

**JOHN ARRILLAGA** is unveiled as the man who is offering millions to build a new gym in Menlo Park. Page 5

# The Almanac

THE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR MENLO PARK, ATHERTON, PORTOLA VALLEY AND WOODSIDE

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READERS' CHOICE 2008



JUNE 25, 2008

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PORTOLA VALLEY'S NEW GROCERY STORE CARRIES ON THE TRADITION OF THE WOODSIDE INSTITUTION



COVER STORY

**Roberts**  
MARKET

PAGE 10

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# Inside

This week's news, features and community events.

## FIRST SHOT



Photo by Veronica Weber/The Almanac

### A peak performance

Jason Harris slides into home for Peak Performance in its 13-3 victory over Goetz Brothers in the Little League Majors "city championship" game on Friday at Burgess Park. See story on **Page 8**.

## Menlo Park

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- Think Menlo Park's ready for another electric car? **Cover, Section 2**

## On the cover

Why are these men smiling? After 58 years in Woodside, George Roberts, left, along with his son Brian, has opened a second and highly anticipated Roberts market this week in Portola Valley near the corner of Alpine and Portola roads. Photo by Veronica Weber. Story begins on **Page 10**.

## CALLING ON THE ALMANAC

The Almanac offices are at **3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025**.

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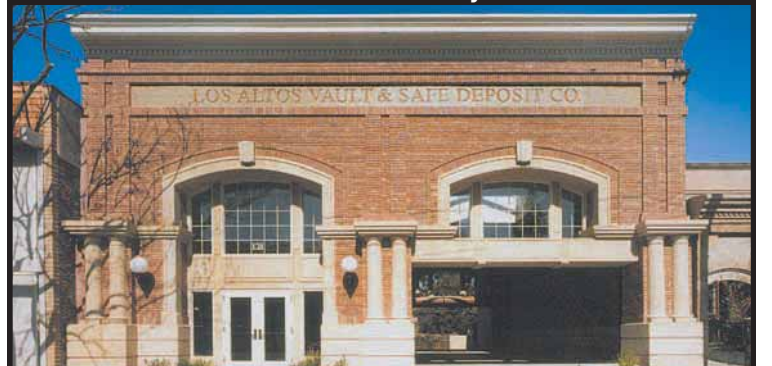
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Special this week at Roberts

## MEAT

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<b>FLANK STEAK</b>		
Boneless		<b>\$8.98</b> lb.
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## Wine

### 2007 ROSÉ, PART 2

For dry rosé, 2007 is proving to be an outstanding vintage. Crisp, lively and refreshing wines are the rule, not the exception. We have tasted many examples and narrowed it down to the following selections.

<u>St. Roches "Les Vignes,"</u> <u>Cotes de Provence</u>	<b>\$13.49</b>
<u>Dom. de Fontaine</u> <u>"Gris de Gris," Corbieres</u>	<b>\$13.99</b>
<u>Ch. du Rouet "Esterelle,"</u> <u>Cotes de Provence</u>	<b>\$13.99</b>
<u>Ch. de Lascaux,</u> <u>Coteaux du Languedoc</u>	<b>\$15.99</b>
<u>Ch. de Trinqueddel</u> <u>Tavel</u>	<b>\$15.99</b>
<u>Commanderie de Peyrassol,</u> <u>Cotes de Provence</u>	<b>\$16.99</b>
<u>Mas de Gourgonnier,</u> <u>Les Baux de Provence</u>	<b>\$17.99</b>
<u>Le Clos du Caillou,</u> <u>Cotes du Rhone</u>	<b>\$17.99</b>
<u>Dom. du Bagnol,</u> <u>Cassis</u>	<b>\$22.99</b>

The above wines assort for a 10% case discount.

### Roberts Tip of the Week

#### Ice Cream Flavors

Get Wild

America really loves its ice cream. All of us have our opinions on which ice cream flavors are tops, and reading the flavors lists can be quite entertaining these days. Creative restaurateurs are coming up with come wild and daring flavors such as cucumber, saffron, and even jalapeño. However, ice cream makers say that while the daring flavors catch people's attention, the old stand-bys (chocolate and vanilla) remain the most popular. Vanilla accounts for 26% of ice cream sales, with chocolate coming in a not-so-close second with 13%. The history of ice cream in the United States dates back to the 1700s. It's big business, too. Ice cream sales in America topped \$22 billion last year.

Are you planning a special meal or dinner party? If so, feel free to discuss your plans with one of us. We'll be happy to help you regarding the quantities of wine you will need as well as helping you to choose the one that will best complement your menu. Full selections of white wines as well as many fine red wines are available here. Of course, you'll also find everything you will need for that meal, including quality, fresh meats, poultry, fish, and produce. Expect great fresh breads and beautiful cut flowers to add that finishing touch.

P.S. America produces more than 1.5 billion pounds of ice cream every year.

## Deli

### Gaspacho Soup

\$4.99



### Arugula Salad

With Roasted Corn and Tomato

\$7.99 lb.



# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## John Arrillaga unveiled as MP gym donor

■ Real estate giant a past player, coach at Burgess Gym.

By Rory Brown  
Almanac Staff Writer

Palo Alto billionaire and big-time Stanford University donor John Arrillaga is the man behind the proposed multi-million dollar donation to build a new Burgess Gym at the Menlo Park Civic Center, the city disclosed June 23.



John Arrillaga

Mr. Arrillaga — a real estate developer worth an estimated \$1.5 billion, according to Forbes.com — has offered the city some \$8 million or more to build a new gym con-

ditioned on his playing an active role in the design and construction of the facility, including choosing the yet-to-be-named contractor for the project.

Mr. Arrillaga is no stranger to building local sports facilities. He oversaw construction of the 2007 renovation of Stanford Stadium, and was the primary donor for the project. He has also funded the construction of the Arrillaga Family Sports Center, which houses Stanford's athletics department and coaching offices; and the Arrillaga Center for Sports and Recreation, a 75,000-square-foot gym used by students and faculty. In May 2006, he gave the university a \$100 million gift.

Mr. Arrillaga could not be reached for comment by The Almanac's deadline.

### Menlo Park connection

Mr. Arrillaga, a basketball

player at Stanford in the 1950s, has been active as a player and a coach in Menlo Park's Burgess Gym basketball programs for 30 years, and he wants to "give back to the community," said City Manager Glen Rojas.

Mr. Rojas noted that the proposed donation is in large part a result of separate conversations that council members Kelly Fergusson and John Boyle — both Stanford alumni — had with Mr. Arrillaga.

The gym would be built between the city's existing Burgess Recreation Center and Alma Street, and would include — at Mr. Arrillaga's request — two professional-length basketball courts.

The new gym is estimated to cost \$14.2 million. Mr. Arrillaga has proposed that the city pay \$6.2 million, and he would cover the rest of the costs.

The city would also demol-



Courtesy city of Menlo Park

**Menlo Park's proposed Burgess Gym**, as seen in this rendering provided by John Arrillaga to the city, would include two NBA-sized basketball courts, and be built off Alma Street, adjacent to the Burgess Recreation Center.

ish the existing gym, which is adjacent to the Burgess Aquatics Center on Laurel Street, to build a 17,400-square-foot gymnastics center. That building would cost

about \$11.5 million to build, and the costs would be covered by the city.

See **ARRILLAGA**, page 8

## Prosecutor: Fatality tied to speed, alcohol

Keith Benford Knudsen, 19, of Portola Valley, accused of manslaughter in the death of fellow Woodside High graduate Robert Lewis Wetzel, was driving in excess of 80 mph and had a blood-alcohol level of more than twice the legal limit when he lost control of a black 1995 BMW and crashed into several trees off Portola Road in Portola Valley on the night of June 12, a prosecutor said.

The car broke into several pieces, said Steve Wagstaffe, chief deputy district attorney in San Mateo County.

On June 17 in a Redwood City court, Mr. Knudsen wept and pleaded not guilty to charges of "gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated." Sheriff's deputies say he was the driver of the car that crashed in the 800 block of Portola Road around 11:30 p.m. on June 12, injuring him and killing the sole passenger, Mr. Wetzel, 19, of unincorporated Redwood City.

Mr. Knudsen, who is being held without bail, stood in orange jail garb as he entered his plea. He is also charged with committing a felony — the car accident — while released on bail. At the time of the accident, he was out of custody on \$15,000 bail after being charged with robbery and grand theft in Redwood City, Lt. Marc Alcantera of the Sheriff's Office said.

Mr. Knudsen told authorities that before the accident he was under the influence of alcohol and did not want to drive, but his friend, Mr. Wetzel, convinced him to drive him home in Mr. Wetzel's car, Deputy District Attorney Karen Guidotti said.

Mr. Wetzel was pronounced dead at the scene from the trauma of the collision, San Mateo County Coroner Robert Foucraut said. Mr. Knudsen was pinned in the car and taken to Stanford Hospital,

where 20 staples were required to close an injury to his head, Mr. Wagstaffe said.

The emergency room doctor noted that Mr. Knudsen was "grossly intoxicated" and his blood-alcohol level was 0.17 percent, Mr. Wagstaffe said. The legal limit is 0.08 percent.

Deputies arrested Mr. Knudsen on Saturday, June 14. During the June 17 court proceedings, defense attorney Eric Hove asked the court to release Mr. Knudsen on \$200,000 bail, but the court agreed with the prosecution's request that he be held without bail, Mr. Wagstaffe said.

Sheriff's deputies first learned of the June 12 accident when someone called a dispatcher to report "the sound of a large crash," Sgt. Linda Gibbons of the Sheriff's Office said. Medics responded immediately, she said.

Mr. Knudsen is due to return to court July 7 to set a date for a preliminary hearing.

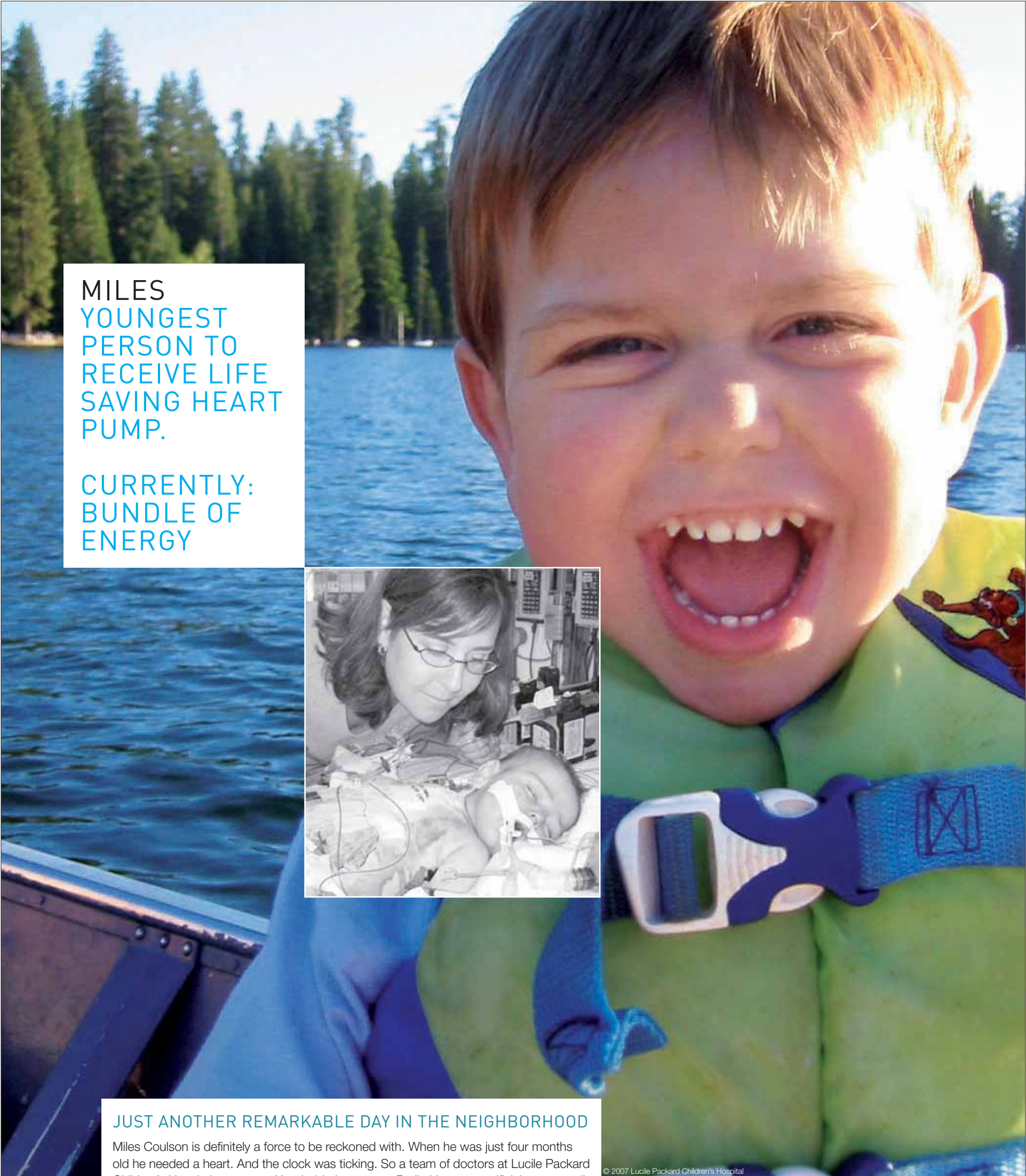
Both Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Knudsen graduated from Woodside High School in June 2007.

By The Almanac staff and Bay City News Service.

**The words "Rock n roll Robert" and "RIP in rock n roll heaven"** mark a scar made June 12 by a car crashing into this tree in the 800 block of Portola Road in Portola Valley. The crash took the life of Robert Wetzel, 19, of unincorporated Redwood City. The driver, according to the district attorney's office, was Portola Valley resident Keith Knudsen, 19, who is in county jail on charges that include "gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated."



Photo by Dave Boyce/The Almanac



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AT STANFORD



# Community loses two titans of the science world

## Hobey DeStaebler was leading SLAC physicist

By Marion Softky  
Almanac Staff Writer

Herbert Conrad “Hobey” DeStaebler of Portola Valley, a leading physicist at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) for more than 40 years, died peacefully at home on June 13, surrounded by his family. He was 79.



Hobey DeStaebler

Friends and colleagues paid tribute to Dr. DeStaebler at a burial Mass June 18 at Our Lady of the Wayside church in Portola Valley

“For half a century, Hobey was an important figure at SLAC,” said Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard E. Taylor. “His quiet manner and dedication to ‘getting it right’ served the laboratory well.”

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Hobey DeStaebler earned bachelor and doctoral degrees in physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

After receiving his doctoral degree in 1954, Dr. DeStaebler spent time at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris. While there, he studied cosmic rays at the Pic du Midi in the Pyrenees Mountains using a cloud chamber, according to Marge DeStaebler, his wife of 41 years.

Later, Dr. DeStaebler connected with the late Wolfgang “Pief” Panofsky, who recruited him to Stanford.

At Stanford’s High Energy Physics Lab in 1958, Dr. DeStaebler joined the team designing a new accelerator that would study the basic structure of matter by shooting electrons through a 2-mile tube in the foothills just south of Sand Hill Road. “They called it Project M for Monster,” said Ms. DeStaebler.

Dr. DeStaebler made sure the new accelerator was safe. He calculated the expected radiation levels and designed the shielding. “The answer was an accelerator in a tunnel 25 feet underground,” Dr. Taylor said.

Through almost 50 years at SLAC, Dr. DeStaebler was involved with making the machine work better for the intricate experiments that have produced half a dozen Nobel Prizes for SLAC researchers and for work done at SLAC.

“He was a very talented experimental physicist,” said Dr. Taylor. “His motto was ‘get it right.’ His skill at getting it right would be called on again and again over the next half-century at the new laboratory called SLAC.”

A high point for SLAC — and the DeStaebler family — came in 1990 when Dr. Taylor, Jerome E. Friedman, and Henry W. Kendall received the Nobel Prize for experiments that helped demonstrate the existence of new nuclear particles called quarks.

The three Nobel laureates invited key co-workers, and a few spouses to the party in Stockholm, where they got, literally, royal treatment. “It was a fairybook kind of experience,” Dr. DeStaebler told *The Almanac* in a 1990 article.

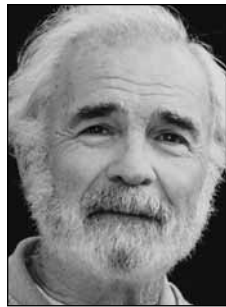
Dr. DeStaebler met his future wife at a Christmas

See **DESTAEBLER**, page 15

## Hewitt D. Crane was SRI visionary, inventor

By Marjorie Mader  
Almanac Staff Writer

Hewitt D. Crane, an SRI visionary recognized for his creativity and organizational skills, died peacefully June 17 in his Portola Valley home, surrounded by his family and comforted by the view of the hills.



Hewitt D. Crane

Known as “Hew” by his friends and colleagues, he lived in Portola Valley for the past 44 years. He was 81, and died of complications of Alzheimer’s disease.

A celebration of his life is being planned in September by his family.

Mr. Crane studied at New York University, Columbia, and Princeton, and completed his doctorate in electrical engineering at Stanford University in 1961.

His insatiable curiosity and awe of the intricacies of nature led him down a variety of paths throughout his career, including the co-founding of Ridge Winery and working on the world’s first all-electronic computer with John von Neumann at Princeton’s Institute for Advanced Study.

He was recruited by Stanford Research Institute, now SRI International, in Menlo Park in 1956; there, his work led to more than 85 patents in the sensory sciences including vision, speech, hearing and writing, making him one of SRI’s most prolific inventors, according to an SRI biography of Mr. Crane.

“Hew Crane is one of SRI’s visionaries, combining several disciplines into his multilevel career, characterized by his superb creativity and organizational skills,” the biography said.

His doctoral thesis — still quoted today — showed that all the functions of a modern digital computer could be implemented using only a combination of neuristors, a term he coined to describe an electronic component that models the behavior of neurons. In the opinion of many, he was SRI’s first bioengineer, according to the SRI biography.

He was an important part of the project that developed the technology that made automated checking accounts possible.

Mr. Crane organized a Visual Sciences Program to begin developing novel instruments for measuring the fundamentals of human vision. The most successful of these instruments was the SRI Purkinje Image Eye-Tracker, which could measure the pointing direction of the eye with about 10 times the accuracy of any current instruments, according to SRI.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, he developed a new approach to recognizing handwritten characters that would allow automatic input of handwritten information to a computer. For the first time, SRI established a spin-off, Communication Intelligence Corporation (CIC), based on his technologies.

In 1959, Mr. Crane introduced the all-magnetic logic approach at the Fall Joint Computer Conference, eventually leading to a demonstration of the world’s first all-magnetic computer in 1961, according to his son, Doug Crane. The technology was soon commercialized by AMPEX, under license from SRI, and used primarily in the rapid transit system of New

See **CRANE**, page 14

## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



### The Summer Market

**Q: I want to buy a property but wonder if any good properties will come on the market during the summer. Should I wait until after Labor Day to begin looking again or am I likely to find good properties in the summer months?**

**A:** The spring real estate market has just ended. The number of sales and prices are down from the same period last year but the market this year wasn’t too bad. Some sellers were disappointed when there were no buyers for properties that were priced too high, but those sellers who were conservative in their pricing mostly did fine. Buyers have had more leverage this year and there has been lots more negotiating between buyers and sellers than in other years.

If you are a serious buyer, you shouldn’t take the summer off. If you stay active, you may be pleased to find that good properties do come on the market and you’ll have fewer buyers to compete with. There are some good values out there at the moment and there is no reason not to keep looking for the right one.

For answers to any questions you may have on real estate, you may e-mail me at [mcorman@apr.com](mailto:mcorman@apr.com) or call 462-1111, Alain Pinel Realtors. I also offer a free market analysis of your property.



## CITY OF MENLO PARK

### NOTICE OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Municipal Election, consolidated with the Presidential General Election, will be held in the City of Menlo Park on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 for the following offices:

#### Two City Council Seats for terms of four years

The polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Candidates must be residents and registered voters of the City of Menlo Park. All nomination papers must be obtained from and returned to Sherry M. Kelly, City Clerk, City Hall, the Administration Building, 2nd floor, 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California.

**The nomination period opens on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. and ends on Friday, August 8, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.** If any incumbent does not file nomination papers by the August 8, 2008 deadline or does not qualify, then this period shall be extended for five more calendar days, until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2008, for all other candidates (but not incumbents) to file nomination papers with the City Clerk.

The City has a modified work schedule. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. City Hall will be closed on Fridays, July 18 and August 1.

Anyone considering running for office, must file a Candidate Intention Statement and must form a campaign committee prior to raising or spending any monies. For more information, contact the City Clerk at (650) 330-6625.

Sherry M. Kelly  
City Clerk, City of Menlo Park

Published in THE ALMANAC on July 2, 2008.

## Peak Performance takes city championship

By Colin Becht  
Special to The Almanac

A game that began close, quickly unraveled. In the Little League Majors City Championship game on Friday night, Peak Performance defeated Goetz Brothers 13-3 to become the uncontested champion of the Alpine/West Menlo and Menlo-Atherton Little Leagues.

Michael Tinsley led Peak Performance, champions of the Alpine/West Menlo Little League, with a strong showing both on the pitcher's mound and at the plate. Tinsley recovered from a rough first inning, in which he conceded a three-run home run to Goetz Brothers' Erik Amundson, to pitch four scoreless innings.

After the first inning, Tinsley did not surrender another hit, and finished his outing with 12 strikeouts. "My curveball was most effective," said Tinsley, who throws, in addition to the curveball, a 70 mile-per-hour fastball and a changeup.

Tinsley also provided an offensive spark for Peak Performance, furthering his own cause by going 5-5 from the plate, including two doubles, and scoring four runs. Tinsley also proved unstoppable on the base paths, accumulating four stolen bases.

Said Tinsley of what accounted for his success: "I don't know. It was just one of my days."

However, Tinsley had by no means the only clutch game for Peak Performance. The offense came from variety of sources. Chris Lee went 2-2 with two RBIs and locked up the game for Peak Performance by pitching a perfect sixth inning. Charlie Cain provided two RBIs along with a 2-4 performance at the plate, and Royce Branning drove in four runs, including a clutch double in the fifth inning that broke the game open for Peak Performance.

Nevertheless, despite the plethora of offensive success for Peak Performance, the city championship game was, for the first three innings, an arms race of who could accumulate more runs faster. After Peak Performance jumped out to a 2-0 lead in to the top of the first, Goetz Brothers came back undeterred, scoring three runs on Amundson's home run.

However, Goetz Brothers' 3-2 lead was not to last long, as Peak Performance came right back in the top of the second to retake the lead 4-3 on an RBI single by Cain and a bases-loaded walk to Branning.

Assistant coach Randy Tinsley was very proud of his team's ability to bounce back from their



Photo by Veronica Weber/The Almanac

**Michael Tinsley** led Peak Performance with a strong showing both on the pitcher's mound and at the plate.

early setback. "This team always battles back and didn't lose any confidence. They showed a lot of heart," he said.

"The home run really riled us all up 'cause we didn't want to lose 3-2," said Michael Tinsley.

For Goetz Brothers, the M-A Little League champions, Amundson led the team. In addition to his three-run shot over the centerfield wall in the first inning, Amundsen pitched one and two-thirds innings of relief, allowing only one run while getting his team out of the disaster of Peak's seven-run fifth inning.

Keenan Carr went one for two at the plate and scored a run in the first inning. He also pitched one and a third innings in relief, getting Goetz Brothers out of jam in the fourth inning.

Peak Performance's victory in the city championship game was their second city championship in three years. ■

*Sportswriter Colin Becht will be a senior at Menlo School in the fall.*

## Sunset idea house opens in Menlo Park

Sunset magazine's Menlo Park "idea house" in SummerHill Homes' Lane Woods development on Willow Road is open for public tours June 27 through Aug. 31 and features a blend of vintage and second-hand finds with new

furnishing, according to Sunset. The house aims to show visitors unique wall and window coverings, solutions for small yards, and unexpected ways to use old furniture, according to the magazine.

The idea house is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and will be closed July Fourth. Parking is in the lot at 85 Willow Road. For ticket and other information, call (800) 786-7375 or go to [Sunset.com](http://Sunset.com) and click on "Idea Houses" for information.

## ARRILLAGA

*continued from page 5*

In April, city staff said that Mr. Arrillaga's donation was contingent on his remaining anonymous, but after two months of City Council members and staff hiding the potential donor's identity from the public, that tune has changed.

"We knew the press wanted [the donor's identity], and we knew the public wanted it, and after further talks with Mr. Arrillaga, he decided to go ahead and put his name out there," Mr. Rojas said.

"I'm glad this is out in the open now," said Councilman Heyward Robinson to The Almanac. "None of us really felt comfortable with [Mr. Arril-

laga] staying anonymous."

Mayor Andy Cohen, in a press release, said he's "very pleased" that Mr. Arrillaga has gone public as the potential donor.

Mr. Rojas said the city is looking to negotiate an agreement with Mr. Arrillaga to present to the council while environmental studies are under way for constructing the new gym. ■

## Parks commission gives OK to Kelly Park plan

By Rory Brown  
Almanac Staff Writer

A plan to add artificial turf, lights, a rubber running track and a full-sized soccer field to Kelly Park won unanimous approval June 18 from the Menlo Park Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioners voted 6-0 to recommend that the City Council approve the estimated \$4.4 million of renovations to the triangular-shaped park, located behind the Onetta Harris Community Center in the city's Belle Haven neighborhood. Commissioner Paula Maurano was absent from the meeting.

The council is expected to decide whether to approve environmental and traffic studies for the project later this year.

Parks commissioners agreed that adding the full-sized field would draw more people to the park and ease the city's sports field shortage. The field would be big enough for soccer, football, and lacrosse teams to use.

"I think it's going to be a magnet," said commission chair

Nick Naclerio.

If built, the soccer field would be the first city-owned adult-sized soccer field — something sports groups say the city needs to accommodate the growing number of teenagers and adults in need of field space.

The current 8.3-acre park was built in 2001 for about \$1 million, but poor planning and design restrictions led to the construction of undersized, oddly shaped fields at the park.

A sports fields report issued by a group of parks commissioners (including current councilmen Richard Cline and Heyward Robinson) in 2006 recommended the city consider renovating Kelly Park, but the previous council majority opted instead to focus on efforts to build fields at Bayfront Park.

The current council directed the parks commission to re-examine renovating Kelly Park.

The new plan includes tennis courts and a basketball court, and the city is considering using redevelopment funds, rather than the general fund, to finance the project. ■

## Two homes damaged in separate fires

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

House fires injured one man last week and did extensive damage to two homes, one in Atherton and one in Menlo Park.

### Menlo School fire

Firefighters from the Menlo Park Fire Protection District treated one man for smoke inhalation after a Wednesday, June 11, fire that started accidentally from a candle in a bedroom in a one-story cottage on the campus of Menlo School at 50 Valparaiso Ave. in Atherton, said district fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

The victim, an assistant coach at Menlo College, was treated and released from Stanford Hospital, Chief Schapelhouman said.

The fire was reported at 3:27 p.m., firefighters were on the scene three minutes later, and it was under control by 3:49 p.m., he said.

The one-alarm fire did about \$150,000 in damage to the contents and structure of the 800-square-foot cottage, he said. The

home was one of about eight cottages used for faculty housing on the private middle- and high-school campus, he said.

### Sharon Heights fire

Another one-alarm fire the next day, June 12, caused about \$1 million in damage to the house and \$25,000 to the contents of a 4,800-square-foot, two-story home at 1055 Trinity Drive in the Sharon Heights neighborhood, Chief Schapelhouman said.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but it seems to have started in a partially below-ground shop and spread to the kitchen on the first floor, he said. Officials are looking into the possibility of an electrical problem as the cause of the fire.

The occupants of the house were not at home at the time of the fire, Chief Schapelhouman said. The house will be uninhabitable for six months to a year, he said.

The 911 call came in at 7:30 p.m. Firefighters arrived in four minutes, and had the fire under control about 45 minutes later, at 8:18 p.m., he said. ■

# Council OKs \$38 million budget

By Rory Brown  
Almanac Staff Writer

## ■ MENLO PARK

Menlo Park has a 2008-09 fiscal year budget, but not all City Council members support it.

The council voted 4-1 at its June 17 meeting, with John Boyle opposed, to approve the budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

The main source of contention over the budget was Finance Director Carol Augustine's projection that the city will fall about \$1 million short of covering costs in the new fiscal year. Costs are projected to reach \$38.24 million, and revenues are estimated at \$37.23 million.

In the past, actual financial results have surpassed Ms. Augustine's projections, and a majority of council members said the new fiscal year should be no different. If revenues do come up short of covering costs,

council members said the city can draw the difference from its \$24 million reserve fund.

"I'm a big believer in financial trending," said Councilman Richard Cline. "I'm looking at the last several years and the trending seems pretty evident."

But Mr. Boyle opposed that strategy, and criticized council members for taking what he called a "worry about it next year" approach to balancing the budget.

"We're talking about spending a lot more than we plan on taking in," Mr. Boyle said, stressing that expenses are expected to increase by about 6 percent, and revenues are projected to grow by just 1.5 percent. He said the city also has several projects planned for the new fiscal year that aren't included in the budget, such as the next step in the

El Camino Real visioning process and staffing the city's new Belle Haven police substation.

Mr. Boyle suggested that the city defer some projects to the following fiscal year, but other council members said that even as the state and national economies slow, Menlo Park should be just fine.

"So far — knock on wood — Menlo Park has weathered this economic downturn reasonably well," said Councilman Heyward Robinson.

The council took separate action on the city's utility tax, voting unanimously to keep the tax rate at 1 percent on all utility bills for at least one more year.

Mr. Boyle was the first council member to dissent from an adopted city budget since Chuck Kinney voted against the 2004-05 fiscal year budget. Mr. Kinney opposed staff cuts proposed in that budget. ■

## Don't forget: Street closed for June 25 block party

By Rory Brown  
Almanac Staff Writer

## ■ MENLO WATCH

Santa Cruz Avenue in Menlo Park will be closed between Evelyn and Doyle streets starting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 25 so the city can prepare for the downtown block party scheduled for later that evening.

The block party is scheduled for 6 to 9:30 p.m., and will feature street-side dining, live music and kids' activities. Block parties are also scheduled for Aug. 6 and Aug. 20.

The events are scheduled to coincide with the city-sponsored concerts in Fremont Park. Country musician Fred McCarty will perform in the park from 6:30 to

7:30 p.m. June 25.

Following the concert, the movie "Benji" will be shown on a big screen at the park, said Brian Flegel, chair of the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce committee planning the block parties.

Five other bands will play at various spots along Santa Cruz Avenue, and Left Bank, jZ Cool, Angelo Mio, Bistro Vida and Deelish will provide street-side dining, Mr. Flegel said.

### Building bike tunnel

Where to build a bike tunnel under the Caltrain tracks in

Menlo Park will be the topic of a June 26 public meeting.

The tunnel is tentatively planned for somewhere between Ravenswood Avenue and the Palo Alto border, and city staff and a city-hired consultant are trying to pinpoint a location. City staff and the consultant will be at the meeting to answer questions about the project.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. in the Burgess Recreation Center, at 700 Alma St.

### No council meeting

The Menlo Park City Council will not hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 24. Meetings are scheduled to resume July 1. ■

## Blacksmith demonstration, exhibit in Woodside

By Barbara Wood  
Special to The Almanac

Metal artist and horseshoer Jamie MacDonald will demonstrate horseshoeing and blacksmithing at an open house celebrating the new "Blacksmithing in Woodside" exhibit at the Woodside Community Museum on Sunday, June 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mr. MacDonald got started as a blacksmith at age 19 when he decided the trade would allow him to combine his love of horses and of art. He has been working in Woodside since 1988 and now lives there with his wife Stephanie, two dogs and two horses.

While horseshoeing keeps him busy, Mr. MacDonald has won a prestigious industry award for gates he designed and built for a Woodside family. He also forges architectural embellishments

and is currently working on a horse sculpture.

Mr. MacDonald will demon-

strate horseshoeing from 11 am to noon. From 1 to 3 p.m. he

See **BLACKSMITH**, page 14



Photo by Barbara Wood

**Jamie MacDonald**, a metalsmith and horseshoer from Woodside, works on Curly's feet in preparation for horseshoeing and blacksmithing demonstrations Sunday.



Presented by  
**Mark Schmidt**  
Licensed Optician

FORE! EYES!

If you are serious about your golf game, you may want to invest in two pairs of sunglasses—brown tints for bright days and yellow tints for overcast days. On sunny days, a brown tint is preferred because this color best increases visual contrast. For overcast days, yellow is the better choice because it does not reduce as much visible light as brown. Yellow (and brown, to some extent) also enable golfers to see contours of the course and read the greens

better. Wearing sunglasses of any type reduces squinting, which tightens the upper body and inhibits the golf swing.

Many people assume that one pair of eyeglasses will fit all of their needs. If you play golf, you may need two pairs of sunglasses to ensure you see clearly on both bright days and overcast days. Wearing glasses with UV protection is important for those who work or play outdoors. Bring your eyewear prescription to MENLO OPTICAL at 1166 University Drive, on the corner of Oak Grove Avenue and University Drive. We carry a wide selection of quality sunglasses as well as athletic, occupational, and computer eyewear. Call us at 322-3900.

P.S. Tennis players may benefit greatly from wearing aqua colored sunglasses, which can help them track the ball better.

Mark Schmidt is an American Board of Opticianry and National Contact Lens Examiners Certified Optician licensed by the Medical Board of California. He can be easily reached at Menlo Optical, 1166 University Drive, Menlo Park. 650-322-3900.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF JUNE 30, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Menlo Park, California, is scheduled to review the following items:

**PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS - None**

**PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS - None**

**STUDYING MEETING ITEMS**

**Minor Subdivision/Cupertino Development Corp./2199 Clayton Drive:** Request for a minor subdivision to create four single-family residential parcels where one parcel currently exists in the R-1-S (Single-Family Suburban) zoning district.

**Study Session/Doane + Doane Architects/1081 Santa Cruz Avenue:** Request for a study session for a proposed four-unit multi-family residence in the R-3 (Apartment) zoning district. The proposal would require a use permit and architectural control.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that said Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on public hearing items in the Council Chambers of the City of Menlo Park, located at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, on Monday, June 30 2008, 7:00 p.m. or as near as possible thereafter, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon. If you challenge this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

The project file may be viewed by the public on weekdays between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, with alternate Fridays closed, at the Department of Community Development, 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park. Please call the Planning Division if there are any questions and/or for complete agenda information (650) 330-6702.

Si usted necesita más información sobre este proyecto, por favor llame al 650-330-6702, y pregunte por un asistente que hable español.

DATED: June 19, 2008 Deanna Chow, Senior Planner  
PUBLISHED: June 25 2008 Menlo Park Planning Commission

Visit our Web site for Planning Commission public hearing, agenda, and staff report information: [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org)

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 25, 2008.

PORTOLA VALLEY'S NEW GROCERY STORE CARRIES ON  
THE TRADITION OF THE WOODSIDE INSTITUTION



COVER STORY

# Roberts MARKET

STORY BY DAVE BOYCE • PHOTOS BY VERONICA WEBER

The new Roberts market, the grocery store opening this week in Portola Valley, will be a lot like the old Roberts market, a community institution just 10 minutes away in Woodside and thriving in its fifth decade under the ownership of George Roberts.

"It will be a duplicate of this store," Mr. Roberts said from his office in the Woodside store, where caviar, French wines and Kobe beef share a roof with ordinary mayonnaise, fresh fish, a mix of organic and conventional produce, and take-home meals prepared in the store's kitchen.

Portola Valley has been without a market since the summer of 2006, when John's Valley Foods closed after 29 years of operation near the corner of Alpine and Portola roads.

Mr. Roberts bought the building that housed John's and rehabilitated it with a new interior — including a genuine hickory wood floor — a new roof, and a new loading dock designed to keep delivery noise to a minimum. The interior is roughly the same size as the Woodside market's. Plans for the exterior include tables and chairs and parking for eight bicycles.

Most of the management in the new store is staff promoted from the Woodside store, Mr. Roberts said.

Starting the Portola Valley market out on the same plan as the Woodside store's avoids "preconceived ideas" as to what Portola Valley customers may want, said Brian Roberts, George's son and the company vice president. "If they have preferences, we'll hear about them."

One preconceived idea that apparently survived the winnowing: The Portola Valley store may have more organic produce than the Woodside market, he said.

Like the Woodside store, the new market will stock gourmet items such as escargot, Vidalia onion fig sauce and gray-salt caramels. If you can comfortably afford to live in Portola Valley and you have expensive tastes, chances are that Roberts' prices won't deter you.

If you're more of a Safeway shopper, you, too, can be comfortable in Roberts, Brian said. The basic foodstuffs such as milk, eggs and mayonnaise are priced competitively with Safeway, he said.

George and Brian Roberts, both of whom learned the grocery business from their fathers, sat down with *The Almanac* recently to talk about running



George Roberts, left, and his son Brian pose in their Woodside grocery store, a community institution for 58 years and likely to become one in Portola Valley, where a new store opened this week. Gabe Cunningham, above, stocks cold beverages in preparation for Roberts' opening this week. Weighing brie and packaging it for sale in Portola Valley are Beatriz Montes, left, and Vibs Gade. These labels will guide the placement of beef short ribs, chuck roast, veal stew and other meats in the butcher case at the Portola Valley store.





what has become a community institution in Woodside and is off to a running start for the same status in Portola Valley.

#### What's to eat?

A business can find success by filling a perceived need in the community it serves. In Woodside and Portola Valley, Roberts has noted the plight of the modern homemaker, the one with a desk job during the day, a chef's job in the evening, refined tastes in food, and no time or inclination to cook it.

Enter Roberts, a grocery with chefs on the staff. The executive chef overseeing kitchen operations for both stores was hired away from a "good restaurant" in Palo Alto, George Roberts said.

Preparing fine meals for grocery store takeout may lack the flair of restaurant work, but one perk is a regular workday, George said. The hours are from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Among the typical entrees prepared fresh daily are a variety of salmon dishes, pot roast, and bacon-wrapped filet mignon, plus side dishes like garlic-roasted cauliflower and mashed potatoes with truffle oil or with bacon and chives, Brian said.

It's ready to eat. "Anything that says, 'Take it home and marinate it for 24 hours,' those days are gone," George said. "We've got to marinate it for 24 hours."

Still, there may be customers who, thinking highly of their own skills in the kitchen, want to buy the ingredients and make a Roberts dish from scratch, including the marinating. Can they get those in-house recipes?

Management will open up a bit on the ingredients to address concerns about allergies, but that's it, Brian said. "We don't usually reveal too much," he added. "We try to keep some of our better things under lock and key."

The store is secretive in one area, but transparent in another: Roberts wants nothing but good avocados for the "avocado connoisseurs" out there, such as Apple Corp. CEO Steve Jobs, George said.

"We just like to have nice avocados and we like to have ripe ones," Brian said. "That's something we've always kind of prided ourselves on. Most of our customers want to eat it now, that very second."

There's a standard for screening fruits and vegetables, George said. "It can be expensive, but it has to be good."

If something below-par gets through, is a refund possible? "If they get something like that, yes," he said. "We really don't want people paying for something they can't use."

People who work in town can use breakfast and lunch, and providing it is a mainstay at Roberts.

See **ROBERTS MARKET**, page 12

## The grocer's lineage goes way back at Roberts market

By **Dave Boyce**

Almanac Staff Writer

Not many changes are expected in the new Portola Valley version of Roberts market when compared with its counterpart in Woodside, and that includes the sausage.

Roberts uses a recipe that principal owner George Roberts learned as a boy, along with his brother and cousins, in his father's San Francisco grocery store, which opened in the Tenderloin District in 1889. The business moved to California Street in 1891 under the name Alta Plaza Market.

"Every single one of us grew up having to braid (sausages)," Mr. Roberts said in his office above the Woodside market. "We all started with the sausage and we all ended up driving the delivery trucks, and they all fled except me."

Mr. Roberts, who grew up living above the California Street store, came to Woodside in 1960 and bought the general store at the corner of Woodside and Mountain Home roads. He also lives in Woodside. His son Brian, part owner and vice president of the markets, lives in Sharon Heights and his two daughters live in Utah.

Mr. Roberts eventually moved the hardware part of his enterprise across Woodside Road, where it became the independently run Roberts Hardware & Tack.

He said he owns about four acres on that side of the street, including the mini-mall that is home to Buck's restaurant and the Woodside Bakery and some open space behind the mall.

The direct management of the two stores will be a family affair as well. Errol Parker is managing the Portola Valley store, while his brother Bob — with Roberts since he started as a bag boy in 1971 — manages the Woodside store, Mr. Roberts said. "Continuity is important," he added. "Full-time people that hang around — it's a big advantage." **A**

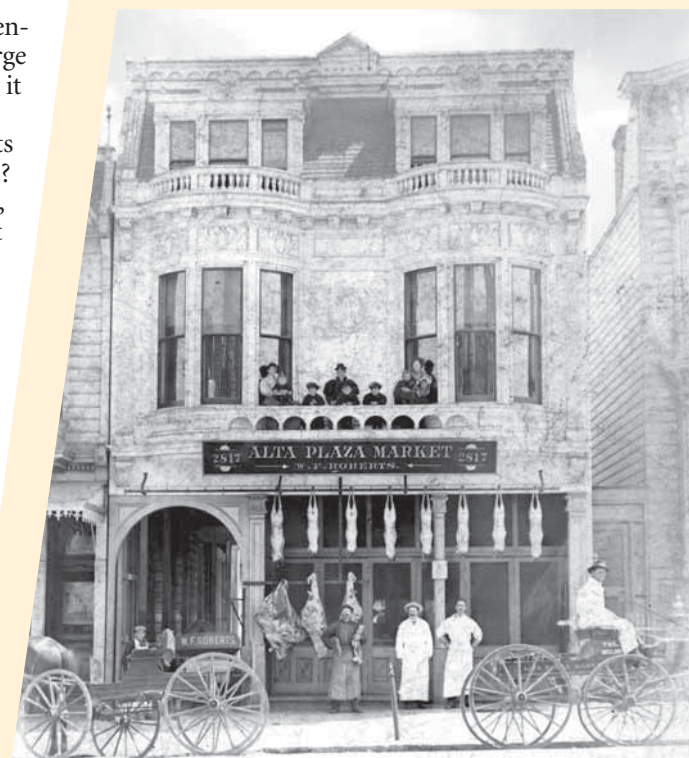


Photo courtesy of Roberts market

**The Alta Plaza Market** in San Francisco is where George Roberts, principal owner of Roberts market in Woodside and Portola Valley, learned his father's sausage recipe, which is still used at Roberts today.





## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS Bid Proposals Sought for INSTALLATION OF VIDEO DETECTION SYSTEMS AT VARIOUS INTERSECTIONS IN MENLO PARK

The City of Menlo Park invites qualified contractors to submit sealed bid proposals for the construction of the City's INSTALLATION OF VIDEO DETECTION SYSTEMS AT VARIOUS INTERSECTIONS IN MENLO PARK. Work required as part of this project consists of, in general, installing video detection systems at six traffic signalized intersections in Menlo Park, all as shown on the plans and described in the specifications. Performance of this work requires a valid California Contractor's License Class A or Class C-10. Project documents and copies of the prevailing rate of wages can be obtained from the Menlo Park Engineering Division, located in the Administration Building at 701 Laurel St. Sealed bid proposals will be received at the Engineering Division office until 2 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, July 16, 2008, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Additional information can be obtained from the City's website: [www.menlopark.org/cip](http://www.menlopark.org/cip)

Published in THE ALMANAC on  
June 25, 2008 & July 2, 9, 2008.

## TOWN OF WOODSIDE 2955 WOODSIDE ROAD WOODSIDE, CA 94062

PLANNING COMMISSION  
July 2, 2008  
7:30 PM

### PUBLIC HEARINGS:

#### 3. Woodside Mounted Patrol Renewal of CUP80-012 521 Kings Mountain Road

Annual review for renewal of Conditional Use Permit CUP#80-012 which allows the use of a commercial stable on the subject property located in the OS/ESA (Open Space, Environmentally Sensitive Area) zoning district. Condition of approval number 23 requires that the Planning Commission review the subject conditional use permit annually. No changes are proposed to either the use of the commercial stable or the conditions of approval.

#### 4. Virginia Dooling VAR2007-009 490 Whiskey Hill Road

Review of a request for a variance to construct a 10 foot 9 inch wide dormer window on the second story of an existing non-conforming residence. The proposed dormer would violate both 50 foot required side setbacks as the subject property is only 66 feet wide.

#### 5. Terry Walters SDPC2008-001 35 Stadler Road

Review of a request for an exception to Woodside Municipal Code section 151.44 to allow a second driveway entrance to a property in the SCP-5 zoning district.

All application materials are available for public review at the Woodside Planning and Building Counter, Woodside Town Hall, weekdays from 8:00 - 10:00 AM and 1:00 - 3:00 PM, or by appointment. For more information, contact the Woodside Planning and Building Department at (650) 851-6790.

Published in ALMANAC on June 25, 2008.



### ROBERTS MARKET

continued from page 11

The breakfast menu includes Denver omelets, breakfast burritos, sausage and bacon. When the rush is over, whatever hasn't been sold is usually given away, Brian said.

The kitchen prepares about 18 whole turkey breasts a day, most of it for sandwiches, George said. Panini sandwiches are big sellers.

### Splendid isolation

People living and working on the Peninsula are more likely to find themselves near a Whole Foods or a Safeway on a daily commute or a trip to the mall than they would a Roberts market.

With the exception of weekend visitors, regular Roberts customers tend to live or work in Woodside or Portola Valley, George Roberts said. In a way, the two markets are at the end of the road in neighborhoods that are home to the estates of Silicon Valley's highly paid elite. That combination of desirable isolation and disposable income makes for predictability.

The customer profile at Roberts is fairly steady and the numbers vary only slightly year by year, George and Brian said. That's not to say they are a captive audience. The competition is out there and patronized.

Roberts and other similarly sized local grocers subscribe to a service that tracks prices of basic foods at Safeway, and Roberts aligns its prices accordingly. "We stick very close to (Safeway)," Brian said.

The Almanac interviewed three Roberts customers, all Woodside residents, on the question of how the market's prices compare with the competition.

Artemas Yaffe said Roberts is on a par with similar markets, such as Draeger's in Menlo Park. The ambience

and small size of Roberts appeals to her. "It actually feels good to be in, where the big stores don't," she said.

Gary Kirby also shops at Costco. Roberts "is extremely expensive," he said lightly, but added: "If you need something that's a little unusual, it's on the shelf." Asked if the prices were a burden, he replied: "It's not a hardship, but you can never be too rich or too thin."

Patricia Crawford said she also shops at Whole Foods and Safeway. She likes Roberts for its friendly staff, short checkout lines, and the quality of meat and produce. "I think, to me, they taste better than what you get from Safeway," but that impression might be an illusion, she said.

And the prices? Roberts is "more expensive," she said.

Asked for a comment, Brian Roberts said: "You're never going to convince the box-store shoppers that we're a bargain. ... We stay very competitive with the Safeway grocery items (such as) milk and eggs."

Fresh fish, another Roberts staple, is always going to be expensive, he added.

### Keeping current

Organic produce is available at Roberts, but it used to be the province of natural food stores such as Whole Foods, which has apparently changed the game. Other markets have paid attention.

"Whole Foods brought organic to the front and center, big time," George Roberts said. The two men occasionally visit competing grocers, including the Whole Foods store in Mill Valley because it's closest in size to their own stores.

"They're excellent with the product (placement)," George said. Their deli food is "very well displayed."

"I think a lot of the people who go there aren't huge meat eaters," he added. Because they don't sell products like Coca-Cola and hard liquor, "they aren't a complete grocery store," he said.

"Fair-trade products" such as coffee, bananas and sugar are another regular item at Whole Foods. Fair-trade products, the sellers say, are grown and harvested under conditions that don't exploit the environment, the workers or the workers' communities.

Fair-trade coffee and "natural foods" are available at Roberts, as are bracelets and scarves provided by the Emeryville-based nonprofit

World of Good, Brian said.

"It does quite well," he said. "We try to have a little slice of something for everybody."

The trend, including at Whole Foods, of removing plastic bags from the checkout counter won't be coming to Roberts, which has never offered plastic bags. Roberts also no longer double-bags; they use a thicker bag.

The store in Woodside recycles about 650 pounds of cardboard a day, Brian said.

The trend of buying locally produced goods has made some inroads at Roberts, including artichokes and local wines. Among the beef selections is Niman beef, which advertises sustainable practices in cattle raising.

Roberts is ahead of the curve on another trend meant to reduce impacts on the environment: the grocery bag refund. Roberts gives a 10-cent discount per bag. At Whole Foods, Draeger's and Mollie Stone's in Palo Alto, the discount is 5 cents. At both Safeway stores in Menlo Park, it's 3 cents.

### Rising costs

The lifeline of a grocery store is the delivery truck, and it is being extraordinarily stressed as steep jumps in the price of crude oil drive up the cost of diesel fuel.

Corn and soybeans are foundation products that underlie production of many packaged foods in grocery stores. Both grains are now seen as critical to alternative fuel production, thereby creating shortages for food purposes, a problem exacerbated by the flooding in the Midwest.

The combination is hitting food prices hard.

"It's tough for us. We try to be competitive with our pricing, but sometimes we just can't," Brian said. "Things are expensive and there's nothing we can do about it."

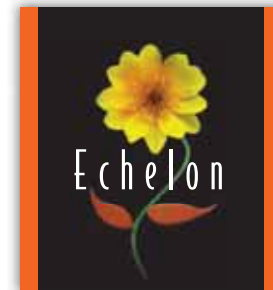
George added: "You always worry when things get out of whack, like things seem to be now." ■



Jesus Jara added price tags to the shelves at Roberts market in Portola Valley as the market acquired the look and feel of a stocked and operating grocery store.

# NEW HOMES – PALO ALTO

## FROM THE MID \$700,000s



PALO ALTO

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Pricing effective as of publication deadline. Rendering is artist's conception. Map not to scale.



**YourNewPeninsulaHome.com**



## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TOWN OF ATHERTON  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS CAPE SEAL PROJECT NO. 07-012

Notice is hereby given that SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, until 3:00 p.m. Friday, July 11th, 2008, at which time they will be publicly opened and read, for performing the following work:

Performing a Cape seal per Town specifications on the listed streets which includes notifications, traffic control, prep work, oil and chip installation, compaction, sweeping, follow up type II micro-surfacing and re-striping/pavement markings where needed. 1 year guarantee.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for Alameda de las Pulgas Cape Seal, Project No. 07-012", along with date and time of bid opening.

Plans and specifications may be obtained at the Town of Atherton Public Works Department, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton CA 94027, for a non-refundable fee of \$30.00. Additional important information is contained in Town of Atherton Standard Specifications, which are available for an additional \$20.00. If shipping is requested, there will be an additional charge of \$20.00.

Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of cash, a cashier's or certified check or bid bond for not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid, as a guarantee that the bidder, if awarded the Contract, will fulfill the terms of the bid. The Town of Atherton reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and/or to waive any irregularities therein.

Bidders are hereby notified that, pursuant to California Civil Code Sections 3247 and 3248 and Standard Specifications Section 3.02, the successful bidder will be required to provide payment and performance bonds in the amounts stated in Section 3.02 of the Standard Specifications.

Bidders are hereby notified that provisions of California Labor Code regarding prevailing wages are applicable to the work to be performed under this contract. Pursuant to Section 1773 et seq. the general prevailing wage rates have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations and appear in the California Prevailing Wage Rates. Copies are on file at the office of the City Engineer and are available to interested parties upon request. The successful bidder shall post a copy of the wage rates at the job site.

The Contractor may elect to receive 100 percent of payments due under the contract, without retention of any portion of the payment by the Town of Atherton, by depositing securities of equivalent value to the retention amount in accordance with the provisions of Section 22300 of the California Public Contracts Code.

The successful bidder must be licensed under the provisions of Chapter 9, Division 3, of the California Business and Professions Code to do the type of work contemplated in the project at the time the contract is awarded and shall be skilled and regularly engaged in the general class or type of work called for under the Contract. Failure of the bidder to obtain proper and adequate licensing for an award of the contract shall constitute a failure to execute the contract and result in the forfeiture of the bidder's bid security.

Each bidder shall submit with this bid a statement setting forth his/her/its experience and qualifications. The statement shall be made on the forms provided by the Town and must accompany each bid. The three lowest bidders will be required to submit subcontractor's experience and qualifications statements within 48 hours of the bid opening, on forms provided by the Town.

By submitting a bid in response to this advertisement for bids, the bidder shall be conclusively deemed to have read, understood and agreed with all of the information and materials contained in the bid documents, including but not limited to the construction contract, the standard specifications, the special provisions, the required nature and amount of insurance and the documentation evidencing said insurance.

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to the Streets Superintendent, Steve Tyler, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, CA 94027, telephone (650) 752-0541, preferably no later than five days before bid opening. Requests for Information may be faxed to (650) 688-6539. Plan holder's lists may be obtained by calling (650) 752-0570.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Duncan L. Jones, P.E., City Engineer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 25, July 2, 2008

#### CRANE

*continued from page 7*

York City and at railroad switching yards, where electro-magnetic interference made electronic computers unfeasible.

This technology may still be useful for extended space missions and other extreme conditions, according to colleagues. The prototype of the first all-magnetic computer is now at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View.

With three SRI colleagues and their families, Hew and his wife, Sue Crane, co-founded Ridge Winery in 1959 on Monte Bello Road in Santa Clara County. Ridge's stature as one of the world's premiere wineries was reinforced in 2006 when its cabernet took first place in the 30th anniversary of the rematch of the 1976 "Judgment of Paris," comparing the best of French and California wines.

Mr. Crane's eclectic interests led to countless publications ranging in scope from the social marketplace, magnetic logic, digital imaging,

Fibonacci series, physiology of how the ear works, and homonyms.

His last intellectual effort is a manuscript, still in progress with two SRI colleagues, on issues related to world energy, his wife said. He realized how hard it was for lay-people to comprehend the myriad of energy scales, and helped develop a new measurement — the CMO, or cubic mile of oil — which is the amount of oil the world uses annually. He wanted to make politicians realize the dire predicament that our carbon dependence has created, his wife said.

In addition to his many intellectual accomplishments, Mr. Crane was a folk dancer, a backpacker and a dog and nature lover.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sue; their three sons, Russ of Santa Barbara, Doug of Palo Alto, and Dan of Saratoga; and five grandchildren.

The family suggests that memorial donations in Hew Crane's name be made to Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), 222 High St., Palo Alto, CA 94301. ■

#### BLACKSMITH

*continued from page 9*

will demonstrate blacksmithing, branding the initials of each child attending onto a piece of wood to take home. Refreshments will be served and the new exhibit will be open for viewing.

The exhibit features a mockup of a blacksmith shop, including a coal forge and blower, grinding wheel for sharpening tools and an anvil. Photos of some of Woodside's early blacksmiths are featured along with many items that blacksmiths once made, including

a wheel from the Greer family's 18-foot bed freight wagon.

Harold Zweirlein, a longtime horse shoer and blacksmith, designed and organized the exhibit with the help of members of the Woodside History Committee.

The museum is located in the Town Center, behind the Village Pub restaurant, near the intersection of Woodside and Whiskey Hill roads. It is open from 2 to 5 p.m. each Sunday or by appointment, 851-1294. ■

*Barbara Wood is a member of the Woodside History Committee.*

### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS BID PROPOSALS SOUGHT FOR SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK BONDE WEIR FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT

The City of Menlo Park invites qualified contractors to submit sealed bid proposals for the construction of the City's SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK BONDE WEIR FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT project. Work required as part of this project consists of, in general, installation of adult and juvenile fish passages over an existing weir structure, regrading, and replanting of the creek banks in the affected areas. Performance of this work requires a valid California Contractor's License Class A. Project documents and copies of the prevailing rate of wages can be obtained from the Menlo Park Engineering Division, located in the Administrative Building at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA, 94025. Sealed bid proposals will be received at the Engineering Division office until 2 p.m. on TUESDAY, July 1, 2008, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 11, 18, 25, 2008.

## Two juveniles arrested in Willows burglaries

Two juveniles were arrested June 17 in connection with a number of recent residential burglaries in the Willows neighborhood of Menlo Park, police reported.

Several items of stolen property were recovered, said Sgt. Jaime Romero of the Menlo Park Police Department's investigations unit.

Police had deployed additional patrols to the Willows on June 17, and within the first hour of that deployment "an alert citizen reported two suspicious persons in a neighbor's yard," Sgt. Romero said. The two were the juveniles who were arrested.

Six residential burglaries were reported in the Willows neighborhood on June 13 and 14, including two on Laurel Avenue, and one each on Euclid Avenue, Haight Street, Durham Street and Oak Court.

Among the items reported stolen were two laptop computers, an iPod, a camera and jewelry. A credit card stolen from one home already had unauthorized charges made against it by the time the victim reported the theft, police said.

The thieves appeared to gain entry through unlocked or open doors and windows in four of the six burglaries, and in each case, the burglary occurred during the day, police said.

Police advise residents that locking doors and windows is the best protection against burglary.

The department urges the public to immediately report suspicious activity. Those with information about the recent burglaries are asked to call the investigating officer at 330-6300 or the anonymous tip hotline at 330-6395.

## Sharon Heights fireworks will go on

By **Rory Brown**  
Almanac Staff Writer

One resident's attempt to prevent Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club from holding its annual July Fourth fireworks show was denied by the Menlo Park Planning Commission on June 16, meaning the show is likely to go on as planned.

Melanie Austin, who lives near Alameda de las Pulgas, had appealed the city staff's decision to grant a "special events permit" to the country club to put on its 20-minute fireworks show, scheduled to start at 9:15 p.m. on Friday, July 4.

The country club, which has been putting on the fireworks show for five years, is located

at 2900 Sand Hill Road near Interstate 280.

The commission voted 6-0 to deny the appeal at its June 16 meeting. Commissioner John O'Malley did not vote, citing a conflict of interest stemming from his membership in the country club.

Ms. Austin said she filed the appeal because the fireworks cause "extreme noise" that affects nearby residents and dogs, are a potential fire hazard, and require a "frivolous" use of fire district resources.

More than 60 people, most of them country club members and residents of the nearby Sharon Heights neighborhood, wrote letters to the city in advance of the meeting in support of the fireworks show. ■

### DESTAEBLER

continued from page 7

party in Palo Alto. They married in 1967, and moved to a log house in Woodside Highlands in Portola Valley in 1968.

The former summer house, where the DeStaeblers raised sons, features log walls, hand-hewn redwood shakes, and a huge rock fireplace. It also came with numerous maintenance problems, which Dr. DeStaebler took on with gusto.

Peter DeStaebler of New York recalled that his father had a firm philosophy: If you have something that breaks, you should be able to fix it. "Luckily, my father was good at fixing things," he said.

Dr. DeStaebler loved hiking, climbing, and backpacking, often with family. He was an athlete and captain of his high school football team. In Portola Valley, he was a member of the town's Conservation Committee.

"He was a man of integrity," Ms. DeStaebler said. "He was truthful and honest; he treated everybody the same. There was no falseness in him."

In addition to his wife, Marge, Dr. DeStaebler is survived by sons Peter DeStaebler of New York City and Jim DeStaebler of Portland; and a brother, Stephen, of Berkeley.

The family suggests donations to the Peninsula Open Space Trust or the Portola Valley Open Space Fund. ■

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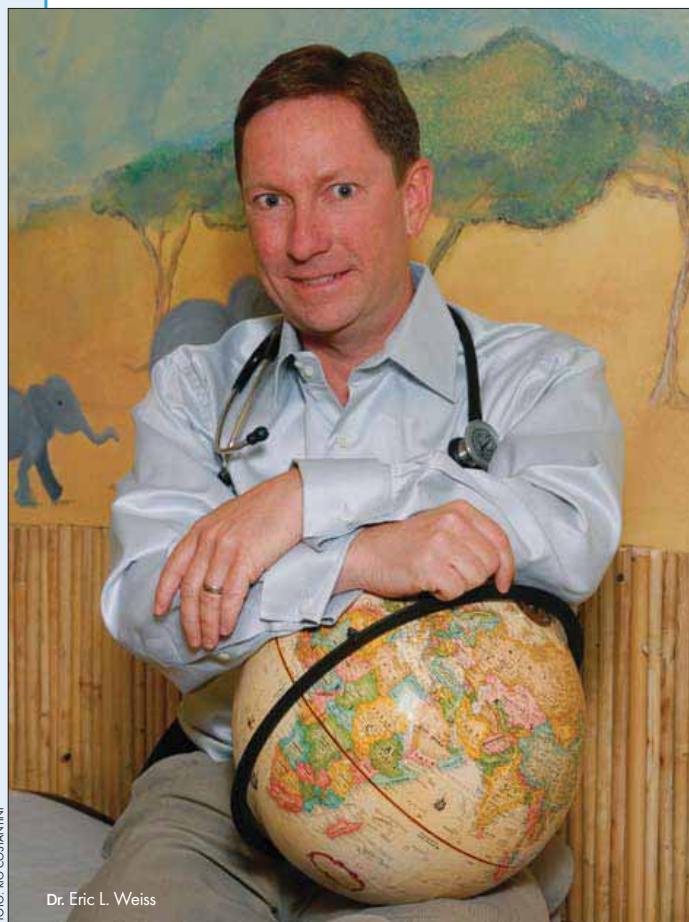
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**CONGRATULATIONS** to The Village Doctor of Woodside for being named one of the "Top 32 Travel Clinics" in the United States by Condé Nast Traveler! The only program recognized in Northern California, The Village Doctor is under the direction of **ERIC L. WEISS, MD, DTM&H** who founded the Stanford Travel Medicine Service. Dr. Weiss boasts a longstanding membership in, and certification by, the International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM) and American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and specializes in both adult and pediatric travel medicine.

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## 2008 Summer Concert Series

June 25	Fred McCarty	Country
July 2	Sun Kings	Beatles Cover
July 9	Mark Russo & Classy Cats	Swing/Big Band
July 16	The Silicon Valley Houserockers	Rock/Soul
July 23	Orquesta D'Soul	Latin/R&B
July 30	Tom Rigney	Cajun/Zydeco
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August 13	Pamela Rose	Jazz/Blues

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## 'Jerry' Cance, manager at American Airlines

### ■ OBITUARY

Services for John Webb "Jerry" Cance Jr. of Portola Valley will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 28, at Christ Church in Portola Valley. Mr. Cance died June 18 at the age of 78.

Mr. Cance was employed by American Airlines for 30 years and managed its offices in several major airports, including San Francisco International. From 1984 to 1989 he served under Chicago Mayor Harold Washington as commissioner in charge of operations for Chicago's O'Hare International and Midway Airports.

Born in Maumee, Ohio, Mr. Cance was a top athlete at Maumee High School and was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in 2003. He earned 10 varsity letters in high school in football, basketball and track, and was the only athlete to captain both the football and basketball team the same year.

He graduated from Colgate University in upstate New York. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1948 and, as a pilot, served in Asia and

in the Korean War. He was a captain and squadron flight commander, and one of the few U.S. pilots awarded Chinese pilot wings for his success in training Chinese pilots in Taiwan, according to his family.

After retiring, he enjoyed spending time on the golf course, say family members.

Mr. Cance is survived by his wife, Norma, of Portola Valley; children Andrea Freeman, Pamela Perez, Bradley Cance and Stephen Cance; brother William Cance; sister Penny Potter; and eight grandchildren.

Donations in Mr. Cance's memory may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 3150 Almaden Expressway, Suite 110, San Jose, CA 95118. ■



John Cance

### ■ POLICE CALLS

*This information is from the Atherton and Menlo Park police departments and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. Under the law, people charged with offenses are considered innocent until convicted.*

#### MENLO PARK

##### Stolen vehicle reports:

■ 2000 black Jaguar XJ8, 1300 block of Hill Ave., June 14.

■ 2000 black Ford Expedition, 1300 block of Henderson Ave., June 15.

**Robbery report:** Pedestrian's wallet stolen, 1300 block of Willow Road, June 15.

##### Commercial burglary report:

■ Unauthorized entry of Belle Haven School, 400 block of Ivy Drive, June 16.

##### Residential burglary reports:

■ Digital camera, video recorder, computer and jewelry box stolen after

garage door kicked in, 400 block of Chester Street, June 16.

##### Grand theft reports:

■ Several spools of copper wire stolen from construction site, first block of Willow Road, June 17. ■ Red-and-black Trek 21-speed bicycle stolen, first block of Coleman Place, June 18.

■ Business checks stolen at Brixlogix Inc., 1400 block of Adams Drive, June 19.

#### PORTOLA VALLEY

**Petty theft report:** White garden umbrella stolen while resident away on vacation, 300 block of Willowbrook Drive, June 11.

#### LADERA

**Vandalism report:** Vehicle egged and windshield smashed, 200 block of Duranzo Way, June 14.

### ■ NOTEBOOK

#### Talk on cleaning up nuclear waste

"Clean up on Isle 9: The Long Lasting Legacy of Nuclear Waste" is the subject for a free public lecture at the U.S. Geological Survey on Thursday, June 26, at 7 p.m. in Building 3 on the campus at 345 Middlefield Road, in Menlo Park.

Hydrologist Dave Stonestrom will discuss where radioactive wastes come from, and how to get rid of them. He will address whether, once buried, nuclear waste stays put, and the risks if it migrates somewhere else. And he will discuss the role of basic research in making decisions.

For information, call 329-5000.

#### 'Master gardeners'

San Mateo County residents interested in learning to become a master gardener and willing to volunteer 75 hours in their community have until June 30 to sign up for classes with the University of California Cooperative Extension.

Classes will be held weekly at the Belmont Library on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., from September through November. The library is at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas in Belmont. The fee is \$175.

For applications and information, go to cesanmateo.ucdavis.edu, and click on the Master Gardener link. Or call 726-9059.

# Cops prepare for new cell-phone driving laws

By Selena Simmons-Duffin

Special to the Almanac

Local law enforcement agencies are gearing up to begin enforcing the "hands-free" cell phone laws that go into effect Tuesday, July 1.

Under these new state laws, anyone making a cell phone call while driving must use a hands-free device or a speaker phone. Drivers under age 18 cannot make any calls, even with a hands-free device, except for calls to medical or civil authorities in an emergency.

This emergency exception to the laws applies to all ages.

Using the speaker-phone feature without a hands-free device is not prohibited by the bill, nor is dialing a number while driving. Police will look for drivers "holding the phone up to the ear," said Atherton Police Chief Bob Brennan.

The chief author of the new laws is state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto.

There is no official warning period for the new laws. Cmdr. Lacey Burt of the Menlo Park

Police Department said that Menlo Park's stance is "July 1 means July 1," and officers will start ticketing drivers that day.

In Atherton, Chief Brennan said the laws will be enforced like other traffic violations: It is at the discretion of individual police officers to issue a verbal warning, a written warning, or a written citation.

He noted that written warnings are recorded so that a second violation always results in a citation. "I don't think we have any big plans to go out on a big cell phone roadblock," Chief Brennan said.

The fine is \$20 for the first offense, and \$50 for subsequent offenses, but these fines may double or triple with penalty assessments and court fees. Violators will not receive a point on their licenses for a conviction.

The laws do not include prohibitions against sending text messages while driving. "I think that texting has really come of age in the last couple of years, and it was left out of the initial bill," Chief Brennan said. "I imagine that the bill will get amended to include texting, because that's more dangerous." ■



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY  
765 Portola Road  
Portola Valley, CA 94028

## PLANNING COMMISSION RECRUITMENT

The Town Council is seeking an individual to serve on the Town's Planning Commission to complete the term of a Planning Commissioner stepping down the end of July 2008. This will be a three-month position. The term will expire in December 2008 and will be available for a 4-year term in January 2009. The Town Council will hold interviews tentatively scheduled for September 10, 2008.

The objectives of the Commission are to continually advise the Town Council regarding the comprehensive planning of the Town and to administer the planning regulations. The duties and functions include review of the General Plan for development within the Town, recommend ordinance and resolutions to the Council as necessary to implement the General Plan, supervise the land use within the Town by conducting necessary public hearings and acting upon applications for: zoning amendments, conditional use permits, variances, subdivisions, site development permits and building permits.

The Planning Commission consists of 5 members appointed by the Town Council. The Commission meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

If you are interested in serving on the Planning Commission, please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council by Friday, August 29, 2008.

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 11, 18, 25, July 23, August 13, 20, 2008.




### HOW TO DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE PROPERLY!

**Household Hazardous Waste** such as paint, chemicals, fluorescent bulbs, automotive fluids, poisons, etc. cannot be put in the trash.

All of these items are accepted at Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Events (no charge for San Mateo County residents). For more information and to register for an event, call 363-4718 or visit [www.smhealth.org/hhw](http://www.smhealth.org/hhw).

Many **electronic products** are also hazardous and cannot be put in the trash. Computer equipment, TVs, stereo equipment, VCRs, phones and answering machines must be given away (if usable) or taken to a Goodwill donation center (<http://locator.goodwill.org/>). If not usable, contact RecycleWorks (below).

**Batteries and cell phones** are now collected from single family homes at curbside with recyclables (must be put in secured plastic bag on top of the mixed paper recycling bin).

Please contact the San Mateo County RecycleWorks Program for donation location information, options for recycling, and proper disposal at 1-888-442-2666 or visit [www.RecycleWorks.org](http://www.RecycleWorks.org).




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The Almanac, established in September, 1965, is delivered each week to residents of Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside and adjacent unincorporated areas of southern San Mateo County. The Almanac is qualified by decree of the Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish public notices of a governmental and legal nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued November 9, 1969.

Voluntary subscriptions are available for delivery to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside at \$30 per year or \$50 for 2 years. Subscriptions by businesses or residents outside the area are \$50 for one year and \$80 for two years.



**WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?**

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, [www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com), and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

**TOWN SQUARE FORUM**

POST your views on the Town Square forum at [www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com)

**EMAIL** your views to: [letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com). Indicate if it is a letter to be published.

**MAIL** or deliver to: Editor at the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

**CALL** the Viewpoint desk at 854-2626, ext. 222.

## Council faces first field test

With local elementary schools bursting at the seams, forward-looking Menlo Park officials know that the city's chronic shortage of playing fields will only get worse in the coming years.

The problem has occupied the Parks and Recreation Commission for years, and last week it approved and sent to the City Council a plan to redesign and renovate Belle Haven's Kelly Field. If the plans hold up, the city could add a full-size, artificial turf soccer field to its inventory, with a rubberized running track around the perimeter. The plan also calls for lights, which would add to the usefulness of the 8.3-acre park and help meet demand for adult-level fields.

But the price tag for renovating Kelly Park isn't small, with current estimates pegging costs at \$4.4 million. City staff says it's very possible that redevelopment funds could be used for the project, which would be a big boost. The less money the city has to draw from its already tight general fund budget, the more likely the project will get funded.

In addition to identifying where the funding will come from, the council should also make sure the city gets good value from the expensive renovations to this field, which is tucked into a corner of Belle Haven behind the Onetta Harris Community Center. Is it a field that will be accepted and heavily used by local soccer leagues? How do they feel about artificial turf, which was rejected for a new field to be built at Encinal School in Atherton? And what about playing under lights late in the evening?

If city officials get solid support from the local soccer community, approval of the field is a no-brainer. Organizations like AYSO and CYSA could help with fundraising, which could get the field off the ground. The leagues might be more than willing to share in the cost of the field if they are assured of adequate playing time.

The last renovation of Kelly Field, in 2001, did not go well, and amounted to a waste of \$1 million. The finished product included a slanted soccer field, a baseball diamond with no pitching mound and a center field fence only 200 feet from home plate, allowing many batters to blast home runs onto the 101 freeway. As a result, the field is not used.

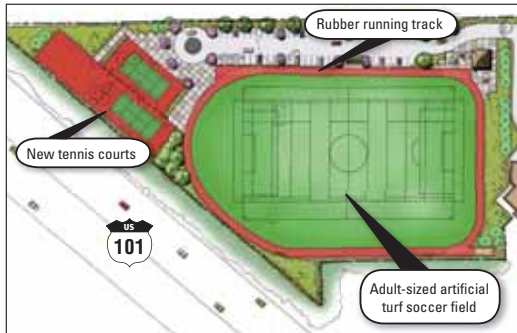
Other efforts to find more space for fields, most notably the last council's push to develop playing fields on the landfill at Bayfront Park, have fallen short. The new Kelly Field design could change all that, if the funds are there to build it.

Two current council members, Rich Cline and Heyward Robinson, recently served on the Parks and Recreation Commission and are very familiar with the city's challenge in finding additional playing fields. They know that it will be difficult to ever find a site for new fields, but realize that before anything can happen, the city must have a plan

to develop fields on the "front" burner.

Back in November, the current council said it would take up the challenge to identify and pay for new playing fields. Kelly Park is the first of several plans that ultimately will be brought before the public. We hope it gets a fair hearing and that the soccer community helps the city rise to the challenge.

**EDITORIAL**  
The opinion of The Almanac



Courtesy Callender Associates

The City Council will consider this plan for Kelly Park in Belle Haven near Terminal Avenue.

**LETTERS**  
Our readers write

**Kudos to Mayor Cohen for forum discussions**

Editor:

Twice during the past month I have witnessed public officials from different jurisdictions come together with experts to engage in a candid discussion about difficult community issues such as homelessness, post-traumatic stress disorder, gang violence, and the childhood obesity epidemic. Was this important dialogue occurring in Sacramento or Washington, D.C.? No, the venue was the Menlo Park City Council Chambers.

I write The Almanac to thank Mayor Andy Cohen for his leadership in organizing and hosting the Healthy Communities speaker series. These discussions shine a needed spotlight on social issues that transcend city and county borders. Thanks to his efforts, nearly 100 people have attended these events to listen,



Atherton Heritage Association

**Our Regional Heritage**

This early 1920s photograph shows a group of young adults relaxing at an unknown location in Atherton. The Atherton Heritage Association would like to know more about this group, and invites anyone with information about the photo to call 688-6540.

See **LETTERS**, next page

# Critical Baylands vote for Redwood City

By Paul "Pete" McCloskey

Few people are alive today who remember after World War II when the Rockefellers wanted to tear down San Bruno Mountain to fill in a good portion of San Francisco Bay.

A few more may remember the indictment of state Sen. Richard Dolwig, who worked to fill in the marshlands around Redwood City, and a few more may remember when Congressman Arthur Younger wanted to attack the U.S. Geological Service scientists who pointed out how the annual spring flooding flushed out San Francisco Bay and was beneficial to the well-being of our community.

A great number of us remember, however, the efforts of relatively few Bay Area citizens that led to the creation of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission. The BCDC, under the leadership of Mel Lane of Sunset Magazine and his executive director, Joe Bodovitz, were able to end the uncontrolled filling of the salt flats and southern baylands.

I had been born and grew up in Southern California when its environment of clean air, open space, surrounding beaches and mountains made it what the San Francisco Bay Area has become today, a wonderful place to live and enjoy.

The saving of the bay 40 years ago and the defeat of the development plan of the Leslie Salt Company and state Lands Commission were due solely to the efforts of ordinary citizens who took on the elected officials and the big developers who were so generous with their campaign contributions.

Today a new threat looms. This time it is the giant Cargill Corp. with its deep pockets and the understandable response of a few politicians, who argue that we need to create more housing along major transportation routes.

To counter that argument, once again a small group of Redwood City citizens has come forward with an initiative that would require a positive vote by Redwood City residents before their city council could approve a plan to develop the salt ponds and former marshes south of Bair Island.

A recent poll showed that 71 percent of Redwood City residents support requiring that two-thirds of the electorate must vote to approve any destruction of existing parks and open space.

In 1982, only a narrow popular vote prevented the city council of Redwood City from developing Bair Island, a special place as a wildlife refuge and potential bastion against the inevitable rise in ocean levels if green house gas emissions are not controlled and the melting of the arctic ice caps continues.

In 1986, Measure A was passed by San Mateo County voters to stop a political effort to develop portions of our coastline and to protect the county's remaining farmlands, forests and beaches.

It's time for the people to speak out again.

The balance between location of housing and the protection of the finest natural environment in America will always be a challenge. A lot has changed in the 40 years since my law partner, Lew Butler, and I prepared the lawsuit to stop Leslie Salt and the Lands Commission from developing Bair Island. My father was still practicing law in Redwood City and he remembered standing with my

grandfather, then the attorney for Leslie's predecessor, the Schilling Salt Co., on Bair Island in 1906, expressing the view that the salt flats, below mean high tide, were the property of the United States government, and held in trust for future generations.

Constant vigilance and public participation is needed to stop elected officials from their traditional response to their largest campaign contributors. San Mateo County residents share the priceless privilege of perhaps the finest weather, open space, wildlife habitat and recreational and educational resources in the United States.

Cargill should be politely told to go elsewhere. Let them build their skyscrapers on dry land along other transportation routes. I hope the citizens of Redwood City will do what their predecessors did and make sure that the Open Space Vote measure is made the law of Redwood City.

**Former Congressman Pete McCloskey practices law in Redwood City. He was the national co-chairman of the first Earth Day in 1970 and a co-author of the Endangered Species Act. More information on the Open Space Vote initiative can be found at [www.RedwoodCityOpenSpace.org](http://www.RedwoodCityOpenSpace.org).**



GUEST OPINION

his efforts to establish a town-wide e-mail system to improve communications with residents. At the City Council meeting this week Mr. Gruber passed out business cards inviting Atherton residents to log onto the town's Web site and put in their e-mail address to receive periodic notices from the town. He also plans to publish the information in the upcoming Athertonian.

While only 48 people have signed up so far, Mr. Gruber is hopeful that in time all Atherton residents will join and be able to receive e-mail notices from the town about current events, meeting dates and other items. Residents will be encouraged to log onto the town's Web site for more detailed information.

So many residents rely on our cell phones and smart phones like BlackBerrys that receiving this information in real time is of great value. It is simple and easy

to do. Just log on to the Atherton Web site, [www.ci.atherton.ca.us](http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us), and enter your e-mail address in the box provided.

This e-mail system is something that I have been encouraging the town to implement for some time now and even wrote a letter to The Almanac suggesting the idea. In a resident survey I recently conducted, more than 50 percent of the respondents indicated that they did not receive adequate information on important issues. This new "push-type" information system should help solve this problem.

**Elizabeth Lewis  
Alejandra Avenue, Atherton**



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## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS Bid Proposals Sought for OAK AVENUE TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT BETWEEN OAK KNOLL LANE AND SAND HILL ROAD

The City of Menlo Park invites qualified contractors to submit sealed bid proposals for the construction of the City's OAK AVENUE TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT BETWEEN OAK KNOLL LANE AND SAND HILL ROAD. Work required as part of this project consists of, in general, installation of new asphalt concrete speed tables, pavement marking, tyre grip crosswalk material, and concrete handicap ramp, all as shown on the plans and described in the specifications. Performance of this work requires a valid California Contractor's License Class A or Class C-12. Project documents and copies of the prevailing rate of wages can be obtained from the Menlo Park Engineering Division, located in the Administration Building at 701 Laurel St. Sealed bid proposals will be received at the Engineering Division office until 2 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, June 25, 2008, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Additional information can be obtained from the City's website: [www.menlopark.org/cip](http://www.menlopark.org/cip)

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## LETTERS

Continued from previous page

learn, and share their vision of a healthy community.

The series continues with a discussion of the relationship between communities, school districts, and local governments in August. In the fall, we will revisit each subject to discuss what more can be done in the future on these issues in our communities. I am proud to have sponsored these events with Mayor Cohen, and I encourage everyone to attend.

**Rose Jacobs Gibson  
San Mateo County  
Board of Supervisors**

## Atherton jumps into the e-mail world

Editor:

Atherton City Manager Jerry Gruber is to be commended for



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**279 Polhemus Avenue, Atherton**  
Newly constructed 6-bedroom, 7.5-bath estate spanning approximately 9,143 sq. ft. of living space  
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**FOR SALE**

**1618 Stanford Avenue, Menlo Park**  
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**FOR SALE**

**2000 Valparaiso Avenue, Menlo Park**  
Updated 3-bedroom, 1-bath home with easy access to downtown amenities  
OFFERED AT \$1,149,000



**FOR SALE**

**2194 Clayton Drive, Menlo Park**  
Charming 4-bedroom, 3-bath garden retreat with separately located work studio  
OFFERED AT \$2,495,000



**FOR SALE**

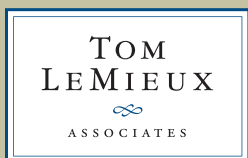
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