

General Motors calls off plans
for Menlo Park auto mall. Page 5

The Almanac

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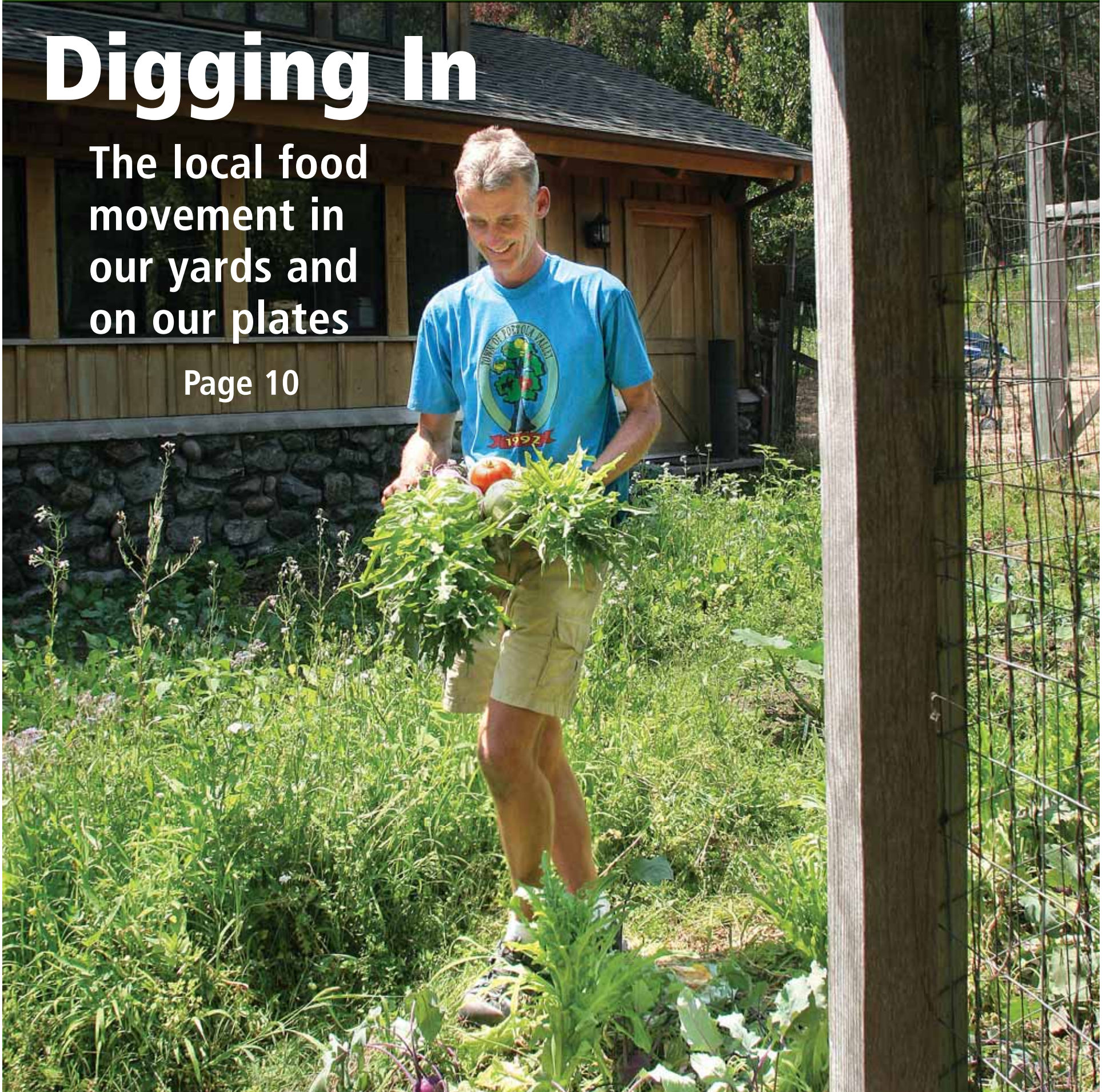
JULY 30, 2008 www.TheAlmanacOnline.com

| VOL. 43 NO. 48

Digging In

The local food
movement in
our yards and
on our plates

Page 10





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ATHERTON – Scheduled for completion July 2008. This luxurious villa boast 6BR/7BA, 2 half BA's, 2 master suites, Lrg Chef's kitchen, wine cellar & tasting rm. Walk-in safe, personal gym and spa, theater w/ candy counter, stage & seating for 15+.

Kristin Cashin \$9,995,000



ATHERTON – Beautiful custom home nestled on gorgeous large lot in sought after W. Atherton neighborhood. 5BR/4.5BA, elegant & spacious living and dining rms, epicurean kitchen w/large breakfast rm; dramatic vaulted ceiling FR.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW – Beautiful Residential flat Land. Potential subdivision of large lots in prime residential neighborhood. Rare opportunity.

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PALO ALTO – Old World Palo Alto Charm with a New Opportunity! Fabulous Community Center Neighborhood! Two Mediterranean Style Cottages, 2BR/1BA each, w/own front, back porch & yards. Detached 3 car garage. Fabulous large Lot Zoned for SFR.

Suzanne Scott \$1,998,000

ATHERTON

Scheduled for completion July 2008. This luxurious villa boast 6BR/7BA, 2 half BA's, 2 master suites.

Kristin Cashin \$9,995,000

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BELMONT

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EAST PALO ALTO

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HALF MOON BAY

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Katherine Clark Price upon request

LA HONDA

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LOS ALTOS HILLS

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MENLO PARK

Charming 3BR/2BA home in N. Fair Oaks versatile flr plan w/new carpet.

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Lincoln Green Complex in prestigious Sharon Heights. A 2BR ground floor unit.

Joe Carcione \$619,000

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Ken Reeves \$599,999

PALO ALTO

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PORTOLA VALLEY

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Don't miss this charming & authentic 3BR/2BA Spanish style home. Hrdwd flrs.

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Matt Shanks \$839,000

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Lily Chow \$799,000

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Vivian Vella \$658,000

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Jami Arami \$1,195,000

SAN JOSE

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Camille Eder \$788,000

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"Storybook" house with 2BR/1BA on a cul de sac. Charming garden and patio.

Regan Cinelli \$725,000

SANTA CLARA

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WOODSIDE

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Gary McKae \$4,987,345

Beautiful lot in central Woodside.

Dana Cappiello \$899,000



PALO ALTO – Location, location, location! Charming 3BR/2BA home in sought after Midtown neighborhood location - courtyard entry with garden views from every room. New Bamboo flooring. New SS kitchen appliances. Storybook like living room in a garden open house.

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REDWOOD CITY – Stunning Mt. Carmel remodel. 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bath home. Family Room, Living Room with lux appliances and dining area. Outdoor patio with fireplace. A true oasis.

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REDWOOD CITY – Perfectly maintained, this 2BR/1BA condo is ready to move into!

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SANTA CLARA – Quiet Cul-de-sac location for this 3 bedroom/2 bath home. With a separate family room and remodeled kitchen with custom tiles. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood!

Wendy Wu \$719,950



SANTA CLARA – Victorian era charmer blocks from Santa Clara University, updated 2BR/2BA home with remodeled kitchen, updated bath and separate studio which includes a kitchen and bath.

Carolyn Mitchell \$650,000

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Inside

This week's news, features and community events.

FIRST SHOT



Charity Horse Show in Atherton

Karl Cook of Woodside rides his horse to victory in the \$10,000 Ryman speed jumping class at the Menlo Charity Horse Show in Atherton last year. This year's event has attracted 700 horses and a waiting list of 300. See story on **Page 14**.

Atherton

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Community

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Destinations

- The pleasures of Patagonia. **Cover, Section 2**

On the cover

Don Weaver of Portola Valley carries freshly picked vegetables from his backyard garden. He's one of many area residents who are moving towards a local approach to food. Photo by Veronica Weber. See story, **Page 10**.

CALLING ON THE ALMANAC

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THE ALMANAC (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Wednesday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-4455. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County, the Almanac is delivered free to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. Voluntary subscriptions for \$30 per year or \$50 per 2 years are welcome from residents of the above circulation area. Subscription rates for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50 per year and \$80 for two years. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Almanac, P.O. Box 7008, Menlo Park, CA 94026-7008. Copyright ©2006 by Embarcadero Publishing Co., All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



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Roberts Tip of the Week

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This summer, as all summers, provides an opportunity to enjoy a cool cheesecake on a hot day. At ROBERTS MARKET, we have all the supplies you'll need to make your very own cheesecake this summer, including fresh fruit for toppings. Our seasonal produce is beautifully displayed in our large produce department. Don't forget fresh cut flowers from our floral department to grace your picnic table this summer.

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Teach your children well

Is there any way to better show appreciation for the fine and noble job of teaching than to offer the chance to line up outside an office supply store in the hopes of getting a grab-bag of freebies?

The first 200 teachers visiting Staples stores on Teacher Appreciation Day, Saturday, Aug. 9, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. will receive raffle prizes and a 512MB flash drive giveaway — “perfect for teachers taking files between the classroom and home,” says a Staples press release. There will also be plenty of enticing ways to unload the estimated \$475 of his or her own money that the average teacher spends on classroom supplies.

The Menlo Park store is located at 700 El Camino Real.

New life for an old portable

The new Town Hall in Portola Valley may benefit the Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula.

The club is considering the town’s standing offer of a free 3,000-square-foot temporary building, which served as the town’s interim Town Hall for the last three years. All they have to do is pay to haul it away from the Town Center site, said Town Administrator Angela Howard. The building could serve as a teen counseling center for the club, Ms. Howard said.

Portola Valley Town Council members said they liked the idea.

“Part of the reason these kids fail in school is because they have no parents riding them,” Mayor Maryann Derwin said.

Tie one on

The next downtown Menlo Park block party is set for Aug. 6, from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

At the last Santa Cruz Avenue bash, held June 25, adults and kids alike roamed the streets sporting old neckties that were given out as prizes by the Goodwill Boutique’s booth.

BART vs. Dumbarton Rail debate gets testy

■ Advisory panel opposes plan to lend \$91 million of Dumbarton Rail money to BART.

By **Rory Brown**
Almanac Staff Writer

The dust has settled, and round one in a fight for scarce Bay Area transit dollars goes to Dumbarton Rail supporters.

The Dumbarton Rail Policy Advisory Committee, made up of public officials from communities and agencies that would be served by commuter train service across a restored Dumbarton rail bridge, voted 9-3 on July 22 to denounce a proposal to take \$91 million from the project’s budget and loan it to BART to extend service to Warm Springs. (Warm Springs is in southern Fremont,

just north of the Santa Clara County border.)

The final decision on the proposed \$91 million transfer is up to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), which is expected to vote on the issue in September.

At the July 22 meeting, committee members’ emotions ran high and speeches ran long, as the \$91 million question pitted devout BART supporters against others who said that taking funds from Dumbarton Rail — even on a temporary basis — would delay, and effectively kill, efforts to get the estimated \$600 million cross-Bay train built.

As proposed, six trains a day would take commuters from the

East Bay to the Peninsula via a new bridge before connecting to the Dumbarton line through East Palo Alto and Menlo Park. The trains would hit the Caltrain tracks in Redwood City, where three would head north toward San Francisco, and three would head south toward San Jose. Trains would return to the East Bay in the evening. The project was originally slated to be built by 2012, but that timeline is looking less likely.

“If we lose the \$91 million, this project is going to be dead, in my opinion,” said committee member Sue Lempert, who also represents the cities of San Mateo County on the MTC.

The \$91 million is available by means of Regional Measure 2 (RM-2), the 2004 ballot measure that raised tolls on seven Bay Area bridges to improve traffic

flow across the Bay. Ms. Lempert, other committee members, and 10 of the 12 public speakers at the meeting said that funds originally intended to improve cross-Bay travel should remain dedicated to cross-Bay projects.

“I’m not comfortable with the BART-to-Warm Springs proposal,” said committee member and Menlo Park Councilman Heyward Robinson, who labeled BART a “black hole” that “sucks up” transit dollars. “In general, BART is the most expensive [form of transit] as far as dollars per passenger mile.”

Others to express reservations about lending Dumbarton Rail funds to BART included Fran Dehn, president of the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce; Linda Craig, a spokesperson for the League of

Continued on page 8



Photo by Dave Boyce/The Almanac

Life is precarious for young sycamores planted near parking areas in the West Menlo Park commercial district along two blocks of the Alameda de las Pulgas.

County stuck on how to protect trees

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

Few would use the term “mean street” to describe the sunny business district on the Alameda de las Pulgas in West Menlo Park, but for some of the sycamore trees struggling to have a go at life there, it has been downright nasty.

Forty young sycamores were planted in late 2004 along the sidewalks between Avy and Ashton avenues. Some three years later, 26 trees are beginning to shade the sidewalks along both sides of the street. Interspersed among them,

always near parking areas, are 14 barren squares of sandy soil, testaments to the bumpers of vehicles that have repeatedly claimed that territory for their own.

The county Public Works Department has tried to protect the most vulnerable trees, first with cast iron cages, then with 3-inch diameter candy-striped steel bollards embedded in the soil, but that has not stopped the carnage. What’s to become of those 14 blank squares of ground?

“We remain committed to the goal of having trees along that street, but for the life of us, we

See **STREETScape**, page 8

GM calls off plans for auto mall

By **Rory Brown**
Almanac Staff Writer

General Motors’ plans to build a Menlo Park auto mall are no more.

As part of a nationwide effort to cut costs amidst slumping auto sales, the automaker is abandoning plans to build an auto mall on Bayfront Expressway at Willow Road, said David Johnson, the city’s business development manager.

“GM still wants to establish their brands in Menlo Park,” Mr. Johnson said. “How they’re going to accomplish that remains to be seen.”

In October 2006, GM came forward with its proposal to buy 22 acres of Tyco Electronics’ campus and convert the site into an auto mall. The automaker bought the site for upwards of \$20 million from Tyco last year.

The automaker originally proposed that 8.5 acres of the site would be devoted to GM dealerships, and the remaining 13.5 acres would be filled by other dealerships or different retail uses.

Now it will be up to GM and the city to find a new party to purchase and develop the property, Mr. Johnson said.

“GM did do a substantial amount of work to get the property ready for development,” Mr. Johnson said,

See **AUTO MALL**, page 8

Tour de Menlo hits road Aug. 16 Lewis, Goodman aim for council seats

Area cyclists are invited to participate in the fifth annual Tour de Menlo, a scenic, fully supported and redesigned bike ride, on Saturday, Aug. 16, over a 65-mile metric century route that stretches from Menlo Park north to the Belmont hills and south to Montebello Ridge in Cupertino. A 35-mile route is also available for those taking a more direct route.

The ride begins at Menlo-Atherton High School at 8 a.m. and will include a lunch catered by Draeger's on the grounds of the historic Picchetti Open Space Preserve and Winery. There will be two rest stops along the way and a drawing for numerous gift certificates at the finish, along with dessert.

The ride is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Menlo Park and The Almanac. All proceeds will be used to fund Rotary tutoring projects and high school scholarships. Prizes in the drawing include gift certificates from Menlo Velo bicycle shop, Beltramo's Wines and Spirits, Maui Jim sunglasses and others.

This year's 65-mile route begins at M-A and then heads

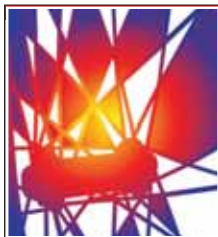
north over Edgewood Road to Highway 92, skirts the Crystal Springs Reservoir and follows Polhemus Road to the Bike Bridge trail that crosses Interstate 280.

The route then heads south through Woodside, around Portola and Alpine roads, and then south to Los Altos. Riders will connect with Foothill Boulevard at Loyola Corners and head south again to the Stevens Creek Reservoir, before turning up to the Picchetti Preserve on Montebello Road for lunch.

All riders will return on Foothill, crossing the Stanford campus at Page Mill Road, and continue back to Menlo-Atherton.

The 35-mile course begins at M-A, turns south on Alameda de las Pulgas at Valparaiso Avenue and continues south to the open space preserve, and lunch, before returning to M-A.

For more information and to sign up, go to www.tourdemeno.com.



TOUR de MENLO 2008

By Andrea Gemmet

Almanac Staff Writer

Elizabeth Lewis and Sam Goodman have set their sights on Atherton City Council seats. Both told The Almanac that they plan to file candidate nomination papers and run for the two, four-year terms in the Nov. 4 election.

The incumbents, Kathy McKieithen and Jim Janz, have not yet declared whether they will run for re-election.

Ms. Lewis is a member of the town's general plan committee who owns a commercial property management and development company with her husband. She ran unsuccessfully in the special June election to fill the remainder of Alan Carlson's term.

ATHERTON

"I feel I have a strong supporter base, and I feel I have a lot to offer the council," Ms. Lewis said. "I feel I was misrepresented in the previous election, and I hope to set the record straight."

Mr. Goodman, who is retired, is a member of the Atherton Audit Committee. He's been a staunch defender of ex-finance director John Johns and critical of how the council and staff handled Mr. Johns' firing.

"I'm a little too old to again serve my country, but I'm not too old to serve my community," Mr. Goodman said. "I'm aware that there's been poor judgment displayed by much of the town

administration over the course of the last couple of years. It almost seems like a lack of common sense or a lack of business judgment, as opposed to political judgment, and as result the town has encumbered itself with a tremendous amount of legal expense."

Also running for election is Richard Moore, the former Atherton city manager and police chief.

Two other people have taken out, but not filed, candidate papers. Atherton officials said the town will not disclose the names of prospective candidates until they file papers — a departure from the practice of other local government agencies and a change in the town's own policy. ■

Atherton attorney fees on urns case top \$135,000

Atherton officials revealed that the town spent \$135,474 on attorney's fees to defend itself from a lawsuit filed by residents Randy and Lisa Lamb over the historic artifacts ordinance.

The Lambs recently settled the lawsuit, in which they won permission to move a pair of antique urns from the Lindenwood neighborhood to their new home on

Park Lane in Atherton.

In response to a California Public Records Act request by The Almanac, the town released an accounting that shows that a total of \$104,062 was paid to Walnut Creek-based law firm Morgan Miller Blair for the Lambs' lawsuit between June 2007 and July 2008. Atherton paid an additional \$31,412 to City Attorney Marc

Hynes' law firm, Atkinson Farasyn, between December 2006 and July 2008.

Mr. and Ms. Lamb said they are receiving a total of \$17,500 from the town toward their own legal costs, which are substantially higher than that. Additionally, the settlement calls for Atherton to contribute \$10,000 toward the

See FEES, page 7

Downtown Block Party

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Supes plan panel to investigate misconduct by elected officials

By Marion Softky
Almanac Staff Writer

Spurred by renewed attention to a visit by Sheriff Greg Munks to a Las Vegas brothel more than a year ago, San Mateo County supervisors appear ready to authorize a new panel to investigate future misconduct by county elected officials.

At their July 22 meeting, the supervisors weighed their options when other elected officials are suspected of serious misconduct. They asked County Counsel Michael Murphy to prepare an ordinance creating an independent Citizens Review Panel that could investigate allegations and report back to the board with recommendations for action.

"We're trying to avoid a witch hunt," said Supervisor Jerry Hill. He and Board President Adrienne Tissier suggested authorizing creation of such a panel on an "as needed basis." It would not be a permanent panel.

"Otherwise it would be viewed as political," Supervisor Tissier said. "We want to make sure we have tools in our tool box. The board will make the final decision."

The board agreed to act on the proposed ordinance at its next meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 5, start-

ing at 9 a.m. at 400 County Center (corner of Hamilton and Bradford streets) in Redwood City.

Under present law, the board has no authority to discipline or remove another elected official, such as the sheriff, or treasurer/tax collector, or assessor, or coroner, Mr. Murphy reported in a long analysis of options.

An elected official can be removed only by three methods, Mr. Murphy stated: a recall vote of the electorate; a conviction for specified crimes; or an accusation by a civil grand jury of "willful or corrupt misconduct in office."

Sheriff Munks, whose detention in a raid on a Las Vegas brothel in April 2007 triggered the issue, will likely not be affected by the proposed ordinance. Neither he nor Undersheriff Carlos Bolanos, who was with him at the time, was arrested.

Mr. Murphy said the intent of the ordinance was to look forward to the future, not to go back.

Supervisor Hill agreed, "We're looking at this prospectively, not retroactively," he said.

Review panel

As proposed by Supervisors Hill and Tissier, the Citizen Review Panel would be made up of five members, although it could be

three or seven. Members would be government professionals, such as retired judges, former county or city administrators, grand jury forepersons, or district attorneys. To perform its investigations, the panel would have powers to subpoena witnesses and obtain documents.

The panel would make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, which could then take final actions. Recommendations could include such actions as censure or a vote of "no confidence." The case could be referred to a law enforcement agency for prosecution, or to a civil grand jury to determine if the official should be removed from office.

The other supervisors seemed to support creation of the proposed panel, with some reservations. "It will be good to have a process in place," said Supervisor Mark Church.

However, Mr. Church asked for a more detailed listing of what constitutes "serious misconduct" by an elected official. He suggested the list should include things such as abuse of power, misappropriation of funds, or moral turpitude, but not insubordination.

We need something for the county counsel, so we know what we're investigating," he said. ■

Len Materman to head creek agency

Len Materman, an environmental-policy specialist, has been named the new executive director of the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

His primary initial challenge will be to break a logjam in federal, state or local funding that has held back progress on a long-term flood-control and watershed-management program for the creek and its upstream tributaries.

A San Carlos resident, Mr. Materman will start his job in early August, and will be the JPA's second executive director. He replaces Cynthia D'Agosta, who joined the JPA in 2000 and who resigned in mid-March to become director of the environmental group, Committee for Green Foothills, as of May 1.

Mr. Materman currently is a program adviser for the Stanford branch of the Center of Ecotourism and Sustainable Development (CESD), a bi-coastal nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C.

His base annual salary will be \$105,000.

—Thea Lamkin, Palo Alto Weekly

■ BRIEFS

New law on 911 calls

Calling 911 in an emergency has been all but impossible for people who make phone calls over the Internet and those whose disabilities require them to use text-based phone systems.

This problem has a better chance of being resolved now that the president has approved the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008, a law co-sponsored by U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Menlo Park.

Ms. Eshoo, who co-chairs the Enhanced 9-1-1 Caucus in Congress, said that modernizing 911 call centers has been a top priority. "As we continue innovating in the field of phone technology, emergency call centers must keep up," she said in a statement.

New tree, solar law

Homeowners with trees on their property can rest a little easier.

A new law, initiated by state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, and recently approved by the governor, protects tree owners

from criminal prosecution based on complaints by neighbors who claim the trees are casting shadows on their solar panels.

"It just seems a little heavy handed to call in the district attorney over a neighbor-to-neighbor dispute," Mr. Simitian said in a statement.

The law exempts trees planted before the solar panels were installed from the 1978 Solar Shade Control Act. Disputes will be handled in civil court, but the law also provides means for neighbors to notify each other of their plans and for cities and towns to adopt related ordinances, Mr. Simitian said.

FEES

continued from page 6

creation of a nonprofit preservation foundation for the town's historic objects.

The town is in the process of redrafting its historic artifacts ordinance, which is meant to preserve objects such as walls, gates, benches and urns that date back to the era of great estates in Atherton, particularly in the Lindenwood neighborhood.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 11, 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

Use Permit and Architectural Control/Samuel Sinnott/761 El Camino Real: Request for a use permit and architectural control for a 135-square-foot addition to the rear of an existing commercial building in the C-4 (Applicable to El Camino Real) zoning district.

Use Permit Revision/David W. Terpening/1076 Santa Cruz Ave: Request for a revision to a use permit granted by the Planning Commission on July 14, 2008 to construct a new two-story, single-family residence on a substandard lot with regard to lot width in the R-E (Residential Estate) zoning district. The revision includes modifications to the building footprint and FAL (Floor Area Limit), which have been made in response to the Planning Commission denial of a request for a variance to encroach into the right side daylight plane.

PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS - None

STUDY MEETING ITEMS

Study Session/John Conway/1200 El Camino Real: Request for a study session for the expansion of an existing snack shop associated with a gas station located in the C-4 (General Commercial, Applicable to El Camino Real). The applicant proposes to convert either a portion or all of the existing automotive service bays into additional snack shop area, which includes the request for the sale of beer and wine along with other goods, including but not limited to food, non-alcoholic beverages, health and beauty products, tobacco products and automotive-related products.

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, August 11 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: July 24, 2008 Deanna Chow, Senior Planner
PUBLISHED: July 30, 2008 Menlo Park Planning Commission

Visit our Web site for Planning Commission public hearing, agenda, and staff report information: www.menlopark.org

Published in THE ALMANAC on July 30, 2008.

BART vs. Dumbarton Rail: Funding debate gets testy

continued from page 5

Women Voters of South San Mateo County; and Alex Kobayashi, a spokesperson for state Assemblyman Ira Ruskin, D-Redwood City.

BART supporters

The strong opposition to the \$91 million transfer didn't sit well with the committee's BART supporters.

"I don't see anything wrong with this exchange of funding," said BART director and committee member Tom Blalock. He noted that extending BART service to Warm Springs is a key step toward the bigger goal of connecting the system to San Jose.

BART supporters stressed that Dumbarton Rail's ballooning cost (from \$300 million to \$600 million in recent years), wavering ridership projections, and need for additional right of way from the Union Pacific Railroad, make it a longer-term project. They said plans to extend BART to Warm Springs are set, but the project needs more funds.

"Nobody's saying that Dumbarton Rail isn't important, but Dumbarton Rail should wait its turn," said Alameda County Supervisor and committee mem-

ber Scott Haggerty, who was visibly irked by Mr. Robinson's description of BART as a black hole. Mr. Haggerty, who is also an MTC board member, said that by flat-out rejecting transferring the funds, the committee showed an unwillingness to negotiate, and may end up losing the money with no concessions.

"This motion will go nowhere," he said of the committee's vote.

Fighting for dollars

Transit agencies and politicians often push the need to address transit issues regionally, but Margaret Okuzumi, executive director of the Palo Alto-based nonprofit Bay Rail Alliance, said that when limited transit dollars are up for grabs, officials tend to push "pet projects" rather than think on a regional level.

"There's a huge funding shortfall for transportation overall, including public transit projects," Ms. Okuzumi said. "There's never been a good regional decision-making process by which projects are vetted, so it all gets very political. ... MTC is made up of these local representatives, and they're not too eager to support someone else's project, since they all have to protect their own projects." ■

any development on the site provides maximum benefit to the local economy," said City Manager Glen Rojas in a city-issued news release.

The City Council voted unanimously in 2006 to approve a tax-sharing agreement that split sales-tax revenues — between the city and GM — from GM auto sales at the site, but city officials said the project still didn't make economic sense for the automaker.

"Based on ongoing discussions with GM and the recent impacts of the economy on the auto industry, this outcome is not wholly unexpected," Mr. Rojas said.

GM officials were not prepared to comment on this story by The Almanac's Monday press deadline. ■

AUTO MALL

continued from page 5

noting the automaker demolished buildings, removed a power substation, and cleaned up contaminated groundwater and soil at the site. "We're encouraged by the interest we know we'll have on the property."

Mr. Johnson said potential uses for the property could revolve around a Dumbarton Rail station proposed near the site, but he noted that housing is prohibited due to environmental concerns over previous soil and groundwater contamination on the property.

"Whether the property is to be developed as a regional or local serving enterprise, the city is committed to working with GM to ensure that

Author David Maraniss at Kepler's

Author David Maraniss will discuss and sign his new book, "Rome 1960: The Olympics That Changed the World," at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, at Kepler's bookstore, 1010 El Camino Real in Menlo Park. For information, call Kepler's at 324-4321 or go to www.keplers.com.

KKR goes public

The buyout firm, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., which has its West Coast headquarters on

BRIEFS

Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park, plans to sell shares in an initial public offering, the Wall Street Journal reported Monday.

KKR is selling the shares in part to take over its European affiliate, KKR Private Equity Investors, the newspaper said. KKR is offering shareholders in its European affiliate shares in KKR in exchange for shares in the affiliate, the Journal reported.

Tesla Motors' new showroom at 300 El Camino Real fills the space previously occupied by Anderson Chevrolet.

Photo by Selena Simmons-Duffin/
The Almanac



Tesla Motors opens Menlo Park showroom

By Rory Brown

Almanac Staff Writer

For the first time in a year, people can buy a new car at an auto dealership on El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

Granted, it's a \$109,000 car with a year-long waiting list.

Amidst a flourish of media coverage, Tesla Motors opened its new Menlo Park showroom and service center on July 22, giving the public a chance to get a close look at the trendy all-electric Tesla Roadster sports car.

The showroom, championed by Tesla as the new sales hub for Northern California, is located at 300 El Camino Real, at the site of the former Anderson Chevrolet dealership.

Some 1,200 people are already on a waiting list to buy the Roadster, and now that sales operations have moved to Menlo Park, the city will net sales-tax revenue for each new Roadster purchased at the new location.

David Johnson, the city's business development manager, said the city will collect about \$1,000 in sales-tax revenues for each \$109,000 Roadster sold through the site. He said Tesla

will help raise the city's business profile, especially in the area of "green" technology.

"Tesla is such a high-profile name," Mr. Johnson said. "Anything we plan to do to attract other ... green or clean-tech businesses, this will help. Tesla really enhances our brand in those categories."

The property is owned by Stanford, and Tesla is committed to a five-year lease. Tom O'Leary, the showroom's general manager, said Tesla doesn't have long-term plans for the Menlo Park site once the lease expires, but he noted that the showroom could help city-led efforts to revamp properties along El Camino Real.

"Menlo Park has been extremely helpful, and Stanford has been extremely helpful," Mr. O'Leary said. "We're happy to be the anchor tenant for a new El Camino Real." He said Tesla is currently manufacturing about four cars per week, and within six months, will be producing 100 cars each month.

The city has been without an auto dealership since all four dealerships closed over a two-and-a-half-year period. The last dealership closed in June 2007. ■

STREETSCAPE

continued from page 5

cannot figure out the challenges that were there from the beginning," said San Mateo County Supervisor Rich Gordon in an interview. "How are we going to keep those trees alive?"

Mr. Gordon said he toured the area recently with the county Director of Public Works Jim Porter. The situation has conflicts aplenty, Mr. Gordon said, including:

■ Neighborhood homes and businesses have paid into a fund to maintain the trees, but total revenues of roughly \$48,000 have not kept up with expenses of about \$66,000.

■ Bollards could be anchored in concrete rather than dirt, but such sturdy new obstacles near existing parking could leave the county vulnerable to lawsuits.

■ Raised curbs where the sidewalk meets the parking lot could protect the trees and avoid damage to cars, but spark resistance from businesses over restricted

vehicle maneuverability and private property rights.

■ Narrowing traffic lanes further to give the trees more room could further irritate commuters as well as neighbors already upset over an increase in cut-through traffic.

"We're trying to balance conflicting needs," Mr. Gordon said. "We are looking at ways to ratchet up protection for the trees. Nothing we've tried so far has worked."

Task force disappointed

The plan had been to beautify the area, in part by adding sidewalks and planting trees. A community task force consulted with county Public Works to come up with a design.

"The Public Works Department was less than receptive to the input from the task force in the final design stages of the project," said Leslie Wambach, a spokesperson for the task force. "What was built out there was what was *inspired* by the Alameda streetscape project. It was completely reworked."

The sticking points, she said, were seemingly small matters such as how wide to make the sidewalks or the street. "I fought really hard on the design details. If you get the details wrong, it can be the difference between success and failure," she said.

Drivers would not have run over trees had they encountered raised curbs or bollards that separated the public and private right of way, she said.

Raised curbs are among the alternatives now under consideration, Mr. Gordon said.

Bill Kirsch, a member of the community and the task force, acknowledged some give-and-take in negotiations with Public Works, but added that the final design, as implemented by the county, missed "the opportunity that we had to make this a really nice, pedestrian-serving commercial zone."

"It's very difficult to get them to take us seriously and do things to help this small community," he added. "They have bigger fish to fry." ■

Grand Jury: Council should leave P.I. work to city manager

By Andrea Gemmet

Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton City Council members should stop playing private eye and leave personnel investigations in the hands of the city manager, says the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury.

The report, issued this month, says there is evidence that “at least one council member undertook independent investigative activities” into the conduct of the town’s finance director, John Johns. Mr. Johns was fired in October following a private attorney’s investigation into complaints against him by members of town staff.

“Allowing a member of the council to initiate an investi-

gation and to publicize those actions undermines the public’s perception of the integrity or, perhaps, competence of the office of the town manager,” the report says, adding that such behavior is contrary to the intent of the town’s municipal code. “The council as a whole should discourage members from acting as independent investigators, and encourage all members to work through the city manager.”

The grand jury report does not name anyone, although council members Charles Marsala and Kathy McKeithen both have been active in the turmoil surrounding Mr. Johns.

Mr. Marsala, who has a large dossier of e-mails and other documents on the former town

ATHERTON

finance director that he acquired through California Public Records Act requests, said he couldn’t be certain whether the grand jury report was referring to him. He told The Almanac that he always worked through the city manager when seeking information about Mr. Johns.

Ms. McKeithen is out of town and could not be reached for comment.

Mr. Marsala said that when he asked for information about suspected overcharges made by the town’s building department, Mr. Johns stonewalled for two months.

“Finally, I had to do Freedom of

Information requests to get the report,” he said.

This month’s grand jury report is the latest in a series of reports critical of Atherton’s town government over the past two years. Last July, a report criticized then-city manager Jim Robinson for a lack of supervision; not keeping council members informed of significant matters; and failing to intervene in serious employee misconduct.

The latest interim report, released in April, took council members to task for making “strident public statements” that exacerbated the town’s problems stemming from a controversial series of audit reports and personnel investigations.

“When the grand jury attacked the city manager in its previous report, I made public comments supporting (Mr. Robinson), and I

also made public comments supporting (interim city manager) Wende Protzman,” Mr. Marsala said. “Ms. Protzman made the right decision to fire Mr. Johns and I publicly supported that decision with facts while she was being criticized by members of the Audit Committee.”

The current city manager, Jerry Gruber, said he feels he has the council’s support in how he’s running the town’s affairs.

The civil grand jury is a watchdog group that investigates city and county governments, issues reports and makes recommendations.

Civil grand juries work in secret — anyone who has been interviewed by a grand jury is not allowed to discuss it, and the reports are the only publicly available information that results from their investigations. ■

Atherton clerk won’t release names of those who take out election papers

By Andrea Gemmet

Almanac Staff Writer

Privacy is hard to maintain for City Council candidates, who must disclose everything from their spouses’ employers to how much they spend on stamps for campaign mailers.

In Atherton, unlike other local towns, prospective candidates can stay out of the public eye a little longer — even after they request candidacy papers from the town.

Atherton’s previous city clerk, Sharon Barker, provided the names and phone numbers of prospective candidates when they took out papers, but that changed under acting City Clerk Kathi Hamilton.

Ms. Hamilton, who made the policy change, said that potential candidates deserve privacy while they weigh the implications of

a run for public office, and that she makes their information public once they have officially filed their papers. The elections and government code are silent on the issue of confidentiality — “There’s no letter of the law to follow,” she said.

City Manager Jerry Gruber said he supports Ms. Hamilton in what amounts to an administrative decision she made as an elections officer.

Attorney Jim Ewert, an authority on public records law who serves as the legal counsel to the California Newspaper Publishers Association, said he is surprised by Atherton’s refusal to provide names of people who have taken out papers. He said he hasn’t known any other jurisdiction to take such a stance.

City Attorney Marc Hynes told The Almanac that the interest in protecting the privacy of the person considering running

for office outweighs the public’s right to know.

Mr. Ewert called that an “odd application” of the balancing test provision in the law, one normally used to protect applicants for city jobs, for example, so as not to compromise their current employment. The fact that Atherton used to disclose prospective candidates’ names weakens the town’s argument, because there’s no reason for anyone to have an expectation of privacy, he said.

There’s a good reason to make the names of potential candidates available sooner, rather than later, he said.

“The public can begin to engage in the political process themselves if they know who is contemplating running,” by getting to know prospective candidates, offering support or encouraging others to run for office, Mr. Ewert said. ■

Las Lomas School District offices get ready to open

School offices at Las Lomas and La Entrada schools in the Las Lomas School District will reopen Monday, Aug. 4. Hours at both sites will be 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Classes begin Monday, Aug. 25, at both schools.

Parents who wish to register their children in grades K-8 for the 2008-2009 school year before Aug. 4 may contact the superintendent’s office at 854-2880.

Students must meet immunization requirements. Students entering seventh grade must have the required three-dose series of hepatitis B vaccine.

La Entrada class lists for students in grades 4-8 will be post-

BRIEFS

ed at 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, on the doors to Jensen Hall, 2200 Sharon Road in Menlo Park. Las Lomas class lists for grades K-3 will be posted at the same time and date on the hallway doors to the school office, 299 Alameda de las Pulgas in Atherton.

Students and parents may meet their teachers on Friday, Aug. 22, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at La Entrada and from 11 a.m. to noon at Las Lomas.

Mad science

The Friends of the Portola Valley Library is sponsoring a Mad

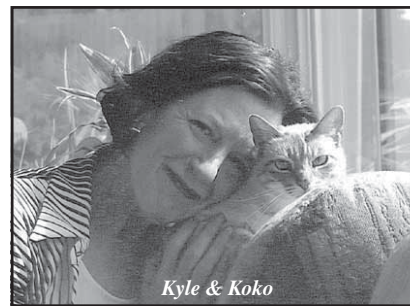
Science program with a “special fire and ice show,” at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, July 31, at the Historic Schoolhouse, 765 Portola Road in Portola Valley. The program is best suited for ages 5 and up. For information, call the library at 851-0560.

All shook up

Nathaniel Rothrock of Portola Valley plays Chad, a rebel in blue suede shoes, in the Peninsula Youth Theatre’s production of “All Shook Up.” The show, featuring the songs of Elvis Presley, plays Aug. 2-10 at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts. For information, call 903-6000.

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Digging In

The local food movement in our yards and on our plates

By Selena Simmons-Duffin
Special to the Almanac
Photos by Veronica Weber

Sarah Machado climbs into the back of her truck at the Menlo Park Farmers' Market and emerges with four small pots of chives for a waiting customer. It's a sunny Sunday morning, and her stand has a steady flow of customers, scoping out the lemon cucumber, heirloom tomato, and mammoth basil seedlings. She's been coming to the market for over 10 years, selling seedlings she grows at her company, Upstarts Organic Seedlings in Santa Cruz.

This year, her sales are up. She says, "It's been a really good year for vegetables."

Throughout the market, that's the refrain: Vendors say their stalls are busier than ever. The local market focus on fair prices and a loyal customer base has been a huge advantage as the prices of gas, vegetable oil, and fertilizer soar, and grocery stores pass those rising prices on to the consumer. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates average fruit and vegetable prices will rise up to 5.5 percentage points from last year.

Ms. Machado has seen the economy dip and rebound over the years, but "this is really different than I've ever seen."

That's because this time, it's not just the rising prices — safety is another concern. An ongoing salmonella investigation has targeted tomatoes, and now jalapeno peppers. Last year it was spinach. Buying produce locally keeps people in the loop about who grows the food, what's gone into it, and how it's processed. That can allay fears about food safety these salmonella scares have aroused.

At the same time, books such as Michael Pollan's "The Omnivore's Dilemma" and Barbara Kingsolver's "Animal, Vegetable, Miracle" have caught the American public's imagination. The idea of eating local food has caught on so much that the Oxford English Dictionary's word of the year for 2007 was "locavore": someone who tries to eat only food grown locally.

All of these factors have led to a surge of interest in local food nationwide. The evidence in the local community is everywhere.

The San Mateo County Farm Bureau is unveiling a new logo at the county fair to promote local produce. A few years ago the bureau spearheaded a program called "Fresh as it Gets" to recognize local restaurants that use local food. Even Safeway is promoting the local angle of the produce it carries.

Jesse Cool, a local organic food advocate and Menlo Park restaurateur, says her business has doubled

from last year. She also reports her customers are beginning to ask more educated questions about the food she serves.

Beyond buying local food, customers such as those at Ms. Machado's station are deciding to grow their own. Roger Reynolds Nursery in Menlo Park and the Ladera Garden Center both report an increase in interest in gardening "edibles" — vegetables, herbs and fruit.

Common Ground, a nonprofit that promotes and teaches home gardening of edibles, says it can't keep up with the demand. Center Director Patricia Becker says that after 36 years in Palo Alto, "This is the first year that we've ever had to turn people down."

The people starting up edible gardens run the gamut of local residents: "We get the wealthiest of the wealthy (their gardeners come in here and spend oodles of money), and we get people who have a little garden plot who just started behind the Palo Alto library, and we also get people who want to do container gardening in their apartments in Menlo Park," she says. "It's really happening around here."

A nearby Grove

In at least one Atherton backyard, the local food movement has truly taken root.

When Nancy Grove and her husband Bill moved from Palo Alto to her childhood home a few years ago, the change inspired her to a new level of commitment to gardening. For her, the change was natural — she comes from farming stock, and she remembers canning peaches in the family's Atherton orchard when she was growing up.

After the move in 2004, she began to take classes at Common Ground and marveled at the elegance of its holistic organic system. "They did such a great job of saying, 'Here's the big picture. If you want to start small, here's the little piece of it you can start doing, and then you can expand it and expand it.'"

As her knowledge and enthu-

siasm grew, she wanted to get certification as a Master Gardener, which is a nationwide program that trains volunteers in each county to implement recommendations based on agricultural studies done at local universities — in California, the UC system. But the move across the creek made her a San Mateo County resident, and the county had no Master Gardener chapter.

So in 2005 Ms. Grove and six others trained in Santa Clara County, and then founded the San Mateo County chapter of Master Gardeners. The 52 active members do community outreach and service work in the area, and train interested volunteers. Ms. Grove says they try to train everyone who's interested: "Despite the name, you don't really have to be like a black-belt gardener."

While helping to found the chapter, Ms. Grove continued to expand her own garden — composting on site, experimenting

with planting times and water timers, and continually expanding the range of what she grows. "Trying to be able to come full circle and harvest your seed and retain it so it stays really fertile and can grow again the next year is something I'm experimenting with now." Their garden takes up less than half an acre of their plot in Atherton. She grows the food, and her husband does the cooking.

She estimates that she grows an astounding 80 percent of all the fruits and vegetables that she and her husband eat.

Tight times

Of course, not everyone can be that devoted to growing his or her own food. Gardening is time-intensive, strenuous and, especially at first, not cheap.

"I don't think growing your own food is about cost yet," says Ms. Cool. "In a way yes, you're free labor so it's going to be less expen-



Don Weaver kneels in a newly prepared soil bed at his Portola Valley home to gently transfer lettuce seedlings into t



Fresh out of the ground, this potato gets a thorough inspection by Nancy Grove as she makes the rounds in her Atherton garden.

sive. But if you factor in being fair to anyone who's growing your food, then probably not.



the ground.



Don Weaver reaches for peaches in a tree in his Portola Valley backyard.



Busy people who want local food find markets such as Sigona's at Stanford Shopping Center, shown here, a convenient option. Signs throughout the market make it easy to keep track of where the produce was grown.

“Once you throw some bean seeds into the ground and you realize what it takes — not only the cost, but how much human energy to grow it and thin it and harvest — you are shocked at how cheap our food is,” she explains.

But even if the economic benefits aren't immediately apparent, the economy has made many shoppers more concerned about long-term value and safety, and therefore more likely to stay home and dabble in backyard food gardening.

“I think that the bad economy keeps people home more often, and they do turn to their gardens,” explains Danna Breen of Portola Valley, landscape designer and founder of the newly formed Portola Valley Garden Club.

Turning to the soil

For many people, growing food on the home front starts with tomatoes. Even several Safeway produce shoppers said they grow

some tomatoes at home.

Ms. Grove is no exception: “I started out growing tomatoes like everybody else does because tomatoes are wonderful and bountiful,” she says. “You start out (with) the thing that tastes so much better when you grow it yourself; when you buy it in the store it's just like cardboard.”

From there, the possibilities abound. The Santa Clara Valley is famous for its fertile soil, earning it the title “Valley of the Heart's Delight” before it was re-dubbed Silicon Valley in the wake of the tech boom. The rich soil and Mediterranean climate make for a long and diverse growing season.

One danger for beginners is biting off more than they can chew, and after one or two summers, plowing it all over in frustration, according to Ms. Grove. Even with rich soil and great weather, gophers, squirrels and deer can make gardening in this area a big challenge. But for many, the

rewards of gardening keep them at it.

“Unlike so many other things you can do that are virtuous — it's fun!” Ms. Grove says. “It's good exercise, it's rewarding, it teaches you patience, it teaches you humility, it's wonderful meditation, it's a great problem-solving exercise, it's a stress-reducer — what's not to like? And, she adds, “Your friends love it if you bring them anything except zucchini.”

Flavor is another big reward noted by edible garden enthusiasts, who say that when you pick food when it's ripe, fresh from your garden, the taste has no comparison to store-bought. “It's really important to eat foods when they're at the peak of their ripeness because that's when they taste the best and that's when they're the most nutritious,” Ms. Grove explains.

Gardening can also have educational and nutritional benefits for young people. Some local schools are tapping into this idea —

Encinal and Oak Knoll elementary schools both have flourishing school gardens.

Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti, a Menlo Park resident and member of the city's Green Ribbon Citizens' Committee, agrees. Her dad grew up on a farm, and she says that when she had kids and began gardening, “It was really profound to think about passing on a legacy and getting closer to the earth.”

She fondly describes how her 3-year-old son goes into the garden and pulls plants out, or comes inside smeared with juice from homegrown tomatoes. “He loves it,” she says, explaining that kids eat much more healthfully when the produce is right in front of them. She adds, “When kids actually participate in growing, it's much more exciting to eat the result.”

All about the people

Growing your own food is as local as it gets, Ms. Cool says, but

even with a big garden and seven chickens, she can't produce everything herself. She emphasizes that part of choosing to eat local food is becoming aware of the people who grow, and gardening at home can help foster that understanding.

“My farmer friends think it's great we have our own garden,” she says. “I think getting close to people who grow our food is one of the most nurturing and genuine ways to connect to your own community and the soulfulness of it.”

The model for buying produce she uses at her restaurants and catering company is a concentric circle — start as close to home as possible and move out from there. Keeping things close to home improves our awareness of what goes into our food, helps reduce the carbon footprint by minimizing transportation, and supports the local economy.

Ms. Cool also notes that if local

See **DIGGING IN**, page 12

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PENINSULA HUMANE SOCIETY WAIVES ADOPTION FEE FOR ALL CATS AGE 5+

Since mature cats are often passed over during summer months when kittens are in abundance, the Peninsula Humane Society is making it difficult for potential adopters to overlook these wonderful adult cats. Finding a good home is more important than collecting a fee! To "meet" some cats seeking new homes, please visit www.PHS-SPCA.org.



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COVER STORY

DIGGING IN

continued from page 11

people were strict about buying close to home, they wouldn't have chocolate or coffee. For globally produced food products like these, she says, "The important thing is to know where it comes from and how it's grown."

In some areas, neighborhoods are becoming aware that growing food can build relationships, not only over the counter at the farmers' market, but also over the fence. "One of the big benefits of community produced food is that it does break down barriers and it does allow people to get to know their neighbors," says Ms. Grove.

Ms. Kuntz-Duriseti recalls that once she left homegrown basil in a basket outside her Menlo Park home, and people came back to meet and thank her for the gesture. Ms. Breen has plans to start sending e-mails to the town e-mail list to inform the community who has ripe produce so neighbors can come and pick it.

These exchanges are temporarily hindered by the recent expansion of the light brown apple moth quarantine, which prohibits the exchange of homegrown plants and produce until the state eradication program begins next spring.

Even without the quarantine snag, connecting in neighborhoods with no sidewalks, big lots, and front gates surrounded by hedges can be difficult. "Our neighbors around here are wonderful; we just don't have much excuse to get together," says Ms. Grove.

One reason is that none of the communities the Almanac covers has a community garden, unlike neighboring Palo Alto, which has had community gardens and local food nonprofits for some 30 years.

That could change soon: Some residents in Portola Valley are hoping that some of the Spring Down land next to the new Town Center will be used for a community garden, Ms. Breen reports. No other cities reported plans for community gardens.

Community gardens are key to promoting the idea of edible gardening, according to Ms. Grove. "To get people interested in growing their own food, I think it really helps to see somebody else doing it."

Beginning to bloom

For the former "Valley of the Heart's Delight," the local food movement is really a return to the region's roots. Even so, advocates such as Ms. Cool and the staff of Common Ground who have been working in the



Nancy Grove waters two-week old lettuce, parsley, and cilantro. She mixes soil with coconut fiber and uses a machine to stamp the mixture into small cubes that hold their shape as the seedlings grow, without the need for plastic containers.

region for decades are thrilled that the idea is re-entering the mainstream.

Ms. Cool summed it up: "Wow! It's so cool, it's so exciting."

The forces of the economy, safety concerns, and popular reading will not last indefinitely, and home gardening as a significant source of food is no short-term project. When the

hype wears off, the traction of the local food movement will be put to the test.

Yet it seems likely that, although this recent surge of interest is related to economic pressure, it is really fed by a gradual rise in interest in sustainability and security.

"People's attitudes have really shifted," says Ms. Cool. "Now it's local first." ■

Tips for starting a vegetable garden



Start small: Decide which vegetables you like best and figure out how much room they need — tomatoes and beans are bountiful in a small space, whereas melons require lots of room to grow, for example. You can always expand the size of the plot later on.

Choose a spot: Look for a plot of land that is flat and has a lot of sun (about six hours a day for vegetables). The area should also be clear of established trees and shrubs, so the roots don't interfere with your new garden.

When to plant: Find a planting calendar (Common Ground has one on its Web site) to figure out when you should get your veggie seeds or starters in the ground.

Get dirty: Remove grass and weeds from your plot and get ready to dig in. The local soil is clay and very fertile. To get the soil ready for planting, add compost to balance the pH, break up the clay, improve

drainage, keep in moisture, and promote worms and beneficial fungi. According to Menlo Park resident Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti, starting your own compost bin is "the easiest thing in the world."

Tools: To start out, a shovel to dig and a hand trowel to plant are essential. You'll also want some pruning shears to trim and harvest as your garden grows. If you're growing climbing vegetables like peas or sprawlers like cucumbers or tomatoes, plan on putting up trellises for support.

Watch it grow: Well, watching isn't all there is to it. Gardening doesn't have to take over your whole schedule, but it does require patience and perseverance. You'll probably need to spend about 30 minutes, three times a week watering, weeding, and harvesting. Prepare for the unexpected, and don't give up if it doesn't go perfectly the first time around.

Compiled from interviews with *The Almanac*, and guides from *Common Ground* and *Sunset Publishing*. For more information, visit <http://commongroundinpaloalto.org> or <http://www.sunset.com/garden>.

Big trucks on Highway 84 vex Skyline Boulevard residents

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Trees and steep woody terrain create a park-like setting in Woodside on state Highway 84 as it twists and winds its way uphill west of the junction with Portola Road.

The setting belies the vitality of this narrow two-lane artery between Skylonda and the flatlands of Woodside's commercial district. While highland residents may be familiar enough with the road's curves to enjoy the scenery, it's risky to give the sights more than a passing thought. The road is a magnet:

slim-wheeled cyclists fly by; sporting motorists test their reflexes when not caught behind cautious tourists crawling to or from the beach; and trucks, big trucks, ply this road.

Tractor trailers haul building materials to homes up behind those trees. There are hairpin turns, and trucks have crossed centerlines and been involved in collisions, said Bijan Sartipi, District 4 director for the California Department of Transportation in a letter a year ago to homeowners who live above Highway 84 along Skyline Boulevard.

A group of homeowners want to ban the large trucks. The

■ INFORMATION

The California Highway Patrol has scheduled a meeting on traffic safety for 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, at the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District ranger station at 21150 Skyline Boulevard.

California Highway Patrol has scheduled a meeting on traffic safety for 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, at the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District ranger station at 21150 Skyline Boulevard.

Highway 84 between Portola Road and Skyline had 22 accidents in the three years between January 2004 and December 2006, including seven that involved big trucks, Mr. Sartipi said. Of those seven, three were due to unsafe speed or turning movements, three to crossing the centerline, and one

to driving under the influence, he said. Eleven resulted in injuries, but there haven't been fatalities, he said.

In his letter, Mr. Sartipi was responding to a group of homeowners who want big trucks banned from this road because, they say, trucks are a hazard. An accident "closes the road and just creates an incredible traffic problem," Morse Road resident Hertha Harrington said in an interview. "Every time there's a wreck, it turns out that the driver wasn't from this area," she added.

The homeowners have contacted officials from San Mateo County and Sacramento as well as representatives from Caltrans, local law enforcement and trucking associations. (The town of Woodside has no jurisdiction.)

Some attention has been paid. Caltrans installed raised dots

on the centerlines of two curves, widened one — the other was left alone due to complications from an underground stream — and erected signs "advising" trucks with trailers longer than 30 feet to avoid Highway 84, Ms. Harrington said.

Caltrans' options for this stretch of Highway 84 are "currently" limited by "mountainous rolling terrain and environmental constraints," Mr. Sartipi said in his letter. Beyond what Caltrans has already done, he recommended increasing motorist awareness and continuing law enforcement.

Skyline homeowners want more, but Caltrans says it's gone as far as it can without a comprehensive engineering study by the local agency, in this case the county, which doesn't have the money for it, Ms. Harrington said she was told. ■

Supreme Court to hear trails appeal

The California Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal of a lawsuit filed against Stanford University and Santa Clara County by the Palo Alto-based Committee for Green Foothills over hiking trails Stanford may build in the foothills.

The environmental group sued because it thought the environmental study of the northern trail, in San Mateo County, was inadequate.

The committee lost in San Mateo County Superior Court, which ruled that the lawsuit was not filed by a required deadline.

The Committee for Green Foothills appealed that decision to a state appellate court, which reversed the lower court. Stanford and the county then appealed that decision to the California Supreme Court, which has agreed to hear the appeal, Brian Schmidt of the Committee for Green Foothills said.

The merits of the original lawsuit will not be decided by the high court, Mr. Schmidt said. If the Committee for Green Foothills wins the appeal, then

the original lawsuit will be tried again in San Mateo County Superior Court, he said.

He added that it could be as long as two years before the California Supreme Court hears the case.

At issue is the placement of two hiking trails, which have long been a point of contention for environmental groups. A southern trail has been approved by Santa Clara County, but the location of the northern trail was rejected by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in February.

If the northern trail is not built by Dec. 31, 2011, about \$8.4 million (the cost of building the trail) will revert to Santa Clara County for recreation programs.

The general use permit approved by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 2000 allows Stanford to build an additional 2 million square feet of academic facilities and 3,000 housing units. As part of the approval, Stanford was required to build two hiking trails.

— Don Kazak, Palo Alto Weekly

Kiwanis Club gives \$97,000 to students

The Kiwanis Club of Menlo Park has given a total \$97,888 in educational grants to local students, club spokesman Richard Golden has announced.

Scholarships totaling \$75,000 were given to 14 college-bound students from Menlo-Atherton High School and East Palo Alto Academy, he said.

The club gave \$9,793 for reference and operational software for Ravenswood City School District libraries. The software also provides reference materials, including the World Book Encyclopedia, to all 3,900 Ravenswood district students from preschool through eighth grade with home access and

multilingual capability, Mr. Golden said in a press release.

In response to a proposal from the East Palo Alto Kids' Foundation, the Kiwanis Club gave \$8,595 to Willow Oaks School to buy math instruction software for students and teachers in 12 classrooms.

In addition, the club gave \$4,500 for specialized playground equipment at the Heritage Oak Children's Center, the name of the preschool/occupational therapy building at Laurel School in Atherton.

The Kiwanis Club of Menlo Park welcomes new members. For information, call Jan Gabus at 325-7711.




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.

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.




CLIP AND SAVE!

Children's authors at Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park

Children's authors will entertain children under 10 at the Artisan Shop at Allied Arts Guild on Saturday, Aug. 2, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Stephanie Bauer will read her original stories. Ann Creevy will read from "Let's Go Birding You and Me," and Beth Karpas will present her story dolls and puppets.

Artisans, specializing in items for babies and children, will display their wares at the Artisan Shop and in the Guild's Alboro Room. Items include handmade American Girl Doll clothing,

■ AROUND TOWN

toddlers' sundresses and rompers, hand-knitted baby clothes, hand-painted chairs, picnic tables, name plates, banners and clocks, and children's art.

Allied Arts Guild is located at 75 Arbor Road in Menlo Park.

Vintage vehicles

Antique cars, hot rods, bicycles, motorcycles and other means of transportation will be featured

in the Vintage Vehicles & Family Festival to be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, at Palo Alto High School.

The free festival is presented by the Museum of American Heritage and will include live music, entertainment, activities for kids, food booths and model races.

Last year, more than 5,000 visitors attended the event. Palo Alto High School is located at 50 Embarcadero Road in Palo Alto, across from the Town and Country Village shopping center.

Menlo Charity Horse Show opens in Atherton Aug. 5

The horse show voted second best in the U.S. last year by Phelps Sports Media Group just keeps setting records, according to Betsy Glikbarg, founder and co-chair of the event.

Only a few hours after entry blanks for the Menlo Charity Horse Show were posted online, the event had a waiting list of 300 competitors, says Ms. Glikbarg of the hunter-jumper show that benefits the Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

More than 700 of the West Coast's top horses and riders will compete in the show Aug. 5-10 at the Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane in Atherton. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are available at the gate for \$10 each day, or \$35 for a six-day pass. Children under 12 and seniors over 65 are admitted free.

Street parking will be available with shuttle service. Food and beverages will be available for purchase and the Circus Club will be open to the public for lunch every day. More than 40 vendors will display clothing, jewelry, artwork and items for the home, garden and stable.

Competition and jumping events are continuous in three arenas for all six days of the show as riders and their horses

See picture on Page 3


vie for more than \$150,000 in prize money and awards.

Favorite horse show classes and events include: Friday night's \$10,000 Ryman speed jumping class, Saturday afternoon's children under 6 lead line class, and Saturday evenings \$40,000 Grand Prix.

"Show Time," a dinner, auction and dance, will take place immediately after the speed jumping class on Friday night, Aug. 8. Among items to be auctioned are a giclee print of "To the Ring," donated by official horse show artist, Elin Pendleton; a Holland American cruise to either the Caribbean or Mexico; and a Jaeger-LeCoultre watch, valued at \$10,800, donated by Shreve & Co. The Four Seasons Hotel, Silicon Valley, is donating an overnight party for four, which includes dinner in a private dining room and suites for the group.

Nancy Collins is chairman of the evening gala. Tickets are \$200 per person. For reservations, call 322-7686.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Palo Alto-based Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Last year's horse show raised \$475,000 for the center.



LUCILE PACKARD CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH UNIVERSITY
Provided by Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

Your Child's Health University

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital offers classes, seminars and resources designed to foster good health and enhance the lives of parents and children.

- ✱ **MAMA YOGA**

Join other prenatal and postpartum mothers in a Yoga class designed to enhance strength, flexibility and tranquility. Practice Yoga stretches and poses while pregnant and return after your delivery for a gentle shape-up and relaxation time.

- Saturdays, August 9-23
- ✱ **PREPARING FOR MULTIPLES**

Are you expecting twins, triplets or more? With the potential for early delivery, expectant parents of multiples are encouraged to learn everything there is to know about carrying and delivering multiple infants.

- Sunday, August 17
- ✱ **BECOMING GRANDPARENTS**




Designed for new and expectant grandparents, this class examines the change in labor and delivery practices, the latest recommendations for infant care and the unique role of grandparents in today's society.

- Thursday, August 21
- ✱ **ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS**


Does your child have difficulty focusing, paying attention or sitting still? If so, your child could have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The Child Psychiatry Clinic at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital is offering ways for parents of children (ages 5-12) with ADHD to help their children improve behavior and function more independently. If interested, please call (650) 723-5511.

- Tuesdays, September 9 – November 11

Call (650) 723-4600 or visit www.lpch.org to register or obtain more information on the times, locations and fees for these and other courses.

**LUCILE PACKARD
CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL**



CALL TODAY TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES (650) 723-4600

Talk on healing through art Aug. 2

The Menlo Park Library is hosting a free talk on Taoism and healing through art on Saturday, Aug. 2, at 11 a.m. in the downstairs meeting room. The talk and art slideshow will be given by Pacifica resident Jane Pittsinger, a physical therapist and retired San Francisco Asian Art Museum docent.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Menlo Park Library and is part of a program series. Free van service is available for seniors and people with

■ NOTES

disabilities. For more information or to schedule transportation, call 330-2512. The library is at 800 Alma St.

Summer party

Mountain Made in Woodside will host a summer party and art exhibit from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2.

The 40 local artists will include Wesley Brando of Woodside, who specializes in vintage-style jewelry. Thomas DeHoog, a mixed metal artist from Woodside, will display new pieces made from a mix of copper, steel, tin and other metals. Also featured will be blacksmith Erik Newquist of Woodside, who will showcase iron sculpture, and Laura Wuest of La Honda, who will display her black and white photos of the area.

Mountain Maid gallery and gift shop is located at the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Highway 84, next to Alice's Restaurant. For more information and to RSVP, call 529-1754.

Correction

A story last week about Carol Welsh Gray being named the new executive director of the Menlo Park-based Thrive Foundation misstated Ms. Gray's previous role with the Peninsula Community Foundation and Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Ms. Gray was a leader at the nonprofit organizations, but she was not the executive director.

Sunday's win keeps Alpine in the NorCal tourney

By Colin Becht
Special to The Almanac

With another victory on Sunday, the Alpine/West Menlo 9-and-10 year old all-star team stayed alive in the Northern California Divisional Championship series in Campbell.

The team was scheduled to play again Monday night, after The Almanac's print deadline. Check TheAlmanacOnline.com for updates. A win in that game would move Alpine into the Northern California championship game on Wednesday.

Sunday's 7-6 victory over the Sundown Little League of Stockton was another thrilling game in a series that has seen Alpine capture the District 52 and Section 3 championships.

Sunday's win was essential for Alpine to stay in the hunt since Alpine had lost Saturday 9-8 to Chico Central Little League. Even in that loss, Alpine nearly made another late-inning comeback, piling up four runs in the sixth and final inning, just one shy of keeping the game going.

Sunday's game was Alpine's third in three days, and the

pitching staff was nearly exhausted, said Alpine manager Mark Martella. The pitchers were held to strict pitch counts.

Mitch Martella started the game, his first-ever start for Alpine, but was replaced after two innings by Justin Galvin, who pitched only one inning when he was replaced by Jared Lucian, who finished the game.

"We tried to keep Mitch under 45 pitches, Justin under 20 pitches ... and [Lucian] finished the forth, fifth and sixth for us, and he only threw 37 pitches in three innings," said Mark Martella.

Tired pitching staffs were evident on both teams as runs came in flurries.

Alpine jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first inning, but saw that margin quickly disappear as Sundown scored four in the second to take the lead.

After four innings, Sundown had stretched its lead to 6-3. But in the fifth, Sundown removed its starting pitching, and Alpine took advantage, scoring four runs to take the lead for good, 7-6.

Matt Hennefarth played a key role in the Alpine offense as he went 3-3 with a single and two doubles.

SPORTS

Alpine began its play in the NorCal Division championship series Friday night against Woodcreek Little League from Roseville, California, winning 5-4 in a game that essentially turned into a home run derby: three by Woodcreek and one by Alpine. However, Alpine's was a grand-slam homer by Travis Jones that provided the margin for victory.

Alpine manager Martella attributed the home runs to the small size of the ballpark in Campbell. "Our traditional fields are 200-foot fences, and this field was 170 feet in left and center, and 160 feet in right," he said. "[The home runs] were balls that would have been either caught or singles or doubles in a regular field."

Section 3

On July 20, Alpine defeated home team Tracy 10-9 in the Section 3 championship game at Jefferson School in Tracy.

In a tournament where the standard game is six innings, Alpine required 10 before it

could knock off Tracy for the second time in the series.

After five and a half innings, Alpine trailed 9-3 with only two outs left in the game. Alpine made the most of those two outs, scoring six times to tie the game and force it into extra innings.

At that point, pitching and defense took over. The game remained knotted up at 9-9 through three and a half innings.

In the bottom of the tenth, Alpine was up and Jared Lucian singled with one out, bringing Matt Hennefarth to the plate. Hennefarth crushed a double, and Alpine took a chance, attempting to score Lucian from first. In a close play at the plate,

Lucian was ruled safe, despite protests from the managers of the Tracy team.

For the Alpine all-stars, last-at-bat wins have been nothing out of the ordinary. In the District 52 championship game, Alpine beat San Carlos 3-2 on a one-out rally in the bottom of the sixth.

With the score tied 2-2, Nick Stoner started off the rally with a double, and moved to third on a single by Mitch Martella. Andrew Cox then produced the winning hit on a single to right-center that scored Stoner.

See TheAlmanacOnline.com for more details.

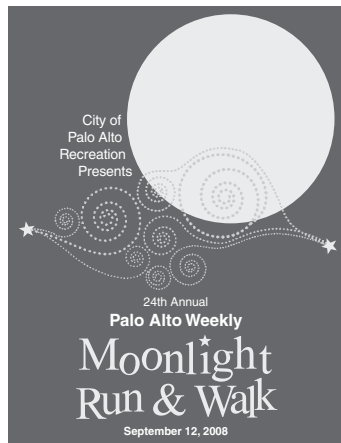
Vikings kick off 2008 season

The Menlo-Atherton Vikings inaugurate their 10th Pop Warner football season on Sunday, Aug. 3, when some 150 players assemble for equipment distribution at the Menlo-Atherton High School field.

Open to players from age 5-15 and from 35 pounds up, the Vikings offer competition

in six age and weight groups.

Once pads and helmets are properly fitted, practice begins Monday (Aug. 4) and will run Monday through Thursday throughout the month of August. More information is available at www.mapopwarner.com and TheAlmanacOnline.com.



City of Palo Alto Recreation Presents 24TH ANNUAL PALO ALTO WEEKLY MOONLIGHT RUN & WALK FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

TIME & PLACE

PLEASE NOTE TIMES: 5K walk 7:15pm, 10K run 8:15pm, 5K run 8:45pm.

Race-night registration 6:15 to 8:00pm at City of Palo Alto Baylands Athletic Center, Embarcadero & Geng Roads (just east of the Embarcadero Exit off Highway 101).

Parking — go to PaloAltoOnline.com to check for specific parking locations.

COURSE

5K and 10K loop courses over Palo Alto Baylands levee, through the marshlands by the light of the Harvest Moon! Course is flat, USAT&F certified (10K run only) on levee and paved roads. Water at all stops. (Course map available at www.PaloAltoOnline.com)

REGISTRATIONS & ENTRY FEE

Pre-registration fee is \$20 per entrant (postmarked by September 5, 2008) and includes a long-sleeve t-shirt. Late/race-night registration is \$25 and includes a shirt only **while supplies last. A scantron card must be filled out at race-night registration.**

Family package: Children 12 and under run free with a registered parent. A completed entry form for each child must be submitted with adult registration. **Please indicate on form and include \$10 for an adult small t-shirt. No confirmation of mail-in registration available. Registration also available online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Refunds will not be issued for no-show registrations (and t-shirts will not be held).**

SPORTS TEAM/CLUBS: Pre-registration opportunity for organizations of 10 or more runners; contact Amy at (650) 326-8210 ext. 285.

MINORS: If not pre-registered Minors under 18 **MUST** bring signed parental/waiver form (below) on race night to participate. **In addition scantron card must be completely filled out at race-night registration.**

DIVISIONS

Age divisions: 9 & under; 10-12; 13-19; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60-69, and 70 & over with separate divisions for male and female runners in each age group. Race timing provided for 5K and 10K runs only; not 5K walk.

COMPUTERIZED RESULTS by A Change of Pace

Race results will be posted on the Internet at www.PaloAltoOnline.com 10am on 9/15. Registration forms must be filled out completely and correctly for results to be accurate. Race organizers are not responsible for incorrect results caused by incomplete or incorrect registration forms.

AWARDS/PRIZES/ENTERTAINMENT

Top three finishers in each division. Prize giveaways and refreshments. DJ, Efen Ayala. Pre-race warmup by Andre Bobo.

BENEFICIARY

Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund. A holiday-giving fund to benefit Palo Alto area non-profits and charitable organizations. In April 2008, 37 organizations received a total of \$240,000 (from the 2007-2008 Holiday Fund.)

MORE INFORMATION

Call (650) 463-4920, (650) 326-8210, email MoonlightRun@paweekly.com. or go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com.

For safety reasons, no dogs allowed on course for the 5K and 10K runs. They are welcome on the 5K walk only. No retractable leashes! Please bring your own clean-up bag. Jogging strollers welcome in the 5K walk or at the back of either run.

Flashlights/head lights recommended.

Register online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com



KEPLER'S FEATURED AUTHORS IN AUGUST

Daniel Silva
Moscow Rules

Monday, August 11
7:30 p.m.

Silva has established himself as one of the world's finest writers of international intrigue and espionage.



Daniel Levitin
The World in Six Songs: How the Musical Brain Created Human Nature

Monday, August 25
7:30 p.m.

Author of *This Is Your Brain on Music* illuminates how the brain evolved to play and listen to music in six fundamental forms.



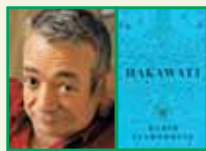
Don't miss these other exciting author events!

Rabih Alameddine

The Hakawati

Monday, August 4, 7:30 p.m.

Author/painter incorporates ancient Middle Eastern tales with upheavals occurring in Lebanon today.



Karla Oliveira

Tassajara Cookbook: Lunches, Picnics & Appetizers

Tuesday, August 5, 7:30 p.m.

Perfect for vegans/vegetarians on the go, or anyone who wants to add healthy, tasty snacks to their diet.



Doug Dorst

Alive in Necropolis: A Novel

Wednesday, August 6, 7:30 p.m.

An irresistible debut from former Stanford Wallace Stegner Fellow.

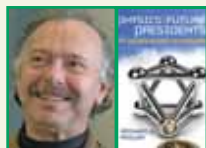


Richard A. Muller

Physics for Future Presidents: The Science Behind the Headlines

Tuesday, August 12, 7:30 p.m.

Learn the science behind the headlines—the tools of terrorists, the dangers of nuclear power, and the reality of global warming.



David Ebershoff

The 19th Wife

Wednesday, August 13
7:30 p.m.

Combines epic historical fiction with a modern murder mystery to create a brilliant novel of literary suspense.



Jesse Ziff Cool

Simply Organic: A Cookbook for Sustainable, Seasonal, and Local Ingredients

Tuesday, August 19, 7:30 p.m.

Local author and restaurateur encourages home cooks to embrace organics as a lifestyle rather than a fad.



Joe Camp & Benji (the 3rd)

The Soul of a Horse

Thursday, August 21
7:30 p.m.

Benefit for the Palo Alto Humane Society. Benji creator deftly lures us into the heart and soul of a horse.



Raj Patel

Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System

Tuesday, August 26, 7:30 p.m.

Explains the steps to regain control of the global food economy, stop the exploitation of farmers and consumers, and rebalance global sustenance.



Kepler's Open Mic Night
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Special Family Events

Bella's Birthday Bash
Breaking Dawn Midnight Release Party
Friday, August 1, 9:00 p.m.

In lieu of gifts, Edward requests donations be made to the Stanford Blood Center



Joe Camp and Benji (the 3rd)
City of Menlo Park Block Party

Wednesday, August 20
6:00 p.m. – Meet the Author and Benji
Location: Palo Alto Humane Society booth on Santa Cruz Avenue



8:15 p.m. – Film: "Benji Off the Leash"
Location: Fremont Park, corner of Santa Cruz and University Avenues

Co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Humane Society

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OBITUARIES

Obituaries are based on information provided by mortuaries and family members.

Loren A. Beckley

Retired probation officer

Loren A. Beckley, a resident of Menlo Park since 1952, died June 22 at the age of 86.

Mr. Beckley was born in San Bernardino and graduated from Redlands University. During World War II, he served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

In 1948 he moved to the Bay Area. For 30 years he worked for the San Mateo County Probation Department, retiring as chief probation officer. After retiring from the county, he worked for the American Justice Institute.

Mr. Beckley is survived by his wife of 58 years, Elaine of Menlo Park; sons Jim and Steve; and two granddaughters.

A private memorial has been held. Memorials may be made to the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, 725 Welch Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304.



Beckley

Elisabeth d'Arc

Menlo Park resident

A service of remembrance and celebration of the life of Elisabeth "Betty" King d'Arc will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, at Holy Trinity Church, 330 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park. Ms. d'Arc died June 30 at Sequoia Hospital. She was 86.

Ms. d'Arc was born in Alexandria, Virginia, and graduated from Hollins College in Virginia in 1944. She was married in 1944 to Howard Thornton d'Arc, a naval dental officer. In 1954 they moved to Menlo Park.

While living in Menlo Park, Ms. d'Arc was known for organizing Olive Street block parties and New Year's Eve parties, say family members. She enjoyed gourmet cooking, opera, weekly poker games, needlepoint and other types of sewing. She took pride in her ballroom dancing skills, especially jitterbug dancing, say family members.

Ms. d'Arc is survived by her children, Dr. Thornton d'Arc, Robin Blossom, and Gary d'Arc; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard, in 1990 and her son, William, at age 15, in 1968.

Memorials may be made to: The Vision Academy of the Arts, P.O. Box 1272, Oakhurst, CA 93644.

Freda Harmon Carpenter

Clinical psychologist

Freda Harmon Carpenter, who lived in Portola Valley from 1980 to 1998, died July 21 at Fairways Brookline Village in State College, Pennsylvania. She was 64.

Ms. Carpenter was born in Cushing, Oklahoma. She received her bachelor of art degree from Oklahoma State University, a master's degree from the University of Illinois and a doctorate in clinical psychology from Pennsylvania State University.

After an eight-year stint as a social worker in Pennsylvania, she moved to California in 1980, practicing as a clinical psychologist until 1998.

She is survived by her son, Marshall L. Carpenter of Issaquah, Washington; and sister, Linda Harmon Duffy of Boalsburg, Pennsylvania.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at: admin@kochfuneralhome.com.

Donations may be made to Home Nursing Agency Foundation-Hospice, 201 Chestnut Ave., P.O. Box 352, Altoona, PA 16603-9928.

Duncan Dobson

Former Woodside entrepreneur

Duncan C. Dobson Jr., a serial entrepreneur and 27-year resident of Woodside, died July 17 of lung cancer at his home in Harbor Springs, Michigan. He was 61.

When he retired in 2007, Mr. Dobson left Woodside for Michigan with his wife, Lucy, to whom he had been married for 39 years.

Mr. Dobson's interests included technologies both high and low. His work in semiconductor materials and equipment development took him to Monsanto Co., Applied Materials, MEMC Electronic Materials, and Allied Signal, among others, relatives said.

He founded Wafer Solutions and SiBond, and was vice president of sales and marketing at Integrated Materials Inc. of Sunnyvale, relatives said.

Mr. Dobson also founded Zoomers, a maker of equipment for competitive swimming, and David's Cookies of Northern California, relatives said.

He attended elite schools, including St. Louis Country Day School and Salisbury School in Salisbury, Connecticut, from which he graduated. He had a bachelor's degree

See OBITUARIES, next page

OBITUARIES

continued from next page

in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's degree in business from Harvard College, relatives said.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Dobson is survived by his sister, Sally Dobson Danforth, who is married to former Sen. John C. Danforth of Missouri; his son, Duncan C. Dobson III of San Francisco; and a daughter, Lindsey Dobson Maden of Lander, Wyoming.

Relatives ask that memorial contributions be made to Hospice of Little Traverse Bay, 3434 Main St., Suite 7, Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740; or Little Traverse Conservancy, 3264 Howell Road, Petoskey, Michigan 49770.

Daniel K. Moore Jr.

Former Atherton resident

A celebration of the life of Daniel K. Moore Jr. of Visalia will be held Saturday, Aug. 16, at his family's home in Atherton. Mr. Moore, who grew up in Atherton and attended local schools, died July 18 of complications from brain cancer.

Mr. Moore was born in Beaver, Pennsylvania. He attended Menlo School and graduated from Menlo-Atherton High School. A graduate of Stanford University, he earned his MBA at the University of Southern California. While at Stanford, he played on the varsity golf team and was a member of

Theta Chi fraternity.

In 1972 he and his wife, Lynn, were married at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church

After college, he worked for Castle & Cook for 15 years, living in San Mateo. He served as an executive for a number of companies, most recently as vice president of sales and marketing for Billiou's in Porterville, California.

Mr. Moore was an avid golfer, and enthusiastic 49er fan, say family members. His competitive spirit, outgoing personality, self confidence and work ethic will be greatly missed, they say.

Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Lynn; two sons, Jeff Moore of Portland, Oregon, and John Gooch of Garner, North Carolina; his mother, Eleanor Moore of Atherton; sisters Eleanor Kuykendall of Atlanta, Patricia Silversher of Glendale, and Carol Moore of Atherton; brother David Moore of Lee's Summit, Montana; and two grandchildren.

The family prefers that memorials in his name be made to the American Cancer Society.

Lauretta Latulippe

Former Menlo Park resident

Lauretta Gabrielle "Dolly" Latulippe, who lived in Menlo Park from 1963 to 1975, died in Roseville on June 24 after a long illness. She



Latulippe

was 86.

Ms. Latulippe was born in Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada. Her four sisters and two brothers gave her the nickname of Dolly. After graduating from high school and completing a secretarial course with the Sisters of the Holy Names, she worked for the Bell Telephone Company of Canada. At the time, she was the youngest person there to become a supervisor, say family members.

In 1944 she married Lucien "Luke" Latulippe. The couple had been married 45 years when Mr. Latulippe died in 1989.

Ms. Latulippe was a lifelong member of Beta Sigma Phi and past president of many organizations, including the Catholic Women's League and the Junior League, while living in Canada.

After moving to Menlo Park in 1963, she served as a volunteer at Stanford Hospital for many years. One role she took on was as an interpreter for French-speaking patients.

Ms. Latulippe is survived by her son, Richard Thorton Latulippe of South San Francisco, and daughter Diane Elizabeth (Latulippe) Guenther of Granite Bay; a sister, Germaine Vincent Hamlin of Carson City, Nevada; a brother, Casey Vincent of Santa Ana; two grandsons; and one great-grandson.

■ 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.

ATHERTON

■ **Grand theft report:** Artwork valued at \$90,000 stolen during residence renovation, Selby Lane, July 22.

MENLO PARK

■ **Residential burglary report:** Home ransacked, 200 block of Terminal Ave., July 19.

■ **Commercial burglary report:** Necklace stolen, Pink Tangerine boutique at 883 Santa Cruz Ave., July 19.

■ **Auto burglary reports:**

■ Jeans and wallet stolen, 1600 Marsh Road, July 18.

■ Navigation system stolen, 300 block of Sharon Park Drive, July 20.

■ Car stereo and cell phone stolen, 1200 Whitaker Way, July 20.

■ **Theft reports:**

■ Gold coins stolen, Mish International Monetary Inc. at 1154 University Drive,

July 18.

■ \$500 cash stolen from nonprofit face-painting stand at Connoisseurs' Marketplace, 900 block of Santa Cruz Ave., July 24.

■ Diamond ring set, Tan For All Seasons at 989 El Camino Real, July 21.

■ **Fraud reports:**

■ Stolen and forged check, 200 block of Hedge Road, July 18.

■ Unauthorized credit card use, 1300 block of Mills St. and 700 block of Fremont St., July 19 and 23.

■ Identity theft and purchases made, 900 block of Fremont Place, July 22.

■ **Stolen vehicle report:** 1989 maroon Toyota Camry, 1300 block of Madera Ave., July 18.

WOODSIDE

■ **Fraud report:** Caregiver suspected in elder abuse and check fraud, 100 block of Redwood Ave., July 16.

WEST MENLO PARK

■ **Theft report:** Oakley sunglasses, Bluetooth accessories and navigation device stolen from unlocked vehicle, 2000 block of Mills Ave., July 19.

Sheriff promotes two officers

San Mateo County Sheriff Greg Munks has elevated Lt. Mark Wyss to captain, and Sgt. Ed Barbarini to lieutenant, the office announced July 22.

Lt. Wyss had been the unit commander of the San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force, and will now be responsible for the Sheriff's Support Services Division. Sgt. Barbarini will assume leadership of one of the shifts at the

Maguire Correctional Facility.

Lt. Wyss grew up in the San Jose area and began his law enforcement career in 1984, serving in many of the sheriff's divisions including patrol, corrections and the narcotics task force.

Sgt. Barbarini grew up in the Burlingame area, and started working for the Sheriff's Office in 1994, most recently as an acting lieutenant in transportation.

Canada College open late for registration

College registration can be a headache, but Canada College at 4200 Farm Hill Boulevard in Woodside is trying to relieve some of the pain for the fall semester by staying open late on Friday, Aug. 1.

College staff will be on campus during the "Midnight Madness" event to assist with admissions, placement testing, registration, financial aid and academic counseling. The event includes live

music, free barbecue and child care, college spokesman Robert Hood said.

"This will allow students to do everything they need to do to get into classes in one night," college President Tom Mohr said in a statement. "We want to make it easy for students."

Classes begin Aug. 18. For more information, call 306-3226 or go to www.canadacollege.edu.

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Circulation, Classified,

& Legal Advertising Bill Rayburn

Published every Wednesday at

3525 Alameda de las Pulgas,

Menlo Park, CA 94025

(650) 854-2626

FAX (650) 854-0677

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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, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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

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

Transit suffers from lack of collaboration

If the Bay Area ever hopes to lure people out of their cars and onto mass transit, the regional infighting over transit modes and dollars has to stop. The disconnect extends from the mega agencies responsible for giving millions of tax dollars to major transit projects to the lack of coordination between Caltrain and SamTrans, which set schedules to serve their own riders, but often overlook commuters who might want to reach a destination off their main line.

The major damage was done years ago when BART was created without San Mateo and Santa Clara counties on board. This failure to deliver one mode of transit to all the counties surrounding the San Francisco Bay continues to pit BART counties against Caltrain counties, to the detriment of all commuters.

The infighting often is about the scarce transit dollars that are doled out to highway, rail and BART projects by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, an agency made up of representatives of all Bay Area counties. Every funding cycle, the MTC considers projects advanced by counties in a process that could take 10 years or more for a project to receive the green light, making it very difficult to change priorities. Costs also can double or triple while a project waits its turn on the MTC list.

The Dumbarton Rail project, an ambitious plan conceived some 30 years ago to rebuild a trains-only bridge from Fremont to Menlo Park, is stuck in the MTC budgeting process. At a July 22 meeting in Palo Alto, its supporters voted to oppose an attempt by East Bay representatives to "borrow" \$91 million already allocated to the project; the borrowed funds would be used to help build a BART segment from Fremont to Warm Springs. This extension is a key link in the controversial plan to extend BART to downtown San Jose and the airport — a plan that has languished due to lack of funding.

Ultimately, the advisory committee, including Menlo Park

City Council member Heyward Robinson, opposed the idea on a 9-3 vote, but the final say will be had by the full MTC, which is to take up the issue in September. This mostly party-line vote was not a surprise, since the committee is heavily stacked with Dumbarton Rail supporters. A strong contrarian view was presented by Alameda Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who reminded committee members the vote does not prevent the full MTC from approving the transfer.

But nowhere in the discussion did the panel ever decide to revisit either project or talk about how to get the most efficiency for the scarce transit dollars available in the East Bay and the West Bay. Does it make sense to spend \$600 million (and certainly more by the time the project is built, if it is ever approved) to build a railroad-only bridge across the bay? For far less money, the MTC could purchase a never-ending stream of comfortable buses for dedicated-lane rapid transit to carry commuters from the East Bay to and from Silicon Valley and San Francisco.

We know many transportation commission members see the big picture in Bay Area transit, but many do not. Somehow, these top transit officials need to find a way to continually assess whether projects like BART to San Jose, or Dumbarton Rail, will return good value even after they have doubled, tripled or quadrupled in cost.

In the process, perhaps the commission can find a way to help make things better at the local level, where the transit dollar meets the road. For example, in the July 16 issue of The Almanac, reporter Rory Brown wrote about his assignment to use only mass transit from his San Francisco home to The Almanac office in West Menlo Park. This five-day experiment clearly shows the frustrating lack of coordination between buses and trains at the Menlo Park train depot. For example, the 8:19 train out of San Francisco arrives in Menlo Park at 8:58, two minutes after a SamTrans bus is scheduled to pull out of the station for

See **TRANSIT**, next page

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

LETTERS

Our readers write

Stanford ignoring city's visioning process

Editor:

As the dominant landowner along El Camino Real, at least south of Middle Avenue, Stanford has had two options regarding Menlo Park's El Camino Visioning Process.

It could have been a good citizen and participated collaboratively with others who have devoted many hours, much energy and significant taxpayer funds to envisioning a future of El Camino that would both enhance the city and be compatible with its values.

Alternatively, since Stanford's existing leases generally do not, unless bought out, expire until 2013, it certainly had the right to sit on the sidelines and remain silent about its future hopes and desires.

See **LETTERS**, next page



Portola Valley Archives

Our Regional Heritage

Ties were part of the uniform for boys playing softball in a late 1920s game in Portola Valley. Pictured are, from left, Walter Jelich, Louis Plastina, Albert Mangini, Wilbur Pierce, George Jelich, Henry Wilfert, Andrew Mangini, Elmer Rodriguez and Edward Ainsworth.

LETTERS

Continued from previous page

Unfortunately, Stanford has chosen the latter option, thereby making the current visioning process a futile effort and waste of money.

James R. Madison
Holly Avenue, Menlo Park

The American dream of owning home vanishing

Editor:

Good for your reporter Rory Brown for joining us transit takers. While his missed and missing connections are sadly typical of our lagging, disconnected and under-funded transit agencies, transit ridership is up across the board.

More and more people and companies are making transit work, including many who don't own cars. Suburbia was invented around cheap gas and fueled with tax dollars diverted from publicly owned transit to privately owned vehicles in the form of massive parking lots and super highways to facilitate suburban sprawl. Owning one's own home with a lawn and multi-car garage became the standard of American culture for the last half of the 20th century.

Fast forward to the 21st century. The American dream of home ownership has become a nightmare for many and a no-show for others. With failed mortgages, gas over \$4 a gallon, horrific traffic congestion, serious air pollution, current and projected water shortages and soaring carbon emissions that threaten our planet, it is time for a change. Suburbia needs to reinvent itself or we will all choke or starve from our own wasteful use of natural resources. The days of cheap and plentiful gas are over. Suburbia as we know it is not sustainable.

We need to reinvent our downtowns and existing transit corridors to accommodate denser housing near shops and services. We need to think how we spend our shopping dollars, so that we shop locally, save gas and support our local business owners and neighbors.

It's time to redirect more of our tax dollars into transit and alternative energy, into water conservation programs and making our communities more

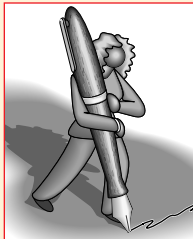
City engineer explains need for reservoir

By Lisa Ekers

In response to letters concerning the proposed emergency reservoir at Seminary Oaks Park, I would like to clarify some important information about the project.

The city of Menlo Park Water District serves about one-third of Menlo Park's water users, who are divided into eastern and western service areas. The eastern service area has no storage tanks or reservoir, while the western service area has two reservoirs with a total emergency capacity of 5.5 million gallons. The two areas are physically separated from each other, and do not share distribution mains for their water systems. Cal Water provides water service by an additional, separate distribution system to the customers between the eastern and western service areas.

The Menlo Park water district purchases all of its water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), which has acknowledged that its system is vulnerable to natural disasters, such as earthquakes. A reliability study done by SFPUC in 2000 showed that in a worst-case scenario, Menlo Park could be without water for up to 60 days. Previous studies have shown that periods of extended drought could also impact the system.



GUEST
OPINION

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) recommends that communities maintain emergency water storage equivalent to average usage amounts over a period of at least eight hours and up to two full days. That equates to a reservoir of between 1.3 and 6.8 million gallons for Menlo Park, given seasonal variations. Another 0.6 million gallons is added to those volumes for fire flows, which could be particularly important after an earthquake. How long this storage actually lasts depends on numerous factors such as season, the amount of water in the reservoir when an emergency occurs and the numbers and types of customers who are using the water.

The proposed project includes a groundwater well to provide water supply. Groundwater could be disinfected and input directly into the water mains, and fed into the reservoir for storage during off-peak usage hours (i.e., at night). State regulations restrict the use of untreated groundwater for domestic use to five days or less, so that groundwater could only be relied upon as an ongoing source if full treatment facilities were provided. The reservoir is intended as short-term emergency use and the groundwater well is for longer-term use after the reservoir storage is depleted. The combination of storage

capacity in the reservoir and groundwater can provide significant benefits to water customers in an emergency.

Recommendations for a final reservoir size will depend on a number of factors. While a large reservoir is desirable, a larger size has considerable financial implications for construction, land acquisition and operating costs that must be weighed against the impact on rate-payers. Ultimately, the amount of stored water needed for the system will be determined by the community's willingness to accept the risk of not having water in an emergency versus the cost of providing storage. The final project, once designed, would be funded through the water rates of customers and the water capital fund, which currently has a fund balance of approximately \$9 million.

Interested residents are urged to check the Menlo Park Web site at www.menlopark.org. Go to the project pages and follow the link to water projects for more information, including maps, studies and more. The Menlo Park City Council is tentatively scheduled to consider potential alternatives to a reservoir and well at Seminary Oaks Park at its August 26 meeting at 7 p.m. For more information, contact the Menlo Park Public Works Department at 330-6740.

Lisa Ekers is an engineering services manager with the city of Menlo Park

pedestrian and bicycle friendly. We need to invest in a different future, one that supports our children, not just ourselves.

Elizabeth Lasensky
Fremont Street, Menlo Park

A strange year, with a dose of good news

Editor:

So far, this has been a strange sort of year. Not just politics either.

But the weather! First we were soaked and optimistic about lots of rain. And snow. Then everything dried up, lightning struck our forests and we have been burning both outwardly and inwardly during June and July. Gas prices have risen so high that many SUVs may turn into homes, while the home owners suffer over their mortgages and plead with the money men with little hope.

But there is one piece of wonderful news right here in Portola Valley. The long awaited and welcome grocery store has finally

replaced John's Market. No big signs allowed by the powers in the Town Hall. No publicity. Just a "soft opening" on a quiet Wednesday in the early part of July.

But here it is, Roberts, under the same Roberts family who run the Roberts of Woodside. What a treat. Cheeses from cows and goats; wines fit for a visit from your in-laws, and some expensive ones too for your best friends. You may be a vegetarian, but somehow the scent of a roasting chicken or a hunk of rare beef may be tempting before you buy all those fresh veggies and delicious breads. One addiction: that cinnamon bread which is so good for breakfast and you know you'll work off those calories during a long hot day.

Although there was early hope of an opening before Thanksgiving of 2006, our patience has paid off. Roberts is here, and it's the best!

Trish Hooper
Portola Road, Portola Valley

TRANSIT

continued from previous page

West Menlo. Similar schedule glitches on other routes made the Menlo Park commute a nightmare of long waits and worrying about missing connections. At the end of five days, a frustrated Mr. Brown was eager to get back in his car, despite raising his carbon footprint.

Certainly, there are some transit success sto-

ries in the Bay Area. But BART and Caltrain have a long way to go to attract enough riders to make a serious dent in reducing the huge traffic logjams that tie up the Bay Area nearly every weekday morning and evening. We hope that some day a way can be found to bring more collaboration to this process, rather than the bickering we saw at last week's Dumbarton Advisory Committee meeting.

Jensen Hauser

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Hugh Cornish 650.324.4456
STATELY GRAND ESTATE \$15,500,000
6 BR 4 BA 9,000+ SF of living space on nearly 2 ac. Lrg 1BR/2BA gst hse w/full basement. Regulation sized tennis ct&pool. Prime Menlo Circus Club area location
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456
ENCHANTED FOREST \$6,000,000
4 BR 3 BA Contemporary French Provincial one-story home located on approximately one acre near the Circus Club. Excellent Menlo Park schools.
Hugh Cornish 650.324.4456
SOLD! \$3,800,000
Stunning mid-century contemporary awaiting restoration on premier lot of more than 1.25 acres. Thomas Church gardens.
Doug Willbanks 650.324.4456
COMING SOON! \$3,595,000
4 BR 3 BA This remodeled home on approx 1 acre includes a guest house w/1 addit BR & BA & 4-car garage. Spectacular master suite w/ marble bath opens to patio.
Elaine White 650.324.4456
NEW PRICE! \$2,950,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Exclusive Lindenwood Contemporary home. Architectural masterpiece of design & function. Thomas Church park-like gardens. Gourmet kitchen. Pool. Spa.
Lyn Jason Cobb & Deanna Tarr 650.324.4456
ATTN TO QUALITY & DETAIL! \$3,395,000
5 BR 4 BA 3-levels. Soaring coffered ceilings, library, chef's kitchen adjoins family room, sauna, game and media rooms. Walk to desirable Emily school!
John & Janet Dore 650.324.4456
HUGE PRICE REDUCTION! \$2,849,000
5 BR 4 BA Rare 3/4 acre Menlo Oaks property. Charming Spanish style home wraps around a courtyard w/wonderful walled garden. Great Menlo Schools.
Siobhan O'Sullivan 650.324.4456
NEW LISTING! \$2,695,000
4 BR 3 BA Marvelous Mediterranean in Vintage Oaks! 4BD/3.5BA, 3 car garage, pool and outdoor kitchen!
Elaine White 650.324.4456
IMPECCABLE STYLE \$1,450,000
3 BR 2.5 BA 10+ Downtown Locale near Shopping & Restaurants. This hm includes top finishes & impeccable style w/premium appliances, formal living rm and dining rm
Lyn Jason Cobb 650.324.4456
NOT TO BE MISSED! \$1,295,000
4 BR 3 BA Wonderful Duplex, located within walking distance to Downtown MP, features 2 adjoined units updated w/warm wood tones & top-grade appliances.
Lyn Jason Cobb 650.324.4456
CHARMING GOLF COURSE UNIT \$1,230,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Charming, updated, golf course unit with expansive views from custom designed deck w/built-in seating. Great for entertaining! Inside laundry.
Deanna Tarr 650.324.4456
YOUR CORNER OF THE WORLD \$1,225,000
3 BR 2 BA Ex lrg lr & sep dr all new kit w/granite cntns. Stain steel app extra deep sink, lg double oven. Lots of lite. Dramatic entry. Look like SFR
Deanna Tarr 650.324.4456
NEW LISTING! \$949,000
3 BR 2 BA Charming home on large 7085 sf lot. HW flrs, vaulted open beam ceilings, romantic master suite. Extensive rewood decking. Det 1 car garage. MP Schls.
Arn Cenedella 650.324.4456

ATHERTON
GREAT LOCATION! \$749,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Recently remodeled, spacious, detached town home near downtown Menlo. Near train, library, Burgess Park & more! Luxurious master suit. Low HOA dues!
Barbara Ellis/Mark Ankenman 650.324.4456
NEW PRICE! \$699,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Discover this treasure! Totally remodeled and expanded townhome in back of small complex. Open floor plan, large yard, low dues.
Jackie Coppel 650.324.4456
COMING SOON! \$699,000
3 BR 2 BA Charming 3BD/2.5BA w/attached garage. Desirable Willows location w/Menlo Park schls. Low HOA dues of \$172/mo. Call for a priv. showing @ 650-400-1962
Barbara Ellis 650.324.4456

LOS ALTOS
MOVE-IN CONDITION \$1,995,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Gorgeous home with top quality finishes throughout. Elegant pool, a spa and pergola on spacious and beautifully landscaped grounds.
Jean & Chris Isaacson 650.851.2666
LOS ALTOS HILLS
GRAND HOME \$6,495,000
4 BR 4 BA Built just 4 yrs ago as a trad. English cntry manor, & positioned in an area of other estates all with the backdrop of Rancho San Antonio open space.
Chris Taelemans 650.851.2666
MENLO PARK
NEWLY BUILT IN MENLO PARK \$4,995,000
6 BR 5 BA Stunning new home in prime Menlo Park on large lot. Every amenity on three floors. Basement with theatre and more. Great Menlo Park Schools.
Tom LeMieux 650.323.7751
PRIMEWEST MENLO! \$4,150,000
6 BR 4 BA Final plans submitted to building dept. for 6BR/6BA, 5400sf Craftsman on 10,690sf lot. Designed by renowned architect Steve Pogue.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161
STUNNING REMODELED CONDO \$1,250,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Light-filled condo loc. in exclusive Menlo Towers. This end unit features beau. appoint. throughout. Formal entry, remodeled kit w/granite countertops
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751
504 OKEEFFE ST \$1,499,000
4 BR 3 BA Beautiful New Construction in the Willows. Built by J5 Homes & Designed by Alex Miller-Cole.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161
SING FAM HM W/LEGAL RENT. \$1,399,000
4 BR 3 BA Great remodeled home with wood floors, separate dining, lg. living room w/FR double pane windows, patio, pool & legal rental. Las Lomitas Schools.
Valerie Trenter 650.323.7751
STUNNING HOME IN PRIV LOC \$1,250,000
3 BR 2 BA Elegant living room with fireplace - vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, exquisite master suite with private bath. Lovely pool & lush gardens.
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751
REMODELED MENLO PARK HOME \$1,149,000
3 BR 1 BA Updated home with large private yard close to schools, commute and shops. Granite kit with informal dining. Lots of natural light. Las Lomitas Schools
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SHARON OAKSTOWNHOME \$1,098,000
2 BR 2 BA Elegant ground floor single-level TH in prime location in W. Menlo Park in desirable Sharon Oaks Complex. Spacious Bonus room, 2 car attached garage.
Kathleen & Dave Pasin 650.325.6161
STUNNING TOWNHOME! \$929,000
3 BR 2.5 BA This Elegant 3BR/2.5BA Hm Is Perfect For The Calif Lifestyle. It Has A Elegant LR, Sep. DR & FR Adj To KIT! The Inviting Deck Overlooks The Swim Pool.
John Alexander 650.323.7751
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY IN MP \$899,000
2 BR 1 BA Bring a paintbrush & build some equity. Quiet street on good size lot. Formal dining room & eat-in kit. 2 car garage. Menlo Park Schools. Don't Miss!
David McKeever 650.323.7751
2B END UNIT MENLO COMMONS \$539,000
2 BR 1 BA 2BR 2BA Sunny corner tree view complex incl pool/spa rec rm exercise room planned activities close to Stanford/shops/transportation 55+
Elizabeth Leathers 650.323.7751
GREAT STARTER HOME! \$485,000
2 BR 1 BA Lovely Willow Condo. Updated top floor end unit. Detached 1-car gar + assigned space Hdw flr & crown molding. Close to PA downtown.
Greg Stange 650.325.6161

MENLO PARK
NEAR PARK & PLAYGROUND \$376,000
2 BR 1 BA Home features some updates, newer double paneled windows, nicely landscaped and fully fenced yards! One car garage.
Fabiola Prieto 650.325.6161
PALO ALTO
NEW MEDITERRANEAN HOME \$2,295,000
4 BR 4.5 BA New 2 story including a grand master. Beautiful cook's kitchen, family room, 2 Fireplaces, wood flrs, hi ceilings, gorgeous amenities. PA Schools.
Hossein Jalali 650.323.7751
PORTOLA VALLEY
UNIQUE CONTEMPORARY \$2,995,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Exquisite home in tranquil creekside setting, approx 1/3 acre w/stunning gardens. Open and inviting design accommodates formal and relaxed living.
Ginny Kavanaugh 650.851.1961
SECLUDED PV HOME \$1,825,000
3 BR 2 BA At the end of a cul-de-sac, this beautiful home is surrounded by majestic oak trees, update kit, newer roof & driveway, expansive deck, extra storage.
Kathy Nicolsia/Colleen Cooley 650.323.7751
RUSTIC CHARM \$1,098,000
2 BR 2 BA On approx .5 ac. Remodl kit, baths, new carpet & paint surrounded by lovely flagstone path, patio & nature. Possible Seller Financing.
Celeste Henzel 650.851.1961
GENTLY SLOPING LOT \$699,000
Beautiful lot w/filtered views of the hills. Enjoy country living within 15 mins. Commute to Hwy 280 & Ladera shopping center. PV schls. .25 ac.
Kathie Christie 650.851.1961

SUNNYVALE
EXTENSIVELY REMODELED \$887,000
3 BR 2 BA Spacious master suite w/vaulted ceilings. Jacuzzi tub. New kitchen granite counters. Hardwood floors. Double pane windows. Front sitting porch. Deck
Ken Morgan & Arlene Gault 650.323.7751
WOODSIDE
LANDMARK ESTATE \$14,500,000
7 BR 8 BA This estate is located in the center of Woodside on approx. 4.9 level acres of park-like grounds. Plus 2-story 3bd/2ba gsthse, lg barn, and tennis ct.
Tom Dallas & Steven Lessard 650.851.2666
TAHOE FEEL \$13,995,000
5 BR 6 BA All the amenities and luxuries on 4.5 flat acres in prime Woodside. Pool/guest house, gourmet kitchen, and stone fireplaces.
Jayne M. Williams 650.851.2666
PRIVATE & LUSH SETTING \$10,100,000
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4 BR 3 BA 6.3 level, sunny acres in Woodside. Heritage oaks, spacious lawns, filtered views of Western Hills with two homes, barns, pools and tennis courts.
Ed Kahl 650.851.2666
COLONIAL ESTATE \$9,500,000
5 BR 5 BA Secluded on 6 ac beyond a gated entrance, the home, pool & tennis ct are positioned beneath sun swept skies. Separate & fully equipped gsthse w/2BD.
Luhua Greenman & Tom Dallas 650.851.2666
3 ACRE SITE \$4,995,000
3 BR 2 BA Amazing value on Woodside's finest country lane. Older home, pool, and pool house. Build new or renovate. Woodside Schools, and close to town center.
Scott Dancer 650.851.2666
GREAT LOCATION \$3,800,000
Spectacular 3+ ac estate site in Central Woodside. All flat useable land surrounded by beautiful trees. Great location close to town and I-280.
Diane Rothe 650.851.2666
CHARMING NEIGHBORHOOD \$2,595,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Beautifully updated hm on almost one-half ac in WDS Glens. Sep liv/din rms, grmt kit + gst cottage w/full ba. Pvt outdoor patio & landscaped gardens.
Jim McCahon & Deborah Kehrberg 650.851.2666
ENCHANTING HOME \$2,495,000
4 BR 4 BA Craftsman-style hm w/separate guest house. 3 fp's, vaulted ceilings, frml DR, & office. Approx. 1 ac w/lawn, gardens, fruit trees, patios, pool & spa.
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DRAMATIC CONTEMPORARY \$1,875,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Tranquil 2+ acre retreat with unobstructed views of Valley and Bay. Usable land, private cul-de-sac location, close to trails. Dynamic open floorplan.
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TAHOE STYLE HM 3 YRS OLD \$1,849,000
3 BR 2 BA Recently built, wonderful Tahoe style 2 story wall the amen. including wood flrs, chef's kit, mstr ste, hi ceilings, spa, private setting & lge lot.
Valerie Trenter 650.323.7751
ROMANTIC COTTAGE \$1,395,000
3 BR 2 BA Charming home in Woodside Glens! Great family room. Picturesque gardens and patios. In a very private setting amongst a grove of graceful oaks.
Erika Demma 650.851.2666
CENTRAL WOODSIDE \$500,000
1 acre upslope lot w/Bay views. Buyer to verify if land can be improved, requires septic system only. Woodside Elementary School K-8.
Steven Lessard 650.851.2666

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Barbara Ellis 650.324.4456

PALO ALTO
NEW CONSTRUCTION \$5,850,000
5 BR 4 BA Approx 4,700 SF of living space spread over 3 levels. Approx 8,079 SF lot in Leland Manor neighborhood. Top quality materials used throughout the hm.
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456
SPECTACULAR, SPACIOUS HM \$2,750,000
6 BR 4.5 BA This amazing 4,489 sqft state-of-the-art, nearly new home is thoughtfully designed with 6 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms.
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456
UNEXPECTED ELEGANCE \$2,895,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Handsome 1-level home combines excellent new construction, remodeling & "green" considerations w/ the charm of yesteryear. Near Stanford, downtown.
Sarah Elder 650.324.4456
NEW LISTING! \$2,750,000
5 BR 4 BA 5BD/4BA Contemporary ranch home. Private 0.9 acre garden setting lot with decks, sunny patios, and pool. PA schools. Not to be missed!
Sue Crawford 650.324.4456
COMMUNITY CENTER CLASSIC \$1,600,000
2 BR 1 BA Charming updated & expanded 2BD/1BA. 1926 Craftsman style hm + addit 2BD/1BA cottage-each w/its own garage. 8,200sq ft lot located in Community Center
Don Diltz 650.324.4456
MOVE IN CONDITION! \$1,500,000
3 BR 1 BA Barron Park bright & airy Eichler home nestled on a large verdant lot within walking & biking distance of schools, parks, shops & transportation!
Gwen Luce 650.324.4456
BARRON PARK PALO ALTO! \$1,000,000
8,833 SF lot (64.34x137.28), close to back entry to Gunn High School! Contact gluce@cbnorcal.com/650-566-5343. Hurry!
Gwen Luce 650.324.4456
SHARP DOWNTOWN CONDO! \$829,000
2 BR 2 BA Handsome, updated downtown condo. Remodeled kitchen with breakfast area. LR with fireplace & built-ins. 2 parking spaces. Convenient location!
Carol MacCorkle 650.324.4456
SPACIOUS END UNIT CONDO! \$445,000
2 BR 1 BA Wow!!! A spacious end unit condo in Palo Alto for \$445k!!!
John Spiller 650.324.4456
SPAC, WELL-MAINT TOWNHOME \$935,000
3 BR 2.5 BA High ceil, lots/lite, hd flrs, new paint, carpet, tile in ba, beaut deck w/trell + bench, a/c, alarm, w/d inside blt-ins. Well maint & good schools!
Deanna Tarr 650.324.4456
NEW LISTING! \$1,445,000
3 BR 2 BA High vaulted ceilings contemporary home with walls of glass overlooking pleasant back yard. 3Bedrooms/2Baths. Award winning Las Lomitas & M-A Schools.
Steve Bellumori 650.324.4456

LOS ALTOS
MOVE-IN CONDITION \$1,995,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Gorgeous home with top quality finishes throughout. Elegant pool, a spa and pergola on spacious and beautifully landscaped grounds.
Jean & Chris Isaacson 650.851.2666
LOS ALTOS HILLS
GRAND HOME \$6,495,000
4 BR 4 BA Built just 4 yrs ago as a trad. English cntry manor, & positioned in an area of other estates all with the backdrop of Rancho San Antonio open space.
Chris Taelemans 650.851.2666
MENLO PARK
NEWLY BUILT IN MENLO PARK \$4,995,000
6 BR 5 BA Stunning new home in prime Menlo Park on large lot. Every amenity on three floors. Basement with theatre and more. Great Menlo Park Schools.
Tom LeMieux 650.323.7751
PRIMEWEST MENLO! \$4,150,000
6 BR 4 BA Final plans submitted to building dept. for 6BR/6BA, 5400sf Craftsman on 10,690sf lot. Designed by renowned architect Steve Pogue.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161
STUNNING REMODELED CONDO \$1,250,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Light-filled condo loc. in exclusive Menlo Towers. This end unit features beau. appoint. throughout. Formal entry, remodeled kit w/granite countertops
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751
504 OKEEFFE ST \$1,499,000
4 BR 3 BA Beautiful New Construction in the Willows. Built by J5 Homes & Designed by Alex Miller-Cole.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161
SING FAM HM W/LEGAL RENT. \$1,399,000
4 BR 3 BA Great remodeled home with wood floors, separate dining, lg. living room w/FR double pane windows, patio, pool & legal rental. Las Lomitas Schools.
Valerie Trenter 650.323.7751
STUNNING HOME IN PRIV LOC \$1,250,000
3 BR 2 BA Elegant living room with fireplace - vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, exquisite master suite with private bath. Lovely pool & lush gardens.
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751
REMODELED MENLO PARK HOME \$1,149,000
3 BR 1 BA Updated home with large private yard close to schools, commute and shops. Granite kit with informal dining. Lots of natural light. Las Lomitas Schools
Tom LeMieux 650.323.7751
SHARON OAKSTOWNHOME \$1,098,000
2 BR 2 BA Elegant ground floor single-level TH in prime location in W. Menlo Park in desirable Sharon Oaks Complex. Spacious Bonus room, 2 car attached garage.
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STUNNING TOWNHOME! \$929,000
3 BR 2.5 BA This Elegant 3BR/2.5BA Hm Is Perfect For The Calif Lifestyle. It Has A Elegant LR, Sep. DR & FR Adj To KIT! The Inviting Deck Overlooks The Swim Pool.
John Alexander 650.323.7751
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY IN MP \$899,000
2 BR 1 BA Bring a paintbrush & build some equity. Quiet street on good size lot. Formal dining room & eat-in kit. 2 car garage. Menlo Park Schools. Don't Miss!
David McKeever 650.323.7751
2B END UNIT MENLO COMMONS \$539,000
2 BR 1 BA 2BR 2BA Sunny corner tree view complex incl pool/spa rec rm exercise room planned activities close to Stanford/shops/transportation 55+
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GREAT STARTER HOME! \$485,000
2 BR 1 BA Lovely Willow Condo. Updated top floor end unit. Detached 1-car gar + assigned space Hdw flr & crown molding. Close to PA downtown.
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MENLO PARK
NEAR PARK & PLAYGROUND \$376,000
2 BR 1 BA Home features some updates, newer double paneled windows, nicely landscaped and fully fenced yards! One car garage.
Fabiola Prieto 650.325.6161
PALO ALTO
NEW MEDITERRANEAN HOME \$2,295,000
4 BR 4.5 BA New 2 story including a grand master. Beautiful cook's kitchen, family room, 2 Fireplaces, wood flrs, hi ceilings, gorgeous amenities. PA Schools.
Hossein Jalali 650.323.7751
PORTOLA VALLEY
UNIQUE CONTEMPORARY \$2,995,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Exquisite home in tranquil creekside setting, approx 1/3 acre w/stunning gardens. Open and inviting design accommodates formal and relaxed living.
Ginny Kavanaugh 650.851.1961
SECLUDED PV HOME \$1,825,000
3 BR 2 BA At the end of a cul-de-sac, this beautiful home is surrounded by majestic oak trees, update kit, newer roof & driveway, expansive deck, extra storage.
Kathy Nicolsia/Colleen Cooley 650.323.7751
RUSTIC CHARM \$1,098,000
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Celeste Henzel 650.851.1961
GENTLY SLOPING LOT \$699,000
Beautiful lot w/filtered views of the hills. Enjoy country living within 15 mins. Commute to Hwy 280 & Ladera shopping center. PV schls. .25 ac.
Kathie Christie 650.851.1961
REDWOOD CITY
REMODELED HM W/WINE CELL \$1,799,000
4 BR 3 BA Bright & spacious with wood floors, open kitchen granite counters, FR, separate dining, large master w/priv deck & a fantastic patio & wine cellar!
Valerie Trenter 650.323.7751
STUNNING REMODELED HOME \$1,295,000
3 BR 2 BA Elegant LR, gourmet kit w/top of the line appliances, lovely dining area, exquisite mstr BR suite, deck off LR w/views! Award-winning Roy Cloud School
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751
MT CARMEL ON A LARGE LOT \$1,058,000
4 BR 2 BA Country charm on a 12,600 sf lot. Hrdwd flrs, 2 car garage. Interior access to full unfinished walk-out basement. Possible subdivision. Check w/city.
Owen Halliday 650.325.6161
GORGEOUS TOWNHOME! \$725,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Spacious, exquisitely updated. Gorgeous kitchen w/ granite, stainless appliances. Grand master suite. LR/DR open to patio. Inside laundry. 2-car gar.
Dan Ziony 650.325.6161
SAN CARLOS
REMODELED W/ FAMILY ROOM \$1,289,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Totally remodeled home with maple wood floors, LR with FP, DR, Chef's Kitchen, bonus room, 2 car garage, private patio and yard. White Oaks School.
Valerie Trenter 650.323.7751
REMODELED IN WHITE OAKS! \$848,000
3 BR 1 BA Living room with beam ceilings. New roof, furnace, bathroom, paint & windows. Cherry cabinets in kit. 1 car garage. Large Lot.
Arvada Darnell 650.325.6161

SUNNYVALE
EXTENSIVELY REMODELED \$887,000
3 BR 2 BA Spacious master suite w/vaulted ceilings. Jacuzzi tub. New kitchen granite counters. Hardwood floors. Double pane windows. Front sitting porch. Deck
Ken Morgan & Arlene Gault 650.323.7751
WOODSIDE
LANDMARK ESTATE \$14,500,000
7 BR 8 BA This estate is located in the center of Woodside on approx. 4.9 level acres of park-like grounds. Plus 2-story 3bd/2ba gsthse, lg barn, and tennis ct.
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Diane Rothe 650.851.2666
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