

**SPICE UP LIFE** at the table.  
See Food & Drink, Page 19

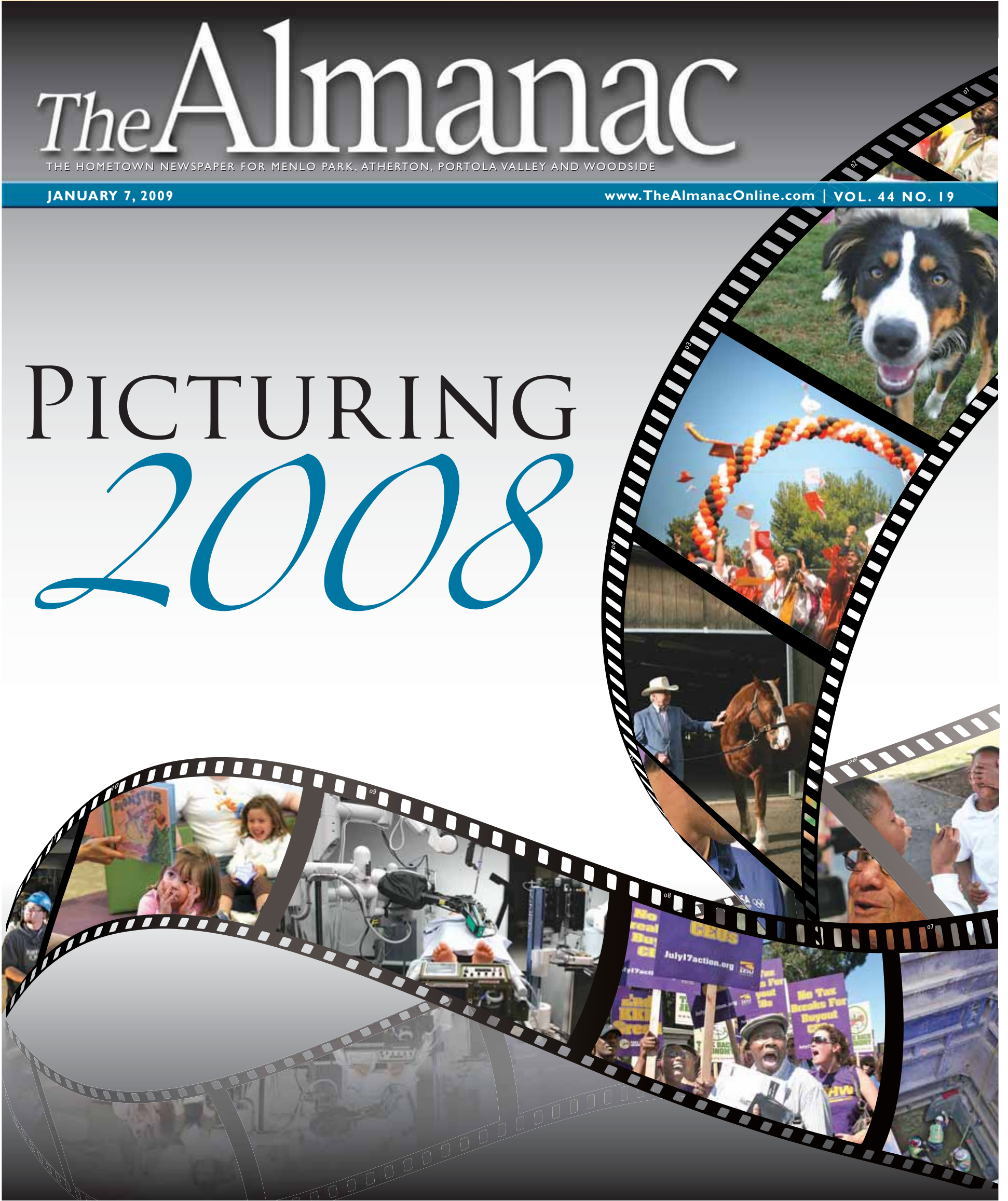
# The Almanac

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

JANUARY 7, 2009

[www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com) | VOL. 44 NO. 19

## PICTURING 2008



REDEFINING QUALITY SINCE 1990

Reading between the emotional line makes the difference between finding a house and a home.



### ATHERTON

Built in the 1920's this renovated and updated Mediterranean Estate is in prime West Atherton. Adjacent to the Kit/FR is an outdoor loggia with fireplace and is wired for an outdoor flat panel TV. Living area consists of 7200+/-sf which includes main residence and loggia of approx 6100+/-sf. Guest house and pool cabana of 1100+/-sf. 3 car garage, pool with cover spa sport court. Menlo Park schools.

**\$9,875,000**



### WOODSIDE

Private 3.66+/- acres located near the desirable Woodside Country Club/ Family Farm. Lot received ASRB conditional approval for 5,500+/-sf home in 2003-subsequently expired in 2005. Easement created later to accommodate building site with easier access.

**\$1,749,000**



### MENLO PARK

West Menlo 4bd/3ba home located across from Oak Knoll Elementary. Large fenced yard adjacent to creek. Pool/ spa are solar heated. Enclosed sun room adjoining LR and DR for California living at it's best. Eight skylights and picture windows make this rancher light and bright. Two master suites allow for comfortable in-law or nanny living.

**\$1,499,000**

apr.com | **MENLO PARK OFFICE** 1550 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 100 650.462.1111

apr.com | **WOODSIDE OFFICE** 2930 WOODSIDE ROAD 650.529.1111

**APR COUNTIES** | Santa Clara | San Mateo | San Francisco | Alameda | Contra Costa | Monterey | Santa Cruz



# Inside

This week's news, features and community events.

## FIRST SHOT



Photo by Amy Mackowski

### Stream dreams

Some day soon, this 300-foot section of Portola Valley's Sausal Creek, resurrected from an underground culvert at a cost of \$1.2 million, will burble through the new Town Center. Its banks will be blooming with native plants, thanks to volunteer gardeners like these, who got their feet wet and muddy on a recent November morning.

### Atherton

■ John Johns asks court to give town's top finance job back to him. **Page 9**

### Menlo Park

■ Foreclosures mount in Belle Haven. **Page 5**  
■ Briefs: City Council will meet to set goals for the new year. **Page 16**

### Portola Valley

■ Ann Wengert named mayor. **Page 10**

### Regional

■ Clara-Mateo Alliance in Menlo Park, Peninsula's largest shelter, may close. **Page 9**

### Also Inside

Calendar .....21  
Letters .....22  
Obituaries ..... 17  
Police Calls .....16

### CALLING ON THE ALMANAC

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

For Classified ads, call **854-0858**  
For all other calls, phone **854-2626**  
News: **Ext. 213**  
Display advertising: **Ext. 233**  
Fax: **854-0677**

■ E-mail news, information and obituaries to (no photos please): **editor@AlmanacNews.com**  
■ E-mail news photos with captions to: **AlmanacNews@gmail.com**  
■ E-mail letters to the editor to: **letters@AlmanacNews.com**

To request free delivery, or stop delivery, of The Almanac in zip code 94025, 94027, 94028 and the Woodside portion of 94062, call **854-2626**.

**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.



## Got Hope?

In these difficult times, Dr. Jean Schellenberg, clinical psychologist, can help you personally and professionally to:

- Get beyond fear, frustration and anxiety after a layoff
- Find creative outlets for processing stress and complex feelings
- Deal with survival issues that arise during loss and uncertainty
- Set goals, refine resumes, and restore confidence
- Strengthen relationships during career stress

5<sup>th</sup> HOURLY SESSION **FREE** AFTER 4 PAID SESSIONS

For an appointment or more information call (650) 482-9977.

Dr. Jean Schellenberg  
has a private practice in Portola Valley  
LIC #17128



The PHILLIPS BROOKS SCHOOL

Now Accepting Applications for Pre-K through Grade 5!



**Our Mission:** The Phillips Brooks School community inspires students to **love learning**, to develop a **spiritual** nature, to **communicate effectively**, to **be kind** to others and to **respect** the uniqueness of each person.

Preschool-5th Grade · Tuition Assistance Available  
2245 Avy Avenue · Menlo Park, CA 94025 · 650.854.4545

Amanda Perla, Director of Admissions  
Visit us at <http://www.phillipsbrooks.org>

### Environment

■ It's time to act on global warming, NASA's James Hansen says. **Page 7**

### People

■ Menlo School grad Peter Dixon, on holiday leave from the Marines, talks about his experiences in Afghanistan. **Page 5**  
■ Belle Haven eighth-grader named "scholar of the year." **Page 5**

### Community

■ Global Volunteers: a chance to give back. **Page 13**

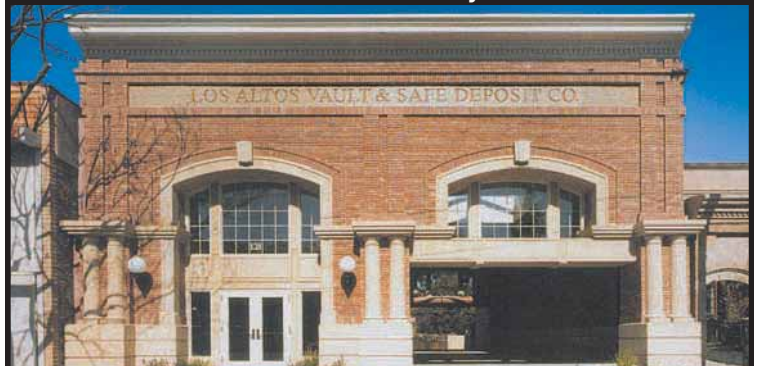
### Food & Drink

■ Spicing things up at the table. **Page 19**

### On the cover

We say goodbye to 2008 with a look at images of a few notable moments that we think represent the spirit and richness of life in our community. Cover designed by Gary Vennarucci. See **Page 14**

## IF IT'S NOT IN THIS VAULT, IT'S NOT SAFE.



### LOS ALTOS VAULT & SAFE DEPOSIT CO.

A private depository  
Safe deposit boxes of all sizes  
Strict and total confidentiality  
Secured and ample parking

For your own sake we should have your business.  
Visit our facilities and judge for yourself.  
Data bank for important and confidential records.

### SAFE FROM STATE & FEDERAL INTRUSION

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HACKERS TO PENETRATE OUR COMPUTER SYSTEM. REASON — WE HAVE NO COMPUTERS. WE DO BUSINESS THE OLD FASHIONED WAY.

121 First Street, Los Altos, CA 94022  
Tel: 650-949-5891 [www.losaltosvault.com](http://www.losaltosvault.com)



A TOWN MARKET PLACE  
**ROBERTS MARKET**  
 SINCE 1889

3015 Woodside Road Woodside, 650-851-1511  
 4420 Alpine Road Portola Valley, 650-851-1711  
 Open 6:30AM - 8PM

Sale Dates: Jan 7, 8, 9, 10

www.robertsmarket.com

**Roberts Tip of the Week**



Fresh  
**PRODUCE**



**COMICE PEARS**

**99¢** lb.

6 oz.

**DRISCOLL BLUEBERRIES**

**\$1.59** ea.

Clip Top

**LOOSE CARROTS**

**49¢** lb.

All Purpose

**RUSSET POTATOES**

**59¢** lb.

Special this week at Roberts

**MEAT**



**COWBOY STEAKS**

**\$9<sup>98</sup>** lb.

**RIB STEAK**

**\$9<sup>98</sup>** lb.

**FRESH BAY SHRIMP**

**\$7<sup>98</sup>** lb.

**ORGANIC CHICKEN BREAST**

**\$7<sup>98</sup>** lb.

On Sale  
**GROCERY**



**ANNIE'S NATURAL  
 COWGIRL RANCH DRESSING**  
 8 oz. - Also Balsamic - Buttermilk - Italian

**\$2<sup>29</sup>**

**HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH DRESSING**

16 oz. - Also Light

**\$3<sup>49</sup>**

**BAGEL BITES - CHEESE PEPPERONI**

7 oz. - Also Cheese - Sausage - Pepperoni

**\$1<sup>69</sup>**

**DANNON ACTIVA LIGHT YOGURT**

4 - 4 oz. pack - Also Original

**\$2<sup>29</sup>**

**NABISCO OREO CHOCOLATE SANDWICH COOKIES**

18 oz. - Also Double Stuff

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**

**CHARMIN ULTRA SOFT MEGA ROLL**

6 count

**\$8<sup>29</sup>**

*Spirit Specials*



**Cuervo Gold  
 Tequila** 750ml  
**\$13<sup>99</sup>**  
 Reg. \$15.99

**Cuervo Gold  
 Tequila** 750ml Reg. \$15.99 SALE **\$13<sup>99</sup>**

1.75L Reg. \$28.99 SALE **\$24<sup>99</sup>**

**Jim Beam  
 Bourbon  
 Whiskey** 750ml Reg. \$13.99 SALE **\$11<sup>99</sup>**

1.75L Reg. \$26.99 SALE **\$23<sup>99</sup>**

**Crown Royal  
 Canadian  
 Whiskey** 750ml Reg. \$20.98 SALE **\$17<sup>99</sup>**

1.75L Reg. \$40.99 SALE **\$35<sup>99</sup>**

**Bacardi Rum  
 Superior/  
 Gold** 750ml Reg. \$11.99 SALE **\$9<sup>99</sup>**

**Bombay  
 Sapphire  
 Gin** 750ml Reg. \$21.99 SALE **\$18<sup>99</sup>**

Sale prices are net and will not receive further discounts.

**Ranch-Style Dressing**

Not only is the creamy emulsion of mayonnaise and buttermilk known as "ranch dressing" used to top salads and baked potatoes, but it is a vastly popular dipping sauce for fried food and raw vegetables. It also comes as little surprise that this dressing was actually developed on a ranch, the Hidden Valley Ranch. Opened in 1954 in the hills of Santa Barbara, California, this now-famous ranch was operated by a former Alaskan Plumbing Contractor, Steve Hanson, and his family. While working in Alaska as a cook, Hanson created buttermilk-based salad dressing for his crew. After he later improved the recipe at the Hidden Valley Ranch, it became a hit with guests in the dining room.

The dressing is an important part of a salad, and you should take your time deciding the particular dressing you're going to use when you prepare a salad. At ROBERTS MARKET, we have a great selection of dressings for you to choose from, and if you feel up to making your own homemade dressing we have every ingredient you will need to do so. If you find yourself pressed for time visit our "heat and eat it" department for a wonderful gourmet prepared foods. You can find prepared foods such as homemade hot soups, sandwiches, salads, and gourmet foodstuffs.

P.S. Ranch dressing is the most popular salad dressing in America.

**DELI**

In Portola Valley & Woodside



*Now Offering Nitrate Free Meats  
 Out of Petaluma*

*Fire Roasted Garlic & Herb Turkey* **\$11<sup>99</sup>** lb.

*Applewood Smoked Ham* **\$9<sup>99</sup>** lb.

*Sherry Cured Salami ~ Full of Garlic* **\$11<sup>99</sup>** lb.

*All Nitrate Free*

~ *Special Zoe's Turkey Sandwich* ~  
 On your choice of bread . . . **\$6<sup>00</sup>** each

# Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## From Atherton to Afghanistan

Menlo School grad Peter Dixon, on leave from the Marines over the holidays, talks about his experiences as a first lieutenant in Afghanistan

By Sean Howell  
Almanac Staff Writer

First Lt. Peter Dixon of Atherton is sitting in the front room of a building made of mud in a town in the southern Afghanistan province of Farah, surrounded by a group of town elders — “gray beards,” as he affectionately calls them.

He wears fatigues; the men he’s talking to wear colorful coats and hats or turbans. Most are more than twice his age. Everyone’s sitting in the dust, feet tucked under their coats. And Lt. Dixon is about to tell a story.

His platoon — Lt. Dixon is a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps, in charge of some 70 troops — will be replaced by an older group of National Guardsmen over the holidays, and he is trying to assure the leaders that the older men will be as effective as the young soldiers under his command.

He begins, as any storyteller worth his salt would, by setting the scene: A father and son are out on patrol in the desert in the

middle of the night, when they come upon a lonely campfire. Taliban members are huddled around the fire, their AK-47s stacked at a short remove.

The son gets excited. “Dad, they don’t know we’re here,” he says. “Let’s start shooting!”

The father, however, knows bet-

*‘In a morally gray world, we are doing things the moral way.’*

FIRST LT. PETER DIXON OF ATHERTON

ter. “No, we won’t shoot from here,” he says. “We’ll sneak up close, and then we’ll shoot them all.”

Lt. Dixon, a 2001 graduate of Menlo School, smiles a little as he recalls the scene over coffee at a Menlo Park Starbucks. He is visiting family in Atherton, where he grew up, and is on a month-long leave from the Marines after a nine-month tour of duty.

“(The elders) were comforted” by the story, he says. “They

could picture it, they knew what I was saying.”

Instead of constructing a rational argument weighing the sagacity of age against the virility of youth, he knew to encode the sentiment in a parable, to give his audience something “visceral” to take away.

It would often take two hours to do 15 minutes of business in these meetings, he says, but he “had fun with it.”

Winning people over to the American cause is a central component of the United States’ mission in Afghanistan, and Lt. Dixon maintains that developing a relationship with the various tribes is all-important. Kicking a soccer ball around with kids and chatting with villagers might save lives, he says, if people become comfortable enough with the soldiers to drop a hint about the Taliban’s movements.

He will be back in Afghanistan soon enough, but for now he is trying to enjoy his vacation. He took a trip to Las Vegas with friends shortly after returning to California on Dec. 4, went on a wine-tasting tour in Napa Valley, and has plans to ski at Tahoe before being re-deployed.

### “Fort Apache”

Upon arriving in Afghanistan,



Photo courtesy of Peter Dixon.

Lt. Peter Dixon of Atherton with his mother, Betsy, upon his return from Afghanistan on Dec. 4.

Lt. Dixon’s platoon was first stationed to a massive, abandoned town named Now Zad. The Taliban had flushed the residents out, and the Army set up a base and fought the Taliban in the otherwise deserted village. (Lt. Dixon compares Now Zad to the desolate fort in the John Ford-helmed combat/Western film “Fort Apache,” featuring John Wayne).

In August of 2008, the platoon moved northwest to Bala Baluk, a town in the Farah province with a population of around 100,000. There, Lt. Dixon would spend “a couple hours a day” talking with

village elders and explaining the Americans’ intentions — conversations that would often have “a direct impact on the battlefield,” he says.

His emphasis on the importance of negotiating with village leaders suggests other parallels to “Fort Apache” — John Wayne’s character makes a number of trips to meet the Apache chief Cochise, and finds that learning about the tribe’s culture and getting to know the man goes a long way toward soothing ten-

See DIXON, page 8

## Belle Haven eighth-grader named ‘scholar of the year’

A highly motivated 13-year-old girl from Ethiopia has been named the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula’s scholar of the year for 2008.

Yodit Bitsuamlak, an eighth-grader at Belle Haven elementary school, arrived in the United States four years ago and swiftly set about learning English, according to Chris Canter, the clubs’ director of development.

Yodit was one of the first students to sign up for the Boys & Girls Clubs’ Center for a New Generation at her school when it opened in 2006. “She has never missed a day,” Mauricio Marquez, the CNG program director at the school, wrote in a press release.

The scholar of the year award goes to middle school-age youth who embody qualities of leadership, community service and aca-



Yodit Bitsuamlak, an eighth-grader at Belle Haven elementary school, spoke no English four years ago and now has a 4.0 GPA.

See YODIT, page 8

## Foreclosures mount in Belle Haven

By Sean Howell  
Almanac Staff Writer

The number of houses foreclosed upon in Menlo Park over the past year has ticked over 100, and there doesn’t seem to be much the city can do about it.

Almost all of those properties are in the Belle Haven neighborhood, according to Doug Frederick, the city’s housing manager. According to the Web site realtytrac.com, which gathers data from a variety of sources, foreclosure proceedings have begun on more than 100 houses in Menlo Park this year.

Though its options are limited, the city is beginning to toy with the idea of using state funds to purchase some of those homes with an eye to re-selling them as below-market-rate housing. Menlo Park is required to dedicate at least 20 percent of its redevelopment funds to affordable housing development, according to Arlinda Heineck, the city’s community development director. All the funds must be deployed in the city’s redevelopment district, which includes Belle Haven.

Mr. Frederick said he’s trying to find out whether it would be possible for the city to use

redevelopment money to buy up foreclosed homes, “rehabilitate” them, and sell them as below-market-rate units to Menlo Park residents who qualify. Councilman Andy Cohen has asked city staff to pursue the idea, and Mr. Frederick said that, depending on the housing department’s findings, the City Council might see a proposal to that effect within the next two months.

The other towns within The Almanac’s circulation area also saw several foreclosures in 2008, but at nowhere near the rate that Menlo Park did. Ten properties in Woodside, five in Atherton and four in Portola Valley are in some stage of foreclosure — including two homes valued at nearly \$3 million, according to realtytrac.com.

### “Basically on their own”

There’s not much the city of Menlo Park can do for people who have already lost their homes, Mr. Frederick said; those people are “basically on their own.”

“We haven’t been able to come up with much of a strategy to work with those situations, because the issues are just so massive,”

See FORECLOSURE, page 6

# Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## From Atherton to Afghanistan

Menlo School grad Peter Dixon, on leave from the Marines over the holidays, talks about his experiences as a first lieutenant in Afghanistan

By Sean Howell  
Almanac Staff Writer

First Lt. Peter Dixon of Atherton is sitting in the front room of a building made of mud in a town in the southern Afghanistan province of Farah, surrounded by a group of town elders — “gray beards,” as he affectionately calls them.

He wears fatigues; the men he’s talking to wear colorful coats and hats or turbans. Most are more than twice his age. Everyone’s sitting in the dust, feet tucked under their coats. And Lt. Dixon is about to tell a story.

His platoon — Lt. Dixon is a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps, in charge of some 70 troops — will be replaced by an older group of National Guardsmen over the holidays, and he is trying to assure the leaders that the older men will be as effective as the young soldiers under his command.

He begins, as any storyteller worth his salt would, by setting the scene: A father and son are out on patrol in the desert in the

middle of the night, when they come upon a lonely campfire. Taliban members are huddled around the fire, their AK-47’s stacked at a short remove.

The son gets excited. “Dad, they don’t know we’re here,” he says. “Let’s start shooting!”

The father, however, knows bet-

*‘In a morally gray world, we are doing things the moral way.’*

FIRST LT. PETER DIXON OF ATHERTON

ter. “No, we won’t shoot from here,” he says. “We’ll sneak up close, and then we’ll shoot them all.”

Lt. Dixon, a 2001 graduate of Menlo School, smiles a little as he recalls the scene over coffee at a Menlo Park Starbucks. He is visiting family in Atherton, where he grew up, and is on a month-long leave from the Marines after a nine-month tour of duty.

“(The elders) were comforted” by the story, he says. “They

could picture it, they knew what I was saying.”

Instead of constructing a rational argument weighing the sagacity of age against the virility of youth, he knew to encode the sentiment in a parable, to give his audience something “visceral” to take away.

It would often take two hours to do 15 minutes of business in these meetings, he says, but he “had fun with it.”

Winning people over to the American cause is a central component of the United States’ mission in Afghanistan, and Lt. Dixon maintains that developing a relationship with the various tribes is all-important. Kicking a soccer ball around with kids and chatting with villagers might save lives, he says, if people become comfortable enough with the soldiers to drop a hint about the Taliban’s movements.

He will be back in Afghanistan soon enough, but for now he is trying to enjoy his vacation. He took a trip to Las Vegas with friends shortly after returning to California on Dec. 4, went on a wine-tasting tour in Napa Valley, and has plans to ski at Tahoe before being re-deployed.

### “Fort Apache”

Upon arriving in Afghanistan,



Photo courtesy of Peter Dixon.

Lt. Peter Dixon of Atherton with his mother, Betsy, upon his return from Afghanistan on Dec. 4.

Lt. Dixon’s platoon was first stationed to a massive, abandoned town named Now Zad. The Taliban had flushed the residents out, and the Army set up a base and fought the Taliban in the otherwise deserted village. (Lt. Dixon compares Now Zad to the desolate fort in the John Ford-helmed combat/Western film “Fort Apache,” featuring John Wayne).

In August of 2008, the platoon moved northwest to Bala Baluk, a town in the Farah province with a population of around 100,000. There, Lt. Dixon would spend “a couple hours a day” talking with

village elders and explaining the Americans’ intentions — conversations that would often have “a direct impact on the battlefield,” he says.

His emphasis on the importance of negotiating with village leaders suggests other parallels to “Fort Apache” — John Wayne’s character makes a number of trips to meet the Apache chief Cochise, and finds that learning about the tribe’s culture and getting to know the man goes a long way toward soothing ten-

See DIXON, page 8

## Belle Haven eighth-grader named ‘scholar of the year’

A highly motivated 13-year-old girl from Ethiopia has been named the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula’s scholar of the year for 2008.

Yodit Bitsuamlak, an eighth-grader at Belle Haven elementary school, arrived in the United States four years ago and swiftly set about learning English, according to Chris Canter, the clubs’ director of development.

Yodit was one of the first students to sign up for the Boys & Girls Clubs’ Center for a New Generation at her school when it opened in 2006. “She has never missed a day,” Mauricio Marquez, the CNG program director at the school, wrote in a press release.

The scholar of the year award goes to middle school-age youth who embody qualities of leadership, community service and aca-



Yodit Bitsuamlak, an eighth-grader at Belle Haven elementary school, spoke no English four years ago and now has a 4.0 GPA.

See YODIT, page 8

## Foreclosures mount in Belle Haven

By Sean Howell  
Almanac Staff Writer

The number of houses foreclosed upon in Menlo Park over the past year has ticked over 100, and there doesn’t seem to be much the city can do about it.

Almost all of those properties are in the Belle Haven neighborhood, according to Doug Frederick, the city’s housing manager. According to the Web site realtytrac.com, which gathers data from a variety of sources, foreclosure proceedings have begun on more than 100 houses in Menlo Park this year.

Though its options are limited, the city is beginning to toy with the idea of using state funds to purchase some of those homes with an eye to re-selling them as below-market-rate housing. Menlo Park is required to dedicate at least 20 percent of its redevelopment funds to affordable housing development, according to Arlinda Heineck, the city’s community development director. All the funds must be deployed in the city’s redevelopment district, which includes Belle Haven.

Mr. Frederick said he’s trying to find out whether it would be possible for the city to use

redevelopment money to buy up foreclosed homes, “rehabilitate” them, and sell them as below-market-rate units to Menlo Park residents who qualify. Councilman Andy Cohen has asked city staff to pursue the idea, and Mr. Frederick said that, depending on the housing department’s findings, the City Council might see a proposal to that effect within the next two months.

The other towns within The Almanac’s circulation area also saw several foreclosures in 2008, but at nowhere near the rate that Menlo Park did. Ten properties in Woodside, five in Atherton and four in Portola Valley are in some stage of foreclosure — including two homes valued at nearly \$3 million, according to realtytrac.com.

### “Basically on their own”

There’s not much the city of Menlo Park can do for people who have already lost their homes, Mr. Frederick said; those people are “basically on their own.”

“We haven’t been able to come up with much of a strategy to work with those situations, because the issues are just so massive,”

See FROECLOSURE, page 6

## Foreclosures mount in Belle Haven

### FORECLOSURE

continued from page 5

he said.

The federal government has allocated funds to help stabilize neighborhoods that have been wracked by foreclosures, but San Mateo County hasn't seen a cent, according to Mr. Frederick. Such funding would have enabled the city to purchase and resell foreclosed units. But since that doesn't seem to be an option, the city plans to turn to the redevelopment agency for assistance.

Temporary re-housing agencies such as Shelter Network and InnVision have been forced to pick up the slack. But the magnitude of the problem exceeds the capacity of such organizations.

InnVision, in particular, seems to be buckling under the stress of a damaged economy. The nonprofit's Menlo Park facility, housed in the VA off Willow Road, is in jeopardy following a precipitous decline in donations over the last three months, said CEO Christine Burroughs. InnVision has cleared out nearly half of the 100-plus beds in the facility since Jan. 1, according

to Ms. Burroughs, and is trying to stay afloat while it looks for a way to keep the shelter open.

The turmoil at InnVision will likely put more of a burden on Shelter Network's Haven House, the other the only temporary housing facility in Menlo Park. Its campus contains 24 one- and two-bedroom apartments — mostly for renters whose leases were abruptly terminated when their landlords defaulted on the mortgage, according to spokes-

erick, the Menlo Park housing manager, both called the rate of foreclosures "unprecedented."

#### Why now?

Many blame the high foreclosure rate on banks for offering "sub-prime" mortgages that homebuyers couldn't afford in the first place.

But Mr. Frederick outlined a situation in which someone might have bought a house in Belle Haven for \$500,000 a

the property might have plummeted to \$300,000 during the market collapse; but that doesn't mean a bank would agree to renegotiate the mortgage. The homeowner would find herself on the hook for nearly double the house's value, and might choose to cut her losses and default on the loan, rather than continue to pay for a home worth less than what she owes.

#### Habitat involvement?

Like the city of Menlo Park, the low-income housing agency Habitat for Humanity is looking into buying and reselling foreclosed properties, Mr. Frederick said. Habitat spokeswoman Jennifer Doettling said Habitat is looking into buying up to 20 houses in East Palo Alto, but that she isn't aware of a similar plan for Menlo Park. (Realtytrac.com shows nearly 300 properties in the foreclosure process in East Palo Alto, and over 350 in Redwood City.)

In a letter to The Almanac, Ash Vasudeva, incoming president of the Belle Haven Neighborhood Association, said the association would be in favor of any plan to convert foreclosed homes into below-market-rate units. He suggested that Habitat could play a role in such a ven-

ture. Councilman Cohen also said that he would like to try to get Habitat involved in easing the foreclosure crisis.

If Habitat for Humanity does decide to buy foreclosed properties in Menlo Park, Ms. Doettling said, the project would have no impact on the viability of Habitat's proposed 11-duplex development on a city-owned strip of land on Terminal Avenue in Belle Haven. Habitat would not divert funds from the proposed Terminal Avenue project to buy up foreclosed houses, she said. (The Belle Haven Neighborhood Association has voiced stringent opposition to that development).

There hasn't been any discussion in the Menlo Park housing department over whether the city's potential purchase of foreclosed properties would have any bearing on the proposed Terminal Avenue development, Mr. Frederick said.

Mr. Cohen stressed that Menlo Park and East Palo Alto should work together to find a way to offer homeowners relief, because the foreclosure crisis is an issue two cities share.

"(Our efforts) may not produce a result, but then again I'm going to keep on plugging away because I think it's an important issue," he said. ■

**Ten properties in Woodside, five in Atherton and four in Portola Valley are in some stage of foreclosure, including two homes valued at nearly \$3 million, according to realtytrac.com**

woman Jenny Luciano.

As of early December, 135 families were on the wait list for those apartments, Ms. Luciano said — three times the average in a stable economy. (The agency also offers financial assistance, helping families with an income to pay for a deposit on a new rental.)

Ms. Luciano and Mr. Fred-

year ago, with an adjustable-rate mortgage. It would not be unreasonable, he said, to think the mortgage payment might have increased by as much as \$800 per month at the first resetting of the rate, he said — an amount the homeowner could no longer afford, given the state of the economy.

At the same time, the value of

## PAMF Presents

### FACIAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES

If you are thinking about cosmetic surgery it is important to have all the facts... and the right medical team. The Cosmetic Surgery Center of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation is well known for their innovation, quality and service. Our Board Certified physicians specialize in the latest – and safest – surgical and non-surgical procedures to help you look and feel your best.

Please join us for this FREE informational seminar, presented by Dr. David White, one of our highly trained cosmetic surgeons. Topics will include:

- Face Lift
- Eyelid & Brow Lift
- Neck Lift
- Nose Reshaping

Wednesday, January 14 • 6:30 – 8:00 pm

795 El Camino Real, 3rd Floor, Palo Alto

Light refreshments served

Space is limited. Call 650-330-5804 to reserve your space today, or register online at [pamf.org/cosmeticsurgery](http://pamf.org/cosmeticsurgery).

*PAMF Presents is a free seminar series designed to provide medically sound facts and information for those considering cosmetic surgery. For more information about upcoming seminars, or to schedule a complimentary, private consultation, please call 650-330-5804.*

[pamf.org/cosmeticsurgery](http://pamf.org/cosmeticsurgery)

 Palo Alto Medical  
Foundation

A Sutter Health Affiliate

THE CURE FOR COMMON MEDICINE

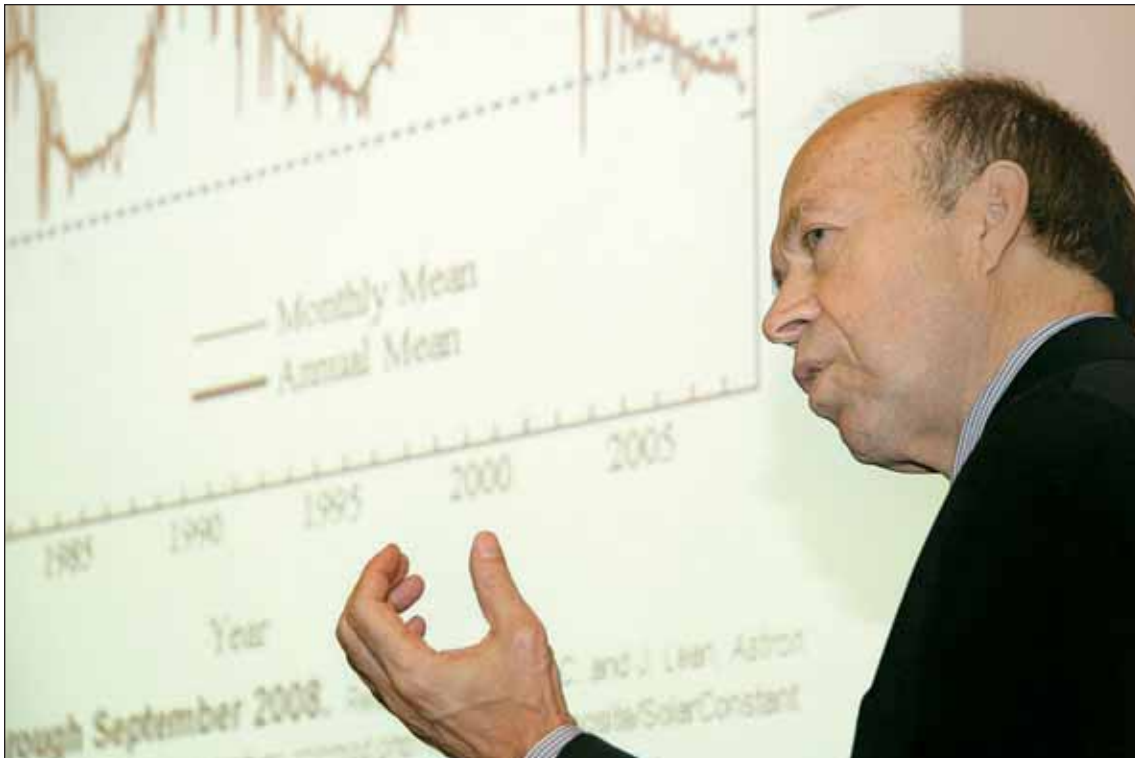


Photo by Dave Boyce/The Almanac

**NASA climatologist** James Hansen explained the need for urgent action on greenhouse gas reduction to a capacity crowd on Dec. 16 at Portola Valley's Town Center.

## It's time to act on global warming, NASA's James Hansen says

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

It's not looking good for the planet. Based on core samples of ice that contain atmospheric gases going back 400,000 years, scientists have proven a connection between higher global temperatures and high levels of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide.

The problem: higher temperatures lead to disintegrating polar ice sheets, which can lead to very unfavorable climate conditions and mass extinctions, NASA climatologist and Columbia University professor James Hansen told a capacity crowd at Portola Valley's Town Center in a Dec. 16 talk.

Climate science is complex, but one major contributor to a livable planet is the presence of ice — at the poles, on Greenland, and in the world's mountain ranges. Ice cools the planet by reflecting sunlight, provides fresh water, helps regulate ocean currents, and maintains reasonable sea levels, Mr. Hansen said. For glaciers and ice caps to remain stable, however, the atmosphere needs CO2 levels of 300 to 350 parts per million, he said.

At the moment, the CO2 concentration in our air is about 385 parts per million, and it's rising by about 2 ppm per year, he said.

Mr. Hansen is the second speaker in the "Pioneers of Sustainability" series. Inaugurating the series in October was physicist Amory Lovins, co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute, who says his mission is to make the world "secure, just, prosperous and life-sustaining."

If Mr. Hansen has a mission, perhaps it is expressed in his Nov. 21 open letter to president-elect Barack Obama.

"Now our planet itself is in peril. Not simply the Earth, but the fate of all of its species, including humanity. The situation calls not for hand-wringing,

but rather informed action.

"Optimism is fueled by expectation that decisions will be guided by reason and evidence, not ideology. The danger is that special interests will dilute and torque government policies, causing the climate to pass tipping points, with grave consequences for all life on the planet."

Mr. Hansen applauds Mr. Obama on his nomination of Steven Chu, director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, as Secretary of Energy.

"I could not have thought of a better person," Mr. Hansen said in an interview. "Here he's picked a person who can actually analyze the problem."

Mr. Hansen said he agrees with Mr. Chu on the use of fourth-generation nuclear power plants. They don't create CO2 and won't require

mined uranium because there's 1,000 years worth of fuel in current stockpiles of unspent nuclear waste, he said.

Reasons to worry: Even if the United States were to stop building coal-fired power plants, phase out existing plants, and capture their CO2, the country would continue to face the challenge stemming from the worldwide influence that fossil fuel interests have. That, plus "Obama is a compromiser," he said.

"We need government with the guts to set the rules" and end subsidies that prop up fossil fuel prices, he said in answer to an audience question. "Unless you have a price incentive, it's not going to work very well."

### Snowball effect

Long-term fluctuation of CO2 levels in the air is a natural phenomenon, but the forces behind it are slow and ponderous, including the gravity

*'The danger is that special interests will dilute and torque government policies, causing the climate to pass tipping points, with grave consequences for all life on the planet.'*

JAMES HANSEN, NASA CLIMATOLOGIST

## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



### Energy Efficiency in Home-building

If you live in an older home, this is the time of year when you are made aware of its poor insulation. Floors are cold, wind blows through the cracks around doors and windows, and heating bills rise substantially. If you live in a newer home, particularly one built in the last fifteen years, you may enjoy much better insulation, but your heating bills are still higher than they need to be.

We have seen such volatility in the past months in energy prices, and in the economy overall, that attitudes towards these topics may be changing permanently. Having

seen such high gas prices earlier this year, few people think that the lower prices we have now will necessarily stay that way. To control home energy costs in the future, the only solution is to generate your own power using renewable sources. This is what home buyers will be looking for in the future and they will be willing to pay extra for it.

As demand for renewable energy in homes rises, installation costs should come down.

This is the future of home building and remodeling, and it is a welcome change.

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



Presented by  
**Mark Schmidt**  
Licensed Optician

### DRIVER'S VISION

Drivers should be aware that poor vision can compromise their safety as much as poor road conditions and drunk driving. According to one survey, "Shedding Light on Driving in the Dark", 38% of respondents complained of eyestrain, 34% of dry/tired eyes, 25% of fatigue, and 18% of the inability to focus while driving. In fact, more than 11 million Americans are living with uncorrected vision, which can significantly impair their driving ability. With these statistics in mind, the Vision Council

recommends that drivers enhance their vision by getting regular eye exams. Drivers are also urged to wear prescription lenses and eyeglasses while driving and to wear anti-reflective lenses that eliminate glare. Driving safety is heavily dependent upon good vision.

Eyeglasses or contact lenses can correct refractive errors such as nearsightedness or distorted vision. Bring your prescription to MENLO OPTICAL at 1166 University Drive, on the corner of Oak Grove Avenue and University Drive. We are not a large, impersonal corporation where personnel changes are frequent and you never know from visit to visit who will be available to help you. We feature a wide selection of designer frames as well as contact lenses. Call us at 322-3900 if we can assist you.

P.S. According to the National Safety Council, the fatality rate among drivers and their passengers is three times higher at night than during the day, probably due to compromised vision.

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

Because you want more than peace of mind. You want the best for your Mom & Dad.



"We chose Home Care Assistance over other options because my Mom deserves the very best!"

Nine out of ten seniors prefer to live at home. That's why we're a trusted tradition among Menlo-Atherton families. Our happy caregivers bring more than care and comfort. We help prevent falls, loneliness and other risks of aging. Plus, we enable your loved ones to continue living independently, doing the activities they enjoy. Bonded and insured.

HomeCare Assistance  
1-866-4-LiveIn

"The Peninsula's #1 Choice for In-Home Senior Care."

650-462-6900

[www.HomeCareAssistance.com](http://www.HomeCareAssistance.com)

148 Hawthorne Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301

See HANSEN, page 11

# Menlo School grad and Marine goes from Atherton to service in Afghanistan

DIXON

continued from page 5

sions between Cochise's warriors and the American cavalry.

But Lt. Dixon didn't use Hollywood to imagine what the war might be like during the year and a half he spent in training before his unit was deployed, he says, maintaining that he only mentions films as a reference point to help people understand the situation in Afghanistan.

He draws more upon his education at the University of North Carolina, where he double-majored in political science and peace, war and defense — an interdisciplinary program that combines aspects of military history, psychology and philosophy. His subject list included a class on the media's coverage of war, and one on classical military tactics; another addressed the topic of whether war can be just.

Lt. Dixon has also studied Afghan history and culture, and he says that when dealing with elders or developing strategy, he will take a cue from literature he's read about the country.

## "A warrior culture"

The precondition in the so-called "battle for hearts and minds" is winning military battles, according to Lt. Dixon. Before Afghans are willing to embrace the United States' mission there, the military needs to convince people that it will be able to rout the Taliban.

No one wants to ally himself with the losing side, he says.

"It's a warrior culture," he says of the Pashtun, the country's largest tribe. "We were able to show them that we were warriors, and they respected that."

He cites American exceptionalism as the key to his platoon's success in the country, saying that the Taliban isn't used to fighting forces as aggressive as the American soldiers. The platoon was supposed to spend most of its time training Afghan police to fight the Taliban, but his troops' "natural aggressiveness" compelled them to go after the Taliban themselves, he says, and "take the fight to the enemy."

He acknowledges that there have been civilian casualties, but says that if village elders believe the war is just, they are willing to accept a limited number of civilian deaths as inevitable collateral damage.

He maintains that the villagers understand and abide by the Americans' rules of engagement.

He recalls an incident when an Afghan man was riding a motorcycle toward an American outpost. It was clear from the man's expression that he wasn't paying attention to where he was going, so an American soldier used the butt of his rifle to knock the man off the bike instead of shooting him, which would have been standard operating procedure in such a scenario.

But if the man had been killed, villagers would not have held it against the Americans, Lt. Dixon says. Instead, they would have blamed the motorcyclist for not heeding the rules.

He sees civilian casualties as inevitable, to a certain extent. It's hard to tell civilians apart from Taliban members, he says, because they dress the same. But he praises the "discipline" the troops in his command have displayed in minimizing civilian deaths.

## Rules of engagement

The Americans' adherence to their own military code has "tied our hands" in certain situations, Lt. Dixon says. For instance, the Army will send soldiers into a deserted village like the one his platoon was first assigned to, rather than bomb it — even if it's relatively confident that there aren't any civilians there.

He points out that Taliban members tend to hew pretty closely to Pashtunwali, an ancient code of behavior that dictates



## Medical home to many

Ofa Mataale, left, a licensed vocational nurse at the Belle Haven Clinic, with Tafua and Meleana Mataale, for whom the clinic is their medical home. Ofa is their daughter-in-law. The clinic is operated by the Ravenswood Family Health Center, which provides medical services to low-income and uninsured residents in Belle Haven, East Palo Alto and east Redwood City. The health center is a beneficiary of The Almanac's Holiday Fund drive. To contribute to the Holiday Fund, go to [tinyurl.com/Fund08](http://tinyurl.com/Fund08).

separates us from him are the fortunes of God," he told the men. "If we don't help this man, we will find ourselves in his shoes."

The men were visibly moved. One of the elders regarded Lt. Dixon for a moment, then said something to the translator.

home, seeing his friends and family and "doing normal things for a change" — like a recent game of paintball he played with his family.

"Everybody wanted to be on my team," he says with a cautious smile.

It feels good to be able to kick back and have a beer with friends, he says; it's nice to be able to let his guard down. Though his experience has been different than that of his high school classmates, the dynamic with his friends hasn't changed much, and it's been easy to slip back into his old routine.

Lt. Dixon says he probably won't pursue a military career, but that it's been "tremendously rewarding" work.

He arrived at Chapel Hill as a freshman in the fall of 2001, planning to major in journalism. The attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center spurred him to join the Marines — though he waited until graduating to sign up.

He felt he had to do something about the "2 percent" of people who try to "oppress the other 98 percent," he says. He portrays the Taliban as a loose association of hard-nosed criminals, mercenaries and opportunistic crooks, rather than a centralized organization with a coherent ideology.

"All other politics aside, these ruthless people are trying to rule the good 98 percent," he says. "Without rough men ready to visit violence onto them, they'll never stop." If the United States allows the Taliban to promulgate, he says, it won't be long before we see the consequences in our own backyard.

Lt. Dixon maintains that if Taliban factions want to lay down their arms and negotiate for peace, the federal government should try to accommodate them, by all means. But for those who refuse to negotiate or surrender, he believes a war of extermination is the military's only recourse. ■

*'It's a warrior culture,' Lt. Peter Dixon says of the Pashtun, the country's largest tribe. 'We were able to show them that we were warriors, and they respected that.'*

social mores for the Pashtun — though he pointedly notes that Pashtunwali does not necessarily align with the Geneva Conventions. The American Army has learned to use that code to its advantage, he says. For instance, ridicule and banishment of a Taliban member at the hands of a village elder can be just as effective as locking the man up.

Even in a "guerilla war" like the one his platoon has been fighting, he thinks it is possible to adhere to rules.

"In a morally gray world, we are doing things the moral way," he says. "My men's honor is clean."

At one of his daily meetings with village elders, he implored them to help an old man afflicted with palsy. "The only thing that

"These Americans are really good Muslims," the translator relayed. Lt. Dixon took the phrase to mean that the elders recognized they shared a set of cultural values with the Americans. He saw the comment as a sign that the military was starting to win over the townspeople.

## Coming home

Lt. Dixon has enjoyed being

## YODIT

continued from page 5

demic achievement.

Yodit has a perfect 4.0 grade point average, teaches Sunday school at her church, and volunteers with Youth Community

Services through its partnership with the Boys & Girls Club, said Mr. Canter. She helps her cousins with their homework and helps her mother navigate English-language documents. Her father currently lives in Eritrea.

Yodit said she hopes to attend

Eastside Prep for high school, and that she plans to graduate with honors from Stanford University.

"I have examples all around me of people who didn't go to college, and their opportunities in life are so limited. That is not how I want my life to be," she said.

# Largest local shelter may close

By Sean Howell  
Almanac Staff Writer

With the recent spike in foreclosures putting a higher burden than ever on the Peninsula's temporary housing agencies, the largest of those organizations might be forced to close its Menlo Park facility.

InnVision, the nonprofit that operates the 100-bed Clara-Mateo Alliance shelter at the Menlo Park Veterans Affairs medical center campus off Willow Road, has cleared nearly half the residents from that facility, according to CEO Christine Burroughs. The agency is trying

to keep the shelter afloat and continue with its emergency housing services while it applies for funding from San Mateo County, as well as the cities of Menlo Park and Palo Alto.

Private donations, which account for over half of InnVision's operating budget, are off by more than 20 percent this year, Ms. Burroughs said.

The nonprofit announced in November that it would require an additional \$500,000 in donations by Jan. 1 to continue operating the Clara-Mateo shelter, but didn't meet that number.

Ms. Burroughs called the shelter's status "week-to-week."

"It's pretty devastating to close down a shelter, and we would prefer not to do that," she said. "We'd prefer to keep the number (of residents) and the cost down as much as possible, to try to look at different combinations of efforts to keep it going."

But any measure to keep the shelter open would be only a temporary stay — the VA is in the midst of renovating its facilities, and plans to demolish the building the shelter occupies by 2010. The VA notified InnVision of its plans two years ago, to give it time to find a new space, according to a VA spokesperson. ■

# Atherton: Johns asks court to reinstate him

By Andrea Gemmet  
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton's former finance director is asking the court to give him his old job back. John Johns, who worked for the town from November 2001 until he was fired in October 2007, filed a writ of administrative mandate with the San Mateo County Superior Court on Dec. 31 asking to be reinstated as finance director, along with back pay and benefits.

Of course, Atherton has a finance director, the recently hired Louise Ho.

Atherton City Attorney Marc Hynes sounded unworried about the latest legal action against the town by Mr. Johns. "At this point, I think there are adequate legal defenses to all of the claims. And I mean that," he said.

Mayor Jerry Carlson said he had seen the court filing, but referred all questions to Mr. Hynes.

Mr. Johns maintains that he was targeted for exposing problems and fiscal improprieties in town hall, and that subsequent public comments by Atherton officials tarnished his reputation and ruined his career. He said he was denied a chance to clear his name in a pre-termination hearing before being fired by interim City Manager Wende Protzman.

According to Mr. Hynes, management employees such as Mr. Johns don't have a right to a pre-termination hearing, even though it's a common protection accorded to rank-and-file public employees.

Mr. Johns played a key role in a series of internal audits that led to a shake-up of the Atherton Building Department, triggered a series of San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury reports, and stirred up legal action over several residential building projects.

The 11-page court document

filed by Mr. Johns outlines the events leading up to his dismissal. In September 2007, when former police chief Bob Brennan formally complained that Mr. Johns had created a hostile work environment, Mr. Johns was placed on administrative leave for two months while those charges — and others — were investigated by outside attorney Mary Topliff.

Mr. Johns claims that when the hostile workplace charges couldn't be substantiated, the scope of the investigation was improperly broadened at the direction of the City Council, acting in closed session. The council's alleged involvement violates Atherton municipal code and the state's open meeting laws, known as the Brown Act, Mr. Johns claims.

"If you spend money for a filing, you can allege anything you'd like, but quite frankly, they're barking up the wrong tree," said Mr. Hynes about the allegations of council interference. ■

## TOWN OF WOODSIDE INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR COMMITTEES

### BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Meets third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises and recommends to the Town Council on the policies for planning, developing, maintaining, and usage of Town's bikeways system.

### CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meets fourth Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises and assists the Town Council, Planning Commission, and staff on conservation, open space, noise, public services and facilities as pertaining to the elements of the Town's General Plan.

### LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Meets fourth Wednesday of each month; 5:30 p.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises the Planning Director on applications for commercial stable permits, dog kennel permits, and exception requests to the private stable regulations.

### OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Meets fourth Thursday of each month, 5:00 p.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises and assists the Town Council, Planning Commission and staff in implementing the policies and goals of the Open Space and Conservation elements of the General Plan, specifically with respect to acquisition and maintenance of conservation easements and open space preservation.

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meets on call of Chair; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises the Town Council and staff on issues of community public safety, including police and fire services provided within the Town.

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Meets first Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m.; appointed for three year term.

The Committee guides the activities of the community recreation programs.

### TRAILS COMMITTEE

Meets second Thursday of each month, 3:00 p.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee reviews land divisions, subdivisions and conditional use permits for locations for equestrian, pedestrian and bicycle trails and makes recommendations to the staff and to the Planning Commission.

### WOODSIDE HISTORY COMMITTEE

Meets first Thursday of each month, 9:30 a.m.; appointed for two year term.

The Committee advises the Town Council and staff regarding actions, policies and plans relating to historic preservation.

*Committees are volunteer positions and serve in an advisory capacity to the Town Council.*

*Interested residents may request information and applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon and 1 – 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, or telephone (650) 851-6790, or through the Town's web site at [www.woodsidetown.org](http://www.woodsidetown.org). Deadline for applications is Friday, January 16, 2009, 5:00 p.m.*

Published in THE ALMANAC on  
December 24, 31, 2008 and January 7, 14 2009.

## ASK THE DEPUTY

**Q.** I have heard of mail thefts in my area. Can you tell me more about this?

**A.** There have been a lot of mail thefts in local communities and elsewhere. Usually, bank information is obtained from incoming mail, especially during tax season. This can provide the thief with Social Security and bank account numbers.

In the outgoing mail, the thief is retrieving your personal checks that are supposed to be paying your bills. The checks are then "washed" and then the payee and amount is changed so that the thief can deposit or cash the check for a large amount.

The best way to avoid this is to be careful about your mail. If pos-

**Deputy Stephanie Josephson**, who patrols locally for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, answers your questions about law enforcement.

Submit questions to [editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:editor@AlmanacNews.com); or call 854-2626, ext. 213; or mail questions to: Ask the Deputy, The Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025.



sible, purchase a locking mailbox. At the very least, retrieve your mail daily and deposit your valuable outgoing mail into a post office mailbox rather than leaving it in your unlocked mailbox.

**THE ALMANAC ONLINE DELIVERS 24/7.**



CHECK THE LATEST MOVIE REVIEWS and much more

[TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://TheAlmanacOnline.com)

# Ann Wengert named mayor of Portola Valley

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

Councilwoman Ann Wengert is the new mayor of Portola Valley for the next 12 months.

Ms. Wengert, a real estate and business adviser to small businesses, individuals and commercial property owners, was chosen by the Portola Valley Town Council on Dec. 10 on a 4-0-1 vote, with Councilman Richard Merk abstaining.

The mayor's job is largely ceremonial and includes setting the agenda and chairing council meetings. She remains on the council. Councilman Steve Toben, the new vice-mayor, will sit in for the mayor when she is absent.

Ms. Wengert is a former planning commissioner, a former acquisition adviser for Peninsula Open Space Trust, and a docent/naturalist at the Ano Nuevo State Reserve.

She has lived in Portola Valley for nine years with Leslie Latham, her partner of 26 years, and with two Australian shepherd dogs, she said.

Ms. Wengert heads PV Properties, a sole proprietorship. She was the co-founder of Property Capital Corp. and Briggs Wengert Associates, LLC, both San Francisco firms.

Over her 28-year career, she has represented investors in transactions worth more than \$5 billion, she said in a statement. Her list of clients includes Alaska's state investment fund, and teacher

retirement funds for California and New York.

She has raised some \$6 million in venture and angel financing and has arranged corporate acquisitions and institutional financing worth hundreds of millions of dollars. These days, she operates from referrals and word of mouth, she said.

Ms. Wengert has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Bucknell University and a master's degree in business from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

## About that abstention

Mr. Merk's abstention was unrelated to the choice of Ms. Wengert as mayor, but to the way she was elected, he said in an interview.

As her last mayoral act, Maryann Moise Derwin gave a speech that concluded with her nomination of Ms. Wengert, who was serving as vice-mayor. Councilman Ted Driscoll seconded the nomination and Ms. Derwin immediately asked for a vote. After a chorus of "ayes," she handed the gavel to Ms. Wengert.

It is improper parliamentary procedure, Mr. Merk said, for a mayor to make a motion — in this case, a nomination — except in unusual circumstances. He also faulted Ms. Derwin for not asking for other nominations and for not asking for "nay" votes and abstentions.

The way Ms. Derwin handled it "is just bad political practice," he said. "With Robert's Rules (of



Photo courtesy of Ed Davis

**Councilwoman Ann Wengert**, a former planning commissioner, has lived in Portola Valley for nine years.

order), the point is that everyone gets heard and everyone gets a chance to speak."

Mr. Merk, who is normally out of town for the December meeting, said he leaned back and informed the mayor of his abstention after the vote. Town Clerk Sharon Hanlon confirms this account.

There's nothing technically wrong with Ms. Derwin's process, Town Attorney Sandy Sloan said in an interview. While the Portola Valley council "generally" follows parliamentary procedure, there are no specific rules, nor are there legal requirements, as to how an outgoing mayor initiates a vote for a successor, she said.

"It was a little rushed," she added.

Asked to comment on Mr.

Merk's complaint, Ms. Derwin said, "That's pretty good," and added that she was elected mayor in a similar style.

She acknowledged not having asked for other nominations, "nay" votes and abstentions. "I was shocked," she said, at Mr. Merk abstention. "I didn't think anybody was going to nominate anybody else. He could have chimed in if he felt out of sorts."

It's common practice for the mayor's job to rotate among council members. Mr. Merk, who is in his 12th year on the council, served as mayor in the 1990s but has not been nominated in recent years.

Ms. Derwin said she had worked some years ago, behind the scenes, to get Mr. Merk nominated, but was rebuffed by fellow council members on the grounds that Mr. Merk doesn't meet a key mayoral criterion: getting along with Town Man-

ager Angela Howard.

In an interview, Mr. Merk acknowledged concerns.

"I just don't think that Angela Howard is doing a good job," he said. "I think she's hard on the employees, I think she's a micro-manager, I think she doesn't know how to let other people do a good job."

Mr. Merk, a longtime liaison to the town's Emergency Preparedness Committee, complained at length about Ms. Howard's "bottom of the list" priority for emergency preparedness at Town Hall. "She thinks she's ready and I don't think she has a clue."

Ms. Howard, on being told that Mr. Merk had complained about her job performance, chose not to address specifics, but replied: "I'm disappointed that he feels that way. He's never spoken to me about what are deficiencies in my duties and, other than that, I don't have any comment." ■

## Pipeline EIR ready for public review

The draft environmental impact report (EIR) for the project that will construct a pipeline under Bay Road in Menlo Park is now available for public review and comment.

The project, spearheaded by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, is part of a \$4.4 billion upgrade of the Hetch Hetchy water system that supplies water to the Bay Area.

The pipeline is designed to supplement two aging pipes

that bring drinking water from the Sierra under San Francisco Bay to customers on the Peninsula. It will allow the SFPUC to temporarily shut down the older pipes in order to gird them for an earthquake, and will allow the system to continue to function if an earthquake knocks one or both of the older pipes out of commission.

Public comment on the draft EIR will be accepted until Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. A public hearing in Menlo Park is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, in the cafeteria at Belle Haven Community School, 415 Ivy Drive.

The draft EIR can be reviewed online at [sfplanning.org/mea](http://sfplanning.org/mea). A copy of the report is also available at the San Francisco Planning Department at 1660 Mission St., at the first-floor planning information counter.

For more information, call 415-558-6378.



## Get Connected!

Discover peace of mind with Avenidas Village

- ◆ Stay in your home as you age
- ◆ One call resource for all your needs
- ◆ Concierge-level support
- ◆ Access to vetted vendors & discounts
- ◆ Daily telephone check-in service
- ◆ Transportation for medical appointments
- ◆ Members-only website & email group
- ◆ Opportunities for socializing
- ◆ Cultural & educational offerings
- ◆ Safety net for facing challenges
- ◆ Coordination of care after hospital visits

Call (650) 289-5405 or visit  
[www.avenidasvillage.org](http://www.avenidasvillage.org)

Avenidas  
Village

*Jensen Hauser*

**CUSTOM UPHOLSTERING**  
Swiss Craftsmanship Since 1950  
98 5th Ave. • (650) 365-5027 • Redwood City

*Images of Woodside*  
BEAUTY SALON  
3040 Woodside Road • Woodside  
(650) 851-7103  
[www.imagesofwoodside.com](http://www.imagesofwoodside.com)

We offer Family haircuts, Hair colors, Perms, Wedding & Formal hair styles, Manicure & Pedicure, Facials, & Body treatments. Now carrying **BUMBLE & BUMBLE**

TUESDAY - FRIDAY: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
(Located near Buck's Restaurant) HOLIDAY HOURS: DEC 24<sup>TH</sup>: 9 - 4 DEC 31<sup>ST</sup>: 9 - 4

**WIN HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET\***

For every 3 appointments made in 2009  
ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
A HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET.  
(The more appointments you make  
the better chance you will win)

\*Ends December 31, 2008

Happy Holidays

### ■ BIRTHS

#### Menlo Park

■ Maribel Martinez and Rudy Solorzano, a daughter, Dec. 17, at Sequoia Hospital.

■ Molly Finn and Andrew Titley, a son, Dec. 24, at Sequoia Hospital.

### ■ IN THE SERVICE

■ Coast Guard Seaman **Matthew J. Fling** recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, New Jersey. He is the son of John Fling of Menlo Park and Cynthia Fling of Wildomar, California.

# Community

NEWS OF LOCAL PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

## An excellent school spans the years

By Marie Wagner Krenz

Special to The Almanac

Since the 1800s the Woodside School has provided a good education and happy memories for the children of the area. The beautifully remodeled school of today garners the admiration of its students as well as a constant stream of passersby. Its pale yellow paint and "old" Woodside peaked roofs provide an attractive addition to the city.

Louise Zaepffel Rahner grew up in Woodside and was the daughter of Tony the Iceman. Louise looks back on her long-ago childhood as an idyllic time when the five Zaepffel children walked the mile and a half each way to and from their Tripp Road home and the Woodside School (located on the same site where it is now, on Woodside Road).

They thought nothing of the distance but heartily disliked a couple of nasty dogs they would meet along the way. On rainy days the middies and bloomers of the girls were soaked by the time they arrived at school, and

**About the author:** Marie Wagner Krenz has been visiting or living in Woodside since the late 1920s, when her grandparents purchased a home there to escape the cold San Francisco summers. She is a freelance writer from Orinda, but she still spends weekends at the old family home.

this forced them to huddle over the wood and coal stove in the classroom to dry off.

Each morning the student-body met out by the flagpole to salute the flag. The children took turns ringing a small hand bell to call everyone to attention.

A far cry from the large school of today, the original Woodside School had only two rooms, one large and one a bit smaller. Mr. Gish was the principal as well as teacher of the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

The upper grades had fewer students; there was only one other student besides Louise in her eighth grade graduating class in 1932. The school had no kindergarten, and when Alice, Louise's big sister, entered first grade, the teacher asked her name. She replied, "Alice Tony



The Zaepffel family in the 1930s. From left, they are Antoine (Tony the Iceman); his wife, Elise Zaepffel and their children: Alice, Louise, Annette, Alexis and Marie. This photo was likely taken in front of the family's home on Tripp Road in Woodside, says the author of this article, Marie Krenz.

the Iceman."

Mr. Gish had a pencil sharpener but preferred to use a pen knife on the children's pencils as well as his own. He could draw well and did a series on the California missions that circled the

room. He preferred that visitors attribute the art to his students.

A creek ran below the slope behind the school, but the kids were not allowed to go there alone. To ease the children's curiosity and assure their safety,

the teachers held occasional picnics on the creek banks.

During recess, the students often played "Annie aye over"

See **WOODSIDE**, page 12

### HANSEN

continued from page 7

of other planets, movements of the Earth's crust, and volcanoes, Mr. Hansen told his Town Center audience.

If humans weren't burning fossil fuels, CO2 changes might be hard to measure. The climate has been stable for some 11,000 years, since the last ice age, he said.

But ice is melting. Satellite-based gravity detectors show that Greenland lost about 162 cubic kilometers of ice per year between 2003 and 2005, according to Mr. Hansen's Web site. The melt rate there rose 16 percent between 1979 and 2002. Melting in 2005 was the highest on record.

That ice shows up either in the North Atlantic as icebergs that travel south and melt, or as melt water that can migrate under the ice sheet, where it may be lubricating a massive slide into the sea, he said.

These ice sheets took tens of thousands of years to achieve their size and depth. If temperatures climb to a point at which they begin to slide off the land,

it will be disastrous for life as we and our ancestors have known it, Mr. Hansen said.

Mass extinction of species and iceless poles "are both irreversible on any time scale that humans can think about," he said. "We don't want to do that."

The North Pole may be ice-free in the summer in this century if CO2 levels reach 400 to 425 ppm, but that is reversible, Mr. Hansen said. "If you change the energy balance, the ice can grow back." ■

### ■ INFORMATION

- For information on Mr. Hansen, go to [www.columbia.edu/~jah1](http://www.columbia.edu/~jah1).
- The next speaker in Portola Valley's series will be Mathis Wackernagel, co-founder of the Global Footprint Network, an international nonprofit based in Oakland. His talk is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 5. For more information about the speaker series, call Brandi de Garmeaux at 851-1700, ext. 222, or send an e-mail to [bdgarmeaux@portolavalley.net](mailto:bdgarmeaux@portolavalley.net).

## AN EVENING WITH KHALED HOSSEINI

A BENEFIT FOR TRUST IN EDUCATION

Featuring a discussion with the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

January 23, 2009  
7:30-9:00 pm (reception at 6:00 pm)  
Smithwick Theater at Foothill College  
12345 El Monte Road  
Los Altos, California 94022

Reserved seating: \$50  
Priority seating and reception: \$100  
Includes pre-event reception with Dr. Hosseini from 6-7 pm. Enjoy Afghan hors d'oeuvres and speak with this remarkable author.



**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
Please contact Trust in Education for details:  
[www.trusteducation.org](http://www.trusteducation.org)  
Call (925) 283-8057 • Fax (925) 283-1134  
Or visit Kepler's Bookstore  
1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 324-4321

Trust in Education (TIE) is a grass roots, non-profit organization founded by Budd MacKenzie in May 2003 to provide health care, education and economic development programs in Afghanistan. TIE connects American communities and Afghan villages. Join in the efforts of TIE to empower Afghan communities and experience the joy of making a substantial and long lasting difference in the lives of thousands.



Sponsored by:

# Crime wave: How to guard against theft

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

In light of the recent raft of crime in Menlo Park, especially home and auto burglaries, the Menlo Park Police Department has some advice on how to keep your possessions safe.

While there are a host of factors that influence crime — most of which are out of the control of any individual resi-

dent — the following precautions will decrease the chance that you will fall victim to a burglary, police say.

## Lock the doors

It should go without saying, but when you lock the doors — both to your home and to your car — you make it more difficult for would-be burglars to get inside.

“It’s true that an intruder who really wants to get into your

house can probably find a way, but most burglaries are crimes of opportunity, committed by amateurs,” spokeswoman Nicole Acker of the Menlo Park Police Department says.

Burglaries often occur when people let down their guard — when they’re hopping into a gas station convenience store, or when they step out of the house for a stroll around the block.

And when it comes to homes, not all locks are created equal,

according to Ms. Acker. A more complicated lock — or a series of locks — will give a potential burglar a tougher time than a simple one. The complication might cause him to abandon the effort altogether.

## Hide the silver

Another bit of simple logic underlies this nugget: If objects are hidden from plain sight — or removed from the premises altogether — there’s less of a chance that they’ll get swiped.

“Don’t leave valuables where they can easily be seen from the windows,” Ms. Acker says, adding that it’s not a bad idea to get in the habit of removing items like purses, iPods and GPS systems from your car after you park.

Make sure that valuable objects are marked and cataloged. If an item clearly bears some sort of personal mark — an identification number, for instance — a thief will have a tougher time re-selling it, and it will hold up better as evidence in court. Along the same lines, you can inventory your valuables by photographing them. Just as a picture of a lost cat increases the likelihood that someone

will recognize it, a photographic record of a stolen object will help police to better identify it if found.

## Leave a light on

If it looks like somebody’s home, there’s a better chance that a prowler will steer clear of your residence. If you’re going on vacation, the Menlo Park PD recommends that you put indoor lights on a timer a couple weeks before you leave, so that the pattern seems natural. Have a friend pick up the newspaper and take in the mail, or pay a neighbor kid to do it.

Install lights connected to a motion detector outside, especially in the driveway and near doors. It’s a useful scare tactic, and it’ll alert you to the fact that somebody — or some thing — is creeping around.

Finally, you can always resort to installing an alarm, though chances are your teenager will set it off before an intruder does. A cheaper option would be to borrow a Brink’s sign and plant it in the front yard — though that is not one of the measures recommended by the police department. ■

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### THE SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE BAY DIVISION PIPELINE (BDPL) RELIABILITY UPGRADE PROJECT

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) owns and operates the Hetch Hetchy water system. Hetch Hetchy water travels from Yosemite National Park to Bay Area residents through four large underground pipes called the Bay Division Pipelines (BDPLs). BDPLs 1 and 2, built in 1925 and 1936, travel between Fremont and Redwood City underneath San Francisco Bay.

The BDPL Reliability Upgrade Project proposes to add one more pipeline, BDPL 5, and a tunnel under the San Francisco Bay to run alongside the existing BDPLs 1 and 2. BDPL 5 would be seismically designed to withstand an earthquake and would allow SFPUC to take the existing pipelines out of service for maintenance and repair.

The San Francisco Planning Department has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the impacts of the proposed BDPL Reliability Upgrade Project. The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment. You can find the document at the Planning Department at 1650 Mission Street, 1st Floor Planning Information Counter, at libraries in Fremont, Redwood City, Menlo Park, Newark, East Palo Alto, the San Francisco Main Library, and at <http://www.sfgov.org/planning/mea>.

**Please join us at a meeting in your community:**

- **Wednesday, January 14, 2009**  
Fremont Main Library, Fukaya Room A  
2400 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont
- **Tuesday, January 20, 2009**  
Belle Haven Community School, Cafeteria  
415 Ivy Drive, Menlo Park
- **Wednesday, January 21, 2009**  
Veterans Memorial Senior Center, Redwood Room  
1455 Madison Ave, Redwood City

\*Public hearings begin promptly at 7 p.m. Representatives will be available to answer questions beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- **Thursday, January 22, 2009**  
SF Planning Commission Chambers, Room 400  
City Hall, San Francisco

\*Public hearing will begin no earlier than 1:30 p.m. Call (415) 558-6422 the week of the hearing for a more specific time.

**Written Comments:** Public comments will be accepted from December 23, 2008 until 5:00 PM on February 5, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. Comments can also be sent by fax to (415) 558-6409, or via email to [Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org](mailto:Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org).

For questions about the environmental review, contact Timothy Johnston at (415) 575-9035 or [Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org](mailto:Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org).



**Woodside School** in a photo taken around 1930 from Woodside Road. The school had grades 1 through 8 and was located on the same site where it is now.

## WOODSIDE

*continued from page 11*

and “Pom-pom pull away.” Best of all, Louise liked playing baseball with the boys.

Louise and her friends built their own paddle tennis court on school grounds, surrounding it with chicken wire. They cut the paddles out of wood. This experience turned Louise into a sports enthusiast and athlete. A male student teacher recognized her ability and gave her advice she never forgot: “Try to retain your athletic ability without sacrificing delicacy.”

Today Louise lives in her own home in Walnut Creek. She is 90 and blessed with good health. She enjoyed over 50 years of a fine marriage to Frank Rahner, who retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force.

Two of their three children were born overseas, because the Air Force shipped the family to exotic destinations.

With her wonderful laugh and ready smile, Louise is the kind of person who finds humor everywhere and makes jokes about everything. She says that each morning in her gratitude for waking up above ground, she hops out of bed to read the obituaries. If her name isn’t there, she grabs her tennis racket and drives to the courts. She plays tennis five mornings a week and golf on three afternoons. Louise doesn’t have much time to dust.

*Marie Krenz adds this note: The Zaepffel children were our summer playmates. Hi Bottger, from whom my grandfather bought our property in 1918, was in the first graduating class of Woodside School in the 1880s.*

## Global Volunteers: a chance to give back

By Amy Pinkus

I only knew the children from the Puericultorio Perez Aranibar (PPA) orphanage and foster home for one week, but they have made a bigger impact on me than some people I have known for years. They have changed me in ways I could never imagine.

I played and read with children from age 1 to 3. Seeing these children, whose parents were not a big part of their lives, who had to eat what they were given, who did not have money, who might have been abused or yelled at as little kids, who could not wear what they wanted, I thought: These children are in poverty, but they are happy.

Every time members of our Global Volunteers team walked into the room, the children would run and hug us, yelling, "Hola Visseta! Hola!" the whole time. I never knew that hugging children, picking them up, or playing with them, would make a difference to them. I never knew that I had the power to make someone happy or on a larger scale, to improve their life.

Each child had a completely different personality. Some were quiet and sweet, and

**About the author:** Amy Pinkus, 13, of Woodside, is an eighth-grader at Woodside School. The daughter of Gary and Mary Pincus, she writes here about her trip to Peru last summer with Global Volunteers, a nonprofit organization that mobilizes volunteers to serve in developing countries.

others were rebellious and wild. Overall, they were all adorable. I never thought I would learn from the little toddlers, but they actually helped me improve my Spanish. None of them knew a word of English, so speaking Spanish was a necessity.

Even though we worked at the orphanage all day, at night we got to see the city of Lima. We went to Peruvian restaurants and experienced real Peruvian dishes, although we did not try guinea pig. We enjoyed the city by walking almost everywhere.

We went to the Inca Market and bought Peruvian crafts and souvenirs. We also went to a shanty town near Lima to see where the children at PPA come from. We visited the houses of two of the children. The houses were literally about to collapse. They were small, often with lots of children and some dogs. Still, the people made good use of what they

had and they were proud to show it to us.

This experience was a joyous one, but it had its sad and moving moments too. And through it all, I knew I could count on our Global Volunteers team, whose members were from all over the United States. Even if the team members were tired, they put on a smile. Every single person went out of his or her way to be nice to another person.

We actually had a lot of kids (well, teenagers and some kids) on our team. Even though we were only with this team a week, we became fast friends and still keep in touch.

I became involved with Global Volunteers when my mom and I decided to go on a charity trip. We researched organizations and found Global Volunteers.

Through Global Volunteers I got to help the country of Peru and had, in aggregate, a great time, and you can, too. Global Volunteers helps countries all over the world. So if you want to make a difference in the life of a child, or even an adult or family, go to GlobalVolunteers.org and sign up or donate.

If you do serve with Global Volunteers, it will be a trip you will treasure forever. ■

## MP's Doggie Waste Away does the dirty work

By Kate Daly

Special to The Almanac

He literally has piles of work, and a never-ending supply of it. Who is this enterprising entrepreneur who is taking advantage of a needed service during soft economic times?

He is a young man named Dan Foster, the founder of Doggie Waste Away, a poop-scooping company based in Menlo Park.

Mr. Foster came up with the idea several years ago back in college, and says now that he works with more than 140 homes in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties each week, he has had to hire a helper to take care of, well, business.

Mr. Foster describes his typical customer as an average middle-class family that is working so many hours a day that it does not have time to come home and pick up dog waste.

He offers a range of options, from weekly pickup to three-times-a-week service. He also will walk his customers' dogs, and swap out their soiled kitty litter boxes with fresh ones.

### ■ BUSINESS

As for the dog waste, he says: "We have biodegradable bags and take it with us. ... Then we take it to the dump."

Mr. Foster has papered local neighborhoods, pet shops and vets with fliers to advertise his company. One of the benefits of frequent pet-waste cleanup, he says, is to avoid the receipt and transfer of bacteria, viruses and other diseases.

There are many potential parasites in dog excrement, he says, such as heartworms, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, parvo, giardiasis and salmonellosis.

Doggie Waste Away charges \$13 a week for the first dog, \$5 for each additional dog, and \$7 for each extra day of dog-waste pickup during the same week.

The company will also apply "an all natural odor-eliminator."

Mr. Foster says he used to sell products to treat urine spots on lawns but has found "over time the most cost-effective thing is to spray Miracle Gro on the spots a

couple of times a week" to help them turn green again.

Mr. Foster now has some competition.

In 2007 a Peninsula couple bought into a nationwide poop-scooper franchise called Doo-dyCalls, and provides dog-waste removal one to two times a week, starting at \$12 per service.

For the do-it-yourselfers who don't want to pay someone, Green Waste Recovery Services customer service representative Sandra Cruzes suggests the best way to dispose of animal waste is to use "any plastic bag, put a knot in it, and put it in the garbage."

The garbage is then transported to Ox Mountain Sanitary Landfill in Half Moon Bay, where it is treated, monitored and contained.

Research shows a less desirable way to handle pet waste is to flush it down the toilet, because plumbing problems could arise.

Leaving dog feces alongside the road is also not recommended because during the rainy season the waste may get swept into gutters and pollute the water system. ■



1265 Veterans Blvd.  
REDWOOD CITY  
(650) 365-7800

5933 College Ave.  
ROCKRIDGE  
(510) 654-9500

www.galvins.com

Dec. 28, 2008

Dear Customers,

It is time for me to retire. After 33 years, I'm closing Galvins Workspace Furniture. It has been a rewarding adventure and I have enjoyed working with our various team members and serving you. But it's time to say goodbye and time for me to close up shop.

We are closing out all of our floor models and in-stock inventory at mark-downs of up to 70% off regular prices. And until January 31, we can take new orders with a 10% savings for Techline and Jesper products. However, you must be able to take delivery on any special orders by mid-March.

If you want to take advantage of these fantastic savings, come visit our store ASAP.

In any event, thank you for your previous business, And all my Best Wishes for the New Year.

Barry Galvin

## RETIREMENT SALE

### Up to 70% OFF!



## Peninsula School

Nursery through 8th Grade  
Progressive Education Since 1925



### We believe education is challenging and joyous

- Celebrating arts and academics
- Working together to cultivate curiosity and imagination
- Strong community building
- Focusing on the process of learning
- Low student teacher ratio, small class size

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Nursery, Kindergarten & 1st Grade Open House**  
Saturday, Nov. 15 & Jan. 10, 10:00–11:30 a.m. Children welcome.

**School Tours—Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.**  
Oct. 9, 16, Nov. 6, 20, Dec. 4, Jan. 8 and 15. Parents only, please.

For an appointment, please call 650.325.1584, ext. 5.

920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park, CA  
650.325.1584 • www.peninsulaschool.org



On this page, clockwise from above: Baba Shibambo, center, and son Manghoba Shibambo perform at a Black History celebration in February at the Onetta Harris Community Center in Menlo Park; dogs play in June at Nealon Park, which had been modified to better accommodate dogs; labor union members of SEIU protest in July at KKR headquarters in Menlo Park; Glenn Atkinson of Woodside, winner of the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County's outstanding horseperson and citizen award, with Pablo; kindergartners play with bubbles during recess in February at Beechwood School in Menlo Park.



# PICTURING 2008

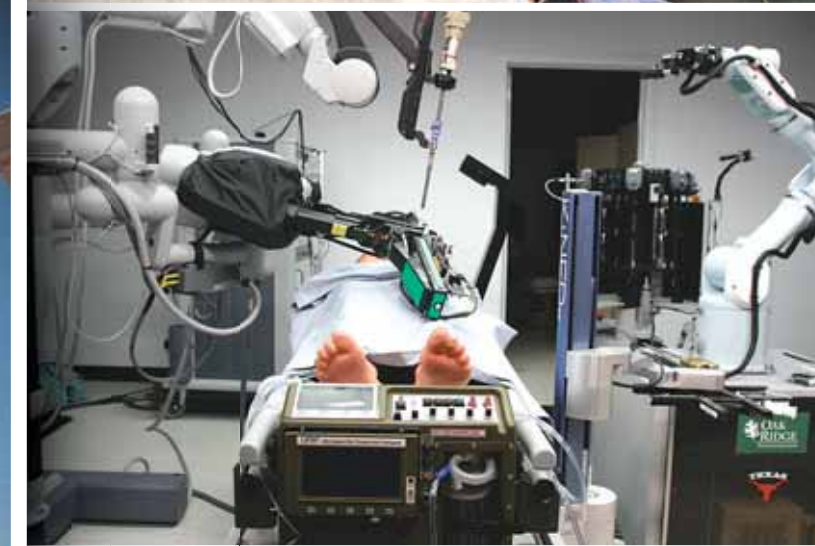
Photos by | Veronica Weber

As we welcome the new year, we also bid 2008 goodbye with a look at images of a few notable moments that we think represent the spirit and richness of life in our community.



Above, exuberant Woodside High School graduates toss their caps into the air following the school's 49th annual commencement on June 6.

At right, a passerby huddles under an umbrella in the welcome rain of January while walking in downtown Menlo Park.



Clockwise, from left, a mannequin lies on a mock operating table at SRI International in Menlo Park as part of a demonstration of robotic surgery technology being developed at SRI; a construction crew works on a long-awaited project installing sewer lines to replace failing septic systems in Los Trancos Woods in January; a monster story doesn't scare these little girls at preschool story time in September at the new Portola Valley Town Center's library; Olympian Michael Phelps, 14-time gold medalist, talks to Mervin Morris of Atherton in September at the Boys and Girls Club in Redwood City.





**TOWN OF ATHERTON  
COMMITTEES RECRUITMENT  
HELP ALERT  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY  
TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**

The Town of Atherton invites dedicated volunteers to submit an application for the following committees:

**ARTS COMMITTEE (2 terms expiring April 30, 2012;  
5 terms expiring April 30, 2011):**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE (2 terms expiring April 30, 2010;  
1 term expiring April 30, 2012):**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (2 terms  
expiring April 30, 2009; 5 terms expiring in April 30, 2011):**

**GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE (1 UNEXPIRED TERM,  
expiring April 30, 2010):**

**RAIL COMMITTEE (4 terms expiring April 30, 2012):**

**TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC SUBCOMMITTEE (1 term  
expiring April 30, 2011; 2 terms expiring April 30, 2012):**

Applicants must be Atherton residents and registered voters of the Town of Atherton. **Applications will be received in the City Clerk's Office until positions are filled.**

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Kathi Hamilton, Acting City Clerk, Town Administrative Offices, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, CA 94027, phone (650) 752-0529, e-mail: khamilton@ci.atherton.ca.us. Applications may be downloaded from the Town website at <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/armm.html>

Published in THE ALMANAC on January 7, 2009.

## Menlo Park council will meet to set goals

The Menlo Park City Council will hold a special meeting in the Menlo Park Library at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, to prioritize its goals for the upcoming year.

The meeting is intended to give city staff an idea of which goals are most important to the council, to ensure that "the staff's efforts are consistent with the City Council's goals," according to Assistant City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson.

The council came up with a list of 18 goals at a Dec. 5 workshop, but Ms. Jerome-Robinson said that beyond the El Camino Real "visioning" process, the staff isn't sure which of those goals are of particular importance to the council.

The library is at 800 Alma St. in the Civic Center. The meeting will be held in the conference room on the lower level, and will be streamed live on the city's Web site.

### Library offers homework help

Student struggling with homework can get free help from qualified tutors via the Menlo Park library's "Live Homework Help," an online tutoring service.

### BRIEFS

Spanish-speaking tutors are available to help in math and science, and English-speaking tutors are available for math, science, social studies and English. Tutors are available to adult learners, students in kindergarten through 12th grade, and college students in introductory level courses.

To get homework help, go to [www.menloparklibrary.com](http://www.menloparklibrary.com) and click on the Live Homework Help link.

### Performing parrots at Atherton library

Parrots will be riding a bicycle, pushing a shopping cart, and playing basketball in the Happy Birds Performing Parrot Show to be held at 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, at the Atherton Library.

The free show is a family favorite and perfect for children of all ages, says Maeve Visser Knoth, youth services librarian.

The library is at 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane in Atherton. For more information, call 328-2422.

### Panel on credit crunch

Members of the West Menlo "Obama 2.0" group are sponsoring a panel discussion about how

the credit crunch is affecting local businesses. The meeting is set to start at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, in the Menlo Park council chambers in the Civic Center between Laurel and Alma streets.

The idea to hold a panel discussion came from a couple who are losing their business because they have been unable to get short-term loans, according to Obama 2.0 member Elizabeth Lasensky.

### Realtors collect toys, coats for needy

Coldwell Banker residential brokerage offices in Northern California collected 2,700 toys and 800 winter coats for the needy this winter, said Michelle Payne. It's the 22nd year that Coldwell Banker has participated in Operation: One Warm Coat and the U.S. Marines' Toys for Tots campaign. The Menlo Park office collected 150 toys this winter, Ms. Payne said.

### Law firm moves to Menlo Park

McDermott, Will & Emery, an international law firm, is moving to an office in Menlo Park. The firm will lease a nearly 85,000-square-foot space at 275 Middlefield Road, across from the fire station. It is relocating from an office on Porter Drive in Palo Alto.

### 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

**Commercial burglary report:** Window broken and door unlocked, Las Lomitas Elementary School at 299 Alameda de las Pulgas, Dec. 26.

**Fraud report:** Unauthorized use of credit card, Camino Por Los Arboles, Dec. 29.

#### MENLO PARK

##### Residential burglary reports:

■ Flat screen TV valued at \$600 stolen, 200 block of Blackburn Ave., Dec. 24.

■ Cash totaling \$6,500 stolen, 500 block of Barron St., Dec. 30.

■ Laptop computer stolen, 800 block of Cambridge Ave., Dec. 30.

**Commercial burglary report:** Window broken and six computers valued at \$3,000 each stolen, Digidesign at 3885 Bohannon Drive, Dec. 26.

**Auto burglary report:** Two unlocked vehicles broken into, 300 block of Oakwood St., Dec. 28.

**Grand theft report:** Baby stroller stolen from outside of residence, 300 block of Sharon Park Drive, Dec. 28.

**Fraud report:** Bad checks totaling \$9,000 passed, Comerica Bank at 800 Oak Grove Ave., Dec. 24.

**Spousal abuse report:** 2300 block of Warner Range Road, Dec. 25.

#### WOODSIDE

**Fraud report:** Motorcyclist jailed after being stopped for speeding and found to be using fraudulent license plate and in possession of small amount of marijuana and paraphernalia pipe, 3000 block of Woodside Road, Dec. 20.

#### PORTOLA VALLEY

**Theft report:** Diamond engagement and wedding rings possibly stolen from room, The Sequoias at 501 Portola Road, Dec. 29.

#### WEST MENLO PARK

**Animal shooting report:** Pet dog shot with BB gun and treated for minor wound, 100 block of Hillside Ave., Dec. 30.

## Project Read, Menlo Park, seeks tutors

Registration is open to anyone who would like to tutor for Project Read, Menlo Park's adult literacy program.

Volunteer tutors generally meet twice a week with adult students, according to the group's Web site. Tutors aim to help students improve their reading, writing and communication skills.

Would-be tutors are required to attend three training sessions. The first session will be held Tuesday, Jan. 20, in the library from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The second session will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The final session will be held after volunteers have started to meet with their students.

**Palo Alto Medical  
Foundation**

A Sutter Health Affiliate

THE CURE FOR COMMON MEDICINE

[pamf.org](http://pamf.org)

## Community Health Education Programs

January 2009

### Events and Lectures

**Make No Bones About It: The Latest in the Management of Osteoporosis**  
Tuesday, January 13, 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Grace Chan, M.D., PAMF Endocrinology

Join us to learn about the risk factors for osteoporosis, diagnosis and treatment options, as well as future therapies.

Hearst Center for Health Education, Level 3, Jampilis Building, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, 795 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. RSVP to 650-853-4873.

### Classes

#### Preparing for Childbirth Without Medication

Saturday, January 10, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

A class to learn about managing labor and delivery without medication.

#### Managing Your High Blood Pressure

Wednesday, January 14, 3 – 5 p.m.

A class on understanding and managing high blood pressure.

#### Supermarket Wise, Thursday, January 15, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

A class on making healthy food choices in a local supermarket.

#### Taking Charge of Your Body, Monday, January 19, 6 – 8 p.m.

A six-week program to achieve and maintain a healthy weight.

#### Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction

Begins on January 19 & 20, 6:30 – 9 p.m.

**Free orientation on Monday, January 5, 6:30 – 9 p.m.** This eight-week course is designed to learn a variety of techniques to manage stress effectively.

#### What You Need to Know About Warfarin

Wednesday, January 21, 2 – 4 p.m.

A PAMF pharmacist will discuss what warfarin is, why you are taking it and how you can help yourself.

#### Preparing for Birth: A Refresher

Sunday, January 25, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

A class on labor and delivery for second or subsequent births.

### Support Groups

Alcohol and Drug Education (Every Tuesday) • Cancer (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) • Caregivers for Cancer Patients (last Monday) • Diabetes (1st Wednesday) • Healing Imagery for Cancer Patients (January 14 & 28) • Kidney (Quarterly) • Multiple Sclerosis (2nd & 4th Mondays) • Young Mothers with Cancer (first three Mondays)

For information on class fees and to register, call the Education Division at 650-853-2960.

## OBITUARIES

### William (Bill) Callery Jr.

Former Varian Associates executive

William (Bill) Callery Jr., a former Portola Valley resident, died peacefully from heart failure in Palo Alto on Dec. 27. Mr. Callery, who lived at the Hyatt Classic Residence in Palo Alto for the past two years, was 89.



Bill Callery

Mr. Callery was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from Princeton University in 1942 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. He served with the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant in the South Pacific during World War II.

Before retiring as corporate personnel manager with Varian Associates of Palo Alto in 1981, he worked in sales with Gar Wood Industries in Detroit, and as assistant chief engineer and commercial sales manager with Hiller Helicopters in Palo Alto.

Mr. Callery married Lanie Wright of Detroit in 1947. Together, they raised their three children in Portola Valley. In 1980, they moved to The Villages in San Jose, where they enjoyed an active life and the hobby of building and flying remote controlled model airplanes. Lanie died in 1993. In 1995 Mr. Callery married Arvella "Sis" Schaffer, who died in 2004.

He will be remembered as a man of great integrity, loyalty, faith, generosity and humor, say family members. He was an avid golfer and skier. His family recalls his favorite saying after a day on the ski slopes, "Tired but happy, the boys all voted the best day ever."

Surviving Mr. Callery are his children, Tripp Callery of Springfield, Oregon, Tina Pidwell of Saratoga, and Terry Miller of Emerald Hills; brother Charles Callery of Houston, Texas; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

At his request, no services will be held. Donations in his name may be made to a favorite charity.

Online.  
Anyplace.  
Anytime.

[www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com)

### Thomas Bennett

Lifelong sports fan

A memorial service for Thomas Joseph Bennett will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9, at Crippen & Flynn, 400 Woodside Road in Redwood City. Mr. Bennett, who lived in Menlo Park for the past eight years, died Dec. 11. He was 65.



Thomas Bennett

Born in San Francisco, Mr. Bennett graduated from St. Cecilia's Elementary School, Riordan High School and San Francisco State University. He had a long career with the State of California Division of Corporations.

Mr. Bennett was a longtime sports fan, following all sports from his youth in San Francisco. He could be seen at youth sporting events, and was delighted to watch his cousin, Gracie, hit a home run this spring, say family members. He was very involved with his cousins and enjoyed many events with them, including attending their talent shows and ballet events, they say.

He is survived by his sister, Kathryn Marie Bennett Schoendorf. He was preceded in death by his mother, Marie Bennett, and recently by his father, Arthur John Bennett.

Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma.

### William Moser

History teacher at home and abroad

William Moser, who taught and served as a principal at

various schools on military bases throughout the world, died Oct. 12 at his home in Menlo Park. He was 84.

Mr. Moser was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Porterville, California, where he attended a one-room school through the eighth grade.

During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy in 11 campaigns in the Pacific aboard the cruiser USS New Orleans. He received a transfer to the NROTC program at Stanford University near the end of the war.

He graduated from Stanford with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in education. After six years of teaching in California, he was accepted to teach at the school for military dependents in Naples, Italy. After a year, he transferred to a base in Germany, where he taught for three years before transferring to Verona. He also taught at a dependents' school on Taiwan.

In 1961 he returned to California and taught in the Bay Area while obtaining a master's degree in history from San Francisco State University. In 1968 he transferred to Berlin High School in Germany for his first administrative assignment at a dependents' school, and in 1971 moved to the military base in Aschaffenburg, Germany, for his first elementary school assignment. He retired in 1986 after teaching 10 years at the elementary school on the military base in Ramstein, Germany.

Mr. Moser is survived by his son, Oliver vonTempksi of Berlin, Germany, and niece, Sue Toyama.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of A Special Touch Funeral Service in Dublin.

## Free Speaker Series on "BULLYING" FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS

Presentations are from 7-9 pm

at Bethany Lutheran Church  
1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park

**Thurs. Jan. 29** – "Breaking the Cycle of Bullying: Building a Caring School and Involved Community". Speaker: Gloria Moskowitz-Sweet, PPSC, LCSW. Create a shared understanding of bullying in the school and community through the use of a "community conversation". When everyone works together, a safer community and school can be achieved. **Target audience:** Parents of elementary & middle school age children; educators.

**Thurs. Mar. 19** – "Relational Aggression: How Girls Bully". Speaker: Karen Friedland-Brown, MA. Understand the world of girls, their roles and relationships within their peer groups and the characteristics of those who bully. Learn strategies for prevention and intervention in bullying behavior at school and in the community. **Target audience:** Parents of late elementary & middle school age children; educators.

**Thurs. Apr. 16** – "Cyber-Bullying". Speaker: Erica Pelavin, LCSW, PhD. Cyberspace has become a new locale for bullying and relational aggression. Gain an understanding of cyber-bullying, the trends, and strategies for stopping it at home and at school. **Target audience:** Parents of middle school & high school age children; educators.

**Reservations required. Adults only, please.**

**Reservation Deadline: 7 days prior to presentation.**

Call 650-854-5897, ext. 217 **OR** e-mail: [lindab@bethany-mp.org](mailto:lindab@bethany-mp.org). Include your name, phone number, e-mail address, date of presentation you'd like to attend, and number attending.

ALPINE / WEST MENLO  
**LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL**  
SIGNUPS (AGES 5-12, AND 13-18)

Please visit the League website for online registration and information, all divisions:  
<http://www.eteamz.com/alpine/index.cfm>

REGISTRATION SCHEDULE:  
 • **Majors** (ages 9-12): REGISTRATION OPEN  
 • **Minors** (ages 9-12): REGISTRATION OPEN  
 • **Majors and Minors Players:** Deadline to register online is January 15, 2009. Tryouts required.  
 • **Juniors/Seniors/Big** (ages 13-18): REGISTRATION OPEN

**Pitching Machine (8):** Registration opens Jan. 2, 2009  
**Coach Pitch (7):** Registration opens Jan. 2, 2009  
**T-Ball (ages 5-6):** Registration opens Jan. 2, 2009

Registration questions? Contact Karen Lucian, [karenlucian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karenlucian@sbcglobal.net)  
 (Please contact division commissioners with all non-registration related questions.)

## Lose Weight and Keep it Off.

Are you frustrated with diets and weight loss programs that promise quick results and then fail to meet your expectations? Are you one to gain and lose but never keep the weight off?



Jackie Ballinger, CEO

At **Physically Focused** we use precise scientific tools to measure your resting metabolic rate which determines exactly how many calories *your* body needs each day to lose weight. We then interpret your results and guide you toward your weight loss goal; through support, education and a healthy, balanced, simple menu program designed by our registered dietician, or you can choose to register for an online nutrition program.

Call us today and receive a 25% discount through January 31, 2009 on RMR and Nutrition programs!



Phone: (650) 851-2705

[www.physicallyfocused.biz](http://www.physicallyfocused.biz)

Consultants to Corporations, Medical Practices, Individuals, Families and Public Services

## Ring in 2009 with a healthy start.

Get the help you need with one of our expert trainers.



**AXIS**  
PERFORMANCE  
CENTER

Menlo Park  
(650) 463-1920  
[www.axispt.com](http://www.axispt.com)

Bring in this ad to receive  
**50% off**  
Your First Two  
Training Sessions

Good towards the first two sessions with an AXIS staff trainer. May not be combined with other offers or discounts. Expires 3/31/09. Code: Almanac

Expert Personal Trainers  
Certified Massage Therapists

**Reiki for Relaxation**

Gift Certificates are thoughtful presents

Host a Healing Party

Mobile Reiki for people and pets

Energy, Aura and Chakra Work Distance and Psychic Healings

Cynthia Greenberg, Reiki Master/Teacher

(650) 472 - 3932 awakentohealing.org cynthia@awakentohealing.org



# Holiday Fund

FOR THE 16TH YEAR, THE ALMANAC OFFERS READERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO MULTIPLY THEIR CHARITY DOLLARS BY GIVING THROUGH THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY FUND.

## Holiday Fund donors

As of Dec. 31, 2008

Anonymous (46 gifts) .....\$23,525  
 Judy & Doug Adams..... \*  
 Marlene & Alan Anderson..... \*  
 Ruth & Art Barker ..... \*  
 Linda Atkinson & Bob Barrett . \$250  
 Barbara Bessey &  
 Kevin Gilmartin ..... \*  
 Carmen Biland..... \*  
 Barbara & Bill Binder ..... \*  
 Ann Benson & Iris Harrell ..... \*  
 Elizabeth Blair ..... \$500  
 James Brice ..... \$150  
 Meredith Buenning..... \$100  
 Heather Buhr ..... \*  
 Judy & Paul Caletti..... \$200  
 Adele Carney ..... \*  
 Shirley & Jerry Carlson ..... \*  
 Kirke Comstock Family ..... \$100  
 Carol & Ron Clazie ..... \*  
 Catherine & Don Coluzzi ..... \*  
 Linda Craig & Evan Hughes ..... \*  
 Erika Crowley ..... \*  
 Nancy Davidson..... \$100  
 Patricia & Bill Dewes..... \$25  
 Lisa, Brian, Sean &  
 Jesse Donnellan ..... \*  
 Cynthia Dusel-Bacon &  
 Charles Bacon ..... \*  
 Kristin & Ram Duriseti..... \*  
 Candy & Tim Eastham..... \*  
 Barbara & Bob Ells ..... \$100  
 Nancy & Bill Ellsworth ..... \*  
 James Esposito..... \*  
 Fanning Family..... \*  
 Nancy & Tom Fiene..... \*  
 Pat & Dan Finlay ..... \$40  
 Jan Fisher..... \$50  
 Mary Ford..... \*  
 Mary Fuller ..... \$100  
 Bobbie & Gale Fullerton ..... \$100  
 Florine & John Galen..... \*  
 Penny & Greg Gallo..... \$500  
 Eleanor Grantier ..... \*  
 Marilyn Green &  
 Drew McCalley..... \$100

To give to The Almanac's  
 Holiday Fund, go to  
[www.tinyurl.com/fund08](http://www.tinyurl.com/fund08)

Catherine Habiger &  
 Richard Ruby ..... \*  
 Sandy & Andy Hall ..... \*  
 Mary & Doug Heller ..... \*  
 Anne Hillman &  
 George Comstock..... \$1,000  
 Laura Hofstadter &  
 Leonard Shar..... \*  
 Donna Ito & Jozef Ruck ..... \$100  
 Barbara Jacobson ..... \*  
 Sue & Kurt Jagers..... \*  
 Esther Judd..... \*  
 Nita & Clay Judd..... \*  
 Andrea Julian..... \$250  
 Sybille Katz ..... \*  
 Dorothy Kennedy ..... \*  
 Suzi King..... \*  
 Susan & Alan Kirtley ..... \*  
 Julia Kringel..... \*  
 Ladera Men's Tennis &  
 Domino Fund ..... \*  
 Bill & Jean Lane ..... \*  
 Diana Laraway..... \$200  
 Laurel School Aides..... \*  
 Laurel Leone & Steve Bellamy \$400  
 Carol & Hal Louchheim..... \*  
 Lorraine Macchello ..... \$100  
 Donna Mackowski..... \*  
 Margaret & Jamis MacNiven..... \*  
 Marjorie & George Mader ..... \*  
 Menlo Park  
 Firefighter's Association.... \$800  
 Linda & John Montgomery .... \$200  
 Anne Moser ..... \*  
 Stephanie & Jim Nisbet..... \*  
 Jennifer Overholt..... \$300  
 Marion & Bob Oster ..... \*  
 Martha & Robert Page ..... \*  
 Mr. & Mrs. C. Pausa..... \*  
 Bettina Pedersen..... \*  
 Mary Pless ..... \$500  
 Raydean Randlett..... \$200

Lucy Reid-Krensky ..... \$100  
 Margo Ritter ..... \*  
 Michael Roberts ..... \$100  
 Melba & Bill Rogoway..... \*  
 Joan Rubin ..... \*  
 Jan Ruby ..... \$50  
 Helen & Glen Ruffner ..... \*  
 Mary Ann & Marc Saunders..... \*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Schreck..... \$250  
 Gerald Shefren ..... \*  
 Arna & Hersh Shefrin ..... \*  
 Nancy & Bob Shurtleff ..... \*  
 Jay Siedenburg..... \*  
 Barbara & Robert Simpson ..... \*  
 Thelma & John Smith..... \*  
 Karen Sortino ..... \*  
 Paula Stewart..... \$100  
 Lina Swisher & Dan Rubin..... \*  
 Caroline Tonetti..... \*  
 Onnolee Trapp..... \*  
 Anne Tuttle..... \$350  
 Linda & William Wagner..... \$400  
 Roma & Gary Wagner..... \*  
 Karen & Mark Weitzel..... \*  
 Ann & Bruce Willard ..... \*  
 Jeanne Wohlers & Alan Herzig.. \$500  
 Rose Wright..... \*  
 Tricia & Tim Wright ..... \*  
 Julie & Craig Wyreman..... \*  
 Elizabeth Yasek &  
 Michael Fleice..... \*  
 Julie & Joe Zier..... \$100

**In honor of**

Lynore Banchoff for Eliza, Natalie  
 and Mariah Banchoff Grover  
 Christy & Steve Burt for Mar &  
 Po Po Russ  
 Sherry Chuang for Jason Chuang  
 Maryann & John Chwalek for  
 Adele Chwalek  
 Adam Creeger for the teachers and  
 staff at La Entrada Middle School  
 Kayleen & Fred Miller for Hattie,  
 Charlie and Krisitn  
 Staff of Alexia Moore Wine  
 Marketing for Alexia Moore  
 Shirley & John Reiter for  
 Lucas Matthew  
 Spangle Associates for Portola  
 Valley Town Staff  
 Michelle Stanley for Dr. &  
 Mrs. James DuBois

**In memory of**

William Alfano for Marilouise Alfano  
 Kathleen Anderson for  
 William Anderson  
 Anonymous for Bill Land  
 Pamela & Adair Slater for  
 Frank Waters  
 John Barbour for Richard Barbour  
 Anne & Paul DeCarli for  
 Jack Robertson  
 Carolyn & Colon Gullede for  
 Esther Johnson  
 Robert Hoffman for Marlis Wegman  
 Audrey & Roland Lampert for  
 Genie Bell  
 Carmen & John Quackenbush for  
 Larry Wenrick  
 Catie & Dennis O'Leary for  
 Margaret Collins  
 Jo Ann Rogers for James Rogers  
 Barbara Seaney for Martin Seaney  
 Cherise & Barry Thompson for  
 Robert Tennant

**TOTALS: As of Dec. 31, 2008,  
 a total of 189 donors have  
 given \$115,080 to the  
 Almanac's Holiday Fund.**

\* The asterisk designates that the  
 donor did not want to publish the  
 amount of the gift.

## Family is why WE DO IT ALL.



We all feel the same commitment to care for our families. As your good neighbor agent, I can help you meet your insurance needs. Call me today.

**John W McAfee** CLU ChFC CPCU, Agent  
 Insurance Lic. #: 0E37462  
 884 Portola Rd, Ste B1  
 Portola Valley, CA 94028  
 Bus: 650-851-3276



P02640 State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois 11/04



**BEST FRESH FISH • BEST SEAFOOD**

**Cook's Seafood  
 Restaurant & Market**  
*"A GREAT PLACE TO EAT LUNCH OR DINNER"*

**Seafood Dinners from \$5<sup>95</sup> to \$9<sup>95</sup>**

**Clam Chowder - Seafood Salads**

**Our Award Winning Fish & Chips**

Prepared from the finest Alaskan halibut.

**Also featuring a full service fresh fish market.**

Restaurant: Mon-Sat 11-8:30 pm, Fri 'til 9 pm

Market: Mon - Sat 9 - 7. Closed Sunday

751 El Camino Real  
 Menlo Park, CA 94025

Call in Orders Welcome  
 Phone 650 325-0604 or 322-2231

## A TASTE OF THE PENINSULA

A cornucopia of restaurants and cafes providing  
 the finest dining from brunch to dessert.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

### Celia's Mexican Restaurant

3740 El Camino, Palo Alto (650) 843-0643  
 1850 El Camino, Menlo Park (650) 321-8227

[www.celiasrestaurants.com](http://www.celiasrestaurants.com)

Full Bar - Happy Hour Specials; Catering

### Vive Sol-Cocina Mexicana

2020 W. El Camino Real, Mtn. View  
 (650) 938-2020.

Specializing in the Cuisine of Puebla.

Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Coffee & Tea

### Connoisseur Coffee Co.

2801 Middlefield Road, Redwood City  
 (650) 369-5250 9am-5:30pm Mon. - Sat.

Coffee roasting & fine teas,  
 espresso bar, retail & wholesale.



# BOWMAN

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



**The Bowman program builds  
 confidence, creativity and  
 academic excellence.**



◆ Lower School - Grades K - 5

◆ Middle School - Grades 6 - 8



◆ Individualized, self-directed program

◆ Rich international and cultural studies



◆ Proven, Montessori approach

◆ State-of-the-art facility

◆ Low student-teacher ratio

[www.bowmanschool.org](http://www.bowmanschool.org)

4000 Terman Drive • Palo Alto, CA • Tel: 650-813-9131

# Food & Drink

NEW RESTAURANTS, RECIPE IDEAS, AND PROFILES OF LOCAL CHEFS

## SPICING UP LIFE AT THE TABLE

Penzeys Spices opens its first Northern California store in Menlo Park



Penzeys Spices carries more than 250 herbs, spices and seasonings.

By Jane Knoerle  
Almanac Lifestyles Editor

Can a store devoted only to spices succeed in these hard economic times? The people at Penzeys Spices, which opened in November in downtown Menlo Park, think so. After all, even in the worst of times, people have to eat. And if they're not dining out as often, cooks become more creative at home.

Those creative juices start flowing when you visit Penzeys Spices, located in a new building at 771 Santa Cruz Ave. First of all, it smells good. Open a "smelling jar" and there's the scent of cinnamon. Not just your everyday supermarket cinnamon. There's Chinese cassia cinnamon, Vietnamese cassia cinnamon, Korintje cinnamon, and Ceylon cinnamon. Penzeys' sales people are glad to explain the difference.

The specialty spice company offers more than 250 spices, herbs and seasonings.

Jars and packets are attractively displayed on rustic wooden crates. As you wander from display to display, the "smelling jars" invite you to open and

smell, but no tasting is allowed. "If you like the smell, you'll like the taste," says company spokeswoman Margie Gibbon, who came to Menlo Park for the store opening.

She was happy to learn that Menlo Park's farmers' market is open every Sunday of the year in the parking lot adjacent to the store. "We're getting a lot of walk-in traffic. Back in the Midwest our farmers' markets are only open from June to September."

Penzeys Spices, headquartered near Milwaukee, has 40 stores nationwide. This is the second store to open in California; the first is located in Southern California.

How does the company decide where to open a store? "We look to where we already have a high concentration of mail-order customers," says Ms. Gibbon.

Bill Penzey, 45, started his company as a mail-order busi-

ness. He grew up in the food business, working for his father, who ran a coffee and tea delivery service in Milwaukee. He opened his first retail store in a 300,000-square-foot facility just outside Milwaukee.

The store has a down home Midwestern charm. There are recipes on the shelves for customers wondering how to use certain spices. "Grandma's Kitchen" is a homey section furnished in 1930s style with a refrigerator, a sink and a cupboard. Shelves are brimming with cocoa, vanilla, and sweet-smelling spices.

"Grandma" would also appreciate the store's range of prices. Tiny 1/4-cup jars are inexpensive and a good way to try unfamiliar spices. A 1/4-cup jar of Bavarian Seasoning, for example, is \$2.59. It is a blend of herbs and spices — crushed brown mustard, rosemary, garlic, thyme, bay leaf and sage — used for a Penzey family's favorite Sunday dinner recipe of veal, pork, potatoes, onions and carrots "all roasted to a golden brown in the same pan."

Many products reflect their Milwaukee heritage. There's a Galena Street rib rub, a Brady Street cheese sprinkle and a Fox Point seasoning, all noting Milwaukee locales.

Chili peppers get a lot of attention at Penzeys. They range in flavor from rich and sweet to fiery hot. A combination of both sweet (ancho) and hot (chipotle and jalapeno) chili peppers are used in Mexican cooking, while tien tsin peppers are the most common for Chinese cooking.

The mildest chili is ground ancho, at 3,000 units on the pepper heat scale. The hottest is tien tsin, with 60,000 heat units.

The store offers gift packages of all sizes in small wooden crates and boxes. Eight-jar boxes, from a bakers assortment to a wedding gift box, are mostly in the \$40 range.

After all the holiday hoopla, most of us will turn to fixing simple comfort food for winter night dinners.

"If there is a silver lining to our economic clouds, it is that this year cooking is coming back home and more people are finding ways to be able to sit down and share food with people they care about. ... Spices can make that food something very special," Bill Penzey writes in the detailed catalogue available at the store. ■

*'If there is a silver lining to our economic clouds, it is that this year cooking is coming back home and more people are finding ways to be able to sit down and share food with people they care about.'*

OWNER BILL PENZEY

### INFORMATION

Penzeys Spices is at 771 Santa Cruz Ave. in downtown Menlo Park. For information, call 853-1785.

Photos by Danielle Vernon



Education for Global Thinking - 20 years of Excellence



- Preschool – Grade 8 German Immersion Program
- First International Baccalaureate (IB) World School on the Peninsula recognized world-wide
- Small class sizes and a great supportive community
- Offering afterschool programs including Extra curricular and childcare

Enrollment  
Info Evening  
January 14

275 Elliott Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025 • Tel: (650) 324-8617 • [www.germanamericanschool.org](http://www.germanamericanschool.org)

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.

### \* PEDIATRIC WEIGHT CONTROL PROGRAM

This family-based, behavioral and educational weight management program promotes healthy eating and exercise habits for overweight children and their families. More than 80% of children achieve long-term weight loss through this program – and parents lose weight too! The new session starts in January 2009, so call (650) 725-4424 to pre-register. Spaces are limited.

### \* COMFORT TECHNIQUES FOR LABOR

For couples who have already completed Childbirth Prep, this new class offers additional practice on relaxation, breathing and comfort measures for labor.

- Saturday, January 17, 2009

### \* MANAGING YOUR ADHD CHILD'S BEHAVIOR

Join clinical child psychologist Dr. Betsy Corrin for an evening devoted on how to set up structures at home to keep ADHD children on task with independence and less prompting.

- Tuesday, January 27, 2009

### \* 2ND ANNUAL AUTISM CONFERENCE

This one-day conference provides parents, teachers, psychologists and care providers of autistic children with information on current evidence-based therapies. Experts will also give an overview of clinical and basic science research in autism being undertaken at Packard Children's Hospital and Stanford University. For more information, call (650) 724-5050.

- Tuesday, February 7, 2009

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



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

Out with the old, in with the new:

## Roasting instead of toasting

By Yvonne Tally

Special to the Almanac

January rings in the New Year as I settle into my winter routine of roasting instead of toasting. I will roast just about anything, including bananas.

Roasting is a simple, slow, dry-heat cooking method in an oven or on a grill. The technique lends itself to comfort foods such as root vegetables and inexpensive cuts of meat, pork, and poultry, but have you ever roasted Brussels sprouts? I know, Brussels sprouts have a bad rap; they're stinky, and our mothers were always trying to get us to eat them, or at least "try them."

Brussels sprouts conjured up images of Oliver Twist sitting before his only meal of the day: a plate yellow, mushy Brussels spouts. With that image, how could any vegetable reinvent itself without the help of Madonna's branding team?

The New Year is out with the old, and in with the new, and roasting Brussels sprouts is quickly becoming the trendy technique of turning stinky mini-cabbage-like balls into a chic accompaniment to the main dish. However, for those of us who have been roasting these little gems well before they were the featured new veggie by Food Network stars, Brussels sprouts are on their way to newfound acceptance.

Like a fabulous pair of jeans that can be both chic and PTA comfortable, Brussels sprouts can be dressed up with a succulent mustard and

to your  
**HEALTH**



**Yvonne Tally**  
of Menlo Park  
is a food coach,  
certified nutrition  
specialist,  
professional  
private chef,  
Pilates trainer,  
and co-owner of

Poised, a personal training and whole-life consulting company in Menlo Park.

coriander pork loin, or pan-roasted with potatoes and pancetta for a mid-winter, full-flavored hash. Either way, these tiny jewels are going to surprise your taste buds and impress even the most skeptical dinner guest.

Brussels sprouts are a relative of cabbage, but with a somewhat more bitter taste. That bitterness all but disappears when they are roasted, because the starch slowly turns to sugar, caramelizing the outside, which in turn brings out a nuttier flavor profile. They are like little candied morsels, a one-bite palate pleaser.

I love them the next day sliced over my salad, or just popped in my mouth as an easy flavorful snack. Reheat them with some good parmesan cheese, stick a toothpick in, and serve them with a Sauvignon Blanc as a no-fuss tasty and low-cal appetizer. ■

For more information on this topic and others, visit my Web site at [www.yourfitgourmet.com](http://www.yourfitgourmet.com).

### Herb-roasted Brussels Sprouts

Serves 4.

Preparation time: 10 minutes; cook time: 20-30 minutes.

#### Ingredients

24-30 Brussels spouts  
1 tsp. dried thyme or 2" sprig of fresh, leaves only  
3-4 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil  
1 tsp. balsamic vinegar  
Course sea salt to taste  
About 1 tsp cracked black pepper  
3-4 tbsp. grated parmesan cheese  
Options: grated zest of one lemon

Heat oven to 375 degrees, middle rack; or grill on medium high. Rinse the Brussels sprouts, but do not dry them off. Place in a bowl and add all ingredients except the parmesan cheese. Roast for 15 minutes, uncovered. Turn over and continue roasting until tender and dark brown caramel color forms on the outside of the sprouts. Sprinkle with the parmesan cheese about 3 minutes before removing from oven or grill. The cheese will turn a crispy nutty brown.

# Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## Submitting items for the Calendar

Submit information online. Go to [TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://TheAlmanacOnline.com) and on the green navigation bar on the left, click on "Calendar Event." That will take you to the Palo Alto Online Master Community Calendar page with a form to enter your information. If the event is of interest to a large number of people, also e-mail a press release to [Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com).

## On Stage

**"Twentieth Century."** Broadway ballyhoo meets Hollywood hustle aboard the legendary locomotive in a madcap battle of the sexes in this TheatreWorks production that's a send-up of screwball comedy. Jan. 14-Feb. 8, Tue.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m., Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 and 7 p.m. \$21-64. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [theatreworks.org](http://theatreworks.org)

## Talks/Authors

**"A Beautiful Place to Live" On the Courthouse Docket.** While the rest of the country struggled with the effects of the Great Depression, San Mateo County promoted itself as an idyllic place to live. On Sat., Jan. 10, the Courthouse Docket explores "A Beautiful Place to Live: The San Francisco Peninsula in the 1930s." 1-2 p.m. \$2 senior/student \$4 adults. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104. [www.historysmc.org](http://www.historysmc.org)

**Australian Innovation: A Shoot Out.** At the annual Innovation Shoot Out, witness six Australian state finalists compete in company innovation. Thu., Jan. 15, 8:30-11:30 a.m. No cost for this event, but please RSVP. Quadrus Conference Centre, 2400 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. [SDForum.org](http://SDForum.org)

**Brenda Webster reading.** Author Brenda Webster reads from her new novel Vienna Triangle, an exploration of the loves and rivalries among Sigmund Freud's inner circle that led to the unexplained death of Viktor Tausk, Freud's most devoted disciple. Tue. Jan. 20, 2009, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Stanford Bookstore, 519 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 650-329-1217 ext. 323.

**Dominique Renda and Brooks Anderson discuss "Strings of Light."** "Dominique Renda and Brooks Anderson partner words and images infused with understanding in this collection of poetry and photographic art. Dominique Renda is a Menlo Park poet, photographer, parent and life coach," Kepler's says. Thu., Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. [www.keplers.com](http://www.keplers.com)

**Janet Y.K. Lee** will discuss and sign her book, "The Piano Teacher," at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21. Free. "In the sweeping tradition of 'The English Patient,' it's a gripping tale of love and betrayal set in war-torn Hong Kong," says Kepler's. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. [www.keplers.com](http://www.keplers.com)

**January Bagels, Lox and Learning.** "From Anguished to Action: Greening Our Lives to Heal the Planet." Sat., Jan. 11, 10:15 a.m.-noon \$5 suggested donation. Kehillah Jewish High School, 3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-494-6400. [www.keddem.org](http://www.keddem.org)

**Jayne Anne Phillips** will discuss and sign her book, "Lark and Termite." Says Kepler's: "Set during the 1950s in West Virginia and Korea, it's a story of the power of loss and love, war and family and the unseen bonds that unite and sustain us." 7:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. [www.keplers.com](http://www.keplers.com)

**Quality as a Strategic Lever.** Talk on how Graniterock's strategy for improved quality resulted in increased customer and employee satisfaction as well as higher market valuations. Association for Strategic Planning, Northern California Chapter. Thu., Jan. 15, 7:30-10:30 a.m. \$25 members, students, affiliates, \$35 all others, \$40 at door. SRI- Stanford Research Institute, 333 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park. Call 408-209-5679.

**Robert Jensen: Beyond Elections.** Robert Jensen teaches journalism at University of Texas. He will speak on post-election social justice. Tue., Jan. 13, 7:30-9 p.m. \$5-\$10 suggested donation. First Baptist Church of Palo Alto - Fellowship Hall (Wheelchair accessible), 305 North California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-326-8837. <http://www.PeaceandJustice.org>

**Robert Roper discusses "Now the Drum of War."** Says Kepler's: "The Civil War is seen anew, and a great American family brought to life, in Robert Roper's brilliant evocation of the Family Whitman. Robert Roper has won awards for his fiction and nonfiction alike." Tuesday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. [www.keplers.com](http://www.keplers.com)

**Stanford Breakfast Briefings: Billion Dollar Lessons.** Presents: Chunka Mui, author (Killer App) and Fellow, Diamond Consultants. In this lecture, author and consultant Chunka Mui explains that learning only from success stories won't protect companies from repeating avoidable mistakes that have led to failure again and again. Wed., Jan. 14, 7:30-9 a.m. \$60. Stanford Faculty Club, 439 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. Call 650-725-3330. <http://breakfastbriefings.stanford.edu/>

**Total Cure: The Antidote to the Health Care Crisis.** Health care reform proposals typically focus on increasing private insurance or expanding government-sponsored plans. In "Total Cure," Luft, director of Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute, presents a comprehensive new proposal. Wed. Jan. 7, 2009, 7:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. [www.keplers.com](http://www.keplers.com)

**VC Outlook 2009: Looking Down the Money Trail.** An outlook of VC investment in 2009, featuring panelists from Hummer Winblad, Foundation Capital, Claremont Creek Ventures, Trinity Ventures, and PWC. Tue., Jan. 13, 6:30-9 p.m. Online \$15-25; +\$5 for walk-ins. Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, 2475 Hanover St., Palo Alto.

**Waverley Writers Poetry Open Mic.** Poetry to be spoken and heard aloud. Every First Friday except for July and August. 7:30-10 p.m. Free. Waverley Writers, 957 Colorado (near Greer), Palo Alto.

## Art Galleries

**New artists, new work.** Portola Art Gallery introduces eight new artists to the gallery in January. Meet the artists and view their diverse styles and mediums Jan. 10, from 1-4 p.m. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. [www.portolaartgallery.com](http://www.portolaartgallery.com)

**California Oils.** Allegro Framing and Art presents a group showing for ten artists

## New artists at Portola Art Gallery

Tomiko Bailey, who painted "Carmel Mission" (right), is among eight new artists showing works at the Portola Art Gallery in Menlo Park during January. A reception for the artists, including Nancy Wagstaff of Atherton, will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at the gallery at Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road in Menlo Park. For more information, go to [PortolaArtGallery.com](http://PortolaArtGallery.com).



with diverse concepts but with California as the central theme. Bev Iverson, Caroline Robbins, Claudia Marshall, Jim Caldwell, Joanna Baciocco, Kit Colman, Nancy Meze, Pam Naeve, Peggy Brennan and Teresa Ruzzo. Through January. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Allegro Framing and Art, 3056 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-529-1800. [allegroframingandart.com](http://allegroframingandart.com)

**Pacific Art League Gallery Events.** A "Color and More Color!" exhibit opens Jan. 9 with a public reception, 6-9 p.m. Also: studies in motion by students of Edward Stanton's experimental "Drawing Circus." Exhibit runs through Feb. 3, Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 650-321-3891. [www.pacificartleague.org](http://www.pacificartleague.org)

**Robyn Horn: Paintings and Sculpture.** Join Tercera Gallery on Friday, Jan. 9 from 6 pm until 9 pm for the opening reception of artist Robyn Horn. Her paintings and wood sculptures will be featured for the month of January. 6-9 p.m. Tercera Gallery Palo Alto, 534 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 650-322-5324. [www.terceragallery.com](http://www.terceragallery.com)

## Classes/Workshops

**Bridge Instruction.** Here's your chance to learn Bridge. 8-week series. One hour instruction, 30 minutes play, plus time to discuss hands students may bring in. Wed. Jan. 14 to Mar. 4, 2-4 p.m. \$80 members/\$90 non-members. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org)

**Acrylic Painting.** Instructor Juliet Lundy will work with each person at her/his own level. All levels welcome. Materials not provided; pick up materials list at Front Desk at time of registration. Wed. Jan. 7 to Mar. 25, 3:30-5:30 p.m. \$65 members/\$75 non-members. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org)

**Computer Classes.** The Computer Learning Center at Avenidas is offering courses, including introduction to computers and the Internet. Call 650-289-5400 for info. Classes start Jan. 6, 7, 8, or 12, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$25 members/\$45 non-members. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-2436. [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org)

**Digital Photography.** Learn how to pursue digital photography using PhotoShop Elements. Tue. Jan. 6 to Feb. 24, 2009, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$25 members/\$45 non-members. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org)

**Lip Reading/Managing Hearing Loss.** Mon. Jan. 5 to Wed. Mar. 25, 1:30-2:45 p.m. Foothill College tuition and fees. varied sites off campus. Mt. View, Palo Alto and Menlo Park. Call 650-949-7999 ext.4379.

**Rose Pruning and Care.** Sat., Jan. 10, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$37. Common Ground Organic Garden Supply and Education

Center, 559 College Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-493-6072.

## Exhibits

**Durer to Picasso.** Cantor Arts Center at Stanford. Through Feb. 15, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Cantor Art Center at Stanford University, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. [museum.stanford.edu](http://museum.stanford.edu)

**Reception at Gallery House.** The 37 artists of Gallery House will hold a reception for their annual small works show. The exhibit of works no larger than 14" X 14", includes paintings, ceramics, prints, sculpture, photography and jewelry. Exhibit runs Jan. 6-31, 2009. 6-8 p.m. Free. Gallery House, 320 California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-326-1668.

## Kids & Families

**"My Life with the Wave."** The San Mateo County History Museum will present a preschool children's story time about surfing and the sea. Design a mini-surfboard. Fri., Jan. 9, 11 a.m.-noon. 2-3 p.m. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104 ext. 231. [www.historysmc.org](http://www.historysmc.org)

**Educational Series on Autism.** The LPCH Center for Autism and Related Disorders offers parents of young children (1-5 years) diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder a 10-part series on ASD diagnosis, treatment and services. Thu. Jan. 15 to Mar. 19, 2009, 5:30-7 p.m. \$5.00 per session. Conference Room 2209, 401 Quarry Road, Stanford. Call 650-721-6327. <http://childpsychiatry.stanford.edu>

**Good to Great Dads** is a monthly, on-going fellowship for fathers to explore how Christian faith can shape their family priorities and offer fulfillment and balance in a busy world. Fri. Jan. 16, 2009, 7-8:30 a.m. Free. Menlo Park Presbyterian Church Garden Court, 950 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. [www.mppc.org](http://www.mppc.org)

**Happy Birds Performing Parrot Show.** The Happy Birds Performing Parrot show. Sponsored by the Friends of the Atherton Library. Mon. Jan. 12, 2009, 4-4:45 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422.

**Infant Musical Storytime.** Rhymes, songs and lap-sit activities for parents and infants. For ages newborn to 2 years old. Wed. Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, 2009, 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-0147. [www.smcl.org](http://www.smcl.org)

**Toddler Musical Storytime.** Finger plays, stories, songs and fun! For ages 18 months to 3 years old. Wed. Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, 2009, 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-0147. [www.smcl.org](http://www.smcl.org)

## Support Groups

**Chapter 2.** For women newly separated or divorced. Tue. Jan 6 to Mar. 31, 2009, 7:15-8:30 p.m. \$50 per session. Bright Eagle Mansion, 1040 Noel Drive #209, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4429.

**Grief Support.** 5-week mutual support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. New individuals will not be accepted into the group after second week. Sat. Jan. 10 to Feb. 7, 2009, 9-10:30 a.m. Free. Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. [www.mppc.org](http://www.mppc.org)

## Volunteers

**Junior Museum & Zoo.** Office volunteers are needed to help with fundraising, community relations and special events. Data input, mailings, internet research, etc. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Junior Museum & Zoo, 1451 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-326-6338. [www.friendsjzmz.org](http://www.friendsjzmz.org)

**Volunteer for The American Cancer Society.** Become a Volunteer representative for Daffodil Days, a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. A campaign kit assists you in promotion, taking orders and incentives for bouquets delivered to donors and cancer patients the week of March. Thu. Jan. 1 to Sat. Jan. 18, 2009, Your Workplace, Silicon Valley. Call 408-871-1062 (Option 3, ext. 250). [www.cancer.org/daffodilsonline](http://www.cancer.org/daffodilsonline)

**Winter Planting Project along San Francisco Creek with Save The Bay.** Plant native seedlings such as alkali heath and sea lavender. No experience necessary. Gloves, tools and instruction provided. Sat., Jan. 10, 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, Palo Alto. Call 510-452-9261 ext. 119. [www.savesfbay.org/bayevents](http://www.savesfbay.org/bayevents)

**Workday Wednesday at the Palo Alto Baylands.** Plant native seedlings such as California poppy and white yarrow. No experience necessary. Wed., Jan. 14, 1-3 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, Palo Alto. Call 510-452-9261 ext. 119. [www.savesfbay.org/bayevents](http://www.savesfbay.org/bayevents)

## Et Alia

**Little House Book Club.** Meets the first Wednesday of every month in the Conference Room. January meeting welcomes new club leader, Jeanette Rose, and makes selections for books to read during the coming year. Jan. 7, 1-2 p.m. Free. PV Inc Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-326-2025. Peninsula Volunteers Inc

**Brass Tacks Sustainability.** "Sustainovation" dialogue with Steve Attinger, environmental sustainability coordinator, city of Mountain View; Dianne Dryer, environmental programs coordinator, city of Menlo Park; Julie Weiss, city of Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant. Mon., Jan. 12, 6:30-9 p.m. \$20 (Conexions members \$15). Conexions offices, 1023 Corporation Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-938-9300 ext. 10. [www.sustainovation.org](http://www.sustainovation.org)

**Music for Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord.** John Dornenburg, viola da gamba, and Yuko Tanaka, harpsichord, perform. Wed., Jan. 21, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Memorial Church Chapel, Stanford Campus, Stanford. Call 650-723-2720.

**Sunday Baylands Birdwalks.** Learn to identify the birds of the Palo Alto Baylands. Designed for beginners (ages 9 and up) and others interested in recognizing the area's birds by sight, sound and behaviors. Meeting time varies to coincide with favorable tides. Call or email for current schedule. Free. Baylands Nature Center, 2775 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-329-2506.

## For all listings

This Calendar contains partial listings of community events. To see all listings, go to [TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://TheAlmanacOnline.com) and on the green navigation bar on the left, click on "Community Calendar."



## Luft proposes cure for health care blues

Harold S. Luft says he has the cure for the nation's ailing health care system. The director of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute has penned a new book explaining his solution, and will be signing copies at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, at Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real in Menlo Park. "Total Cure: The Antidote to the Health Care Crisis" presents a comprehensive proposal called "SecureChoice" that Mr. Luft says would provide affordable, quality health care. For information, call Kepler's at 324-4321 or go to [www.Keplers.com](http://www.Keplers.com).

**Editor & Publisher**

Tom Gibboney

**Editorial**

**Managing Editor** Richard Hine

**News Editor** Renee Batti

**Lifestyles Editor** Jane Knoerle

**Senior Correspondents**

Marion Softky, Marjorie Mader

**Staff Writers** Andrea Gemmet,

David Boyce, Sean Howell

**Contributors** Barbara Wood,

Kate Daly, Bill Rayburn, Miles

McMullin, Katie Blankenberg

**Special Sections Editors**

Carol Blitzer, Sue Dremann

**Photographer** Michelle Le

**Design & Production**

**Design Director** Raul Perez

**Designers** Linda Atilano,

Gail Thoreson, Joanne Lee,

Laura Don, Gary Vennarucci

**Advertising**

**Advertising Manager** Neal Fine

**Display Advertising Sales**

Ella Fleishman

**Real Estate Account**

**Advertising Assistant**

**Coordinator** Jessica Hatzistratis

**Advertising Services**

**Receptionist** Renee Meil

**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

e-mail news (no photos please) to:

editor@AlmanacNews.com

e-mail photos with captions to:

photo@AlmanacNews.com

e-mail letters to:

letters@AlmanacNews.com

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.

**TOWN SQUARE FORUM**

POST your views on the Town Square forum at www.TheAlmanacOnline.com

**EMAIL** your views to:

letters@almanacnews.com and note this it is a letter to the editor in the subject line.

**MAIL** or deliver to:

Editor at the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

**CALL** the Viewpoint desk at

854-2626, ext. 222.

## Let's work together on housing

It is sad to see Belle Haven residents at odds over a proposed 20-unit Habitat for Humanity housing complex on Terminal Avenue, especially when housing foreclosures are rampant in the area forcing more residents out of their homes.

The project is on an admittedly small site — not quite 1.5 acres — next to the private Beechwood School, near the Onetta Harris Community Center. Under Habitat's proposal, the city would donate the land for the project. There are plenty of applicants for the Habitat-style home-ownership plan, which involves buyers earning sweat equity by helping to construct their home.

**EDITORIAL**  
*The opinion of The Almanac*

But in this case, neighbors have strongly objected to the Habitat plan, which could scuttle the introduction of 20 viable homes in an already decimated housing market that has seen more than 100 homes foreclosed on in Belle Haven.

Critics have objected on many fronts, saying the Habitat project would be built on a small and awkward site, far from transit, and isolate residents from the heart of the Belle Haven community. Others say the public would benefit more if Beechwood School were given a chance to expand into the site.

The city was even criticized for planning such a large below-market-rate project in Belle Haven, rather than at a location west of U.S. 101. Currently, as Housing Commissioner Elizabeth Lasensky notes in the adjoining letter, of the 53 BMR units in the city, 20 are in Belle Haven. But if the Habitat project were built, 42 of 75 units, more than half, would be in the eastern reaches of the city.

The Habitat project is hardly ready for construction, as many city reviews remain, including obtaining the necessary approvals from the Planning Commission and City Council. At the moment, it is not clear if council members will vote to proceed with the project, or nix it in deference to opponents living in Belle Haven.

In the current economic environment, we believe Habitat, city

officials and the neighbors owe it to everyone to sit down and attempt to work out their differences. Habitat has a superb record of building quality projects that are an asset to their neighborhoods.

And the city needs to listen to Belle Haven residents, who have legitimate concerns about the housing site and believe the city is forcing the project on their neighborhood. At a recent meeting, a few residents spoke in opposition to the project, but more than 50 others in the audience clearly supported the comments.

All of Menlo Park needs better housing options, and sooner or later, more moderately priced units will be built. Habitat's Belle Haven project is on the front burner now, but others are sure to follow at other locations in the city, probably along the downtown transit corridor. If the Habitat project doesn't fly, we hope other options can be found, either in Belle Haven or elsewhere.

**Remaking foreclosures**

There is another possible way to open the door to more housing in Belle Haven, if the city can somehow take over or purchase some of the more than 100 single-family homes that are either in foreclosure or are headed that way.

One possibility is for the city to purchase some of the foreclosed properties, rehabilitate and then resell them to people on the below market rate (BMR) housing waiting list. But for now, it appears that the properties are in financial limbo, which could preclude bringing them back on the market anytime soon.

Doug Frederick, the city's housing manager, was encouraged by City Council member Andy Cohen at a recent meeting to pursue ways to make use of the foreclosed properties, even though federal funds allocated to help stabilize neighborhoods have not trickled down to San Mateo County.

Given the current economic conditions, the city should do everything possible to bring more low-cost housing to market, whether it is Habitat's proposed project on Terminal Avenue or refurbishing and reselling foreclosed homes in Belle Haven. Neither option would be easy, but both are worth at least a good faith effort.

**LETTERS**

*Our readers write*

**Below-market housing in Belle Haven, Menlo Park**

Editor:

Menlo Park currently has 53 BMR (below market rate) units in our entire city. Of those, 20 are in Belle Haven, and those remaining are all located west of Highway 101 in various parts of the city. Quite a few of these units have been developed in the last four years or so.

Also west of Highway 101 we have affordable senior rental housing provided by Peninsula Volunteers on Partridge Avenue and Crane Street. Many of us who are considered to have low or moderate incomes live west of 101 as well.

Had both the Derry and Cadillac sites on or near El Camino



Atherton Heritage Association

**Our Regional Heritage**

Atherton can trace the gift of Holbrook-Palmer Park to the Holbrook family, shown here at a family gathering in 1891 at Elmwood Estate, the site of today's treasured park. Olive Holbrook, in the lower right corner of the photo with a dog, married Silas Palmer in 1903 at the estate. The main house burned down in 1958, after which Silas built a smaller version, which stands today.

See **LETTERS**, next page

LETTERS

Continued from previous page

moved forward with their housing plans, we would have had an additional 20 or so BMR units in the downtown area. Housing projects of that size face a zoning requirement of providing 15 percent of their units to be below market rate. Other projects that included such housing are on hold, due to both the grim financial picture and waiting on the results of our El Camino/Downtown Visioning project.

The downturn in the economy and the burst of the housing bubble have created a larger need for affordable housing than before, not less. The Habitat project received many applications from residents already living in Belle Haven so there is a need in the community for the more affordable housing that Habitat would like to provide.

In these tough economic times, we are looking to find and build affordable (BMR) housing wherever we can, including but not restricted to, Belle Haven. Renovating and reselling foreclosed homes is one option that has great potential.

The Menlo Park Housing Commission welcomes this discussion on affordable housing. We invite the public to attend our meetings to learn more about the BMR program and other projects we are working on, as well as to provide feedback from residents.

**Elizabeth Lasensky, member  
Menlo Park Housing  
Commission  
Fremont Street, Menlo Park**

**Good reasons to expand  
Caltrain's bike capacity**

Editor:

It's very important to me as an avid cyclist-commuter that Caltrain plans to increase onboard bike capacity. The ability to ride my bike to and from the train

means a lot to me, and shows a commitment by Caltrain to care about us as healthy humans, and shows care for the environment.

I take my bike on board Caltrain for two reasons: One, I love to ride my bike (over driving, walking, skateboarding, or rollerblading to work); and two, I don't have much choice. I need to take my bike on board because I need it to also ride to work. Having bike parking at stations means absolutely nothing to me, because I need to have my bike with me throughout the day, to run errands, ride to lunch, and so on. Leaving it locked up far away really does me no good. For me, the bike is just a faster, healthier way to get around. I'm sure we can all appreciate that.

It really seems logical and practical to increase capacity to 80 bikes per train. The trade-off seems completely worth it to all riders. Furthermore, as ridership increases due to more and more cyclists consistently getting on board, Caltrain will see increased revenue, alongside a reduction in traffic congestion and pollution. Hopefully we can come to a solution that we are all happy with — for Caltrain, for all Caltrain riders, and for the planet.

**Fabian Falconett  
N. Idaho Street, San Mateo**

Online.  
Anyplace.  
Anytime.  
www.TheAlmanacOnline.com

**Here's what they're saying on Town Square**

**Pointed discussion on  
Menlo Park child care**

*Posted by Hank Lawrence, a resident of the Menlo Park Sharon Heights neighborhood:*

The Menlo Park Child Care Center should be immediately privatized. Unless there are significant matching federal or state funds, Menlo Park has no business to be in the child care business. It should solicit competitive bids to take over MPCC immediately and award to the best bidder on balanced considerations of cost and management.

If there are no bidders then it should be shut down at the end of June 2009. This should give parents enough time to make other arrangements. Menlo Park should not be a nanny and I resent living in a \$1.25 million town home subsidizing people living in homes costing at least twice as much. We need to stop this welfare for the rich.

**TownSquare**

Join the conversation on  
www.TheAlmanacOnline.com. Click on  
links under the TownSquare banner.

*Posted by Diana, a resident of the Menlo Park Allied Arts/Stanford Park neighborhood:*

Hank: Do you also resent subsidizing developers who have been paying only about half the costs of city services provided to support their uber-profitable projects?

I know a few of the families who are fortunate enough to have spots in the child care program, and I can assure you, they're not even close to rich. (There probably are a few "rich" people, too, but not the ones I know.) If you take issue with the city providing child care, that's fine, but you should argue your case more honestly. Our government does support welfare for the rich in a number of ways, but this is not one of them.

*Posted by just over it, a resident of a Menlo Park neighborhood:*

This topic is such old news. The bottom line is that the union effectively strong-arms any interested applicants (private childcare providers) and the city.

Several years ago when the city "explored" going private the union played their very organized hand and won at everyone's expense.

I believe there are some quality care givers employed by the city-run program but there are quality private options that perhaps cost less and even come with the credentials that many concerned parents are looking for.

My daughter was enrolled for several months and I was very disappointed at the level of professionalism. On two separate occasions the "teachers" didn't know her whereabouts. Only one teacher even knew my name. I didn't sign the transportation waiver and

waited to see how long it would take the administration to ask me to complete my paperwork. They never did. I had to tell them.

I never once signed my child out. They never asked or seemed to even notice. The teachers, mostly teenagers, were dressed their age

which is fine among their peers but I'm not really interested in my six-year-old staring at her female teachers' belly button all day. Sexy was not the role model I was hoping for in after-school kindercare.

I know there are several other families who will attest to the quality of care they have received for all of their children, which I think is great.

However, I am here to say the Menlo Park program is not without its flaws and organizationally it was a mess. Perhaps these issues are just standard in the industry. I'm certainly no expert but I have received superior care prior and since. I would only recommend the Menlo Park option as a last resort.

Our city needs the support and the guts to stand up to the union and cancel their contract and then put a new contract out to bid. If the union's bid is stronger than their private counterparts, great, they get reaffirmed. If they are as good as they claim, they should have no resistance to the challenge.

Either way we can all rest comfortably knowing the process was above board, based on outlined criteria and the chosen applicant was the best available. It's a solution that hurts no one. The era of entitlement needs to end.

**LOUISE W. PETERSMEYER**



Louise passed away December 29, 2008, at age 88 in Los Altos with her devoted children by her side. She was predeceased by her loving husband of 45 years, H. Quayle Petersmeyer. She is survived by her four children - Tom Petersmeyer of Glendale, CA, Gary Petersmeyer of Los Altos, Kent Petersmeyer of Destin, FL and Wendy Petersmeyer of Atherton. Louise had ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren who were her pride and joy.

Louise was born on September 3, 1920, in Berkeley where she lived throughout her childhood and where she and Quayle raised their four children until moving to the Peninsula in 1964. Louise graduated from Berkeley High School and attended

UC Berkeley prior to WW II. Louise and Quayle were very active in their community - the Berkeley School Board, Boy Scout Troop 4 and the Church of Christ Scientist. They loved the outdoors, hiking in the high country of Yosemite and annual vacations to Lake Tahoe.

Louise was a gifted athlete who loved to play tennis and swim at the Berkeley Tennis Club and the Alpine Hills Tennis & Swim Club. She was an enthusiastic volunteer for Pets In Need, the Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden and the Stanford Mother's Club. Her family enjoys many of her beautiful paintings and sketches, a result of her passion for art which began at Cal Berkeley. They also celebrate her appreciation for nature and love of her rose gardens.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 10 at 3 p.m., Trinity Chapel, 330 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94026. (650) 326-2083.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Pets In Need, 1180 Main Street, Redwood City, CA 94063.

PAID OBITUARY

ALPINE / WEST MENLO  
**LITTLE LEAGUE  
BASEBALL**



will hold a **pre tryout practice**  
**La Entrada School Field**  
Actual tryouts to be held 1/17/2009.

Please email LLBLOSALTOS@AOL.COM to reserve a position and get updates (changes because of weather, etc.).



Not necessary to attend but designed to familiarize new players with tryout procedures and prepare for tryouts.



# CASHIN COMPANY

MENLO PARK (650) 614-3500 ■ PORTOLA VALLEY (650) 529-2900 ■ WOODSIDE (650) 529-1000 ■ LOS ALTOS (650) 948-8050  
 PALO ALTO (650) 853-7100 ■ SAN CARLOS (650) 598-4900 ■ SAN MATEO (650) 343-3700 ■ BURLINGAME (650) 340-9688



**ATHERTON** – Gorgeous traditional brick estate home in desirable W. Atherton, on quiet cul-de-sac. 6 BD/5.5 BA main hse w/new gourmet kit, luxurious master ste. Sep 1BD/1BA gst hse features LR w/ fplace, full kit. Private landscaped acre. Pool, spa. Virtual tour at [www.plansandtours.com/3879](http://www.plansandtours.com/3879)  
*Elizabeth Daschbach* \$4,695,000



**LOS ALTOS HILLS** – Tremendous opportunity & value for this Hacienda w/old world craftsmanship & all the modern accoutrements. This estate is situated on the flat creek side lot w/exceptional MFA & MDA and a truly serene park setting. A Must See!  
*Victor Platonoff* \$3,175,000



**LOS ALTOS HILLS** – Price Reduction! Lovely 4BR/3BA property on designated scenic route adjacent to Hidden Villa.  
*Clarke Team/Nadine Matityahu* \$1,499,500



**MENLO PARK** – This classic 4BR/3BA ranch-style home is located on one of the nicest streets in central Menlo Park. The open floor plan includes; hardwood floors, updated BA's, breakfast nook, formal DR & LR.  
*Steve Gray/Tim Kerns* \$1,850,000



**MENLO PARK** – Prime W. Menlo on Atherton border. Large home with space for in-law unit or au pair quarters all rooms are large with plenty of closets. Family room has pot belly brick fireplace. Living room is oversized. Floor plan is terrific for a large bustling family.  
*Maureen Love* \$1,850,000

## ATHERTON

West Atherton remodel or build new opportunity on large park-like setting.

*Steve Gray* \$2,495,000

## BELMONT

Excellent location on cul-de-sac. Unbelievable views of the Bay. Expand or build.

*Brendan Royer* \$829,950

## EAST PALO ALTO

Bright corner unit, new double-paned windows, freshly painted inside & out.

*Gordana Wolfman* \$268,888

## HALF MOON BAY

Spectacular views from this large lot! Complete with plans and permits.

*Katherine Clark* \$639,000

## HAYWARD

2 separate homes on a large lot. Front unit is 3BR/3BA. Rear unit is 2BR/2BA.

*Gordana Wolfman* \$575,000

## LA HONDA

Great value in La Honda! Close to WS and 280. Charming cottage with a large level rear garden.

*Cristina Harper* \$399,500

## MOUNTAIN VIEW

Charming 3BR/2BA home blocks away from Castro St! Located on a quiet street across from a park.

*Kristin Cashin* \$899,000

3BR/2BA home in Santiago Villa, open floor plan, breakfast bar, island kitchen.

*Cristina Page* \$155,750

## REDWOOD CITY

Inviting 3BR/1.5BA home located on a peaceful tree-lined street. Hardwood floors, new paint.

*Jennifer Whelan* \$649,000

Remodeled 3 Bedroom, 2-1/2 Bath, Tile and Hardwood Floors, New Landscaping.

*Vivian Vella* \$549,000

This spacious 3BR/2BA Condo has newer double-pane windows, sliding doors and kitchen appliances.

*Brendan Royer* \$449,000



**MENLO PARK** – Gorgeous tastefully remodeled light and bright 2BR/2BA condo with garage. Additional space could be made into office or gym. One level, looks out onto lawns, complex has a pool. Wonderful west Menlo Park location. Las Lomas Schools.  
*Suzanne Scott* \$758,000



**MOUNTAIN VIEW** – Duplex in desirable area, close to Sylvan Park. 3BR/2BA beautifully remodeled.  
*Marta Hayes* \$1,130,000



**REDWOOD CITY** – Light bright & spacious 3BR/2.5BA private end unit. Steps away from boat dock.  
*Lilly Chow* \$749,000



**REDWOOD SHORES** – Beautiful 3BR/3BA with large deck and hot tub. New paint, stove and microwave. Must see to appreciate!  
*Joann Bedrossian* \$1,088,000



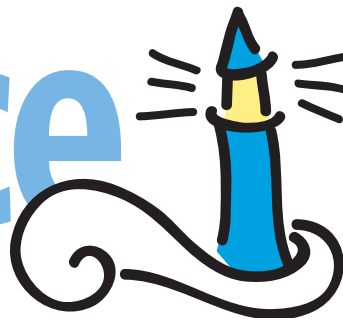
**SUNNYSVALE** – Great corner lot location in this Cherry Chase neighborhood. This beautiful 4BR/3BA home is ready to move into, but still has tons of potential. Added bonus is a huge second living unit with 2 additional BR's, Living Rm and Kitchenette.  
*Dana Cappiello* \$1,198,000

Selling Northern California's Finest Properties



[cashin.com](http://cashin.com)

# The Almanac Marketplace



**fogster.com**

**THE PENINSULA'S  
FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE**  
Combining the reach of the Web with  
print ads reaching over 150,000 readers!

## PLACE AN AD

**ONLINE**  
fogster.com

**E-MAIL**  
ads@fogster.com

**PHONE**  
650/326-8216

Now you can log on to **fogster.com**, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free and include a one-line free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home Services and Mind & Body Services require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 150,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!!

## INDEX

- **BULLETIN BOARD**  
100-199
- **FOR SALE**  
200-299
- **KIDS STUFF**  
330-399
- **MIND & BODY**  
400-499
- **JOBS**  
500-599
- **BUSINESS SERVICES**  
600-699
- **HOME SERVICES**  
700-799
- **FOR RENT/  
FOR SALE  
REAL ESTATE**  
800-899
- **PUBLIC/LEGAL  
NOTICES**  
995-997

The publisher waives any and all claims or consequential damages due to errors Embarcadero Publishing Co. cannot assume responsibility for the claims or performance of its advertisers. Embarcadero Publishing Co. right to refuse, edit or reclassify any ad solely at its discretion without prior notice.

**fogster.com** is a unique web site offering **FREE** postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and the Mountain View Voice.

## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS**  
In 111 alternative newspapers like this one. Over 6 million circulation every week for \$1200. No adult ads. Call Rick at 202-289-8484. (AAN CAN)

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION**  
Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

**WRITERS WANTED**  
The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 21 - Aug. 16, 2009) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://altjournalism.org>. You may also email us at [altacademy@northwestern.edu](mailto:altacademy@northwestern.edu). Applications must be post-marked by Feb. 13, 2009. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator & employer

Children's Choir downtown  
Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)  
Do You Dream in 2 Languages?  
Emerson School Open House  
Homestays needed- get paid  
Housing Exchange Wanted  
Introductory Lecture  
New year special meditation  
Wellness weekend- free event!  
Who is Xenu?

### 120 Auctions

**Foreclosed Home Auction**  
Northern California. 1000 Homes Must Be Sold! Free Brochure: 1-800-470-9314. [www.USHomeAuction.com](http://www.USHomeAuction.com) REDC. (Cal-SCAN)

### 130 Classes & Instruction

**HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!**  
Fast, Affordable & Accredited FREE Brochure. Call NOW! 1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 <http://www.continentalacademy.com> (AAN CAN)

**MASTER OF FINE ARTS**  
in TV Production / Master of Science in Media Studies in New York City. Visit <http://www.bctvr.org> (AAN CAN)

**GERMAN Language Class**  
**Instruction for Hebrew**  
Bar and Bat Mitzvah For Affiliated and Unaffiliated George Rubin, M.A. in Hebrew/Jewish Education 650/424-1940

### 133 Music Lessons

**Violin & Viola Lessons**  
Dr. Denise Chevalier (Doc Stanford) Children & Adults 23 yrs teaching in Palo Alto area (650)328-1520

**A EXCELLENT MUSIC SCHOOL**  
Violin\* Viola\* Piano\* Lessons  
ALL LEVELS Children & Adults Locations N. & S. Palo Alto 650 856-2423

**A Piano Teacher**  
Children & Adults  
Ema Currier (650)493-4797

**Barton-Holding Music Studio**  
Vocal instruction, all levels. 6-week sight singing class starts 7/7. Laura, 650/965-0139

**FOGSTER.COM**

**Drum Lessons**  
Drum Lessons in Palo Alto Specializing in beginners. Day/Evenings available. Call David (650) 400-2029

**FUN PIANO VIOLIN GUITAR LESSONS**

**Guitar and Bass Lessons**  
All styles, ages, skill levels 25+ years exp. 408/260-1131

**Hope Street Studios**  
In Downtown Mountain View Most Instruments, Voice All Ages, All Levels (650) 961-2192

**Jazz & Pop Piano Lessons**  
Learn how to build chords & improvise. Bill Susman, M.A., Stanford. (650)233-9689

**McCool Piano Studio 566-9391MP**  
5 min walk from Burgess Gym

**Piano Lessons**  
Taught in your home. Member MTAC & NGPT. Specializing in beginners. All levels welcome. Karen, (650)233-9689

Piano Lessons in College Terrace  
Piano Lessons in Palo Alto

**Singing Lessons**  
Professional Singer, Conservatory Trained. Experienced Teacher. SAG. NARAS. (650)924-0299

Wendy Waller Vocal Studio

### 135 Group Activities

Art Birthday parties!

Art for kids

Back, Neck, or Joint Pain?

BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP

Free Single Travel Party

Looking for a Book Group?

NATURE/OUTDOORS Events Calendar

Need help with your finances?

Polynesian Tiki Singles Dance

QUIT SMOKING, Nicotine Anonymous

Square Dance Lessons

[www.art4growth.com](http://www.art4growth.com)

### 140 Lost & Found

\$500 Reward for LOST CAT-BRN/BLK

**LOST CAT! REWARD!**

Large male orange tabby, 18 lbs. Red nylon collar: "Invisible Fence". Los Altos, Cuesta/El Monte. 650-948-4573 or 650-255-3083.

Lost Cockatiel - \$100 reward

Missing Cat

Runaway Cat!

search people named JOHNSON

### 150 Volunteers

Support Tropical Reforestation!

ART Dialogues Docents volunteers

Couples Make Great Mentors!

Library Volunteers Needed

Like Cats? feed homeless cats

NASA cats need fosterers

Project LOOK! volunteers needed!

### 155 Pets

**50 Plus German Shepherds Available - Adopt or Foster**

G.S. Rescue of No. CA invites you to its Redwood City Adoption Day first Sat. of each month, 11am-2pm, Pet Food Express, 372 Woodside Plaza. [www.savegsd.org](http://www.savegsd.org) or call 1-866-SAVEGSD

**50 Plus German Shepherds Available - Adopt or Foster**  
G.S. Rescue of No. CA invites you to its Redwood City Adoption Day first Sat. of each month, 11am-2pm, Pet Food Express, 372 Woodside Plaza. [www.savegsd.org](http://www.savegsd.org) or call 1-866-SAVEGSD

No phone number in the ad?  
GO TO  
**FOGSTER.COM**  
for contact information

## For Sale

### 201 Autos/Trucks/Parts

**Donate Vehicle**  
Receive \$1000 Grocery Coupons, Your Choice. Noah's Arc, No Kill Animal Shelters. Advanced Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deduction. Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (Cal-SCAN)

**Donate Your Car**  
Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research and Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

Honda 2005 Civic EX Special Edition - \$13,700 ne

Honda 2007 Accord - \$4200

Mercedes 2007 E350 Sedan - \$642.00

PORSCHE 2000 996 CARRERA - \$20,000/OB

### 203 Bicycles



**2003 H-D**  
Softail Fatboy 100th Anniversary 5356 miles, Exterior: Red, price \$5800 contact me for pictures [23elzey@gmail.com](mailto:23elzey@gmail.com) (410) 670 7920

2007 Felt Racing Bike - \$400

TREK bicycle - \$50

### 210 Garage/Estate Sales

**San Carlos: 940 Commercial St. Suite G, Every Saturday, 10-4**  
Estate Sale Warehouse. Every Saturday 10-4. 4000sq ft of quality furniture, decorative art, lighting and carpet, 18th century to modern, value pricing, convenient access and parking. (650)315-4516

### 215 Collectibles & Antiques

Antique wicker - \$125 each

Diecast Scale Models

NORMAN ROCKWELL PLATE - \$25.00

### 220 Computers/Electronics

**GET A NEW COMPUTER**

Brand Name laptops & desktops Bad or NO Credit - No Problem Smallest weekly payments available. It's yours NOW - Call 800-803-8819 (AAN CAN)

### 230 Freebies

2 Flamenco skirts - FREE

60 feet of 1/2" steel conduit - FREE

Benjamin Moore sample paint - FREE

DVD: "Scientology, An Overview" - FREE

Personality Test - FREE

Zippered Plastic Cases - FREE

### 235 Wanted to Buy

Antique dolls

### 240 Furnishings/Household items

1 antique dining chair - \$100

3 antique dining chairs - \$300

4 antique dining chairs - \$400

• Lidded Jar, Blue Stoneware - \$40

• Porcelain mug, cat and orchid - \$5

• Teapot, Stoneware, Handmade - \$40

cedar chest; breakfront, table

Photo frame - \$ 12

Used Lawnmower - \$140

### 245 Miscellaneous

**Building Sale**

"Rock Bottom Prices". Beat Next Increase! 25x40 \$5,190. 30x50 \$6,390. 35x60 \$8,990. 40x60 \$12,700. 60x100 \$33,600. Many Others! Pioneer Steel. 1-800-372-8053. Since 1980. (Cal-SCAN)

2 Altamesa plots, - \$5000 ea

A New Slant on Life - \$15.00

Auto creeper - \$200.00

• Sewing Tool: Thread Organizer - \$40

Espon color printer 740 for sale - \$50

New clothes ladies' size 2-4 for - \$40+ Good

Nice new horse blanket - \$35

### 260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Cross Country Skis, poles, boots - \$50

GOLF EQUIPMENT - \$125/Set

Kids' adidas soccer shoes - \$12

Ski Boots & Poles - \$50 - \$25.

Skis - Rossignol 7X - \$100

Skis: Dynastar Speed SX - \$100

soccer shoes 8/8 1/2 - \$varies

## Kid's Stuff

### 330 Child Care Offered

Caring Nanny

18+ yrs. experience, Loving Nanny

A loving second-mom nanny!!

Art made easy/Drawing 4 kids!

BabySitter

**Babysitter/Tutor offered**

Second year university student willing to tutor and/or babysit during the winter break.

Betty's Day Care

Birthday Parties

Dream Nanny Available

Enthusiastic Baby-sitter

Experienced Child Care Offered

Great, FUN, Loving NANNY

Little Ages in home childcare

Martinez Day Care

Mature Female Driver Available

Multicultural, and Bilingual.

Nanny

Nanny Av. 25-40/hr.wk.

NANNY Available 20 to 45hrs/week

Nanny Jobs Peninsula

nanny/babysitter

Our Wonderful Nanny available am

Part Time Nanny Av. (as of 2/2)

Peace of mind, Loving nanny

Reliable/Dependable Nanny

Tibetan Nanny

### 340 Child Care Wanted

After-school pickup W/F

Enthusiastic Baby-sitter

**Live-in nanny needed-San Carlos**  
Looking for kind+responsible+ energetic nanny for 2 sons; Great living conditions; 650 283 2575

PT Babysitter/Tutor in Palo Alto

**Stanford Park Nannies**

Los Altos - FT \$4000  
6 mo boy, 5 yr exp reqd  
Palo Alto - Tue/Thurs  
2 & 4 yr old, \$22/hr  
**650-462-4580**  
*Serving California families since 1990*  
[www.spnannies.com](http://www.spnannies.com)

### 345 Tutoring/Lessons

A EXCELLENT MUSIC SCHOOL

Chess tutor wanted

**French Native Teacher**  
All levels and ages. SAT, AP, conversation for travelers and business professionals. Hessen Camille Ghazal, Ph.D.  
**650/965-9696**

French, Spanish for HS students

French, Spanish 4 Sudents&Adults

HS Math Tutor (650)494-8946

**Language Experts**  
Exp. European French-Spanish Teacher with degree. Kids, high schoolers, special programs for adults. 650/691-9863 650/804-5055 [www.languagesexpert.com](http://www.languagesexpert.com)

One-to-One Tutoring Service

**Reading and Math Tutor**  
K-5th. Exp. teacher. Victoria Burnett, MA, MFC lic. 43868. 650/851-8906; 408/235-0549

TUTOR pre K to 6th

### 350 Preschools/Schools/Camps

**Growing Tree Preschool**  
Exploration and learning. Ages 2-6. Small ratio 7:30am-6:00pm (650)857-0655.

### 355 Items for Sale

Baby Exercise & Fun Bundle - 150 for bundle/or BO

Jogging stroller Kool Stride

### 390 Kids for Summer Jobs

CulinART for kids/6507990235

**Mind & Body**

### 417 Groups

Divorce Recovery Group

### 420 Healing/Bodywork

Mobile Reiki for people and pets - 650 472-3932 \$90.00

### 430 Hypnototherapy

Free hypnosis

**Jobs**

### 500 Help Wanted

**Auto Mechanic**

To work part-time at home in Redwood City. \$15hr. (650)368-1736

**GO TO FOGSTER.COM TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS**



MARKETPLACE the printed version of

**fogster.com**

THE PENINSULA'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEBSITE  
TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS  
GO TO [WWW.FOGSTER.COM](http://WWW.FOGSTER.COM)

**Systems Administrator**  
BS (or MS) in comp sci, info systems or eng. + 5 YR exp. (3 YR w/ MS). Job in Palo Alto, CA. E-mail resumes to Dextersoft, Inc., hrservices@dextersoft.net

**540 Domestic Help Wanted**

Cook/Housekeeper

Home Organizer / De-Clutterer

**550 Business Opportunities**

**100% Recession Proof**  
Do You Earn \$800 in a Day? Your Own Local Vending Route Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

**Vending Biz**

With huge cash income! Name Brand Beverage & Food. Great Routes. Investment required. 1-888-858-8363. (Cal-SCAN)

**Need Serious Entrepreneur**

Proven biz w/ training&support. You keep all profit. NOT MLM! 88-378-8443 2-min msg, 24x7

**560 Employment Information**

**\$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$**

Earn Extra income assembling CD cases from Home. CALL OUR LIVE OPERATORS NOW! 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

**\$600 WEEKLY POTENTIAL\$\$\$**

Helping the Government PT. No Experience, No Selling. Call: 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5. VOID in Maryland and South Dakota. (AAN CAN)

**13 Drivers Needed**

Sign-On Bonus. 35-41 cpm. Earn over \$1000 weekly. Excellent Benefits. Need CDL-A and 3 months recent OTR. 1-877-258-8782. [www.MeltonTruck.com](http://www.MeltonTruck.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**DATA ENTRY PROCESSORS Needed!**  
Earn \$3,500-\$5,000 Weekly Working from Home! Guaranteed Paychecks! No Experience Necessary! Positions Available Today! Register Online Now! <http://www.DataPositions.com> (AAN CAN)

**Driver - West Coast Regional**

New Hiring Area. Newest equipment on the road. Competitive Pay. Run the Western 11 States On Site - Full Service Maintenance Shop. Reasonable Home Time. Western Express - 22 yrs. old. Good MVR, EOE, CDL-A, 1 yr. OTR. Call Edna Today! 1-866-863-4112. (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers - CDL Training**

\$0 down, financing by Central Refrigerated. Company Drivers earn average of \$40k/year. Owner Operators average \$60k/Year. 1-800-587-0029 x4779. [www.CentralDrivingJobs.net](http://www.CentralDrivingJobs.net) (Cal-SCAN)

**EARN \$75 - \$200 HOUR**

Media Makeup Artist Training. Ads, TV, Film, Fashion. One week class. Stable job in weak economy. Details at <http://www.MediaMakeupArtists.com> 310-364-0665 (AAN CAN)

**Firefighters Wanted**

Paid training, good salary, S for school, regular raises, benefits, retirement. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

**GOVERNMENT JOBS**

\$12 - \$48/hr. Full Benefits / Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife & More! 1-800-320-9353 x 2001 (AAN CAN)

**P/T Coordinator**

Needed for highly reputed student exchange program. This work from home position requires a motivated individual who enjoys recruiting, training and supervising volunteers and likes working with young people from abroad. Some travel: expenses reimbursed. Please call: 1-800-733-2773-very@asse.com (Cal-SCAN)

**POST OFFICE NOW HIRING!**

Avg. pay \$20/hr or \$57K/yr incl. Federal Benefits and OT. Placed by adSource not affiliated w/ USPS, who hires. 1-866-616-7019. (AAN CAN)

**TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD!**

English teachers are still in high demand worldwide. Become TEFL certified in Prague. 4-week course. 1300 Euros. <http://www.teflworldwideprague.com> info@teflworldwideprague.com (AAN CAN)

No phone number in the ad? GO TO **FOGSTER.COM** for contact information

**Business Services**

**601 Accounting/Bookkeeping**

**Accounting & Bookkeeping Service**  
Affordable prices **408-596-1787**  
[www.reliableaccountingsvcs.com](http://www.reliableaccountingsvcs.com)

**604 Adult Care Offered**

**Canyon House and Crescent Villa**  
Since 1987. Menlo Park and Sunnyvale. Assisted living and memory care. Call us for more info or visit [www.canyon-house.com](http://www.canyon-house.com). 650/322-2022

**Caregiver/ Aid Available**

Live in/out Aid available for Elderly or Disabled. Hard-working 50 yr old male. Ready to help! (650) 544-8968.

**610 Tutoring**

**Engl/Writ/Bio/Chem Tutor**  
Grades 8-12. [krocagator@gmail.com](mailto:krocagator@gmail.com).

**624 Financial**

**Business Loans 0% APR**  
Call 888-900-9666 agent ID WF2132  
[www.Bankcardempire.com/wf2132](http://www.Bankcardempire.com/wf2132)

**645 Office/Home Business Services**

**A Best Kept Secret!**  
Classified Advertising! A 25-word ad costs \$550, is placed in 240 community newspapers and reaches over 6 million Californians. Call for more information (916) 288-6010; (916) 288-6019 [www.Cal-SCAN.com](http://www.Cal-SCAN.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Advertise Effectively**

Reach over 3 million Californians in 140 community newspapers. Cost \$1,550 for a 3.75"x2" display ad. Super value! Call (916) 288-6010; (916) 288-6019. [www.Cal-SCAN.com](http://www.Cal-SCAN.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**News Release**

Looking for a cost efficient way to get out a News Release? The California Press Release Service is the only service with 500 current daily, weekly and college newspaper contacts in California. Questions call (916) 288-6010. [www.CaliforniaPressReleaseService.com](http://www.CaliforniaPressReleaseService.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Green Products**

Call (650)969-1369 or [www.ecoquestintl.com/shirl4rd](http://www.ecoquestintl.com/shirl4rd)

**648 Horses-**

**Boarding/Training**

**CALIFORNIA RIDING ACADEMY**  
Beginning through Advanced  
All Ages • English/Western  
Holiday Special • Reserve Now  
Call Laura (650) 465-4083  
[www.californiaridingacademy.com](http://www.californiaridingacademy.com)

**650 Pet Care/**

**Grooming/Training**

**All Animals Happy House**  
Pet Sitting Services by Susan licensed, insured, refs. **650-323-4000**

**AUSSIE PET MOBILE**

Don't have time to wash & groom your pet? Teeth Brushing, Flea Treatments, we'll do it for you at your home. 1-800-738-6624

Steve Miles  
**ONE DAY DOG TRAINING**  
(that's right!)  
Basic obedience training in your home  
**1-800-906-2846**  
[www.onedaydog.com](http://www.onedaydog.com)

**FOGSTER.COM**  
THE PENINSULA'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE  
Combining the reach of the Web with print ads reaching over 150,000 readers!

**Home Services**

**703 Architecture/Design**

**Design/Permits**  
One Stop Place for Your Remodeling Design needs. Complete Plans include Structural Engineering and Energy Compliance (T-24). ADW 650/969-4980

**710 Carpentry**

**Cabinetry-Individual Design**  
Precise, 3-D Computer Modeling Mantels, Bookcases, Workplaces Wall Units, Window Seats Ned Hollis 650-856-9475

**715 Cleaning Services**

**Housekeeper wanted**  
must speak English, attention to detail in cleaning and laundry. Need to be available for special projects such as parties or holiday events. please call 650-328-9221

**\*YESENIAS PROFESSIONAL CLEANING\***

**2 person team.**  
We do the same service as everyone else - but the difference is: "we love to do it!" Steam spot cleaning avail. Lic. #28276. Call 650/369-7570 [www.FlorLauHousecleaning.com](http://www.FlorLauHousecleaning.com)

**Affordable Housecleaning**  
and Handyman Service. Call us for all of your home repair needs. Great refs. 408/329-0317. Serving the entire Bay Area.

**Francisca's Deep Housecleaning**  
Exp., good refs. 650/771-1414

**Housecleaning Available**  
18 years exp. Excellent refs. Good rates, own car. Maria, (650)323-2363 or (650)207-4609 (cell)

**Jose's Janitorial Service**  
Professional House Cleaning, Offices \* Window Washing \* Basic Residential \* Husband & Wife References (650)322-0294

**Orkopina Housecleaning**  
"The BEST Service for You"  
Service since 1985  
• Meticulous, Quality Work  
• Laundry/Ironing/Windows/Blinds  
• Wax/Wall Washing/Construction Clean-Up  
• Senior/Expecting Mother/Newborn Disc.  
• Last minute calls (650) 962-1536  
Insured & Bonded Lic. 020624

**Sophia's Housecleaning**  
Daily, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, One-Time, move in/out. (Recession Special)10% OFF (650)369-3278 or (650)346-8558

**Tere's Housecleaning**

Daily, weekly, bi-weekly  
Occasional, one-time, move in/out  
Construction cleanup, Ironing  
"Last minute calls"  
20 yrs exp • Licensed • Senior discount  
**(650) 281-8637**

**WHITE GLOVE HOUSE CLEANING**

"WE ARE GREEN"  
Keep our planet green and our home safe  
• Daily, Weekly, • All Teams  
Bi-Weekly Trained,  
• Carpet Cleaning Uniformed  
• On-Time • Senior  
• Pet Friendly Discount  
License #35780  
Insured & Bonded  
**(650) 207-3141**

**PLACE AN AD**

ONLINE: [fogster.com](http://fogster.com)  
E-MAIL: [ads@fogster.com](mailto:ads@fogster.com)  
PHONE: 650/326-8216

**719 Remodeling/ Additions**

**Domicile Construction, Inc.**  
General Contractor  
T 415 999-3143  
[www.domicileconstructioninc.com](http://www.domicileconstructioninc.com)  
since 1990  
lic #627843

**728 Drywall/Plaster**

**harbour light drywall**  
• New • Remodel • Repair  
Certified Mold Remediation  
Clean, Considerate Work  
Lic #711618 **650-483-1480**

**730 Electrical**

**Alex Electric**  
Lic #784136. Free Est. All electrical.  
Alex, (650)366-6924

**Stewart Electric**  
Residential Electric & Lighting Services. Lic #745186  
(408)745-7115 or (408)368-6622

**Williams Electric**  
30 years wiring homes. 650/343-5125.  
Lic. #545936. Call, relax, it's done!

**737 Fences & Gates**

Fences - Decks - Retaining Walls  
Stairs. Reasonable prices. Lic. #786158.  
Al, 650/269-7113 or 650/853-0824

**741 Flooring/**

**Carpeting**  
Carpet Cleaning  
Residential and Commercial  
\* Steam Clean \* Fast Dry \* Stain and  
Odor Removal \* 10 Years Exp. \* Free  
Estimate \* Call Irma, 650.703-2626

**748 Gardening/ Landscaping**

**Beckys Landscape**  
Weekly, Biweekly & Periodic Maint.  
Annual Rose, Fruit Tree Pruning, Yard  
Clean-ups, Demolition, Excavation,  
Irrigation, Sod, Planting, Raised Beds,  
Ponds, Fountains, Patios, Decks.  
650/493-7060

**CRYSTAL SPRINGS GARDENING SERVICE**  
• YARD MAINTENANCE • LANDSCAPE RENOVATION  
• ESTATE SERVICE • SPRINKLER SYSTEMS  
• NEW LAWNS  
FREE ESTIMATE (650)367-1420

**CYPREX Construction Landscapes**  
C-27, B, 701749  
[www.ECYPREX.com](http://www.ECYPREX.com)  
**650-270-0966**

**F&B Landscaping**

• Maintenance • New Lawns  
• Irrigation Systems  
• Tree Trim or Removal  
• Fences • Pavers  
[fblandscaping@live.com](mailto:fblandscaping@live.com)  
**(650)215-8601 • Free Est**

**Gaeta's Landscape**

**Complete Garden Maintenance**  
Pavers, flagstone, brick work, BBQs,  
sprinkler, retaining walls/fences,  
lighting, Free Estimate!  
\* (650) 368-1458 \*

**GREEN THUMB FOR HIRE**  
Garden design, installation,  
maintenance & concrete work  
Call (650) 328-1155

**H AND H GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE**  
Need help with your garden or landscape. monthly maintenance and new landscaping. We can help. Free estimates. Randy 510-455-0215 or Rufino 650-388-8282.

**Japanese Gardener**  
Maintenance \* Garden works  
Clean ups \* Pruning  
(650)327-6283, evenings

**Jesus Garcia Landscaping**  
Maintenance - Sprinklers - New Fences.  
(650)366-4301 or (650)346-6781 ask for Jesus or Carmen

**KIRBYDESIGNS**  
RECESSION SPECIAL  
LANDSCAPE DESIGN (DRAWINGS) \$350  
Lic. #C27-691495  
[Portfolio:hkirbydesigns.com](http://Portfolio:hkirbydesigns.com)  
**(650) 949-5078**

**Landa's Gardening & Landscaping**  
• Yard Maintenance • New Lawns  
• Clean Ups • Tree Trimming/Pruning  
10% Discount  
**(650) 576-6242 Ramon**

**M. Sanchez General Landscaping and Design**

Concrete, patios, driveways, flagstone, lacking pavers, new lawns, planting, irrigation, garden lighting, clean-ups. New installation & repairs. Lic.#860920  
**(650)444-7072, 342-1392**

**Maintenance**  
Clean up, trim, pruning, stump removal/tree service, rototilling, aeration, landscaping, drip and sprinkler. Roger, 650/776-8666

**Mario's Gardening**  
Maintenance, clean-ups. Free est. 650/365-6955; 995-3822  
Pruning Specialist

**Ray's Landscaping**  
Lawns, sprinklers, pavers, stone, clean ups, hauling. Since 1980. Lic. 749922.  
650/969-4276; 650/793-3939.

**Shubha Landscape Design**  
**(650) 321-1600 LIC # 852075 www.shubhalandscapepedesign.com**

**Total Landscape**  
Irrigation, Lawn, Concrete, Driveways, Flagstone, Bricks, Pavers, Fences, Decks and Garden Maint. CA Lic #755857. 650/630-3949

**751 General Contracting**

**A & D Builders**  
Design • Build  
New Construction  
Remodel • Addition  
**408-868-0101**  
Lic #884861  
[www.andbuilders.com](http://www.andbuilders.com)

**A B WEST CONSTRUCTION**  
• Remodels • Repairs  
• Tile • Carpentry • Decks  
• Elec/Plumbing • Painting  
Call E. Marchetti  
for Free Estimate  
Excellent Local References  
**(650) 347-8359 Lic.#623885**  
Fax:(650)344-6518

**D.J. MCCANN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR  
License #907806  
\* Additions  
\* Light Commercial  
\* New Construction  
\* Demo & Clean-Up  
**(650) 482-9090**  
Fax **(650) 234-1045**  
[WWW.DJMCCANNCONSTRUCTION.COM](http://WWW.DJMCCANNCONSTRUCTION.COM)

Domicile Construction Inc.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

**754 Gutters**

**CARLSON'S GUTTER SERVICE**  
"Service Beyond Expectations"  
Gutter Cleaning & Repair  
Experienced • Fast Service  
Mark **(650) 322-5030**

**757 Handyman/ Repairs**

**A European Craftsmanship**  
Kitchen and Bath Remodeling. For All Your Repair Needs. Plumbing, Finish Carpentry and More. Licensed. 650/270-7726

**Able Handyman Fred**  
Complete home repairs, maintenance, remodel, prof. painting, carpentry, plumbing, elect. & custom design cabinets. 7 days.  
**650.529.1662 • 483.4227**

**Al Trujillo Handyman Service**  
Int./Ext. painting\* Kit./BA Improv., Dry Rot, Flooring Install, Homes/Apt. Repairs, Auto Sprinkler, Landscapes, Fences. 20yrs. **650-207-1306**

**KEANE CONSTRUCTION**

**Specializing in Home Repairs**  
Kitchens, Bathrooms, Stucco, Dry Rot & Masonry  
Lic. #743748  
**(650) 430-3469**

**759 Hauling**

**A JOHNSTON HAULING**  
★ LARGE TRUCKS ★  
Dump Runs • Trees  
LARGE/small JOBS  
Free Estimate Insured  
**650-327-HAUL**  
cell: **415-999-0594**  
Prompt Service

**Frank's Hauling**  
Commercial, Residential, Garage, Basement & Yard. Clean-up. Fair prices. 650/361-8773

**761 Masonry/Brick**

**MASONRY ARTISAN**  
Specialized - stone mason  
Stone Veneer - faux veneer  
Architectural Designer Builder  
**(650) 333-0146**

**767 Movers**

**SHMOOVER MOOVERS**  
LICENSE CALIF. T-118304  
Serving the Peninsula since 1975. Insured.  
Careful, friendly, fast, still owner-operated!  
**327-5493**

**768 Moving Assistance**

**Armandos Moving Labor Service**  
Home, Apts, Storage. House cleaning services avail. Sm/lrg moves. Serving the Bay Area for 20 yrs. Armando, 650/630-0424. Lic #22167

# Public Notices

## 771 Painting/ Wallpaper

**Don Pohlman's Painting**  
\* Detailed Craftsmanship  
\* Excel. Restorative Prep  
\* Great Local References  
**650/799-7403** \* Lic. 635027

**Gary Rossi PAINTING**  
Residential/Commercial. Wall paper removal. Lic. (#559953) and Bonded. Free est. 650/345-4245

**NEAT RELIABLE PAINTING**  
BLAKEMORE PAINTING, INC.  
QUALITY PREPARATION & FINISH WORK  
• Interior/Exterior  
Licensed & insured #392875  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**325-8039**

**STYLE PAINTING**  
Interior/exterior. Quality prep to finish. Owner operated. Reasonable prices. Lic 903303. 650/388-8577

**Wallpapering by Trish**  
24 years of experience Free Estimates 949-1820

## 775 Asphalt/ Concrete

**Roe General Engineering**  
Asphalt Paving Sealing  
New Construction and Repairs 30 years exp. No job too small Lic #663703 \* 650/814-5572

## 779 Organizing Services

**End the Clutter & Get Organized**  
Residential Organizing by Debra Robinson (650)941-5073  
Organizing Alex

## 783 Plumbing

**Bayshore Plumbers**  
Lic. #905661. Service, drains and repairs. 21 years experience, commercial/residential. Insured. 650/323-6464 or 408/250-0568. [www.bayshoreplumbers.com](http://www.bayshoreplumbers.com)

**Dave's Custom Plumbing, Inc**  
**He-Man Plumbing**  
Serving Palo Alto & Menlo Park. Lic. #915454. 650/222-7953

## 790 Roofing

**Al Peterson Roofing**  
since 1946  
Specializing in  
• Repairs • Reroofing  
• Maintenance  
• Gutter cleaning • Moss removal  
**650-493-9177**

## Cornelius Construction Roofing

• Emerg. roof repair • Re-roofing  
• Water proofing • Gutter cleaning  
License #915925 Senior Discount  
Free Estimate  
**(650) 353-6554**

## 792 Pool Services

**Woodside Pool Service**  
In memory of Ed Wirsch. Service, repairs, PG&E certified energy audits. 650/948-8358

## 795 Tree Care

**OZZIES TREE SERVICE:**  
Certified arborist, 22 yrs exp. Tree trimming, removals and stump grinding. Free chips and wood. Free est. Lic. and insured. 650/368-8065; cell 650/704-5588

**PALO ALTO TREE SERVICE**  
• Ornamental & Tree Pruning  
• Removal & Stump Grinding  
Emergency Service  
Lic. #819244  
**José "Joe" (650) 380-2297**

IT'S EASY TO PLACE YOUR AD VIA  
THE INTERNET. JUST GO TO —  
[www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com)

## QUALITY TREE SERVICE

**Big or Small Jobs**  
Thinning • Stump Grinding  
Brush Chipping • Emergency Service  
Removals • Trimming  
"Best Prices in Town"  
20 Years Experience  
**(650)388-6470** Residential or Commercial

## Real Estate

### 801 Apartments/ Condos/Studios

East Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1400  
East Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1800  
**Menlo Park, 1 BR/1 BA**  
Nice 4-plex; walking distance to downtown Palo Alto, Stanford, Burgess Park; 650-776-1703  
Menlo Park, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1595/mo  
Menlo Park, 2 BR/2 BA - \$2275.00  
Mountain View, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1100/mont  
Mountain View, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1200/mont

**Mountain View, 1 BR/1 BA**  
Single story condo, patio, extra storage, laundry, pool. Please call 650-430-8088 or 650-963-9648.



**Mountain View, 1 BR/1 BA**  
Small complex, parking, storage, pool, and on site laundry facilities 1 apartment with balcony. Tel 650 625-1596 or 650 996-4490

Mountain View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1600.00  
Mountain View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1595/mo.  
Mountain View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1395/mont  
Mountain View, Studio - 995.00  
Mountain View, Studio - \$1250  
Mountain View, Studio - \$1025  
Mountain View, Studio BR/1 BA - \$1055

**MV-PA Vicinity: Studio & 1BR**  
2 locations. Flex rent. Prof residence. Unique features. Studios \$1150-\$1350; 1BR \$1350-\$1550 650/964-1146 or MMHousing@aol.com

**MV: 1BR or 2BR apt**  
A quiet location, 245 Easy Street. 1BR \$1175 or 2BR \$1695 (650)575-3953  
Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1850/mont  
Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,300/mont

**Redwood City, 1 BR/1 BA**  
Share 3 bdrm duplex. Dogs OK 650-444-4646 or 920-915-0966  
Sunnyvale, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1195  
Sunnyvale, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1100

### 805 Homes for Rent

**ATH: EXQUISITE ESTATE**  
4BR/3.5BA PLUS GUEST ROOM W/FULL BATH  
HWD. & SLATE TILE FLOORS, FRENCH DOORS,  
SHUTTERS, CEDAR CLOSETS, 4 FIREPLACES  
GOURMET KIT W/TOP APPLIANCES  
POOL, PARK-LIKE GROUNDS, TOP RATE SCHOOLS  
\$11,000/mo **(408) 483-6707**

East Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$1990.00/m  
Los Altos, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$5700  
Menlo Park, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,575  
Menlo Park, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,400/mo.

**Menlo Park, 2 BR/1 BA**  
Menlo Park 2br/1ba \$2075/month Avail Jan 1st 650-364-2086

Mountain View, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$2850  
**MP: 3BR/2BA**  
Fully renovated. Dbl. gar. Jacuzzi. N/S. \$5000 mo. 650/856-1111

**PA: 3BR/2BA**  
FR, 2-car, refrig. Remodeled. Near Gunn. No pet. Yr lease. Avail now. \$4200. [gwu@apr.com](mailto:gwu@apr.com)

**IF YOU DON'T NEED IT, SELL IT IN THE ALMANAC MARKETPLACE**

### PA: 4BR/3BA

Lovely home located in cul-de-sac close to Gunn High. Living room, fire place, family room, french doors, dining room, nook, kitchen w/gas cook top, laundry room, gas dryer, alarm system, central vac, 2 zone heating air, garden, hot tub, gas BBQ, gardener incl. pets ok (650)269-1076 \$5800

Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2500  
Palo Alto, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1,850/mont  
Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$2750  
Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$2700/mont  
Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA - \$3800. mont

**Palo Alto, 5+ BR/3 BA**  
Newer, Big, CuDSac/5668038/\$8150

**Palo Alto, 5+ BR/4+ BA**  
NEW 9BD\*6.5BA/\$9800\*5668038  
Portola Valley, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$ 16,500  
Portola Valley, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$ 16,500

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$3,600  
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2900  
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2,700/mo  
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$3,600  
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2900  
San Carlos, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1,800.  
Sunnyvale, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2600

**Woodside, 1 BR/2 BA**  
Skyline, gorgeous, private, views, decks, fplc, 2 car garage, ns, \$3200/month, 650-851-3876 evenings  
Woodside, 4 BR/3.5 BA - \$9,000

## 809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

**ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM.**  
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

Mountain View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$850/month  
Mountain View, Studio BR/Studio BA - \$550/month  
Mtn View, 4 BR/2 BA - \$750  
Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1150  
Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$800/per m  
Redwood City, 2 BR/2 BA - \$790.00  
Sunnyvale, 2 BR/2 BA - \$900/month

## 815 Rentals Wanted

Cottage Please  
Housing Wanted - Exchange  
Mid-peninsula, BR/ BA  
Seeking Quiet Studio/1 BR Apt.  
Seeking Small Cottage/Room

## 820 Home Exchanges

Fine Home Design/Architecture  
Green Cool Modern

## 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Belmont, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$1350000  
East Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$268000  
Los Altos Hills, 4 BR/3.5 BA - \$2,495,000

**PLACE AN AD**  
ONLINE: [fogster.com](http://fogster.com)  
E-MAIL: [ads@fogster.com](mailto:ads@fogster.com)  
PHONE: 650/326-8216

**Mountain View, 3 BR/2 BA**  
\$132,500 Mobile home in Mtn View, built 2001. 1100 sf, large kitchen, lots of windows. Near downtown. Low space rent of \$577/month. For info: Peter Lee, Keller Williams Palo Alto, at 650-454-8518.

Mountain View, 3 BR/2 BA - \$155,750

**MV: 4BR/2BA**  
New mobile home. \$159,000. Park rent \$835 mo. 415/517-8877

Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$929000  
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$788,000  
Redwood City, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$2999500  
Redwood Shores, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$1,285,000  
San Carlos, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$1195000

## 830 Commercial/ Income Property

**PA: Downtown**  
120-4355 sf offices for lease. Photos, plans, pricing: [www.paoffices.com](http://www.paoffices.com). 650/776-5390

## 840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

Bed & Breakfast B&B Hotel  
Green Cool Modern

**Pajaro Dunes Condo**  
2BR/2BA or 1BR/1BA. On beach, ocean view. Cable TV, VCR, CD, tennis, W/D. Pvt. deck, BBQ. Owner, 650/424-1747. [hherzenber@aol.com](mailto:hherzenber@aol.com)

## 850 Acreage/Lots/ Storage

\*\*\*FREE Foreclosure Listings\*\*  
Over 200,000 properties nationwide. LOW Down Payment. Call NOW! 1-800-773-5102 (AAN CAN)


## 855 Real Estate Services

**Stop Renting**  
Own A Home. 100% Financing. Zero Down. No Closing Costs. Federally Insured. 1st Time Buyer OK. Call 866-903-8051. Green Planet Mtg. DOC LIC#4130948. (Cal-SCAN)

0.5% commission to Buy/Sell home

## 860 Housesitting

**DEPENDABLE HOUSESITTER**  
Menlo Park resident and Stanford Hospital affiliate. Refined, Reputable and Respectful. Available 6 to 9 months to serve a discriminating couple. Ken 399-6640

**LEHUA GREENMAN**  
**YESTERDAY is history, TOMORROW is a mystery, TODAY is a Gift, that's why it's called THE PRESENT.**  
  
**COLDWELL BANKER** 529-2420

**Borrow at**  
**4.500%**  
**4.750% APR**  
**15 Year Fixed**  
**Loanlane.com**  
**650-321-7027**  
**Mark Leaver**  
**Broker**  
**A trusted name since 1989**  
**CA Real Estate Broker**

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230383

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Letgeorgedoit, 1320 American Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025: George H. Walker, 1320 American Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025 This business is being conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/2/08. (Almanac 12/17, 24,31, 2008, 1/7/09)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230331

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Best Mower Shop, 474 First Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94063: David Martinez, 474 First Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94063 This business is being conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 7/1/07. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 11/26/08. (Almanac Dec. 17, 24, 31, 2008, Jan. 7, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230384

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Communication Technologies International, 1115 Altschul Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025: Christoph Pfistner, 1115 Altschul Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 This business is being conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 11/12/2002. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/2/08. (Almanac Dec. 24, 31, 2008, Jan. 7, 14, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230477

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Thermae, 103 Gilbert Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025: Kings Road International, Inc., 405 El Camino Real, #327, Menlo Park, CA 94025 This business is being conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 12/01/08. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/8/08. (Almanac Dec. 24, 31, 2008, Jan. 7, 14, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230716

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, 1) Flegler Communications; 2) Speedy Rekey; 3) Club Maoz, 24 Santa Elena Ave., Daly City, CA 94015; Aleksandra Flegler, 24 Santa Elena Ave., Daly City, CA 94015; Robert Flegler, 24 Santa Elena Ave., Daly City, CA 94015 This business is being conducted by husband & wife. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on n/a. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/23/08. (Almanac Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230541

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Ravenswood Mobile Health Clinic, 1796 Bay Road, East Palo Alto, CA 94303: South County Community Health Center, Inc., 1798-A Bay Road, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 This business is being conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 5/15/07. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/11/08. (Almanac Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230545

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Ravenswood Family Health Center at Belle Haven, 100 Terminal Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025: South County Community Health Center, Inc., 1798-A Bay Road, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 This business is being conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 10/27/07. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/11/08. (Almanac Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230593

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, 1) The Astera Group; 2) David Petrovay Associates, 601 Leahy St., #107, Redwood City, CA 94061: David William Petrovay, 601 Leahy St., #107, Redwood City, CA 94061 This business is being conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 1/1/09. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/16/08. (Almanac Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 230444

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as, Willow Road Pharmacy, 900 Willow Road, Suite B, Menlo Park, CA 94025: Willow Business Enterprise, LLC, CA, Menlo Park, 94025 This business is being conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on n/a. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on 12/5/08. (Almanac Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009)

## 997 All Other Legals

T.S.#CR8-1383 Order: 1001606-05 File: CR8-1383 JP A.P. Number 080-073-110 Notice of Trustee's Sale under Deed Of Trust YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED February 27, 2007, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that County Records Research, Trustee Division as Trustee, or Successor Trustee, Or Substituted Trustee pursuant to the Deed Of Trust executed by Hector Flamenco and Diana Flamenco, husband and wife Recorded on 03/01/2007 as Instrument No. 2007-032087 in Book Page of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of San Mateo County, California, and pursuant to the Notice Of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded 9/2/2008 in Book , Page , as Instrument No. 08-099496 of said Official Records, will sell on 1/21/2009 at At the Marshall St. entrance to the Hall of Justice and Records, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA at 12:30 PM at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States), all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed Of Trust in the property situated in said County and State hereinafter described: As more fully described in said Deed of Trust. The property address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 135 Los Trancos Cir. Portola Valley, CA 94028 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the property address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$1,644,968.36. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a State or National Bank, a check drawn by a State or Federal Credit Union or a check drawn by a State or Federal Savings and Loan Association, Savings Association or Savings Bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this State. In the event tender other than cash is accepted the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed, advances thereunder, with interest as provided therein, and the unpaid principal balance of the note secured by said Deed with interest thereon as provided in said note, fees, charges and expenses of the trustee and the trusts created by said Deed Of Trust. Dated: 12/19/2008 County Records Research, as said Trustee Trustee Division 4952 Warner Avenue #105 Huntington Beach, CA, 92649 Trustee's Sale Line (714) 573-1965 Fax Number (714) 846-8720 Sales Website: [www.priorityposting.com](http://www.priorityposting.com) Phone number (714) 846-6634 By: John C. Holmberg County Records Research, Trustee Div. P510921 12/31, 1/7, 01/14/2009 (Published in the Almanac 12/31/08, 1/7, 14, 2009)

## TOP 15 REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS, 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES AS REPORTED BY THE WALL STREET JOURNAL\*



## Homes Sold in 2008

### ATHERTON

Atherton Avenue  
Sutherland Drive  
Sutherland Drive  
Polhemus Ave  
Stockbridge Ave  
Melanie Lane  
Atherton Avenue  
Edge Road  
Maple Avenue  
Howard Way  
Melanie Lane

### MENLO PARK

Hermosa Place  
Cotton Street  
Bay Laurel Drive  
Cotton Street  
Cotton Street  
Saxon Way  
University Drive  
Crane Street  
Elder Avenue  
Felton Drive  
Valparaiso Ave

### MENLO PARK (cont'd)

Cedar Avenue  
Clayton Drive  
Camino Al Lago  
Cotton Street  
Menlo Oaks Drive  
Ringwood Avenue  
Cotton Street  
Yale Road  
Valparaiso Avenue  
San Mateo Drive  
San Mateo Drive

### MENLO PARK (cont'd)

San Mateo Drive  
Sterling Avenue

### LOS ALTOS

Bay Tree Lane

### WOODSIDE

Ridgeway Road



Buying or Selling in 2009? Call Tom LeMieux.

\* Determined by total sales volume in 2007

