

MountainView VOICE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019 VOLUME 27, NO. 35

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in Menlo Park**

WEEKEND | 14

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MOVIES | 17



MAGALI GAUTHIER

Jon Rork, a longtime resident of the Mayfield Apartments in the Monta Loma neighborhood, says he may have to move out of the area if plans to redevelop the apartment complex move forward.

More apartments on the chopping block

TENANTS SEE LITTLE HOPE TO STAY IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

By Mark Noack

Like many old-timers in Mountain View, Jon Rork, 70, has been brooding over his place in a rapidly changing city in these rapidly changing times.

He has two easy measures to trace the years. One is his porch

cactus, planted just next to his front door. It was a tiny aloe vera sprout when he first moved to Mountain View. Today his cactus has grown so large it looks menacing, like a thorny patio deathtrap.

Rork's other way to track the difference is by looking at his No. 1 expense each month

— his rent. In the early 1970s, after his discharge from a tour in Vietnam, Rork moved into a one-bedroom pad at the Mayfield Apartments at 2483 Whitney Drive in the Monta Loma neighborhood for \$150 a month. Now nearly 50 years

► See **APARTMENTS**, page 7

Higher rent cap shot down by council

ELECTED LEADERS SEEK GREATER CONTROL OVER RENT CONTROL PROGRAM

By Mark Noack

The Mountain View City Council hammered out a list of proposed updates intended to add flexibility to the city's rent control program, but the talks fell apart when it came to allowing higher rent increases.

At its meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 17, the full City Council got its first opportunity to weigh in on a proposed 2020 ballot

measure — now expected to come in March — that would tweak the city's rent control policies, which have become a third rail of Mountain View politics.

For the last two months, a three-member subcommittee has worked on a loose package of changes to add more nuance to the rigid language of the 2016 charter amendment known as the Community Stabilization and Fair Rent Act (CSFRA),

giving elected leaders more control over its implementation. But up to this point the discussion has mostly avoided touching the cornerstone of any rent control policy: the actual ceiling on rent increases year to year.

That changed on Tuesday night as council members debated whether tenants need to pay more in order to sustain the business end of the housing

► See **RENT CAP**, page 6

The Mountain View City Council voted 3-2 Tuesday night to sink a proposal for an eight-story office building in the San Antonio shopping center, calling it too tall, too dense and the wrong fit for a city striving to build more housing.

The narrow vote blocks the developer Merlone Geier from moving forward with plans to construct a 230,000-square-foot office building at the corner of San Antonio Road and California Street. The building would have replaced the former Milk Pail market and other remaining low-density commercial buildings near the corner.

The vote at the Sept. 17 meeting was not for approval of the project — it would have allowed the city to work with the developer on the so-called gatekeeper request — but council members argued it was a fundamentally flawed proposal for the area and requested zoning exceptions far exceeding what they were willing to tolerate.

The preliminary proposal exceeded the density of what's allowed in the city's San Antonio Precise Plan by more than two-fold, and would essentially pack all of the remaining office space allowed in the area on a parcel less than 1 acre in size. The precise plan also has provisions to spread out office development in and around the shopping center, which would need to be amended to allow Merlone Geier's office development to move forward.

"This is just way too much of an exception," said Mayor Lisa Matichak. "I'm not willing to make all those changes to the precise plan to accommodate this."

Matichak, joined by councilwomen Margaret Abe-Koga and Alison Hicks, voted in favor

of blocking the project, while council members Chris Clark and Ellen Kamei voted against. Council members Lucas Ramirez and John McAlister both recused themselves on grounds of a potential conflict of interest.

Abe-Koga said she believes the proposal runs contrary to the city's vision for the San Antonio area, which was intended to be a destination shopping center with just enough offices to support retail development in the area.

"My concern is that it's becoming more of an office park than a shopping center," she said.

A long time coming

Since at least 2013, Merlone Geier has sought to buy the properties near the corner of San Antonio Road and California Street to complete its higher-density vision for the mixed-use shopping center. The location includes the Milk Pail and the so-called Pilling property, which today stand in stark contrast to the nearby offices and Showplace Icon theater.

Buying out the corner property has been tricky, as Milk Pail owner Steve Rasmussen was reluctant to relocate the European-style open air market and refused to sell the property. He eventually accepted a buyout earlier this year for an undisclosed amount, and permanently shuttered the market in June.

The sheer size of the proposed office building is fueled largely by a complex deal with the Los Altos School District, whereby Merlone Geier agreed to purchase the ability to overbuild on the San Antonio property in exchange for nearly \$20 million.

The process, known as the

► See **MILK PAIL**, page 10

INSIDE

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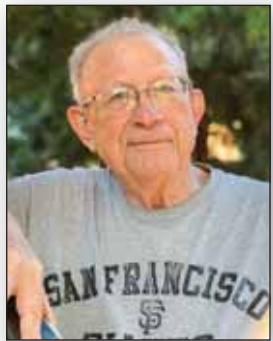


Voices

AROUND TOWN

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Photos and interviews by Nisha Malley.

What's an effective way for youth to have an impact on environmental issues?



"It could be anything from planting trees to talking to people about it ... When I was a kid, we didn't know there was such a thing (as climate change). There's got to be little changes that are going to make a difference long-term."

Ray Morneau, Mountain View



"Stop using reusable cups and use your own water bottle. I feel like you can easily help the environment by using reusable bottles."

Josh Corregidor, Mountain View



"If you are able to vote, that is the No. 1 thing. I think the school strike is a really good idea. My only advice would be to do it in a constructive way ... Make your point but do it in a way where you're not hurting others or hurting yourself."

Gaurav Bansal, Mountain View



"I think protesting is a good way for people to see your movement, but I don't think it's that effective because the government hasn't acknowledged our protesting before. I think it's a good way to broadcast our issue to social media."

Sasha Graesar, Los Altos

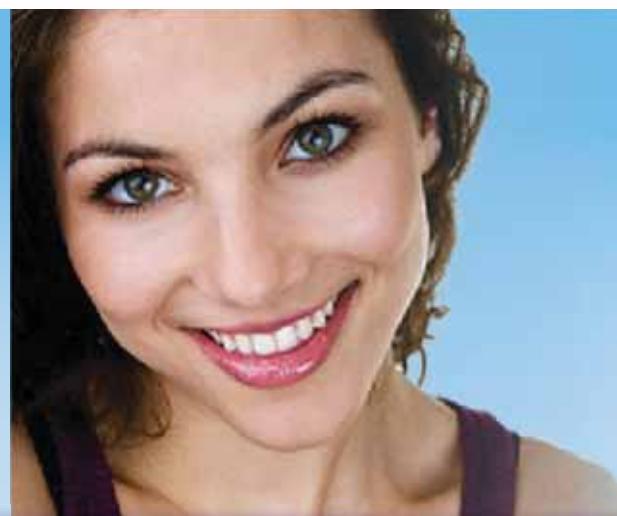


"Voting, because (with) protests not a lot of people get attention for it."

Nyla Ware, Los Altos

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■ CRIME BRIEFS

SYLVAN PARK HOME BURGLARIZED

Police are investigating a home break-in earlier this month in the Sylvan Park neighborhood, where a thief reportedly smashed their way into the home and stole money and other personal belongings.

Officers were told that someone entered the home on the 500 block of Sullivan Drive sometime between Sept. 4 and Sept. 7, according to police spokeswoman Katie Nelson. The homeowners were gone at the time, and found the home had been ransacked.

Money, personal identification information and memorabilia were taken, Nelson said. No suspect information is available, she said.

Residents at the home say that they have video and audio recordings of the break-in, which occurred shortly after 10:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 6, but that police detectives had yet to review the home surveillance 11 days after the incident.

BALCONY COLLAPSE

A second-story condo balcony with several people on it collapsed Sept. 11, leaving one person with minor injuries, according to a statement by the Mountain View Fire Department.

The balcony of the home, located on the 50 block of East Middlefield Road, reportedly gave way around 9 p.m. The balcony separated from the exterior wall of the building and fell to the ground, fire officials said, leaving hanging debris at the scene.

The balcony occupants were able to get back inside the home during the collapse prior to the fire department's arrival, and no additional victims were found under the balcony.

One person was treated for minor injuries by declined to be transported to the hospital.

The cause of the collapse is still under investigation, fire officials said.

—Kevin Forestieri

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

1000 block Grant Rd., 9/11
 1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 9/14

BATTERY

200 block S. Rengstorff Av., 9/9
 2200 block W. El Camino Real, 9/10
 600 block Showers Dr., 9/14
 2400 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/14

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

900 block Castro St., 9/9

GRAND THEFT

200 block Blossom Ln., 9/10
 600 block E. Middlefield Rd., 9/13
 1 block Eldora Dr., 9/15

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

500 block Sullivan Dr., 9/7

500 block Central Av., 9/10
 800 block San Veron Av., 9/10
 700 block W. Middlefield Rd., 9/10
 100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 9/13

ROBBERY

300 block Castro St., 9/12

THREATENING AN OFFICER

100 block E. El Camino Real, 9/15

STOLEN VEHICLE

500 block Ortega Av., 9/11

VANDALISM

200 block S. Rengstorff Av., 9/6
 2300 block Gabriel Av., 9/10
 400 block Tyrella Av., 9/12
 200 block Bryant St., 9/12
 900 block Barbara Av., 9/15

■ CORRECTION

Photos for the story on the Mountain View Library's monthly ukulele events ("No strings attached," Sept. 6) were credited to the wrong photographer. The photo credit belongs to Federica Armstrong.

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Local News

MOUNTAINVIEW VOICE

■ CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

■ COMMUNITY

■ FEATURES



Locals gathered on Alpine Road to protest President Trump's fundraising visit on Tuesday, Sept. 17. Trump's Bay Area stop was his first since a 2016 election campaign fundraiser.

Residents voice opposition to Trump's policies in first Bay Area visit since election

PRESIDENT STOPS IN PALO ALTO FOR FUNDRAISER

By Rick Radin

President Donald Trump's fundraising luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 17, ended up being in Los Trancos Woods near Portola Valley, but protesters found out about the location early enough that morning to plan their demonstration at Rossotti Field, a soccer field adjoining the Alpine Inn, the well-known Portola Valley roadhouse.

About 80 to 90 demonstrators showed up at the site, where a "Baby Trump" balloon hung over the field.

The Trump motorcade, composed of four cars, thundered by at high speed at 11:30 a.m.,

turning left off Alpine Road onto Arastradero Road in the direction of 610 Los Trancos Road, the home of Scott McNealy, the former CEO of Sun Microsystems, once located in the Menlo Park building now occupied by Facebook. Trump's visit was his first to the Bay Area since a fundraiser was held in Woodside for his 2016 election campaign at the home of private equity firm CEO Saul Fox.

"I heard that he was coming, and I felt compelled to make my protest," said Mark Leather of Los Gatos. Leather was standing next to Arnie Thompson of San Francisco, who was holding the cable attached to the

balloon.

Leather said he also participated in the 2016 demonstration when Trump spoke at a fundraiser at a Burlingame hotel, but he said this protest was a lot smaller.

The Raging Grannies, a group dedicated to social activism whose members dress up in outfits that mock stereotypes of older women, were out in force, holding up signs on Alpine Road as drivers whizzed past, many of them honking their horns to indicate support.

Ruth Roberts, a Palo Alto resident and a Raging Granny, said she is particularly opposed

► See **TRUMP**, page 10

El Camino hospital officials reach deal with nurses union, averting strike

By Kevin Forestieri

El Camino Health announced last week that it has reached a contract agreement with its nurses' union, ending months of contentious debate and preventing a disruptive strike by more than 1,200 employees.

The four-year contract, which was ratified by the union membership earlier this week, grants nurses a 3% annual raise for the

next two years, followed by a 4% raise in 2021 and another 3% raise in 2022. The contract also includes a pay bump for tenured nurses working for up to 25 years at the hospital.

In a brief statement, officials said El Camino Health, which operates El Camino hospitals in Mountain View and Los Gatos, and the Professional Resource for Nurses (PRN) union "worked diligently" to reach an agreement that supports nurses and

promotes high-quality patient care.

PRN representatives could not be reached for an interview.

"We greatly appreciate the contributions and commitment of our nurses and members of the bargaining team who worked to reach an agreement," according to the statement.

Negotiations over the new contract had been fraught with challenges dating back to May, when nurses said they'd reached

an impasse and held a picketing demonstration, followed by a vote showing overwhelming support for authorizing a strike. Though PRN's leadership ultimately declined to call a strike, hospital officials say it's the closest El Camino has been to having its nurses walk out. A contingency plan was already underway to replace the vital staff in the event of a strike.

The breakthrough came after both parties agreed to go through

a fact-finding process with a hired mediator, who provided a report with recommendations late last month. Proposals including the longer four-year contract came late in the negotiation process, well after PRN had declared an impasse in June. Among the last-minute changes is the timing for nurses to receive the larger 4% raise, which hospital officials sought to delay until the final

► See **NURSES**, page 8

ACLU threatens lawsuit if Mountain View bans overnight RV parking

CIVIL RIGHT ATTORNEYS WARN THAT PARKING BAN WOULD ILLEGALLY CRIMINALIZE HOMELESS

By Mark Noack

Civil rights attorneys are stepping up their warnings that a proposed Mountain View ban on oversized vehicles will face a lawsuit if the City Council moves forward with it.

Last discussed in June, the proposed vehicle ban is largely seen as an attempt by city officials to crack down on the homeless people living out of RVs and trailers along city streets.

In a letter sent on Sept. 5, attorneys with the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, the American Civil Liberties Union and Disability Rights Advocates warned that they would sue Mountain View if the vehicle ban was enacted. The letter follows similar warnings issued by the legal groups in May.

"The council cannot rationally believe that this unconscionable, yet likely outcome is in the best interests of this community," the attorneys wrote. "We are therefore prepared to challenge any overnight parking ban the council considers, because it would violate state and federal law, and it would be devastating to hundreds of Mountain View residents."

The Mountain View City Council held a closed-session discussion on the litigation risk outlined in the letter at its meeting Tuesday, Sept. 17.

The city's proposal is to ban so-called oversized vehicles, defined as any vehicle over 7 feet high, 7 feet wide or 22 feet in length. City officials have framed the overnight vehicle

ban largely around traffic safety issues, emphasizing that large vehicles lining the streets can present a danger by blocking sight lines for drivers and cyclists. Homeless advocates have blasted those traffic-safety concerns as a pretext, and they allege the true motive is to close off the city's neighborhoods to people who can't afford housing.

The City Council is currently scheduled to consider the oversized vehicle ban at its Sept. 24 meeting.

If the vehicle ban is enacted and a lawsuit filed, the case would likely hinge on whether the actions taken by Mountain View officials amounted to criminalizing homelessness. In April, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals shot down a prohibition against homeless people sleeping on public property in the city of Boise, Idaho. In that case, the judges found that Boise's ban was illegal because the city didn't provide adequate shelters or any other alternatives for its homeless population.

For Mountain View, any legal defense for its vehicle ban will likely depend on the city's fledgling safe parking program, which has struggled to grow.

At the Sept. 24 meeting, the City Council is scheduled to discuss a proposed ordinance establishing new rules for future safe parking sites. Right after that discussion, council members are expected to consider whether to move forward with the oversized vehicle ban. ▀

RENT CAP

► *Continued from page 1*

industry. For a majority of elected leaders, there was no question that the citywide rent control system as currently written is unfair to apartment landlords, motivating them to sell or redevelop their properties. To this point, tenant advocates contend that the number of apartment sales and redevelopments has not substantially changed since the CSFRA was passed in 2016.

The current law limits annual rent increases to the cost of inflation as set by the Consumer Price Index, which generally hovers just above 3%. Ever since rent control was enacted, landlords have complained tying rents to inflation is a pittance, hardly enough to balance the upkeep of their properties.

Responding to that concern on Tuesday, Councilwoman Margaret Abe-Koga, who

spearheaded the ballot measure effort, pitched the idea of raising that rent cap to a fixed rate of 5%. Tenants had something to gain from this, she explained, because a fixed rate would provide certainty for how much they would be paying year to year.

"Housing has to be worthwhile for landlords to stay in business," she said. "As much as keeping rents low is definitely a useful purpose of the CSFRA, we've also seen cases where it's motivated certain landowners to redevelop their properties."

Overshadowing this discussion, rent control is on the cusp of being enacted statewide in an unprecedented response to California's housing crisis. Assembly Bill 1482, authored by San Francisco Assemblyman David Chiu, would force all cities in California to limit annual rent increases to 5% plus the cost of inflation. Last week, the

bill passed out of the state Legislature, and it is expected to be signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Yet the statewide move toward stronger rental protections has had the opposite impact in Mountain View. Abe-Koga and others have pointed to AB 1482 as a reason why Mountain View should water down its rent control laws, because the city would be following a completely different set of restrictions than other municipalities.

Other council members made it clear the idea of raising the rent cap would be a political non-starter. In a city where 58% of residents are not homeowners, any whiff of higher rents would likely kill the chances of a ballot measure winning voter approval, warned Councilman Lucas Ramirez, a member of the CSFRA subcommittee.

"Do you want to raise your rents? Then vote yes on this measure," he said. "I don't know how we would justify this in a campaign."

On this issue, the seven City Council members split into three camps. Mayor Lisa Matichak, Councilman John McAlister and Abe-Koga strongly backed increasing the rent cap to 5%. On the other side were Ramirez and Councilwoman Alison Hicks, who argued any hint of higher rents would torpedo the measure's chances at the ballot box.

"I have some grave reservations about the path we're going down," Hicks said. "We're churning this issue over and over again, and I think we should put our time and money on other priorities."

Somewhere in the middle were council members Ellen Kamei and Chris Clark, who were non-committal and indicated they wanted more options. Clark was receptive to the 5% ceiling on rents, but he wanted it to be reserved for landlords who register with the city and have good inspection records at their properties.

A motion for the 5% rent cap ended up failing in a 3-4 vote, with Ramirez, Hicks, Kamei and Clark opposing. In a follow-up vote, the council unanimously agreed to send the CSFRA subcommittee back to the drawing board to discuss other potential options for revising the rent cap.

In another sign of how the debate is playing out, political activist groups seem to have picked their sides on the rent control ballot measure. California Apartment Association spokesman Joshua Howard praised the council's efforts to revise the CSFRA. In prior meetings, the CAA was more reserved, warning the council's measure could end up competing with their own ballot initiative to weaken the city's rent control.

"It's encouraging to see that you're developing options for the voters to decide," Howard said. "Without fixing the (CSFRA), we're going to see more units taken off the market and potentially more displacement."

Meanwhile, tenant advocates who rallied against the city in 2016 to pass rent control are now signaling they are ready to go to war once again. Like in past meetings, the Housing Justice Coalition listed out several "poison pills" that would result in outright opposition, such as higher rent caps or City Council discretion to change the law.

"Any of these things will trigger a campaign to defend these hard-won protections," warned Alex Nunez, a Housing Justice member. "Please don't go against the will of the people who banded together to pass this law."

While higher rent increases did not win support, the City Council unanimously approved other updates that could be packaged into a future ballot measure. Council members agreed to update the CSFRA petition process, a system for landlords to seek permission to pass through maintenance costs to their tenants. The proposed

changes would create a new expedited process for landlords to recoup certain capital costs, such as environmental improvements, seismic upgrades or mandatory code requirements.

Similarly, all council members were in agreement that they should have greater sway over Mountain View's administration of rent control. Up to this point, the rental program has been controlled by the Rental Housing Committee, a five-member panel appointed by the City Council.

The proposed changes would broaden the criteria for rental committee applicants. Landlords who own rental property in Mountain View would be allowed to serve on the committee.

A future ballot measure would contain provisions giving the City Council some kind of oversight over the Rental Housing Committee, particularly on issues that would result in legal risk or costs to the city's general fund. The council's CSFRA subcommittee will discuss specifics at a future meeting for what kind of authority it would seek over the rent control program. □

Email Mark Noack at mnoack@mv-voice.com



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Mountain View woman identified in double fatal crash

By Kevin Forestieri

Two people died in a fiery head-on collision on Highway 85 caused by a wrong-way driver Friday, Sept. 13, according to the California Highway Patrol.

They were identified as 27-year-old Sarah Renazco of Mountain View and 35-year-old Safa Ngo of American Canyon, the Santa Clara County Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office said on Sunday.

CHP officials said Renazco was driving south in the northbound lanes of Highway 85 near Evelyn Avenue in a 2018 Ford vehicle shortly before 12:55 a.m. on Sept. 13.

The early investigation found

that she struck Ngo, who was heading northbound in a head-on collision, flipping the Ford on its side. Initial reports said the vehicle was smoking, and when CHP officers arrived, it was fully engulfed in flames.

Renazco did not appear to be wearing a seatbelt and was trapped inside the Ford after the collision. Ngo was wearing a seatbelt but still suffered fatal injuries.

Both drivers were pronounced dead at the scene, CHP officials said. Neither vehicle had passengers.

All lanes of Highway 85 were closed during the investigation and clean-up, with traffic being diverted to Evelyn Avenue.

Renazco's Facebook page

indicates she most recently worked for the Army's 7th Psychological Operations Group based at Moffett Field and was a staff member at Escondido Elementary in Palo Alto during the 2018-19 school year. Her family created a GoFundMe donation page Sunday to support Renazco's wife and two children. The page had received \$29,341 in donations as of Wednesday morning.

CHP officials say it's unclear whether drugs or alcohol were a factor in the collision. Anyone who witnessed the crash is asked to call Officer Ricky Patlan Jr. at 650-369-6261. 

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

just don't want to move."

The owner of the site, West Warmington Properties of Foster City, submitted plans in June to redevelop the Mayfield Apartments, which encompasses a 1.5-acre site. The project calls for demolishing all 40 apartments and replacing them with 61 condominiums and three new single-family homes. City planning officials say they have no timetable for when the project will be considered for approvals.

The developer did not respond

All my friends are here, this is where I'm from, and I just don't want to move.

MAYFIELD APARTMENTS RESIDENT
JON RORK

to requests for an interview.

The value of the Mayfield Apartments is evident to anyone who visits the site. The single-story apartments are located right across the street from the former Mayfield Mall, which was taken over by Google in 2013. The company's self-driving car division, Waymo, now occupies the site, and neighbors say the autonomous cars have become so common they no longer turn heads and seem almost mundane.

The predicament that Rork and his neighbors are facing is hardly unique. In the last three years, more than 300 older apartments in Mountain View have been taken off the market amid plans to redevelop property into for-sale housing, according to city records. As these demolitions have become a heated political issue, Mountain

View officials have pledged to find some solution to curb the loss of older homes or at least cushion the blow for displaced residents.

Mayfield residents are still processing the news that they could lose their homes, explained Dinnie McLaughlin, an artist and entertainer who has lived at the apartment complex for 17 years. Over the last couple of weeks, she has taken on a leadership role among the tenants, hosting packed neighborhood meetings out of her living room. As a former census worker, she is familiar with the demographics of the apartment complex, describing it as a mix of retirees, tech workers and blue-collar families. Professionals living there include a teacher, a nanny, a Safeway manager and senior caregivers.

An interview with McLaughlin quickly turned into a brainstorming session as she mulled ways to stop the project. All options were on the table, she said. Should they get an attorney? Could the site be historic? What if someone found an Ohlone burial mound at the property?

"We just aren't going to get another home like this," McLaughlin said. "People here are frustrated and they're not happy. Right now we need help because we need to stay here."

For his efforts, Rork has found little in the way of alternatives if he is forced to leave his apartment. He inquired about affordable housing, but learned the waitlist is six years long at least. The fact that he is a veteran with a Purple Heart did not seem to give him any priority.

His parents are dead. He has no siblings or other family.

"I may have to move out of the area," he concluded. "But I just don't like it." 

"I've lived here for most of my adult life. It's been 50 years!" he explained. "All my friends are here, this is where I'm from, and I

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Scott and Kendra Chan



Scott Chan, 59, and his daughter Kendra Chan, 26, lost their lives in the Conception diving boat tragedy on September 2, 2019. Extinguished too early on earth, they have left behind a legacy of curiosity, adventure, and devotion to the natural world.

Scott Chan grew up in Berkeley, CA, and attended Stanford University where he earned his B.S. (1981) and M.Sci (1982) in electrical engineering. He met his wife Vicki Moore at Stanford, and they married in 1984. They shared an interest in art and other cultures, and Scott brought adventure to Vicki's life in the form of biking, skiing, scuba diving, and travel. An engineer at heart, Scott was fundamentally interested in machines, which led to his appreciation of all things fast - learning about planes and WWII, amateur bicycle racing and Sunday morning rides with his cycling group, and racing cars at local racetracks. After 20 years as an electrical engineer in Silicon Valley, Scott switched gears to become an AP physics teacher. His greatest satisfaction was helping his students understand a subject he loved, and his innovative teaching style inspired many of them to pursue degrees in science. Summers were spent traveling with his family and furthering scientific research - at Stanford's particle physics lab and most recently this year, diving and cataloguing reefs to further ocean conservation in Timor-Leste. Scott was very dedicated and serious - which made his deadpan jokes and comic antics, both inside the classroom with silly props and at home with droll comments, all the more hilarious and special.

Kendra joined the world in 1993 and was immediately introduced to nature by tagging along in her parents' backpacks and bike seats. She first visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium as a toddler, and never outgrew her fascination with fish and marine life. While earning her B.S. in Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity (2015) at UC Davis, she spent two summers at the Bodega Bay Marine Lab. After graduating she worked for the Marine Science Institute and then the US Fish and Wildlife Service, championing endangered species and infecting others with her curiosity and enthusiasm for our planet's diversity of life - from the underappreciated eelgrass to the enormous mola mola. Her uncommon patience led her to spot lifeforms others would miss, whether peering between rocks in the intertidal zone, trekking through the forest, or scouring mountain ranges. Kendra cultivated an amazing group of close friends and family who will never forget her passion for all living things (and garlic bread!), how she surrounded herself with blue and the ocean, her infectious laugh, and her love of adventure.

It was on one such father daughter adventure that Scott and Kendra left us: wife and mother Vicki Moore, son and brother Kevin Chan, and Scott's parents Ida and Ray Chan, sisters Barbara and Marsha (Terry), siblings-in-law Lissa, Debbie (Bill), Bud (Rosie), Doug (Joy), and Kendra's cousins Tara (Andy), Tamara, Tiffany (Drew), Rain, Bryan, Keiashia, and innumerable other loving family and friends.

Scott and Kendra lived life to the fullest, not just for themselves, but in service to others and the natural world. For those wishing to honor their lives, donations to the Chan-Moore Legacy Fund on GoFundMe will benefit the California Academy of Sciences, Monterey Bay Aquarium, and Ocean Conservancy. www.gofundme.com/f/chanmoore-legacy-fund

PAID OBITUARY

County, Second Harvest team up to help the hungry

By Nisha Malley

This year, Santa Clara County and the food bank Second Harvest of Silicon Valley are collaborating to highlight hunger and food insecurity in the region.

The effort is part of Hunger Action Month, a national awareness campaign held every September in which community members and leaders team up in the fight against hunger.

Despite the vast wealth existing in the Bay Area, skyrocketing rent and living costs paired with stagnant wages have cornered many residents into cutting back on their food budgets, from full-time workers supporting a family to local college students skipping meals to save costs.

How you can help

Second Harvest is encouraging community members to participate in the campaign to end hunger by volunteering with the food bank or donating at shfb.org.

According to the California Housing Partnership Coalition, renters would need to earn \$54.81 per hour — nearly four times the minimum wage — to afford the median monthly rent in Santa Clara County in 2018.

One in four people in Silicon Valley are at risk of hunger, according to Second Harvest, and the number continues to rise: Since 2007, demand for meals has increased by 46%.

Last year, Second Harvest distributed over 55 million meals to people across San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

"No one in Santa Clara County should be going to bed with an empty stomach," said Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy

ARTS & EVENTS

Find A&E coverage online at mv-voice.com/arts

NURSES

► *Continued from page 5*

year of the contract.

During public demonstrations and at the hospital's board of directors meetings, nurses vented about having to work in increasingly difficult conditions while wages stagnate. Nurses also argued that the hospital was trying to shortchange its nurses by cutting pay for night shift and per diem nurses — a proposal that the hospital later walked back — despite El Camino's strong financial position and annual budget surpluses exceeding \$100 million.

Numerous other changes in the agreement include quality-of-life changes and pay increases for nurses who are on standby and must show up to work when requested, as well as nurses whose hours are canceled when patient loads are light.

"Limited" contract negotiations over benefits can begin mid-contract in early 2021, but no strikes and no lockouts are permitted through the life of the full contract.

The updated range of wages has yet to be posted publicly, but nurses in the 2018-19 fiscal year were paid an hourly wage ranging from \$62.61 to \$105.27 based on the type of nursing job. ▀

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

Jill Mendenhall

July 28, 1951 – August 3, 2019

Jill Mendenhall died on Saturday, August 3rd, in her Mountain View home, after a long battle with metastasis of breast cancer. She had just turned 68.

A longtime resident of Mountain View, Palo Alto, and the greater Bay Area, Jill was born in Riverside but never lived there. As a "military brat," she grew up in a half-dozen other states before returning to Santa Maria and then La Habra, where she attended high school.

Jill attended Santa Monica College, University of California Santa Cruz, and UCLA. She studied dance, environmental studies, and earned a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. She also studied bio-mechanical engineering, bookkeeping, HR compensation, and income tax preparation, getting her Enrolled Agent status from the Internal Revenue Service. Jill was a board member of the California Society of Enrolled Agents.

Jill had her own tax preparation business in Mountain View. However, her career spanned many businesses - Control Data, Seagate, Incyte Genomics, ALZA Corporation, MyCFO, TaxMam, Center for Independence of the Disabled, and UCSF.

Jill enjoyed the Arts, travel, gardening, movies, and a good book; she was a voracious reader. Known for her gracious warmth and incredible smile, she was once a Dale Carnegie trainer and hosted a ToastMasters Club in Palo Alto.

Jill is survived by her dear sisters, Jacquie and Joleen, and her beloved husband, Michael.



PAID OBITUARY



**Saturday
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Andrew Cook, MD, Gynecology

12:30 p.m. | Thyroid: Big Trouble from a Tiny Culprit

Iheoma Nwaogu, MD, General and Endocrine Surgery

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Catalytic converter thefts on the rise in Mountain View

By Kevin Forestieri

Several catalytic converters have been reported stolen in Mountain View this month, with thieves dismantling or sawing off the car parts for the precious metals contained inside.

Four catalytic converter thefts were reported between Sept. 5 and 13, the Mountain View Police Department confirmed Tuesday. In a fifth case, the resident reported that their catalytic converter had been tampered with but not stolen, according

to police spokeswoman Katie Nelson.

The thefts are part of a growing Bay Area trend, with criminals frequently targeting cars at night using handheld power tools to quickly cut off catalytic converters located in the undercarriage of vehicles. The stolen parts can reportedly be resold for as much as \$250 for the valuable metals inside, including platinum, palladium, rhodium and gold, according to the car-buying website Edmunds.

Nelson said the department is not releasing details on how the

catalytic converters were stolen in Mountain View, stating they do not want to give other potential thieves ideas on how to steal car parts.

"What we can say is, if your car begins to make loud noises as you are driving, check to see if your catalytic converter is still in place," she said.

The Berkeley Police Department released a statement in July warning residents that 14 vehicles had their catalytic converters stolen in 11 days, and that criminals targeted a Toyota Prius in a majority of the cases.

In those cases, the thieves would often use a portable saw to cut off the converter and make a getaway within minutes.

The Toyota Prius may be a target because of its light weight, making it easier to lift the vehicle with a floor jack, according to the statement. Nelson said older Honda and Toyota models have also been targeted in the past.

In order to prevent the thefts, Nelson said the department is advising residents to park in well-lit areas and, if possible, park inside garages rather than

on the street. Home surveillance can also help to identify suspects in the event that there is a theft or attempted theft, she said.

Multiple residents on the neighborhood social media site Nextdoor reported catalytic converter thefts in August as well, including one incident that led to the arrest of four suspects allegedly involved in a counterfeiting scheme at a nearby hotel.

Repairing a vehicle and replacing a stolen catalytic converter can exceed \$1,000, though car insurance plans may cover the costs. □

MILK PAIL

► Continued from page 1

Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs), allows the Los Altos School District to buy land for a school in the San Antonio area and build below the density allowed on the property. The district can then "sell" to developers the remaining density in exchange for about \$130 per square foot.

Earlier this year, the school district announced its plans to purchase 11.65 acres of land from the real estate company Federal Realty for \$155 million. The property is located at the corner of California Street and Showers Drive and is currently occupied by several commercial tenants, including the Kohl's department store. It's also a short distance away from Merlone Geier's proposed office building.

A 2-acre portion of the land will immediately be resold to the city of Mountain View for use as a park.

In order to defray the massive cost of the land purchase, the district lined up several agreements to sell 610,000 square feet of development rights — including 150,000 square feet to Merlone Geier — for a total of \$79.3 million. The sales are contingent



RENDERING COURTESY MERLONE GEIER

The Mountain View City Council on Tuesday rejected a proposal for an **eight-story office building** on the site of the former Milk Pail market.

upon the council's approval of any projects using TDRs.

While the big boost in density helps finance a new school practically next door to the office project, city officials cautioned that the council should not view TDRs as a free pass. The city still has full discretion over any development that runs afoul of the zoning standards in the San Antonio area, and council members are free to reject special exemptions requested by Merlone Geier.

The transition from a cozy community market to a large, eight-story building with ground-floor retail and seven stories of offices didn't sit well with nearby residents, said Matt Raschke, a resident of the

Crossings neighborhood. He said he was happy to see the school district moving forward with plans for a school, but the monolithic shape and size of the proposal wouldn't be pedestrian-friendly and would block the view of the newly built theater.

"We're very disappointed in the loss of the Milk Pail, we're very sad that that left," Raschke said. "And to be presented with this giant box of architecture to replace it is quite a shock."

Council members Kamei and Clark, who voted against denying the gatekeeper proposal, made a pitch that the project could be revised to be more palatable, bringing down the building height and stark, boxy appearance. Clark said



Merlone Geier's San Antonio development plans
Merlone Geier has sought to redevelop property near the corner of San Antonio Road and California Street to complete its higher-density vision for the shopping center.

the high density is the result of the TDR program and simply moves office space within the San Antonio area rather than exceeding what was initially planned for the area, and that Merlone Geier's proposal would hit the area's office cap and prevent further office development.

Kamei said the council put forward the TDR program in good faith, and that the city ought to allow the proposal to move forward in the interest of bringing a school to San Antonio.

"Given all the discussion, I want to be committed to the area getting that open space, getting that park and getting the school," she said.

Under the framework of the deal between the city and the Los Altos School District, any TDRs sold can be resold by the developer on a secondary market. Merlone Geier is also free to submit another gatekeeper proposal that meets the council's expectations. Despite these options, Superintendent Jeff Baier said the denial Tuesday brings uncertainty to a school district on the cusp of making a \$155 million land purchase.

"Uncertainty creates complications for us," he said. "As purchasers, we are looking for certainty in order to have the confidence to close our sale, so this is an important piece for us."

Abe-Koga said she wanted to go back to the drawing board and consider housing on the corner property, rather than dense offices, and do a better job spreading out office development. While she acknowledged the school district's concerns, she said the city has already done more than its fair share to help build a new school.

"There has to be a balance, and I think that we have frankly gone above and beyond to try to make this school site happen," Abe-Koga said. "But it really needs to be balanced with our community's and our residents' interests." □

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TRUMP

► Continued from page 5

to Trump's policy of separating families at the Mexican border.

"We have the granny attitude, which means protecting future generations," Roberts said. "Trump is sneaking in here to solve the homeless problem, but he's just doing it as a publicity stunt."

Marcia Plavcan of Redwood City said she was able to come out because she is currently off work taking care of her 6-year-old daughter. She said she was particularly incensed at Trump because she has friends who had

to leave the country in fear of being deported.

"A lot of people who could have been here weren't because they couldn't take off work," Plavcan said.

Some of the signs were clever. Jim Burrill of Redwood City held up one that read "Know More Muslims" and was handing out a leaflet that said "Toddlers shoot more Americans than Muslim immigrants do. Send all toddlers back where they came from!"

"There's not too many opportunities to demonstrate against Trump in California, so I'm taking advantage of this one," Burrill said.

Trump's visit to the Bay Area was a brief one, with the luncheon being his only stop before he boarded Air Force One at Moffett Field for another fundraiser in Beverly Hills that evening.

Donors paid \$1,000 to \$100,000 for tickets to the fundraiser. Guests who paid \$100,000 per couple attended an exclusive "roundtable" meeting with Trump prior to the luncheon. Both the \$100,000 level and \$35,000 level (also per couple) came with the opportunity to take a photo with the president. □

Email Rick Radin at rradin@almanacnews.com

Viewpoint

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- YOUR LETTERS
- GUEST OPINIONS

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Designers Linda Atilano, Amy Levine, Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

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WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.MountainViewOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

Town Square forum

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Call the Viewpoint desk at 223-6531

MV BUILDING DEPARTMENT

I have spent the better part of the last two months at the Mountain View building department trying to get minor building permits. I would not wish the ordeal I endured on my worst enemy.

I remember the times when permits made sense and fees reflected the effort spent on them by the city officials. I must be getting old. Balancing the safety of the public and property interests of the owners must have become too old-fashioned for our new city government to worry about. Indeed, it reeks too much of the time when the good, late Anthony Ghiossi was in charge, productively working with everyone using common sense yet keeping sight of the big picture.

Instead, we got a brave new bureaucracy that has no vested interest in anything and just keeps itself going for the sake of going and requires mounds of useless paperwork just because it can. It is our reality, the Kafkaesque nightmare of the current building department headed by Shellie Woodworth. If you need to have three engineers, an architect, an energy consultant and a traffic consultant involved at a total cost of over \$20,000 just to replace leaking HVACs, something is very wrong with our system. Nothing in the building codes requires such extensive paperwork for the permit.

The building department has become the least checked branch of our local government and this is why power abuses are rampant. We cannot vote them out of the office as we did not elect them in the first place and we cannot effectively sue them. Sadly, we are all paying the price by seeing slowly dilapidating older buildings whose owners would rather sell out to some big developers or do nothing instead of doing even some minor work and subjecting themselves to the pointlessness, unpredictability and expense of the current permitting process. It affects the character of the city, the disappearing charm of the old town, and, most importantly, our basic right to keep ourselves and our property from government abuse and harassment.

*Maria Rutenburg
Castro Street property owner
Redwood City*

CALTRAIN'S VISION

The notion of adoption of the 2040 vision "to create a 'big tent' that, according to Caltrain staff, "shows how all of the investments currently being planned in the corridor can fit together as part of a cohesive whole, with expanded Caltrain service further enhancing their value and importance" could not be more compelling and true in my opinion. As a region, one of our failings over the years has been the strategy on the part of many



MUELLER

September 20, 2019 ■ Mountain View Voice ■ MountainViewOnline.com ■ 11

LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

agencies to study smaller individual projects, thinking that the smaller price tags would improve the chances of building them.

However, the flip side generally speaking has been that the "measurable" benefits of the (smaller) projects have been limited by this approach and non-sustaining to the successes of the projects. I believe the approach to building this larger, more cohesive business case should be vigorously pursued.

*Jill Hough
San Jose*

A RELENTLESS FORCE

Positive feedback is a relentless force. It causes the painful screeching at a concert when a microphone gets too close to the loudspeaker. Today, it is a real

and catastrophic force impacting our global climate systems.

When sea ice melts in the Arctic it allows more energy to reach the Earth, which makes more ice melt. When the Siberian tundra thaws and releases megatons of carbon, ditto.

We have been blessed with tens of thousands of years where the planet's solar budget balanced, but our industrial society has tipped that balance toward those terrifying feedback regions. Only a major change in our economy away from endless growth and toward sustainable agriculture, transportation and energy production can save us from that screeching feedback destroying our civilization.

*Ed Taub
Devoto Street*

What's on your mind?

From City Hall politics and the schools to transportation and other pressing issues, the Voice aims to keep readers informed about their community. But we also want to hear from you.

Tell us what's on your mind by sending your letters to letters@MV-Voice.com. Or snail-mail them to: Mountain View Voice, P.O. Box 405, Mountain View, CA 94042.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

DEA ALATA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: FBN658096

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Dea Alata, located at 1354 Dale Ave. #9, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: A General Partnership.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

JULIA VASILYEVA

4745 Torrey Pines Cir

San Jose, CA 95124

ANASTASIA NAMSARAEVA

1354 Dale Ave. #9

Mountain View, CA 94040

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on July 30, 2019.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on August 22, 2019.

(MVV Aug. 30; Sep. 6, 13, 20, 2019)

THE TWINS JANITORIAL SERVICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: FBN658225

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

The Twins Janitorial Service, located at 842 Independence Ave., Apt. 2, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: Married Couple.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): CESAR ERNSTO

GUILLEN MENDEZ

842 Independence Ave., Apt. 2

Mountain View, CA 94043

REBECA CRUZ MARTINEZ

842 Independence Ave., Apt. 2

Mountain View, CA 94043

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/27/2019.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on August 27, 2019.

(MVV Sep. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Audrey Sun of the DeLeon Team

DRE #01933274

650.785.5822 | audrey@deleonrealty.com



COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE IN THE CROSSINGS



110 Hilary Avenue, Mountain View

Sophisticated urban living awaits in this desirable townhome, boasting a prime location in The Crossings, a vibrant neighborhood close to the best that Silicon Valley has to offer. Comprising 3 bedrooms and 3 baths across 1,421 sq. ft. of living space (per county), this multi-level home has it all – a coveted end-unit location, bright living areas, an eat-in kitchen with a balcony for alfresco dining, and wonderful community amenities including a pool and clubhouse. Two bedrooms are located on the home's top level, including the master suite crowned by a cathedral ceiling, while a private downstairs bedroom suite is ideal for guests. Caltrain is nearby for easy commuting, and the great shopping, dining, and entertainment options of The Village at San Antonio Center are right next door. Adding the finishing touch, this home also offers access to acclaimed schools Covington Elementary, Egan Junior High, and Los Altos High (buyer to verify eligibility).

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123 Sonoma Terrace, Mountain View

The delightful neighborhood of North Whisman provides the perfect setting for this three-level townhome, offering 2 bedrooms and 2.5 baths on 1,328 sq. ft. of living space (per county). Light, bright, and spacious, the open-concept floorplan is perfect for a modern lifestyle, beginning in the living room and flowing into the dining area. The kitchen enjoys a subway tile backsplash, breakfast bar, and French doors to a covered balcony perfect for alfresco dining. Ideally situated on opposite ends of the third level, the home's two bedrooms are both en suite, including the comfortable master with a sparkling bath. This fabulous complex includes community patios and barbecue areas, and boasts a location close to Google, major commute routes, Caltrain, and the excitement of Castro Street. Plus, children may attend top-rated schools Huff Elementary and Mountain View High (buyer to verify eligibility).

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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW



Hotel dining scene blooms in Menlo Park

Oak + Violet offers farm-to-table fare in upscale setting

By Edward Gerard Fike
Photos by Magali Gauthier

The most buzzed about hotel restaurants tend to be located in major cities, providing easy access to business travelers with sizable expense accounts. Menlo Park is hardly a metropolis, yet the location of Facebook's headquarters on the edge of Menlo's marshlands has spiked demand for luxe accommodations — and great food — near the social media giant's sprawling campus.

Oak + Violet, the California farm-to-table restaurant located in the chic, stylish Park James Hotel, is the latest addition to Menlo Park's burgeoning hotel dining scene. (Other notable players include Michelin-starred Madera in the Rosewood Hotel, clubby Menlo Tavern in the

Stanford Park and the year-old Porta Blu in the Hotel Nia.) The restaurant, which celebrates its first anniversary in October, showcases seasonal, simply prepared dishes and the bounty of Golden State produce. The name is an homage to Menlo Park's official tree and flower.

When I first entered the restaurant from the unassuming hotel lobby, I immediately wanted to walk out. That's precisely what the design team envisioned when they installed a north-facing retractable glass wall that opens onto a vast courtyard, smartly furnished with couches, gas lamps and high-top tables. The after-work crowd has discovered the space — it serves a separate, limited menu — and packs it most evenings. Director of Food and Beverage Marigene Mabalot pegs the area as a focal

point: "The outdoor guests create such wonderful energy and it tends to flow through the entire restaurant," she said.

Oak + Violet's interior exudes California cool with wood finishes, cowhide-stitched walls and billowing drapes. The neutral palette is punctuated by pops of color (violet, naturally) from plush, comfortable dining chairs. A long, partially open air bar straddles the courtyard while a smaller patio at the opposite end of the restaurant offers a more intimate al fresco dining option.

Beverages include an impressive array of local wines and craft beers. Cocktail selections include original creations and fun variations on upscale bar classics. During a pair of recent visits, I enjoyed the smooth and refreshing Lynchburg Lemonade (\$14) which added blackberry to



Above: Simona Oliveri, the executive chef at Oak + Violet, checks on some of the housemade bread.

Top: The uovo perfetto, a panko-fried duck egg in a Parmesan sauce topped with white truffle oil.

intensify the tartness. The Paper Plane's (\$14) blend of Aperol, bourbon and amaro delighted

with its herbal complexity and bright, mood-elevating orange hue.

The dinner menu lists a dozen shareable plates, including mini lobster tacos with avocado crema (\$20), a dish Mabalot cites as a customer favorite. Our party split the charcuterie board (\$22), a generous assortment of locally sourced meats and cheeses accompanied by almonds, truffle honey and fresh bread drizzled with a luxurious olive oil. (Minor quibble: Neither the menu nor our server identified the types of meats and cheeses we were served.) Half shell Pacific oysters with horseradish cocktail sauce (\$18 for 6, \$34 for a dozen) were

a creamy, briny delicacy while stuffed chorizo dates (\$15) with Applewood smoked bacon struck a nice balance between sweet and salty.

For my salad course, I reflexively rejected the two kale-based offerings. (Dear Kale, these past couple of years have been lovely, but I need to see other greens.) I instead settled on the tomato and burrata salad (\$15). While pieces of watermelon added a delicate sweetness to the dish, the tomatoes were a tad underripe.

According to Mabalot, chef Simone Oliveri's menu features a

mere five "large plates" to ensure consistent, masterful preparation. I savored the pan roasted king salmon (\$34), perfectly prepared to a medium pink. Juices from the filet combined with the accompanying seasonal vegetables — which included fava beans, bok choy and potato leek nage — to form a savory stew at the base of the bowl.

Though it's the sole non-meat main course on the menu, vegetarians have little need to venture beyond the superb toasted farro

► See **OAK + VIOLET**, page 16



Clockwise from top: Oak + Violet's stuffed branzino is served with a side of roasted shallots, fennel and peppers; Cocktail selections at the Menlo Park restaurant include original creations and variations on upscale classics.

PALO ALTO BLACK & WHITE BALL

FRI 10.4.19

*The Palo Alto Recreation Foundation
in partnership with the City of Palo
Alto and the Palo Alto Weekly present*

You're invited to the Palo Alto Black & White Ball on Friday, October 4th at the iconic Lucie Stern Community Center. Join us in celebrating the City of Palo Alto's 125th birthday and Palo Alto Weekly's 40th anniversary. Spend the evening mingling with friends & neighbors, dancing to live music, & enjoying food & drinks from your favorite local restaurants.

Buy Tickets: parecfoundation.org



All proceeds benefit the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation (PARF) which helps fund our City's most cherished community events, recreational & wellness programs for all ages, while enhancing the extraordinary quality of life in Palo Alto.

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OAK + VIOLET

► *Continued from page 15*

risotto (\$23). I relished the nutty-flavored, slightly chewy ancient grain which was layered with spinach, English peas, asparagus and Pecorino Romano.

On the carnivorous side of the spectrum, the 46-ounce ribeye (\$115, including two sides) was the show-stopping choice of my

dining companions. Intended as an entrée for two, it could easily have served twice as many. The massive bone-in cut, prepared medium-rare, was tender and buttery. They deemed the sensational steak worth the premium price.

Side dishes were substantial and satisfying. Brussels sprouts (\$9) can be a tough sell for some, but Oak + Violet boasts a



The partially open air bar at Oak + Violet, which celebrates its first anniversary in October.

winning recipe. The sprouts were nicely crisped and caramelized with a tangy balsamic vinegar. Chopped hazelnuts and toasted garlic ratcheted up the flavor. Between two potato options, I gave the edge to the black pepper and sea salt-seasoned Parmesan rippled potatoes (\$9) over the slightly oily white truffle French fries (\$10).

A light dessert was imperative following the ample portions. The dark chocolate mousse (\$8) fit the bill perfectly. Topped with whipped cream and chocolate almond clusters, the mousse was light, creamy and not cloyingly sweet. It was the ideal final indulgence.

Service was earnest, but uneven. Wait staff maintained an easy, good-humored rapport with the table. When we experienced an error on one of our entrée orders, it was quickly rectified and followed by a gracious apology from the manager. A couple of food runners, perhaps new to their jobs, delivered multiple plates to the wrong tables. Bobbles such as these can be avoided with additional training.

The restaurant serves lunch during the week, brunch on weekends and a special courtyard menu daily. Complimentary valet parking is offered for the first three hours, sending a message to locals that Oak + Violet wants you to check them out even if you're not checking in. □

Freelance writer

Edward Gerard Fike can be emailed at egfike@gmail.com.

■ DINING NOTES

Oak + Violet

1400 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park, 650-304-3880
parkjames.com/oak-and-violet

Hours:

Lunch: Monday-Friday

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dinner: Monday-Sunday

5-10 p.m.

Brunch: Saturday-Sunday

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Reservations

Credit cards

Children

Takeout

Outdoor dining

Happy hour

Corkage \$35 per bottle

Alcohol Full bar

Noise level Moderate to loud

Bathroom Excellent cleanliness

Parking Valet and street parking

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Council Neighborhoods Committee CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOODS AREA Neighborhood Meeting

EDITH LANDELS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 115 West Dana Street

**Thursday, September 26, 2019
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

The City of Mountain View Council Neighborhoods Committee will be meeting with residents in the Central Neighborhoods Area (as shown on the map) on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The Council Neighborhoods Committee invites residents in this area to participate in a forum to hear about new projects in the community and discuss issues of interest to your neighborhood.

For more information, please call the City's Housing and Neighborhood Services Division at (650) 903-6379.



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Notice of September 24 Meeting on Safe Parking and Oversized Vehicles

The City of Mountain View will be discussing proposed new regulations and zoning changes pertaining to safe parking, emergency shelters and oversized vehicle restrictions at the Tuesday, Sept. 24 Council Meeting. Reports on both items proposed for discussion will be available for public review as part of the City Council Agenda packet on Friday, Sept. 20 on the City website at MountainView.gov.

Safe Parking, Emergency Shelters: Council will discuss proposed changes to City code and the North Bayshore Precise Plan for new regulations on safe parking, amendments to the emergency shelter regulations to allow them in additional zones, and other related minor text amendments.

Oversized Vehicle Restrictions: Council will consider regulations restricting parking of oversized vehicles on City streets.

Opportunity to Provide Feedback Ahead of Council Meeting: Interested parties may provide feedback in advance for staff and Council review through written statements to the City Clerk at P.O. Box 7540, Mountain View, CA 94039-7540 or email City.Council@mountainview.gov.

The meeting will take place in the Council Chambers of Mountain View City Hall (500 Castro St., 2nd Floor) on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at the regular meeting to start at 6:30 p.m. (or as soon as possible) under Unfinished Business.

■ MOVIE OPENINGS

She's a brick house

'DOWNTON ABBEY' WANTS TO MAKE ENGLAND GREAT AGAIN

★★ (Century 16&20, Icon)

Back in 2010, the PBS series "Downton Abbey" offered an alternative riff on the old "Upstairs, Downstairs" paradigm: a tale of an aristocratic English household above and their servants below. Even as "Upstairs, Downstairs" saw its own revival the same year, "Downton Abbey" outlived its inspiration, running six seasons, and four years after its television finale, spawning a big-screen follow-up of the same name. Fans will likely delight in this reunion movie; others have no reason to bother.

The swanky English counterpart of America's "Sex and the City" sequel movies, "Downton Abbey" proves so congealed from its 52-episode history that it's hard to tell if the actors are overacting or not. Creator Julian Fellowes pens this fan-service follow-up with its "Dick Van Dyke Show" plot: Uh oh! The boss is coming over for dinner. Everything has to be perfect!

In this case, of course, "the boss" means King George V (Simon Jones), accompanied by Queen Mary (Geraldine James). In 1927, their royal tour through the English countryside will include a stop at Downton, the Yorkshire estate of the Earls of Grantham, a.k.a. the Crawley family. The perpetually bemused Earl, Robert Crawley (Hugh Bonneville), and his wife, Cora (Elizabeth McGovern), oversee the preparations of the staff, now ostensibly led by Thomas Barrow (Robert James-Collier). But Charles Carson (Jim Carter) steps out of retirement to get the job done right, the internal serving-staff tensions only exacerbated by the arrival of the Royal Staff.

The story's three-act structure roughly corresponds to three royal soirees: a parade, a dinner and a ball. A variety of dramatic subplots follow, including one particularly clumsy and borderline pointless subplot



PHOTO BY NICK BRIGGS, COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

Brendan Coyle and Joanne Froggatt star in the big-screen follow-up of "Downton Abbey."

that involves a burst of cheesy peril. Another plot thread that threatens to "out" the closeted Barrow and put him in legal jeopardy. The core plot point for the Crawleys involves guest star Imelda Staunton as Robert's cousin (and Queen Mary's lady in waiting) Lady Maud Bagshaw, who intends to make a play for the future of Downton. Of course, Dame Maggie Smith's Dowager Countess (again in a

"Golden Girls"-style double-act with Penelope Wilton's Lady Merton) conspires to shut down Bagshaw.

A couple of fresh romances also stir to life at the story's margins, but "Downton Abbey" concerns itself much more with romanticizing the traditions of privilege, the British Empire and the royal family. The King and Queen prove entirely wise and benevolent, Downton's

pride-hurt serving staff grovels and schemes for the right to serve them rather than have a night off, and even Robert's Irish Republican son-in-law, Tom Branson (Allen Leech) — who claims here to be "not much of a royalist" — repeatedly goes out of his way to make a case for the royals.

While none of this is incredible, per se, there's something unseemly about Fellowes turning it into entertainment in 2019. Sure, it's history (sort of), but wildly elite families being served and flattered by grateful servants is so last century. In the world of "Downton," the family and the help act like pals at times, but for every pat on the head the servants get, there's a scene like the one in which staff member Anna Bates (Joanne Froggatt) flatteringly consoles Lady Mary Talbot (Michelle Dockery): "Downton Abbey is the heart of this community, and you keep it beating." Forgive me for suggesting that Fellowes — or, as he's sometimes known, Julian Alexander Kitchener-Fellowes, Baron Fellowes of West Stafford DL — might consider "Downton" the cake he's letting us eat.

Rated PG for thematic elements, some suggestive material, and language. Two hours, 2 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

■ NOW SHOWING

Ad Astra (PG-13) *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

Century 20: Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon**: Fri.-Sun.

After the Wedding (PG-13)

Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sun.

Angel has Fallen (R) *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

The Angry Birds Movie 2 (PG)

Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

Brittany Runs a Marathon (R)

Aquarius Theatre: Fri.-Sun. **Century 20**: Fri.-Sun.

ShowPlace Icon: Fri.-Sun.

Dora and the Lost City of Gold (PG)

Century 16: Fri.-Sun. **Century 20**: Fri.-Sun.

Downton Abbey (PG) ★★ *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

Century 20: Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon**: Fri.-Sun.

The Farewell (PG) ★★★1/2

ShowPlace Icon: Fri.-Sun.

The Fast & Furious: Hobbs & Shaw (PG-13)

Century 16: Fri.-Sun. **Century 20**: Fri.-Sun.

Gang Leader (Not Rated) *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

The Goldfinch (R) *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

Century 20: Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon**: Fri.-Sun.

Good Boys (R) *Century 16*: Fri.-Sun.

Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

Aquarius: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (For recorded listings: 327-3241) tinyurl.com/Aquariuspa

Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View tinyurl.com/Century16

Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City tinyurl.com/Century20

CineArts at Palo Alto Square: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (For information: 493-0128) tinyurl.com/Pasquare

Guild: 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (For recorded listings: 566-8367) tinyurl.com/Guildmp

ShowPlace Icon: 2575 California St. #601, Mountain View tinyurl.com/iconMountainView

Stanford Theatre: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (For recorded listings: 324-3700) Stanfordtheatre.org

★ Skip it ★★ Some redeeming qualities ★★★ A good bet ★★★★ Outstanding

For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more movie info, visit www.mv-voice.com and click on movies.



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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

GoingsOn

THEATER

'The 39 Steps' TheatreWorks' acclaimed comedy returns in a spoof of Alfred Hitchcock's silver-screen classic, in which a London man fights to clear his name after stumbling upon a ring of spies. Through Sept. 22; times vary. \$25-\$60; discounts available, pricing subject to change. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

'Admissions' The Los Altos Stage Company presents "Admissions," a new satire that takes a no-holds-barred look at privilege and power in liberal white America. Sept. 25, 8 p.m. \$20-\$30. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org

'Rapunzel' Palo Alto Children's Theatre performs "Rapunzel." With very simple sets and costumes, and lots of opportunities to get up and wiggle, this storyteller style theater is suitable for children ages 2 to 6 years old. Performances are approximately 55 minutes long. Sept. 21-22; times vary. \$12-\$14. Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

'Bright Star' From Grammy, Emmy, and Academy Award-winning Steve Martin and Grammy Award-winning Edie Brickell comes "Bright Star," a new musical that tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the backdrop of the American South in the '20s and '40s. Through Sept. 29; times vary. \$27-\$57; discounts available. Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org/

CONCERTS

Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band bring their "Roll Me Away" tour to Mountain View. Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. \$38-\$188+. Shoreline Amphitheatre, 1 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View. concerts1.livenation.com

Bryan Adams: 'Shine A Light' World Tour

Canadian singer-songwriter Bryan Adams brings his "Shine a Light" world tour to Mountain View. Sept. 21, 8 p.m. \$18-\$208+. Shoreline Amphitheatre, 1 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View. concerts1.livenation.com

Florida Georgia Line Concert The Grammy-nominated country music duo will perform along with Dan + Shay, Morgan Wallen and Canaan Smith at the Shoreline Amphitheatre. Sept. 27, 7-10 p.m. \$55-\$123+. Shoreline Amphitheatre, 1 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View. concerts1.livenation.com

SciFi Concert: Teal Crane Local chamber trio Teal Crane will perform a free sci-fi/fantasy-themed concert in the park. They will play music from "Star Wars," "Game of Thrones" and more. No registration required. Sept. 28, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. mountainview.libcal.com

Tolkien Musical Performance Professional Celtic and Medieval music duo, Margaret & Kristoph, will perform a program of original musical settings of songs from J.R.R. Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit." Sept. 26, 7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. mountainview.libcal.com

Zac Brown Band: 'The Owl Tour' Zac Brown Band, the multi-platinum, Grammy Award-winning group, is headlining its highly anticipated summer 2019 outing, "The Owl Tour." Special guest Caroline Jones will also perform. Sept. 20, 7 p.m. \$40-\$118+. Shoreline Amphitheatre, 1 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View. concerts1.livenation.com

MUSIC

Jews in Irish Music: A Concert and Conversation

Moderator and blogger Riggie Rackin will lead attendees in an investigation as to why so many musicians in a typical Irish music session are Jewish. Sept. 24, 1-2:30 p.m. \$15; discount for Community Tuesdays Punch Card holders.

Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall (Bldg F), 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org

Open Mic @ Red Rock Coffee Performers sing in front of a supportive audience and meet fellow musicians and artists during Open Mic Mondays at Red Rock Coffee. Sign-ups start at 6:30 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. redrockcoffee.org/livemusic

FOOD & DRINK

Downtown Los Altos Beer Stroll Attendees stroll downtown Los Altos while sampling some of the area's best craft beers. Check-in will open at 5 p.m. Sept. 27, 6-9 p.m. \$35-\$45. Downtown Los Altos. losaltoschamber.org

FESTIVALS & FAIRS

Mountain View's Second Annual Harvest History Festival

The Harvest History Festival celebrates the orchards of Silicon Valley's rich and fertile past. The event features tours of the gardens, children's activities and art projects, live music, bubble entertainment and more. Sept. 28, 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Heritage Park, 771 Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

2019 Corvette Spectacular More than 165 Corvettes will take over Main Street in downtown Los Altos for one of the biggest Corvette car shows in Northern California. There will be awards, live music and raffles. Free. Main Street, Los Altos. losaltoschamber.org

Farmers Market The downtown Los Altos farmers market, where shoppers can find fresh vegetables and fine foods, continues every Thursday through Sept. 26, 4-8 p.m. Free. Located on State Street between 2nd and 4th streets, Los Altos Hills. losaltoschamber.org

TALKS & LECTURES

'A Century of Ideas For a Free Society': The Centennial Speaker Series Panelists will discuss

HIGHLIGHT

CONCERTS ON THE PLAZA: SANDI BELL

The Community Services Department presents "Concerts on the Plaza!" featuring a live performance by Sandi Bell. In addition to the music, there will be a food truck, a "Pop Up Park" area for children and for adults, beer and wine. Sept. 20, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View City Hall, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Search facebook.com/events for more info.

changes in the global order of the past seven decades in Europe, the Middle East and Asia and what these changes portend for each of these regions and the U.S. role in shaping events in its national interest. Sept. 24, 4:30-6 p.m. Free. Hauck Auditorium, David & Joan Traitel Building, 435 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

'Here All Along': An Evening with Speechwriter Sarah Hurwitz

Sarah Hurwitz Political speechwriter Sarah Hurwitz will discuss her book, "Here All Along," about how she rediscovered Judaism and found timeless wisdom and spiritual connection in its age-old practices and traditions. Sept. 23, 7:30-9 p.m. \$32; price includes book. Freidenrich Conference Center (Bldg F) 4th Floor, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org

Jennifer Eberhardt: Understanding Bias

Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt, author of "Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do," will be in conversation with retired Judge LaDoris Cordell. Sept. 26, 7-8 p.m. \$8-\$55. Cubberley Community Theatre (near Montrose and Middlefield), 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

SciFi Author Talk with Annalee Newitz

Nebula-nominated sci-fi author, podcaster and journalist Annalee Newitz will discuss their new novel, "The Future of Another Timeline" and other works. Sept. 28, 3-4:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. mountainview.libcal.com

Symposium: 'Gardening for Biodiversity in a Climate Crisis'

The symposium will feature keynote speaker Douglas Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home," and Bart O'Brien, director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden and co-author of "Reimagining the California Lawn." Sept. 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. \$125; discount for students, CNPS members. Foothill College, 1235 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. cnps-sciv.org/symposium

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WINNING A SILICON VALLEY HOME BELOW MARKET VALUE



Michell Park Community Center
Matadero Room
3700 Middlefield Road,
Palo Alto, CA 94303



Saturday, September 21, 2019
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please join DeLeon Realty for our September Seminar!
Gain insight from Ken DeLeon about how to win a
Silicon Valley home below market value.

For more information, please visit **deleonrealty.com/calendar**

DeLeon Realty, Inc.
DRE #01903224

Ken Deleon
DRE #01342140



RSVP

RSVP@DELEONREALTY.COM

650.543.8500

Seminar is for prospective clients only.
No outside real estate professionals permitted.

Michael Repka, Managing Broker, DRE #01854880



1% IS

Changing Lives

BY SUPPORTING
HOPE'S CORNER



HOPE'S CORNER provides homeless and vulnerable individuals from Mountain View and surrounding communities with healthy meals, hot showers, and connections to other services in a dignified and welcoming environment. Our services enhance our guests' quality of life, show them that they are valued, and give them hope for a better future.

HOPES-CORNER.ORG



1% for Good Los Altos awards grants to local organizations actively making a positive difference in our communities. Sereno Group 1% For Good Charitable Foundation has donated \$2,450,983 since 2012.

WWW.SERENOGROUP.COM/ONEPERCENT

PALO ALTO // LOS ALTOS // SARATOGA // LOS GATOS
LOS GATOS NORTHPOINT // WILLOW GLEN // SANTA CRUZ // APTOS



Mountain View - Waverly Park

650 Chesley Avenue

Offered at \$2,998,000

Extensively renovated in 2015, this Waverly Park gem checks all the boxes for Silicon Valley living – architectural designer style, dedicated office and recreation/media room, a flexible floor plan, plus a sparkling pool. Featuring 4 bedrooms plus an office highlighted by a main-level master retreat, the two-story floor plan supports a variety of lifestyle needs, including the ability to easily create a 5th bedroom. Beautiful hardwood floors, plus stunning slab quartzite counters and kitchen island combine in timeless elegance, while lots of windows, skylights, and sliding glass doors fill the home with abundant natural light. The outdoor spaces include flagstone patios, a salt water pool, spa with outdoor shower and beautiful landscaping. One block away is Cooper Park, access to Stevens Creek Trail (a short bike ride to Google) is close at-hand, plus acclaimed schools – this is indeed an exceptional place to call home.

www.650Chesley.com

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Cindy Lunk

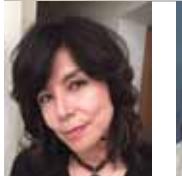
President's Club

(650) 305-9490

cindy.lunk@compass.com

DRE # 02037820





San Mateo | \$998,000

Spacious two-story 2br/2ba home with private fenced backyard. Centrally located to major freeways and parks.

Miriam Porras 408.644.5041
CalRE#02002039
Amelia Middel 650.704.3064
CalRE#01103989



East Palo Alto | \$849,000

Great location! Move in ready home with 2br/1ba, 2 car garage, a cozy LV and updated kitchen on a large lot.

Miriam Porras 408.644.5041
CalRE#02002039
Amelia Middel 650.704.3064
CalRE#01103989



Mountain View | \$848,000

Lovely updated 2br/2ba top floor condo. HOA amenities include pool, tennis court, elevator. In a great area!

Nana Spiridon
650.483.6983
nspiridon@hotmail.com
CalRE#01142729

Your home is where our heart is



SOPHISTICATED DESIGNER STYLE ON RESORT-LIKE GROUNDS

3343 GRANT ROAD
MOUNTAIN VIEW

EXTENDED HOURS: FRIDAY, 9:30AM–5:00PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1:30–5:00PM

REBUILT IN 2012 OPEN-CONCEPT FLOOR PLAN 3 BEDS 2 BATHS CATHEDRAL CEILINGS
HAND-HEWN HARDWOOD FLOORS OUTSTANDING CHEF'S KITCHEN MASTER SUITE WITH FIREPLACE
RESORT-INSPIRED REAR YARD WITH POOL & SPA EXCELLENT MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOLS

3343GRANT.COM \$2,498,000



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INTERO
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

Beautifully Remodeled Starter or Investor Home.

COMPASS

OPEN
HOUSE
SAT. & SUN.
1:30-4:30 PM



San Jose

2481 Fernwood Avenue

\$999,000 3 Bed 1 Bath 1,134 +/- SF 5,304 +/- SF Lot

Beautifully remodeled starter home right behind Santana Row and Valley Fair! Stunning kitchen with quartz countertops and new white Shaker cabinets with stainless steel appliances! The completely remodeled and updated 1,134 +/- sq. ft. floor plan includes three spacious bedrooms and one designer bath located on the large 5,304 sf lot with room to expand!

www.LynnNorth.com

Recent upgrades includes refinished hardwood flooring, new kitchen and bath luxurious vinyl tile, newly painted inside and out and mature and new landscaping. Located close to all commutes and schools!

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For more information, please call.

Lynn North

REALTOR®
650.703.6437

lnorth@compass.com
DRE 01490039



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