

Avenidas lays off seven employees

Avenidas, a nonprofit that runs two senior centers in Palo Alto and a health center in Mountain View, announced yesterday that it will lay off seven of its 53 employees as it takes its programs from in-person to virtual.

Avenidas CEO and President Amy Andonian said the layoffs are primarily because of a loss of revenue from fundraisers and suspending classes, the fees for which constitute 40% of the nonprofit's revenue.

She said Avenidas is still hosting

virtual classes but is not charging for most of them. Fundraising events like the Lifetimes of Achievement Awards have also been canceled for the year, and possibly next year.

Andonian said Avenidas is strictly following shelter-in-place recommendations and has been using technology to deliver remote services.

Current activities that the nonprofit is focusing on include delivering groceries and medicine, making check-in calls to decrease loneliness and teaching seniors how to use Zoom.

City approves giant Google office project

With a 4-3 vote, Mountain View City Council approved Google's proposal to build an office building on Landings Drive that would be as large as 40 Palo Alto Midtown Safeway stores.

Councilwomen Alison Hicks and Lisa Matchak and Councilman John McAlister voted against the project, while Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga, Councilwoman Ellen Kamei and Councilmen Chris Clark and Lucas Ramirez supported it at their Tuesday

meeting that was held via the Zoom platform. The new Google campus, a 799,482-square-foot "shed-like" building with large glass windows, will be located south of Charleston Road and north of Highway 101.

A four-story parking structure with ground-floor retail space will be located between Alta Avenue and Huff Avenue. The two properties will be connected by a pedestrian and bicycle path that will bridge Permanente Creek.

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people wearing Black Lives Matter shirts at a restaurant in Burlingame earlier this month. Steven Cibotti, 55, of San Francisco is accused of confronting a family of five on June 7 at Flights Restaurant at 1100 Burlingame Ave. after the family had attended a march in San Francisco, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office.

VMWARE SURGES: Shares of Palo Alto-based VMware jumped yesterday after the Wall Street Journal reported that Dell was considering "strategic options" for its 81% stake in the cloud computing and virtualization software services provider. One option is that Dell would pay investors a premium to buy the 18% of VMware's stock it doesn't own.

H-1B VISA BAN: Tech companies are complaining that the Trump administration has banned the issuance of H-1B visas until the end of the year as part of its overall ban on new green cards. The administration said the move will free up 525,000 jobs for Americans, but tech companies are upset that a pipeline of cheap labor will be cut off.

FLYNN CASE DISMISSED: A federal appeals court yesterday ordered the dismissal of the perjury case against former Army Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn, who was arrested by the FBI weeks after President Trump named him national security adviser. Prosecutors decided to drop the case after notes from FBI agents showed that they engaged in misconduct while investigating Flynn.

VISITOR QUARANTINE: The governors of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut said yesterday they will quarantine visitors from states where 10 of every 100,000 people test positive for the coronavirus. Eight states are on the quarantine list — Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah and Texas.

RACE IN ADMISSIONS: The state Legislature yesterday put a measure on the November ballot to repeal a 1996 proposition that prohibits governments and public colleges from considering race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in hiring and admissions decisions. Opposition has come from the Asian community, who fear that allowing race to be a factor in college admissions will hurt them in the state's UC system since Asian Americans make up a higher percentage of the enrollment than they do of the state as a whole.

GAY RIGHTS TRAILBLAZER: Harry Britt, who replaced assassinated San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk and over 14 years fought for progressive and gay rights measures, died yesterday. He was 82.



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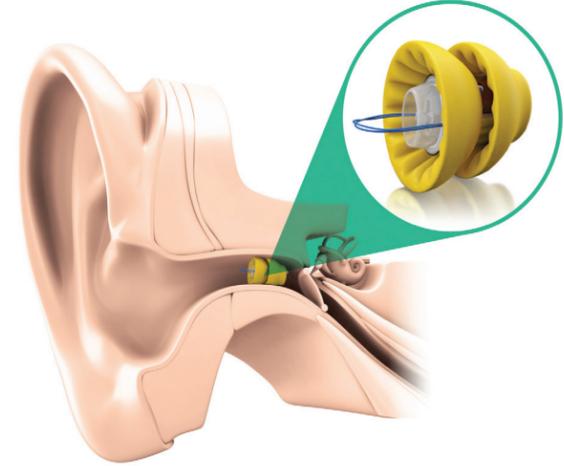
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