For generations, Stanford Medicine—made up of Stanford Children’s Health, Stanford School of Medicine, and Stanford Health Care—has leveraged its combined power, precision, and innovation to keep our communities safe and healthy. Thank you, Bay Area, for placing your trust in Stanford Medicine.

We are here for you.
# Thank You

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It is not too late to show your support. Give at mpaef.org/donate today.

Please contact business@mpaef.org for additional information.
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 six 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 and neighbors 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 © (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 Lifetime Enrichments offerings at Little House; and on-demand Transportation Services at Little House, the Roslyn 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.
City expects steady growth in revenues and budget surpluses, but labor and other costs cloud outlook
by Gennady Sheyner

Despite taking a massive economic hit during the pandemic, Palo Alto’s long-term outlook has grown increasingly rosy, with city staff now projecting years of steady growth and budget surpluses.

The projections are included in the newly released Long-Term Financial Forecast, a snapshot of the city’s economic climate that covers the period between 2023 and 2032. The long-term outlook suggests that the city is well on its way to economic recovery after a revenue slump and a period of budget cuts.

The hopeful projections are informed by recent trends. A new analysis of tax revenues, which includes both sales- and hotel-tax receipts, indicate that the city’s economic performance in the second and third quarters of this year (between April and September) has been strong compared to the prior year, according to Administrative Services Department staff.

While sales-tax receipts declined in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 by 16.3% and 4.7%, respectively, new data shows that the trend is now reversing, with fourth quarter cash receipts in fiscal year 2021 (between April and the end of June) increasing by 28.2% over the same quarter in the prior year, according to a city analysis, which cites significant increases in general retail, restaurants and transportation sectors.

Sales tax is now anticipated to generate about $30.6 million in fiscal year 2022, a $2.5 million increase over the budgeted amount. City staff expect this revenue source to rise to $32.3 million in fiscal year 2023.

(continued on page 16)

Hybrid work here to stay, employers say
Bay Area traffic is already nearing pre-pandemic levels
By Eli Walsh

Nearly half of Bay Area employers expect employees to work in person for three days a week after the pandemic ends, a marked shift that could result in roughly 1.1 million fewer commute trips per day than before COVID-19 struck, according to survey data released by the business group Bay Area Council.

The survey, conducted monthly since April, found that an average of 46.75% of Bay Area employers surveyed expect their workers to return to the office three days a week once the pandemic subsides. Roughly two-thirds expect employees to be at the workplace on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. Some 54% of employers thought workers would be in person on Mondays, and 44% thought they’d be at work on Fridays.

About 23% of employers in November said they expect their workers to return to in-person work five or more days per week, the highest percentage since the survey started in April. Less than 5% of employers said they thought their employees would only work remotely post-pandemic.

Between one-quarter and one-third of employers who responded to the survey in October and November also said that, for now, they expect their employees to work from home full-time. Both figures represented a plurality of respondents.

(continued on page 11)
To learn more, visit us at https://avenidas.helpfulvillage.com and sign up to attend an informal “Coffee Chat” session, or create your holiday wishlist of things that would bring joy to you and your loved ones. DELEON REALTY, INC. has a variety of offerings for the holidays, including:

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SAFEST HOLIDAY WISHES... Whether you’re shopping online or in stores this season, there are many steps you can take to make sure your holidays stay joyful. In light of recent smash-and-grab thefts at major retailers, the Palo Alto Police Department offers safety tips, such as not leaving purchased items unattended in a vehicle, police Chief Robert Jonsen said in a city blog post on Dec. 7. Shoppers can help protect their packages by having a trusted neighbor retrieve them or set up a delivery alert and picking up the item from your front door once they arrive, or having a trusted neighbor retrieve the package and hold on to it until you arrive. You can also request special delivery instructions when you’re home, and ask for delivery at a place where they can be received in person, and requesting a package be delivered at a specific delivery location and date when you’re home. Reports about a package theft where suspect detail is not included in the police dispatch report to the police, police Chief Robert Jonsen said in a city blog post on Dec. 7.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
Do we want more of some things and less of others?
— Alison Cormack, Palo Alto City Council member, on restoring services under new budget forecast. See story on page 5.

MOVING ON UP... U.S. District Judge Lucy Haeran Koh has come a long way since her days of working as a lawyer in Palo Alto. Her appointment by President Joe Biden to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was confirmed on Monday, Dec. 13, by the Senate. The promotion marks a significant milestone. She is the first Asian American woman to serve on a federal appellate court. Koh brings 13 years of experience as a judge, one of which were in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and two in Santa Clara County Superior Court. Koh was previously a partner in the Palo Alto office of McDermott, Will & Emery from 2002 to 2008 and is a senior of counsel at Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati in Palo Alto from 2000 to 2002. During the 1990s, she worked in various capacities for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Central District of California in Los Angeles, the Department of Justice and Office of Legislative Affairs. In the 9th Circuit, Koh will replace Judge Richard A. Paez, who took senior status on Dec. 13. “Judge Koh is an outstanding legal thinker and a trailblazing public servant,” Sen. Richard A. Paez, D-Calif., said from the Senate floor on Monday. “Her commitment to equal justice and her expertise has earned her support on both sides of the aisle.”

500 AND COUNTING... The holidays bring out stories about all the heart, and it couldn’t be more true at Stanford Children’s Health, which recently marked its 500th pediatric heart transplant. The recipient was Mackenzie Collins, a 14-year-old girl who was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy earlier this year. “It was a huge shock to us because she was always active, playing basketball, running cross country,” said in a city blog post on Dec. 7. Shoppers should keep a firm grip on their handbag and place their wallet in an inside coat or side trouser pocket instead of a rear pocket. Anyone who believes they’re being followed by someone on foot is advised to walk fast or run to a store where they can call police. Many precautions can be taken while online shopping, including signing up for delivery alerts and picking up the item from your front door once they arrive, or having a trusted neighbor retrieve the package and hold on to it until you arrive. You can also request special delivery instructions when you’re home, and ask for delivery at a place where they can be received in person, and requesting a package be delivered at a specific delivery location and date when you’re home. Reports about a package theft where suspect detail is not included in the police dispatch report to the police, police Chief Robert Jonsen said in a city blog post on Dec. 7.
On March 12, 2019, John Vandemoer anxiously sat before a judge in a Boston courtroom to enter his guilty plea for his role in the largest college admissions scandal ever prosecuted by the U.S. Department of Justice.

The former longtime head coach of Stanford University’s sailing team had been charged with one count of racketeering conspiracy for accepting more than $700,000 in donations to the sailing team in exchange for designating two applicants as recruits. Vandemoer was sentenced to one day in jail, two years of supervised release — six months of which had to be served under house arrest with electronic monitoring — and a $10,000 fine. This cost doesn’t include his legal fees. He’s still out $100,000 in debt and using proceeds from his book deal to pay it off, Vandemoer said.

Then there’s the incalculable loss of reputation. The book paints a much different picture than what had been made public in the six-page indictment that led to his arrest.

Some of his story focuses on small details, such as how the athletics department at Stanford has notified the coast guard about sailing service. This, Vandemoer explains, played a role in a call between him and Singer that was later used as incriminating evidence by the IRS.

Vandemoer also points out that the coaches at the university were responsible for fundraising after a protocol shift in 2012. He also shares that he believed he was on shaky ground with the athletics department following feedback from an annual survey that questioned his coaching abilities. Vandemoer feels intense pressure to show his worth and to raise funds for the sailing program.

“I was humiliated by the whole exercise ... the idea that I had to prove myself after more than a decade there,” Vandemoer writes.

It was during this time that he received a call from Singer, who introduced him as a college recruiter who could help Vandemoer find recruits for his team. Through Singer, Vandemoer raised $775,000 in donations for the sailing program over a two-year period.

All the book’s details contribute to the coach’s main defense: As he interacted with Singer from 2016 to 2018, Vandemoer believed he was doing his job as a struggling head coach, raising donations for his own program, and university officials were putting him on the back for doing so.

Vandemoer writes that when he handed over the first $500,000 donation made out to the university’s sailing program, Heather Owen, Stanford’s executive associate athletics director, and Bernard Muir, the athletics director, congratulated him for securing the gift.

“This is a donation from a ... family through Rick Singer,” Vandemoer said.

“Oh, we know Rick ... We know Rick well,” Muir allegedly told Vandemoer.

(In statements to the New York Times and The New Yorker, a university spokesperson said Muir had never met with Singer and that there was no relationship between the two men.)

Vandemoer didn’t open the envelope before handing it to the development office. He later learned that the payment was written to “Stanford Sailing John Vandemoer” and a member of the Stanford athletics department following feedback from the students, and so on.

Vandemoer’s wife, Molly O’Bryan Vandemoer’s, sailboat was chartered through a program run by Rick Singer.

“Just want you to know I’ve worked with Rick. He’s a guy you can trust. Let me know if you want to talk about him some more,” Coherent told him, according to Vandemoer.

“In an email to the San Francisco Chronicle, a Stanford spokesperson said the university did not find any evidence that the coach had vouched for Singer, and Coherent denies doing so.”

“Everything points to how Rick Singer had much more involvement in Stanford than they’re willing to let on,” Vandemoer told the Weekly.

And of the donations raised, Vandemoer never took any money for himself. He spent the funds on new boats for the team, sports team consultants and to hire a second assistant coach. In addition, none of the students aided by Singer were admitted to the university as recruited athletes through Vandemoer. Prosecutors have confirmed, however, that one student was eventually accepted partly due to the fact that she had fabricated sailing credentials.

Why a guilty plea?

From the start, Vandemoer has acknowledged that his defense would have been a long and difficult sell, both to a judge and to the public.

Pursuing a trial would have cost Vandemoer millions of dollars in legal fees, his lawyer Robert Fishman said. And being charged for racketeering, something typically associated with organized crime, makes Vandemoer’s case all the more difficult to defend.

Vandemoer doesn’t omit the mistakes he made — most of them out of carelessness, he writes — when dealing with Singer or the donations. He writes about how the last check he received from Singer was secured in an envelope. Vandemoer didn’t open the envelope before handing it to the development office. He later learned that the payment was written to “Stanford Sailing John Vandemoer” and a member of the Stanford athletics department following feedback from the students, and so on.

“In conversations he always comes back to me and says, ‘Do you regret it?’ ... And every time we come to the same conclusion,” Vandemoer told the Weekly.

“With the situation we were given at the time, it was really the only way forward for my family.”

Life after his conviction

Over the past two years, Vandemoer has increasingly found peace in his situation. His home is now much closer to the water than his previous university-subsidized house — far from all the stress associated with organized crime, something typically associated with the universities

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HOLIDAY FUND

To the young and visually impaired, Vista Center offers the world

The nonprofit’s Vista Voyagers program teaches kids with visual impairments how to be independent

By Lloyd Lee

make it the happiest holidays with

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HOURS: Monday-Saturday: 10am-5pm, Sunday: Closed

Max Murray attends a Vista Voyagers event where children who are visually impaired or blind were able to touch a whale skeleton at the Seymour Marine Discovery Center in 2019.

As a kid, Murray may not have been able to participate in every activity with his school peers. But over the years, with Vista Center’s program, he’s learned that he could adapt and still lead a fulfilling childhood. It may not have been basketball on the courts but instead martial arts in the dojo.

“I feel a lot better ever since I went to (Vista Center),” Murray said.

Right now, Murray’s in the process of honing his creative skills. (During a tour of Netflix with Vista Voyagers, Murray learned that there’s a whole world of creative fields that are open to people like him.) He’s brainstorming an idea for an alternative reality video game and taking a digital photography class.

His creative aptitude is not so surprising to his mom. Tina remembers the first time her son picked up a digital camera and took thoughtful pictures of the seemingly mundane.

“Max has an incredible eye,” she said.

Email Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at llee@pawweekly.com.
Ravenswood's Care Team

Our doctors provide top-notch comprehensive health care so that our patients can lead healthy and productive lives. Our services include pediatrics, family medicine, women’s health, dentistry, optometry, integrated behavioral health, and much more!

Our dentists provide comprehensive oral health services for all ages.

Our mobile health clinic team is bringing health services directly to our communities.

Our clinic staff ensure our patients have access to the care they need—from scheduling patients’ visits, enrolling patients into health insurance, to coordinating care for patients.

Our COVID team is providing testing and vaccines to our patients and community members to keep everyone safe.

When you join Ravenswood’s care team, you have the power to positively impact the health outcomes of children, families, and individuals that we serve.

Donate online at www.ravenswoodfhn.org/donate

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • December 17, 2021 • Page 9
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.

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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<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Learning Center</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school scholarships</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Non-profits:
Grant application and guidelines at PaloAltoOnline.com/holiday_fund
Application deadline: January 14, 2022
## Thank you, donors

As of December 13th, 224 donors have contributed $276,247 to the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund.

### Businesses & Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Donation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alta Mesa Cemetery &amp; Funeral Home</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Honor Of</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Doris Saxe</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim and Dottie Melberg</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Yonish Alt</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Goodhoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward and Elizabeth Baum</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard Ely</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bodey Roth</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phyllis Zochok</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary S. Ford</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol Berkowitz</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pam Brady</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lily &amp; Philip Gotthner</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Morris</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>August King</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan Matteson</td>
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<td>David Mitchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mason &amp; Ryan</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<td>Ian Halliday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ted Linden</td>
<td>$300</td>
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### As a Gift for

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ned Lundy</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Cleaners</td>
<td>$100</td>
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</table>

### In Memory Of

<table>
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<th>Donation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florence K. Ho</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Donate online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com/holiday_fund/
Take a look back at what happened in your community this year.

From the in-depth coverage that held local government and schools accountable to the events that brought us all back together, we want to celebrate the milestones that defined our year with you.

None of what we accomplished in 2021 would’ve been possible without our members. Thank you for supporting local journalism.

If you have yet to become a member, we hope you will decide to support the Palo Alto Weekly today.

Join now at paloaltonline.com/subscribe/

OUR PATH TO 2022

See our entire 2021 journey, visit: paloaltonline.com/emdesign/year-in-review-2021
Five years after Palo Alto adopted an ambitious goal of cutting carbon emissions by 80% by 2030, the city continues to lag well behind its target by 80% by 2030, the city continues to fall well short of its “80x30” goal. According to the city’s Sustainability Management Branch, the city is currently on a path to reduce its emissions by 47.4% by 2030, with 1990 as the baseline year. Even if Palo Alto enhances telecommuting and greatly expands adoption of electric vehicles, that would only bring the city to 52.2% reductions, still well shy of the 80% target.

“In order to hit up our emission reductions to achieve 80x30, we will need to consider much higher levels of intervention and the resources required to achieve those levels,” Luong told the council Monday during its discussion of the sustainability plan. To determine the city’s path forward, a council ad hoc committee made up of Vice Mayor Pat Burt and council member Ali- son Cormack have been holding regular meetings and workshops over the past year on topics such as sustainable transportation and building electrification. Burt said these meetings have generated new ideas for the city to explore as it seeks to accelerate its electrification efforts.

Burt lauded the Ithaca approach, which relies in part on funding from the financial markets and philanthropic organizations to fund its electrification plan. The consortium in Ithaca is led by the firm BlocPower, which aims to assess each of the city’s roughly 6,000 buildings to determine ways to improve energy efficiency. Potential approaches include “energy retrofitting and the substitution of non-electric thermal loads and air conditioning systems, with air-source and ground-source heat pumps, and the installation of efficient lighting, photovoltaics, and solar thermal systems, onsite storage, smart thermostats and smart meters,” a report from Ithaca states.

Burt suggested the city of Palo Alto continues to explore its own plan, its conversation will similarly consider new funding methods and fresh approaches to permitting, a historic source of frustration for Palo Alto homeowners and contractors doing business in the city. Both subjects will be discussed in upcoming meetings of the Sustainability/Climate Action Plan, ad hoc committee, which has recently launched a program to decarbonize all existing buildings by 2030 and help the city meet its goal of carbon neutrality.

Palo Alto, meanwhile, is proceeding at a far more methodical pace. The city’s new Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, which the City Council unanimously endorsed on Monday, lays out a three-year strategy in which the first year or two are focused primarily on education, community outreach and voluntary action. The council adopted this approach in the face of projections showing that the city continues to fall well short of its “80x30” goal.

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Palo Alto’s plan to build a new public gym received a major boost this week, with an anonymous donor proposing to donate more than $30 million to the city to make the project a reality, Mayor Tom DuBois told the Weekly. DuBois said the donor is looking to help the city build a gym along the lines of the one proposed by the Parks and Recreation Commission, which established a committee earlier this year to evaluate the need for a new gym for the city’s residents. Last month, the commission voted unanimously to recommend advancing the project and exploring ways to fund it.

Jeff LaMere, a parks commissioner who served on the ad hoc committee, said at the Nov. 17 meeting that a gym is something that is “surely lacking for a city of our stature, a city of our wealth.”

“A gym can be an anchor of health and wellness for this community, I think it should be a priority for us,” said LaMere, who coaches boys’ basketball at Palo Alto High.

While the city currently leases gym space at Cubberley Community Center, that facility is on land owned by the Palo Alto Unified School District. A prior proposal to create a new wellness center on Cubberley was included in a master plan for the south Palo Alto campus, though the idea of the city and the school district jointly build- ing such a center has largely been abandoned over the past year. In- stead, the school district is opting to preserve 20 acres of its land for a future high school and potentially transfer the rest of its acreage.

DuBois said the donor was inspired by the commission’s discussion to contribute to a new gym. He noted, however, that the city hasn’t yet discussed any of the key details, including the location of the proposed facility and whether additional funds would be needed. The parks commission had estimated that a new gym would cost about $25 million. The donor expressed an interest in contributing a sum somewhere in the range of $30 million to $35 million. DuBois said.

Under the commission’s proposed concept, the new gym would feature three courts capable of accommodating a variety of sports, including basketball, volleyball, pickleball, indoor soccer, badminton and table tennis, as well as exercise rooms and meeting rooms for small gatherings. The gym proposed by the donor, DuBois said, is consistent with the commission’s vision.

DuBois said he learned about the proposal last week, when he received a phone call from the donor. On Thursday morning, the donor had initial discussions with city staff. DuBois said the plan will be fleshed out further early next year, when the full council gets its first chance to discuss the project.

Even so, DuBois said he wanted to notify the community about the proposed donation before plans advance too much further.
Parents of middle school students throughout the Palo Alto Unified School District will get a chance to apply for their children to attend Ellen Fletcher Middle School next fall, as the district moves forward with an enrollment lottery in an effort to shore up the school's student population.

The district’s Board of Education voted unanimously at its Tuesday, Dec. 14, meeting to authorize staff to hold an intra-district lottery at Fletcher for the 2022-2023 school year.

Administrators haven’t yet decided exactly how many spots will be available as part of the district lottery at Fletcher for the 2022-2023 school year. If there aren’t enough students to justify multiple schools because there weren’t enough students to justify a full teacher at Fletcher, Austin told the Weekly.

The move is an attempt to increase enrollment at the school, which has dipped below 520 students, despite the campus having capacity for over 700, according to background information from district staff.

Unless changes are made, enrollment could “conceptually drop” below 500 students next year, the board’s meeting agenda states.

Fletcher’s enrollment has declined by roughly one-third since 2015 and sits well below those of the district’s two other middle schools. According to data the district collected in October, 820 students attend Frank S. Greene Jr. Middle School and 979 are at Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School.

The shrinking population at Fletcher has caused the school to lose support staff and has “limited some programs,” according to the meeting agenda. Some teachers are now being split between multiple schools because there weren’t enough students to justify a full teacher at Fletcher, Austin told the Weekly.

The board members first heard the superintendent’s proposal to create an enrollment lottery for Fletcher at their Nov. 16 meeting and were supportive of the idea. At Tuesday’s meeting, the lottery plan passed unanimously with little board discussion and no members of the public turning out to speak.

“I appreciate staff’s work on this — both Fletcher staff and district staff — and I’m excited to see where it goes this year,” board member Jennifer DiBrienza said.

Those who are admitted to Fletcher through the lottery will also be considered for the district’s High School. The lottery doesn’t impact existing attendance boundaries.

Austin acknowledged at the Nov. 16 meeting that the lottery may not be sufficient on its own to address the school’s enrollment issues and that additional action may be needed in future years.

An informational meeting about the lottery plan is slated to be held over Zoom from 6-7 p.m. on Jan. 26.

Families will receive more information after the winter break about the information night and lottery process, Austin said.

Board elects leaders

The school board also voted at Tuesday’s meeting to elect new leadership for the upcoming year. Ken Dauber was unanimously picked to replace Shounak Dharap as the board’s president. Dauber has served as vice president for the past year and previously served as president in 2018.

After being elected, Dauber thanked Dharap for leading the board through 2021, acknowledg- ing that it has been an unusually difficult year.

“I want to particularly note. Mr. Dharap, your skill and steadfastness in helping to navigate the district through the COVID-19 pandemic and then the reopening, I think we were well-served by Mr. DiBrienza being in that role,” Dauber said.

The board members also unanimously picked Jennifer DiBrienza as its vice president for the upcoming year. In Palo Alto Unified, the vice president also serves as the board’s clerk. DiBrienza previously served as vice president in 2019.

Dauber was first elected to the board in 2014 and is currently serving his second term on the board, which expires in 2022. DiBrienza was elected in 2015 and is also currently serving her second term, which expires in 2024.

Email Staff Writer Zoe Morgan zmorgan@paweekly.com.

Answers to this week’s puzzles, which can be found on page 31.
Here, we don’t just live life—we lead it.

Welcome to independent living for independent thinkers. Fun, fascinating people and an active lifestyle that helps the mind, body and spirit thrive. And a stable future that gives you the freedom to seize the day, every day. Welcome to retirement at Channing House, where apartments are available now and you can schedule your personal tour by calling 650-529-4871.
Hotel taxes, a critical revenue source for funding the city’s infrastructures, were also on an upswing. While they remained about 53.15% below pre-pandemic levels in the first quarter of FY 2022, they were also 27.9% higher (or about $1 million higher) than during the same period in 2021, when the shelter-in-place order was in effect and transit was significantly restricted.

The city’s report on revenues cites the city’s strong performance in the second and third quarters of FY 2021 and the city’s expectation that “this will continue into calendar year 2022 and beyond, albeit at a slower growth rate, as progress on vaccinations allow economic activity to resume and/or businesses are able to spend down shuts-down sectors like restaurants, hotels, entertainment, and travel.”

According to the report, the city's taxes were 22.9% higher in the first quarter of FY 2022, which represent about 25% of the general fund revenues (they are, as such, the largest revenue source) and are also expected to bounce back from $30.6 million in the current year to $32.3 million in FY 2023 and $34.4 million in FY 2024. The city’s revenue forecast continues until 2032, when city projects $43 million in property tax revenue.

The City Council’s Finance Committee, which discussed and approved the forecast at its Dec. 7 meeting, welcomed the new projection. The city also acknowledged that the surpluses in the forecast are unlikely to be achieved. That’s because the main drivers of the current surpluses, which are the current staffing levels, an assumption that would not hold up if the council moves toward restoring the services that it reduced during the pandemic.

The forecast also does not include the cost of major infrastructure projects, including improvements along the railroad corridor, the reconstruction of the city’s animal shelter and renovations to Cubberley Keyes Library.

The biggest wild card, however, is labor costs. The forecast assumes a 2% salary increase for every labor group in every year of the forecast. That projection, however, is based on a hypothetical model rather than actual employee contract negotiations. Council members will see major differences between the numbers in the forecast and those in the budgets that the council adopted every year. Filseth noted that the city’s expenditures have been cut during the pandemic.

The current budget’s discussion, both Vice Mayor Pat Burt and council member Eric Filseth said, has led them to consider what the council’s expenditures have traditionally been and what it will take to put more money into the city’s general fund to cover the services that it reduced during the pandemic.

“We have to discuss every time what we think are the priorities,” Burt said. “If we desire to add back everything that the community used to have … it’s worth thinking about: Were those exactly the right things? Do we want more of some things and less of others?”

Cormack concurred and said that the council should rethink what services it has to provide and what services it can contract out.

“The city’s performance for 2021 will be the jumping off point for the new council’s work,” Cormack said. “That’s an important thing to discuss because things have changed.”

**Economy**

(continued from page 5)

**Public Notices**

995 fictitious business name statement
GIANT LEAP MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS
GIANT LEAP BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN808187
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
[Redacted]
Giant Leap Management Solutions, located at 320 Victoria Place, Palo Alto, CA 94306, is doing business as:
[Redacted]
This business is owned by:
An Individual.

997 all other legals
AMEND
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
Case No. CV1368699 in the superior court of the State of California for the County of San Joaquin

999 New business
GEORGE NOROIAN
This business is owned by: An Individual.

NINNY CONSULTING
NINNY REALTY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. FBN886088
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1) Ninny Consulting, 2) Ninny Realty, located at 2353 Thompson Court, Mountain View, CA 94043, is doing business as:
[Redacted]
This business is owned by:
A Limited Liability Partnership.

NINNY MANAGEMENT
NINNY REALTY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. FBN886089
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1) Ninny Consulting, 2) Ninny Management, 3) Ninny Realty, located at 2353 Thompson Court, Mountain View, CA 94043, is doing business as:
[Redacted]
This business is owned by:
A Limited Liability Partnership.

NINNY MANAGEMENT
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are):
NETHREE PRIPRES, LLC
2353 Thompson Court
Mount View, CA 94043
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/01/2011.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
ANN E. KANE also known as ANN E. KANE
The petition requests authority to administer the estate of the decedent.

LINDA ANN KANE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The personal representative will administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This act will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval.) The personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the personal representative administering the estate. The personal representative will be granted an extension of time to file an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
01/18/2022, 8:45 a.m., Dept. 13 Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, Address of Court: 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA 95113.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by attorney.

If you are a creditor or a creditor and recipient of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court before the hearing. You may also file a request for service of a copy of the notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file your request for a Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets. Your request for a Special Notice should file with the court clerk.

The court will order to show cause why the court should not grant the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months after the date of mailing or delivery of a copy of the notice to a creditor, or (2) after the hearing.

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
Barbara F. Wright
350 Patrick Drive, Suite 175
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 327-0888

Any other buildings besides the incinerator also served as temporary classrooms during the pandemic. The city’s newly rebuilt high school, which opened to the public last month, also benefited from a $15 million donation from the Peery family.

*Email Staff Writer Jennady Sheynery at gsh@paweekly.com.*

**Gym**

(from continued page 13)

“I want to be very transparent,” DuBois said. “I don’t want to be in a situation where we’re closed for a long time and then are sprung on the public.”

DuBois acknowledged that the do- nor’s proposal does not call for any other buildings besides the gym. It would also require the city to provide the gym with additional facilities as well as some funding.

The parks commission has explored several potential locations for a new gym, which was identi- fied as a need in the city’s 2017 parks master plan. The two most promising sites, according to the commission, are the Baylands Athletic Center, which includes 10.5 acres that became available after the city reconstructed its golf course, and the Ventura neighborhood, which has long been identified as defici- ent in recreational amenities and is currently the focus of its own master plan.

If the gym plan advances, Palo Alto’s new recreational space will replace a large number of major projects that advanced be- cause of major community dona- tions. The Peery Foundation do- nated $15 million to allow Palo Alto High School to build a new athletic center, which opened in 2017. The city’s newly rebuilt Junior Museum and Zoo, which opened to the public last month, also benefited from a $15 million donation from the Peery family.

*Email Staff Writer Jennady Sheynery at gsh@paweekly.com.*

**The Palo Alto Weekly is published in Santa Clara County**

Public Hearing Notices • Resolutions • Bid Notices • Lien Sale Notices of Petition to Administer Estate • Trustee’s Sale

Deadline is Tuesday at noon.

Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email asantillan@paweekly.com for assistance with your legal advertising needs.
Kidney
(continued from page 5)
understanding of classmates with
disabilities and a sense of inclu-
siveness. But as they progressed
through middle and high school, she
and Scher met only when
was in a class for students with
middle and high school, she and
were really good friends,” she
Now 45 years old, Quacken-
bush and Scher meet only when
their families get together during
holidays. They last saw each other
on Thanksgiving 2019, prior to
the COVID-19 outbreak.
Five months later, in April
2020, Quackenbush, who had
been in kidney failure for 14
years, started receiving dialysis.
He had just 10% kidney function.
His mother, Marge, wrote an
email letter to neighbors, rela-
tives, old friends and their chil-
dren and people with whom she’d
worked asking if they might con-
sider donating a kidney. She read
that many people were willing to
donate if they are only asked, she
said.
“It has been difficult to write
this letter, but I’m sure you would
do the same for your child,” she
wrote.
Marge said she wasn’t sure
how such a request would be
received. Some people didn’t re-
spond; others offered sympathy.

One neighbor, David Oshima,
immediately wrote an affirming
response supporting her initiative.
“You don’t know how much
that means to me,” she said.
But no one had a kidney to of-
fer. Still, Marge didn’t lose hope.
“I am a very determined per-
son, and I’m determined to take
action. I didn’t think so much
about failure as about what I was
going to do. You’ve got to have a
plan of action in order to carry it
through,” she said.
“You have to find that needle
in the haystack — and Suzie was
that needle.”
Scher said she had always
thought about being a donor. She
stipulated so on her driver’s li-
cense in the event that she died. In
2020, she signed up to be a bone
marrow donor, but she hasn’t been
called, she said.
Then she learned about Marge’s
search for a kidney donor.
“This hit me differently, I
thought, ‘Here’s my chance.’”
Getting a kidney from a de-
ceded donor can take five to sev-
enteen years, Scher said.
While on dialysis, living on
dialysis can take its toll. The
strain on the body can increase
the chances of complications such
as stroke after a transplant said
Dr. Steven Katznelson, nephro-
golist and medical director of kid-
ney transplants at Sutter’s Cali-
fornia Pacific Medical Center.
About 25% of transplants come
from a live donor, Katznelson said.
A kidney from a live do-
nor is better because it has been
in the recipient’s body until the
last minute and the surgery can be
planned.
The shorter the period of time
one is on dialysis, the better
the chances are that the donated kid-
ney won’t be rejected, Katznelson
said.
Technology is better now.
Kidney rejection occurs in about
8% of cases compared to earlier
transplants that failed, about 50%
of the time, he said.
Kidney failure can sneak up
without its victims being aware.
Often, patients complain of tired-
ness, and the problem is found
during routine testing, Katznel-
sen said. In some cases, there’s
no clear cause.
Marge said she didn’t know
for many years that her only child
had kidney issues.
“My son and I both just about
fainted,” she said, after learning
from a nephrologist of her son’s
condition.
Quackenbush lived 14 years un-
til his kidneys failed to the
point of needing dialysis, Marge
said.

Scher started Googling about
kidney transplants in February
2021. Her husband was support-
ive. She had her blood typed for a
match with Quackenbush and un-
dependent surgery, an electro-
cardiogram, urine and blood tests.
“There was no pressure,” she
said of the California Pacific
medical team. “They said, ‘We
want to make sure this is your
choice.’”
Scher never had any pushback
from her family about her deci-
sion, she said.
“This was something I was
pulled to do,” she recalled. “If I
can give him better health because
I’m healthy, that’s what I want to
do. He’s sweet, calm, highly in-
telligent, thoughtful guy.”
In August, she learned she was
a suitable match and they had a
date for the roughly 3 1/2-hour
surgery. Scher asked the trans-
plant coordinator if she could be
the one to tell Quackenbush. She
was told while he was having
dinner at his parents’ home.
“They were so shocked it was
going to happen. They had had a
delayed release from the donor that
took place, though,” she said.
“It was almost disbelieving,” Marge
said, when the family learned Scher
would be the donor.
The two friends reunited in
pre-op just two days before the
surgery. Scher’s husband stayed
home to take care of their two
children, ages 4 1/2 and 6 1/2.
Scher and her mother, Trina Lov-
ечек, stayed at the Courtyard
Marriott across the street from the
hospital.
On the morning of the surgery,
Quackenbush and Scher walked
together with their parents to the
hospital.
“It was a great feeling,” he said.

It took a few hours for Quack-
enbush to have one last dialysis
treatment before the transplant.
The surgeon then came in and
signed the left side of Scher’s ab-
domen, the side where they would
remove the kidney.
Scher remembered that a friend
who received a procedure at the
hospital had listened to music
while in the operating room. She
asked to listen to Pink’s “Cover
Me In Sunshine” as she waited on
the surgical table.
Scher even remembered the first
notes of the song, she said, as the
anesthetic took hold.
When she awoke, she was in the
hospital room, one kidney lighter.
The next day she visited Quacken-
bush in his room, and he already looked
better.
Six weeks later, Scher has
minimal pain and is regaining
strength. She can drive again and
was able to work.
Quackenbush recalled his trans-
plant experience.
“Everyone in the hospital was
very friendly and caring. They even
went out of their way to put a sign
on the door of the room that they
needed to introduce themselves because I’m so tall. Every time
there was a shift change, the first
nurse who came in would introduce
herself to me. She was so nice.”
Quackenbush now has three
kidneys to Scher’s one, since
doctors didn’t remove the failing
one. He said he has much more
energy now. His skin tone has re-
turned to a healthy hue and he’s
not so tired.
He is back to taking long
walks and working remotely at
his job as the assistant donation
coordinator for the Ecumenical
Hunger Program. He’s likely to
return to work after the New
Year, he said.
“Suzette — she’s doing great.
She’s doing exactly what she’s
supposed to be doing. I woke up
and she started doing what she’s
supposed to be doing almost im-
mediately,” he said.
“It’s an extremely wonderful
gift,” he said.

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Online This Week
These and other news stories were posted on Palo Alto Online throughout the week. For longer versions, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news.

Menlo Park fire district to appoint new chief
The Menlo Park Fire Protection District board of directors will be asked to appoint Mark Lorenzen as the district’s new chief next week. (Posted Dec. 15, 12:21 p.m.)

City seeks dismissal of suit over BLM mural
The city of Palo Alto is asking the court to dismiss a lawsuit from a group of police officers over a Black Lives Matter mural that the city commissioned in 2020 and that the officers claimed constituted harassment and discrimination. (Posted Dec. 15, 12:07 p.m.)

City shakes up commissions
Three influential Palo Alto commissions are in for major chang-
es after a series of resignations and an unusually convoluted ap-
pointment process. The City Council on Monday made a series of
appointments to the Planning and Transportation Commission, the
Architectural Review Board and the Parks and Recreation Com-
mission. (Posted Dec. 15, 9:45 a.m.)

County begins search for a new clinic site
For residents living in the north county and west valley, Santa
Clara County is on the hunt for a property that can be converted
into a full-scale health center. If built, it would be the only county-
operated health care facility located in supervisorial District 5. (Posted Dec. 14, 4:31 p.m.)

Patrick Ahrens new Foothill board president
The Foothill-De Anza Community College District board of
trustees elected Patrick Ahrens as its new president and Laura
Casas as vice president at a meeting on Monday. (Posted Dec. 14,
12:54 p.m.)

Foothill-De Anza narrows down election maps
The Foothill-De Anza Community College District board of
trustees has whittled its options for how to divide the district into
areas for trustee elections, advancing two draft maps during its
Monday board meeting. (Posted Dec. 14, 9:01 a.m.)

Palo Alto city workers granted extra time off
City workers in Palo Alto received a holiday gift from the City
Council on Monday night: three paid days off. (Posted Dec. 13,
11:31 p.m.)

California mandates masks again
Starting Wednesday, Californians once again were required to
wear masks indoors in public places regardless of vaccination
status, state health officials announced. (Posted Dec. 13, 3:18 p.m.)

Woman loses car to burglar while asleep
was Palo Alto police investigating an occupied home burglary
that occurred on the morning of Dec. 9, when a woman woke up
to find her car missing from her driveway. (Posted Dec. 12, 8:28 a.m.)
Notice is hereby given that the governing board ("Board") of the Palo Alto Unified School District ("District") will receive sealed bids for the following project,

**Contract Name:** EL CARMELO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MODERNIZATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

**Contract No.:** Bid No. EC-22

**DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK:** Site demolition for a new single-story wood/structural steel Multi-Purpose Building. Site improvements include underground utilities, fencing paving and restoration of field. Existing/original multi-purpose building renovation to new classrooms.


To bid on this Project, the Bidder is required to possess one or more of the following State of California contractors’ license(s): B; or as appropriate for this scope of work. The Bidder’s license(s) must remain active and in good standing throughout the term of the Contract.

To bid on this Project, the Bidder is required to be registered as a public works contractor with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Title 8 of the Labor Code.

A MANDATORY PRE-BID conference and site visit will be held on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 10AM, at the EL Carmelo Elementary School Campus located at 3024 Bryant St, Palo Alto, CA 94306. All attendees sign in at the campus Administration Building. Failure to attend or tardiness will render bidder ineligible.

Contract Documents will be available on or after December 20, 2021 for review online – copy and paste the following link into your browser:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RxbrK-ePqF9izwQiOyAmPdZwo1nEtDuzs?sh=sharing

In addition, Contract Documents are available at various builders’ exchanges – ask for plan houses at the District’s Facilities Office.

Hardcopy Contract DocumentsSets are also available for purchase for Five Hundred Fifty dollars ($500) at ARC Document Solutions 829 Cherry Lane San Carlos, CA 94070, (650) 631-2310. This fee is refundable if the Contract Documents are returned in clean condition back to the District Facilities Office no later than ten (10) calendar days after the date of the bid opening.

The District will only receive bids submitted electronically. Bids will be opened until Tuesday, January 18, 2022 – 2:00PM, only at the following email address vneloro@pausd.org after which time the bids will be opened and tabulated for public viewing – contact vneloro@pausd.org to request. Any bid that is submitted after this time shall be nonresponsive and returned to the bidder.

Each bidder is solely responsible for timely submission of its bid; the District is not responsible for any technological issues in a bidder’s ability to timely submit its bid or portion thereof. Any claim by a bidder of error in its bid must be made in compliance with §5100 et seq. of the Public Contract Code. Prior to publicly posting bids on the District website, the District reserves the right to verify the genuineness of any bid security.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code §20111.6 AND California Assembly Bill (AB) 1565 (effective January 1, 2014), ALL General Contractors and M/E/P Subcontractors must be prequalified, if the project is valued at $1 million or more, and funded whole or in part with State Facility Bond funds. Any bid submitted by a bidder who is not prequalified shall be non-responsive and returned unopened to the bidder. Moreover, any bid listing subcontractors holding C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-36, or C-43 licenses, if used, who have not been prequalified, shall be deemed nonresponsive and will not be considered.

Palo Alto Unified School District has engaged Quality Bidders Inc. to process prequalification. Please see qualitybidders.com for information to be prequalified.

All bids shall be on the form provided by the District. Each bid must conform and be responsive to all pertinent Contract Documents, including, but not limited to, the instructions to Bidders.

A legible photocopy of (i) bid bond by an admitted surety insurer on the form provided by the District (ii) a cashier’s check or (iii) a certified check, drawn to the order of the Palo Alto Unified School District, in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total bid price, shall accompany the Bid Form and Proposal, as a guarantee that the Bidder will, within seven (7) calendar days after the date of the Notice of Award, enter into a contract with the District for the performance of the services as stipulated in the bid. Bidder must deposit the original of the bid bond, cashier’s check, or certified check in the mail on the same day as the bid opening. Bids without necessary bid security will be deemed nonresponsive and will be rejected.

The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish a 100% Performance Bond and a 100% Payment Bond if it is awarded the Contract for the Work.

Pursuant to Education Code §17550, the District is requiring the Bidder to purchase and to remove from the school grounds all old materials required by the specifications to be removed from any existing school building on the same school grounds and not required for school purposes. The District shall pay to the Bidders the amount which he or she will deduct from the bid price for the work as the purchase price of the old materials. The board shall let the contract to any responsible bidder whose net bid is the lowest or shall reject all bids.

The successful Bidder may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under the Contract, in accordance with the provisions of §22300 of the Public Contract Code.

The successful bidder will be required to certify that it either meets the Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise ("DVBE") goal of three percent (3%) participation or made a good faith effort to DVBE participation in this Contract if it is awarded the Contract for the Work.

The Contractor and all Subcontractors under the Contractor shall pay all workers on all Work performed pursuant to this Contract not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to §1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are also available from the District or on the Internet at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>.

This Project is subject to labor compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code §1771.4 and subject to the requirements of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations. The successful Bidder shall comply with all requirements of Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1, Articles 1-5 of the Labor Code.

The District shall award the Contract, if it awards it at all, to the lowest responsive responsible bidder based on the sum of the base bid and all alternates.

All questions can be addressed to:

Palo Alto Unified School District
25 Churchill Avenue, Building D, Palo Alto, CA 94306-1099
Attn: Miles Cappello, Phone: (650) 329-3927
Fax: (650) 327-3588, Email: miles@pasd3h.com
Mary Frances Smith
September 25, 1920 – December 5, 2021

Mary Frances (Raple) Smith passed away gently in her home in Palo Alto, CA on December 5, 2021. She was 101 years old, and led a full life filled with family, love, and prayer.

Mary was born on September 25, 1920, and grew up on a farm outside of Andale, KS during the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. She went to school in a one-room schoolhouse. After graduating from high school, she enrolled in nursing school in Wichita, KS and joined the U.S. Navy. She completed bootcamp and nursing training in Balboa Hospital in San Diego, CA. Later, she achieved the rank of lieutenant, while serving in Pearl Harbor, HI. After WWII ended, she was transferred to US Naval Hospital in Memphis, TN where she was honorably discharged.

While stationed at Mare Island in Vallejo, CA, she met her future husband Ray Smith and they started a family in San Francisco, CA. They eventually settled in Palo Alto, where Mary became a full-time homemaker while raising their three children. She later returned to school to renew her nurse's license, and then worked as a nurse at the Palo Alto Nursing Center for 20+ years.

Preceded in death by her parents; George and Barbara Raple, brothers; John, Francis, Andrew, Louis, and George; sisters; Margaret, Thiefrey, Margaret Rucker, and Barbara Surovic; and cousins; Joe Merrill, Edward Merrill and Mary Elizabeth Murphy who were raised by Mary's parents.

Mary is survived by her children Gail Enyean and husband Jack; Roger Smith and wife Maria Lilbith and Daniel Smith and wife Nancy and grandsons; Christopher and Bradley Smith.

Mary will be best remembered as a soft-spoken, kind, and thoughtful person, who enjoyed baking with her grandsons, reading the newspaper, sewing, completing word search puzzles, and taking walks with her neighbors. She had a lovely garden that won a "Best of Palo Alto" landscape. Her family and Catholic faith were the most important aspects of her life. Mary is dearly loved and will be sadly missed, and her kindness, love and support will be with us forever. She was laid to rest in a private service at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto, CA on Dec. 13, 2021.

Margaret Green
October 16, 1933 – December 10, 2021

Margaret, Marnie, Marg, Mom, Mum, Grandmama, wife of Paul B. Green (1931-1999), mother of Robert (Ann), Peter (Rebecca) and Kate; grandmother to Nancy (Albert), Stephanie, Amy, and Jenny, Stewart, Jessie, and Grace, Fiona and Miranda, passed on December 10 after a brief illness. She was 88.

Margaret was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada to W. Gordon and Jessie E. Cornett (Ewart) in October 1933, a younger sister to Dr. Robert W. G. Cornett (1928-2003). Her lifelong love of lakes and mountains began as a young girl while her father was a summer camp doctor in the 1940’s. Margaret and her mother were able to spend the whole summer canoeing and swimming in various parts of Eastern Ontario. As a teen, she attended Glenn Bernard Summer Camp in Algonquin Park.

Margaret was a true renaissance woman, excelling in everything she turned her hand to, most notably the sciences. She was the only woman to graduate with a Major in Biology in her class at Queen’s Art and Science School. Deemed the most promising woman graduate that year, she was awarded the Marty Scholarship to begin a Ph.D. at Radcliffe College, Harvard. Around the labs, she met Paul and after an outing to a professional hockey game (her first), and a hike, the future was pretty clear. They married in 1957 and departed for 18 months based in Zurich where Paul had a postdoctoral position.

The travel theme got a good start in those years: they skied and hiked and drove all over Europe. By 1960, they were back in the US, and started family life with the arrival of Robert, Peter and Kate. In 1970, the family moved to California, settling at Stanford where Paul was a Biology Professor at Stanford University. With a number of sabbatical leaves (New Zealand, Australia, England and Belgium) Margaret kept all the logistics, flights, moves, kids activities and her own interests well in hand. An avid wool spinner, knitter and later on a lace maker, Margaret belonged to many craft, service, and book clubs and was a 30 plus year member of the Choir at The First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) was a particular anchor for her interests and activities in later life.

The home of Paul, Margaret and their children was often full to overflowing with visiting students, researchers or friends from abroad. A constant flow of omelette waffles was available on Saturday and Sunday mornings in the big kitchen with its view of the hills to the west of the Stanford Campus. Long and adventurous or short and relaxing hikes to peaks and viewpoints in the Sierras were enjoyed by all over those many years.

Many visitors to the home on the Stanford campus would have seen the famous “map” with a colored pin for the places each family member (children, in-laws and grandchil- dren) had traveled. Margaret had a pin in 78 countries by best estimate—and had pictures, slides, crafts and a t-shirt from almost every one. Most of her travel was with Paul, and after his passing, with lovely family and friends. His memory was with her on all travels, and indeed everyday.

A proud dual citizen since 1974, Margaret kept deep and daily connections to Canada via her extended family of in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Maple leaf shaped earrings were her talisman on airline flights. A Canadian flag was always somewhere in the house and her room.

A Memorial Service is planned for Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. PST at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto, 185 Louis Road. Those joining us on Zoom can connect at https://zoom.us/j/670796753?pwd=cTBiY0toMUl1WmRoZjFFRUl4c3J6dz09.

Donations to celebrate Margaret’s life and love of the outdoors could be made to the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, where she was a docent for many years, or to any place near to you that cares for wildlands.
Wendyce Hull Brody
January 28, 1947 – November 25, 2021

Wendyce Hull Brody, 74, known as Wendy, passed away peacefully in her sleep in the early hours of the morning on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2021, while visiting her grand-children in Lake Placid, NY.

Above all, Wendy will be remembered for her warm and friendly nature, her selfless devotion to others, her phenomenal athleticism in sports such as tennis, skiing, hiking and road cycling, and her dedication to charitable organizations.

She carried herself with grace, always wearing her signature red lipstick – even while tackling a challenging wilderness hike. She was a loving, hands-on mother and grandmother, and her grandchildren will deeply miss their beloved Nana.

Wendy was born on January 28, 1947 in Fresno, CA. After battling a severe childhood episode of meningitis, she moved with her family to Stockton, CA where she spent the rest of her childhood. She attended Stagg High School where she was an athlete, a student council officer, a song girl, and a homecoming princess. She learned to ski on trips with her family to the mountains around Lake Tahoe, CA. Wendy would later return to these mountains, spending summer and winter vacations and hosting friends and family at her home in Alpine Meadows. During her undergraduate education at Mills College in Oakland, CA, she studied abroad in Aix-en-Provence, France, an experience that formed her lifelong love of art, music, food, and travel. After graduating with a degree in economics in 1968, she married her Stockton neighbor William R. Brody, known as Bill, and moved to Palo Alto, CA where he completed his MD and PhD at Stanford, followed by brief stints in Washington DC and San Francisco, CA.

Wendy’s career as an economist included work at SRI in Palo Alto and the Social Security Administration in Washington DC. While there, in 1974, she authored a classic study titled ‘The Economic Value of a Housewife’ that was used to compute the economic contribution of people who were not directly in the workforce. After that she worked at University of California San Francisco under Phil Lee, former U.S. Health and Human Services Director.

For the next 10 years, Wendy and Bill lived in Palo Alto, where she was a co-founder of Gamble Garden and a member of The Garden Club of Palo Alto along with other community groups.

Wendy and Bill moved to Baltimore, MD in 1987, where Bill became Chairman of Radiology at Johns Hopkins University, followed by thirteen years as President of Johns Hopkins University from 1996-2009. During this time, Wendy served as a University Representative, hosting numerous groups of students, professors and dignitaries who came to the Hopkins campus. She also served as a docent and Board member of the Walters Museum and a volunteer at a local school library. After Bill’s retirement they moved to La Jolla, CA where Bill became President of the Salk Institute. Johns Hopkins built the Brody Learning Commons, dedicated to Bill and Wendy’s contributions to the University, in 2012.

While living in La Jolla, Wendy was a member of the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego and the La Jolla Music Society. She did volunteer work at the Torrey Pines State Nature Reserve and at the University of California San Diego Cancer Garden. She was a member of the Village Garden Club of La Jolla as well as St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church. She also served on the Board of Directors of Mills College from 2006 to 2016. After her divorce from Bill, Wendy moved into the White Sands community of La Jolla.

Wendy is survived by her daughter Ingrid Brody Bateman of New York, NY, and her son John Brody of Alpine Meadows, CA, as well as her son-in-law, Justin Bateman, and grandchildren William, Elina and Ida Bateman. She also survived by two sisters, Christine Georgeson and a brother, Tupper Hull of Sacramento, CA, and a sister, Christine Georgeson and a brother, Tupper Hull of Sacramento, CA.

A memorial service will be held in early January in La Jolla, California. For details please contact the family at brodygengmail.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name at the Torrey Pines Conservancy: https://www.torreypines.org/donate/wendybrody/.
In response to ‘City shakes up commissions with new appointments’
Posted Dec. 15 at 3:02 p.m. by Rebecca Eisenberg, a resident of Old Palo Alto:

“This was not a shake-up, although Palo Alto sure could use one! As to Michael Alcheck leaving the Planning and Transportation Commission, his departure will make little difference and could reduce meeting professionalism. Alcheck is a commercial developer by profession, and his personal and business interests will remain represented by the two corporate attorneys on the commission who represent commercial developers for a living. Those two lawyers have proven their loyalty to their client base over the past years by means of delivering a series of unprecedented and undeserved windfalls to billionaire real estate investors and commercial developers.

There are no other types of lawyers on the commission, so for years, the other members of the commission — and the public — have heard only landlords’ and commercial developers’ interpretations of the law — interpretations that diverge profoundly from lawyers who represent communities and small businesses for a living. Although representing community interests is something that is taken on by ombudspersons (or city attorneys) in better-run cities, here in Palo Alto, our leadership takes biased statements made by paid representatives of commercial developers as gospel — or not they recognize that this is, in fact, what they are doing.

As to City Council’s failure to appoint members to the Architectural Review Board, there must be another reason, as lack of requisite skills and experiences has never prevented City Council from making appointments in the past.

If past appointments are any indication, the skills and experiences most important to City Council members are those of rubber-stamping their political agendas. Given how increasingly out-of-touch City Council decisions are with the majority of community sentiment, chances are that City Council will have an increasingly difficult time finding ‘qualified’ candidates in the future — at least without directly recruiting allies and supporters — no doubt what they are doing now.”

In response to ‘Castilleja School’s new plan to rebuild campus gets mixed response’
Posted Dec. 9 at 6:55 p.m. by Trisha Savari, a resident of Duveneck/St. Francis:

“Plain and simple. Castilleja needs to modernize. They have revised their plans numerous times, and the loud voices of only some of the neighbors are holding up the entire project. No matter what changes Castilleja makes, they are not happy and will find any reason to oppose it. While Castilleja has been here longer than the houses and I do not think they need to relocate, I like Leland J’s comment on Town Square about selling the land to a developer. Be careful what you wish for neighbors. You are complaining about construction for a year or two, but what about constriction for affordable housing with underground parking in your neighborhood? I bet you wouldn’t be able to fight that project! Schools deserve to be in neighborhoods, not Castilleja modernize, and let this project get underway.”

In response to ‘Pets in Need board member assumes interim executive director role’
Posted Dec. 6 at 11:03 a.m. by Jon Castor, a resident of Woodside:

“I’m very glad to see this development. Pets in Need is fortunate to have such a qualified board member who is also willing to step into the interim role at such a critical time.”

In response to ‘Marissa Mayer’s plans to redevelop property are delayed by housing-protection laws’
Posted Dec. 3 at 10:56 p.m. by Allen Akin, a resident of Professorville:

“Marissa and Zach are getting press at the moment, but just a couple of blocks away, there’s Brian Acton’s compound. A few blocks east, there’s Mark Zuckerberg and Patricia Chan and their compound. A few blocks south, there’s Larry Page’s compound where the fire occurred recently. And then there’s Laurene (Powell) Jobs’ house with the security detail always present at the vacant lot across the street. Alex Karp has a noticeably strange house a few blocks west. There’s the place with the two-story basement, machine shop and firing range on Waverley Street. There are more I haven’t mentioned, and I’m sure more I don’t know about. My neighbors and I used to joke about accidentally violating security-zone boundaries as we walked our kids to school at Addition Elementary. The neighborhoods downtown are changing in ways far beyond the usual concerns of affordability and density, I’m not sure what to make of it.”

Letters

Castilleja re-imagined
Editor,
I support slow-growing in Palo Alto and carefully considering our city’s future. As such, I want to point out that Castilleja’s project is thoughtful and is not an expansion. The building footprints will be smaller than what Castilleja has now. The visual improvement is long overdue. The buildings that currently line Kellogg, Bryant and Emerson streets are from the 1960s and unappealing. Preserve Speiker Field for fitness and sports for girls, not for parking.

Carol C. Friedman
Lowell Avenue, Palo Alto

Back to the drawing board
Editor,
According to the July 23 Fehr & Peers Castilleja Parking Study commissioned by Castilleja School, an underground parking garage of any size is not necessary. Fehr & Peers indicate they have “monitored the peak period generation, on-site parking, and on-street parking adjacent to Castilleja since 2012.”

On Page 1, this report indicated Alternative 4 (the Disburbed Circulation/No Garage Alternative) would meet the city’s municipal code requirements providing 104 parking spaces, which is based on the number of teaching stations. At an enrollment of 540 students, the analysis using the school’s parking data concludes that on an average day, there would be adequate parking. At peak demand, there would be a small shortage in parking (10 vehicles) that could be addressed through valet parking. Therefore, as discussed above, based on historical parking data, information from other institutions and available published industry standards, 104 parking spaces would be appropriate for an enrollment of 540 students.

On Page 5, the report details the location of all 330 on-street parking spaces comprising 54 school-frontage parking spaces and 276 non-frontage parking spaces.

On Page 15, Fehr & Peers discusses future parking demand and on pages 19-23 discusses municipal codes, a 20% and 9% parking reduction proposals, transportation demand management (TDM) strategies, and parking/parent/student TDM measures and staff/employee/faculty TDM measures. Since the long-term parking and traffic consultants Fehr &Peers concluded a garage is not necessary, I hope the Planning and Transportation Commission and City Council also will.

Since an underground garage is not supported by the Fehr & Peers report, Castilleja’s submitted expansion plans need to return to the drawing board and remove the unnecessary garage.

Rita Vrhel
Channing Avenue, Palo Alto

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

? Should government employees return to the office five days a week?

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.

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

For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lue at llee@paweekly.com or 650-223-6526 or Editor Jocelyn Dong at editor@paweekly.com.
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Meta
Mountain View-based horn ensemble Quadre has been presenting its Horns for the Holidays concert for over 20 years, but this local tradition had a surprisingly humble beginning for a professional group — one that seems in keeping with the good spirits of the holiday season.

“When we first got started, it was a group of friends getting together and it would just be fun to play a bunch of holiday music — and the horn is just such a quintessential instrument for this time of the year,” said Daniel Wood, a founder of Quadre.

Those gatherings grew into performances at churches and then concert halls. Now Wood and the group’s three other members, Amy Jo Rhine, Lydia Van Dreel and Adam Unsworth, will take the stage for the 23rd edition of “Horns for the Holidays.” The concert is taking place Dec. 21, 7 p.m. at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts.

For those seeking a virtual experience, the ensemble will also perform the night before, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. in a free livestreamed concert offered by City Lights Theater Company as part of the San Jose-based theater company’s “The Next Stage” virtual series. The performance for City Lights will be an hour of highlights from Horns for the Holidays.

Many of the “Horns” concerts over the years have included guest artists and some have even brought in groups from as many as three or four middle schools and high schools that, joined by Quadre, would play all together as one huge band. With the pandemic ongoing, this year’s performance won’t be packing the stage with players, but the program still offers plenty of special moments, and some special guests, too.

“We’re working in a more intimate environment,” Wood said.

The 2021 program offers an array of traditional and contemporary holiday music. Natural horn specialist Sadie Glass will be one of the featured guests.

“She’ll be playing Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 1, on an instrument that Mozart would have written for — a horn without any valves and creating all the notes just with her lips and breath,” Wood said.

And filling in for the orchestra in this piece is Quadre, swapping in horns for strings.

“We’re going to play the orchestral accompaniment as a quartet. So we’ll play all the violin parts, viola, cello parts. We have our work cut out for us,” Wood said with a laugh.

Glass will be featured in the first half of the program, which focuses on classical and traditional music, including a selection from Handel’s “Messiah,” Bach’s “Little Fugue in G Minor” and traditional carols such as “The Friendly Beasts” and “Il est né, le divin Enfant.”

The program’s second half skews more contemporary, and brings in more special guests: The Mallet Men, made up of percussionists Frank Wyant and James Kassis, who will be featured in the Latin jazz-infused “Sangria” by Tania Maria and Vince Guaraldi’s “Christmas is Coming” from “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” Kassis will also perform in Wood’s arrangement of “Little Drummer Boy” in the first half.

In fact, the concert offers several new arrangements by Wood and fellow Quadre member Adam Unsworth.

I wrote an original arrangement inspired loosely by ‘Pennsylvania 6-5000,’ which is a jazz standard. It’s called ‘Hug Santa for Me’ and there are lyrics in it but the only lyric is ‘Hug Santa for me,’ which you all call out and sing at the very end of the tune (that’s the connection to ‘Pennsylvania 6-5000’). And it’s, it’s a rousing, jazz-inspired number,” Wood said.

Unsworth, who has an extensive jazz background, wrote a jazzy arrangement of “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” for five horns, and the concert also includes Wood’s new arrangement of “Deck the Halls.”

“Horns for the Holidays” comes to a close with a tradition: all musicians coming together to play “Jingle Bell Rock.”

Partial proceeds from Horns for the Holidays benefit Quadre’s “Music with a Message” project for the unhoused community, which partners with local organizations that support the unhoused community, such as LifeMoves, the Bill Wilson Center, Martha’s Kitchen and WECOME, to present performances for their clients.

Through its “Music with a Message” program, Quadre aims to raise awareness, create discussion and encourage action on issues such as homelessness, gender and racial inequality, and the environment. The ensemble emphasizes social justice in its programming, with themes for each season that highlight key issues facing our society. The 2020-21 season, “Homelessness: Hope, Humanity and Heart,” explored the meaning of “home” in our community, and the 2021-22 season delves into environmental issues and climate change.

Horns for the Holidays takes place in person at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are $20-$55.

City Lights Theater Company’s “The Next Stage,” with highlights from Horns for the Holidays, will be livestreamed Dec. 20, 7 p.m. Tickets are free. For more information on either performance, visit quadre.org.

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman at hzimmerman@paweekly.com.

Quadre gathers its finest for ‘Horns for the Holidays’ concert

By Heather Zimmerman

Top: Quadre features, from left, Adam Unsworth, Amy Jo Rhine, Lydia Van Dreel and Daniel Wood. Courtesy Quadre. Above: The Mallet Men, featuring percussionists Frank Wyant, left, and James Kassis, will perform with Quadre at the group’s Horns for the Holidays concert. Courtesy Quadre.
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- Thomas Wooden, Whiting-Turner Contracting
Eating Out

Wrap your hands around a warm drink
From hot toddies to teas and coffees, get cozy with these local specialties

By Zack Fernandes

T he official start of the winter season may still be a few days away, but holiday music and decorations, early sunsets, and decreasing temperatures are starting to make the Peninsula feel a whole lot more festive — and chilly. It’s time to ditch the cold brews and ice cold pints in favor of warming mugs of tea, hot cocktails and exceptional coffee. Don your scarf and check out one of these options for hot drinks on the Peninsula.

Espresso drinks at Tōno Coffee Project, Palo Alto

There are few places on the Peninsula to get an espresso drink as carefully crafted as the ones at the buzzy Tōno Coffee Project pop-up. Currently in residence at Palo Alto’s Salvaje wine bar, Tōno serves drinks that are made exclusively with oat milk, or no milk at all. Owner Bryan Chiem felt that the better taste of oat milk in coffee drinks, its wide acceptance among people with dietary restrictions, and its increased sustainability over traditional dairy made it a no-brainer as Tōno’s “milk” choice. Coffee nerds will be pleased to know that Tōno serves only single-origin coffees to highlight the distinct characteristics of types of coffee fruit, sourced from roasters that Chiem has built relationships with throughout his years in the coffee industry.

Those in search of something decaffeinated can opt for a hot or iced chocolate, made with premium cacao powder from Marou, an artisanal chocolate purveyor based in Vietnam. Unlike the cocoa powder you might buy at a supermarket, this powder is made from unroasted, non-alkaline treated cacao to capture a nuance of flavor that Tōno allows to shine through by making the drink a little less sweet than usual.

Tōno Coffee Project, 369 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto; 408-634-2414.

Peppermint Milo at Killiney Kopitiam, Palo Alto

Killiney Kopitiam, the Palo Alto outpost of a Singaporean cafe that’s been in operation since 1919, is serving peppermint Milo for the season. The chocolate malt beverage is especially popular in Singapore and is served alongside the country’s other coffee shop staples like kaya toast made with a pandan and coconut jam.

The coffee (or kopi as it’s called in Malay) served at Killiney is unique among Bay Area coffee shops. It’s prepared in the Nanyang style, where robusta beans (a different species of coffee bean) join the more common arabica before being roasted with sugar and butter to boost caramelization. Water is then passed through the ground coffee three times before it’s served for an extra bold and rich brew.

Killiney Kopitiam, 552 Waverley St., Palo Alto; 650-752-6039.

Custom loose leaf tea blend at Leland Tea Company, Burlingame

Tucked in a corner behind Burlingame Avenue’s bustling shopping district, Leland’s Tea Company is a haven for tea drinkers, and the perfect place for a respite from holiday shopping. At Leland’s, you can sit down for a lunch of salads, sandwiches or scones (all served with a pot of tea of course), or browse the shop’s impressive collection of loose leaf teas — from staples like Earl Grey to more creative blends like Blue Eyes, a floral and herbal blend said to be inspired by Frank Sinatra. Leland’s doesn’t just sell the teas as is. They also welcome you to create your own custom tea blend by mixing together their offerings — an ideal stocking stuffer.

Leland Tea Company, 1223 Donnelly Ave., Burlingame; 650-558-8515.

Glühwein at Gourmet Haus Staudt, Redwood City

Storied Redwood City German beer garden and grocery store Gourmet Haus Staudt is kicking off winter by stocking its shelves with all manner of Bavarian holiday treats: from holiday cookies to advent calendars, and stollen — a traditional German Christmas bread studded with candied fruits and marzipan.

In the bar, they’re serving a seasonal Nurnberger Glühwein, a hot wine seasoned with citrus and warm spices, popular in the Christmas markets of Germany. The beverage is so iconic, it’s received its own Protected Geographical Indication, meaning that only mulled wine produced in the town of Nuremberg, Germany, can be labeled Nurnberger Glühwein.

The bar serves the piping hot mulled wine in a large mug, where the 9% ABV drink — just a bit stiffer than many of the double IPAs Gourmet Haus Staudt serves on tap — is sure to bring warmth to the coldest of winter bones. It’s also available by the bottle in the shop for you to heat and serve at home.

Gourmet Haus Staudt, 2615 Broadway, Redwood City; 650-364-9232.

Mole’d Wine at BarZola, Palo Alto

For the craft cocktail lover, BarZola in Palo Alto is shedding its French influence in favor of a Mexican mole negro-inspired take on mulled wine.

The Mole’d Wine, as BarZola calls it, borrows the rich sauce’s use of cacao for depth, earthiness and intensity, along with black cardamom and chiles for additional spice. Bar manager Duncan Harrison took a culinary approach to the cocktail’s development, asking the kitchen staff to weigh in on the blend of chiles for the cocktail.

Harrison describes the drink as “mulled wine meets Mexican hot chocolate” and serves it with a dark chocolate stroopwafel as a garnish to play off the drink’s spice and chocolate undertones.

BarZola, 585 Bryant St., Palo Alto; 650-521-0651.

Hot toddy at Timber & Salt, Redwood City

Though often not listed on the menu, most bars are happy to prepare the hot drink staple of the cocktail world: a hot toddy. At Timber & Salt, they take it a step further by offering customers a choice of base liquor between whiskey, rum or cognac. To add warmth to the drink, the bar uses St. Elizabeth Allspice Dram, a Jamaican liqueur made from rum and allspice berries, as well as grated cinnamon and nutmeg.

Another off-menu staple is the Irish coffee, a cup of sweetened, brewed coffee spiked with Irish whiskey and topped with a generous dollop of whipped cream. At Timber & Salt, there’s no whipped cream from a can, with bartenders whipping cream to order in cocktail shakers for each glass.

Timber & Salt, 581 Middlefield Road, Redwood City; 650-362-3777.

Email Contributing Writer Zack Fernandes at hello@zackfernandes.com.
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- Clay L.

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A new twist on holiday stories for kids

Six nontraditional children’s picture books to read as a family

By Chris Saccheri

There’s no shortage of Santa Claus origin stories, but few are as delightfully silly as Jon Agee’s “Little Santa.” In the book, Little Santa loves living in the North Pole: chopping wood, making snow angels and, of course, sliding down the chimney. The rest of the Claus family, however, is miserable and decides to move to Florida. Before they can leave, a blizzard traps them at home and it’s up to Santa to go for help. On his way, he finds a special reindeer and an industrious group of elves and the rest, as they say, is history.

“Little Santa” by Jon Agee; Dial Books for Young Readers, 2013; $17.99.

“Little Santa” by Jon Agee; Dial Books

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“Little Santa” by Jon Agee; Dial Books for Young Readers, 2013; $17.99.

Santa wants to believe in Harold. He really does. But he’s no longer sure. Many of his friends don’t believe in Harold — the handwriting on Harold’s letters is too neat to be that of a child’s, and the Harold who sat on his knee at the mall this year doesn’t look anything like the Harold who visited him last year. What Santa needs is proof, so he comes up with a plan to find out once and for all if Harold really exists. Kids will love this hilarious twist on the age-old question of whether Santa is real or not.


A tiny snowflake is born high in the clouds. Fluffy and white, it skips and twirls and then (to its shock) begins to fall. Tumbling through the air, it passes through valleys, across streams and into the city, where it wishes it could be a star on a beautifully illuminated Christmas tree. Meanwhile, a little girl walks home and wishes that she, too, could have such a brightly decorated tree. Adorable, old-fashioned illustrations carry the reader out of the cold and into the warmth with a sweet ending that brings snowflake and girl together. In the end, wherever we go, and however we fall, we all find a way to shine.

“The Real Santa” by Nancy Redd, illustrated by Charnelle Pinkney Barlow; Random House Books for Young Readers, 2021; $17.99.

Santa has been depicted in countless ways over the years, but what does the real Santa look like? That’s the question at the heart of this (frankly, long-overdue) picture book that centers on a Black family during the holidays. The cheerful narrator loves all his Santas — whether they’re on ornaments, stockings, or mugs — but no one seems to know what the real Santa looks like. He stays up late in hopes of catching a glimpse of the real Santa, and like countless children before him, nods off during the long wait. But a blurry glimpse as he’s carried to bed.
“Larry’s Latkes” by Jenna Waldman, illustrated by Ben Whitehouse; Apples & Honey Press, 2021; $17.95.

From local author Jenna Waldman comes the laugh-out-loud story of Big Larry, an alligator known far and wide for the delicious latkes he serves every Hanukkah. But after the delicious latkes he serves loud story of Big Larry, an al-

Whitehouse; Apples & Honey is the one in our heart. reveals the truth: The real Santa doesn’t give up and eventually creates a perfect mix of the tra-

ditional and the new. Rainbow latkes for everyone!

Chris Saccheri is co-owner of Linden Tree Children’s Books in Los Altos. He can be emailed at csaccheri@ lindentreebooks.com.

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Across
1 One of 11 for RuPaul
5 100-meter race
9 Telegram break
13 Rowed vessel
14 “It is not am crazy...it is am mad!”
(“Ren and Stimpy” quote)
15 Believe in spiritual unity
16 What happened when the wedding party gained an extra foot?
18 Elicit
19 TV series div.
20 “Try the,” (comedian’s cliché)
21 Signs of smirking
22 Hallowed place to learn to count in French?
27 Without assistance
28 squared (formula for the area of a circle)
29 2014 U.S. Open champ Michelle
30 Pinafore designation
31 Done at the table
33 Words from a ghost clock?
37 Perform really well at freestyle rap
39 Belarus, in prev. days
40. follower
41 Bit of duplicity
42 “Who ____ thinks that’s a good idea?”
46 Chef’s complaint about a lack of sauce base?
52 Oldman’s villain role in “The Fifth Element”
53 “Up in the Air” Oscar nominee Farmiga
54 “Live in Front of a Studio Audience” sayer
55 Elevator selection
57 Allows just a pair?
59 Full of dryer fluff
60 Blue-gray shark
61 “Now, more ____ ever...”
62 Beehive State athletes
63 Part of MS-DOS
64 Janitor’s ringful

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This week’s SUDOKU

Answers on page 14.

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