How a Palo Alto woman survived 48 freezing hours, lost in the Sierra

Substitute teacher and experienced hiker Jolly Bose kept her cool in desperate situation

By Lloyd Lee

D

during her 48 hours alone somewhere in the Sierra National Forest, Jolly Bose faced temperatures so low her breath crystalized as soon as it left her mouth. The battery in her headlamp weakened against the cold. And what little water she had left since she got lost — about 10 ounces — froze.

One fleece sweater, a base layer, a turquoise down jacket and another red shell jacket on top were not enough to keep her warm during nightfall. Bose had to curl up in an upright fetal position, with hands under her armpit, to preserve what little warmth she had.

Yet, even in frigid conditions, she never lost her composure.

“The main thing the search and rescue team had said worked for me was that I was calm and I was not panicking,” Bose told this news organization on Oct. 22 from her Palo Alto home in good health and spirits.

Sunday, Oct. 17, was supposed to be a day hike up Mount Givens with Bose’s two friends Ken Toyama and Dmitry Medvedev.

Northeast of Huntington Lake in Fresno County, Mount Givens sits at an elevation of about 10,643 feet, which is just about 2 miles above sea level. For the inexperienced, an elevation that high can make one subject to headaches, nausea and other symptoms of altitude sickness.

But for the three, this was just one of many summits they were ascending as seasoned peakbaggers — hikers who have a personal list of mountains they want to climb and conquer. Since 2017, Bose, a 43-year-old yoga instructor, fitness trainer and a K-8 substitute teacher in East Palo Alto, has reached many peaks. The tallest she “bagged” was Mount Whitney, which is about 14,500 feet high — a “14er” as her group of hiking enthusiasts call it.

“During COVID I think I (hiked) at least 20, 30 times,” the Barron Park neighborhood resident said.

Still, even with all of her and her friends’ experience, Bose now recalls several missteps they made before and during their ascent.

As usual, Bose downloaded a map of Mount Givens on her phone anticipating that she would lose service. In addition to her typical gear, which includes a CamelBak backpack and trekking poles, among other essentials, Bose always packs a portable battery for her phone.

City Council debates where to put 3,800 new homes in Menlo Park

By Kate Bradshaw

Menlo Park’s project to plan for roughly 3,800 new housing units hit a speed bump Tuesday night when the City Council raised a number of questions and pushed back on an ambitious timeline to begin environmental review work.

Menlo Park’s housing element is a piece of its general plan, or governing document, laying out how the city should grow from a residential perspective. As part of a state-mandated process called the Regional Housing Needs Allocation or RHNA for short, California jurisdictions are assigned a certain number of housing units to plan for based on those community’s growth patterns. Those numbers are updated in eight year cycles. Communities across the Bay Area are expected to update their housing elements by January 2023.

As part of that process, Menlo Park also plans to update its safety element as well as create an environmental justice element. City officials also plan to do both an environmental impact analysis and a fiscal impact analysis for the housing element update to thoroughly evaluate the potential environmental and financial effects of a proposed project on the city, as well as school and special districts, according to a staff report.

In addition, based on a number of new state laws, the city has to take further steps than in previous eight-year RHNA cycles to make sure that the plans for adding new housing are both feasible and equitable, offering affordable units in high opportunity areas, such as those with amenities and high-performing school districts.

The city is expected to plan for at least 740 very low-income homes (from 0% to 50% of the area median income), 426 low-income homes (from 50% to 80% of the area median income), 496 moderate-income homes (from 81% to 120% of the area median income) and 1,284 above-moderate income homes (from above 120% of the area median income), for a total of 2,946 new homes.

However, the city has also been encouraged to develop a 30% “buffer” in the number of housing units — increasing the expectation to plan for 3,830 new homes citywide — to ensure that some of the housing possibilities proposed don’t work out, the city will still be able to reach its mandates. After factoring in that 30% buffer and subtracting the current proposed homes in the city’s development pipeline, as well as a rough estimate of the number of accessory dwelling units that homeowners within the city are expected to add, staff and consultants recommend the city plan for 802 very low-income homes, 299 low-income homes, 389 moderate income homes, and no above-moderate homes for a total of 1,490 homes. (There are already 3,053 above-moderate homes in the city’s development pipeline, according to staff and consultants.)

City staff and the consultant firm the M-Group have been working on developing a plan...
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It’s move-in week for Atherton’s long-awaited $32M civic center

By Angela Swartz

Piles of boxes lined the temporary trailers in Holbrook-Palmer Park late last week as Atherton town staff prepared to move a half-mile away into the long-awaited new $32 million, Mediterranean-inspired civic center. After a little over two years of construction, town staffers are moving into the new facility.

Atherton’s new civic center project has been in the works since 2012. After more than two years of construction, town staff are moving into the new facility.

Animal shelter workers to be charged in deaths of 7 puppies

Labrador/pit bull-mix pups died while being transported by Pets in Need Palo Alto

By Sue Dremann

Pets in Need, Palo Alto’s contracted animal services agency, is a no-kill shelter, but three of its employees have now been cited and are being charged with animal cruelty and neglect in the deaths of seven puppies, a press release from Palo Alto police stated Tuesday.

The puppies died during transport from the Central Valley on Aug. 2. The employees had taken a Pets in Need van, a 2019 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, to the Central Valley to pick up extra animals that could not be accommodated at other shelters or that were not successfully adopted. The transport trips are a routine activity for Pets In Need, which brings the animals to its local facilities to put up for adoption, police said.

The employees were gone for several hours during the Aug. 2 trip and had picked up 27 dogs including the puppies. The young Labrador/pit-mix dogs were 3-4-month-old siblings and weighed about 9 pounds each.

The van lacked air conditioning in the rear cargo area, and the employees did not provide water for the dogs during transport. The temperature in the Central Valley that afternoon was in the range of 90 to 100 degrees, police said.

The employees reported that none of the animals appeared distressed when they checked them during a stop for gas in Los Banos on the return to Palo Alto. When they arrived at the Palo Alto shelter at 3281 E. Bayshore Road, however, Pets In Need staff found seven puppies were unresponsive. The employees immediately summoned assistance from veterinarians on staff, who unsuccessfully tried to resuscitate the puppies.

All of the other dogs in the van survived, police stated.

Following a police investigation, the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office chose to file two misdemeanor charges — animal cruelty and neglect — against each of the three employees. A Santa Clara County Superior Court judge signed arrest warrants on Oct. 25. Detectives cited and released the employees on Oct. 26, as is standard protocol for nonviolent misdemeanor warrants, police said.

The employees are Patricia Santana Valencia, 40, of East Palo Alto, Margaret C. Evans, 36, of Fremont and Ingrid Anne Hartmann, 45, of San Carlos. Since they were cited and not taken to jail, no booking photos are available, police said.

Fewer in number, more racially diverse

Latest census paints a picture of how Midpeninsula’s youth population has changed

By Zoe Morgan

The number of young people on the Midpeninsula is shrinking, even as the overall population grows, mirroring a trend throughout California, recently released data from the 2020 U.S. census shows. The children and teens as a whole are becoming increasingly non-white, although many towns remain far more racially homogenous than the region overall.

Santa Clara County saw the number of people under 18 drop by 5.4% between 2010 and 2020 (from 429,545 to 406,542), even as the total population increased by 8.7%. In San Mateo County, there are now 3.5% fewer children than a decade ago, decreasing from 159,772 to 154,206, despite a 6.4% increase in the overall number of people living in the county.

The region isn’t alone in seeing a smaller number of young people, even as the broader population swells. Statewide, the total number of children has dropped 6.3% over the past 10 years, even as the overall population has grown 6.1%.

In addition to the absolute numbers, the share of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties residents who are under 18 has dropped. In 2010, 24.1% of Santa Clara County residents and 22.2% of San Mateo County residents were under 18. Today, those shares are 21% and 20.2%, respectively. Statewide, the share of young people has dropped from 25% to 22%.

A few local towns — notably Mountain View — did see an uptick in the number of young residents, but those increases were generally overshadowed by larger jumps in the overall population within those areas.

Among the children and teens living on the Midpeninsula, the share identifying as Asian increased substantially, as did those selecting more than one racial group. The portion of white youth dropped, as, to a lesser extent, did the share of Hispanic young people.

The census is conducted every 10 years and collects data on the U.S. population that is used for a variety of purposes, including congressional redistricting. The information gathered includes the total number of people living in given geographic areas, as well as their race and whether they are an adult. The census uses “places” which generally follow city boundaries, but include other areas, such as unincorporated communities like North Fair Oaks.

Race and ethnicity data is collected on the census using two questions: One asks if the respondents identify as Hispanic or Latino; the second asks them to pick their race, which may include multiple options.

In this article, people who...
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Some 36 Almanac readers responded to a reader’s letter about U.S. Census results.

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Here’s where to celebrate Halloween on the Peninsula

By Sue Dremann and Heather Zimmerman

Where last year brought us a socially distanced Halloween, 2021 offers more options to celebrate this spookiest season. There’s plenty of fall fun to be had on the Peninsula, with both in-person events and some virtual activities.

Here’s a sampling of Peninsula events to celebrate Halloween. And of course, with the pandemic still lurking, for in-person events, check for COVID-19 protocols before you go. Some venues require a vaccination card or proof of a negative test result within 72 hours.

Menlo Park

Trick or Treat Walk Thru: Menlo Church hosts trick-or-treat stations, an inflatable slide and an open-air bounce house.

When: Oct. 30, 5-7 p.m.

Where: 850 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park.

Cost: Free.


Portola Valley

Webb Ranch Pumpkin Patch: Fresh pumpkins for sale from Webb Ranch’s organic patch, a haunted house, bounce houses and obstacle course. Hay rides, petting and reptile zoos on the weekends.

Reservations are required to take part in weekend activities; no reservations needed for pumpkin purchases or for weekday visits.

When: Daily through Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Where: 2718 Alpine Road, Portola Valley.

Cost: Tickets $5 per activity; all-day ticket, $23.


Palo Alto

Jack-O-Jaunt: Pumpkin carving competition and display hosted by the city of Palo Alto. Participants can carve pumpkins at home or during a carving workshop.

When: Oct. 29, 6-8:30 p.m. (workshop takes place Oct. 29, 3:30 p.m.)

Where: Lytton Plaza, University Avenue and Emerson Street, Palo Alto.

Cost: Free.

Info: cityofpaloalto.org.

Suspense Movie Night: Midpen Media will be hosting a one-night-only virtual free screening of “Dementia 13,” a 1960s suspense/horror film about a recently widowed woman trying to intercept her ex-husband’s family’s money. Includes complimentary popcorn and sweets. Costumes are encouraged. Voice chatting hosted on Discord, and text chat will be open for those who prefer to keep their mics off. The film will be available to view on Midpen Media’s Facebook page and local cable Channel 30.

When: Oct. 29, 9 p.m.

Where: Midpen Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto; movie can also be viewed online through the center’s Facebook page.

Cost: Free.

Info: midpennmedia.org.

Blossom’s Halloween Picnic: Blossom Birth and Family kicks off Halloween weekend with a “spooktacular” picnic at Mitchell Park. Features music, games, refreshments and jugglers. Everyone is encouraged to wear a costume. Adults and older children are asked to wear a face covering as a precaution. This is a bring-your-own picnic. Limited light refreshments will be offered.

When: Oct. 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where: Mitchell Park, 600 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, community bowl.

Cost: Free.

Info: Register at tinyurl.com/ypc2z7hd.

Dead Music in the Park: Special Halloween show of live music, dancing, games and refreshments will be offered.

When: Oct. 30, noon-3 p.m.

Where: Midpen Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto.

Cost: Free.

Info: reelerorg.org.

Trunk or Treat: Walk-through event of car trunks and tailgates decorated for the Halloween holiday. Attendees invited to participate in a visual scavenger hunt through rows of cars. Dress in family-friendly costumes and take a picture at the photo booth.

When: Oct. 30, 3-5 p.m.

Where: Peninsula Bible Church, 3505 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

Cost: Free.

Info: pbc.org/children.

Halloween on the Peninsula

From pumpkin patches to monster bashes, Halloween events come creeping back in 2021

Picking out pumpkins at the Webb Ranch Pumpkin Patch is a Halloween tradition for many Midpeninsula families.
College district paid over $200K in legal fees for former chancellor

The San Mateo County Community College District paid out $213,895 in legal fees for Ron Galatolo, the district’s contentious chancellor emeritus who was fired from his post amid claims of financial impropriety. The district covered the fees while District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe investigated Galatolo.

The district, which runs three community colleges in the county, covered Galatolo’s legal fees from September 2019 to September 2020, according to information the Almanac obtained. The news was first reported by the Palo Alto Daily Post.

The chart the college district sent doesn’t specify who it paid on Galatolo’s behalf.

Among the allegations leveled against Galatolo are the use of public funds for retirement incentives, undisclosed personal relationships with the district’s vendors and undisclosed gifts from contractors who work for the district, according to the district. These gifts appear to have included high-end travel, concert tickets and meals, and do not appear to have been reported on a Form 700 as required by law.

The district’s governing board voted to end Galatolo’s $467,700 annual contract during a closed session in February. Not only did the board fire Galatolo, but the board also voted to try to get back what it paid the chancellor emeritus under his 2019 contract.

He failed to complete any work over the 18 months, trustees said in a Feb. 6 letter to Galatolo. He also “refused” to answer any of the board’s questions about his work for the district, they said.

The DA’s office told the San Mateo County Community College District, which includes Cañada College, recently disclosed that it paid hundreds of thousands of dollars for its chancellor emeritus’ legal fees.

Mateo Daily Journal that a decision on its criminal investigation of Galatolo, which began in summer of 2019, should come this month.

— Angela Swartz

Sunday’s storm batters Midpeninsula with wind, heavy rain

On Monday, the Midpeninsula was still feeling the effects of the atmospheric river that swept through the Bay Area over the weekend, causing downed trees, power outages and flooding.

From Sunday at midnight to Monday morning, the city of Menlo Park was busy responding to storm-related calls. During that time, city staff responded to 40 calls regarding downed trees, 22 related to flooding, three related to signals being out, three related to power being out, eight regarding fire risks from downed wires or transformers, and seven related to other hazards, such as debris in roadways or clogged storm drains, according to Nicole Acker, police department spokesperson. The public works department responded to most of those calls, she said.

The Richies Center, a nonprofit that offers fitness, music and creativity-related enrichment in North Fair Oaks, experienced a power outage and flooding in its parking lot and was closed Monday for cleanup, according to its spokesperson Romy Colombo.

Rainfall during the storm was impressive. The 48-hour rainfall total as of Monday morning was 4.75 inches recorded in Woodside, 4.19 inches in Los Altos, 3.77 inches in Redwood City and 3.21 inches at Stanford, according to the National Weather Service.

The number of Bay Area residents without power had dropped significantly by Monday morning, but 68,320 customers were still in the dark due to storm-related outages, PG&E said. At 6 a.m., there were 25,916 customers were affected on the Peninsula, another 20,753 in the North Bay, 11,107 in the South Bay, 8,489 in the East Bay and 2,055 in San Francisco, PG&E spokesman J.D. Guidi said.

Some 2,331 households in Woodside were still without power at around 11 a.m. on Monday, according to a PG&E spokesperson, as were 1,246 households in Portola Valley.

See STORM, page 21

Making a local call? You need to use the area code

Effective Sunday, Oct. 24, all phone calls on the Peninsula — even local ones — will require the three-digit area code, the FCC announced. The 650 area code is one of 82 across the country making the switch.

In California, you may also need to dial 1 before the area code, according to the FCC.

The rollout of a new three-digit number to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is the reason behind the change. Last year, the FCC established 988 as the nationwide three-digit phone number for the service, which will be available nationwide by July 16, 2022. “It will provide an easy to remember and easy to dial three-digit number to reach suicide prevention and mental health counselors, similar to 911 for emergencies and 311 for local government services,” the FCC said in a statement.

Callers needing help are advised to continue using the old number, 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK) during the transition period.

According to the FCC, after Oct. 24, local calls dialed with only seven digits may not connect, and a recording will inform you that your call cannot be completed as dialed. If that happens, hang up and dial again using the area code and the seven-digit number.

A full list of affected area codes is online at nationaln.panap.com.

— Andrea Gemmet
Rare Gem in University Heights

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David@GranoskiWeil.com
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Atherton council opts to appoint new member to fill vacant seat

Vice Mayor Mike Lempres resigned to move to Paris with a year left in his term

By Angela Swartz

The Atherton City Council will appoint a new member in November to fill the seat of former Vice Mayor Mike Lempres, who resigned and moved to Paris with over a year left in his term.

During the Oct. 20 meeting, the council, which now has four members, voted to appoint a new member rather than hold a special election to fill his seat. Council members also decided to hold off on selecting a new vice mayor until the council reorganizes at that same Dec. 15 meeting.

A notice of the opening was posted late last week and applications are due Friday, Nov. 12, at 5 p.m. The council plans to interview candidates and appoint a new member at a special meeting in mid-November. Council members plan to have a ceremonial appointment during the December meeting, said Town Manager George Rodericks in an email.

The council’s appointee will serve until the end of Lempres’ term in November 2022. A special election would cost the town between $15,000 and $30,000, according to a report prepared by town staff, and the soonest it could be held is June 2022.

Lempres, who resigned Oct. 15, took his consulting work to Europe this fall. His daughter is attending middle school in France. Per town code, the council has until Dec. 14 — 60 days from the beginning of Lempres’ departure — to fill the vacancy.

The council has been meeting virtually since March 2020.

Council reacts to Lempres’ resignation

Mayor Elizabeth Lewis said she supported Lempres since he first ran for a council seat in 2014 and will miss his “good-natured approach to difficult issues.”

“He brought a different perspective with intelligent and probing questions, which caused me to rethink my approach,” she said in an email. “More often than not we would find middle ground and come to compromise. I wish him and his family all the best!”

Councillor Rick DeGolia said Lempres approached issues “very thoughtfully and responsibly.”

Lempres asked staff for information when he didn’t know the answer, DeGolia said. For example, Lempres asked staff to provide a monthly report of the number of construction projects in the penalty zone and the aggregate amount of fees charged by the council knew the impact of the decision to remove a previously existing cap on penalties charged to builders who take more than 100 days to complete construction, DeGolia said.

“Being on a City Council is extremely time-consuming and Mike always helped meetings be efficient by understanding others when he agreed with an earlier comment, rather than repeating the comment,” DeGolia said in an email. “At the end of the day, he worked hard to represent those that elected him and not just to hear himself speak.”

Councilman Bill Widmer said Lempres always offered “well thought out” and “logical” comments while on the council.

“His and I spent time together discussing them over a cup of coffee, walking at the park,” Widmer said in an email. “On a call between business meetings, Mike was a great family man. He cherished his time with his children and as such she is a frequent visitor to the old city hall, leaving her artwork on the white boards bringing smiles to everyone’s faces.”

Email the application to Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Anthony Suber at asuber@ci.atherton.ca.us or drop it off at 80 Fair Oaks Lane in Atherton.

Email Staff Writer Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.

Coronavirus central: FDA advisory panel supports vaccine for 5-11 age group

By Embarcadero Media staff

A n advisory panel to the Food and Drug Administration voted Tuesday in support of authorizing the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children between the ages of 5 and 11.

The panel voted 17-0, with one abstention, in favor of expanding federal government’s emergency use authorization for the vaccine, which is currently available to everyone ages 12 and up.

While the FDA is not beholden to the advisory panel’s vote, it generally sides with decisions the panel makes.

An advisory panel to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is expected to consider the vaccine’s efficacy and safety for children ages 5 to 11 early next week.

With the CDC’s approval, the younger age group could begin receiving COVID-19 vaccines in most states as soon as the end of next week.

In California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, the vaccine’s approval will face an additional hurdle in the form of the Western States Scientific Safety Review Group.

The four-state group is on track to issue its own approval of COVID-19 vaccines for 5- to 11-year-olds by Nov. 5 or 6.

In a joint statement, California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly and Department of Public Health Director and state Public Health Officer Dr. Tomas Aragon said the state will be prepared to immediately begin vaccinating children ages 5 through 11 when the review process has been completed.

“Research from rigorous clinical trials indicate the pediatric formulation of the vaccine is safe and highly effective in this age group,” Aragon and Ghaly said. “Real-world evidence continues to show that the vaccine is preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death.”

School mask requirements likely to remain

State public health officials said Wednesday that indoor mask requirements in schools are likely to remain in place into 2022, but could be modified as more students get vaccinated against COVID-19.

In a briefing on the state’s vaccination efforts, Ghaly and state epidemiologist Dr. Érica Pan said they expect COVID cases and transmission rates to fluctuate throughout the fall and winter as they did last year, albeit to a lesser degree because 86.8% of the state’s eligible population has received at least one vaccine dose.

In addition, vaccinations for children ages 5-11 are unlikely to receive emergency authorization from federal and state regulators until late next week.

Ghaly said the state plans to “look at some of the same things that we’ve laid out in prior guidance in school messaging — everything from levels of community transmission, vaccine rates — and similarly looking to be able to move in a direction of loosening some of the restrictions and requirements as appropriate.”

How quickly the state’s schools achieve high vaccination rates among students is a matter of when, not if, as Gov. Gavin Newsom said Oct. 1 that the state will add the COVID-19 vaccine to its list of vaccinations required to attend school in-person once the shots receive full federal approval for school-age children.

Currently, only the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has received full federal approval, and only among people age 16 and up, while children ages 12-15 remain eligible under emergency authorization.

In announcing the requirement earlier this month, Newsom said it will take effect at the beginning of the school term following the vaccine’s full approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and estimates that could be either Jan. 1 or July 1, 2022.

On Wednesday, Ghaly said the latter appears more likely.

She also noted that people gathering indoors because of colder winter weather and the upcoming holidays could once again strain health care systems in some parts of the state, particularly if this year’s flu vaccination rates are lower than the first year’s.

Free Second Unit/ADU Workshop for Homeowners

Have you ever been curious about building a second unit or Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)? If so, you won’t want to miss our upcoming second unit webinar for homeowners! This event will explain why people build second units, describe the rules and process for securing a second unit permit, and connect you with free tools and resources that can help you with your project. There will also be the opportunity to ask your second unit questions to a city planner. The webinar will be on Thursday, November 4th from 6:30 to 8 PM, and you can register for this free event at: https://tinyurl.com/Nov4ADU. From free building plans to state grants for second units, you won’t want to miss the information in this event!

Join us to learn about tools & resources for building a second unit and gain local guidance from your city’s staff.

Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:30 PM
Register: tinyurl.com/Nov4ADU

Workshop Presented by:
It's a sensitive topic he wants to convey but one that he hopes will evoke meaningful reflections on life and death from his audience, he said. These are things that are extremely normal in the universe,” Escartiz said, referring to the idea of creation from extinction. “There has always been some sort of destruction so that there could be a new form or another form of life.

“The concept has always been the story of the universe, mankind, earth and everything.”

“So many have died...”

For more than 10 years, the city of Redwood City has hosted and taken part in a Día de los Muertos celebration with the help of local nonprofits. This year, the Día de los Muertos celebration will take place on Sunday, Nov. 7, from 4 to 7 p.m., partially because of uncertainty about whether it would take place due to COVID-19 concerns, said Verónica Escamez of Casa Círculo Cultural.

As of Oct. 7, more than 4 million people have tested positive and nearly 70,000 people have died from COVID-19 in California, according to the state public health department. In San Mateo County, more than 600 people have died from COVID-19, according to the county dashboard.

“Day of the Dead celebrates life,” Escamez said. “Especially this year, we have lost so many and it’s very important because so many people have died from COVID-19.”

The Redwood City Día de los Muertos celebration draws crowds of diverse people from all over the Bay Area, Escamez said, adding that she believes it may be one of the most well-attended events in Redwood City.

“We kind of transform the town in Redwood City into a little town in Mexico,” Escamez said.

And Escartiz’s massive “Stardust” installation will be right in the middle of town during the Día de los Muertos celebration at the Art Kiosk.

The initiative that funds the Art Kiosk — and Escartiz’s new installation — is a collaboration between the Redwood City Improvement Association and Fung Collaboratives, which curates the pieces that go on display in Redwood City.

“The Art Kiosk is an ongoing rotation of exhibits showcasing top local and international artists in the heart of our community,” said Amy Buckmaster, executive director for the Redwood City Improvement Association.

“Doors and opportunities...”

Escartiz draws parallels from the end and beginning of life to his own experience as a small child growing up in Mexico City. When his parents divorced, he moved away from his childhood home and carried his worries to States with his mother to live in racially homogenous.

In cities like Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside, over 60% of those under 18 are white, which is far higher than the 27.9% of that age group that’s white in San Mateo County overall. Places like East Palo Alto and North Fair Oaks, on the other hand, have a population that is nearly 80% Hispanic. In Santa Clara County, 33% of youth are Hispanic, yet Palo Alto (10.1%), Los Altos (6.3%) and Los Altos Hills (5.9%) all have far smaller shares of Hispanic young people. They each have a substantially higher share of white youth than the county overall.

A few cities have a racial composition of young people that’s more in line with its county. That includes Mountain View, where 23.9% of those under 18 are Hispanic, 32% are white, 29.8% are Asian and 12.3% are multiracial.

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Many cities saw more substantial drops in the number of children and teens. In East Palo Alto, the change was dramatic, with the number of youth plummeting 15%, even as the overall population grew 6.7%. Redwood City grew by 9.7% but saw a 5.6% drop in its number of youth. Atherton grew 4% but by 2020 had 11.7% fewer youth. Woodside’s population stayed roughly flat, with a 0.4% increase, while the number of young people dropped 12.9%.

North Fair Oaks, an unincorporated area near Redwood City, saw 15% of the places on the Midpeninsula to see its overall population drop, with a decrease of 4.5%, but its youth population plunged far further, dropping 17.6%.

Racial composition of cities

Although Santa Clara and San Mateo counties overall are racially diverse, many individual cities and areas in the Midpeninsula remain far more

CENSUS

continued from page 5

identified as Hispanic or Latino are listed as a single category. All other categories are made up only of those who selected “not Hispanic or Latino.”

Countywide changes

Asian people now make up a plurality of those under 18 living in Santa Clara County, while Hispanic people remain the plurality of San Mateo County residents, despite increases in the Asian population.

Today, 38% of young Santa Clara County young people identify as Asian, 33% as Hispanic, 19.7% as white and 7.6% as more than one racial group. In San Mateo County, 32.5% of young people identify as Asian, 33% as Hispanic, 19.7% as white and 7.6% as more than one racial group. In San Mateo County, it’s nearly three times the share, with 10.4% of young people dropping 12.9%.

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Mexican artist Fernando Escartiz’s ‘Stardust’ brings life to Día de los Muertos

By Michelle Iachetta and Leah Worthington

From cataclysmic destruction, new life emerges. It’s a tale as old as time itself, or so the saying goes.

That’s the idea behind Mexican artist Fernando Escartiz’s new art installation “We Are Stardust” arriving this week at the Redwood City Courthouse Square. The 42-year-old will bring his concept of rebirth to the Art Kiosk in front of the San Mateo County History Museum to challenge audiences to rethink what it means to die.

“There has to be death for there to be life,” he said in Spanish. “That’s where the connection between my latest piece and Día de los Muertos is, I believe.”

Día de los Muertos is an annual multiday Mexican holiday that begins on Nov. 1 and celebrates loved ones who have died. Families set up ofrendas — altars — with sugar skulls known as calaveras, flowers, candles and photos of those who have died as a way to commemorate and celebrate their lives. Food and beverages, such as bread and tequila, are often placed on the ofrenda so that when the souls of the dead return, they can enjoy a meal.

Just days before the Día de los Muertos holiday begins, Escartiz on Oct. 30 will reveal his “Stardust" installation to Redwood City residents and other art enthusiasts.

It’s the second time Escartiz will feature his artwork on the square. Two years ago, the artist brought large, brightly colored alebrijes — folk art of mythical creatures first conceptualized by Mexican artisan Pedro Linares — to Redwood City. The display included a vivid and imaginative depiction of Escartiz’s interpretation of Linares’ alebrije, the creature resting atop the history museum roof, many say, that represented rebirth.

The series was an homage to Linares, Escartiz said, and the folk legend Linares concocted during a dream involving the alebrijes the artist said spoke to him. Alebrijes, which were most notably depicted in Pixar’s 2017 film “Coco,” are not typically associated with Día de los Muertos, but possibly because of its spiritual significance to Mexican culture, the creators of the film chose to add them, Escartiz said.

Although Escartiz did not want to give too much away, he did tell this news organization that this year’s installation will be bigger than his last installation in 2019 and will include large-scale celestial constructions that will envelop portions of the San Mateo County History Museum.

The piece will straddle the line between some of the various themes that surfaced during the COVID-19 pandemic, including mortality, loss and rebirth. "COVID-19 has been tremendous,” Escartiz said. “A lot of people have died. It’s been terrible, but it’s also been good for the universe and planet...”
Halloween Bray Parade: Barron Park donkeys Perry and Buddy will lead Halloween revelers on a parade that starts at Bol Park. The parade will travel along Laguna Avenue, go up Paradise Way, continue on the bike path and end at the donkey pasture. All ages and costumes are welcome. Face coverings are recommended as a safety precaution. The event is sponsored by the Barron Park Association and the Barron Park Donkey Project. And yes, the donkeys will be in costume. When: Oct. 31, 3-3:30 p.m. Where: Bol Park, 3590 Laguna Ave., Palo Alto. Cost: Free. Info: barronparkdonkeys.org.

Spooky Haunted House Lego Workshop: BrickTech event where participants build a spooky haunted house out of Legos. Costumes are encouraged but not required to participate. Costumes with face coverings or accessories containing weapons will not be allowed. Classes will conform to state and county mask guidelines for youth programs. When: Oct. 31, 2 p.m. Where: Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Cost: $60. Info: tinyurl.com/uzze65yah.


Hip-hop Halloween: Peninsula Ballet presents a spooky show danced by classic Halloween characters, including Frankenstein’s monster, The Mummy and werewolves, set to music by Bay Area DJs. All proceeds help fund the LEMO Champion Scholarship Fund, which provides opportunities for student athletes to participate in LEMO programming all year round. For families with children ages 3-14. When: Oct. 30 and Oct. 31, 1-5 p.m. Where: LEMO Foundation, 2575 E. Bayshore Road, Redwood City. Cost: $30-$40. No ticket sales at the door. Info: peninsulaballet.org.

LEMO Halloween Fest: The LEMO Foundation’s first Halloween bash includes sports activities, carnival games, food and a chance to win a $125 Nike gift card. All proceeds help fund the LEMO Champion Scholarship Fund, which provides opportunities for student athletes to participate in LEMO programming all year round. For families with children ages 3-14. When: Oct. 30 and Oct. 31, 1-5 p.m. Where: LEMO Foundation, 2575 E. Bayshore Road, Redwood City. Cost: Tickets start at $35. Info: tinyurl.com/4cuw5hr.


Halloween in Downtown Mountain View: Halloween on Castro Street in downtown Mountain View is sure to be an attractive Halloween haunt for family ghosts and goblins this year when businesses open their doors to offer treats and other goodies. Decorated storefronts, candy and treats for trick-or-treaters, and discounts and specials for those who come in costume. The event is sponsored by the Downtown Association Mountain View and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce. Businesses will be adhering to COVID-19 safety precautions. When: Sunday, Oct. 31, noon-6 p.m. Where: Downtown Mountain View. Cost: Free. Info: Trick or treat map and participating businesses at chambermv.org/halloween.


Halloween in Downtown Mountain View: Halloween on Castro Street in downtown Mountain View is sure to be an attractive Halloween haunt for family ghosts and goblins this year when businesses open their doors to offer treats and other goodies. Decorated storefronts, candy and treats for trick-or-treaters, and discounts and specials for those who come in costume. The event is sponsored by the Downtown Association Mountain View and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce. Businesses will be adhering to COVID-19 safety precautions. When: Sunday, Oct. 31, noon-6 p.m. Where: Downtown Mountain View. Cost: Free. Info: Trick or treat map and participating businesses at chambermv.org/halloween.


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The Almanac • AlmanacNews.com • October 29, 2021

TOWN OF ATHERTON CONTACT:
ASUBER@CLATHERTON.CA.US | 650.752.0529
FOR APPLICATIONS VISIT:
WWW.CLATHERTON.CA.US/582/CITY-COUNCIL-VACANCY-2021

TOWN OF ATHERTON:
CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Term Expiration November 2022. Applications due Friday, November 12th at 5pm

The Town has a vacant seat on the City Council due to a Council Member resignation.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
Elizabeth Lewis, Mayor - Term Expires November 2024
Bill Widmer, Term Expires November 2022
Rick DeGolia, Term Expires November 2022
Diana Hawkins-Manuelian, Term Expires November 2024
Vacant Seat, Term Expires November 2022
170 SANTA RITA AVENUE
PALO ALTO

TIMELESS ELEGANCE IN OLD PALO ALTO

A graceful floorplan filled with luxurious appointments highlight this spacious 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home that personifies the timeless elegance of its sought-after Old Palo Alto location. Custom-built from plans by renowned architect Roger Kohler, this bright and beautiful American Colonial presents outstanding curb appeal in this tranquil, tree-lined neighborhood. Inside, rich hardwood floors extend throughout nearly 3,100 square feet of living space accented by fine millwork, divided light windows, and high ceilings. Highlights include the living room with fireplace, the chef's kitchen with appliances from Thermador and Sub-Zero, downstairs-level flexible space catered from a wet bar, and a comfortable office to meet all work-from-home needs. Stunning Carrara marble floors adorn the primary suite bathroom that also includes a clawfoot tub and step-in shower. Plus, the home's peaceful backyard provides a calming space to relax and unwind. Moments to multiple parks, and great shops and restaurants along California Avenue, this home is also served by top-ranked schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.170SantaRita.com
Listed at $4,328,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
For more information contact: Alexandra Wilbur, DRE #01926475 I 650.459.3888 I alex@deleonrealty.com
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 I www.deleonrealty.com I DeLeon Realty, Inc. I DRE #01903224
This spacious home of over 4,000 square feet exemplifies the rustic charm of its sought-after location in Woodside Hills. Nestled on over 1.1 acres of peaceful, verdant land at the end of a cul-de-sac, this home enjoys a warm, welcoming ambiance that permeates expansive gathering areas perfect for both entertaining and daily living. Highlights include a fireplace in both the living room and family room, the bright kitchen, and the dining room opening to the front deck for al fresco enjoyment. Multiple bedrooms, including the primary suite, lead to private balconies overlooking the home’s magnificent grounds, while another bedroom leads to bonus space. Experience true indoor/outdoor living as numerous rooms open to decks on both sides of the home, including a refreshed rear redwood deck with beautiful views. Plus, this home includes office space, and an attached 2-car garage with an extended driveway for ample parking. Just moments to parks and nature preserves, you will also be convenient to downtown Redwood City, and have easy access to Interstate 280.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.99OakHaven.com
Offered at $4,488,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
An expansive lot of over an acre that exemplifies the privacy, luxury, and opportunity afforded by sought-after Atherton sets the stage for this 5-bedroom, 5-bathroom home of almost 3,600 square feet. Located in the desirable Lindenwood neighborhood, this home greets you with beautiful hardwood floors, tremendous natural light, and large gathering areas scaled for entertaining. An incredible brick fireplace anchors the living room, the dining room adjoins the kitchen for easy dinner parties, and the family room provides comfortable space to relax and unwind. Multiple points throughout, including the spacious primary suite, open to the sprawling backyard that offers an ideal setting for outdoor enjoyment with a patio, lawn, and sparkling pool. Plus, a 3-car garage and an extended driveway ensure ample parking is always available. Just moments to numerous parks, Caltrain, and downtown Menlo Park, this home is also convenient to downtown Palo Alto and Stanford University, and top-ranked Laurel Elementary and Menlo-Atherton High are less than a mile away.

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

www.280OakGrove.com
Offered at $5,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 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
for where to add that housing and have so far held a number of meetings in the community and with stakeholders and commissioners. They have also conducted a survey that generated about 800 respondents.

A mistake in the survey collection process was also reported—somewhere between 30 and 50 paper surveys collected from Belle Haven residents were accidentally thrown away, Assistant Community Development Director Deanna Chow told the City Council Tuesday. “I was very saddened by the loss of those surveys,” she said. Staff and consultants suggested four alternatives for where to zone for the new housing possibilities, exploring various configurations for moderate-upzoning citywide, mixed-use development focused on Middlefield and Willow roads, in the downtown/El Camino Real area, and adding a focus on increased density in Sharon Heights. In public comments, residents expressed a range of opinions on the proposals. Several residents of District 3 said they didn’t want their district to bear the burden of the new growth, and expressed surprise to learn that a proposal to add 400 new homes as part of a redevelopment of the SRI campus had been submitted. “I think that we need to take more housing out of District 3 and put it into other areas. Put it into the Sharon Heights area,” said Jill Gorton.

In District 5, which includes the Sharon Heights neighborhood, Shanda Bahles pushed back, saying that there was a “misperception that Sharon Heights is all single-family,” noting that there is “quite a lot of multifamily housing on Sharon Park Drive.” “We do have a number of apartment complexes that could be upzoned,” she said. According to Mayor Drew Combs, District 2, which he represents, actually has the largest percentage of single-family homes.

District 3 Councilwoman Jen Wolosin said she wanted to see more analysis done before the council signs off on beginning the environmental review process. “I’m super reluctant to go full steam ahead,” she said.

District 1 Councilwoman Cecilia Taylor said she wanted to see her district downzoned, to allow less housing than is currently permitted. The City Council in 2016 approved, as part of its general plan update, the addition of up to 4,500 new housing units in Menlo Park on the Bay side of Highway 101, despite not having any representatives on the City Council from that part of the city at the time. While that part of the city permits up to 100 homes per acre, the highest amount of density permitted elsewhere, in the new developments under construction along El Camino Real, is 40 homes per acre. “One hundred units per acre is excessive,” Taylor said.

District 5 Councilman Ray Mueller said he wanted to see the project team more thoroughly vet possible sites for development feasibility to avoid undercounting the possibility of new housing in growth in some areas and overcounting in others. “We do need good parcel-by-parcel information about where the housing would go,” said Geoff Bradley, principal and president at M-Group, the consultant firm leading the project. Ultimately, Bradley recommended authorizing beginning the environmental review process next month that provides information about the different sites and areas identified for development at the “default density,” which is 30 homes per acre. “That would give us a wide envelope to work with to craft specific affordable housing strategies,” he said.

Several council members said they weren’t fully ready to authorize that and planned to send additional follow-up input to the project team over email by Monday, Nov. 1.
But on that day, following a late Saturday night of celebrating a traditional Hindu festival, a less alert Bose realized she had left the battery at home. She decided not to turn back, as the group was already going to reach their destination later than planned around 1 p.m. Mistake one, she said.

The next error came when the hikers deviated from the original plan. According to the county sheriff, Ian Campbell, and many others, ‘one of the first “things to consider when recreating in the mountains” is to establish an itinerary and never stray away from it. (A member of the search and rescue team from the Fresno County Sheriff’s Office was not available for an interview at the time of publication.)

As they finished Mount Givens before sunset, the group, in their ambition, decided to climb Mount Ian Campbell on the same day — another summit that Bose and advanced backpackers consider an “insignificant peak.”

No big deal, the group thought.

For Bose, her second mistake was when she did not turn back with Medvedev, who felt winded and returned to the trailhead. “I became a little over-ambitious,” she said.

Instead of turning around, Bose decided to follow Toyama, who wanted to finish the second climb and was already a half-mile ahead.

As she continued toward Mount Ian Campbell, Bose realized she could no longer see her friend. Pointing north, where she thought she had heard the wrong path, she thought to herself. The mountain has no clearly marked trails and “you can go in all directions,” Bose said.

Point three, Bose stopped to blow her whistle and called out to Toyama, hoping she would hear his voice and get a better sense of direction. No response. She decided to follow a cross-country trail, thinking it might lead back to the off-highway-vehicle trail her group took near Mount Givens. But the path felt strangely longer than usual, and soon she came across a lake and creeks she didn’t recognize.

Without cellphone service, the hiker couldn’t check her location or download a map of Mount Ian Campbell. Her phone ran out of battery trying to find data. The sun had already set. It was cold and windy. Bose was lost.

“If you read about a hiker missing, or hear them yelling, they’re all solo hikers or they would split from their group,” Bose said. “I’m completely aware of it.”

Desperately seeking shelter

Temperatures continued to dip around nightfall. According to the Sheriff’s Office, they were well below freezing and in the teens. But Bose, who also endured 5 inches of new snow, felt it was colder. When she finally found an off-road-vehicle trail, Bose depended on a headlamp to make the tire tracks on the road visible in the pitch black of night. However, the light dimmed because the weather was affecting the battery’s performance.

“I had to take it from my head and hold it in my hands to see the tire marks,” she said.

Bose estimates that she walked about 6 miles in the wrong direction that night. She could turn around, Bose thought, but in the dark and with a dying headlamp, her instincts told her it was not the time to make another assumption and that she should find shelter. She was also certain that by now her friends should have alerted a search and rescue team.

“I decided I need to find a place where I can stay safe, warm and alive,” Bose said. “So my goal changed from reaching the trailhead to try to stay safe in the wilderness.”

Soon, she was near Ershim Lake and spotted a blue structure. It was a permanent bathroom for off-roading drivers. Bose hung her red jacket outside, by the door, in case someone passed by, and took shelter inside on the ground for warmth.

“Even though I had three layers, still it was cold,” she said. “I crossed a creek, so my hands and my feet were all wet... so I kept my hands under my armpit, cross-armed, so that I stay warm. ...When I put on my socks were wet but still even the wet socks were helpful to keep my feet warmer.”

Taking from her yoga and meditation practices, Bose did deep breaths to reduce shivering and stay calm. She was exhausted for the night, but not panicked.

“I was very calm because I know my friend Dmitry and I know about search and rescue — they’re awesome,” she said. “My second-biggest comfort and confidence came from the shelter... I put my coat on, and was able to stay warm and not become hypothermic, so that gave me a lot of confidence.”

Around 4 a.m., Bose heard a plane overhead. She attempted to call Toyama by phone, but realized that she didn’t want to stray too far away from her shelter.

At sunrise, Bose walked a mile and a half to leave fresh footprints that led to the bathroom. If the plane couldn’t catch her, Bose thought, then perhaps someone driving by would. She also had a couple of cards in her fanny pack from a previous activity with her students at East Palo Alto Charter School. Bose used one to write “Jolly was here” and “Look for the blue structure” and to stick it in the branch of a tree.

Bose spent the rest of Monday morning in and out of the bathroom as she heard multiple planes fly right over her head. By around noon, she realized that the trees were too dense and the search and rescue team could never find her in her current position.

“So then I thought, ‘Okay, let me figure out how I can find open space,’” she said.

Need to be seen

Bose found another bathroom near an exposed area about the size of a tennis court. For food, the hiker luckily had one frozen tangerine in her backpack from a previous trip. She was unaware of it until she sat on her backpack and smelled the faint scent of citrus.

The pain of starvation didn’t strike Bose hard during her two days lost. Previously, she had done a “food meditation,” in which she fasted for a week. Her main source of discomfort was the cold.

“Because I was walking, it was OK,” she said. “But if I did not walk, I cannot stand for five minutes.”

Bose also did lunges and squats to generate body heat. Throughout the day, planes and helicopters circled overhead, giving Bose even more confidence that she would be saved.

On the second night, a full moon appeared. Even in the midst of an extremely unfortunate predicament, Bose took a moment to appreciate the beauty of the night sky, which she said had some shooting stars.

“I wish I had a camera or something to take pictures,” she said.

Bose took up peakbagging four years ago shortly after she lost custody of her daughter, Diya, in the process of an “adversarial” divorce. Backpacking and climbing mountains were her forms of therapy.

“I feel more victorious because if you’re at the bottom of the hill, the mountain looks unreasonable and unapproachable,” she said. “And then when you climb up and you’re on top of the mountain and your mark is on the bottom of your feet... it feels really great.”

What she thought about while in the wilderness

Three things were on her mind as she waited for her rescue. The first was Diya, now 15 years old.

If she made it out alive, Bose thought, then the first thing she would do is plan a backpacking trip in Europe with Diya for when she turns 18.

Second, Bose hoped that her friends and family were not panicking too much, thinking she was either severely injured or, worse, dead. And the third thought?

“I was hoping nobody in the media would know that this happened to me,” Bose laughed.

But on that day, following a late Saturday night of celebrating a traditional Hindu festival, a less alert Bose realized she had left the battery at home. She decided not to turn back, as the group was already going to reach their destination later than planned around 1 p.m. Mistake one, she said.

The next error came when the hikers deviated from the original plan. According to the county sheriff, Ian Campbell, and many others, ‘one of the first “things to consider when recreating in the mountains” is to establish an itinerary and never stray away from it. (A member of the search and rescue team from the Fresno County Sheriff’s Office was not available for an interview at the time of publication.)

As they finished Mount Givens before sunset, the group, in their ambition, decided to climb Mount Ian Campbell on the same day — another summit that Bose and advanced backpackers consider an “insignificant peak.”

No big deal, the group thought.

For Bose, her second mistake was when she did not turn back with Medvedev, who felt winded and returned to the trailhead. “I became a little over-ambitious,” she said.

Instead of turning around, Bose decided to follow Toyama, who wanted to finish the second climb and was already a half-mile ahead.

As she continued toward Mount Ian Campbell, Bose realized she could no longer see her friend. Pointing north, where she thought she had heard the wrong path, she thought to herself. The mountain has no clearly marked trails and “you can go in all directions,” Bose said.

Point three, Bose stopped to blow her whistle and called out to Toyama, hoping she would hear his voice and get a better sense of direction. No response. She decided to follow a cross-country trail, thinking it might lead back to the off-highway-vehicle trail her group took near Mount Givens. But the path felt strangely longer than usual, and soon she came across a lake and creeks she didn’t recognize.

Without cellphone service, the hiker couldn’t check her location or download a map of Mount Ian Campbell. Her phone ran out of battery trying to find data. The sun had already set. It was cold and windy. Bose was lost.

“If you read about a hiker missing, or hear them yelling, they’re all solo hikers or they would split from their group,” Bose said. “I’m completely aware of it.”

Desperately seeking shelter

Temperatures continued to dip around nightfall. Accord-
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STORM
continued from page 8

Late Sunday, as the storm was barreling through the Bay Area, outages around the region topped 147,000. The Peninsula was hit hardest by the outages, with 46,529 customers down at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, followed by Marin County, with 41,938 down. There were also significant outages in the South Bay (28,948), East Bay (21,685), and San Francisco (8,644).

There were reports of trees and wires down in Woodside and Portola Valley, said Lt. Eamonn Allen, San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office public information officer, in an email. There was only minimal damage when a tree branch landed on Woodside Town Hall during the storm, he said.

Filoli was closed Sunday and Monday because of a power outage, according to the Woodside estate’s Instagram account. Cal Fire CZU shared a video on Twitter of firefighters containing a pole fire on Canada Road near Filoli on Sunday. Roberts Market, which has locations in Woodside and Portola Valley, lost power at both stores for portions of Sunday, according to President Christine Roberts. She said the Woodside store doesn’t lose power very often.

The stores’ backup generators only keep the registers running, along with some lighting, so some food likely spoiled, she said. The deli usually gets hit hardest by an outage since meat typically doesn’t keep as well in the coolers for an extended period of time, so the store will have to “eat its deductible” on insurance to cover the cost of food that went bad, Roberts said.

PG&E restored power to the Woodside store on Monday morning. The Portola Valley store, which had power restored Sunday night, was again without power Monday morning, she said.

The storm prompted the Cal Fire San Mateo-Santa Cruz unit to issue an evacuation order Sunday morning for people living in the CZU Fire burn scar areas of Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties out of concern for the potential for debris flows and flash flooding in those areas. The evacuation order was lifted Monday morning.

CORONAVIRUS
continued from page 10

strain is more prevalent without a statewide stay-at-home order and mask mandate in place. And while the state’s seven-day average COVID-19 positive test rate sits at just 1.9%, Wednesday’s positivity rate is slightly higher at 2.2%, pointing to a potential plateau or even start of an uptick in cases.

Ghaly and Pan both encouraged residents who have yet to do so to get both a COVID-19 vaccine and a flu vaccine, which are safe to receive during the same appointment.

Comprehensive COVID-19 coverage


in the coolers for an extended period of time, so the store will have to “eat its deductible” on insurance to cover the cost of food that went bad, Roberts said.

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CIVIC CENTER continued from page 5

ready in December, he said.
The 10,000-square-foot library, located across the way from the administrative building on Dinkelspiel Station Lane, is set to open in December, he said.
The town plans to take down the temporary trailers in the park by the end of November, he said.

A long time coming
In 2012, after years of discussion about constructing a new civic center, Atherton voters elected to replace the old buildings and pay for the new civic center with donations.

In 2017, 61% of Atherton voters said in an advisory measure that money from the town’s general fund could be used to help pay for the center.
The nonprofit, Atherton Now, raised about $5.2 million toward the project’s design and construction, according to Town Manager George Rodericks.
Residents contributed an additional $2.1 million directly to the construction.
Remaining funds came from the town’s general fund and fund reserves. In 2020, the town issued about $7 million in certificates of participation (COPs) to address cash flow. That COP is set to be paid off in 2025, he said.

Atherton’s original 1,696-square-foot Town Hall opened in 1924, according to the town’s website.

In 1965, according to the book, Atherton’s police and administration buildings opened at 91 Ashfield Road in 1965, according to the town.

In 1968, town officials and San Mateo County supervisors agreed to lease Atherton’s police and administration buildings to the county to house a library, according to the 2009 book “Under the Oaks: Two Hundred Years in Atherton.”

Before that, a branch of the San Mateo County library was located in a small space in the police headquarters in Town Hall, shortly after it was inaugurated in 1929, according to the book.

For more on the project, go to ci.atherton.ca.us/290/Town-Center-Project.

Email Staff Writer Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.
Calling for action on our warming planet

By Sten and Carole Mawson

I n 1973, we purchased our home on a small, quiet road in Woodside. In 1978, we added a new wing with a south-facing roof specifically designed for solar panels. Since then, we have been collecting the sun’s energy first to heat our house, and when new photovoltaic panels were developed, returning our excess electricity to the grid for our neighbors’ use. This “solar roof” has kept approximately 700,000 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere in addition to returning the carbon-free energy to the grid.

Many have preferred to claim that there was no such thing as “global warming,” even forcing the less dire sounding “climate change” into the common lexicon. However, on Aug. 9, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a landmark climate report, and its comprehensive assessment on global warming warns that climate change is already widespread, rapid, intensifying, and unequivocally is caused by humans and affects every corner of our planet. With carbon dioxide now at its highest levels since dinosaurs roamed our planet, it is time for immediate action.

As iterated in Supervisory District Lines Advisory Commission’s meetings, it is inevitable that some cities will be divided in the new map, which has caused a bit of a discussion among commissioners. Mindful of being as inclusive as possible, the commissioners are reluctant to decide which cities to divide. That is why I propose that the wealthy cities in the county volunteer to have their areas cut in half by the new proposed boundaries. The reasoning is very simple: They have less to lose.

In San Mateo County, the fourth-wealthiest in the nation, the politics of incorporation has left a racialized divide, so that in the year 2021, issues like unpaved roads and clean water exist side by side with multibillion-dollar corporations. Those cities that were incorporated early in the 20th century have benefited from a stability that together with small populations, single-family zoning, streamlined permits, and changing buyer demographics catapulted them to the appearance of astonishing wealth.

For many such a proposal might still seem ridiculous, perhaps cause ire. Who is this young man to tell us what to do, to in effect dictate another city’s political future? The reality is that historically, and like many of my Black and brown and unincorporated neighbors, my city’s political future was dictated for decades. The reality is my city was divided decades before it even was a city, when the Bayshore Freeway expansion went ahead without our approval, a freeway that for the convenience of outside commuters, displaced 50-plus East Palo Alto businesses in a time when we were just getting our economic footing.

We do not lack the knowledge of what we must do, but rather the political courage to act upon its natural consequences. Whether you live in Hillsborough or the coastside, Atherton or North Fair Oaks, as we residents of this county must set aside our personal hesitations and understand our role in history. To redraw maps with fault lines on affluent acres will not alter a quality of life cemented by centuries of intergenerational power. On the contrary, to reorient the redistricting process in favor of our Black and brown low-income communities is not reverse prejudice, but the restitution of an unjust past.

Only through this strategic division, we will be united.

Antonio Lopez is an East Palo Alto City Council member.
By Sheryl Nonnenberg

To celebrate her 10 years as the Burton and Deedee McMurtry Curator at the Cantor Arts Center, Elizabeth Mitchell decided to organize a large-scale exhibition that would highlight some of the works on paper that the museum had acquired during her tenure. “Paper Chase: Ten Years of Collecting Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at the Cantor” was planned for the spring of 2020, but with the museum closed due to the pandemic, the show was postponed. There is a silver lining because the exhibition, which runs until Jan. 30, is now even more expansive than its original iteration.

First, an explanation of the show’s name. Mitchell said, “On one hand, it describes a bureaucratic waste of time — completing endless forms instead of achieving tangible results. But, for a curator, that phrase also describes the thrill of pursuing images, connecting with donors, researching and, ultimately, collecting prints, drawings and photographs to make a thoughtful collection.”

According to Mitchell, there are some 24,000 prints in the Cantor’s collection. With such a wealth of objects, how did she select the 118 works that are on display in the Freidenrich Family and Ruth Levison Halperin galleries?

“I looked for gems that we have not shown before, or that our audience might be surprised to see that we have. I wanted to highlight important gifts and show how we thoughtfully spend acquisition funds. Most importantly, I looked for the interesting conversations and patterns that rise to the fore with these objects,” she said.

Entering the Halperin Gallery, one cannot help but be impressed by the breadth of works in this small space. For photography fans, there are prints by such masters as Lee Friedlander, Brett Weston, O. Winston Link and Ralph Eugene Meatyard.

If you think you know the work of Ansel Adams by his majestic images of Yosemite, you might be surprised at the somber subject of “Cemetery Statue and Oil Derricks, Long Beach” from 1939. There is high drama in the contrast of the beautifully sculpted white angel against the dark and gloom of the background, a sea of oil derricks.

If more contemporary photographers intrigue you, there are two Cibachrome color prints by Richard Misrach, known for his evocative landscapes, and Andy Goldsworthy, acclaimed for his environmental manipulations. In “Icicles Frozen to the Leeward Side of a Rock” from 1991, the artist has actually affixed dagger-shaped icicles to a large rock and then photographed it over time to capture the transformation.

Other works in this space include three hand-ground etchings by Martin Puryear (usually known for his sculptural pieces), entitled “Beijing: End, From Above, Side.” They are good examples of the vivid contrasts that can be achieved by this process, resulting in the black circular forms, much like a necklace, that jump out from the ivory.

There is also an entire wall devoted to an important series by Jasper Johns, who is now being celebrated with two concurrent shows in New York and Philadelphia. His “Black Numeral Series” from 1968 is a throwback to the pop art fascination with seriality in art. These large-scale lithographs depict numbers from 0 to 9 in various permutations. Some are clear and decipherable while others are obscured by squiggles and hatch marks. “Figure 7” includes, inexplicably, a rendition of the “Mona Lisa.” It looks like the artist was having fun with the process.

The larger space, the Freidenrich Family Gallery, has been organized around three main themes: representations of science and nature, images investigating identity and social conflict and different approaches to history.

From the simple but expressive lithographs by Diego Rivera (“Nude With Beads” and “Self-Portrait”) to the haunting digital pigment prints by Iranian artist Shirin Neshat (“Ghada” and “Sayed”) there is something for every taste here. Wesaam Al-Badry’s 2018 pigment prints, “Chanel #7” and “Hermes #5” are large, colorful and question our assumptions about women who wear niqabs (here, in the form of designer scarves).

Bay Area artist Beth Van Hoesen’s work is represented by a lovingly rendered portrait of iconic photographer Imogen Cunningham, executed via drypoint etching, Cunningham is looking directly at the viewer, her aged face a model of calm wisdom. Close by are two colorful portraits by Mickalene Thomas. Both subjects, Condoleezza Rice and Oprah Winfrey, are portrayed via silkscreen, but it is the hand-applied rhinestones that really make these fun images pop.

There are examples of more traditional techniques, as seen in Henri Rivière’s color lithograph from 1888, which features workers building the Eiffel Tower. A bucolic country scene, appropriately titled “Picturesque Landscape” made in 1789 by William Gilpin, was undertaken using a wash with brush and ink.

The last room in the gallery has been reserved for large-scale works like “Happy Hour-Tequila Sunrise” by German artist Christian Baumgartner. This bright and lively print, made in 2018, is a good example of a contemporary artist using an age-old technique — in this case woodcut — and putting her own spin on it. The gallery label describes how the artist used a bitmapting program to translate photo-based images into her woodcut designs. She also carved into the plywood with knives, achieving a strong sense of texture. There is the impression of the sunrise on the horizon but also, enigmatically, a ghostly figure in the foreground of this orange and raspberry-red dreamscape.

If enjoying all these prints makes you consider collecting yourself, Mitchell would be the first to encourage you. “Start with prints because they are so much fun you won’t want to stop,” she said. “A thoughtful collection can be built with a modest budget over time, and the pursuit of rare objects can take days or years. The hunt is part of the fun!”

“Paper Chase: Ten Years of Collecting Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at the Cantor” is on view through Jan. 30 at the Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. For more information, visit museum.stanford.edu.

Email Contributing Writer
Sheryl Nonnenberg at nonnenberg@aol.com.

Lee Friedlander’s 1968 gelatin silver print, “Provincetown, Massachusetts” is among the works by well-known photographers highlighted in “Paper Chase.”

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Not for tourists: 10 Silicon Valley hotel restaurants locals love

By Sara Hayden

Looking for a staycation? Whether you’re staying overnight or popping in for a drink or a meal, there are plenty of delicious hotel restaurant getaways throughout the Peninsula. Here’s a mix of brand new establishments, recent renovations of old favorites and a lineup of new chefs.

AC Hotel Palo Alto and Hotel Citrine

In the summer, Hotel Citrine opened at the AC Hotel Palo Alto campus near San Antonio Road and Middlefield Road, staying rewards program Marriott Bonvoy’s roster of boutique Tribute Property hotels.

Hotel Citrine’s Wild Onion Bistro & Bar rounds out the campus’s dining options with a farm-to-table inspired menu and full bar. Stop by for breakfast or dinner, and enjoy plant-based options, comfort food, local wines, craft beer and handmade cocktails.

This month, executive chef Ray Garrow joins the team. Garrow’s 30-year career in the hospitality industry includes culinary leadership roles across the country, including with Davidson Hotels and Resorts, Marriott, Sheraton Hotels, Wyndham Hotels and Radisson Hotels. In a statement, Garrow said he aims to create a “wow factor in the presentation that brings surprise and delight.”

At lunch, crunch on crispy oysters or Buffalo cauliflower, or try a Nicoise salad with seared ahi and Dijon mustard and tarragon vinaigrette, steak fries with herb garlic butter or mushroom eggplant bolognese with fresh ricotta, mint and black walnuts.

Hotel Citrine, 750 San Antonio Road; 650-424-8991, noburestaurants.com/paloalto/

Ameswell Hotel

Roger that, the Ameswell Hotel opened in the summer and takes inspiration from its proximity to Moffett Airfield and NASA Ames Research Center, its full-service Roger restaurant included. Roger offers an airplane wing-shaped bar, and the hotel is the first to test out the self-driving, R2-D2-like Servi robot for delivery purposes.

For all its emphasis on tech and innovation, Roger’s menu offerings are decidedly earthly, featuring regional partnerships with farms, ranches and dairies including The Midwife and The Baker, Mary’s Chicken and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch program. With his team, executive chef Christian McCallion, previously of Larkspur Restaurant & Events, offers dishes like roasted salmon with saffron, sweet pepper and dill yogurt, as well as sandwiches, salads and flatbreads.

Ready for takeoff? Try the Pineapple Booster cocktail, made with NFL Hall of Famer Jerry Rice’s G.O.A.T. Fuel energy drink. James Beard winner Shelley Lindgren and her husband Greg curate the beverage program that includes unique cocktails, as well as wines from small producers, local craft beers and in-house kegged cocktails.

Stop by The Flyby Cafe for quick and casual coffee, tea, sandwiches and bowl dishes, or head to the outdoor Airstream Bar for snacks.

The Ameswell Hotel, 700 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View; 650-588-1000, theameswellhotel.com.

The Clement Palo Alto

Enjoy seasonal “California fresh” cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner at this all-inclusive Palo Alto destination, with offerings like fresh smoothies, frittatas, poke nachos, diver scallops, roasted cauliflower “steak,” beef tenderloin and pane-seared gnocchi.

For dessert, there are house-made treats, as well as local favorites like It’s-It Ice Cream sandwiches and Tin Pot Creamery ice cream.

Head to the dining room to see culinary artists at their craft in front of an open kitchen. If you’re feeling coy, dine by the warmth of the outdoor fire pit.


Dinah’s Garden Hotel

With lush gardens, water features and cozy details like trains chugging around themed suites, this boutique hotel feels a world away from boxier lodging options. For a great escape, Dinah’s Poolside Restaurant offers locally inspired fare.

There are shareable starters like chicken wings with chile, lime and sesame and baby back ribs with barbecue sauce, mango relish and bennie seeds. There are also salads, sandwiches and fish and chips, as well as a breakfast menu of hearty dishes like omelettes, benedicts, pancakes, French toast and more.


Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley at East Palo Alto

In 2018, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman stayed at this Four Seasons outpost in East Palo Alto while meeting with tech leaders and investors. Dine like royalty and make a serious reservation for rustic Italian fare. From chef Martin Morelli’s team, enjoy house-made pastas, pizza and flatbread doughs, charcuterie and cured meats and more, or get a drink and small plates to share at the bar. There’s a children’s menu too, with rigatoni, pizza, burger and chicken tender options.

Another option is [esc], Yes, this eatery’s name reads like the “escape” key on a computer keyboard. It might offer just that for tech leaders and investors. While private dining rooms are available for small gatherings in gardens and patios and at the Madera Terrace. In-room dining is also available with Madera Away.

Roseland Sand Hill

At the Roseland Sand Hill, Madera takes inspiration from Northern California fare and a focus on bold flavor with menus for breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner, as well as an extensive wine list.

Executive chef Robert Sutlucky joined Madera last spring, following leadership roles at Wedgewood Hotel & Spa, Belais & Châteaux, Four Seasons hotels in Toronto and Chicago, the Beverly Hills Hotel and Hotel Bel Air, as well as recognition in the Bocuse d’Or world chef competition. This fall, Madera was included in the 2021 Michelin Guide, maintaining one star. Inspectors noted dishes such as the caviar gougère, kamapchi and Flannery 14-day-aged New York strip.

While private dining rooms are temporarily closed to comply with county COVID-19 regulations, outdoor spaces are available for small gatherings in gardens and patios and at the Madera Terrace. In-room dining is also available with Madera Away.

Or slip out for a seasonal cocktai at Madera Bar & Lounge, where there’s a partnership with Hendrick’s Gin. In The Library & Bar, imbibe a glass of wine or beer, or have a fried chicken sandwich or burger and light bites.

Tables are set for dinner service at Madera, the Roseland Hotel’s restaurant which was recently awarded a Michelin star.
FOOD & DRINK

The Ameswell Hotel in Mountain View takes inspiration from its proximity to Moffett Airfield and NASA Ames Research Center, with an airplane wing-shaped bar and an “A” logo in the shape of Hangar One.


Shashi Hotel

The Emerald Bar is the first of three eateries to open at this new urban resort in Mountain View, near the Googleplex and Bayshore Freeway. It offers a taste of what’s to come with Iberian-inspired fare like Spanish charcuterie and crema catalana, as well as exceptional cocktails made with housemade syrups, tinctures and bitters from Michelin-starred restaurants. Casual eatery Broma, cafe Carte Blanche and fine dining restaurant Belle Terre are slated to follow.

The Stanford Park Hotel

The team at this Woodside Hotel Group property completed a $15 million renovation last spring, and in September, Managing Director Avi Haksar joined the Stanford Park Hotel team, following leadership roles with Rosewood Hotels & Resorts (including at Menlo Park’s Rosewood Sand Hill Hotel), as well as Four Seasons hotels in Bangkok and Los Angeles, The MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas and Westin St. Francisco in San Francisco.

The Stanford Park Hotel’s outdoor courtyards, fire pits and private spaces have been updated with al fresco dining in mind. Tune in for live music on the patio, or tuck into American fare at The Menlo Tavern for dinner, dessert and drinks in an atmosphere inspired by collegiate eating clubs.

The dinner menu includes a variety of starters, salads and mains. On the menu, roasted Brussels sprouts and candied yams accompany a slow-braised pork tenderloin. The Tavern Burger is served with a brioche bun, white cheddar and shoestring fries. Bar bites, seasonal and classic cocktails, beers, wines, cordials and more round out the tavern’s offerings. A Thanksgiving menu is also available.

Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay

Peering out over the Pacific Ocean from Miramontes Point, it’s fitting that this Ritz-Carlton property has both sea views and seafood. At Navio, executive chef Jakob Esko and his team bring local coastal flavors to life. Head to the Ocean Terrace to warm up by a fire pit, partake in the raw bar and grilled bites, or sip a cocktail, beer or wine by the glass. For Mediterranean-inspired fare in a beach-house inspired ambience, check out The Conservatory.

Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay, 1 Miramontes Point Road, Half Moon Bay; 650-712-7000, ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/california/half-moon-bay. Email Associate Digital Editor Sara Hayden at peninsulafoodist@almanacnews.com.

Dig into food news. Follow the Peninsula Foodist on Instagram @peninsulafoodist and subscribe to the newsletter at almanacnews.com/express/foodist to get insights on the latest openings and closings, learn what the Foodist is excited about eating, read exclusive interviews and keep up on the trends affecting local restaurants.

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SUN 1:30 - 4

$5,495,000 • 4 Bed • 3.5 Bath • 190Phillip.com

Erika Demma
650.740.2970
DRE 01230766

350 MANZANITA AVENUE, PALO ALTO

SUN/TUE 2 - 4

$4,495,000 • 4 Bed • 2.5 Bath • 350manzanita.com

Monica Corman and Mandy Montoya
650.465.5971
DRE 01111473 | DRE 01911643

255 ALLEN ROAD, WOODSIDE

$2,595,000 • 4 Bed • 3 Bath • 255allen.com

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Call For Price • 4 Bed • 6 Bath • 5.1 acres on 2 lots canadarwoodside.com

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