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Nothing Compares.
Local school districts face rising pension, COVID-19 reopening costs

By Angela Swartz

Local school districts are facing increasing pension costs and higher spending to cover the safety costs to bring students back to campuses — which state and federal funds helped cover — amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Districts in The Almanac’s coverage area also pay higher salaries than nearby school districts, and most of their spending goes toward staff members’ salaries and benefits, according to district budgets for the fiscal year that began July 1.

The Menlo Park City School District made cuts as it waits to see if its parcel tax passes this fall. Students returned to elementary school districts on a hybrid basis in the fall of 2020, which cost districts significantly. The Sequoia Union High School District didn’t reopen until spring 2021, but it did have to pay for upgrades to ventilation systems, other safety improvements and distance learning technologies.

Below are more detailed updates on each school district’s finances this coming school year.

Menlo Park City School District

The Menlo Park district made cuts across the board to extend its financial runway. For fiscal year 2022, general fund revenues are projected at about $59.5 million and expenditures are expected to be about $62 million in the district, according to the budget the school board approved at its June 10 meeting.

The district spent about $2.81 million on one-time COVID-19 costs during the 2020-21 school year. The biggest portion of that money went to pay for substitutes, teachers and playground aides, since classes needed to be smaller to adapt to social distancing requirements. Virus testing, personal protective gear and additional summer school programs were also part of the one-time spending. An additional $2.3 million will be spent during the 2021-22 school year for COVID-19 costs.

The district’s reserve funds are projected to drop below the minimum amount specified in board policy — 15% of total annual spending — after this fiscal year. If that happens, the board would need to make further, more impactful cuts. Reserves are budgeted to stand at 15.3% during the 2021-22 fiscal year, and are expected to fall to 14.5% during the 2022-23 fiscal year and 8.6% the year after.

In May, the district’s governing board opted to place a $598 per parcel measure, which would provide $4.6 million annually for 12 years, on the Nov. 2 ballot. The board discussed the possibility...
Hohl got the out on July 17 at Baylands Athletic Center. Turns out that team has at its disposal anyone slow down the Alhouse Saturday, the question arose — can the blowout win in the first game in the seventh inning July 15 of a ship on the line. Softball with a 13-1 victory. in the inning it was all over, with when Chow recorded the third out two outs in the fifth inning. And control on the mound, holding only one. Dutch Goose managed three in the bottom of the seventh off an Alhouse reliever. It seemed like a mere footnote at the time, but walked only one. Dutch Goose managed three in the bottom of the seventh off an Alhouse reliever. It seemed like a mere footnote at the time, but walked only one.

Ashton Chow and his Dutch Goose teammates had an answer. The Goose exploded for 11 runs in the second inning and Chow appeared to be in cruise control on the mound, holding Alhouse scoreless until there were two outs in the fifth inning. And when Chow recorded the third out in the inning it was all over, Dutch Goose winning the Palo Alto Babe Ruth championship with a 13-1 victory.

Ashton Chow
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Little League
The Alpine 8-10 Little League all-star team rebounded from a tough loss the previous day with a strong game Monday, earning a 1-2 decision over Castro Valley in an elimination game of the Section 3 Tournament in Hillsborough. Alpine gets another chance to take on Canyon Creek, which beat Alpine 9-8 on Sunday, with the tournament title on the line. Alpine needs to beat Canyon Creek twice to advance.

“After the first game we just said, ‘Let’s have some fun, let’s play loose,’” Guiragossian said. “Let’s not overthink this. At the end of the day it’s up to the kids. They were here because they love the game.”

Chow faced the minimum six batters over the first two innings and in the bottom of the second Dutch Goose erupted for 11 runs. Wes Peterson got it started with an RBI double. A second run scored on a single by Shane Timmons, a third came home on a bases-loaded walk to Nate Donaker. Sean Li’s sacrifice fly made it 4-0, and Nolan Cook’s two-run double necessitated an Alhouse pitching change. Jake Papp put the caper on the inning with a two-run single.

And that was more than enough for Dutch Goose to emerge with the city championship in a year in which no all-star competition will take place.

“We’ve been very good in tough situations,” said catcher and cleanup hitter Coco Vonderhaar, who made a couple of outstanding throws to cut down would-be base stealers at second. “Every player on our team stepped up.”

—Glenn Reeves

Water polo
The Stanford Water Polo Club boys 18A team lost a chance to defend its title at the USAWP National Junior Olympics in a shootout Monday night at the William Woollett Jr. Aquatic Center in Irvine. Vanguard Red A outscored Stanford A 6-1 over the final 12:25 of regulation to force the shootout. Stanford was then handed defending national champions a chance to win the tournament. Stanford’s Tustin Patriots, featuring Tustin Patriots, both had big hits and both teams made their share of mistakes. It was a classic Little League baseball game; it had all the elements.

Alpine and Canyon Creek were scheduled to play Tuesday evening after The Almanac’s press deadline.

Wes Peterson
does his best to avoid a tag but Alhouse’s Joseph Hohl got the out on July 17 at Baylands Athletic Center.
Health officers encourage masking indoors
By Bay City News Service
A coalition of Bay Area health officials urged residents across the region to resume wearing a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status following an uptick in COVID-19 cases.

Officials in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties and the city of Berkeley issued the advisory July 16 “out of an abundance of caution” but have yet to issue a new masking mandate for shared indoor spaces like grocery and retail stores.

The health officials also stressed that fully vaccinated residents remain well-protected both from contracting the virus, including the currently observed variants, and from becoming seriously ill or dying.

Employees are encouraged to continue following the masking guidelines set by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health and their employers. They are also encouraged to wear a mask indoors when their employers has not verified the vaccination status of their co-workers.

The recommendation comes on the heels of Los Angeles County issuing a new mask mandate for indoor spaces last week amid an increase in COVID-19 cases, almost exclusively among the unvaccinated, and the proliferation of the more-transmissible delta variant.

“The delta variant is spreading quickly, and everyone should take action to protect themselves and others against this potentially deadly virus,” Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss said in a statement.

While the Bay Area is one of the most vaccinated regions in the state and country, local health officials had recognized the potential for renewed mask requirements in recent weeks as the delta variant became more of a threat, particularly for unvaccinated people.

“The Bay Area is very, very diverse and there’s hot spots, within the Bay Area, of unvaccinated populations,” Marin County Deputy Health Officer Dr. Lisa Santora said earlier this month. “So we would expect to see, especially in more rural areas (and) consistent with other rural and across the nation, that you’ll see increased rates of cases.”

The indoor masking recommendation, the county health officials said in a joint statement, is intended to help protect unvaccinated residents, who are orders of magnitude more likely right now to contract the virus and be hospitalized with serious illness.

Last Friday, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention director Dr. Rochelle Walensky went as far as to say the virus “is becoming a pandemic of the unvaccinated.”

In Contra Costa County, the seven-day average of new cases per 100,000 residents was 1.7 for fully vaccinated residents as of July 8 and 16.1 per 100,000 for unvaccinated residents.

“The highly infectious delta variant is now the predominant strain in Contra Costa County,” Contra Costa County Health Officer Dr. Chris Farnitano said. “While vaccines remain our best tool against COVID-19, masking in indoor and crowded outdoor settings will help us curb the spread of this latest wave of infection.”

The coalition of health officers is expected to revisit the recommendation in the coming weeks after monitoring local case and hospitalization data.

State officials have also been hesitant, for now, to reissue mask and social distancing requirements statewide, instead deferring to local health agencies to do what they feel suits their constituents. As of July 16, California’s rate of new cases per 100,000 residents was at 5.4.

CRIME BRIEFS

Carjacking suspect arrested near Facebook
Saturday morning
Redwood City police arrested a 38-year-old man suspected of carjacking in the early morning Saturday, July 17, not far from Facebook’s headquarters in Menlo Park.

Around midnight on Saturday, Redwood City police officers got a report of a carjacking at 1405 Marshall St., according to a July 19 statement.

A driver and passenger were parked in front of the apartment building, police said. When the driver left the car to go into the complex, the passenger was approached by a man with a gun who forced him from the vehicle. The suspect drove off, heading southbound on Marshall Street toward Chestnut Street, according to the statement.

At 2:46 a.m., Menlo Park police officers located the stolen vehicle behind 3698 Haven Ave. When they attempted to contact the driver, he fled on foot, police said. Officers from the Menlo Park and Redwood City police departments searched a homeless camp nearby and located the man hiding under a trailer.

The suspect was identified as the victim and arrested. He was booked into the San Mateo County Jail on suspicion of carjacking and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Anyone that may have additional information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Sgt. Nick Perna at 650-780-7672, or the Redwood City Police Department’s tipline at 650-780-7110.

Woman sideswiped by car
after telling man to leave her property
A Portola Valley woman told police on Monday, July 12, that a man sideswiped her with his car after approaching her about having her driveway repaved.

Around 9:45 a.m. two men in a white Ford Escape approached a resident of the 200 block of Westridge Drive, according to a San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office press release. The driver asked the resident if she would be interested in having her driveway repaved and she asked him to leave. She tried to photograph the license plate as they left and the car brushed up against her arm.

She was not injured and reported the incident. Even though she doesn’t believe that the driver intentionally tried to hit her.

She was concerned that the men were attempting to scam residents in the area by misrepresenting themselves as paving contractors.

The resident described the driver as a white man with an Irish accent in his 20s or 30s. Such scams are becoming more commonplace and residents should be alert for anyone who approaches them for such purposes, according to the Sheriff’s Office.

Residents can contact the town of Portola Valley at 650-851-1700 or the Sheriff’s Office at 650-363-4911. Anyone who has information regarding this incident may call the Sheriff’s Office anonymous tipline at 1-800-547-2700. —Angela Swartz

Real Estate Q&A
by Monica Corman

Sellers, There Are Advisors To Help You

Dear Monica:
I know I want to sell my house but am paralyzed by the prospect of sorting and packing up my house of 35 years. Any advice? Janet D.

Dear Janet:
Sellers approach the job of selling a long time home with dread. The thought of clearing out years of accumulation is daunting. And if you are still working full time at a job, it can be impossible to find the time.

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neighboring cities have extra water to spare?

Here’s a look at the water capacity of local jurisdictions and alternative sources of water based on 2019-2020 data from BAWSCA’s annual survey, which was published in March 2021.

Palo Alto

Palo Alto is among the more diversified local municipalities when it comes to water. In fiscal year 2019-2020, the city and its 67,082 residents used 10.5 million gallons of water per day. About 93% came from the San Francisco Regional Water System. Recycled water accounted for 7%.

Palo Alto uses recycled water to irrigate its golf course and a city park and to fill its duck pond. The recycled water is also used for the city’s Emily Renzel Marsh enhancement project and as part of processing at the water quality control plant. Recycled water is not used for drinking or swimming in.

Palo Alto has recently improved its water capacity through its Emergency Water Supply and Storage Project, which rehabilitated five existing wells, constructed three new wells and built a new 2.5-million-gallon emergency water-storage reservoir. The eight emergency wells can pump up to 15.5 million gallons per day if needed.

The city’s seven storage reservoirs — Mayfield, Boronda, Corte Madera, Dahl, El Camino, Menchello and Park — have a total capacity of 13 million gallons.

The city now has adequate storage and pumping capacity to prevent a backup situation that could be an interruption of San Francisco water service. The wells may also be available to meet limited dry year requirements, according to BAWSCA.

It has interties with East Palo Alto County Water District, Mountain View, Purissima Hills Water District and Stanford University.

Days of storage: 1.13

Menlo Park

The city purchases all of its water directly from the San Francisco system and uses nearly 3 million gallons of water per day. Menlo Park Municipal Water runs the city of Menlo Park’s water system and serves 18,224 people. Two reservoirs supply the Sharon Heights area.

There is emergency storage in the areas supplying north and east of El Camino Real.

California Water Service and the city’s storage well are the primary emergency sources of water for Menlo Park, according to BAWSCA.

The city has emergency interties with California Water Service Bear Gulch District, Redwood City, O’Connor Tract Water Coop and East Palo Alto.

Days of storage: 0.65

Stanford University

The Stanford Sustainability & Energy Management Department supplies water to the campus area and Stanford’s unincorporated lands, serving 32,075 people, which is the university’s average daytime population, according to BAWSCA.

Stanford’s average daily water demand is 2.5 million gallons per day.

The university has five sources of water: purchased potable water from the San Francisco system, groundwater, non-potable surface water from the local watershed, stormwater and runoff capture, and recycled water, according to BAWSCA.

Stanford gets 57% of its water from the San Francisco system. Another 43% comes from “other” sources, including Stanford’s surface-water diversions such as Searsville Lake and groundwater.

Alternative sources include local groundwater, surface water, stormwater, construction de-watering and recycled water. The university now tracks its other supplies for use as irrigation water. The extent of groundwater used depends on the amount of rainfall and how much surface water is available.

Four wells on Stanford property could be used in an emergency. Three of the wells are in compliance with all drinking water standards; the fourth well is on “standby” since its manganese levels exceed current standards, BAWSCA noted. Wells can supply 3.7 million gallons per day in an emergency.

Stanford also has three storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 9.5 million gallons, according to BAWSCA. A recycled water plant completed in 2008-2009 was decommissioned in 2015 but could be used in the future, the BAWSCA report stated.

It has interties with Palo Alto.

Days of storage: 2.5 to 4

East Palo Alto

The city of East Palo Alto’s water utility receives all of its potable water supply from the San Francisco system. In 2019-2020, the city used 1.5 million gallons of water per day with only about 311,000 gallons of water annually coming from groundwater.

The water utility, which serves 26,181 people, is operated and managed by a private contractor. Two privately owned water companies, O’Connor Tract Water Coop and Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company, serve a small area of the city separate from the city’s water supply.

The city’s water system has no storage facilities or alternate potable water supply sources in the event of an earthquake. The city has 3.6 million gallons of storage identified but approval and funding have not been secured, according to BAWSCA.

East Palo Alto has one emergency well that is not currently certified for drinking water use.

It has interties with Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

Days of storage: No storage.

East Palo Alto cannot sustain a loss of water without obtaining water through its interties in an emergency.

California Water Service

This sprawling water operator has multiple districts on the San Francisco Peninsula, including the Bear Gulch and Los Altos districts.

The Bear Gulch district is located in southern San Mateo County and serves Atherton, Portola Valley, Woodside, parts of Menlo Park, parts of unincorporated Redwood City and adjacent unincorporated portions of San Mateo County including West Menlo Park, Ladera, North Fair Oaks, and Menlo Oaks.

The Bear Gulch district receives 85% to 95% of its daily supply from the San Francisco system. The balance is supplied by surface water runoff from California Water Service Company’s Purissima Hills Water District.

In 2019-2020, the district used nearly 11.5 million gallons of water per day to serve 60,827 residents. Local surface water, local groundwater (in its Skyline system only) offer a limited additional supply.

The water is stored in the 215-million-gallon Bear Gulch reservoir, which is served by a filtration plant before distribution, but the reservoir’s capacity has been reduced by 6 feet to be in compliance with California Division of Safety of Dams safety requirements.

Although Bear Gulch reservoir is currently at 80% capacity, the treatment plant isn’t running at this time, said Lee Blevins, director of operations and customer service for the district. Currently, the district is using 100% of its water directly from the San Francisco system.

“Turning on the treatment plant should degrade the water and push it downstream,” he said.

The reservoir water is used in late fall through early spring during the rainy season when it is diminished. Recycling water is stored in the reservoir and tanks is 226 million gallons, according to the BAWSCA report. The system has interties with Redwood City and Menlo Park.

Days of storage: If the Bear Gulch district fails all of its sources of water supply, it would have 0.92 days of water, according to the BAWSCA report.

The Los Altos district, which does not obtain water from the Hetch Hetchy system, provides water to Los Altos Hills, Los Altos, Mountain View and Sunnyvale through groundwate and water from Valley Water and serves more than 55,000 people, according to its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, including recent replacement water use was projected to reach 21 million gallons per day by 2020.

Between approximately 32% of its water supply comes from groundwater and up to 68% is purchased from Valley Water, but these numbers are variable based on the water supply from Valley Water. The district can pump out more water from the ground if needed and it encourages conservation.

The Los Altos district doesn’t store water seasonally. In an extended drought, it would need to install new wells to meet demand, according to the water management plan.

Mountain View

The city of Mountain View serves a population of 79,772. Its primary water supplier, San Francisco Regional Water System, provides 84% of the water trucked in. Water suppliers treat 10% treated water; 2% is supply from groundwater and 4% from recycled water. The city uses more than 9 million gallons per day.

California Water Service also provides water to a small part of Mountain View, according to BAWSCA.

The city has four water storage facilities, above and below ground, said Elizabeth Flegel, city water resources manager.

Mountain View has four active wells (and four are currently out of service). They are not currently operated at their maximum capacity due to various maintenance and operational issues.

Local storage in the reservoirs and the wells comprises a total of 17 million gallons, according to BAWSCA.

Flegel said the city is studying its recycled water distribution system and is updating a feasibility study for expansion. Mountain View’s construction program requires contractors to do hydrant metering so that water trucks using hydrant water to keep construction dust down track how much is expended and are charged for the water, Flegel said.

The city has interties with Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, Valley Water and California Water Service.

Days of storage: If the city lost its San Francisco water supply only, it could utilize wells, Valley Water or storage to meet an eight-hour outage.

Purissima Hills Water District

The Purissima Hills Water District provides service to two-thirds of the town of Los Altos Hills and unincorporated county land on the southern boundary. Its largest customer is Foothill College, according to BAWSCA. The population served is 6,150.

The water system only offers a limited additional supply.

Los Altos Hills

The city receives 100% of its water from the San Francisco system or 1.75 million gallons per day. It doesn’t produce any local water and has no alternative supply sources. The district has 11 ground storage tanks with a total capacity of 9.88 million gallons. It has no wells.

The district does have interties with the California Water Service in Los Altos and Palo Alto.

Days of storage: The city can meet an eight-hour supply in an emergency.
**COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

**Sequoias residents award student scholarships**

The Sequoias celebrated its first annual Scholarship Reception on July 17, awarding scholarships to children of employees of the senior retirement community. The winners were Sam Hsaio, Daniela Hernandez, An Hoang, Liz Aguilar, Yahaira Gallegos, Sebastian Gomez, Sheyla Aguilar and Favin Mehari. A committee of residents at The Sequoias organized the scholarship fund to assist with college or trade school expenses, according to a press release.

“Over a year ago, a group of residents organized a scholarship fund drive to benefit the children and grandchildren of the employees at The Sequoias Portola Valley,” the release states. “But then The Sequoias entered lockdown and quarantine, and for a year there were no community events or gatherings. Word of the scholarship fund drive could only be sent by paper flyers and telephone.”

“Harder still was getting word of the new scholarship program to the overworked staff as they grappled with all the new obstacles to providing food and services for 200 people shut in their apartments.”

Parents and families of the scholars and Sequoias administration, staff and dozens of Sequoias residents attended the reception in the lounge, according to the release.

“There were beaming faces and tears of pride,” the release states. “It was especially moving to realize that all of these young students are the first generation of their families to attend college.”

The scholarship committee partnered with the nonprofit 10,000 Degrees, whose staff guides students through the college application process, vets the applicants, helps them find other scholarships, and guides and mentors them while in school.

The students will be starting or continuing at California State University at Sacramento; Pepperdine University; San Francisco State University; San Jose State University; Stanford University; University of California at Santa Barbara; and University of San Diego.

—Angela Swartz

**Left to rights:** Sam Hsaio, Daniela Hernandez, An Hoang, Liz Aguilar, Yahaira Gallegos, and Sebastian Gomez received scholarships at a ceremony at The Sequoias retirement community on July 17 in Portola Valley. Winners Sheyla Aguilar and Favin Mehari were unable to attend the event.

**SPORTS** continued from page 6

Prep, scored two of his three goals in the first period as Stanford scored the game’s first four goals against Tustin and never trailed.

Greg Hilderbrand and Connor MacMillan, both of Menlo School, and SHP’s Bear Weigle and Will Swart each added a pair of goals.

Stanford A survived a physical match with SoCal Black A as Weigle and Swart each scored twice in the fourth period. Weigle put Stanford ahead to stay with 5:33 remaining to play.

The teams combined for nine goals over the first 26:25 and then combined for nine more the rest of the way. Hilderbrand and Weigle each had three goals.

In the 16 Championship Division, Stanford A split two games, beating Vanguard Red B 8-6 and then losing to Lamorinda A 12-10.

Stanford A will play for 15th place Tuesday against an opponent to be determined at Estancia High at 2 p.m.

Stanford 16B, which started the tournament 2-1, lost twice 6-5 to San Jose WPF A and 16-4 to SoCal Gold A and will complete its round robin with an 8 a.m. game at Estancia against Chapow White A.

In the 14 Championship Division, Stanford A split two games, beating Newport Beach B 8-5 and then losing to Pride A 11-8.

The 14As were scheduled to play Mid Valley, which won an earlier game against Stanford in a shoot-out, for 11th, at 9 a.m. at Portola High on Tuesday. The 14As will improve upon their 15th place finish of two years ago.

The 12As are also guaranteed a higher finish from two years ago.

The 12Bs lost to La Jolla A 12-6 and Newport Beach B 10-8 and were slated to play Trojan B at El Segundo Aquatic Center for 17th place Tuesday.

In the Classic Division, Stanford 18B dropped two matches Monday 17-11 to the San Francisco Warriors and 12-10 to Northern California or continuing at California State University.

Stanford 18B meets Sacramento at Laguna Hills High Tuesday with fifth place at stake.

Stanford 14B lost to Rancho Tsu 20-12 and then coming back to beat Gold Coast in a shootout, 4-1, after the game was tied 7-7.

The 14B’s meet Marin at El Segundo Aquatic Center Tuesday for a chance to finish seventh.

—Rick Eymer

**Movie nights at Courthouse Square**

On Thursday evenings through Sept. 2, Redwood City is hosting a series of free double feature movie nights, offering a mix of family movies, feature films and independent film shorts from the BraveMaker Film Festival, a Redwood City-based film arts organization. Film screenings will take place at Courthouse Square, 2200 Broadway.

- Thursday, July 29, at 6 p.m., “Raya and the Last Dragon” (114 min, 2021, PG) and at 8:30 p.m., “Yesterday” (116 min, 2019, PG-13).
- Thursday, Aug. 5, at 8 p.m., a BraveMaker independent film, and at 8:30 p.m., “Spider-Man: Far From Home” (129 min, 2019, PG-13).
- Thursday, Aug. 12, at 6 p.m., “Onward” (102 min, 2020, PG), and at 8:30 p.m., “Minari” (116 min, 2021, PG-13).
- Thursday, Aug. 19, at 8 p.m., a BraveMaker independent film, and at 8:30 p.m., “Wonder Woman 1984” (151 min, 2021, PG-13).
- Thursday, Aug. 26, at 6 p.m., “How To Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World” (104 min, 2019, PG), and at 8:30 p.m., “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” (107 min, 2019, PG).
- Thursday, Sept. 2, at 8:30 p.m., a BraveMaker independent film and at 8:30 p.m., “Jumanji: The Next Level” (123 min, 2019, PG-13).

Tables and chairs are available for those who arrive early, and for those who arrive early, and people are invited to bring their own blankets and pick up take-out food from nearby restaurants to enjoy during the screenings. The series is supported by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative and Stanford University. More information is at bravemaker.com/film-fest.

**Menlo Tavern updates**

Menlo Tavern, the restaurant inside the Stanford Park Hotel at 100 El Camino Real, is lining up live music performances from 6 to 9 p.m. this summer. The restaurant also has a new executive chef, Louis Salvatore, and chef de cuisine, Tim Barajas, according to the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce. They have more than seven years of experience cooking together at the Mayfield Bakery and Cafe, the chamber reports.

See COMMUNITY BRIEFS, page 31

**Glena Lois Bruce Ballentine (1925 – 2021)**

Glena Lois Bruce Ballentine, a longtime community volunteer and service provider who lived on the Peninsula for more than 60 years, died of natural causes July 14 in Albuquerque, N.M. She was 95, passing away 25 years to the day of her husband Fred’s death.

Mrs. Ballentine, a native of Paonia, Colo., moved in 1945 to Hollywood, worked at California Bank and did some fashion modeling in her early years. She once said she was one of few young women moving to Hollywood in the 1940s who did not want to become a movie actress.

The Ballentines married in 1948 and moved to the Peninsula in 1953. Fred Ballentine became a star real estate salesman for the David Bohannon organization in San Mateo and later started his own firms on the Peninsula in the 1950s and ’60s — Ballentine Associates and August Associates, which had offices in San Mateo, Menlo Park, Palo Alto, and Los Altos. Mrs. Ballentine had her own real estate sales license and assisted him in running the businesses. They were married for 48 years until Mr. Ballentine’s death just short of his 76th birthday in 1996.

The Ballentines lived in Woodside, Menlo Park, Redwood City, and San Mateo during their long tenure in the Bay Area. Mrs. Ballentine was active in numerous civic and faith-related organizations, including the Woodside School PTA, the Christian Women’s Organization, Children’s Home Society, the Girl Scouts, and Valley Presbyterian Church, where she served as an elder and deacon. She and other members of her family also were active in local community theater, including the Woodside Community Theater and the Portola Valley Theatre Conservatory. She and Mr. Ballentine performed in such productions as “Call Me Madam,” “Girl Crazy,” “Bells Are Ringing” and others in Woodside.

Mrs. Ballentine is survived by three children: Rick Ballentine (Mary) of Albuquerque, New Mexico; Becky Ballentine Preimesberger (Chris) of Redwood City, Calif.; and Deborah Ballentine Haycock (Kevin), of Phoenix, Ariz. She also is survived by 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service has been scheduled for Saturday, July 24, at 10 a.m. at the Paonia United Methodist Church, 307 Onarga St., Paonia, Colo.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to be donations to Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley, Calif. 94028, or Paonia United Methodist Church.
As the threat of the pandemic has dropped for those who are vaccinated, the acute loneliness crisis faced by seniors may start to fade. The lockdown may also wane, but the overall problem of loneliness isn’t going anywhere, especially among older adults.

According to a report cited by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than one third of adults age 45 and older feel lonely and nearly one-fourth of adults 65 and older are considered socially isolated, or lacking social connections. These can have serious health impacts. The CDC reports that social isolation significantly increases a person’s risk of premature death from all causes, and that impacts that may be similar to smoking, obesity and physical inactivity, and is associated with a 50% increased risk of dementia.

Davis said she was partly motivated to get involved with the project because of the experiences she’d seen her 98-year-old mother go through during the pandemic. Her mother lives in an assisted living community and has been confined to her room for about the past year and a half.

“I felt so sorry for her and so sad,” she said in an interview. “This (program) is just what she needs... That made me want to get on board with it.”

So they reached out and began recruiting volunteers. So far, many of the volunteers have come from their extended networks — friends and friends of friends. Of the volunteers, about 39 of 43 live within the extended Peninsula region, Steuer said.

The volunteers started working with a cohort of isolated seniors in the Midwest, Steuer said, but, several months ago, Friendly Voices began a partnership with Aviditas in Palo Alto. It’s an expansion of the program to work with seniors who are homebound or aging in place alongside those in assisted living facilities or nursing homes.

Volunteers are trained to document each call while maintaining privacy in accordance with federal laws, but the gist of the program comes down to engaging in a friendly conversation that’s built around respect and flexibility, Steuer said.

Dr. John Bordy
January 21, 1938 – June 28, 2021

Dr. John Bordy died June 28, 2021. He was born in Marosvásárhely, which is also known by its Romanian name, Târgu Mures. Dr. Bordy was of Hungarian decent and identified deeply with his Hungarian roots, but he embodied the American dream. He wanted to be a doctor before the age of ten and knew his chances of achieving that dream were slim as an ethnic Hungarian living in Romania. Dr. Bordy left home at the age of 18 to play on the Romanian national water polo team in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Although he didn’t win the gold, he did win an opportunity to defect with other Hungarian athletes. They toured the United States on a trip called the Freedom Fighters’ Tour, which was sponsored by Sport’s Illustrated. He enrolled at UC Berkeley, barely speaking English, where he played water polo all four years and was known as “short, broad-shouldered Bordy.” During that time, he was also a member of the San Francisco Olympic Club and won the American National Championships in ’57 and ’59. In 2010, he was inducted into the Olympic Club Hall of Fame. He graduated Stanford medical school with highest honors. After his internship, he enlisted in the Navy and spent two years with his family on Mare Island. He returned to Stanford for his residency in orthopedic surgery, then worked for Kaiser Permanente in Redwood City for 30 years, eventually heading the department. For many years, he and one other doctor were the entire orthopedic department, which is why most locals know someone who has had a bone set or hip replaced by Dr. Bordy.

He leaves behind his wife of 62 years, Ellen Bordy, nee Silva, his son Michael (Linda), daughters Eileen Skidmore (Earl) andCarolyn Dubbel (David), grandchildren Jeanette Bordy (Behzad), John and Megan Bordy, Jolie Sheldon (Steve), Quinton and Liam Isaacs, Natalie and Eric Dubbel, and great grandchildren Cammie Sheldon and Eve Boroumand.

Dr. Bordy was an original, an amazing man, determined and stubborn, committed and loyal, fun-loving and a little crazy. We would tell him he couldn’t do something, like attend college without knowing the language. He was a dubious carpenter and dug his family’s first swimming pool with a shovel. If you were called a gomer by him, he probably liked you. He loved his family and many friends; his Samoyed dog, Simba, he mentions he lived on in La Honda; water polo and soccer; building things; riding his tractor; and the hummingbird he watched out of his dining room window.

A public celebration of his life will be held August 7th. Please contact a family member for more details.

Your COVID-19 vaccine questions — answered

We’ve compiled a list of who can currently get vaccinated in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, plus answers to common questions and links to resources. Access the page at tinyurl.com/COVIDvaccinequestions. Have a question? Send it to editor@pawweekly.com and we’ll do our best to answer it.
Welcome Back!
We can't wait to see you.

Our Programs for Seniors:
- Meals on Wheels
- Adult Day Services
- Senior Activity Center
- On Demand Transportation

Call or visit us online for appointments and reopening details.
(650) 326-0665 | Penvol.org/welcomeback
Following a year of uncertainty, hope is finally on the horizon as businesses reopen and slowly inch closer to pre-pandemic normalcy. To show appreciation for the local business community, readers once again cast votes for their favorite places to eat, shop, work out or spend time with family and friends for The Almanac’s annual Readers’ Choice edition after a hiatus in 2020.

The Almanac recently surveyed this year’s Readers’ Choice winners to see how they are doing in 2021 since California officially reopened on June 15, signaling a small but significant shift toward recovery. Read on to see what they had to say.
LIVE MUSIC

PIONEER SALOON
The history of Pioneer Saloon is as lustrous as its wooden decor and nostalgic “Wild West” ambiance. In operation since 1880, the landmark saloon has become a local destination for its Live Music Sundays. Even when live music was canceled during the shutdown, patrons organized monthly socially distanced gatherings to support the saloon until it could reopen. The saloon is open for indoor and outdoor service. Check its website for the latest information on Live Music Sundays. 2925 Woodside Road, Woodside, 650-851-8487; pioneersaloon.com

PLACE FOR A DATE

FLEA STREET CAFE
Jesse Cool’s Flea Street Cafe is well known for its sustainable farm-to-table menu that includes fresh, in-season, organic and local ingredients, as well as for its commitment to giving back to the local community. During the pandemic, the Menlo Park restaurant provided about 1,000 weekly meals for dozens of front-line workers through its Meals of Gratitude program. The restaurant now offers its high-end dishes to go and is open for outdoor dining on its covered, heated deck. 3607 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, 650-854-1226; cooleatz.com

PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE

CAFE BORRONE
For decades, Cafe Borrone has been a beloved neighborhood destination, so when it was forced to close its doors due to hardships created by the pandemic in 2020, more than 700 patrons rallied together to raise $110,000 to reopen the downtown landmark. The cafe, known for its prepared-from-scratch food, is now open and serving food and drinks indoors and in its outdoor plaza next to the fountain. The cafe now offers online ordering for pickup. 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 650-327-0830; cafeborrone.com

BAKERY

WOODSIDE BAKERY
Woodside Bakery offers pastries, cakes, cookies and other baked goods that have kept customers coming back for more than 35 years. The family-owned European bakery makes its baked goods from scratch every day — from delightfully buttery croissants to deliciously tender cakes.
and fresh fruit tarts to mile-high old-fashioned apple pies.
325 Sharon Park Drive, Menlo Park, 650-854-6207; woodsidebakery.com

**BREAKFAST**

Nothing beats the homemade pancakes at Stacks. Known for serving classic American comfort food, Stacks uses farm-fresh eggs, real butter, heavy cream and other high-quality ingredients. Its large selection of dishes, generous portions and family-friendly atmosphere have made Stacks a local favorite. Stacks is open for dine in, takeout and delivery.
600 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-838-0066; stacksrestaurant.com

**DESSERT**

The bakery at Draeger's Market has been a part of the Menlo Park community for 64 years, offering a variety of breads and sweets baked from scratch, from favorites like German chocolate cake, vanilla coconut cake and s'mores cheesecake to wedding cakes. The bakery is open for service with new health practices. Groceries also can be picked up on-site or purchased through third-party delivery services.
1010 University Drive, Menlo Park, 650-324-7700; draegers.com

**ICE CREAM/FROZEN YOGURT**

**COLD STONE CREAMERY**

For more than 30 years, Menlo Park's Cold Stone Creamery has served handcrafted ice cream made with the finest ingredients and mixed with a variety of sweet toppings. Along with the shop's signature method of preparing ice cream on a frozen granite stone, it also prepares cakes, smoothies, frappes and shakes for customers looking for a cold, sweet treat. Cold Stone offers delivery and takeout services.
611 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-325-4500; coldstonecreamery.com/stores/21026

**HAMBURGERS, HAPPY HOUR**

**DUTCH GOOSE**

Since opening in 1966, Dutch Goose has been the go-to place for Certified Angus Beef burgers, brews and pizza in a family-friendly atmosphere, where the staff “call you by name and not a number or a text.” Dutch Goose is open for delivery, takeout and outdoor seating.
3567 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, 650-854-3245; dutchgoose.net

**INDEPENDENT COFFEE & TEA HOUSE**

**CAFE BORRONE**

See Place to Meet People, under Arts & Entertainment

See READERS' CHOICE, page 17

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**Amici's was voted Best Pizza.**

**The Dutch Goose won Best Hamburgers and Happy Hour.**

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www.pioneersaloonmusic.com
650-851-8487
HAS THE PANDEMIC SPARKED ANY KIND OF INNOVATION AT YOUR BUSINESS THAT WILL REMAIN IN THE FUTURE?

“As a result of the pandemic, we had the opportunity to build a beautiful outdoor dining room that we may not have invested in previously. The outdoor dining has sparked a bit of a revival in downtown Menlo Park that our customers are really enjoying. The addition of live music several nights a week and a beer garden wasn’t our original vision, but it’s wonderful to be able to think outside the box. The community has been very receptive to all of our new additions, and we hope to do even more in the future.”
— BISTRO VIDA, Best French Restaurant

“We fixed a very dysfunctional and unequal pay disparity of the restaurant business: We now share evenly among every hourly employee the “gratitude” (aka, service charge) added in lieu of tipping to each meal. Prior to COVID-19, the kitchen and service staff were not rewarded with tips left by guests. Now they are. We call the new program Heart of House. It has created fairness, justice and mutual respect among the team.”
— FLEA STREET CAFE, Best Place for a Date, Romantic Restaurant

“We are now offering home pickup and delivery, bundle drop-offs during off hours and are making continuous upgrades to our website (laderacleaners.net).”
— LADERA CLEANERS, Best Dry Cleaners

“We developed group workouts specific to higher-risk clients (60+) where they worked out with people who were in their ‘bubble.’ We also developed a cleaning routine where all members participate in helping maintain equipment and studio extra clean. That is something we will carry with us going forward.”
— STUDIO K-FIT, Best Gym, Fitness Classes

“We offered consultations and shoe fittings over Zoom and we will continue to offer this for customers who for whatever reason can’t come into the store during business hours. We also started delivering locally with our Fleet Feet camper van, and that will continue, too.”
— FLEET FEET, Best Place to Buy Shoes

“Before the pandemic, less than 5% of our sales were online. During the lockdown, we added products to our website and promoted same-day local deliveries. Even though our store is now fully open, our web sales to local customers have become a larger part of our business.”
— CHEEKY MONKEY TOYS, Best Specialty Store

“We offered consultations and shoe fittings over Zoom and we will continue to offer this for customers who for whatever reason can’t come into the store during business hours. We also started delivering locally with our Fleet Feet camper van, and that will continue, too.”
— STUDIO K-FIT, Best Gym, Fitness Classes

“Although our retail doors were closed during the lockdown, our interior design staff continued to work remotely with clients as much as possible. Our interior design business has continued to grow exponentially, and we see it becoming a larger part of our business model moving forward.”
— HARVEST FURNITURE, Best Home Decor and Furnishings

“We're now offering curbside service, delivery and touchless payment.”
— BOW WOW MEOW, Best Pet Store

“Our team’s work during the pandemic sparked many innovations that have already been tested and supported by our community, and we hope to keep many of them going. These include: an open-air bookstore in our outdoor plaza (subject to ongoing landlord approval); investing in our website, web sales and marketing; high-quality virtual events; Community Reads program; membership program; partnership with Menlo Park Library; and decision-making processes that prioritize staff inclusion and participation. Our team has learned many new skills and developed new competencies, and we hope to continue leveraging these in the future.”
— KEPLER’S BOOKS & MAGAZINES, Best Bookstore

Responses compiled from Readers’ Choice winners survey and Almanac business stories. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.
PIZZA
Amici’s
Amici’s has been serving up pizza—along with pasta, soup and salad—to Menlo Park patrons for the past decade. The thin-crust New York style pies are cooked in traditional brick ovens next to an open flame. Diners can now eat indoors, outdoors or order food for pickup or delivery.
880 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-329-8888; amicis.com

TAKEOUT
Chef Kwan’s
Located in the former Su Hong to-go space, Chef Kwan’s offers a full menu of traditional dishes and lunch plates made to order. The restaurant is open for takeout seven days a week.
630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park, 650-322-4631; chefkwans.com

PLACE TO BUY MEAT, SANDWICHES
Bianchini’s Market
Since 1998, shoppers have counted on Bianchini’s Market for fresh local produce, gourmet cheeses and groceries from small producers whose items aren’t found at chain stores. Readers praise the family-owned market for its meat counter and deli sandwiches, which can be ordered via text and are ready for pickup on arrival. The market also offers delivery in as little as one hour.
3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, 650-851-4391; bianchinismarket.com

ASIAN
Chef Chu’s
Since opening in 1970, Chef Chu’s specialty dishes, including its homemade potstickers and Beijing duck cooked in a cast-iron Chinese oven, have attracted a who’s-who list of diners from near and far, including Serena Williams, Steve Young, Justin Bieber and JFK Jr. Chef Chu’s offers takeout and delivery.
1067 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, 650-948-2696; chefchu.com

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Come and see us at our two locations in Portola Valley & Belmont!
Resort-like grounds with breathtaking 180-degree views highlight this contemporary jewel set on almost .45 acres in peaceful Portola Valley. Once you step inside, you will be struck by a wall of folding La Cantina glass doors that open completely from the living room to the expansive deck overlooking the grounds, with a panoramic backdrop of Portola Valley Ranch, Mt. Hamilton, and on clear days, the San Francisco Bay. Nearly 2,800 square feet of living space is filled with stylish appointments and designer touches, with a modern, open floorplan featuring two fireplaces, the eat-in kitchen with a Viking range, and the downstairs entertainment room with a soapstone bar, custom wine storage, and an additional set of La Cantina doors opening to an outdoor hot tub. The home’s 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms include the privately situated primary suite that enjoys a spa-like bathroom and wide windows that take full advantage of the lush surroundings. Plus, the primary suite opens to the five-star grounds that feature ample patio space, synthetic grass, shade trees, and a shimmering pool. This incredible home offers the ultimate sanctuary from the nonstop pace of Silicon Valley, yet it is still just moments from the famed Roberts Market, offers easy access to Interstate 280 for Bay Area commuting, and is served by acclaimed schools Ormondale Elementary and Corte Madera Middle (buyer to verify eligibility).

**OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM**

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Offered at $2,988,000

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Santa Mateo County

Data from BrekerMetrics *based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in San Mateo County, residential properties, with no-off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Private, gated grounds of nearly an acre envelop this majestic Lindenwood estate overflowing with impeccable details and opulent comforts. Evoking the feel of a five-star Tuscan resort, this grandiose residence enjoys several high-end appointments that wrap you in luxury from the moment you step inside, with elegant, grand-scale spaces offering ideal venues for either entertaining or extraordinary everyday living. Nearly 14,700 square feet of space includes a gourmet kitchen, a theater with 8 luxury recliner seats, and a fitness center with an adjacent recovery room featuring a sunken spa and sauna, plus a 2,000+ bottle wine cellar, pool house, and an oversized 6-car garage perfect for auto enthusiasts. Sanctuary awaits in the 8 extravagant bedrooms highlighted by the primary suite with a custom-built, Roman-style tub/shower as well as two massive walk-in closets. Plus, nearly all of the bedrooms offer a full en suite bathroom, and one bedroom easily converts into stylish office space. Incredible grounds offer seemingly endless options for outdoor enjoyment with a vast lawn, a saltwater pool with separate spa, a vineyard terrace, and an outdoor kitchen. And this incredible location is just moments to downtown Menlo Park, downtown Palo Alto, Stanford University, and top private institutions including Sacred Heart and Menlo School.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.96HeatherDR.com
Offered at $13,488,000

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Atherton

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Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com
Chinese蜿蜒Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
I've lived in the Bay Area my whole life. I love how Bianchini’s has been able to partner with dozens of local food purveyors. I’ve traveled many places and there is no place with the diversity, quality and local love like the San Francisco Bay area. We proudly represent the best bakers, dairy farmers, growers, ranchers, fishermen, vintners and food innovators. We love local. We talk the talk and walk the walk of local foodies. We believe that there is a definitive correlation to quality food with a taste of place or terroir - a collection of environmental conditions that form a food or wine’s unique flavor characteristics and quality.

For over 50 years, the Bianchini family has been part of our local community. My dad, Big Al Bianchini, raised us to focus on and appreciate our local producers. If we partner with them, we’ll be able to provide our customers with an incomparable selection that will keep them well fed, happy and loyal. It’s a cornerstone of Bianchini’s, and we are grateful you are part of it. So here’s to you, our local friends and neighbors. Thank you for your support over the years. We promise to continue to love local and live local. From our family of employees to you, thank you for keeping it local and voting us The Almanac Readers’ Choice Winner for Best Grocery, Best Produce, Best Place to Buy Meat and Best Sandwiches once again in 2021!

Kevin Bianchini
PRESIDENT
Before moving to the Bay Area, Cairo, Egypt, who lived in Paris, Owner Ali El Safy, a native of Alexandria, brings a slight Mediterranean twist. Inspired by the Parisian bistro culture, Bistro Vida serves up French-influenced dishes with a slight Mediterranean twist. Owner Ali El Safy, a native of Cairo, Egypt, who lived in Paris before moving to the Bay Area, said his mission is to bring the enjoyment of life, comfort and community found in Paris to Menlo Park. Bistro Vida is open for delivery, outdoor seating, and indoor dining. 1120 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-462-1686; bistro-vida.com.

**ITALIAN**

**CARPACCIO**

Ever since Ristorante Carpatcicio opened in downtown Menlo Park in 1988, it has consistently won Readers’ Choice for best Italian restaurant. Carpaccio features weekly lunch and dinner special menus, while also offering a full range of appetizers, soups, salads, pastas, and meat and fish dinners. The restaurant offers outdoor bistro dining, indoor dining and curbside to-go service. 1120 Crane St., Menlo Park, 650-322-1211; carpaccios.com

**JAPANESE**

**KOMA SUSHI**

Family-owned Koma Sushi Restaurant is where Japanese food cravings will be answered with customer favorites like flounder, sashimi, grilled squid, ahi sashimi and a nigrishi combination plate. The restaurant is open for dining in and takeout orders. 211 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 650-321 5662; komasushi.net

**MEXICAN**

**AMIGOS GRILL**

Amigos Grill may be off the beaten path, but its handmade tortilla chips, fresh ceviche and giant burritos have made it a destination dining spot for locals craving authentic Mexican food and giant margaritas. The outdoor patio seating is popular for its friendly atmosphere, according to Yelp reviews. Amigos Grill is open for indoor and outdoor dining. 3130 Alpine Road #290, Portola Valley, 877-585-1085

**NEW RESTAURANT**

**FARMHOUSE KITCHEN**

Using seasonal and local ingredients, the glitzy Farmhouse Kitchen serves contemporary dishes inspired by northern and southern Thailand cuisine, including specialties like pineapple fried rice, lobster pad Thai, 24-hour beef noodle soup and slow-braised short rib served with panang curry. Owner Kasem “Pop” Saengsawang said his menu is “all about the spice.” Farmhouse Kitchen offers delivery, outdoor seating, and indoor dining. 1165 Merrill St., Menlo Park, 650-665-7935; farmhousethai.com

**OUTDOOR DINING**

**CAFÉ BORRONE**

See Place to meet People, under Arts & Entertainment

**READERS’ CHOICE**, page 22

**IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

“Be patient. Even though we all want things to be normal and we can start acting like they are, it’s a new normal and there are still supply chain issues. It’ll take awhile for local businesses to recover everything that the public doesn’t see.”

— **BISTRO VIDA,** Best French Restaurant

“Transition is tricky. We are all adjusting.”

— **FLEET FEET,** Best Place to Buy Shoes

“Just because businesses have reopened, it doesn’t necessarily mean they have picked up exactly where they left off. We continue to face challenges and appreciate your patience and support as many of us are in the process of rebuilding our businesses.”

— **OLIVE HILL SALON,** Best Hair Salon

“The people in service to care for you are trying very hard. Most worked while others sheltered. Acknowledge them.”

— **FLEA STREET,** Best Place for a Date, Romantic Restaurant

“Behind every small business, there is a family that is going above and beyond, often working seven days a week in order to ensure a safe and comfortable environment for all its patrons.”

— **STUDIO K-FIT,** Best Gym, Fitness Classes

“Be patient with the restaurant industry, we’re still not firing on all cylinders. Even though our doors are open, we still face a myriad of challenges from food cost increases, labor shortages, paying down credit lines, training new staff and more.”

— **DUTCH GOOSE,** Best Hamburgers, Happy Hour

Responses compiled from Readers’ Choice winners survey and Almanac business stories. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.
MENLO VELO BIKES
Menlo Velo Bicycles is committed to making cycling the best it can be for riders of all levels and types. The shop sells a wide variety of bikes — from road and comfort to electric — and provides maintenance services, too. Owner Rainer Zaechelein said business has been through the roof over the past year as the pandemic has fueled a surge in cycling.

READERS’ CHOICE
continued from page 2

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT
FLEA STREET CAFE
See Place for a Date, under Arts & Entertainment

Bistro Vida was named Best French Restaurant.

THAIPOON RESTAURANT
YOU VOTED, WE WON!

Thank you for Voting us #1 Best Thai Restaurant again!
– And –
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Now Open for Lunch!
Lunch hours: Mon-Fri 11am to 2:30 pm
Dinner hours: Sun-Thu 5pm-9pm Fri & Sat 5pm-9:30pm

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www.thaipoontogo.com

Outdoor & Indoor Dining
Togo | Catering

Give the Perfect Gift - Get an E-Gift Card for yourself or gift one to a friend
in ridership. The shop offers curbside drop-off and pickup. It has indefinitely postponed its bike rental program due to health precautions.

433 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 650-327-5137; menlovelobicycles.com

BOOKSTORE
KEPLER’S BOOKS & MAGAZINES
With its broad collection of books, magazines and literary events, Kepler’s Books & Magazines has been a beloved cornerstone in the community since it opened in the 1960s. In response to the pandemic, the independent bookstore’s nonprofit arm, the Kepler’s Literary Foundation, created Refresh the Page, a series of online conversations, classes and seminars for adults and youth that has become part of its offerings.

1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 650-324-4321; keplers.com

BOU T I QUE, PLACE TO BUY J E W E L RY, G I F T S H O P
SHADY LANE
For more than four decades, Shady Lane has been offering one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces, intricately woven scarves, artisan glass sculptures, wood carvings, handcrafted soaps and an array of other items handcrafted by local and international artists and designers. The boutique is open for in-store shopping as well as online shopping and curbside pickup. The store also offers gift wrapping.

325 Sharon Park Drive, Menlo Park, 650-321-1099; shadylanegallery.com

FLOOR COVERINGS
ABB E Y C ARPET & FLOOR
Abbay Carpet & Floor provides one-on-one expert advice on the newest flooring trends, styles and technologies. The locally owned shop has everything from tile and stone to vinyl, laminates and carpet. For those who can’t come into the showroom, Abbey Carpet & Floor makes house calls. Its visualizer app also enables customers to see how various flooring options might look in their own home prior to visiting the store.

626 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-462-0800; menloparkabbeycarpet.com

FRAME STORE/ART GALLERY
PEABODY FINE ART GALLERY & FRAMING
Since 1989, the skilled designers at Peabody Fine Art Gallery & Framing have been working one-on-one with customers to help create one-of-a-kind framed designs for any project. Since the pandemic, the shop has launched a new service to enable customers to design and purchase frames online.

603 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-322-2200; peabodygallery.com

See READERS’ CHOICE, page 24
Menlo Park Ace Hardware has been the go-to hardware store for home, garden and building supplies since it opened in 2005. In addition to offering housewares and tools, the independently owned shop offers services, including key cutting, custom glass and acrylic sheet cutting, blade sharpening, window screen repair, propane exchange and product assembly and delivery.

700 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-325-2515; menlohardware.com

Harvest Furniture is a complete home furnishing store that offers decor for every room, from customized upholstery lines to interior design services with designers who will ensure that furniture selections flow together.

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, 650-854-3850; laderagardenandgifts.com

Bow Wow Meow is all about offering the most beneficial products and services to caring pet guardians. The pet store carries some of the most advanced products in the pet industry and offers grooming, training and other services to ensure that all pets are healthy and happy.

654 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-323-2845; bowwowmeow.net

Fleet Feet in Menlo Park is committed to enhancing local running and walking communities and helping customers find products that improve their fitness experience. They assess foot type and gait cycle and have 3D scanners to measure feet, making their footwear recommendations uniquely tailored to each customer. For those who prefer to shop online, the shop is offering virtual shoe fittings via Zoom.

859 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-325-9432; fleetfeet.com

Cheeky Monkey Toys is a family-owned shop that specializes

See READERS’ CHOICE, page 26
Our Graduates Move Ahead in Life by Moving Lives Ahead

Palo Alto University is a non-profit university specializing in psychology and counseling. Offering accredited bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs.

Learn more at: www.PaloAltoU.edu
Almanac readers voted Studio K-Fit Best Fitness Classes and Gym.

READERS’ CHOICE
continued from page 24

in finding “just the right toy” for each customer. Since opening its doors in Menlo Park in 1999, the shop has provided interactive toys designed to stimulate children’s minds to generations of local families. When all nonessential businesses were ordered to close in March 2020, Cheeky Monkey Toys quickly pivoted to a direct delivery-only service, dropping off toys within a 10-mile radius of the store. Cheeky Monkey has reopened for in-store shopping and also offers on-site pickup and delivery. 640 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-328-7975; cheekymonkeytoys.com

Services
AUTO REPAIR
PORTOLA VALLEY GARAGE
Portola Valley Garage’s skilled technicians have been providing minor tuneups and major overhauls since 1948. In addition to repair services, the garage offers 24-hour vehicle drop-off, online appointments and loaner cars. 4170 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, 650-851-7442; pvgarage.com

BARBER
MENLO PARK BARBER SHOP
The barbers at Menlo Park Barber Shop pride themselves on developing close relationships with clients, giving excellent cuts and “blending craft and tradition with a strong dose of humor.” The shop has reopened for in-person indoor visits, and barbers also are making house calls. 2100 Avy Ave., Menlo Park, 650-391-9008; menloparkbarbershop.com

Ladera Cleaners was voted Best Dry Cleaner.

DAY SPA
LABELLE DAY SPAS & SALONS
For decades, LaBelle Day Spa and Salon has helped Silicon Valley clients look and feel their best from head to toe. Moisturizers, serums and oils; treatments for problematic skin conditions such as rosacea; scrubs, toners and eye care — everything for the face and body is available here with a one-on-one approach. Two locations: 36 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto, 650-326-8522; 95 Town and Country Village, Palo Alto, 650-327-6964; labelledayspas.com

DRY CLEANER
LADERA CLEANERS
For more than 30 years, Ladera Cleaners has helped customers properly care for their clothing, coats, comforters and other delicate handmade items. The shop, which has been a Readers’ Choice winner rolled with changing regulations. We feared we were going to have to close and we were lifted up by so many — we can’t say enough in gratitude.”
— FLEET FEET, Best Place to Buy Shoes

“We had a family approach us about planting a succulent garden in front of our store. Since people could only look through our front window, this family thought the plant bed could use some sprucing up. They asked for donated cuttings and some extra hands from their neighbors and came one morning and completely transformed the plant bed into a beautiful garden. We were incredibly touched by their thoughtfulness and generosity.”
— CHEEKY MONKEY TOYS, Best Specialty Store

ARE THERE MOMENTS THIS YEAR THAT INSPIRED YOU THROUGHOUT THIS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TIME?

“Watching the restaurant industry innovate to ensure the safety of employees and patrons was fascinating. We saw things like outdoor seating, new point-of-service systems to accommodate touchless payment, curbside pickup and delivery orders, digital gift cards, plastic barriers, evolving masks and other innovations.”
— STUDIO K-FIT, Best Gym, Fitness Classes

“Clients who kept wishing us well, reassured us that they are waiting for our return to business and reminded us of the importance of our service and the community we have created.”
— LABELLE DAY SPAS & SALONS, Best Day Spa

“‘Our trainers were absolutely incredible in pivoting with us during the entire year. We couldn’t have survived without their positive spirit and work ethic. We are also eternally grateful to the landlords of Marsh Manor Plaza who were accommodating to our outdoor setup all while extending rent reduction during the most difficult months. When fire season hit, we were left many times having to cancel our outdoor workouts due to the poor air quality. During the toughest of days, we were fueled by the fact that many of our members and staff believed in us.’”
— FLEET FEET, Best Place to Buy Shoes

“‘Our community rallied around us. We are so grateful. Some customers bought shoes for the next three years. The owner’s childhood friend purchased shoes as Christmas gifts for his entire staff. Our employees

“Clients who kept wishing us well, reassured us that they are waiting for our return to business and reminded us of the importance of our service and the community we have created.”
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HOW HAS 2021 BEEN SO FAR COMPARED TO 2020?

"The bicycle industry saw a worldwide spike in demand in 2020 that has been sustained into 2021, creating huge supply chain issues. Demand is still high and supply is still low, and it is forecasted to stay this way until the end of 2022. The challenge today is getting bikes and parts. The other challenge is to reopen the shop in such a way that we all stay healthy."
— MENLO VELO BIKES,
Best Bicycle Shop

"Business is improving, albeit it is slow."
— LADERA CLEANERS,
Best Dry Cleaners

"In 2021, we’re no longer gripped by fear. We’re starting to figure out how to live with this, and it’s encouraging to see the world starting up again."
— PEABODY GALLERY
AND CUSTOM FRAMING,
Best Frame Store/Art Gallery

"Full of silver linings. We kept 14 of our 26 staff employed. We ended 2020 having sent 29,000 meals through Meals of Gratitude to health care workers and fire evacuees. Our new Heart of House program has created a truly wonderful work environment that will continue forever. We have learned how to pivot, be inventive and feel humbling gratitude for each other and our community who saved us and helped us survive."
— FLEA STREET,
Best Place for a Date, Romantic Restaurant

"This year feels like an exhale of breath, whereas 2020 felt like we were holding our breath. Hope has replaced fear, and the future looks bright. It feels great to see members who hadn’t been to the studio in over a year."
— STUDIO K-FIT,
Best Gym, Fitness Classes

"Better but still full of challenges and stress."
— BOW WOW MEOW,
Best Pet Store

"Sales are up 100% this year. ... We were closed for roughly nine months in 2020."
— DUTCH GOOSE,
Best Hamburgers, Happy Hour

"This year has been much better as more services are allowed and more clients feel confident at coming out after being vaccinated. Both employees and clients are feeling hopeful again, planning fun activities and starting to care about looking their best again."
— LABELLE DAY SPAS & SALONS,
Best Day Spa

Responses compiled from Readers’ Choice winners survey and Almanac business stories. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.
“Dry Clean Only” doesn’t mean you shouldn’t enjoy your clothes as often as you like.

We specialize in alterations.

Call or stop by today to speak with Clara for any of your alterations needs!

3130 ALPINE RD. STE. 260, PORTOLA VALLEY
(650) 854-2291
www.laderacleaners.net

Almanac readers voted **Cheeky Monkey Toys** Best Specialty Store.
“Our biggest challenge was maintaining staffing during extended periods of closure. Unlike other businesses that could operate on a limited basis, we had to completely shut down, which was very hard on our staff.”
— OLIVE HILL SALON, Best Hair Salon

“Having to reinvent ourselves and pivot our business model to takeout-only was a huge challenge. Our goal was to retain every employee who wanted to stay with us employed throughout the pandemic, so we shifted their roles and tried to keep everyone afloat. Even with economic assistance from PPP loans and grants, our sales suffered tremendously, and we would have faced even greater challenges without assistance from our landlord and the generous support of our customers and community who made countless donations.”
— BISTRO VIDA, Best French Restaurant

“Not knowing when we could get back to serving our clients again. In addition, opening and then being required to close again multiple times due to ever-changing COVID-19 regulations.”
— LABELLE DAY SPAS & SALONS, Best Day Spa

“Lack of business.”
— LADERA CLEANERS, Best Dry Cleaners

“Balancing the emotions of watching a business that you have grown for almost two decades evaporate while remaining level-headed enough to pivot your business model was a huge challenge. Our main goal was to keep our full-time employees so they could continue to have both a paycheck and their health insurance.”
— CHEEKY MONKEY TOYS, Best Specialty Store

“Keeping our employees working.”
— PIONEER SALOON, Best Live Music

“There were so many: saving staff, putting our food into packaging that traveled well, figuring out how to show appreciation from afar and how to keep us all safe as we were front-line workers in many ways. ... But mostly, the daily unknown”
— FLEA STREET CAFE, Best Place for a Date, Romantic Restaurant

“When Harvest closed during the lockdown, we really missed our community! There is nothing that can replace the daily face-to-face interaction with customers and co-workers.”
— HARVEST FURNITURE, Best Home Decor and Furnishings

“Because people were staying home looking at their walls, there was an increase in demand for our business at the same time that our supply chain was severely impacted by COVID-19, which pushed us to be more resourceful than we had been before.”
— PEABODY GALLERY AND CUSTOM FRAMING, Best Frame Store/Art Gallery

“Because of the pandemic, you don’t know who your clientele is anymore. You don’t know who’s coming back. We’ve also received a lot of new customers who were looking for a new barber. ... It’s like this huge reshuffling of clientele that’s occurred.”
— MENLO PARK BARBERSHOP, Best Barber
of delaying the measure if Gov. Gavin Newsom’s recall election was on the same ballot. Since the recall election was rescheduled for Sept. 14, the parcel tax will remain on the November ballot, said board President Sherwin Chen in an email.

The board had previously voted to replace the district’s Measure X, which passed in 2017 with an initial annual rate of $360 per parcel for $2.83 million annually. It expires in July 2022.

“The board does not expect funds from state, local, or other sources to be sufficient to support reasonable class sizes, high quality teachers, and comprehensive educational programs currently provided by Measure X,” according to a statement from the superintendent and the board president. “Reducing the district’s current approach to school funding requires communities such as Menlo Park and Atherton to shoulder an ever-larger share of local school costs, and this condition will not change in the foreseeable future.”

Measure X’s financial runway — the time before which the district would once again begin deficit spending — was only four years, the district has said.

One of the driving forces of the district’s budget is the mandated increase in state pension costs to CalSTRS (the California State Teachers’ Retirement System) and CalPERS (the state’s public employee retirement system).

The employer contribution for CalSTRS had previously been frozen, but following Gov. Gavin Newsom’s recall election in Nov. 2021, the employer contribution is raised from 8.25% to 19.1% over the course of seven years, beginning in fiscal year 2015. Due to COVID-19 related losses, benefit credits provided to the boards by CalSTRS, which are used to fund retirement benefits, were frozen.

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Sequoia Union High School District

The Sequoia Union High School District receives revenues of $133.5 million and $133.2 million in expenditures for the 2022 budget. For the year 2021-22, the state has made significant investments in the May revision, over $24 billion in reserves, and school districts will benefit from this surplus,” according to a May report by district staff. The majority of the additional funding we will receive is COVID time-one-time. This can create out-year-risks, because the funding is not set aside. But by using this money we do have the opportunity to offer expanded opportunities for recovery for our students as we reemerge from this last year.

The state has set aside $2.9 million in in-person instruction grants to districts for last school year and the 2021-22 school year. The district is also receiving $6.1 million — through the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant — during the same time period to help with social and academic losses during the pandemic and provide students with more access to technology through learning hubs.

CalPERS costs are jumping almost 11%, while CalSTRS costs are up 2.5% from the 2021 fiscal year.

Property taxes are expected to remain flat in the years to come.

Portola Valley School District

For fiscal year 2022, general fund revenues are projected to be $15 million in the Portola Valley School District. Nearly 83% of district spending is on salaries and benefits, according to the budget. Pension rates continue to increase by 4.6% to 5.1% for the 2022 fiscal year. These increases will impact educators and staff in the district, and the district is expected to report an increase of $2.5 million in pension costs.

Property taxes are expected to increase by 4.5% ($547,000) over the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The Las Lomitas Elementary School District plans to reallocate special education monies. This can create out-year-risks, because the funding is not set aside. But by using this money we do have the opportunity to offer expanded opportunities for recovery for our students as we reemerge from this last year.

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Property taxes are expected to remain flat in the years to come.
### Outstanding Opportunity

**1420 Franks Lane, Menlo Park**

**2 Bedrooms | 1 Bathroom**

**PRICE: $2,188,888**

Charming updated 2-bedroom 1-bathroom home in the highly desirable Las Lomitas school district. So much potential to expand and create your dream home. Hardwood floors throughout. Inviting living/dining area has a cozy fireplace in living room and French doors in the dining area that lead out onto the deck in the back. Kitchen has granite counters, stainless appliances, breakfast bar and garden window over the sink. Not far from downtown Menlo Park and close by several local restaurants and shops. Neighborhood schools include Las Lomitas Elementary and La Entrada Middle School (buyer to verify with school district).

**TERRIE MASUDA**
650.400.2918
TMasuda@cbnorcal.com
www.terriemasuda.com
CalBRE #00951976

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### THE ALMANAC OPEN HOMES

**ATHERTON**

<table>
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<th>Price</th>
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**BELMONT**

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**MENLO PARK**

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<td>DeLeon Bkkr</td>
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**PALO ALTO**

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<tr>
<td>DeLeon Realty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>650-459-3888</td>
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**PORTOLA VALLEY | $3,588,000**

Take a look at this unique remodeled three bedroom, three and one-half bath home in a fabulous cul-de-sac location! It features a bonus room in the basement, two-car garage plus a lovely two bedroom, one bath accessory dwelling unit with high ceilings, a spacious kitchen and laundry. You will also enjoy the private patio and deck and the beautiful mature landscaping.

Shawwna Sullivan
650.716.7303
shawwna.sullivan@cbnorcal.com
CalRE #00856563

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### Walkathon for foster youth

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of San Mateo County is organizing a two-week virtual walkathon to support foster youth countywide in August. CASA of San Mateo County is a local nonprofit that pairs children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems with community volunteers who mentor, support and advocate on their behalf. It’s part of a national network of more than 76,000 volunteers, according to the organization’s website.

The virtual walkathon fundraiser, called “Forward, Together,” will run from Aug. 14 to 28. As of July 19, it had raised nearly $171,000 toward a goal of $300,000.

Go to is.gd/walkcasasmc to register or learn more.

—Kate Bradshaw

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### Community Briefs

Go to is.gd/menlotav3 to access the performance schedule or to reserve a table.

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Employment

STANFORD R&D
PLEASE JOIN STANFORD R&D FOR OPEN INTERVIEWS. Open interviews on Friday, July 23, 2021 from 11am - 3pm and Saturday, July 24, 2021 from 11am - 2pm. Location: 693 Pampas Lane, Stanford, CA 94305. To learn more about the positions available or to speak with a recruiter, email rdehire@stanford.edu or call 650.724.5716.

To place an ad or get a quote, contact Kevin Legarda at 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@paweekly.com.

Viewpoint

California has reopened, and it’s time to return to health

By Josh Becker and Dan Woods

S

ince the pandemic began more than one year ago, changes so that, as our society heals from the economic damage caused by the pandemic, our community members emerge healthy as well.

The importance of prevention

We know much more now than we did a year ago about the prevention of COVID-19 and have effective and safe vaccines for it. Most importantly, we have vaccines that are nearly 100% effective in protecting you against severe illness causing hospitalization or death, and can prevent, treat and even reverse chronic disease. Your local health care provider may have resources to help you return to health in these important areas.

All of us are in a position to make our lives better by returning to health. Part of our journey back to normal after this lengthy disruption in our lives is to take care of ourselves by scheduling preventive screenings, going to the emergency department for red-flag symptoms such as crushing chest pain or trouble breathing, and keeping follow-up appointments with your health care provider to manage chronic disease.

As more and more of us get vaccinated, we can speed the progress toward a post-pandemic world. Your local health care provider was there for you before the pandemic and is awaiting your return now. Josh Becker represents the 13th Senate District in the California Legislature. He can be reached at senator.becker@senate.ca.gov. Dan Woods is the chief executive officer of El Camino Health. His email address is ceo@elcaminohealth.org.

LETTER

Our readers write

COVID-19 risks

With progress in controlling COVID-19, mask and social distancing regulations have largely been eliminated.

However, while diminished, the risk of infection and death persists in the absence of vaccination. In patronizing businesses that provide goods or services indoors, smart consumers will, therefore, prefer those who can truthfully advertise “employees 100% vaccinated.” Businesses should still require that unvaccinated employees and customers wear masks.

Sensible customers will in turn will continue to be masked unless all employees and other customers of the businesses they patronize are either masked or vaccinated.

James R. Madison
Holly Avenue, Menlo Park
"My Bollywood Jukebox" will offer Bollywood highlights through music and dance, as well as insights into how Bollywood forges community connections.

By Karla Kane

Bollywood: It’s the name for the wildly successful Mumbai-based, Hindi-language film industry, probably best known for its dazzling musical numbers, romantic melodramas and flamboyant costumes. But, said "My Bollywood Jukebox" creator and producer Heena Patel, to millions of fans, Bollywood means a lot more than entertainment.

"These films have influenced the dreams, the passions, even the decor and fashion sensibilities of those who’ve watched them," she said. "People know about the sequins and it being fun, but I wanted to show how it’s really more than that."

Patel’s new production (with MELA Arts Connect), which premieres at Stanford University’s Frost Amphitheater on July 25, will take audiences on a music-and-dance-filled journey through Bollywood history, showcasing many time periods, genres and styles from early melodramas and romantic melodramas to the wildly successful Munna Bazaar, to millions of fans, Bollywood memories, having heard her father sing it frequently around the house, inspired by his favorite singer, Mohammed Rafi. In the 1990s, Patel idolized the actress Madhuri Dixit.

"My dreams of being a Bollywood star and dancer are all connected to Madhuri Dixit," she said. "I grew up watching her movies on the VCR, rewinding to copy her, to do these dances at our community shows."

The Stanford Live production of "My Bollywood Jukebox" will include nine musicians and a group of eight or nine dancers. The primarily Northern California-based cast includes the Bay Area band Raga & Blues, and choreography for the show is by Anisha Babbar and Rohit Gijare. Patel herself will serve as narrator.

"What people are going to really get to see and hear is that Bollywood is not just one type of music or one type of dance. Bollywood is everything and nothing," Patel said. "It’s not a particular movement vocabulary or sound aesthetic. There are jazz, classical, folk, pop and disco influences — so many musical influences — and a lot of different styles of dance in it as well."

Patel and company started working on the show in late May. "It’s a rapidly evolving process," she said with a laugh. And she expects the show to continue to evolve and grow in future incarnations. While tickets to the family-friendly Stanford show are being sold in pods to allow for social distancing, Patel said she still hopes for plenty of audience participation from people of all ages.

"There’s an invitation for the audience to really become a part of it and dance with us," she said. "So much of Bollywood is a celebration. It’s about joy and it’s about connection. I can’t think of anything more powerful than celebrating with joy and music and stories."

"My Bollywood Jukebox" will premiere Sunday, July 25, at 6 p.m. at Frost Amphitheater, 351 Lasuen St., Stanford. Tickets are $30. More information is at live.stanford.edu/calendar/july-2021/my-bollywood-jukebox.

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane at kkane@pawweekly.com.
JUST LISTED | 52 Monte Vista Avenue | Atherton

ESTATE LIVING ON A PREMIER STREET

5-bed, 6.5-bath main residence (~ 6,920 sq. ft.)
1-bed, 1-bath guest house with kitchen (~ 410 sq. ft.)
Freshly painted and new carpet
Library, office, fitness center or bedroom 6, upstairs study center/family room
Attached 2-car garage, plus detached 2-car garage
Pool with fountain jets and elevated spa
Almost one acre (~ 43,164 sq. ft.)
Excellent Menlo Park schools

Offered at: $12,998,000
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Superior Real Estate Representation
FOR THOSE WHO EXPECT ONLY THE VERY BEST

289 Almendral Avenue, Atherton
$18,995,000 | 5 beds, office, 6 full & 2 half-baths
289Almendral.com

740 Creek Drive, Menlo Park
$4,295,000 | 5 beds, 3 baths

1300 N. Lemon Avenue, Menlo Park
$3,595,000 | 3 beds, 2 baths, guest house

Tom LeMieux, MBA
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License #01066910

Jennifer Bitter, MBA
650.308.4401
jennifer@lemieuxRE.com
License #01847627

#59 Small Team in the U.S., 2021, Real Trends in WSJ
Over $3 billion in sales since 1998
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289 ALMENDRAL AVENUE

ATHERTON

FOR SALE

Exceptional New Estate

• 5 bedrooms, office, 6 full baths, 2 half-baths
• Approximately 10,615 total square feet
• Pool cabana with 1 bath and partial kitchen
• Two family rooms, theater, fitness center, and wine cellar
• Wired for Lutron HomeWorks, gigabit-speed fiber network
• Approximately 1 acre with pool, barbecue center, vast lawn
• Attached 3-car garage wired for EV charging

$18,995,000 | 289Almendral.com

FOR SALE

740 Creek Drive, Menlo Park
$4,295,000 | 5 beds, 3 baths | 740Creek.com

1300 N. Lemon Avenue, Menlo Park
$3,595,000 | 3 beds, 2 baths, guest house

735 Woodside Drive, Woodside
$5,498,000 | 5 beds, 3.5 baths

SOLD

1640 Escobita Avenue, Palo Alto
$3,498,000 | 3 beds, 2 baths

50 Barry Lane, Atherton
$11,500,000 | 5 beds, 4.5 baths

COMING SOON

• Premier Atherton location
• 5 bedrooms, 6.5 baths
• 1-bedroom, 1-bath guest house
• Pool, spa
• Almost one acre

Call for details

List prices shown

$142 MILLION Sold
in 2021 Year-to-Date


* based on 2020 sales volume