
Constance Crawford ................ $350
Fischgrund Family .................. 200

**In Memory Of**

Er-Ying and YC Yang ................... $250
Jim and Dottie Mellberg ............ $250
E. Yanow Alt ......................... 20
Mille Rose Colderhoff .............. $100
Edward & Elizabeth Buurma .......... *
Leondly Ely ............................ $500
Boyd Paulson Jr ...................... *
Philip Zschokke ...................... $100
Mary Floyd ................................ *

**Previous Donors**

Amado Padilla ........................ $250
Xiaofan Lin ............................ 50
Neilson Buchanan ..................... $500
Patrick Burt ........................... $500
Marcia Katz ............................ 200
Scott and Jan Kilter .................. $500
Andrea Smith .......................... $100
Harry and Susan Hartzell ............ $100
Steven Feinberg ...................... $10,000
Kenyon Family ........................ $250
Ellmann Family ........................ $100
Richard Alexander ................... $1,000
Ann and Don Rothblatt ............... $500
Keith Clarke ........................... *
Roger Smith ............................ $400
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Betsy & George Rechtel ............. $150
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Barbara Campbell ..................... $200
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Joan Jack ............................... $100
Page & Ferrell Sanders .............. $100
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Tom & Patricia Sanders .............. *
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Jeanne & Leonard Ware .............. *
Ellen & Tom Elrich ................... $250
Ian & Freddy Gabus .................. $250
Given Luce ............................. *
Barbara & Robert Simpson .......... *
Pricilla & Tony Marzoni .......... *
Dorothy Saxe .......................... *
Kay & Don Remsen ..................... *
Hal & Iris Korol ....................... *
Roy & Carol Blitzer ................. *
Mindy & David Sitzer ............... *
Marlyn Simbeck ....................... *
Bill Johnson & Terri Lobeck ....... $2,000
Jody Maxmin ............................ *
Angelo Family Foundation ........... $5,000
Barbara Klein ........................ *
Dorothy Deringer ..................... $200
Katherine and Dorsey Bass ........ $200
Patrick Burt ........................... $500
Ruby Zefo .............................. $500
Carol Scott ........................... 100
David Kalkbrenner ................... *
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Debbi Roth ................................ $200
Cathy & Howard Krammyn ............ $250
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Linda & Jerry Elkind ................. $500
Julie & Jon Jerome ................. *
Allen Smith & Ann Burrell .......... *
Anne & Charlie Williams ............ 150
Jory & Bobbie Wagster .............. *
Gerald & Joyce Barker .............. 200

**In Memory Of**

Carol Berkowitz ........................ $250
Pam Grady .............................. $250
Lily & Philip Gottheiner .......... *
Kathy Morris .......................... *
August King ........................... *
Duncan Matteson ........................ $1,000
David Mitchell ........................ *
Mason & Ryan ........................... *
Ian Halliday ........................... *
Ted Linden .............................. $300

**Businesses & Organizations**

Avenidas Village offers their members all of the above and more!

Consider joining Avenidas Village, a lively community of like-minded seniors focused on making it easier, safer, and more enjoyable to stay in your own home.

To learn more, visit us at https://avenidas.helpfulvillage.com and sign up to attend an informal “Coffee Chat” session, or call us at (650) 289-5405.
Housing (continued from page 5)

advocates characterized Palo Alto's new requirements as just the latest instance of the city's resistance to calls from the state to build housing.

Michael Quinn pointed to the city's recent appeal of its new Regional Housing Needs Allocation numbers, which was unanimously rejected by the Association of Bay Area Governments, and the city's process for choosing members of the Housing Element Working Group, which was led by a group of three council members who privately corresponded about the group's composition before unveiling their list for the full council to adopt.

"We're in pretty bad shape here," Quinn said. "If we continue to thumb our nose at the state, we're going to get stepped on. The financial reality in Palo Alto is that most people are still going to be incentivized to build McMansions and turn them into $7 million homes," Banes said.

Council members, however, strongly supported the new rules and characterized them as a necessity given the state's prohibitions on subdivision of existing properties into duplexes, but the financial reality in Palo Alto is that most people are still going to be incentivized to build McMansions and turn them into $7 million homes," Banes said.

Mayor Tom DuBois and council member Greg Tanaka disagreed with the conservative approach proposed by DuBois and Filseth and urged her colleagues not to make the new rules too strident. She said that during her office hours she has had conversations with people whose children were born and raised in Palo Alto but who will no longer be able to live in the city because of insufficient housing options.

"I just want us all to contemplate for a moment that there probably are some people in Palo Alto who will be able to use this tool to enable their children to live nearby," Cormack said.

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

PALO ALTO WEEKLY OPEN HOMES

PALO ALTO
642 Wildwood Lane
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$3,000,000

3005 Page Mill Road
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00
$2,295,000

662 South Longfellow Ave.
Wed/Thu 11:00-2:00; Fri 1:00-4:00
$2,425,000

3003 Cowper Street
Sun 2:00-4:00
$6,995,000

1344 Minneopa Ave.
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$2,400,000

3 Horseshoe Bend
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$1,875,000

642 Wildwood Lane
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$3,000,000

3005 Page Mill Road
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00
$2,295,000

662 South Longfellow Ave.
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1344 Minneopa Ave.
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$2,400,000

3 Horseshoe Bend
Sat/Sun 10:00-4:00
$1,875,000

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).
Agents: submit open homes at PaloAltoOnline.com/realestate
GORGEOUS REMODELED HOME IN CRESCENT PARK.

3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 1,895 SF Home

Situated in a quiet area of the coveted Crescent Park neighborhood, this beautiful high-end, custom remodelled home, was completely rebuilt by a contractor/owner for his family. This is one of two identical Historic Renaissance Revival homes built in 1925 for widowed sisters-in-law. Please see the website for a link to the historic information. Top Palo Alto Schools: Addison Elementary, Greene Middle School, Palo Alto High School (Buyer to verify)

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Rich May Field 
(continued from page 5)
goes at least twice a week for prac- 
tice. Soccer is a tie that binds the 
family. His older brothers are part of 
Santos U18, the club’s highest- 
level team; his parents watch his 
games; and his uncle, Horacio 
Barrera, founded his club. 
“ I’ve gotten to really get to 
know this place and spend a lot of 
time here,” Joshua said. 
When the field was shut down 
during the early months of the 
pandemic, both Angel and Joshua 
face soccer withdrawal since 
they were stuck at home and un- 
able to practice. 
“It was very stressful because I 
gained weight during COVID,” 
said Angel, who called soccer his 
“getaway” from school. 
Joshua had moments when he 
was ready to go to practice but 
then remembered that it was canceled 
because of the pandemic. 
“ My body was really craving to 
 go play soccer,” Joshua said. 
The field reopened at the end of August 2020 with safety pro- tocols in place, including checks of players’ temperatures, routine disinfection of sports equipment and having everyone bring their 
own water bottles, according to 
Olympian Anne Warner Cribbs, 
who serves on the Rich May 
Foundation board. 
Using a $5,000 grant awarded 
earlier this year by the Palo Alto 
Weekly Holiday Fund, a foun- 
donation supported two hourly staff 
members and purchased supplies 
to make sure the field was equip- 
ment with the city, the schools 
and the many community-based 
organizations. We want to sup- 
port these efforts, and the Holi- 
day Fund is a superb way to do 
that,” the family said. 
Since the Weekly and Silicon 
Valley Community Foundation 
provided a $100,000 donation 
that Santa Clara County has added 
$1.1 million to the Holiday Fund since 2011. The donation is a matching grant, intended to 
inspire and double the contribu- 
tions of other donors. 
In a statement accompanying 
the donation, the family stressed the desire to support 
local causes. 
“We grew up in Palo Alto and 
and have always appreciated the 
extraordinary services pro- 
vided by the city, the schools 
(continued from page 5)
POLICE CALLS
Palo Alto
Dec. 2-Dec. 8

Violence related
Emerson Avenue, 11/20, 12:06 a.m.; actual assault
Forest Avenue, 12/3, 4:54 p.m.; battery
Newell Road, 12/6, 11:07 a.m.; child abuse
San Antonio Road, 12/7, 5:12 p.m.; battery.

Theft related
Fraud .............................................. 1
Grand theft ...................................... 1
Identity theft .................................... 2
Personal property theft ...................... 1
Shoplifting ...................................... 1

Vehicle related
Auto theft ...................................... 3
Bicycle theft .................................... 1
Shoplifting ...................................... 1
Auto theft w/ suspended license .......... 1
Hit and run ...................................... 1
Thief from auto .................................. 1
Vehicle accident/minor injury .......... 3

Alcohol or drug related
Driving under influence ...................... Drunk in public .................................. 1

Miscellaneous
Found property .................................. 1
Indecent exposure ............................. 1
Mental evaluation .............................. 2
Other/misc. ...................................... 3
Suspicous circumstances .................. Unattended death .................................. 1
Vandalism ........................................ 1
Outside warrant agency .................... Warrant/other agency .......................... 1

Menlo Park
Dec. 1-Dec. 7

Violence related
Middle Street, 12/1, 5:27 p.m.; battery
Hamiltorn Court, 12/3, 10:26 p.m.; assault w/ deadly weapon

Theft related
Burglary .......................................... 1
Debra innkeeper ............................... 1
Fraud ............................................... 1
Grand theft ...................................... 1
Party theft ....................................... 4
Residential burglaries ...................... 1

Vehicle related
Abandoned/abandoned auto ............. Auto theft .......................................... 1
Hit and run ...................................... 2
Parking/violation validation ............... 1
Thief from auto .................................. 1
Vehicle accident/minor injury .......... 1
Vehicle tampering ......................... 1
Vehicle theft .................................... 1

Alcohol or drug related
Drunk in public .................................. Possession of paraphernalia ............ 4

Miscellaneous
Found property .................................. 1
Lost property .................................... 2
Malicious mischief......................... 1
Other/misc. ...................................... 4
Vandalism ........................................ 1
Warrant arrest ................................. 6

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bloodcenter.stanford.edu

Sr. Cloud Developer, Self-Driving
Sr. Cloud Developer, Self-Driving with Rivian Automotive, LLC in Palo Alto, CA. Will design, extend and review software architecture and will be hands on and involved with every stage of the product development life cycle. RQMTS: Must deg or foreign equiv in Comp Science, Eng or a closely rel field & 2 yrs of [or a bach deg or foreign equiv in Comp Science, Eng or a closely rel field & 5 yrs of progressively rsys] exp building enterprise grade systems. Exp must incl: Developing APIs & REST w/OpenAPI/Swagger; Navigating trade-offs to bring the right data structure & algorithms to the problem; & Managing unit, integration testing, & coverage. Telecomuting permitted. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: SCD21SS, hrmobility@rivian.com

Sr. Technical Program Manager
SrTechnical Program Manager w/ Rivian Automotive, LLC in Palo Alto, CA. Lead a cross-functional team comprised of engg, supply chain, construction mgmt, & others to design, integrate, & deploy custom industrial equipment. RQMTS: Must deg or foreign equiv in Mech, Electrical, Chemical, Industrial, or a closely rel field. And 3 yrs of experience (or a bach deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci & Engr, or a closely rel field & 5 yrs of progressively rsys) exp designing & launching industrial equipment into mfg environments. Exp must incl: Executing the design & launch of mfg equipment & processes incl product design & development (Design FMEA), process design & development (Process FMEA), Product & Process Validation (Measurement System Analysis, Statistical Process Control, Process Capability Studies); managing cross-functional teams to ensure project execution stays on budget, schedule, & scope; & managing system integrators, vendors, & 3rd party resources. Demos & site visits req 30% of the time. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: STPM21SS, hrmobility@rivian.com

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If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call 650.223.6597 or email digitalad@pawweekly.com.

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**Letters**

**Reform local campaign financing**

**Editor,**

As a volunteer coordinator for California Clean Money, I am delighted to be working on local campaign finance reform with the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto.

I fully support the proposed common sense policies, which are similar to those in a number of cities across California. The high spending in Palo Alto campaigns can make people reluctant to run if they don’t have access to high dollar donations. Requiring local campaign donations and spending will increase the importance of small donations, expanding the number of citizens engaged in the local political process.

It’s important to know that donation limits would apply to donations from individuals and groups of all kinds, such as corporations, unions, LLCs, or political parties, whether in Palo Alto or out of state.

Some people are concerned that new limits will cause an increase in outside spending by groups independent from candidates. We already have a lot of independent spending, and it will continue, whether or not we make it easier to follow the money. The Citizens United decision made it impossible to limit this independent spending, but it can be disclosed.

Enhanced disclosure will help voters know who is paying for local political ads. Palo Alto can use the state disclosure rules and lower the amount of spending that triggers disclosure requirements from $50,000 to $2,500. So, if a group supporting a candidate buys three ads that cost $1,000 each, they are over the $2,500 threshold. Those ads would have to display the name of the committee that paid for them and its top funders who donated over $2,500. This would capture the major players supporting Palo Alto candidates.

I urge Palo Alto City Council to take up the issue of campaign finance reform and institute reforms before the 2022 elections.

Nancy Neff
Emerson Street, Palo Alto

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**Go electric**

**Editor,**

Palo Alto is moving to phase out natural gas in our homes after determining that it’s critical to meet the city’s climate goals. Natural gas (methane) represents a major threat to the climate — responsible for around one-third of greenhouse gas emissions in California — and it poses serious health risks.

Gas ranges are of particular concern, because the burning gas releases toxic pollutants, including nitrogen dioxide. Moreover, we spend about 90% of our time indoors, the air quality inside is a valid concern, and one that is, unfortunately, largely unregulated. A study by the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) concluded that nitrogen dioxide exposure from gas cooking frequently exceeds safety standards for outdoor air quality.

Studies also show an increased risk for respiratory diseases and worsening of asthma in homes with gas ranges. People with lung and heart conditions are particularly at risk, but children are the most vulnerable, partly because they have developing lungs and smaller bodies. The RMI study found that children living in a home with a gas stove have a 24% to 42% increased risk of having asthma. And even a slight increase in nitrogen dioxide levels (15 parts per billion) is associated with a higher risk of wheezing in asthmatic children.

Switching to electric typically cuts nitrogen dioxide levels in half. The new induction ranges mean that you don’t have to take a step down in quality as you move to a healthier cooking choice. A quick internet search turns up testimonials from professional chefs who love induction. For the budget conscious, single burners are available for under $100.

It can be hard to accept that the familiar poses a serious threat, but we owe it to the people in our homes with gas to make the switch away from gas.

Andrea Gata
Wilson Street, Palo Alto

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**Camping too expensive?**

**Editor,**

More than 3 million women have left the workforce as a result of the pandemic. Let that sink in. When we admit that their absence has major implications for our economy and stifles innovation, I don’t think Castilleja is “asking too much” to increase enrollment and build an underground garage to accommodate more girls. They will be part of the generation that rebuilds gender equity that has been lost.

In last week’s article about Castilleja, one person claimed, “There is no reason for the underground garage. They just want to have less parking on-site so they can have a bigger, more massive building.” Where is this idea coming from? The fact that the school has to have less parking is not a means to create a larger building; in fact, Castilleja’s modernization plans call for reducing existing square footage. Instead, underground parking improves the neighborhood and saves the school’s only athletic field.

Castilleja has been extremely responsive to concerns raised by the community members. The article even emphasizes that “revised plans are unlikely to satisfy all of their concerns” when discussing the school’s future. Nevertheless, neither party is getting everything it wants. It’s called compromise.

I have seen Castilleja repeatedly bending over backward to assure the neighbors’ requests, and it’s still not good enough. It is like a whack-a-mole game; the school satisfies one neighbor’s request, the other next door neighbor doesn’t like it and so goes back and forth. When can we move forward from this debate about parking spots and focus on real problems? Hasn’t the pandemic exposed glaring societal issues that truly deserve our attention?

Priya Chandrasekar
Seneca Street, Palo Alto

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**This week on Town Square**

**Town Square** is an online discussion forum at PaloAltoOnline.com. In response to ‘Castilleja School returns to spotlight with revised plan to rebuild campus’

**Posted Dec. 2 at 9:28 a.m. by Trisha Savari, a resident of Crescent Park**

“I have been following Castilleja’s modernization project for the past four years. Time and time again, Castilleja has revised their plans to meet the demands of the neighbors, yet the neighbors turn down every solution. The school desperately needs to modernize the buildings, and the process to do so has been ridiculous. It’s a lot to ask teachers to park a distance away from school and that they can only drive to campus three days a week. Now they’re offering to cut back on them even more or enforce a ‘Kiss n’ Ride’ and a ‘ride-home’ program? Come on, the teachers deserve better than that. The opposition to this project keeps referring it to a large-scale expansion and that Castilleja wants bigger buildings. The fact remains that the footprint will be smaller than what it is now. No matter how many times Castilleja goes back to the drawing board and comes up with a new solution, the neighbors shut it down. Yes, there will be construction inconveniences, but it’s called progress. Short-term inconveniences of construction for 100 plus more years of educating young women seems like a small price to pay. Castilleja has presented many solutions, it’s time to let them move forward with this project.”

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**Editorials, letters and opinions**

For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at llee@paweekly.com. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, accuracy or spelling. Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to use it in our print and online editions, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square. We do not accept electronic mail without the author’s name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you.

Glenda Jones
Alger Drive, Palo Alto

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**Finance reform needed**

**Editor,**

Thanks to Gail Price for raising campaign finance reform, especially with a local focus. Good for the local League of Women Voters, Common Cause and California Clean Money for working on this issue. I hope the Palo Alto City Council takes these cogent suggestions seriously.

Carolyn Curtis
Alger Drive, Palo Alto

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**What do you think?**

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

What do you think about stricter design standards for housing in Palo Alto?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 750 to 950 words to editor@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you.

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For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lue at lle@paweekly.com, or 650-223-6520 or Editor Joceyln Dong at editor@paweekly.com.

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A s a child, Palo Alto Jane Woodward dreamed of living in a museum. She spent her summers visiting her grandmother in Manhattan and loved to fantasize about what it would be like to live in the Metropolitan Museum, like the characters did in her favorite book, "From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler" by E.L. Konigsburg.

Woodward grew up to study geology at the University of California, Santa Barbara and Stanford University and then business at Stanford but always retained her love for art and museums alongside her love of the wilderness, especially of the American West. She now teaches energy and environment courses at Stanford and is a founder and managing partner at MAP Energy, a renewable energy and natural gas investment firm, according to Stanford.

Decades ago, she said, she went to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and was struck by a chance encounter with several watercolors by Tony Foster. They depicted California’s High Sierras on a journey that Life 

Tony Foster’s “Twenty-Three Days Painting the Canyon—From West of Navajo Point” (2013) is a watercolor and graphite piece on paper. Displayed below the painting are a small map and a stone arrowhead by Homer Etherton. The artwork is part of the “journey,” or series of works, called “Exploring Beauty: Watercolour Diaries from the Wild.”

Wilderness and Watercolors
Hidden museum honors one adventurer’s stunning artwork
By Kate Bradshaw

By Kate Bradshaw

The artwork Tony Foster is a unique artist for a number of reasons, museum co-directors Eileen Howard and Anne Baxter explained while giving a recent tour of the museum. The painter from Cornwall carries art supplies all over the world with him, using lightweight materials and a tiny paint box but always with a full set of paintbrushes and — as a proper Englishman — adequate supplies for afternoon tea. Painting in extreme environments, he has also pioneered new watercolor techniques, such as mixing gin into the water at very high elevations while painting in the Himalayas or using plastic vellum and colored pencils to paint underwater coral reefs.

Kristin Poole, artistic director of The Foster, writes that Foster’s work builds on the traditions of artists like J.M.W. Turner that emphasize nature’s ferocity and man’s insignificance, as well as explorer artists like Thomas Moran, George Catlin and William Henry Jackson.

His process “necessitates being able to withstand grueling physical conditions as well as significant patience while waiting for site, weather and time of day to cooperate (and) reinforces the messages that none of this — whether it’s the act of truly seeing, locating and translating site or honoring the humbling forces of nature — is easily accomplished,” she said.

One signature of his work included alongside his paintings are what are called “souvenirs” — little mementos, whether taken or rendered, that highlight the details of whatever environment Foster was in. For instance, there might be a study of leaf colors with a painting of an autumn forest or little vials of water samples framed alongside a river painting.

“Sacred Places” represents Foster’s 15th journey, into the Four Corners region of the American Southwest. “Exploring Beauty” represents Foster’s artistic output, in which he asked various luminaries in science, exploration, writing and the environment to nominate what they thought were the most beautiful places in the world. He then went to those places and painted them from his own perspective.

Becoming a patron
After that first sighting of Tony Foster’s artwork, Woodward worked diligently to find out more. The museum provided few curatorial details about the art, so she kept calling the museum. Eventually, she learned that Foster was represented by Montgomery Gallery in San Francisco. Over years, she became a dedicated buyer of Foster’s work. Many years later, Woodward invited Foster to join a trip she was organizing on the San Juan River.

(continued on page 18)
Watercolors
(continued from page 17)

While on that trip, Woodward recalled, she began to reflect that there was a sort of “market failure” that there was no artistic institution with enough space to show a full “journey” or complete set of artworks from one of Foster’s trips.

“It was a very organic evolution, to recognize that, if I wanted to hold Tony’s journeys intact and share them with the public, we needed a space. It’s only been in the last few years that we’ve called it a museum,” she said.

The museum, she added, is also used as a type of staging area for other, potentially larger museums to see what one of Foster’s journeys looks like in full from a curatorial perspective. The foundation also works with other museums considering Foster’s work and provides curatorial support through Howard’s and Baxter’s shared expertise.

Since the museum opened in 2016, Woodward said, one of the most gratifying things has been hearing from friends and visitors to the museum who told her that the art had evoked memories of specific places they’d been to or inspired them to get out into the wilderness on their own.

“I love Tony’s art because it’s just beautiful to behold, but I like using it to have these conversations about all these layers around place,” she said. “I believe strongly that reflecting on place and why it’s important to protect is really important.”

Weathering the pandemic

Howard and Baxter were calmer than expected while talking about how the pandemic has affected museum operations.

Yes, The Foster was closed for a long time, and it’s been hard to get the word out that it’s open again by reservation, but overall, there have been some benefits, they said.

For starters, because travel has been restricted, Foster himself has actually been more available than he might otherwise be for interviews and archival works, they said.

Foster also busied himself during the pandemic with a project titled “Lockdown Diaries” while facing a strict quarantine in England that limited time outdoors to one hour a day. During that hour, he would find new pedestrian routes to walk around his neighborhood and new objects to study in his artworks.

Over time, he created some beautiful small studies, including one set of 56 days’ worth of drawings that has been made into a print that the Foster is selling to support wilderness-focused nonprofits both locally and internationally.

Dealing with the travel restrictions from the pandemic, he said, “has made me study my backyard more profoundly, and I have found great joy in the close study of small subjects. The closer you look the more you see!”

Foster said that one lesson that he plans to carry forward is “Be patient and find joy where you are — even if confined to a small area.”

Back at the Palo Alto museum, Howard and Baxter said that they’re trying to get the word out that the museum is not only open again but that each reservation almost guarantees visitors to have the museum to themselves for about an hour.

A shifting planet

Foster’s next journey, slated for the Green River, was postponed this year, but there is a special exhibit of his work being shown now at the Royal Cornwall Museum called “Fragile Planet: Watercolour Diaries from the Wild” at the Royal Cornwall Museum on Oct. 12, 2021.

For more information or to make reservations at The Foster, go to thefoster.org.


An acrylic bear claw with leather and beads, a glass tube filled with oil, another glass tube containing gold, a piece of wood, and a small map are displayed above a diary inscription on Tony Foster’s “Denali and Wonder Lake Looking South from Ansel Adams Point” (2014), in Palo Alto on Oct. 12, 2021. The artwork is included in the series “Exploring Beauty: Watercolour Diaries from the Wild.”
HOLIDAY FEAST

This holiday sit back and relax while the culinary and service team at Quattro Restaurant serve a festive four-course menu with special dishes to celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The pièce de résistance for Christmas Day is the return of the dessert buffet by Pastry Chef Guillermo Soto.

Reservations are required: call 650-470-2889 or reserve online.

www.fourseasons.com/siliconvalley
The Silicon Valley Boychoir returns to live performance with the holiday concert ‘Fire & Ice’

The Silicon Valley Boychoir celebrates both the chilly winter weather and the warmth of the season with the holiday concert “Fire & Ice,” Dec. 12 at Grace Lutheran Church in Palo Alto.

The concert will be the first in-person performance in nearly two years for the choir, which teaches boys ages 7 to 18 to sing choral music.

The choir has been back to singing together in person since August after many months of rehearsing and performing online, said Kaia Richards, artistic director for the group.

“The Silicon Valley Boychoir’s membership, which totals almost 40 singers at the moment, is made up primarily of boys from the Midpeninsula area, but a few members come from as far north as Belmont and as far south as San Jose,” Richards said. “The group was founded in 2010 by Julia Simon, who serves as the choir’s program director. The Boychoir features four levels for singers of different ages and skills: the beginning-level Overture Choir, for ages 7 and up; the intermediate- and advanced-level Concert Choir for ages 8 to 14; the advanced-level Ovation Choir for ages 9 to 14; and the advanced-level Encore Choir for ages 14 to 18.”

Richards, who is in her first year as artistic director, has been with the Boychoir for five years and directs the Ovation and Concert choirs. Composer and arranger Allen H. Simon, who is also the artistic director of Soli Deo Gloria, the Bay Area choir for adult singers, directs the Encore Choir and musician Chloe Billings is the new director of the Overture Choir.

All four choir levels, led by their respective directors, will perform in the Dec. 12 concert, the theme for which was inspired by the nature of winter and the festive season.

“Although we don’t live in a place where it snows, it’s the concept that winter has the coldness and the darkness, yet also has the warmth and the light that people bring in to combat the darkness of the season. A lot of repertoire is choral music — plays on those themes,” Richards said.

“The program includes seasonal favorites and other holiday-themed works. Among the highlights: The Encore Choir will perform ‘You’re A Mean One, Mr. Grinch’ from ‘How the Grinch Stole Christmas;’ the Overture Choir will sing the classic ‘Christmas Time Is Here,’ from the 1965 TV special ‘A Charlie Brown Christmas;’ and the Ovation Choir will perform ‘Unending Flame,’ a song for Hanukkah by composer Paul Carey. The piece, which includes clapping and some tempo shifts, also features accompaniment from Joel Jaffe on clarinet. ‘There will be some traditional gems like ‘The Christmas Song (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire),’ and then some more classically inspired,’ Richards said. She also noted that in a first for the Boychoir, the Concert and Ovation choirs will team up to perform ‘Fire’ by composer Mary Goetze, which is inspired by a 13-year-old’s poem exploring the nature of fire. The piece uses the poem as its text. All four choirs will come together at the end of the program to sing ‘We Need a Little Christmas.’ “We always do two pieces at the very end of the concert where everyone is singing. So it’s a fun opportunity for the very young boys to have the experience of singing SATB — soprano, alto, tenor, bass — a full group sound as opposed to just the music that they do in their individual groups. So ‘We Need a Little Christmas’ will be fun,” Richards said.

In choosing music for the holiday program, Richards said that she was mindful of finding pieces that are fun and educational for the young choristers.

“I like to choose music that I think is beautiful, things that I think they will enjoy singing.” — Kaia Richards, Silicon Valley Boychoir Artistic Director

‘I like to choose music that I think is beautiful, things that I think they will enjoy singing and things that also teach them classical repertoire, and expose them to really good composers,” she said. Richards also sought pieces that would work for a smaller sized group of singers than the Silicon Valley Boychoir is accustomed to, as its membership has decreased due to the pandemic.
down from 64 singers pre-pandemic to just under 40.

“Our numbers dropped drastically because of it. So we’re in a very strong push to build our numbers back,” Richards said, noting that the limitations of virtual performance had a major impact on choirs in general.

Before the Boychoir’s singers were able to reunite in person a few months ago, rehearsals took place virtually, a method that has brought challenges for anyone trying to make music together, due to inherent delays in videoconferencing, known as latency. During that time, the organization also temporarily adapted its teaching model to what worked best online. Since the choristers couldn’t sing together, instruction was more individualized.

“We actually used the year to focus more on the individual singer and we gave each boy a private voice lesson with his director once a week for a shorter amount of time. It was more about personal growth,” Richards said.

Now the Silicon Valley Boychoir is back to performing in person, Richards noted, it’s all the more special for the members to perform a live concert — and for their families to witness it, but also to keep in mind that personal growth is always a key part of the singers’ experience.

“What we do here is teach the boys musicianship, how to become the tenors and basses of the future for high school choirs and beyond, in college. Even if they don’t go to college to become a music major, they’ll hopefully still retain the love of singing and find a community choir — (and they will) be able to read music and find the flexibility and improvisational skills to be fluid with what music has to offer.”

“Fire & Ice” takes place Dec. 12, 3:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverly St., Palo Alto. Tickets are $10-$35. For more information, visit svboychoir.org.

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman at hzimmerman@paweekly.com.
Here come the Holidays

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Local Kitchens opens ‘digital food halls’

If you’ve ever craved curry, Reubens and ice cream all at once, you’re in luck: Local Kitchens makes it possible to buy all the above and then some from different restaurants in a single order. On Nov. 30, the team opened a new Peninsula location in Palo Alto at the former site of The Sayre House. A Mountain View location will follow in mid-December.

Led by DoorDash alumni, Local Kitchens bills itself as a “micro food hall” with a focus on local food purveyors. At a Local Kitchens location or on its website, customers can order dishes from a variety of Bay Area restaurants for pickup or delivery, or to eat on-site.

“[It’s a little bit of a different mix],” co-founder and CEO Jon Goldsmith said. “Our goal is to capture the diversity of the Bay Area food scene.”

Participating restaurants vary by location. For example, Oren’s Hummus is available in Lafayette, but not on the Peninsula (you’ll have to go directly to Oren’s for their legendary hummus instead). From the Palo Alto Local Kitchens location, the biggest to date, customers can order:

- **Curry Up Now**: Indian street food
- **MIXT**: gourmet salads
- **Proposition Chicken**: sandwiches, salads and entrees
- **SALI**: Mediterranean dishes
- **Señor Sisig**: Filipino street food
- **The Melt**: burgers and comfort food
- **Humphry Slocombe**: ice cream

Restaurateur Dino Tekdemir and his team are remodeling Anatolian Kitchen, with plans to reopen the restaurant as Naschmarkt Palo Alto in early 2022. File photo.

Restaurateur Dino Tekdemir and his team are remodeling Anatolian Kitchen, with plans to reopen the restaurant as Naschmarkt Palo Alto in early 2022. File photo.
Happy Holidays!

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Across
1. When they’re low, insurance companies are more profitable
11. Trans Am that talks
15. Central, with “of”
16. “I Am Not My Hair” singer India___
17. Sap
18. Haynes with the documentary “The Velvet Underground”
19. Musical work featuring historical figures, often
20. Indigo dye
21. Second-hand, alternately
22. Costar of Thora and Wes in “American Beauty”
23. Canadian actress Cooper of Apple TV+'s “See”
24. Circumvents
26. He played Tobias Funke
30. Puff ___ (venomous critter)
35. Race a motor
36. Unilever laundry soap brand that’s over 100 years old
37. Basis of the name of a short-lived, short-form streaming platform
40. Detach from the dock
41. “In ___ called malice, yeah” (The Jam lyric that’s almost the proper title)
46. “Lego-SVU” costar
47. Like some T-shirt art
48. “American Beauty” costar

Down
1. Cruise liner decks with pools
2. Head of a bowling team?
3. Monk known as “the Venerable”
4. Counties overseas
5. Do some boot repair
6. Title ship in a 1997 Spielberg movie
7. Solution strength, in chemistry
8. “Do ___ to eat a peach?” (Eliot)
9. “Be Kind, Rewind” device
10. “Curious George” character in the Netflix miniseries “True Story”
11. Like an eagle’s beak
12. Like some hams, at this time of year?
13. The act of not paying attention, old-style
14. “Be Kind, Rewind” device
15. Biscuits
16. “Be Kind, Rewind” device
17. Billy Zane’s character in the Netflix miniseries “True Story”
18. Unlikely hero?
20. “Be Kind, Rewind” device
21. Unlikely hero?
22. Japanese light novel series “___ Been Killing Slimes for 300 Years and Maxed Out My Level”
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60. Japanese light novel series “___ Been Killing Slimes for 300 Years and Maxed Out My Level”

This week’s SUDOKU

Answers on page 13.

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Answers on page 13.

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