July, 2019 Joe Domitrowich Joe Domitrowich SFAC Accordions Live! SFAC Accordions Live! Sunday, July 21, 2019 Chetcuti Community Room 450 Poplar Street, Millbrae, CA 2:00 pm



Welcome to the July 2019 issue of SFAC Newsletter, chock-full of **Cotati Accordion Festival** (CAF) information (can you tell we're excited?) as well as a masterful program review of our June meeting.

Our invited performer for July 21 will be the inestimable Joe

Domitrowich. Not since 2014 has Joe brought his ethnic blend of cultural influences from Hungary, Croatia and Slovenia to our club. Don't miss his "Capricious Accordion" program to be performed for our July get-together.

As usual, find us in the Millbrae-Chetcuti Community Center on the third Sunday of the month, **July 21st**. It is the place to connect with like-minded accordion enthusiasts, visit with friends from near and far, and support our club. We know summer schedules are full, and traffic can be challenging. But once you get there, you will find ample, convenient parking and more importantly, a gaggle of like-minded accordion enthusiasts!

Bring your accordion and bring your jam vibe, since the meeting will begin at 2:00 pm with a **jam session**, followed by some snacking and social time, and finally the distinctively European sounds of **Joe Domitrowich** in the 2nd half of our program.

Discounted CAF tickets will be for sale at the meeting (see page 8 for details), and as usual, we will have door prize drawings and our scholarship-fundraising raffle. We look forward to seeing you!

Joe Domitrowich has a penchant for technically challenging arrangements and an interest in diverse genres of music. With a youth steeped in Euroethnic polka music, Joe's interests later evolved into a passion to arrange specifically for the architecture of digital accordion, and to perform live on solo accordion, musical arrangements derived from classical to contemporary genres that are often associated with other musical instrumentation or with an entire band or orchestra.

Joe delights and surprises audiences with entertaining arrangements of familiar selections – from Strauss to Santana - that, while often unusual for the accordion, sound remarkably like the original recordings. All his arrangements are performed 100% live...even capricious performances of unconventional accordion selections ranging from Beatles to big band, latin jazz, or arrangements of pop selections like *Mambo #5*, his signature *Train Ride* – not to mention an occasional provocative spoof - all part of a solo act he has dubbed "Squeeze the Day".

Joe especially enjoys performing for other musicians, and especially accordionists and accordion aficionados, who appreciate the nuances of his ar-



July 21 Featured Performer — Joe Domitrowich (continued from page 1)

rangements and the manner in which he weaves it all together, integrating the familiar sound of the acoustic accordion's natural reeds alongside the broad selection of diverse MIDI samples. He is happy to describe the subtleties of his technique, sharing with those interested how he skillfully harnesses the features of the MIDI accordion to prepare his witty signature arrangements.

In addition to his solo work, Joe is perhaps best known as leader of the **AlpinersUSA Oktoberfest Band**, the SF Bay Area's premiere Oktoberfest show band, which has toured the country, playing huge festivals from the East to West coasts. There is more information on Joe's background and various ensembles on his website <u>www.capricious-accordion.com</u> as well as in recent back issues of this newsletter. And, you can see and hear some of his signature performances on his YouTube channel...just search "Joe Domitrowich" on <u>YouTube</u>.



Remember, Joe's "AlpinersUSA" ensemble stays super busy during Oktoberfest season. So if yodeling or holding beer steins up in the air shenanigans is your type of fun then consider attending one of the **Oktoberfest** events, which happen to include German accordion music and are listed below.

- Redwood City Oktoberfest September 27, 28, 29
- Mountain View Oktoberfest October 5-6
- Cotati Oktoberfest October 12

June 2019 SFAC monthly meeting review — by Ken Schwartz





We had a successful and entertaining summer **Accordion Circle** in June, thanks to the invaluable help of Colette, Casey, Lou and Mike! We couldn't have done it without them. We had approximately 18 in attendance, of whom 7 participated in the jam session.

The fabulous new jam books, with their music scores and informative illustrations, were a huge success. Lou also educated us on *Liebestraum* (new to the jam books), which Liszt wrote for his mistress, not his wife! Everyone also played and sang *It Had to Be You*, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Let's try to sing as a group again!

We had several new attendees, including Brian (who plays the chromatic ac-



(Continued) June Meeting Review by Ken Schwartz

cordion and joined several months ago), Michelle (MeetUp member) and her 2 friends, and Henghao Li, who is from mainland China and is visiting America this year. His accordion was lost in Georgia (USA) in transit, so he performed on Clarence's accordion. Clarence informed me he now has 6 accordions, of which this is the only one that works!



Speaking of Clarence, he was pleased to be the winner of our raffle cash prize, while the door prizes (wine) went to Don Savant and Lou Jacklich. Individual performers included Scott, Clarence, Don, Ray, Li, Mike (including his terrific vocals), and Lou as solo and in several fabulous duets with Colette.

AccordionUSA.com Leads to the Accordion World By Pamela Tom

AccordionUSA.Com on the internet is a monthly news bulletin chock-full of accordion news to keep you wellinformed on all things accordion happening in the U.S. and internationally. Standard news features include information about accordion: concerts, festivals, workshops, competitions, camps CD's, on-line classes, new music, books, reviews, performers, instruments and more! A link with a past news index dating back to December 1999 is available on the web page: <u>http://</u> www.accordionusa.com

To stay informed on monthly and upcoming accordion news, why not bookmark AccordionUSA.com on your computer and plan to visit the web site at the start of the month? The site is a public service and an amazing resource for accordionists and people who want to learn the latest about the accordion community. Rita Barnea, an accomplished accordionist, is the dedicated editor of this excellent resource. Robert & Elaine were so lucky to catch Sourdough Slim & Robert Amstrong at the Twin Oaks Roadhouse in Penngrove at a July 4th weekend BBQ. Don't miss this dynamic duo at the Cotati Accordion Festival this year!



Since 1991 - Building community while supporting Cotati and Rohnert Park youth organizations.

7 Stages – 40+ Accordion Acts Separate Cajun/Zydeco Venue Zydeco Dance Lessons – Polka Tent Accordion Jam Tent - Student Stage 70+ Accordion, Food and Craft Vendors



AND SO MUCH MORE! Come once, and you'll be back!

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Cotati Accordion Festival Saturday, August 17, 2019 Main Stage, L-Plaza Park: 9:45 - 10:15 Golden State Accordion Club Band 10:20 - 10:50 Rene Sevieri 10:55 - 11:35 Gary Blair 11:40 - 12:15 Crème Brülée 12:20 - 12:35 The Great Morgani 12:40 - 1:20 Corky Bennett 1:20 - 1:35 Honorary Director Sheri Mignano Crawford Student Stage winners announced 1:35 - 1:55 Lady of Spain, Audience Participation 1:55 - 2:40 Cory Pestaturo and Pietro Adragna – Italy 2:45 - 3:25 Anaïs Bessières – France 3:30 - 3:45 The Great Morgani 3:50 - 4:30 The Mad Maggies 4:35 - 5:10 La Agencia 5:15 - 6:00 En Canto with Jamie Maschler 6:10 - 6:40 The Bellow Shakes 6:50 - 7:40 Andre Thierry Concurrent Pertormance Locations 12:00-1:00 - Dance Lesson 12:00-5:00 Friar Tucks, 8201 Redwood Hwy. Cajun/Zydeco 1:00 - 5:00 - Mark St. Mary Dance Party: Polka Tent - On Site, La Plaza Park Polka (1-5pm)			
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2:00 – 3:00 The Bellow Shakes 3:00 – 4:00 Junk Parlor 4:00 – 5:00 Intuitive Compass 5:00 – 6:00 Skyler Fell & Sun Dog Star	12:00 - 1:00	Penny Opry	
3:00 - 4:00 Junk Parlor 4:00 - 5:00 Intuitive Compass 5:00 - 6:00 Skyler Fell & Sun Dog Star	1:00 - 2:00	Nathan & Jessie	
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5:00 – 6:00 Skyler Fell & Sun Dog Star	3:00 - 4:00	Junk Parlor	
	4:00 - 5:00	Intuitive Compass	
6:00 – 7:00 Led Tzedik			
	6:00 - 7:00	Led Tzedik	

Cotati Accordion Festival Sunday, August 18, 2019		
9:45 - 10:15	Golden State Accordion Club Band	
10:20 - 11:00	Future Accordion Stars	
11:05 – 11:45	Anaïs Bessières – France	
11:50 - 12:30	Big Lou's Dance Party	
12:35 – 12:50	The Great Morgani	
12:55 – 1:35	Sourdough Slim & Robert Armstrong	
1:35 – 1:55	Lady of Spain, Audience Participation	
1:55 – 2:35	Gary Blair	
2:40 – 3:20	Pietro Adragna – Italy	
3:25 – 3:40	The Great Morgani	
3:45 – 4:25	Ginny Mac	
4:25 – 4:35	Raffle Drawing	
4:35 – 5:15	Dona Francisco	
5:20 - 6:00	Cory Pestaturo	
6:05 – 7:05	GRAND FINALE	
Concurrent Performance Locations		
12:00-5:00	Friar Tucks, 8201 Redwood Hwy.	
Cajun/Zydeco	12:00-1:00 – Dance Lesson	
Dance Party	1:00 – 5:00 – <u>MotorDude</u> Zydeco	
Dance Party	Polka Tent – On Site, La Plaza Park	
Polka (1:00 - 5:00) Zydeco (5:15 -	9:45 – 12:00 Jim Gilman 1:00-5:00 The Steve Balich Band	
6:50)	5:15-6:50 Les Amis Zydeco (Zydeco)	
10am – 6pm	Skyler Fell's Accordion Apocalypse Stage:	
10:00 - 11:00	Diana Strong & Wind Weavers	
11:00 - 12:00	Big Lou	
12:00 - 1:00	Art Peterson & Laurie Miller	
1:00 - 2:00	Nathan & Jessie	
2:00 - 3:00	Creosote	
3:00 - 4:00	Miss Moonshine	
4:00 - 5:00	Intuitive Compass	
5:00 - 6:00	Duckmandu	

Click on hyperlinks for more information about each Cotati performer!

Rose City Accordion Camp June 2019 By Pamela Lister

This year the Rose City Accordion Club hosted Accordion Camp again. The venue was located at Silver Falls State Park Conference Center, in Sublimity, OR. [See page 10: 2020 RCAC at Collins Retreat Center.]

This camp has been hosting accordionists for many years. Our family enjoys attending the accordion camp. This year I attended with my older brother, John, and my mother, Gwyn. We were able to participate in the accordion orchestra with two distinguished conductors, Beverley Fess and Gabe Hall-Rodriquez. We attended music workshops with Court-ney Von Drehle and Alicia (Baker) Straka, and participated in ensemble and section rehearsals. There was also an opportunity to sign-up for optional 1:1 instruction from the teachers. Participants could perform nightly before the group either solo, with a duet partner, or as a trio.

At camp this year John, Gwyn and I performed the tango, *La Cumparsita* as a trio. Also, Gwyn and I performed *Liebestraum* as a duet. (My accordion teacher, Lou Jacklich, helped me with these pieces and my orchestra music!) Sitting in the audience to cheer on our friends was wonderful, as was the chance to play for such a supportive audience.

The camp setting is idyllic with marvelous waterfalls nearby and a conference center that has cabins set in lush trees with green grass. The room and board is included in the price of the camp. Some spouses also attend to enjoy the surroundings. As an added treat, we celebrated mom's upcoming 90th birthday with a surprise cake and song.

It is special to see these accordionists from various locations gathered together each year at the accordion camp. We have become music friends. Some are quite skilled and talented while others are just beginning.

This is a "don't miss" event to add to your calendar: June 7-12, 2020. Rose City Accordion Club plans to give partial scholarships again next year. They are a great club! For more information you can check the Rose City Accordion Club's Facebook page and website <u>http://rosecityaccordionclub.org</u>. It will be great to see you there next year!







Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

20-YEAR CELEBRATION

October 14 – 17 we will celebrate our 20th year in Las Vegas with an accordion party of a lifetime! There are a few great reasons to attend, but perhaps the biggest reason is this year's lineup of Accordion Stars including **Professor Frederick Lips**! Of course we will also feature the BEST of the BEST – with talent like **Cory Pesaturo** and MORE, plus **Professor Sommers** conducting the Las Vegas International Accordion Orchestra!

When – October 14-17, 2019 – Rooms only \$47 per night on our block with a special \$12 per night resort fee savings! Plus we will take \$50 off your registration when you book on the convention block. For registration details contact event organizer Paul Pasquali at <u>paul@AccordionStars.com</u>

SFAC Scholarships

Your club has scholarship funds available to support accordion students studying with teachers who are SFAC members in good standing. Preference is given to students who demonstrate dedication to pursuing the study of the accordion. Contact **Mike Zampiceni** for a scholarship application.

eclecticguy@comcast.net 408-569-2579

Cotati Friday Concert Supports Scholarships

by Pamela Tom

Are you planning an early arrival to the **Cotati Accordion Festival** this year?

Don't miss the 6th annual Benefit Concert for Student Accordionists in downtown Cotati at the Redwood Café (8240 Old Redwood City Highway) on Friday, August 16.

The concert is scheduled for 4:30-6:30 PM with an impressive line-up of outstanding entertainers: Sheri Mignano Crawford of *Due Zhigi Baci* (with Michael Van Why, tenor); The Great Morgani (Frank Lima); **Lou Jacklich*** & **Colette Ogata***; **Reno Di Bono***; and Paul Betken. [***SFAC Members**]

The **CAF Student Stage Competition** will take place 9:30 AM on Saturday, August 17 in the Social Hall of the Church of the Oaks (175 Page St.), conveniently located at the intersection of W. Sierra Ave. and Page St. (just down from the Polka Tent, a few hundred yards from the festival's South entrance). Admission is free. Come and encourage young talented accordionists as they play their hearts out that morning. Announcement of the Student Stage Scholarship recipients is scheduled during the Festival between 1:20 – 1:35 pm Saturday.

SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place one small ad (business-card size) free of charge for one month, once a year. Additional ads are \$10/issue or \$100/year. Monthly ad prices **for members**: 1/4-page: \$25: 1/2-page: \$50: Full-page: \$100. Non-member rates are double.

Event Reviews:

Member volunteers are needed to assist with the monthly event summaries (see pp. 2-3). This is a great opportunity to express your creative writing skills while assisting your club! Please contact Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

<text>

A New Book by Bruce Triggs Spring 2019 www.AccordionRevolution.com

Support the Businesses That Support the SFAC!

SFAC Meetings — Looking Ahead!

• July 23 SFAC Accordions Live! — featuring Joe Domitrowich

• August 17-18 NO SFAC MEETING Cotati Accordion Festival – visit the SFAC booth!

• September 15 SFAC Accordions Live! - Featuring the Peter DiBono Trio, also Garf's Uncle

• October 20 Possible visiting artist performance! (TBD)

• November 17 SFAC Accordions Live! — featuring Ron Borelli

• December 15 Holiday Accordion Circle, participation meeting

• January 19, 2020 SFAC Accordions Live! — featuring Bonnie Birch

• February 16, 2020 SFAC Accordion Circle, participation meeting



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Please Join Us in the SFAC Vendor Booth at Cotati Accordion Festival

Attention Members: The SFAC once again will have a vendor booth at the Cotati Accordion Festival! We will have sheet music and accordion-themed figurines for sale, and maybe even some accordions for sale as well. Having this table will be a great opportunity to get our name out there, and maybe make some new friends. We would love to have our members volunteer to staff the table for brief periods of time, so no one person has to spend so much time representing the SFAC that they forget to enjoy all the other fun things going on at Cotati. If you can step up for an hour or two on either day, please talk to any board member (see page 11), or contact Elaine at <u>elainedc@sbcglobal.net</u> or 510-921-9323.

DISCOUNTED COTATI TICKETS

The SFAC is delighted to offer discounted tickets in advance for the Cotati Accordion Festival, August 17-18, 2019.

The reduced rate will be **\$15 for 1-day tickets** (\$19 at the gate) and **\$25 for 2day tickets** (\$29 at the gate), available for purchase in-person at the SFAC meeting **July 21**.

Here is a great opportunity to save some money and increase the public presence of the SFAC at this great accordion event! Many thanks to Linda Conner, Scott Goree and the other hard-working staff at the Cotati Festival for extending this offer to our members.

Please do take advantage of it!





BAY AREA ACCORDION CLUBS

Accordion Club of the Redwoods

3rd Monday at 7:30 pm. — \$3 admission Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western, Petaluma Contact: Tony Mustaro, President (707) 318-0474 <u>dcdacapo@gmail.com</u>

<u>Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)</u> gsaccordionclub.netfirms.com Contact: Jean Stevens, President (916) 872-8081 accordionriffs@qmail.com

> **GSAC Napa Valley Chapter** (formerly Vacaville) 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm. The Runway Restaurant 2044 Airport Road, Napa

GSAC Humboldt Chapter 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. Humboldt Swiss Club 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta

GSAC Sacramento Chapter 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm Elks Lodge No. 6 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento

<u>Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)</u> 2nd Wednesday at 7 pm. Escalon Community Center 1055 Escalon Ave, Escalon Contact: Ed Sciarini (209) 545-3603

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS) 1st Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Lutheran Church Hall, 6365 Douglas Blvd, off Hwy 80, Granite Bay Contact: Jim Shoemaker (916) 443-0974

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS) 1st Sundays at Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Rd., Los Altos, CA Doors open at 1:30pm. <u>www.svasociety.org</u>

Mike Zampiceni

Sunday evenings, 6:30-9pm 352 Broadway, Millbrae



www.osolemiorestaurant.com

O Sole Mío Restaurant Serving old-school Italian fare with a nostalgic ambiance, including a juke box.

Got Straps?

Do you have a spare set of **accordion straps** sitting around? The club's rental accordions are in need of strap assemblies. We will gratefully accept gently used straps as a tax-deductible donation to SFAC.

Contact Lynn at ewinglynn@gmail.com

Music Lessons

Peter Di Bono 415-699-8674 peterdsf@gmail.com www.peterdibono.com



SFAC Members Performing Around the Bay

Ron Borelli San Mateo - RonBorelli@aol.com <u>www.ronborelli.com</u>

RICHARD DENIER Carmel - rjd.denier@gmail.com

PETER DI BONO San Francisco <u>www.peterdibono.com</u>

RENO DI BONO South Bay - ourhike@aol.com www.italianaccordion.com

JOE DOMITROWICH South Bay <u>www.alpinersusa.com</u> or <u>www.capricious-accordion.com</u>

ED GORZYNSKI, JR. East Bay - edspolkas@yahoo.com

IL DUETTO MUSICA (aka Paul Aebersold & Gloria Gazave) mazurkaman@yahoo.com https://www.facebook.com/II- Duetto-Musica-992981207392410/

BRUCE KIRSCHNER & THE KLEZMAKERS kirschner@aol.com <u>www.klezmakers.com</u>

BIG LOU, aka LINDA SEEKINS San Francisco www.accordionprincess.com

Kay Patterson Napa Valley & Surrounding AccordionKay@comcast.net

TANGONERO <u>www.tangonero.com</u>

PAMELA TOM Yolo & Solano Counties accordionpam@gmail.com

MIKE ZAMPICENI East Bay & South Bay eclecticguy@comcast.net <u>www.mikezamp.com</u>



2020 Rose City Accordion Camp to be held at Collins Retreat Center

Next year's Rose City Accordion Camp will be held at the Alton Collins Retreat Center (<u>https://collins.gocamping.org/</u>), located approximately 45 minutes by car from the Portland International Airport (PDX).

Collins Retreat Center is in the tall firs and all rooms and camp activities will be under one roof. Are you going to like a bathroom in your room? How about a place to congregate after hours where no one will complain about noise? Have you been dying for 24-hour free coffee service? Camp attendees can expect all of this and "more bang for your buck."

For participants wishing to camp, there is a campground about 5 miles away with a nearby convenience store. Collins retreat is 45 minutes from Government Camp for the hikers. There is the opportunity to advertise the camp's concert to local communities for a packed audience.

Registration forms will be available in October 2019. The camp is limited to 45 playing attendees. This does take into consideration that there will be some non-playing partners attending also. To date about 25 players who attend this year's camp have pre-registered. [See page 5: "Rose City Accordion Camp June 2019" for more information about the accordion camp and its web site.]



Ron Borelli

& the Art Van Damme Tríbute Band

Every **1**st **Thursday** of the month performing at The Double Tree Hotel, 835 Airport Blvd., Burlingame 6PM to 9PM, no cover, great dinners & drinks, reasonably priced.

To connect with Ron:

- 415 203 6700 cell
- or <u>ronborelli@aol.com</u>

SFAC Directors

Lynn Ewing, (650)867-2633, ewinglynn@gmail.com Rosemary Busher (510)220-2931, rosemary@busher.org Robert Cooperstein (510)207-6009, drrcoop@sbcglobal.net Ken Schwartz (650)344-6116, kenschwar@yahoo.com Elaine Cooperstein (510)921-9323, elainedc@sbcglobal.net Dominic Palmisano* (415)587-4423, accord47@gmail.com *Honorary Director <u>Webmaster</u> Randall Hicks (510)750-6858, hickr01@sprintmail.com

Newsletter team: Content collection & writing, Layout, Copy Editing, Print shop pick-up, Labels/Stamps, Mailing Elaine Cooperstein, Rosemary Busher, Pamela Tom, Robert Cooperstein [volunteers needed]

<u>Scholarship Awards</u> Mike Zampiceni (408)569-2579, eclecticguy@comcast.net



ACCORDION INSTRUCTION

Ron Borelli (650) 574-5707 David Chelini (916) 428-8764 Myrle Dahl (415) 897-2283 Peter Di Bono (415) 699-8674 Lynn Ewing (650) 453-3391 Lou Jacklich (510) 317-9510 Marian Kelly (650) 954-3711 Kay Patterson (707) 666-2849 Big Lou (Linda Seekins) (415) 468-5986 Joe Simoni (650) 867-1122 Pamela Tom (*530 Area*) accordionpam@gmail.com Joel Weber (510) 655-4398 Mike Zampiceni (408) 569-2579

Thank You, Donors!

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to the Club. We would like to thank the following regular and lifetime members who made a donation during the past membership campaign (October 2018 - September 2019 membership year):

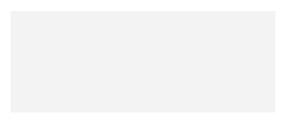
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If you have donated and your name doesn't appear here, please contact <u>elainedc@sbcglobal.net</u>. We greatly appreciate your support and we want to be sure you are recognized.

San Francisco Accordion Club Newsletter c/o 539 Elsie Avenue San Leandro, CA 94577 www.sfaccordionclub.com



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



3rd Sundays – Monthly Musical Meetings

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Joe Domitrowich!

Sunday, July 21

Come for fun and great music!

July 21, 2019 2:00 pm

Jam Band begins at 2:00 pm All are encouraged to participate!

\$10 / \$8 SFAC members (Under 13 free)

Millbrae Chetcuti Community Room Civic Center Plaza/Library Plaza 450 Poplar Avenue, Millbrae, CA

SFAC 2019-2020 Membership Renewal

Current membership expires September 30, 2019

It will save our Membership Coordinator, Robert, lots of work if you will kindly join or renew prior to receiving a renewal letter from us. Just use PayPal or your credit card at: www.sfaccordionclub.com/membership.html, or mail a personal check payable to "SFAC" to

Elaine Cooperstein, 539 Elsie Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577

- \$35 per year for individual or household (printed newsletter via USPS)
- -\$5 discount for *online* newsletter option (\$30)

SFAC Monthly Meetings:

Chetcuti Community Room 450 Poplar Avenue, Millbrae Plenty of free parking in Library lot Accessible location Close to public transit



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