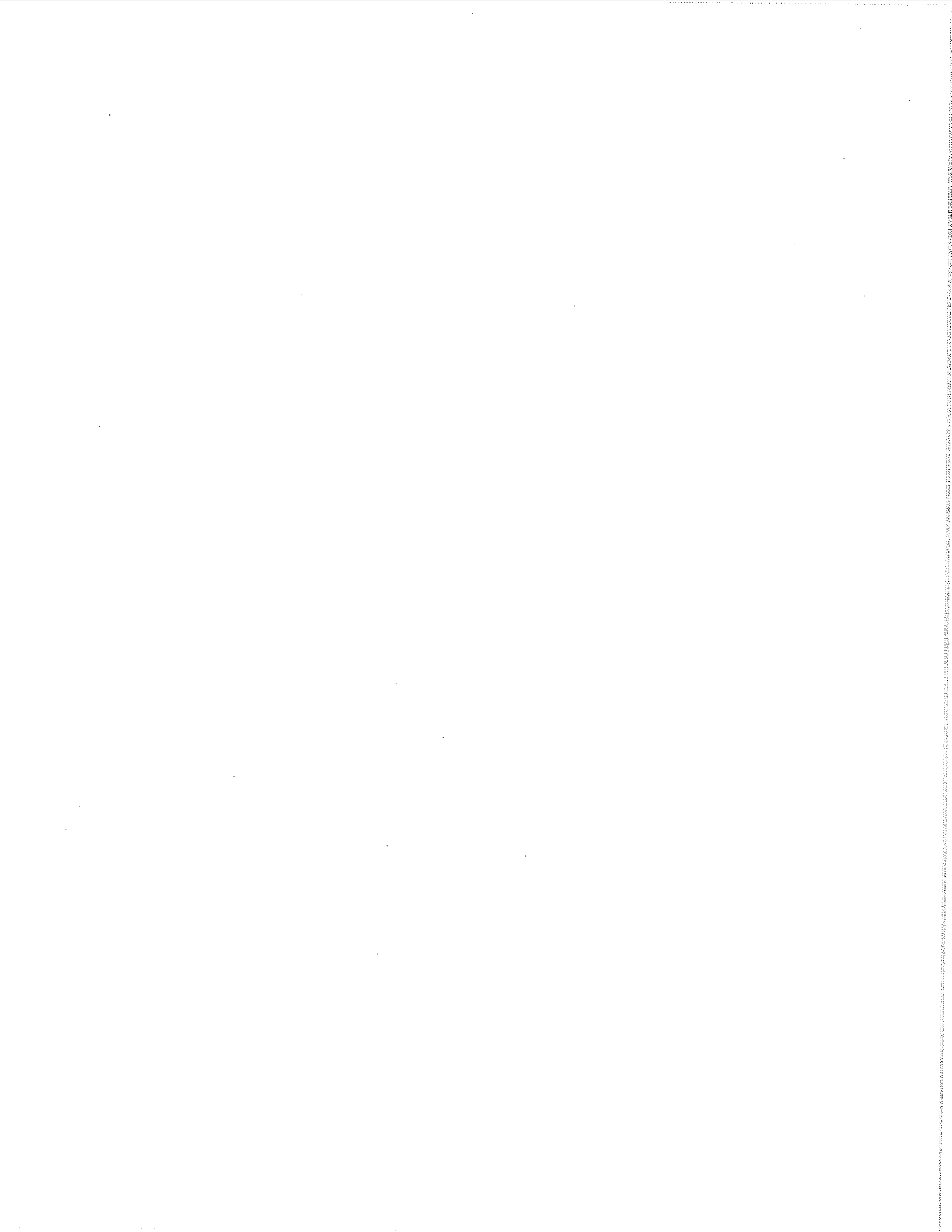


**ATTACHMENT F**

**PUBLIC  
CORRESPONDENCE**



**Zach Dahl**

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**From:** Yvonne Dupont on behalf of Planning (FAX)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2009 9:38 AM  
**To:** Zach Dahl  
**Subject:** FW: Approval of Pilgrim Haven Project

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**From:** Norbert Kordsmeier [mailto:nkords@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2009 8:52 AM  
**To:** Planning (FAX)  
**Subject:** Approval of Pilgrim Haven Project

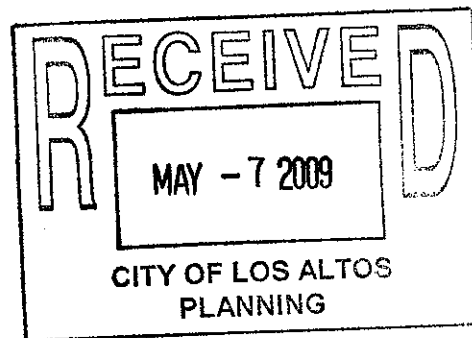
Your recommendation for approval of the planned modernization and remodel of Pilgrim Haven facilities is requested.

The current Pilgrim Haven design has evolved after more than three years of discussion with designers, City Planners and the surrounding neighborhood. The project meets Code requirements and includes numerous compromises to accommodate neighborhood concerns.

Pilgrim Haven is acknowledged as a top-rate retirement and care facility. It has been an asset throughout its 60-year existence in our City. This project should be approved, allowing Pilgrim Haven to continue caring for the needs of our senior community.  
Sincerely,

Norbert Kordsmeier  
1721 Selig Lane  
Los Altos, CA 94024

(650-961-0431)



**Zach Dahl**

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**From:** Jennie Wei-Lin (jenniel) [jenniel@cisco.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2009 4:33 PM  
**To:** Zach Dahl; David Kornfield  
**Subject:** Pilgrim Haven Planning Commission Meeting CONFLICT

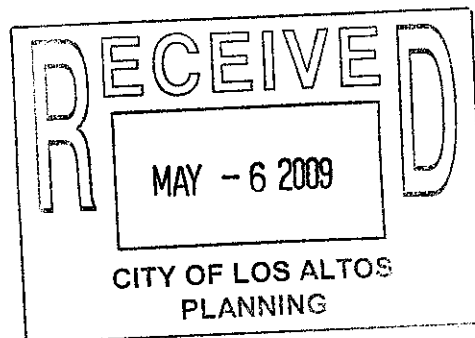
Hi Mr. Dahl, Mr. Kornfield and Planning Commission members,

I am writing to you regarding the conflict between the Pilgrim Haven project review and the Santa Rita Elementary School Open House on May 21. Due to the youngsters involved, it would be fair to give a chance for the school community to join the discussion.

Submitting comments in writing definitely is not the same as the interactive, community setting. Please kindly reschedule the Pilgrim Haven project review meeting.

Thanks

Jennie Lin



5/7/2009

**Zach Dahl**

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**From:** Rick Gould [Rick.Gould@maxim-ic.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2009 4:02 PM  
**To:** 'baerjc@earthlink.net'; 'michael@abrams4.com'; 'kluhlir@comcast.net'; 'phoebearch@aol.com'; 'randall@randallhull.com'  
**Cc:** Zach Dahl  
**Subject:** Reschedule Pilgrim Haven meeting  
**Importance:** High

Dear Los Altos Planning Commission,

I am writing in response to a postcard I received yesterday with notification of a hearing on the Pilgrim Haven project. As I am sure has already been pointed out by others, this scheduled hearing falls on the same evening and time as the Santa Rita School Open House. I strongly encourage you to reschedule the hearing to a later date. Santa Rita families are directly and significantly impacted by this project and their voices deserve to be heard at the hearing.

The Santa Rita Open House is an annual event where the teachers open their classrooms for the children to share the work from the past year with their families. It is also a chance to meet other families, current teachers, and potential teachers for future years. It is an extremely important event for all Santa Rita families. It is unfair to force the constituent of Santa Rita parents to choose between these two important events and will likely lead to a strong and important voice being underrepresented at the hearing. I sincerely hope that this was not the intended result of scheduling the hearing for this date.

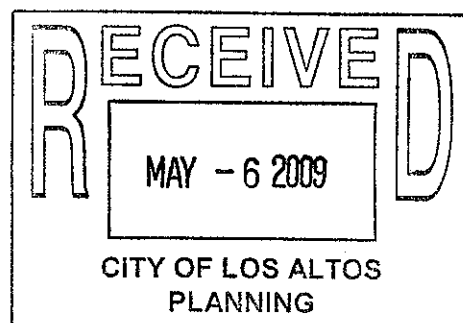
I find it quite ironic (and suspicious) that the hearing was scheduled on this night conflicting with this important school event.

Please reschedule the hearing for another date.

Regards,

Rick Gould

**Please note my new email address:** [rick.gould@maxim-ic.com](mailto:rick.gould@maxim-ic.com)



5/7/2009

**Zach Dahl**

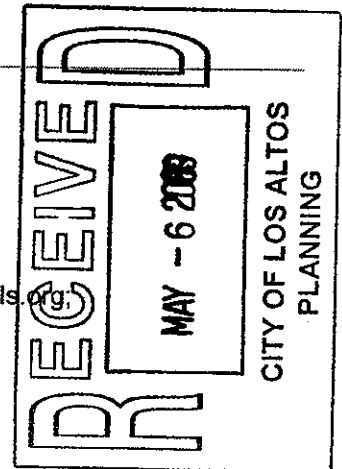
**From:** RodStrickland [rodstrickland@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2009 11:39 AM

**To:**

**Cc:** Zach Dahl; david.kornfield@ci-los-altos.ca.us; dpefley@lasdschools.org; mgoines@lasdschools.org; dluskin@lasdschools.org; bcooper@lasdschools.org; mharrigan@lasdschools.org

**Subject:** Re: Planning Comm mtg 5/21 Pilgrim Haven



Dear Los Altos Planning Commissoin:

On behalf of a neighborhood organization and other interested members of the Los Altos community, I am writing to request that you reschedule your consideration of the Pilgrim Haven project from May 21 to a later date. As the email exchange below reflects, I am writing to you directly because my request has been summarily rejected by the Planning staff.

As explained below, the meeting date directly conflicts with the Santa Rita Elementary School Open House. Given the extreme negative impact the planned project will have on Santa Rita (as detailed in the EIR) for at least 3.5 years and most likely much longer, and the school community's strong opposition to the project, it is critical that Santa Rita parents be heard at the Planning Commission meeting. Forcing them to pick between the Open House and the Planning Commission meeting is neither fair nor necessary, and renders your process unfair and discriminatory. There would seem to no good reason not to reschedule the meeting; certainly no good reason is offered by Mr. Dahl.

I have cc'd the School Board on this email so that it is fully informed regarding the scheduling conflict and its impact on the ability of the Santa Rita community to participate in a very important public discussion.

Regardless of my or your feelings regarding the merits of the project, I assume we can all agree that the process must be fair. Holding the meeting at a time that precludes Santa Rita parents from attending and voicing their concerns is not fair. The parents, residents, and taxpayers of Los Altos deserve better treatment. The meeting date should be changed.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Rod Strickland  
521 Guadalupe Drive  
Los Altos, CA

(Email addresses for Messrs. Bocoock and Lorell are not listed on the City website, and therefore they have not received this email. Please forward this email to them so that the entire Planning Commission can consider this request. Thank you).

**Zach Dahl**

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**From:** Louis Borders [louisb@mywire.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2009 9:32 AM  
**To:** Zach Dahl; david.kornfield@ci-los-altos.ca.us  
**Cc:** Rod Strickland (rstrickland@wsgr.com); Bryan Johnson; Rob Zokaei; Erik Toomre; Harry pforzheimer; hartbg@hotmail.com; tanyaboillot@sbcglobal.net  
**Subject:** Planning Commission Meeting

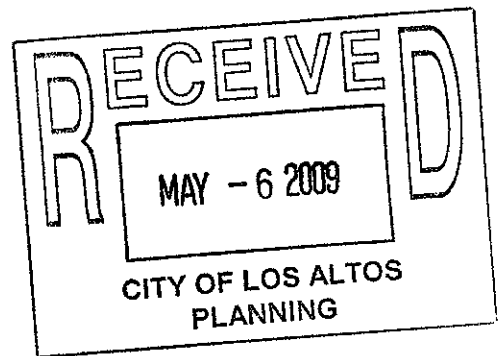
I would like to request that the Planning Commission postpone its meeting to discuss the Pilgrim Haven project.

As it is currently scheduled, the optics are that the Planning Commission is intentionally trying to manage resistance to the project by scheduling the meeting on the same day as Santa Rita's open house.

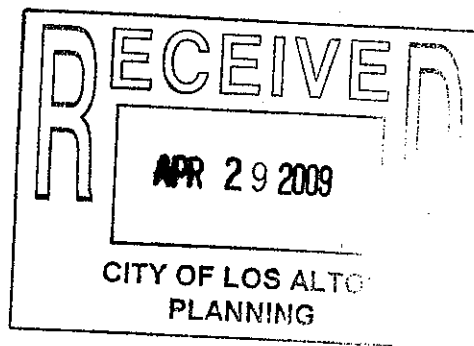
Thanks you for this consideration.

Louis

Louis H. Borders  
Member of North Los Altos Concerned Neighbors Committee



Barbara D. Emerling  
52 Almond Avenue  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
Ph: 650-948-0455



Planning Commission, City of Los Altos  
1 No. San Antonio Road  
Los Altos CA 94022

Honorable Commissioners:

In defense of Pilgrim Haven, I qualify in two categories: I am a 37-year resident of Los Altos, and a 32-year employee of Pilgrim Haven. In 1977 I was hired as a six week temporary replacement for a vacationing registered nurse. After that, I was hired as a part-timer and have worked at Pilgrim Haven ever since. In 1988 I sustained some vision loss and transferred to the new Wellness Office and later became the Independent Activities Coordinator.

I tell you this to emphasize the value of Pilgrim Haven to the community. In my case they saw the value of keeping a dedicated employee who could still contribute. They helped preserve my dignity by allowing me to serve families that I love - in some cases three generations! I am still able to interact with the administrator who hired me, himself now a resident here.

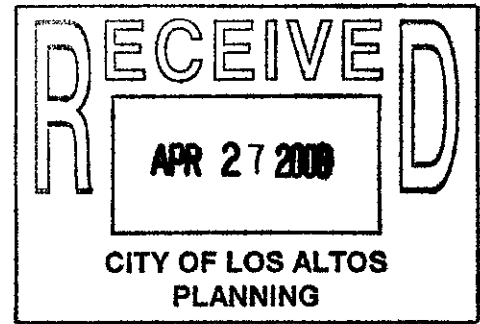
Pilgrim Haven has had a beneficent effect on many families in our community for all its years. Why would we not honor this asset instead of throwing impediments in the way of its renovation project?

Please approve their plans expeditiously.

Respectfully,

Barbara D. Emerling, R.N.

**JOSEPHINE M. STIENE**  
4166 Thain Way  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
(650) 424-0931  
e-mail: [jmstiene@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmstiene@sbcglobal.net)



April 25, 2009

Planning Commissioner  
Chairman Jon Baer and Members of the Commission  
1 North San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022

Dear Planning Commissioner:

Anyone who has ever had a loved one who needed help as they advanced in age or some assistance even if they are not a senior resident would realize the value of having a facility such as Pilgrim Haven close to one's home.

I placed my mother into Pilgrim Haven at the age of 99 since she was unable to walk or fully take care of herself and I was not able to continue having her at home since I am single and needed to work. I did take care of her for 11 years in my home prior to placing her at Pilgrim Haven.

Over the years I often heard that Pilgrim Haven was a very caring facility and had a wonderful reputation. When I first visited Pilgrim Haven to check it out I was impressed with the grounds as well as the fact that it was in a residential neighborhood and how well it was maintained. I often thought I would welcome a facility like that close to my home as it would be most convenient to visit a loved one. Even though I live in south Palo Alto, I found it a blessing being able to visit my mother each day and yet be close to home so that I did not have to commute a long distance after putting in a full days work, visiting my mother, and then going to have dinner and whatever else could be accomplished in the remaining evening hours.

There is going to be a greater need than ever before to have qualified caretakers ministering to those unable to care for themselves. We all hope it will never happen to us to find that we must put a loved one in a nursing facility or, even worse, that we ourselves may one day be placed in such a facility. What does ease the pain is the accessibility to a caring facility such as Pilgrim Haven.

I certainly hope the Planning Commission gives in depth thought to the need for such a facility and approves the expansion to allow even greater help to those who will be in need of such care.

Sincerely,

Cc: Mayor Satterlee and Council Members

Los Altos Planning Commission  
Chairman Jonathan C. Baer and Members of the Commission  
1 North San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022

April 24, 2009

REF: PILGRIM HAVEN MODERNIZATION and REMODEL

Dear Commission Members,

The proposed Pilgrim Haven Modernization and Remodel plan has been discussed and worked on for several years with many meetings and architectural revisions, based on the input of neighbors and community members.

We have lived directly across the street from Pilgrim Haven for thirty-three years and have nothing but praise for the efforts of the residents and staff. They are excellent neighbors. I believe they have been sensitive and sincere in their efforts to make the very much needed improvements in this project.

The outcome of the first phase of this project, that Pilgrim Haven did several years ago, definitely improved Pine Lane and the neighborhood, as listed:

- New housing units replaced old cottages.
- Attractive landscaping and fences screened the cars that looked like a parking lot.
- Underground utilities improved the street appearance.
- Street parking is controlled by restrictions.

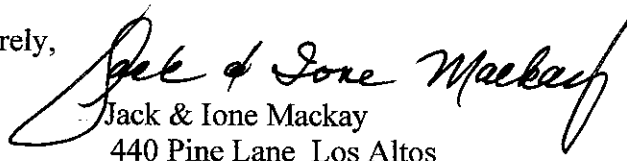
One only has to visit the Health Center and the Nursing Facility to recognize the need for modernization and upgrading. The proposed plan also includes a Memory Support Facility that is very critical to the needs of the Los Altos community.

We recognize the disruption this project will create during construction, but feel the result of a beautiful/upgraded campus will be well worth any inconvenience to us as neighbors. We feel confident, based on past performance, that the Management of Pilgrim Haven will make every effort to address the issues of safety, traffic, noise and other concerns.

We all need to realize this is "home" for 181 residents, many of whom have lived in Los Altos for many years. We would like to think that all of us recognize they are part of the community. We would want them to enjoy their living conditions with modern amenities and conveniences.

We strongly encourage the Planning Commission to approve the Pilgrim Haven Modernization and Remodel Plan.

Sincerely,

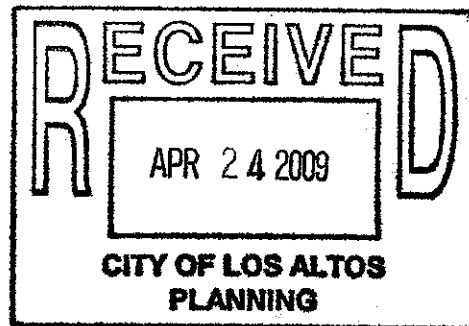
  
Jack & Ione Mackay  
440 Pine Lane Los Altos

April 22, '09

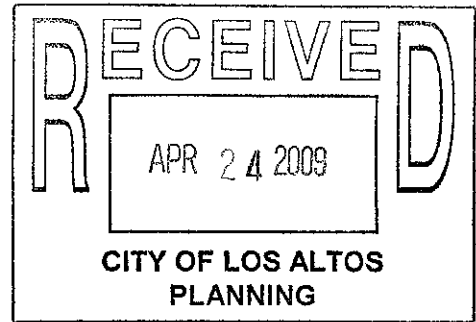
To: Planning Commission, Los Altos

From: Sally & Dave Brew, 629 Benvenue Ave,  
LA

We have been residents of Los Altos for about 50 years. Pilgrim Haven has served our community well. We are totally in favor of the expansion of the facility. As our population ages, Pilgrim Haven will be in increasing demand. How great to have such a facility in Los Altos for all of us who have been residents for many years. We urge your approval of the remodel and modernization of Pilgrim Haven.



March 9, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

I 1949 I helped to get enough money to buy the land for Pilgrim Haven Retirement Home, surrounded with apricot trees. Friends built homes on the land and then gave the homes to Pilgrim Haven when they died.. Only retired missionaries and pastors were first admitted. Now all people are welcomed. Buildings have been added in the last 60 years.

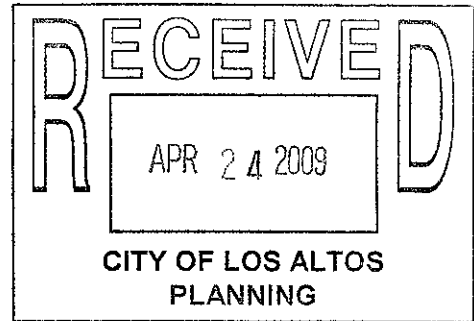
I have lived here more than twenty years. Now we need a new Health Center and activity space so we can continue to have the best life possible. We welcome the new buildings even though we know it will take time to improve the campus.

When we first moved into Pilgrim Haven, my husband and I played pool, ping-pong and shuffleboard—games that take a lot of space. Now we still have shuffle board and game night—when all of us gather in Fellowship Hall with table games. It would be wonderful to have more space available.

In the early years of our ownership of Pilgrim Haven, Santa Rita took a strip of land for their fields—this was where many of us parked our cars. We love our home and welcome the renewal plan which will include underground parking. We are hoping for your approval.

Respectfully,

Miriam Bjornson



March 9, 2009

To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

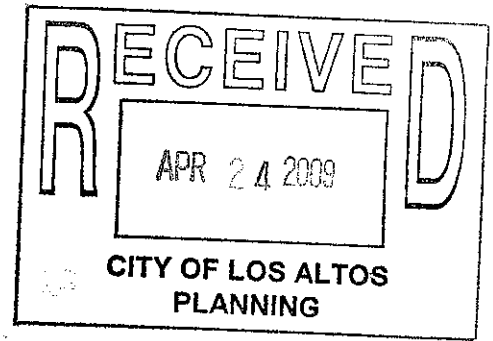
We chose Pilgrim Haven because it was small compared to other retirement communities in the area. We felt we were in a community rather than an institution or a hotel. My wife's cousin lived here and they invited us for various events. We liked the friendly atmosphere. We were impressed with the quality of the staff.

As a recent President of the Residents' Association, I attended several ABHOW meetings where we were given tours of other continuing care residential facilities. It was painfully obvious how old our facility is! Most of our apartments were built in the 1960s and before. Our Health Center is even older. Many apartments are studios without kitchens with ancient wall heating and window air-conditioning systems. We are fortunate to live in one of Pilgrim's Haven's modern two-bedroom apartments (built in 1992). But we were on the waiting list for five years. Los Altos residents will be demanding larger apartments more quickly as they get older.

As the years go by, people will live longer, and the need will increase for a modern Health Center augmented by a Memory Center. Pilgrim Haven, with your approval, will meet this need. But we must start now!

Thank You,

Dick Davies



March 8, 2009

To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

As a long-time resident in the Bay Area (42 years of which 24 years were in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills) we would like to urge you to approve the proposed renovation of Pilgrim Haven.

As we all age, we find that we need to find adequate facilities to help care for our parents, siblings, relatives, etc. There are many services available but only a few with the capability to meet all our needs as far as convenience, costs, personnel, size, etc. We selected Pilgrim Haven because it met most of our perceived needs. Pilgrim Haven has provided outstanding medical care, activities, physical therapy, safety, mental stimulation, etc. We enjoy being near our children and grandchildren and not being a burden on our relatives. We also enjoy the community activities, sports, and theater and recreation activities. We think we are an asset to Los Altos and we can make your city and ours, a better place to live.

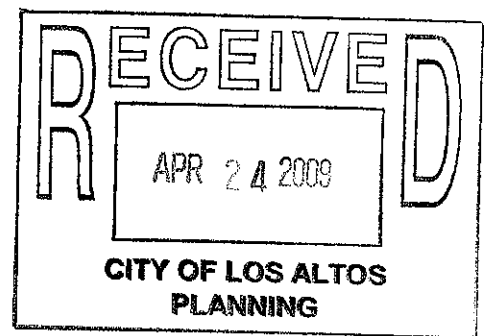
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roy Kuramoto".

Roy Kuramoto

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yemiko Kuramoto".

Yemiko Kuramoto

March 8, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

After I was widowed in 1985, I lived alone for 8 years in my house. Then my pastor said to me "Norma, I want you to register at Pilgrim Haven". Following his advice, I did register, in 1993, but did nothing to move in. My daughter urged me to move to Conn. (3000 miles away) and I dutifully went for a year. It was too hot in summer and too cold in the winter—so I did nothing!

Finally, in 1998, I went to Pilgrim Haven and really looked it over. I was able to get a Studio Room with a small kitchen and was about to move in when someone passed away. She had had a 1 bedroom apartment! So, instead of having to move twice, I moved once. I fortunately sold my home to the man who was going to renovate it to sell. I finally moved in in June 1999.

Now I wish I had moved when I was first widowed, as I am in better health now, since I have expert care and food—better than when I lived alone.

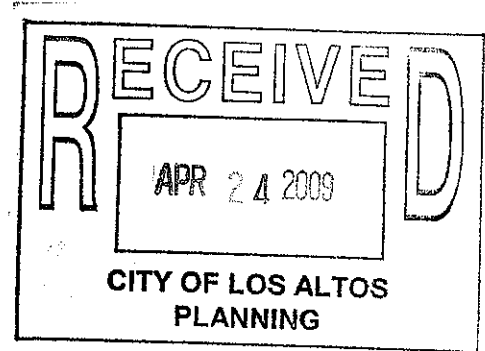
I love the companionship and camaraderie here at Pilgrim haven and the coffee klatch is fun too. I think we do a lot of good in the community—we sponsor a Little League team and have our voting here which helps the local people.

All in all, I love it here, with good activities to do—or not—and we also have transportation when we have to be some place and can't drive. I take two classes that I think keeps my mind alert—"Historical Perspectives" and "Current Events" and love them both.

Thank You,

*Norma McBride*  
Norma McBride

March 5, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

I am writing concerning the construction that is needed at Pilgrim Haven to bring it up to what it should be.

I have lived in Los Altos at Pilgrim Haven for 28 years. During this time I have served on the Los Altos Senior Co-ordinating Council, been an Inspector for the voting precincts in and around Los Altos for 20 years, helped in the computer lab at Santa Rita School at lunch time for several years and tried to be a good neighbor.

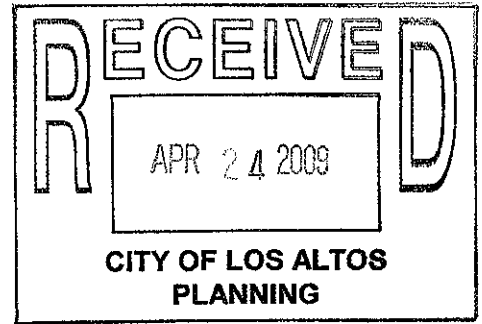
I lived in Pal Alto when Los Altos was just a town and worked in the Palo Alto City Hall. That is where I met Joe Salameda, who became the first building inspector of Los Altos. I am 97 years old and looking forward to the care that our very good nursing staff can give me but the skilled nursing building is more decrepit than I am and needs replacing badly.

I love my home here at Pilgrim Haven in Los Altos. It is like living in a beautiful garden that you don't have to take care of and where you are secure. You can travel and know that your home and flowers will be taken care of. I have made wonderful friends here. It is like one big loving family. We help each other.

Yes, it is noisy at times when the children are playing on the school grounds of Santa Rita. This might bother some people but we are parents and grandparents and love the sound of healthy children at play. They are our tomorrow.

Sincerely,

*E.ther Most*



March 5, 2009

To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

I'm a relative newcomer to Pilgrim Haven, having moved here in 2008. A few years prior to that, I had looked at retirement residences as far north as Medford, OR and in much of the Bay Area. Many could be ruled out because I did not want a high rise building or a very large community where it might be difficult to find one's niche. Pilgrim Haven's neighborhood setting appealed to me, and I liked to look at many units which give the appearance of having one's own cottage. All the buildings are one or two stories. The size of this community appealed to me...

Rather than leave the area—I had lived in Palo Alto for 45 yrs—I opted to stay close to my longtime associations—church, medical care, free-lance work, cultural activities and friends.

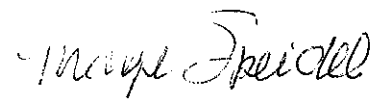
Before I moved to this community my doctor remarked on what good care is given there if needed. I didn't pay much attention, but shortly after I moved I fell and injured my back and found out first hand the care is excellent. Nurses arranged an ambulance trip to Stanford Emergency when I could not get into a car.

I then spent three weeks in the skilled nursing center and found that the nurses here went out of their way to make a painful situation bearable. Sometimes they brought their own phone to my bedside when an anxious friend wanted to reach me. The concern continued after I was back in my own apartment, with nurses stopping by to make sure I was okay on my own.

I love the sense of community at Pilgrim Haven, where others encourage and care. The residents here also take part in the larger Los Altos community, as they shop, bank, and worship and patronize local stores and restaurants.

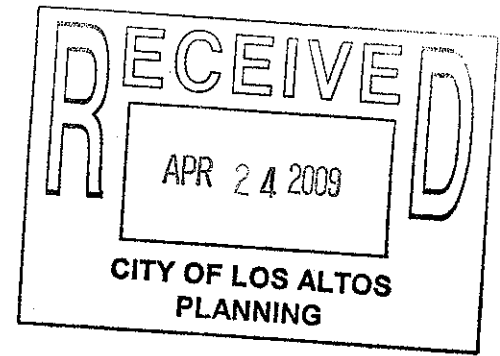
The current skilled nursing center, dating from the '50s is badly in need of updating and the proposed expansion will be beneficial to the Los Altos community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marge Speidel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Marge Speidel

March 2, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

Thank you for the time and skills you give the people of Los Altos. For five years now my husband and I have had the privilege of being citizens of this lovely town. For ten years before that I was an active member of the Peninsula Area's nature educators group (the Environmental Volunteers) that brought programs to some of your elementary schools. I was a docent for them on field trips to reinforce our classroom presentations (topics like Birds & Nests, Earthquakes, Nature in your Neighborhood, Small Mammals, Water). Imagine my delight when, after five years on the waiting list for Pilgrim Haven at 373 Pine Lane, an apartment became available looking through the treetops to the Santa Rita School and playing fields. My parents had had the chance to move to a similar community in Duarte in southern California before they passed on. I had decided that that was the way to spend one's last years, however many or few they were to be, in a supportive climate where people actually admitted that death was as natural as birth.

As a healthy individual in south Palo Alto for 45 years, I had occasionally brought an ecumenical program to Pilgrim Haven's Fellowship hall. When I moved in, I was surprised at how tightly scheduled that one real gathering place at Pilgrim Haven is. We have a wealth of programming that goes on there, some of it open to the neighborhood, especially bookings of an educational and medical nature. We really feel a bond to neighbors who are coping with family members with memory problems and with Alzheimer's, or who are seeking therapy after strokes. I personally tried out the Pilgrim Haven Skilled Nursing Facility my very first weeks living here (before the cardiologist and my primary physician agreed on releasing me to life in my new home upstairs at the far north edge of the campus). Even our sickest or most frail patients need adequate shelter, efficient equipment and controlled temperatures. We cannot disregard our responsibility to minister to them, allowing them dignity and well planned spaces as well as the loving

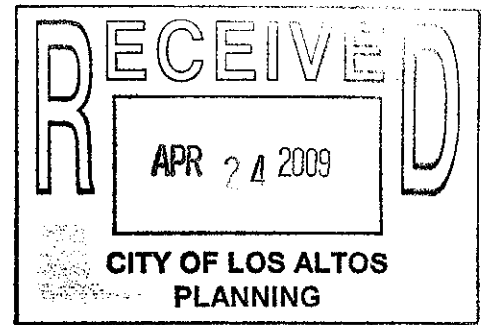
care of the staff. So we lose an erratic desiccated apricot orchard—but in our first phase of renewal gain a new Health Center with a special Memory Unit. That will be a good final home to those who are the most dependent on others.

Before we came, we had heard of plans for the renewal of the Pilgrim Haven Continuing Care Community. Please let us have it soon. We are praying that our able-bodied residents stay able and continue to be good citizens of Los Altos, and use their talents where they can. Doesn't everyone want a peaceful neighborhood where people are accepting of various stages of life? "Time like an ever rolling stream bears all its sons away..." (Even if we have no room nor plans for a large body of water like a lake or swimming pool.) Time just keeps roiling us along! Buildings don't age in the same way as people, but they do get old. We need to begin building a new Health Center (skilled nursing facility) NOW.

Sincerely,

*Marian L. Davies*  
M.L. Davies  
Birch 201

**MARCH 2, 2009**



**TO: LOS ALTOS PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL**

**MY NAME IS ARVID HAMER. I LIVE AT 373 PINE LANE IN LOS ALTOS.**

**MY FAMILY HAS BEEN RESIDENTS OF LOS ALTOS FOR 43 YEARS. MY MOTHER LIVED IN THE PILGRIM HAVEN RETIREMENT COMMUNITY FOR 13 YEARS BOTH IN THE INDEPENDENT AREA AND IN THE HEALTH CENTER. I VISITED HER THERE 2 TO 3 TIMES EACH WEEK SO I BECAME QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THE OPERATION OF THE FACILITY AND THE STAFF.**

**WE ENJOYED THE RURAL AMBIANCE OF THE PARK-LIKE GROUNDS-- THE VARIETY OF FLOWERS AND FRUIT DURING THE DIFFERENT SEASONS. THE IMMACULATE CARE OF THE GROUNDS BY THE PROFESSIONAL GARDENERS ADDED TO THE OPEN HOMELIKE FEELING.**

**BASED ON MY EXPERIENCE WITH MY MOTHER'S CARE, WHEN IT BECAME TIME FOR MY WIFE TO MOVE TO A CONTINUING CARE FACILITY, PILGRIM HAVEN WAS OUR CHOICE.**

**MY WIFE AND I CAME TO PILGRIM HAVEN FIVE YEARS AGO. I LIVE IN THE INDEPENDENT AREA, AND MY WIFE LIVED IN THE HEALTH CENTER. SHE RECEIVED EXCELLENT CARE FROM THE NURSES AND STAFF. SHE PASSED AWAY IN 2007.**

**THE HEALTH CENTER WAS BUILT AND PUT INTO SERVICE IN THE LATE 50'S AND EARLY 60'S. IT WAS BUILT FOR A DIFFERENT TIME AND NOW NEEDS TO BE REBUILT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS. PEOPLE ARE LIVING LONGER AND AN UP-TO-DATE FACILITY IS REQUIRED TO ACCOMDATE THEIR NEEDS.**

**PATIENT ROOMS NEED TO BE LARGER, STORAGE AREAS INCREASED, REHABILITATION AND PHYSICAL THERAPY AREAS ENLARGED AND ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS IMPROVED. PEOPLE WITH COGNITIVE PROBLEMS REQUIRE A SECURE FACILITY. THESE NEEDS AND OTHERS ARE ADDRESSED IN THE PLANS THAT ARE BEING SUBMITTED TO YOU.**

**MUCH CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN IN THE PLANS TO MAINTAINING THE OPEN FEELING OF THE FACILITY. UNDERGROUND PARKING WILL ENHANCE THE PARK-LIKE AMBIANCE OF THE FACILITY AS WELL AS THE LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING ELEMENTS.**

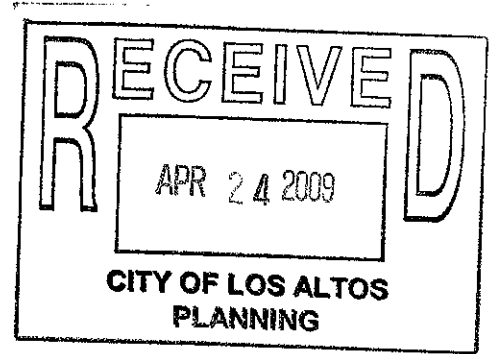
**PILGRIM HAVEN HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY, FULLFILLING THE NEEDS OF OUR AGING POPULATION.**

**I HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER THESE PLANS CAREFULLY AND APPROVE THEM FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.**

**THANK YOU,**

*Arnold E Idamez*

March 1, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

I have lived in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills since 1951, and have watched it grow from a village to a town and to a city. When several acres of apricots were uprooted while in full bloom! --so that we could provide a high school for our growing population we only regretted that the destruction of the trees could not have been postponed for one more week. We were so glad to have such a great high school ready for the post-war surge of children.

Today we have a surge of older Los Altans, many of whom may need extended stays in health care facilities. Planned in accordance with the regulations of Los Altos' building code our proposed, modern health care facility can help meet these needs.

Those of us who call Pilgrim Haven "home" are especially anxious to expand the good care we now have available—care that will include a memory unit—so that those of us who need this special care can stay in Pilgrim Haven's familiar, home-like environment—and couples will no longer be separated by a long drive to another town.

I have studied carefully our proposed plans and can visualize a very attractive campus—with even more trees! There will also be better access for delivery vehicles. Employees, as well as visitors and residents, will welcome the extra on-site parking in our proposed plans. This should please our neighbors, too!

I remember, about twelve years ago, the afternoon that the cottages were torn down to make room for the Maple building. From the first swing of the wrecking ball to flat bare ground (all trash carted away) it was done in about four hours! Dust was much less than I expected.

For the past 16 years I have enjoyed the loving and expert care of all the Pilgrim Haven staff, the comforts of my home here, and the many wonderful residents, many of whom have become close friends. If I should ever need to move into our Health Center, I would still be in a familiar, friendly place. My Pilgrim Haven friends could visit me often, and I would still feel that I was living "at home". These friends include staff as well as residents.

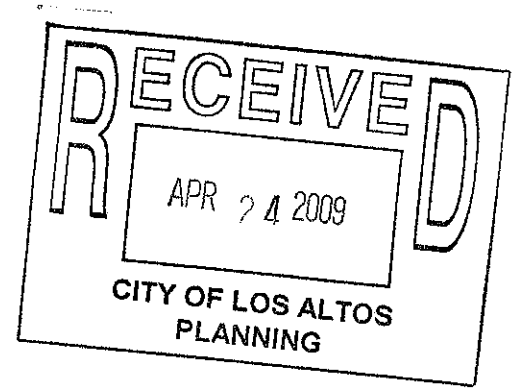
Incidentally, I have visited friends at Channing House, the Sequoias and the Forum. Each time I come home to Pilgrim Haven I am glad that my husband and I made the decision to come here. A new, modern health facility will make it even better than perfect!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Muriel Perkins". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Muriel Perkins

March 1, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

We have been residents of Los Altos since 1959 and have always enjoyed living in this fine community. In fact, I was a volunteer for 32 years working with young children to improve their reading skills.

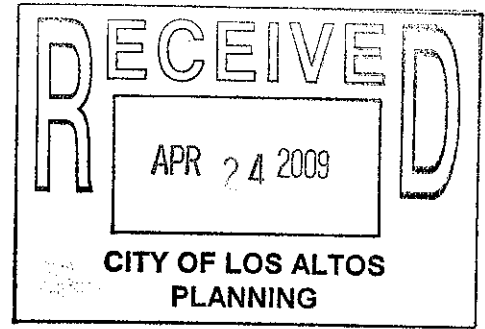
In 2001 we were accepted as residents of Pilgrim Haven. We had previously looked at many Retirement Communities and decided Pilgrim Haven was the friendliest and most caring establishment in every way. Our friends are always welcome to enjoy lunch or dinner with us in our lovely Dining Room—just like they did in our previous Los Altos home. The benefits are numerous; therefore, I do hope and trust that you will give our application your uppermost consideration. There must be many neighbors and residents of Los Altos who will need such a great place for their later years. Pilgrim Haven is 'number one'!

We are both in our nineties and most grateful for our beautiful residence and care in the Independent Living section.

Sincerely,

*Reg & Nora Thomeycroft*

March 1, 2009



To: Los Altos City Council and Planning Commission

I wish to make known my side of the picture regarding the renewal of our Pilgrim Haven campus here in Los Altos. I lived on Miranda Ave. in Los Altos Hills. My husband, Dr. Frank Martin, who was ill, fell and couldn't get up, twice. How relieved I was that we could bring him to the Health Center at Pilgrim Haven. We came here in 2001, where he received excellent care in the Health Center. I lived in an apartment above the Administration building and made many new friends and found some that I knew before. It was a blessing for me to be able to be near my husband until his death in 2002. My son, Bob Martin, lives in Los Altos also.

In 2003, I married Ronald Fredlund, an old friend, who also lived here after his wife had died here. We have been happily living in his apartment in the Birch building since then.

Some of our friends had husbands who had to leave Pilgrim Haven and move to a Memory Center in another town. I felt so sorry for them. That is one thing we badly need here –a center to care for people with Alzheimer's disease. Even if we have to listen to a few noisy trucks coming in while they build it. It is worth it. Some day everyone may need some extra care. I hope the community recognizes this fact and stops objecting to it.

Sincerely,

Mary Martin



February 28, 2009

To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

We are a couple in our eighties who moved to Pilgrim Haven almost three years ago. We came here because we liked the arrangement of the buildings and the surrounding garden. The residences, the offices, and the Health Center are easily accessible. The management and staff are uniformly friendly, businesslike, and helpful. There are many opportunities for culture (concerts, lectures), for learning (computers, discussions), and for promotion of good health (exercise classes, walks).

We feel that renovation of the campus would be desirable. The Health Center is elderly and crowded. It should be modernized.

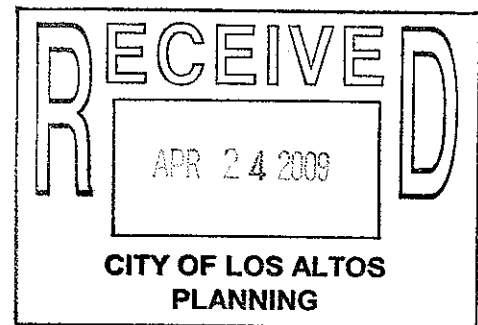
When construction begins the residents of Pilgrim Haven will cooperate and cope with any noise and difficulties that may arise.

*Katherine Pope*

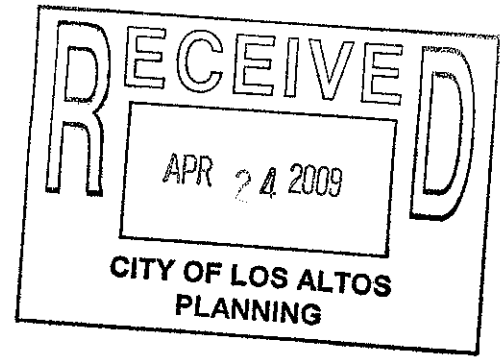
*Ernest Pope*

Katherine Pope

Ernest Pope



February 28, 2009



To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

Here is my letter which tells you about "how we came upon the most inviting, irresistible incarnation of heaven on earth." It was a moment of curiosity which prompted us to stop at this retirement center one Sunday after church attendance at nearby Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Since it was a Sunday, we casually talked with one of the seniors who told us that we would have to look far and wide to find such a well organized center for senior citizens.

The seniors are surprising the rest of the "juniors" that we are still an active group who could benefit from all the facilities and opportunities which are provided here at Pilgrim haven. In turn we can help other seniors who are in the Walker/Cane society who seem to maneuver very well and who participate joyfully in the many opportunities for growth, both mentally and physically.

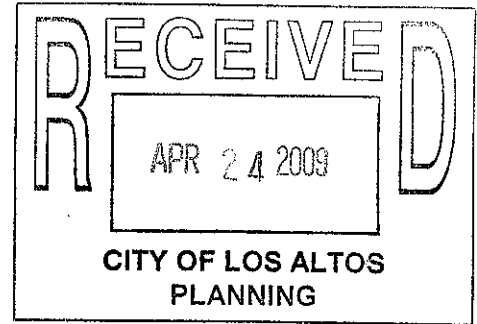
We have a loving and thoughtful son, who is always checking with one of the directors on "how we are getting along".

Yes, since there is a possibility for renovating our facility to accommodate all the needs, we are whole-heartedly in favor of the building project. We hope the City of Los Altos will approve the renovation plans also.

Sincerely,

Yosh and Kay Befu  
Apartment 1107, Jennings Court

MARTHA AND HOYT HICKMAN  
373 PINE LANE  
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022-1683  
PHONE 650.917.1865  
MJWHICKMAN@AOL.COM  
HLHICKMAN@AOL.COM  
February 4, 2009



To the Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council:

I am writing as a resident of Pilgrim Haven Retirement and as President of its Resident Association to urge your approval of Pilgrim Haven's proposed renovation.

We are keenly aware of the need to maintain the quality and character of our community. Many residents came here from Los Altos or neighboring communities. My wife Martha and I, like many others who moved here from a distance, formerly lived in neighborhoods similar in character to the one in which Pilgrim Haven is located. While we were property owners in suburban Nashville, Tennessee, we attended numerous neighborhood meetings and City Council meetings opposing proposals that we feared would lower the quality of our neighborhood. We repeatedly made improvements to our house there, in order that it continue to be a credit to the neighborhood.

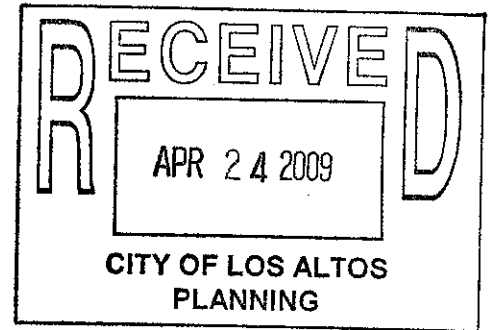
When we moved to Pilgrim Haven, we immediately felt at home here, because of its residential character and its friendly neighbors, with whom we have much in common. As a retired Methodist minister, I had been familiar with retirement communities for more than fifty years and had seen how the need to attract new residents had led them steadily to upgrade their facilities during that time period. What was satisfactory a generation ago is no longer good enough to attract new residents. Pilgrim Haven has steadily upgraded its facilities in its sixty-year history, and from my experience I can see that another upgrading of facilities would greatly help us attract new residents of the highest quality. As I've studied Pilgrim Haven's long-range renovation plan, I see that this is necessary to maintain the character of our retirement community and be a credit to the neighborhood.

I can assure everyone concerned that the residents of Pilgrim Haven intend to be in every way a credit and an enhancement to the neighborhood of which we are a part.

Sincerely yours,

Hoyt Hickman

January 25, 2009



Los Altos City Planning Commission *and City Council*

Los Altos, California

Dear Friends,

My husband and I have been residents of Pilgrim Haven almost two years, but our relationship with this place is much longer. My (Lee) father was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Redwood City at the time the property was bought and plans for a retirement community were being made. He was involved with raising funds for the project, so we have a sort of proprietary interest in the institution. Meanwhile, we went to the Belgian Congo as missionaries and served there 36 years. We never thought we would be able to actually live here, but when my husband began to have balance problems a couple of years ago, our children decided it was time to investigate, and happily, a way was made for us to become residents in March 2007.

Although I came protesting that it wasn't "time" yet, the children were right—it was time, as Jerry's balance and memory problems have continued to develop, but we have been able to stay together, and with my help he is able to live with me in independent living. Although we have "downsized dramatically" and had to find other homes for our two beloved poodles, Geronimo and Jacques, we have adjusted and are very happy to still be together in our mid eighties.

Pilgrim Haven provides the help we need for living, housekeeping, eating,, companionship, and entertainment., as well as transportation when we need it.. Jerry now uses a walker to get around, and the beautiful campus with paved walkways provides a place to get our exercise. Also, it is a great comfort to know that there is always medical help available if we just "punch the button".

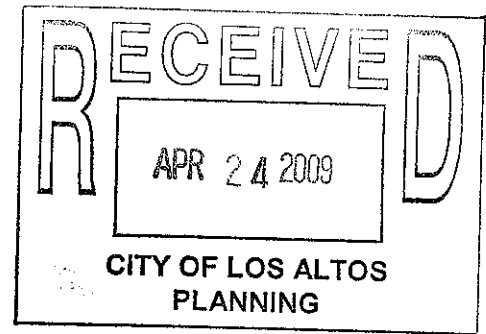
With about 100 other residents in Independent Living, we have companionship if and when we want it, entertainment, exercise classes, educational opportunities, or , when we choose, just to be alone doing our own things. We are greatly blessed, and we hope and pray that you will approve our expansion plans, and continue to support this beautiful oasis in the lovely town of Los Altos.

Sincerely,

Lee and Jerry Weaver

move, or change letter elements, choose Letter Wizard from the Tools menu.

January 21, 2009



To the City of Los Altos:

I moved to northern California from the Los Angeles area about six years ago, when my oldest son's wife died, leaving him with three young sons. They live on Linden Avenue right off Pine Road, around the corner from Pilgrim Haven. He asked if I would be willing to move here and I did. As I spent time on Linden Avenue I began to walk around the area to get more acquainted with this beautiful city. I walked past Pilgrim Haven many times, and was very happy to discover it was a retirement community. I'm a senior and was ready to consider moving to a retirement home but wanted to stay close and available to my family in Los Altos. I finally walked into Pilgrim Haven to learn more about it and was welcomed with the information I needed and a tour of the facilities. I was overjoyed and immediately got on their waiting list.

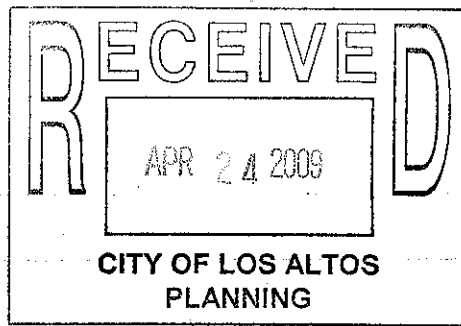
When I finally moved into Pilgrim Haven I appreciated it even more than I thought I would. I feel very fortunate to have found a "home" right around the corner from my son and grandsons. All of my grandsons attended Santa Rita Elementary School, and my son even donated a beautiful amphitheatre built on the Santa Rita school grounds for the children, in memory of his wife. My apartment in the Pilgrim Haven community faces the school grounds and I delight in seeing and hearing the children playing on the grounds. I feel very lucky indeed to be here and my family is very happy to have me so close. They've never been tempted to move out of the area because we wanted all three boys to remain in the Los Altos school system.

I know now Pilgrim Haven needs to expand in order to serve our residents and the community even better. I believe businesses and communities either grow or die, and while I appreciate the Los Altos citizens' wish to keep the city as much like it is as possible, I hope they will also appreciate the value of having a very beautiful, quality senior community as part of it that fits so well into the ambience and appearance of Los Altos as it now is. I believe it's not only a wonderful home for our senior "family," but truly an asset to the city as well.

We ask you, the Los Altos representatives, to help us continue with our campus renewal plans.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Byington  
Pilgrim Haven



Los Altos City Council  
Los Altos Planning Committee

16 January 2009

Four and a half years ago I came to the realization that I needed to think of a retirement situation. I had been a widow for thirty years, lived alone in Menlo Park and had managed well. I needed a long term facility with independent live now but assisted and full care when needed in the future.

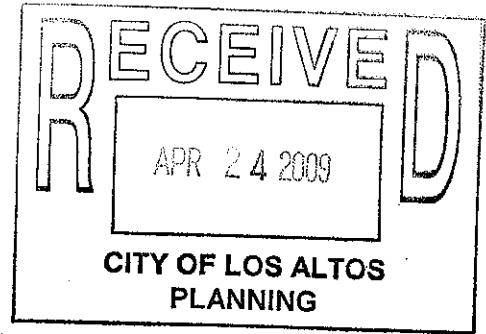
I visited Pilgrim Haven, toured the facility, had a meal with a resident. I was impressed with the quiet beauty of the grounds, the friendliness of the people and the availability of good health care. I never considered or look at another retirement facility.

I have made many new friends, participate in committees and joined in the available programs. I enjoy the beauty and quiet of Los Altos. We do need more assisted care living as many of us in the community are aging and need assistance.

Sincerely

Maria Mong

January 16, 2009



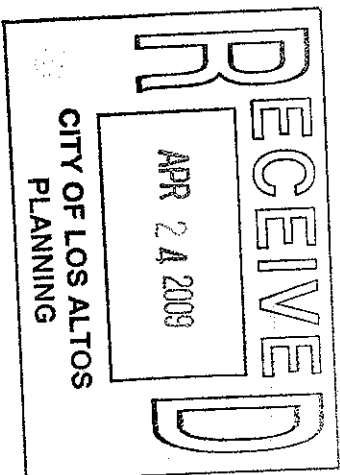
To: Los Altos Planning Commission  
Los Altos City Council

I have lived in Pilgrim Haven for four years. I am 87 years old. I moved from my home in Los Altos Hills. It was my choice for several reasons: I am post polio and have muscle weakness so I can't do stairs. Use of stairs was necessary at the Forum and Channing House. Pilgrim Haven has a Health Care unit which I don't need but it is nice to know it is there, just in case.

Pilgrim Haven is close to my shopping in Los Altos, the grounds are well kept and it gives me a restful feeling—one of security. It works well for me and I am very happy here. I hope that you will support the Pilgrim Haven renewal project—we need to update badly.

Thank You,

LaVon Nixon.



Jan. 16th, 2009

<buneman@sbcglobal.net>

373, Pine Lane #6210

Los Altos

CA 94022-1683

650-948-2519

To: Los Altos City Council and Planning Commission  
Re: Proposed renovation and expansion of Pilgrim Haven

Pilgrim Haven is the only Continuing Care Retirement Community in Los Altos and our city should be proud to have had it recently awarded five star rating for excellent care.

My first encounter with Pilgrim Haven Health Center was working here over twenty-five years ago. As a professional I know how necessary it is for renewal of the premises to incorporate up-to-date features and to include facilities to accommodate those with Alzheimer's disease.

I moved from Los Altos Hills three years ago and am delighted to be within walking distance of down-town and bus service on San Antonio Rd. & El Camino.

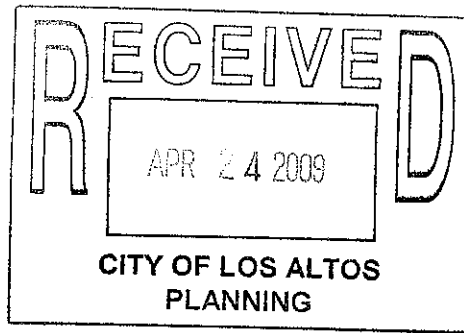
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Buneman".

Ruth Buneman R.N. M.P.H.

TO: Los Altos City Council  
Los Altos Planning Commission

15 January 2009

FROM: Ruth Owen, 9005 Oaks  
373 Pine Lane  
Los Altos, CA 94022



RE:: Pilgrim Haven Campus Renewal

Sixty years ago in Colorado, when I learned of Pilgrim Haven's founding, the name intrigued me, and the concept seemed very timely. Life's journey seen as a pilgrimage, and the enhanced independence, well-being, and security we have at this continuing care facility seen as a haven from the societal and individual hazards of advanced age, made the name unforgettable.

During those sixty years, with evolving expectations and requirements, Pilgrim Haven has built, adapted, remodeled, grown, moved things around, changed, and remodeled some more in order to be what it needs to be. Now there are three lovely contemporary apartment buildings--and everything else shows its age, handicapping staff in fulfilling their mission. Those older buildings have served their day. **CAMPUS RENEWAL IS THE ONLY FEASIBLE SOLUTION.**

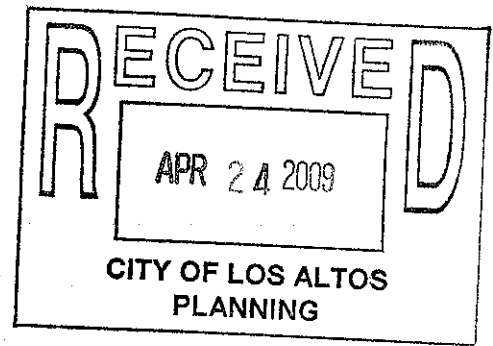
And it is not only the buildings that have gotten older! Applicants are significantly older, with more types of care required, particularly those with the dementias--and Pilgrim Haven has no appropriate facility for them.

Furthermore, current residents can probably be expected to live here more years than their predecessors did. Additionally, there are treatment possibilities that our health center cannot offer because of out-of-date buildings.

As the elder population becomes a larger proportion of society, increasing numbers of citizens will probably need what Pilgrim Haven can offer—IF there's room.. Certainly there is, even now, need for more room.

I rather expect to be at Pilgrim Haven several more years. I hope to see the renewal project progress to the point that I must move into a different unit. because Oaks has been replaced .

Thursday, January 15  
To: Los Altos Commission  
and City Council



In 1954 I moved with my husband and young family from the Mid-west to California. We settled in Palo Alto and lived there the next fifty years. During those years we were neighbors of Los Altos ~~to~~ and had many local friends.

However, when I started planning my own retirement I felt I wanted to visit all of the local retirement facilities in this area. Then I knew I wanted to come to Pelquin Haven to live.

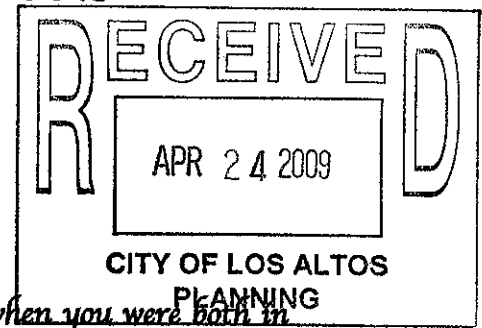
I am starting my fifth year of living here and I still find the things I've always like - a great campus, well kept buildings and landscaping, walking areas, gardening areas but we also need up to date medical and Memory Loss Unit.

This will require well planned construction plans and work hours. And several neighbors have expressed interest in the need for Memory Loss Unit.

Doris Pryor

To: Los Altos Planning Commission  
and  
City Council

January 15, 2009



Dear Virginia,

Of course I remember you as a friend of my daughter when you were both in high school. I am pleased you have contacted me for information about my experience moving to Pilgrim Haven after living in the Los Altos/Los Altos Hills area for so many years, now more than 40.

I understand your loving concern for your aging parents, the needs of your young family, and the demands on you. I wish I could say, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." I can't, but I can say, "Yes, Virginia, there are options," and one of them is right in your own neighborhood.

When my husband, Don, and I became aware his diagnosis of Parkinsonism would be progressive, we decided we should plan for a future in which we could spare our children the stresses we had experienced as a member of the "sandwich generation." We wanted to make our own decision at a time we could adjust to changes, not under the stresses of an emergency situation.

We visited retirement communities in this area and ended up back in our own neighborhood. With my background in health care, we developed three important criteria: (1) It should be a nonprofit organization. I know from experience that for-profit institutions (proprietary) have as their primary goal providing dividends to their investors rather than the humanistic goal of caring appropriately for the elderly. (2) It should provide continuing care, i.e., independent living, assisted care, and skilled nursing services. (3) It should be safe and not isolated, accessible to community resources and medical facilities. We said to ourselves, "Eureka! We have found it at Pilgrim Haven."

We have really felt at home here in a supportive environment; we have made good friends, many of whom are former residents of this area. Don's Parkinsonism progressed to where he spent his last year of life in the skilled nursing facility where he received the kind of total 24/7 care it would have been impossible to receive at home. Living on campus I had the opportunity to spend valuable time with him during his last days. His friends were able to come and go and spend time with him, and I was able to witness the dedication of the staff and the quality of care he received.

My experience at Pilgrim Haven has been the best possible choice for our family. However, the time has come when the aged infrastructure of Pilgrim Haven

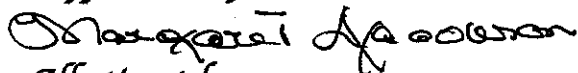
must be upgraded. Although the Health Center and assisted care building are very homelike and the best possible care is given, you may be dismayed at the antiquated buildings and the inconvenience of shared rooms and bathing facilities. I hesitate to be so frank, but I consider it substandard housing; our older citizens deserve more modern facilities.

Many Los Altos may not know of this valuable resource in their very own community. Pilgrim Haven has been in its present location for more than 50 years in what was formerly an orchard. Some of the buildings, particularly the Health Center and assisted care, are much in need of constant maintenance, replacement, and modernization. I have observed how difficult it is for the dedicated staff to care for their patients in an antiquated setting. Then too, those residents with memory loss need a special unit designed for their specialized care. It has been startling to me that some of our close neighbors have vociferously protested the proposed renovation of Pilgrim Haven buildings, particularly since they won't all be done at once. I venture to compare it to those people who have moved close to the runway of the airport and then complained about the noise. In fact, there has been much remodeling of the houses around Pilgrim Haven for the whole time I have lived here, some of which became two-story structures.

So I hope this information has been helpful to you. My family has been grateful that we made this choice, and I feel safe, have help when needed, and feel at home here.

Pilgrim Haven residents have been participating citizens of the Los Altos area and continue to be. We moved only two-and-one-half miles from our former home.

It has been a pleasure to hear from you and I hope this information has been helpful. Do keep in touch and let me know if I can be of further help.



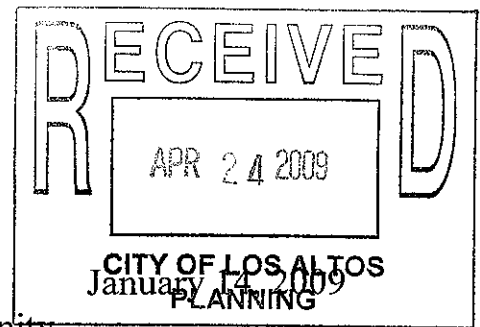
Affectionately,

Margaret Jacobson

373 Pine Lane @2101

Los Altos, CA 94022

MARTHA WHITMORE HICKMAN  
373 PINE LANE  
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022  
PHONE 650.917.1865  
MJWHICKMAN@AOL.COM



Pilgrim Haven Retirement Community

Fellow Citizens of Los Altos,

My husband and I have been residents at Pilgrim Haven since April, 2006, coming here from Tennessee, where we had lived for 34 years. As we were starting into our 80's, we wanted to be close to our Redwood City son, a geophysicist at USGS, and his family, who have lived in this area for some time. Before we came out for a visit, our son and his wife visited a number of the retirement communities in the area and made appointments for us at several they thought would most appeal to us--in terms of location, design, neighborhood, appearance, setting, atmosphere (informal? friendly?) attitude of staff, accommodations, availability.

We spent the morning going the rounds, were pleasantly greeted at each place, talked to a few residents in the course of our travels. We finished our morning with a delightful lunch at Pilgrim Haven, enjoying the company of a couple who had been especially invited to sit with us, who answered our questions, and indicated their trust and endorsement of the life here. The atmosphere was one of informality and warmth. The several apartments we visited were attractive and welcoming.

After our tour we talked at length with our son and daughter-in-law. On all counts, for all four of us, the needle swung toward Pilgrim Haven. Some of the other communities resembled hotels--long corridors, cavernous lobbies with no warmth. Pilgrim Haven reminded me (a native of Massachusetts) of a New England village. The campus was beautiful, and became more so as the spring advanced and roses bloomed along pathways and gardens. It was very important that Pilgrim Haven was a continuous care facility: when our health deteriorated we could still be cared for here. We liked the feel of the neighborhood--a residential community with children playing in the school yard nearby. If we were willing to start out in a less-than ideal space and go on the waiting list for a larger apartment we could move in after the several months it would take us to shrink our belongings and sell our house. We called the office: yes, we would like to sign on.

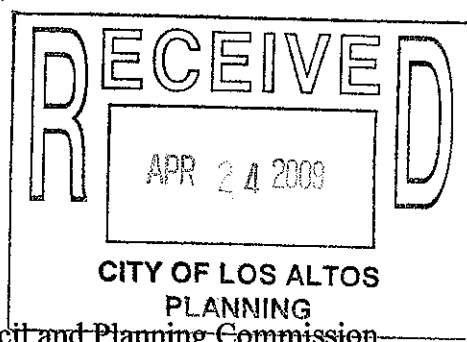
And after we arrived? We were welcomed warmly by the other residents. We soon adapted to the daily schedule, found ourselves drawn to activities we enjoyed: a book discussion group, a weekly discussion on current events, a class on historical perspectives taught by a retired Stanford professor.

Now, three years later, we frequently remind ourselves of how fortunate we are to be here: a community we have come to love, activities we relish, well-planned and prepared meals, concerts, lectures, discussion groups, care when we need it—like the time I stumbled and fell getting off the train from Sacramento and within 5 minutes after we got back to our apartment a nurse from the health center was with me, bandaging my cut arm. Sure, there will be inconveniences while the new construction is underway, but care will be taken. If we are to continue to serve the community and the growing population of the elderly, some inconvenience is a small price to pay. I am reminded of the middle-aged couple from our church who came to visit us in the early months of our time here and, after seeing our new home and listening to our enthusiastic report, the husband sat forward on the couch and exclaimed, “How old do you have to be to come here?”

We have a treasure here and it behooves us to share it.

Sincerely yours,

*Martha Whitmore Hickman*  
Martha Whitmore Hickman



373 Pine Lane # 1108  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
January 14, 2009

Members of the Los Altos City Council and Planning Commission  
1 N. San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022

Dear City Council and Planning Commission Members:

As a resident of the Pilgrim Haven Retirement Community, and thus a resident of Los Altos, I am writing to ask you to approve Pilgrim Haven's campus renewal plans.

About 12 years ago, both my wife, Betty, and I, then in our mid-seventies, decided to look into the possibility of selling our house and moving to a retirement community. Our thinking was that it would be advisable to make this change while we were still young and energetic enough to take advantage of the activities and other benefits offered by such a community.

After visiting several places in Pennsylvania where we lived for 40 years, we decided to look into possibilities in the Bay Area because our son was living in San Francisco at the time. Consequently we investigated several communities in this area. Betty was able to obtain a brochure from the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission that included Pilgrim Haven among the list of accredited facilities. When we visited Pilgrim Haven, we immediately decided that this was the place for us. The location, campus, policies, and friendliness of the personnel and residents, and the fact that all three levels of care are on one campus appealed to us as no other facility had. Hence we applied for admission and were accepted.

We are now in our eleventh year at Pilgrim Haven and have not for one moment regretted our decision to move here.

Betty and I have not simply vegetated, but have enjoyed the many activities offered on campus. These have included lectures, classes, concerts, and our fitness center. I am currently on four committees and chair two of them. In addition, I have served as President of the Residents Association. Betty chairs one committee, has organized the Silicon Valley Reads Program on campus, and keeps up the necessary work on the Pilgrim Haven Memorial Garden which she and a former resident started.

Several of our programs have been open to Los Altos residents: examples are forums for candidates for local and state offices and our Health Faires.

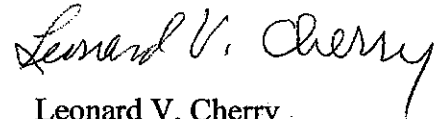
The relatively small size of the campus has made it possible to make many new friendships as well as to get to know the staff. While we have not yet had occasion to be in the Health Center, it is comforting to know of its availability in case of need.

Since Pilgrim Haven is the oldest of the ABHOW retirement communities, having been founded some sixty years ago, many of our buildings need to be replaced. We need more living space, a new up-to-date Health Center (although our present one provides excellent care), and a Memory Care unit that we presently lack. In particular, the Memory Care unit would be a benefit to the Los Altos community as a whole, since there is no other such facility in the city.

Pilgrim Haven residents have served as volunteers in Los Altos: working as Friends of the Library, and at Hidden Villa. I myself have served for six years as the Los Altos Representative to the Santa Clara Advisory Council to the Council on Aging, and am currently a member of the AARP Grassroots and Elections Committee of Santa Clara County. Betty has been organizing the library of the off-campus church we attend, and has also been active in the California Native Plant Society.

There will undoubtedly be some inconvenience during the construction phase, but we are ready to accept this in view of the good that will result both for Pilgrim Haven residents (a number of whom have moved here from the surrounding area) and the Los Altos community as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leonard V. Cherry". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Leonard V. Cherry

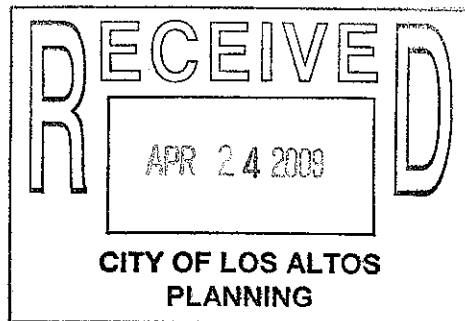
January 14, 2009

To the Members of Los Altos City Council and Planning Commission:

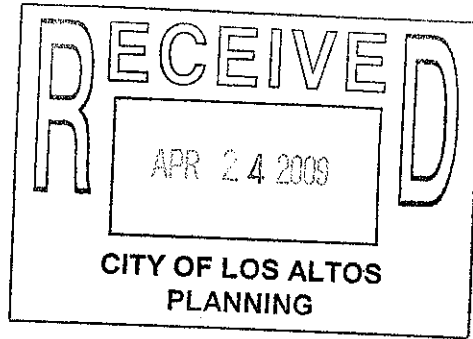
I moved to Pilgrim Haven four and a half years ago after checking four other Senior Residence facilities in the area. It was "love at first sight" and I have never had any reason to regret the decision. We have a staff that gets to know the residents, and makes us feel very much at home. The care at our skilled nursing center is excellent (the center recently received a Five Star rating from Medicare), but the facility is old and quite out of date. It is for this reason that I hope the planned changes for our facilities will be approved. It seems to me that the Los Altos community should be interested in having Pilgrim Haven facilities brought up to date, as there is no other skilled nursing in the community.

The residents of Pilgrim Haven are aware that there will be inconvenience for us while the construction is being done, but the improvements will make that worth while. I feel that the building of a modern Skilled Nursing facility, providing a Memory Care facility, and providing a larger percentage of apartments for residents who need Assisted Living are steps that will be of benefit to the entire community as well as to the current residents of Pilgrim Haven.

Sincerely,



*Marian Van Horn*



January 14, 2009

Dear Los Altos Officials:

One of the main reasons I chose to come to Pilgrim Haven was that, as I walked around the beautiful campus with my hostess, each person we met was greeted by name. I sensed a friendliness that had not been evident in other communities. I came here in 2002, and have rejoiced in the decision every day since.

As an 88 – year – old woman who gave up her car when she came, I feel both independent and protected. When I need help, I can get it; but, basically I do my own thing-Until my vision prevented it, I enjoyed tutoring two mornings a week at Santa Rita school. Now, I look forward to my two afternoons a week working in the sorting room of the Los Altos library. And I am not alone in my off-campus activities.

The number of volunteer hours that comes from Pilgrim Haven is amazing. We give not only our willing hands, but also our many skills. We are tutors, docents, nurses, musicians, florists, even a poll worker.

Pilgrim haven strives constantly to be a good neighbor and a worthy citizen of Los Altos. I hope the Planning Commission and the City Council will look favorably on our petition for permission to continue improving our ability to serve Los Altos better.

Respectfully,

Dorothy Sands  
Apartment 1105

June 14, 2009

Dear Council Members

Pilgrim Home is a true treasure,  
My family came to California in 1853.  
I was a resident of Palo Alto for 51 years  
My husband suffered a stroke in 1998  
and needed 24 hour care.

after five years of commutating between  
our home and care centers - I found  
Pilgrim Haven.

Here he was able to receive wonderful  
care in the Health Center.

I had a home in the independent  
living section.

We were more or less together again.

This is not a unique problem.

However Pilgrim Haven is a blessed answer

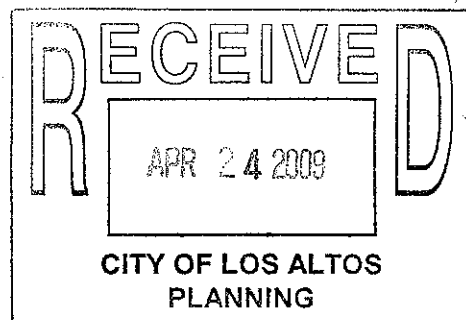
I understand this and I am grateful!!

To be able to live independly at 57,  
rather than with married children.

I do enjoy visits and holidays with  
them, and many phone calls.

I would hope that many others  
will enjoy these blessings because of  
our expansion.

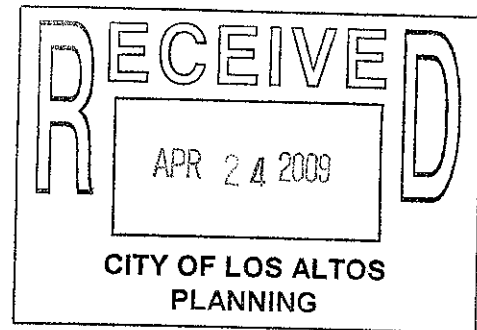
The inconvenience of some construction  
seems a small matter when one  
considers the benefits for so many.



Sincerely  
Lorena Ramirez

January 13, 2009

City of Los Altos  
To Whom It May Concern:



It didn't take long after my husband and I moved to Pilgrim Haven in 1997 to truly call Pilgrim Haven our home. We enjoyed its proximity to town, its gardens, the multitude of on-campus services available to us, and the outgoing, friendly residents and staff. We were able to fit much of our furniture nicely into our two-bedroom, two-bath apartment and never looked back.

Pilgrim Haven has been an integral part of Los Altos since 1949 and is the only facility in Los Altos offering three levels of care. After looking at numerous retirement communities, its location and home-like surroundings were what had convinced us to move.

Until 2006, when my husband fell ill and needed skilled nursing help, we found our time filled with making and enjoying new friends, including taking advantage of the many Residential Living offerings: classes, musical programs, lectures, outings, volunteering. When Roger needed to move to the Health Center, the staff gave him exceptional care and made our remaining days together more bearable. Although the care was outstanding, the building itself greatly needs upgrading. There is no central AC, rooms are small, windows are single-pane, and repairing the worn-out structure isn't the answer.


I don't understand why a number of neighbors are so adamant against our renewal plans, even after Pilgrim Haven agreed to revise the drawings and accept accommodations for Santa Rita School. The plans to build a new Health Center with fewer beds and a memory care center, which we sorely need, would prepare us for our future needs and would be open to the outside community. Newer, more modern apartments set in an environment with lovely gardens and walking paths would be an asset to the neighborhood.

I am concerned about the inconvenience, noise, etc., that will occur with construction, but am more than willing to live with the disturbance so that we can finally get, most importantly, a memory care center and an updated skilled nursing unit.

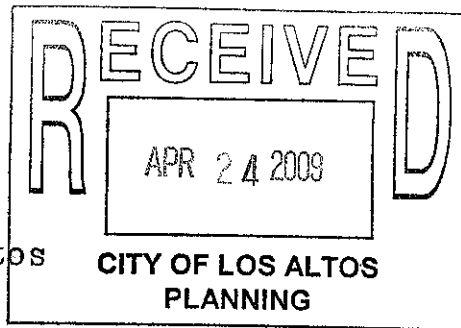
I have never missed voting in an election and served for many years on the Election Board in Sunnyvale and at Pilgrim Haven. City, state, and general elections are held in Fellowship Hall for this precinct. This is just one example of how our residents are involved in our greater community.

I urge you to grant us permission to upgrade our campus and continue to serve not only Pilgrim Haven residents but also the larger, outside community.

Sincerely,

  
Phyllis M. Cairns  
373 Pine Lane,  
Los Altos, CA 94022

City of Los Altos  
/California



Ronald D. Fredlund  
373 Pine Lane #4102  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
Jan. 12, 2009

RE: Pilgrim Haven Up-Grade

I am writing to urge your approval of Pilgrim Haven's <sup>plan</sup> ~~plan~~ <sup>for</sup> improvements and up-grading. I am a 54 year resident of the South Peninsula, of which the last 16 years I have enjoyed being a resident of Los Altos and Pilgrim Haven. It has been a positive experience seeing this neighborhood flourish as it has grown up around Pilgrim Haven. I am 89 years old, but in my working years I spent 20 years as a municipal finance officer for the City of Mountain View during its growing years. This experience convinced me how important professional planning and management are to a city and its residents. Los Altos and Mountain View each have unique qualities that complement each other.

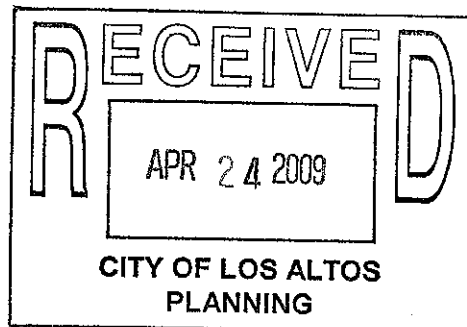
The up-grading of the Health Center and adding a Memory Care center are most important to the Los Altos community. It can be heart-rending to see ageing couples have to be separated because up-to-date memory care is not available in this community.

We all realize there will be some internal inconvenience during construction, but we are confident that it will be done expeditiously. I am convinced that there will be less traffic inconvenience on our immediate wide streets than has recently occurred on the east end of Pine Lane near San Antonio, where the construction of one house has frequently blocked traffic on that narrow portion of Pine Lane.

Respectfully,

  
Ronald D. Fredlund

January 12, 2009



To: The Los Altos City Council *and Planning Commission,*

Dr. Willey and I have lived at Pilgrim Haven for almost two years. We moved February 21, 2007, our 59th wedding anniversary. We sold our home of 50 years, Arlington Road, Redwood City, a month later in March of 2007. The move was a wrenching experience. I am 83 years of age, Dr. Willey is 87.

The pain of our move was mitigated by the caring staff of Pilgrim Haven, friendly residents, the park-like grounds of Pilgrim Haven and the residential area which surrounds Pilgrim Haven, much like Edgewood Park where we lived in Redwood City. We continue to walk each morning, smile at neighbors, and pet any and all dogs who come our way.

We are a part of a weekly memoir class; a Los Resident attends regularly. We have daily exercise classes, weekly art and music classes, current events one evening a week, a historical perspective group, computer classes to keep our brains exercised, newcomers coffee, men's coffee, women's "Lunch Bunch," a jazz trio, Bible study, and groups from the area who come to entertain or enlighten, and much more.

We, personally, have transferred to Los Altos Pharmacy, Los Altos Hardware, Whole Foods and Safeway, Brian's Restaurant, "a Good Morning" for Saturday breakfast, and a barber and dry cleaners nearby. We have found a local physician.

Both Dr. Willey and I have found the physical therapy department at Pilgrim Haven a godsend. The Health Center is a busy place and a haven for both residents of Los Altos and Pilgrim Haven.

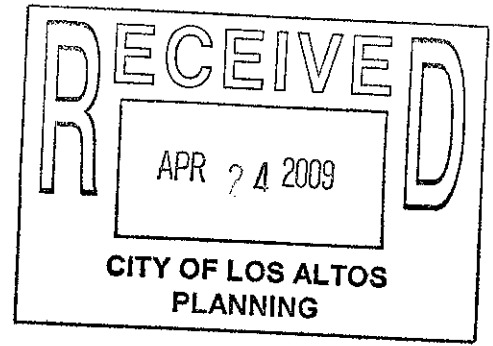
We have lived here long enough to be aware that the Health Center needs to be updated and expanded. We need more rooms, too, for staff and residents. Rooms here serve many purposes every hour of the day.

We are aware that the proposed construction project will cause us some dislocation. At our age we may not see the finished product. However, this is now our home, and we want it to continue for others and into the future of this community. Los Altos is lucky to have Pilgrim Haven.

Sincerely,

*Muriel Willey*

Muriel Willey  
373 Pine Lane  
Los Altos, CA 94022



January 12, 2009

To: Los Altos Planning Commission and City Council

My wife and I have lived in Pilgrim Haven for the past eleven years. We were lucky to come here just as our "Maple Building" was completed in 1998 and we were its first occupants.

My wife is a life-long artist/painter, having been a former member of the Viewpoints Art Gallery here in Los Altos for many years. As such, she has become Pilgrim Haven's "designated" artist. While I have become Pilgrim Haven's "designated worrier".

I worry that we can no longer drive our car after dark. We both worry that I am beginning to lose my memory. And we both worry, wondering where we will go from here as we begin the last phase of our lives.

Now, we have the unique opportunity to be able to plan for the rest of our lives right here in Pilgrim Haven. The new construction planned for this campus will be able to care for my wife's physical difficulties that are beginning to limit her mobility following her breaking her hip two years ago.

The new construction will also be able to handle my increasing memory loss as the darkness inevitably descends over the last years of our lives. The new construction will also make it possible for us to remain together (after 55 years of marriage) in the place here in Los Altos that was our first choice for continuing care here, close to our daughter and family and friends.

We realize that the fulfillment of our dreams for Pilgrim Haven will cause some difficulties for our neighbors during the new construction. We regret that it will be a discomfort for some and an annoyance for others. But that will end with the completion of the construction. It is our hope that our neighbors will understand our needs for future planning, just as they, too, may need similar facilities towards the ends of their own lives.

Sincerely,

Lois and Bob Parr