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The Almanac

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

FEBRUARY 24, 2010 | VOL. 45 NO. 26



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*Inside David Bohannon's
big development proposal.*
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Reasoning behind the
Cargill decision.
By Heyward Robinson



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Tragedy and miracle

Part of the wreckage of the Cessna 310R that crashed into an East Palo Alto neighborhood Feb. 17, killing the pilot and two passengers. Miraculously, said Chief Harold Schapelhouman of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District, no one was injured on the ground.

Damon Wedding retires as insurance agent

Friends and clients gathered Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Menlo Park Recreation Center to congratulate Damon Wedding of Atherton, who is retiring after 35 years as a Farmers Insurance agent in Menlo Park.

Mr. Wedding figures it's time to retire. At age 89, he says he's the oldest active agent around. "This was a second career, you know," he says.

Since becoming a Farmers Insurance agent in 1975, Mr. Damon's office has been located in Suite A at 671 Oak Grove Ave. in downtown Menlo Park.

The party was hosted by Charlie Porter, who is taking over the agency from his longtime associate. Mr. Porter has been working with Mr. Wedding for the past 21 years.

Mr. Wedding was born on a farm in Beaver Dam, Kentucky.



Damon Wedding and his wife, Dona, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August.

After high school, he went to Western Kentucky Teachers College, earning a degree in physics.

In college he joined the Pershing Rifle Unit of the ROTC prior to serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. He served

from 1943 to 1946, seeing active duty in the South Pacific. At the time of his honorable discharge, he was a captain and company commander.

After the service, he worked for the Pontiac Motor Division as western sales manager and as sale manager for Frazackerly Cadillac in San Francisco, before becoming a Farmers Insurance agent.

In August, Mr. Wedding and his wife, Dona, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married Aug. 19, 1949, in Fresno and have lived in Atherton for 52 years.

The Weddings have been active in community organizations including Kiwanis, the Athertons and Peninsula Volunteers.

They are the parents of three daughters, Linda Bonini, Rosemary Wedding and Cindy Keitel; and have one grandson.

Also Inside

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On the cover

Behind developer David Bohannon's proposal for a nearly million-square-foot office/hotel complex in Menlo Park is a big team of consultants and contractors who have spent six years designing, evaluating, and communicating the proposal. From left: architect Tom Gilman, developer David Bohannon, public relations specialist Patrick Corman, and land-use attorney Tim Tosta. Photo by Michelle Le. **See Section 2.**

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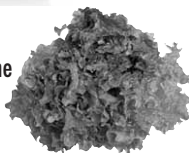
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AThERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Haiti quake has lesson or two for Bay Area

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

The Peninsula, and Portola Valley in particular, has something in common with Haiti: adjoining tectonic plates that move horizontally relative to each other, and in different directions. As pressure builds, they can slip abruptly in a so-called strike-slip earthquake, which is what happened in Haiti in January at a cost of more than 200,000 lives.

Earthquakes both here and there have been and will continue to be violent, but the aftermaths do not have to be catastrophic, as U.S. Geologic Survey geophysicist Bill Ellsworth reminded the Menlo Park Rotary Club in a presentation on Feb. 17.

In his talk, "The 2010 Haiti earthquake: A tragedy that did not have to happen," Mr. Ellsworth explained why buildings tumbled in and around the capital city of Port-au-Prince after the magnitude 7.0 quake.

The damage from the mag-

nitude 6.9 quake that hit the Bay Area in 1989, including the collapse of the Cypress Freeway and ground liquefaction in San Francisco's Marina District, was limited compared with what happened in Haiti, but similar on a smaller scale and in the underlying geology.

What happened in Haiti, and why? Are there lessons in it for us?

The Almanac talked with Mr. Ellsworth; with his USGS colleague Walter Mooney, a geophysicist who had just returned from nine days in Haiti; and with earth scientist Brian Tucker, president of the Palo Alto-based nonprofit Geohazards International, whose worldwide mission since 1991 is to educate vulnerable communities on how to survive large earthquakes.

Hurricanes a priority

Hurricanes regularly visit Haiti, while the last big quake was in 1770, Mr. Mooney noted. The buildings there, with heavy concrete floors and roofs, were built to withstand



Photo by Jeff Southern

Walter Mooney, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, visited with children at an orphanage in Grande Goave, Haiti, which is operated by the Servants of All Ministry of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Mooney recently returned from a nine-day trip to investigate the character of Haiti's January earthquake.

a hurricane's high winds. The columns holding up the floors were not built to withstand ground waves.

"They hadn't thought too much about earthquakes because it's been 240 years," he said. Those buildings represented a "very high vulnerability" that led to "dramatic pancaking" — the collapse of

upper floors, one on top of another.

Mr. Mooney said he talked with many Haitians who "have absolutely no intention of going back to heavy concrete construction."

A broader concern, he added, is large cities such as Lima, Teheran, and New Delhi — and the American Midwest —

that have vulnerable structures on or near faults that break on intervals of hundreds of years. Builders may take chances on non-compliant structures that have lifetimes of 30 years or so.

"It's a bad bet," Mr. Mooney said. "The fact that (quakes)

See **HAITI**, page 8

Another lifeline for Woodside house owned by Steve Jobs

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

A new savior has come on the scene with a draft proposal to rescue Woodside's historic Jackling house from oblivion, its possible fate if owner and Apple Corp. chief executive Steve Jobs is not presented with a viable alternative to tearing down the 1925-vintage mansion and replacing it with something more modern.

Woodside residents Jason and Magalli Yoho have offered to relocate the house to 215 Lindenbrook Road from its current location on Robles Drive, according to a Dec. 21 letter to the couple from Woodside Senior Planner Deborah Dory.

The new site is in Woodside and about two miles away, just west of Interstate 280 and north of Woodside Road.

The matter comes before the town on Tuesday, Feb. 23, when the Town Council is set to confer in closed session on developments related to a 2004 lawsuit brought against Mr. Jobs and the town by Uphold Our Heritage, a preservation-minded group that has fought Mr. Jobs' plans to replace the house.

The council is expected to report out of its closed session at 7:30 p.m. in Independence Hall at the corner of Woodside and Whiskey Hill roads.

The town has not yet received a formal proposal from the Yohos, Town Manager Susan George said. If and when it comes, it would trigger several significant procedural steps, but ultimate authority to go

See **JACKLING**, page 8

Las Lomas district unlikely to expand to deal with surge in school enrollment

By Renee Batti
Almanac News Editor

A few years ago, there may have been a range of options acceptable to Las Lomas School District officials to address the surge in enrollment the two-school district is experiencing.

But with the economy in deep recession, no local revenue growth and state cuts in education funding, a third campus or new buildings on existing campuses are recently examined options that appear unlikely to become reality.

In the next month or two, a committee of district staff, teachers, parents and other community members that has met for about nine months to study the enrollment issue is likely to recommend that the district deal with the enrollment surge with the addition of one or two portable buildings, if needed.

"In some respects, the conversation we began last year (about handling growing enrollment) crisscrossed with the conversation we're having to have now" about revenue shortfalls and the need to make about \$1.5 million in budgetary cuts, Superintendent Eric Hartwig told The Almanac. The school community would be having "a more spirited discussion" about options such as expanding facilities if it were not for the dire financial situation, he said.

The district's enrollment has been growing at a rate of 4 percent a year for the last three years, Mr. Hartwig said, adding that the growth rate before that had been between 1 and 2 percent. Enrollment is expected to increase by 4 percent annually until 2015, at which time it could level off, then decline, he said. He cautioned, though, that accurate enrollment

predictions are difficult to make.

Current total enrollment is about 1,200 students in the two schools: Las Lomas (K-3) in Atherton, and La Entrada (4-8) in Menlo Park.

The committee studying the enrollment issue looked at options including building a new school on one of its two leased-out properties, one in Ladera and one near the district office in Menlo Park. The district now takes in \$1.6 million in lease revenue from those sites.

But that option, and another that would involve building new permanent structures on the existing campuses, would probably require approval of a bond measure, something there appears to be little appetite for. Committee members and district leaders are aware that people are feeling

See **ENROLLMENT**, page 8

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Mr. Vega, former lead trumpeter for Tito Puente, also presents a free historical lecture, "New York Roots of Latin Jazz," on Wednesday, March 3 at 4:15 p.m. in Braun Rehearsal Hall at Stanford.

This event has been made possible by the following sponsors: Stanford Institute for Creativity and the Arts (SICa), University of Vermont, Stanford Department of Music, Stanford Jazz Workshop, Stanford Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford Institute for Diversity in the Arts, Stanford Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

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Atherton OKs \$1.6 million refund of road-impact fees

By **Andrea Gemmet**

Almanac Staff Writer

It seemed like a good idea at the time: charge builders a road-impact fee and use it to repair Atherton roads torn up by heavy construction vehicles. Now, town officials are preparing to refund \$1.65 million in road fees collected since July 1, 2006.

The Atherton council voted to approve the refunds on a 3-1 vote, with Mayor Kathy McKeithen opposed, at the Feb. 17 City Council meeting. Councilman Jim Dobbie was absent.

"If it keeps the town from lawsuits, that's worth a lot," said Councilman Jerry Carlson.

Road-impact fees are a matter of legal controversy, according to Atherton's city attorney, Wynne Furth. A 2005 court case in Southern California touches indirectly on the issue and says that California vehicle code pre-empts any local impact fees for damage to roads.

In December, Atherton officials decided it would be prudent to rescind the fee, rather than risk a lawsuit. They also acknowledged that the town improperly raised the impact fees by 40 percent in August 2007, tying the increase to construction value calculations rather than a nexus study of the actual cost of road repairs.

Even so, the town is legally obligated only to refund fees collected in the 90 days prior to the date in December when the council rescinded the road-impact fee, according to Ms. Furth. For the sake of fairness, council members said they would expand the time-frame for refunds.

From July 2001 through June 2009, the town collected a total of \$5.17 million in road-impact fees. Road-impact fees paid for about half of all of the street reconstruction projects done in Atherton last year, Public Works Director Duncan Jones told The Almanac.

The plan adopted by the council, to refund anyone who paid the fee from July 2006 to December 2009, was proposed by a volunteer citizen group that convened to advise the City Council on the refund issue. During that two-and-a-half-year time period, the town collected \$2.7 million in road fees. Anyone who paid the fee would have to apply for a refund.

"We request that you acknowledge that this was of questionable legality," said Jeff Wise, a member of the citizen group.

Mr. Wise said his group was OK with capping the total refunds at \$1.6 million.

Councilman Charles Marsala pointed out that probably not everyone who paid the fee would request a refund. Atherton recently refunded improperly assessed business license taxes, and only 42 percent of those entitled to a refund applied for it, Mr. Marsala said.

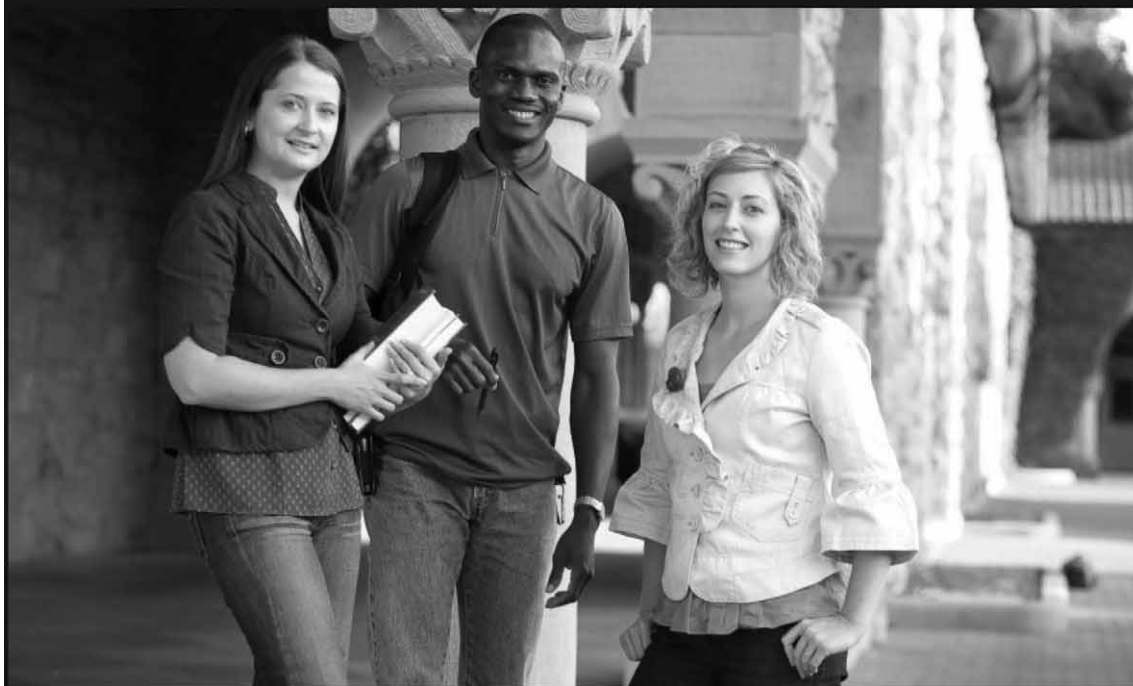
Mayor McKeithen espoused different parameters and time-frames for refund eligibility, saying she was concerned that some in town would see the refunds as a gift of public funds to builders. Councilwoman Elizabeth Lewis said she thought a simple, straightforward solution was best.

"The less explanation we have to make, the better," she said.

Mr. Carlson said he hoped people receiving the refunds would consider making charitable donations to nonprofits that support the town, such as the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation.

Even with the cap on the refunds, the town's bottom line is going to be affected. City Manager Jerry Gruber said the town is heading into a fiscal crisis next year. A mid-year budget amendment on the evening's agenda authorized \$540,000 of deficit spending by tapping into the town's general fund reserves and building department operating reserve fund. The vote was 4-0 to authorize the budget adjustment. ■

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Chris Zider scholarship winners named

By Marjorie Mader

Special to The Almanac

Brian Moran of Portola Valley, a student-athlete at Sacred Heart Prep, and Abigail Thornburg of Menlo Park, student-athlete at Castilleja School, are winners of the 2009 Chris Zider Scholarships.

Each receives a \$15,000 scholarship that can be used for college, private high school tuition, or for other education-related expenses, such as taking a summer course on a college campus, during the next six years.

The annual scholarships are given in memory of Chris Zider, who grew up in Menlo Park and Portola Valley and was the oldest child of Bob and Cheryl Zider of Portola Valley. Chris died in a snowboarding accident at Lake Tahoe in 1992, when he was 15 and a sophomore at Woodside High School.

Besides their accomplishments in the classroom, on the playing fields, and in the community, "their love for their family comes across," said his mother, Cheryl Zider.

The winners

Brian Moran's big day came last fall when as a junior at Sacred Heart Prep he learned he had won a Zider Scholarship and received a full-football scholarship offer from Stanford University. Standing 6 feet, 7 inches tall, and weighing 300 pounds, Brian started playing varsity football at Sacred Heart on the offensive and defensive line his sophomore year.

He sings with The Singing Guys, an a cappella group at Sacred Heart, and volunteers at the Riekes Center in Menlo Park, helping young people develop skills and confidence.

Brian applied for the Zider award, he said, because of its emphasis on love of family and community. One of four children close in age, Brian's older brother, Connor, has autism and this has taught Brian patience and empathy, he said.

Winner Abigail Thornburg had the unusual experience of taking



Photo by Bob Newell

Chris Zider Scholarship winners and finalists, from left are, Nicolas Henze, William Glazier, Timothy Benton, Whitney Hooper, (winner) Brian Moran, Taylor Jones, Bradley Eckert, and (winner) Abigail Thornburg. Other finalists Robert Dunlevie and Geena Graumann are not pictured.

"Swiss Semester" abroad for the fall semester of her sophomore year. She joined a group of 37 sophomores from different states in the U.S. for the academic program, based in Zermatt. Abigail studied mornings, spent afternoons rock climbing and hiking in the Alps, and combined research projects in geology and art with travel.

Abigail plays her favorite school sports — varsity volleyball and basketball — at Castilleja. She also enjoys canoeing, sailing and water skiing.

Other finalists

The winners were selected from 10 finalists. The eight other finalists are:

■ Timothy Benton of Redwood City is a wide-receiver on Menlo School's football team. He also plays on the school's baseball team and won the coaches award. He attended the International Boy Scout Jamboree and is close to becoming an Eagle Scout.

■ Robert Dunlevie of Atherton plays on Sacred Heart Prep's water polo team and coached the SHP Swim Buddies. He also plays first trumpet in the high school band.

■ Bradley Eckert of Woodside is captain of both the football and lacrosse teams at Menlo School.

He enjoys cooking and has his own catering company.

■ William Glazier goes to Palo Alto High School where he is catcher on the varsity baseball team and a running back on the junior varsity football team. He plays baritone in the district honor band. William also umpires for Palo Alto Little League games.

■ Geena Graumann of Menlo Park plays on Sacred Heart School's varsity soccer team. She also sings soprano in the school's advanced chorus.

■ Nicolas Henze of Menlo Park is on Menlo-Atherton High School's varsity swim team and the junior varsity water polo team. He was named the "Most Valuable Player" on the JV water polo team.

■ Whitney Hooper of Menlo Park is captain of Menlo School's basketball team. She also sings in the school choir and teaches Sunday School for preschoolers.

■ Taylor Jones of Menlo Park plays on Menlo School's soccer and lacrosse teams. She also is a member of the National Charity League.

Go to chrisziderscholarship.com for information on how to apply. Preliminary applications must be postmarked by March 15.

Foundation board names Atherton man as president

Directors of the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation have named board member and Atherton resident Kenneth E. Varner president of the board.

The nonprofit foundation seeks scholarship and program funding for the county's three community colleges: Canada College in Woodside, the College of San Mateo, and Skyline College in San Bruno, according to a Feb. 5 statement from foundation executive director Stephani Scott.

The foundation awarded

\$419,000 in scholarships and \$399,000 in grants to college programs and services in the 2008-09 school year, Ms. Scott said.

Mr. Varner, now in his fifth year on the board, is president and chief executive of the non-



Kenneth Varner

profit Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Colma, and president of the Cypress Lawn Heritage Foundation, Ms. Scott said.

Mr. Varner is a certified public accountant and holds executive positions in several industry associations. In March, he expects to be named president-elect of the American Cemetery Association based in the Washington D.C. area, Ms. Scott said.

He and his wife Jo-Ellen have two sons, one of whom attends the College of San Mateo.

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Gloria Darke



Privacy vs Exposure

Dear Gloria, We are going to be selling our house and after meeting with our realtor, we came to an impasse over how to market it. I absolutely do not want it on realtors' tour or open houses. In fact, I would rather not have it on the multiple listing service. He said that he can't sell it that way. What has been your experience with this kind of an approach?

- Angela B.

Hi Angela, I totally understand why you wouldn't want every nosey neighbor and other non-buyers through your house. The conundrum becomes how to reach the serious buyer without the whole world knowing your home is for sale. One approach is to quietly market it to other realtors who do

the most business in your area.

This can be done by your realtor sending out a mass e-mail with pictures and a description of the property. While it is in front of them, the realtors will take notice and see if it is a fit for any of the buyers they are currently working with. It will, of course be on the website, and could be posted on craigslist. Realtors do tend to forget about a property that does not come up on the multiple listing services when they are doing a search and particularly if they have never seen the property.

As long as you are aware of the drawbacks in not exposing your property to the widest possible audience, it should be your decision.

For answers to any questions you may have on real estate, you may e-mail me at gdarke@apr.com or call 462-1111, Alain Pinel Realtors. I also offer a freemarket analysis of your property.

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Haiti quake has lesson or two for Bay Area

HAITI

continued from page 5

are infrequent doesn't mean that they're inconsequential."

Local concerns

In the Bay Area, Mr. Ellsworth said, among vulnerable buildings are those built before 1980 and not retrofitted to address so-called "soft" first floors — ground floors used for parking or retail and not fitted with shear walls to prevent sideways movement.

Retrofits tend to cost a fraction of the building's total value, he noted.

Also vulnerable are un-reinforced masonry and non-ductile concrete frame buildings, structures whose framing is neither wood nor steel, he said. They are harder to spot. "It takes earthquake engineers with their X-ray vision," he said.

A 1980s-era program to strengthen un-reinforced masonry buildings in Los Angeles paid a huge dividend when most of them withstood total collapse in the 1994 Northridge quake, he said. "We know these engineering solutions work," he added.

Science lessons

Plate tectonics theory is not well understood in the developing world, where earthquakes tend to be thought of as acts of God, Mr. Tucker of Geohazards International said.

"If people would believe that earthquakes are recurring and will recur," he said, "then we could make some progress. That is, particularly in Haiti, not the case."

The developed world may sniff

at such ignorance, but there can be a price. The deaths in Haiti included 5,000 U.S. citizens, Mr. Tucker noted. "Helping developing countries prepare for earthquakes and reducing their capital losses is in our own selfish best interests," he said. "It's not just humanitarian."

The problem is explaining a danger that is real but not predictable, Mr. Tucker said. In his experience, people begin to respond favorably when they understand the threat to schools.

In sessions held worldwide, Mr. Tucker said, he has asked questions to gauge when people will agree to publicly funded safe buildings. Concern starts with approximately zero for parliaments, then works its way up through religious institutions, workplaces and residences.

"The real clincher is schools," he said, because the government owns them and no one misunderstands the duty to make them safe.

Sometimes that isn't enough. Many schools collapsed in the 2008 Sichuan quake in China. Did Mr. Tucker take his message there?

He considered it, he said, but noted that a man there who questioned the official explanation as to why the schools collapsed recently received a five-year prison sentence on subversion charges.

"We are exposing problems and motivating grass-roots action to address those problems," he said. "The kind of work we do just doesn't work in China."

Geohazards' Web site is www.geohaz.org. ■

JACKLIN

continued from page 5

forward lies with Mr. Jobs, as the property owner.

This is the most recent ray of hope for the deteriorating and weathered house. Legal wrangling has run out the clock on a July 2009 three-way proposal among Mr. Jobs, the town and Gordon Smythe, a Palo Alto venture capitalist and enthusiast of Jackling house architect George Washington Smith.

Mr. Smythe had offered to dismantle parts of the house and reuse them in a new family home, if he were to find a "great piece of land" on which to build. Mr. Smythe and the town had signed the agreement, but it terminated after 60 days. It's unclear whether

Mr. Jobs ever signed it.

Mr. Jobs lost in court, but the matter remains unresolved in part over whether Mr. Jobs, still seeking to replace the house, took steps that satisfy the court's original concerns in ruling against him.

In any case, the Yohos' proposal would need review by the town's History Committee, the Architectural and Site Review Board and the Planning Commission, Ms. Dory said in her letter.

The project would also require analyses of its environmental impact and the viability of moving it from its current location on a flat piece of land to what would be a slope, Ms. Dory said.

Representatives of Uphold did not have a comment on the proposal. ■

Murder mystery drives musical comedy

Fans of just about every theater genre should find something to like in Woodside High School's upcoming production of "Curtains," a musical comedy whodunit that will have its Peninsula premiere at Woodside High School's Performing Arts Center on March 5, 6, 7, 12 and 13.

"Curtains" — from the Broadway creators of "Cabaret" and "Chicago" — is set in 1959 Boston, and concerns what happens when the exceptionally untalented star of "Robbin' Hood of the Old West" is murdered during her opening-night curtain call.

A Boston police detective is called in to solve the case, but finds that almost every member of the company had a motive to wish the leading lady dead. As he tries to find the murderer, the company attempts to go on with the show, while the detective falls for one of the cast members.

Broadway legends John Kander and Fred Ebb (creators of "Chicago" and "Cabaret") created the music and lyrics, with book by Rupert Holmes.

Starring in the production are Chloe Jury-Fogel of Redwood



Photo by Tina Patrick of Woodside

"Curtains" cast members include, at top, Grant Adams; middle row, from left, Julianne Falore, LeeAnn Patrick, Sam McCleod and Will Palomares; and bottom row, from left, Kiefer Hickman, Shani Taylor Keeling, Jelly Steele and Nicole Outman.

City, Shani Taylor Keeling of Portola Valley, and Audrey Baker, Kyle Trager and Grant Adams of Redwood City. Other cast members include Elayne Hovsmith, Brigitte Losey and LeeAnn Patrick of Woodside, and Clary Sawyer of Menlo Park. Barry Woodruff directs the show.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for those 65 and older, and \$10 for students of high school age or younger. Group discounts of \$2

per ticket are available for groups of 20 or more.

Call the Performing Arts Center ticket booth at 650-367-9750, ext. 4851. Starting Feb. 24, tickets will also be sold at the box office after school, from 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Curtain times are 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, March 5 and 6 and March 12 and 13. There is also a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee on March 7.

Atherton OKs effort to reopen HSR lawsuit

The Atherton City Council has signed on to an effort to reopen a lawsuit against the proposed California high-speed rail project, in light of recently discovered information about ridership projections.

Atherton and Menlo Park joined a suit against the High-Speed Rail Authority last year, forcing the agency to reopen its environmental study of part of the route that would bring high-speed trains from San Francisco to Los Angeles. The judge presiding over the case did not, however, require the rail authority to revisit the decision to send trains along the Caltrain corridor, as plaintiffs had hoped.

At a closed session meeting on Feb. 17, the Atherton council authorized Oakland-based attorney Stuart Flashman to ask the Sacramento County Superior Court to reopen the

case. The vote was 4-0, with Jim Dobbie absent.

The Menlo Park City Council is set to consider the topic at a closed session meeting set for Feb. 23.

Mr. Flashman said he began revisiting the case after new information came to light about the data on which the High-Speed Rail Authority based its ridership model. The information could have had a significant impact on the ridership projections, which in turn could have influenced the board's decision to run trains along the Pacheco Pass, rather than the Altamont Pass, Mr. Flashman maintained.

Rail officials first said the changes to the ridership model were too minor to warrant republication, then attributed the discrepancy between the published document and the new information Mr. Flashman

referred to as a "typographical error."

"It's our understanding that the model used to generate the high-speed rail ridership forecasts — along with that model's supporting information — has all been publicly available since 2007," said Jeff Barker, deputy director of communications for the rail authority.

Atherton outreach

An Atherton community outreach meeting with City Manager Jerry Gruber and police Chief Mike Guerra was set for 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, at Holbrook-Palmer Park. Because the meeting was to be held after The Almanac's press deadline, a story will appear in next week's print edition. Check AlmanacNews.com for updates.

ENROLLMENT

continued from page 5

pinched financially, and are reluctant to ask for more money at the ballot box, Mr. Hartwig said.

Also, he said, by the time new facilities were finished, "the enrollment bubble might be gone."

"It looks like the most logical direction to go would be to absorb our students as best we can because the growth doesn't seem to be permanent," he said.

The Feb. 10 school board decision to increase class sizes in the two schools to avoid having to hire new teachers makes the decision to absorb the students easier,

Mr. Hartwig said. The board's decision was part of a package of moves that are expected to slash the budget by nearly \$1.2 million.

The board will review the enrollment committee's report and recommendations as early as March 10, though the date is not firm, Mr. Hartwig said. ■



Officials representing the state's high-speed rail project met with skepticism and tough questions at a Q&A meeting in Menlo Park's council chambers Friday afternoon, Feb. 19. From left, Tim Cobb, Dominic Spaethling, Bethany Wilson and Bruce Fukuji faced a full house of vocal critics of the plan to run high-speed trains along the Caltrain corridor through the Peninsula.

Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Rail meeting fails to sway local crowd

By **Andrea Gemmet**
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park residents are a cynical bunch when it comes to the California High-Speed Rail Authority. While it didn't degenerate into a shouting match, there wasn't a lot of love either from the 100-plus people who showed up at the high-speed rail project meeting held Friday afternoon, Feb. 19, in the Menlo Park council chambers.

A panel of representatives of the project to bring high-speed trains from San Francisco to Los Angeles fielded — and deflected — questions for close to two hours. Menlo Park Mayor Rich Cline acted as host, roaming the room with a microphone, Phil Donahue-style.

There was one piece of new information, an indecipherable projection that combined an aerial photo of a segment of the Caltrain tracks, and a couple of illegible graphs about track elevation and right-of-way widths. When the crowd protested that they couldn't read it and asked for

handouts, they were told it is not currently available to the public yet, according to Tim Cobb, the project manager for the San Francisco to San Jose segment of the high-speed line.

This was met with groans and complaints from the crowd.

"I apologize that these are not the easiest to read things," said Dominic Spaethling, a regional manager for the rail authority. "The purpose of this meeting is to try to give you a preview of what is coming in the alternatives analysis."

The upcoming document analyzing various project alternatives is due March 4, and according to Mr. Spaethling, will help answer many of the questions that couldn't be answered at the meeting.

Most of the questions reflected concern about plans to use the Caltrain corridor for high-speed trains and the impact it would have on local residents. The effects of eminent domain on local property, the likelihood of putting the train underground rather than on raised berms, and the desire to end the high-speed line in San Jose were popular topics.

Despite assurances that community feedback is desired, most people who spoke at the meeting seemed deeply suspicious. Mr. Spaethling and consultant Bruce Fukuji were peppered with questions from people who wanted to know who they answered to, and if the public feedback they received would have any clout with the rail authority.

Menlo Park resident Alan Bushell asked if there was any point to spending time and energy suggesting changes to the design of the rail line through the Peninsula when it seemed to be a forgone conclusion. His remarks were met with applause from the audience.

"I get the feeling that this is just a charade to get cover for a resolution that has already been made," said Mr. Bushell.

"By being engaged, you'll have a better outcome than (you would) by not being engaged," countered Mr. Fukuji.

"You're being used as well, but you're getting a paycheck. We don't," Mr. Bushell shot back. ■

Atherton resident's 911 call leads to burglary arrest

An alert resident in the first block of Holbrook Lane in Atherton appears to have been instrumental in interrupting a possible burglary of a neighbor's house when he called police on the morning of Friday, Feb. 19.

Atherton police have arrested and booked into county jail Beata Wyszynska, 59, of Poland on burglary and vandalism charges, according to an Atherton Police Department report.

The neighbor called police at about 9:50 a.m. after hearing a

sound of breaking glass and seeing "two suspicious subjects" enter his neighbor's home, police said.

Sgt. Joe Wade and Officer Dave Metzger responded and, upon arriving at the scene, noticed through the front window that someone was in the house, police said.

The person inside noticed the police outside and immediately ran toward the back of the house, police said. The officers arrested Ms. Wyszynska as she was trying to leave the house through a bro-

ken rear window, police said.

As for the second suspect, police set up a perimeter with reinforcements, including a police dog, from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and Menlo Park Police Department, but the search did not turn up anything, police said.

Police are on the lookout at area motels and hotels for Chicago-based visitors who may have been driving a red rental car with Illinois plates, the report said.

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Third Floor, Community Health Resource Center
Thursday, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Palo Alto Center, 650-614-3200
795 El Camino Real
Community Health Resource Center
Thursday, March 4 and 18, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
Tuesday, March 9, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 23, 2:30 – 4 p.m.
Wednesday, March 31, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m.

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This two-hour walk through Nob Hill Foods will enlighten and inspire you with tips for reading food labels, understanding how stores are laid out and shopping strategies. Pre-registration, fee charged.

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For more nutrition-related information, visit pamf.org.



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Youngsters escape house fire

A fire caused more than \$200,000 in damage to a large ranch-style home in Atherton late Thursday afternoon, Feb. 18, Menlo Park Fire Protection District Chief Harold Schapelhouman said.

Three children, ages 12, 14 and 16, were inside when the fire started but managed to escape unharmed.

The single-alarm blaze damaged a 5,000-square-foot, single-story home at 251 Greenoaks Drive. Chief Schapelhouman said a neighbor reported seeing heavy smoke at about 4:15 p.m.

It appears the blaze started in the motor compartment of a

Ford Expedition and spread to a breezeway, then through the attic and wood-shingled roof, Chief Schapelhouman said.

Twenty-four firefighters responded and had the fire controlled by 4:43 p.m.

Chief Schapelhouman said the fire caused \$150,000 to \$200,000 in damage to the structure and approximately \$50,000 in damage to contents. The house will not be habitable tonight, he said.

The official cause of the fire is under investigation.

— Bay City News Service.

Hillview campus rebuild: public review period starts

Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park is about to undergo a major reconstruction project. Before that happens, environmental data about the project is up for public scrutiny.

The so-called preliminary environmental assessment (PEA) is available for public review at the Menlo Park City School District office, 181 Encinal Ave. in Atherton.

The review period runs until March 10. A public hearing on the PEA report is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, at the district office.

Plans for the campus include two-story classroom wings, an audi-

torium, parking lots and other facilities to accommodate an anticipated jump in enrollment, from around 700 students to an estimated 974 students by 2016.

Most of the current buildings on campus will be torn down once the new facilities are completed.

Written comments on the report may be faxed to 329-1506 or sent to: Ahmad Sheikholeslami, director of facility planning and construction, 181 Encinal Ave., Atherton, CA 94027. For information, call Mr. Sheikholeslami at 321-7140, ext. 5614.

Race for county treasurer heats up with a fourth candidate announcing

Dave Mandelkern, now in his second term on the governing board of the San Mateo County Community College District, announced Feb. 16 that he is running for the office of county treasurer/tax collector in the June 8 election.

An education technologist from Hillsborough, Mr. Mandelkern is the fourth candidate to announce his interest in the position. He joins deputy tax collector-treasurer Sandie Arnott, former Burlingame City Councilman Joe Galligan, and investment adviser Richard Guilbault, who ran for the office in 1998.

Lee Buffington, the treasurer for nearly 25 years, announced in August that he will not seek another term. Mr. Buffington faced criticism when the county investment fund lost \$155 million in 2008 due to its investments with Lehman Brothers investment bank, which went bankrupt.

The losses affected local government agencies and school districts, including the community college district, which lost \$25 million, Mr. Mandelkern said.

“Had the County Treasurer not lost this money, we could have provided more resources for

our students,” Mr. Mandelkern said in a statement.

“This terrible loss opened my eyes to the power of this office and sparked my interest in running.”

As qualifications, Mr. Mandelkern notes his oversight of the college district’s \$140 million budget, his co-founding and managing a software company that went public, and his serving as chief executive of a health care business.

“This position is not just a specialized accounting or investment management role,” Mr. Mandelkern said, adding that he sees the job as advocacy for the county in Sacramento, more efficient revenue collection for the county’s medical center, and improving the “customer service” experience for taxpayers.

Mr. Mandelkern said that among those who have endorsed him are Assemblyman Ira Ruskin; former Assemblyman Ted Lempert, a member of the county Board of Education; and former state controller Steve Westly of Atherton.



Dave Mandelkern

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City's economic recovery slower than expected

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

Recovery from the global economic recession is coming along slower than expected for the city of Menlo Park, though the city's budget situation does not appear nearly as dire as that of some of its neighbors.

After adopting a balanced budget, the city now estimates revenue will come in \$1.3 million lower than expected in the 2009-10 fiscal year, which ends June 30. Expenditures, however, have also been lower than expected, by about \$750,000.

The city will look to make up the resulting deficit in its \$38 million budget through stopgaps, such as delaying infrastructure projects, or use of the city's sizable general fund reserves, City Manager Glen Rojas and Finance Director Carol Augustine said in the mid-year budget report. The City Council will review the report at its meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 23, which starts at 7 p.m. in the council chambers.

"The existence of ample reserves has allowed the city to take a long-term approach toward achieving a structural

balance and a measured response to inevitable economic changes," the city writes in the report, arguing for a second consecutive year that such short-term measures will leave the city well prepared for an economic recovery.

Ms. Augustine said that municipal revenues typically lag those in the general economy.

Though the revenue projections are lower than the city had initially expected, the revised projection still represents an increase of about \$850,000 over the previous fiscal year. Expenditures are expected to rise at about double that clip, by \$1.6 million.

The city anticipates that sales tax revenue will fall to \$6.0 million, reverting to its level in 2003-2004, after those revenues had more than halved following the dot-com bust. The city received about \$6.9 million in sales tax revenue during the 2008-09 fiscal year, and \$7.7 million during the 2007-08 fiscal year, according to the report.

The city is expecting to generate \$320,000 less than initially expected through a tax on hotel guests, partly due to the Rosewood Sand Hill Hotel falling below projections made prior to the economic downturn. ■

■ SHORT TAKES

ABBA it ain't

Give them full points for creativity. The League of California Cities is taking a creative approach to its campaign to stop state take-aways of local dollars. Nine Peninsula community leaders and local officials can be seen on YouTube belting out ABBA's "S.O.S.," but with altered lyrics. The S.O.S. in this case refers to "Save Our Services."

The League is sponsoring a signature drive to put an initiative on the November ballot. The proposed initiative would "prohibit the state from taking or borrowing local taxpayer funds dedicated to public safety, emergency response, transportation and other vital local government services."

Go to savelocalservices.com for more information.

Go to is.gd/8GxVI to view the video.

Make sure there's a shelf for the dictionary

Atherton's quaint little branch library is due for an upgrade, according to a needs-assessment study presented at the Feb. 17 City Council meeting. The PowerPoint presentation of the

study by Anderson Brule Architects had just one little glitch — every slide had the words "San Mateo County Library."

Sharp-eyed Mayor Kathy McKeithen pointed out the typo to the embarrassed architects.

A dubious hat trick

In a story in the Feb. 10 Almanac about a "pension reform" initiative co-chaired by Menlo Park resident Henry Riggs, we listed the wrong phone number for Mr. Riggs. The correct number is 327-6198.

Apologies to the confused person who has been fielding calls from pension reform advocates, and especially to Mr. Riggs. This marks the third time in the past year we have run a correction with his name in it.

Google versus God

Google recently announced an effort to offer the world's fastest Internet connection, at speeds 100 times faster than those available today. According to Menlo Park church Bethany Lutheran, however, that mantle has already been usurped.

"PRAYER: THE WORLD'S FASTEST WIRELESS CONNECTION," a sign in front of the church read last week.

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'Der Freischutz' proves a challenge to West Bay Opera and its audiences

By Mort Levine

Special to The Almanac

It was immediately acclaimed in Germany as the prototypical nationalistic opera and the launching of early romanticism with its magical settings and battles between good and evil. "Der Freischutz" is still the most performed German opera in Germany after "The Magic Flute." Despite its remarkably gorgeous music, it has almost always baffled American audiences. The full house at Lucie Stern Theatre in Palo Alto at last Friday's opening of West Bay Opera's ambitious production of Carl Maria von Weber's masterpiece seemed similarly baffled.

WBO produced this opera in 1990 in a conventional setting of the 15th-century legend of Bohemian foresters and the contract with the devil for six bullets that will always find their target but a seventh that the devil will direct. In this case, that last shot would kill the hunter-hero's bride-to-be. Given the need for a happy ending, a

holy hermit restores her to life in the name of the Almighty. If it sounds a bit like a Grimm fairy tale, you're right. It all springs from the same kind of folklore with a hard core of violence and suspense.

The 2010 version is a creative collaboration between General Director Jose Luis Moscovich, who also conducted, and stage director Yuval Sharon, who has been hailed for his many imaginative stagings in New York. This production was replete with unique effects in a wide range of media. For example, the opera is preceded by a brief film clip from a Lon Chaney Jr. horror picture. Chaney turns himself into a ferocious killer werewolf. His doctor, played by Claude Rains, says he doesn't believe in such a transformation but agrees it could strongly take hold in the mind of the perpetrator. Cut to live action.

As the opera's richly diverse overture music is performed, a modern ballet treatment choreographed by Yannis Adoniou and the Kunst-Stoff dance com-

■ REVIEW

pany goes forth behind a scrim where other projections flicker. This is followed by the lowering of a series of fences, behind which is a chorus. Each member is wearing an animal mask raised slightly to permit the singing of a happy, toe-tapping tune. Gaps in the fence later are used by black-clad arms reaching out to envelop our hero.

These rapid-fire disconnects are followed by recitations (brief speeches in German to move the tale along) from the principal lead singers. The protagonist, Max, must demonstrate some outstanding rifle shooting in the presence of the local prince, if he is to win Agathe, the daughter of the head forest ranger, Kuno.

Lately Max's shots all seem to miss. A rival hunter, Kaspar, had earlier made a pact with the devil, trading his soul for the secret of making magic bullets. He hopes to trade Max for himself in the pact. Failing in that, the villainous Kaspar is shot and

thrown to the wolves by order of the prince.

Two of the lead singers, tenor Ben Bongers who sings Max and bass Gregory Stapp, the rescuing hermit, both sang but asked audience consideration for their colds. Stapp seemed to overcome that handicap in his shorter role. But the tenor's hoarseness and difficulties with higher ranges were apparent.

The female voices, by contrast, were outstanding. Agathe, performed by Paula Goodman Wilder, who has a creamy coloratura, came close to perfection with "Leise, Leise" (... though clouds obscure, still shines the sun ...). Her cousin, Annchen, sung by Patrycja Paluchovitz, also was in fine voice especially in duets with Agathe.

In supporting roles, such as Kuno (Eric Coyne), and Prince Ottokar (David Hodgson), the voices seemed to have a volume difficulty in ensemble passages and when aligned with the full-throated choral singing.

"Der Freischutz" is clearly an opera where the orchestra is a full partner. Maestro Moscovich's brisk baton kept his 24-member orchestral force on

pace. On a few occasions, there was evidence that additional strings and woodwinds would be a benefit. The complex score was treated as a large-scale chamber music piece. Weber is acknowledged as a master of orchestral writing and the range of mood changes showed the music could well carry the opera.

Richard Wagner, who lived a generation after Weber, hailed the music of "Der Freischutz." He wrote: "Weber breathed a fresh warm lovely life into music of the stage ... touched the heart of the German people celebrating the imaginative life of the German nation at its most characteristic."

The performance in Palo Alto didn't quite strike its local audience in that same way. Nonetheless, despite the directorial overkill with special effects, the eerie lighting treatments and the host of symbolic touches, in the end it is the music that makes most of the magic. The great choral music and many satisfying arias are well worth enjoying for their own sake.

"Der Freischutz" goes forth this coming weekend with performances on Saturday evening and at a Sunday matinee. ■

Book-release event for Woodside author Karen Offen

Woodside resident Karen Offen will be celebrated, along with her recently released book, "Globalizing Feminisms," at a reception from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, on the Stanford University campus.

Ms. Offen, a historian and a senior scholar with the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford University, edited the book, a collection of writings on the history of feminism by an international

group of scholars. Her piece, "Was Mary Wollstonecraft a Feminist? A Comparative Reading of 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman,' 1792-1992," is included in the collection.

The book covers 1789 to 1945 — from the beginning of the French Revolution to the end of World War II. The diverse writings are pulled together by Ms. Offen's general introduction and section introductions.

Kathryn Kish Sklar, editor of

the book, "Women and Social Movements, International," writes that Ms. Offen's book "is itself an historic turning point. It marks the maturity of women's history as a field of study internationally and it opens up future research agendas in the global history of feminisms. This book will be cherished and it will change the way we do women's history."

Ms. Offen's previous publications include "European Feminisms: 1700-1950: A Political History."

The book party is open to all, and will take place at the Clayman Institute-Serra House, 589 Capistrano Way at Stanford.

For more information about the book, go to routledge.com.

Sports: Chris Barrett signs with USD

By Jim Gallagher

Special to The Almanac

Chris Barrett, a five-year veteran of the Menlo-Atherton Vikings Pop Warner football program, recently signed a letter of intent to play for the University of San Diego.

A first team All-Catholic Athletic League tight end in 2009 at St. Francis High School in Mountain View, Barrett led league tight ends in pass receptions and set a one-game school record with 10 receptions against Mitty High School.

At St. Francis, he also saw considerable action at line-

backer, where he is expected to perform at San Diego.

Barrett's teammate with the Vikings, quarterback Turner Baty, enjoyed a sensational 2009 season at New Canaan (Connecticut) High. Baty, also a senior, was named Most Valuable Player as New Canaan defeated East Lyme 28-0 for the state championship.

An All-State selection, he passed for more than 2,500 yards for the 11-1 Rams. In 2008, Baty quarterbacked Menlo-Atherton High to the Central Coast Section championship. His college destination remains undetermined.



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No phone calls please. We will contact qualified candidates for an interview.

The Almanac MountainView VOICE Palo Alto Weekly

■ OBITUARIES

John Wiley Rutherford Jr.*Retired Pacific Bell executive*

A memorial celebration of the life of John "Jack" Wiley Rutherford will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at Alpine Hills Tennis Club, 4139 Alpine Road in Portola Valley.

Mr. Rutherford died peacefully at his Ladera home of brain cancer on Feb. 3, surrounded by his family. He was 86.

Born in San Francisco, he grew up in San Carlos, graduating from Sequoia High School and junior college before studying at Stanford Law School. In 1943 he was drafted into the U.S. Army and assigned to the Second Signal Service Battalion in Washington, D.C., where he translated confidential shipping messages from Japanese to English.

During this time, he met his future wife, Alice Bassett. After the war, Mr. Rutherford earned a degree in economics. In 1947 the couple returned to California, where they settled in Los

**Jack Rutherford**

Altos and raised five children. They were amicably divorced in 1974 and remained friends.

Mr. Rutherford was employed in an executive capacity at Pacific Bell in San Francisco for 32 years. Upon his retirement, he was involved in regulatory work for the phone company and the Public Utilities Commission.

In 1978, he met Anne Johnston on a Sierra Club hike. They were married soon after. Between the two of them, they had 10 children.

After retirement, the couple traveled extensively. He also enjoyed volunteer work for the community committee for international students at Stanford and for Mended Hearts (an advocacy group for heart patients) at Sequoia Hospital.

He will be remembered for his integrity, his gentle nature, and his great love of children and family, say family members.

Mr. Rutherford is survived by his wife of 32 years, Anne Rutherford; sister Catherine Carriere of San Clemente; his children, Nancy Griffith of Sacramento, Martha de La Soujeole of Fairview, Texas, Jan Rutherford of Juneau, Alaska, and Jay Rutherford of Sacramento; stepchildren Jean Rinaldo of Portola Valley, Michelle Fortnam, Kenneth Rinaldo of Columbus, Ohio, Catherine Rinaldo of

Oakland; 20 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his son, Larry Rutherford, and his stepson, Brian Rinaldo.

Donations in Mr. Rutherford's name may be made to the Peninsula Open Space Trust (open-spacetrust.org), Pathways Hospice (pathways.org) or Mended Hearts (mendedhearts.org).

Gunther Sorger*Physicist and sportsman*

Gunther Urban Sorger of Portola Valley, a pioneer in the development of microwave systems for air safety, died peacefully Feb. 10.

Mr. Sorger was born in Riedlingen, Germany, in 1925. In his youth he played soccer for the University of Stuttgart, scaled mountains with the Academic Ski Club, and soared over the Danube valleys in glider planes built by his glider flying club, say family members.

After earning a doctorate in physics, graduating cum laude, Mr. Sorger moved to the United States in 1954, joining Wein-

**Gunther Sorger**

schel Engineering in Maryland as chief scientist, developing microwave test equipment and standards for airplane guidance systems. He also taught graduate courses in microwave measurement at George Washington University.

In 1970 he moved to California to work for the Eaton industrial company, where he founded the research and development center of the company's electronic instrumentation division in Sunnyvale. His contributions to the field included eight patents and many publications.

In 1985 he was elected a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and later won its Meritorious Achievement Award for his work.

Mr. Sorger was an avid soccer player and coached AYSO soccer leagues for many years. He was also an excellent tennis player, winning several tournaments and playing well into his 70s, family members said. He was a certified board sailor and enjoyed hiking in the Sierras.

Surviving members of his family are his wife of 54 years, Ursula, and sons Alex, Phil and Stephan.

Charles Edward Turkington*Stockbroker and sportsman*

Charles Edward "Ned" Turkington died peacefully at his home in St. Helena on Feb. 7 after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 78.

Mr. Turkington was born in San Francisco and lived in Atherton as a youth. His father, Edward Turkington, was a member of the Atherton Town

Council and the family belonged to the Menlo Circus Club.

A graduate of St. Ignatius High School, Mr. Turkington received a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He had a long career as a stockbroker, retiring from UBS Paine-Webber in 2001.

He had a life-long love of cars and racing, as well as a passion for all sports, say family members. He was member of the Bohemian Club for more than 40 years, and a former member of the downtown Olympic Club of San Francisco.

In his early years, he was active in California Republican campaigns for Ronald Reagan and Barry Goldwater.

Mr. Turkington was a former member of the Grace Cathedral board of trustees and was active in the outreach programs of San Quentin Prison and the Delancey Street Foundation. After moving to St. Helena, he was a member of Grace Episcopal Church.

Recently, he was an instigating force behind the book, "For the Glory," the story of the 1924 U.S. Olympic Gold Medal rugby team, of which his father, Edward Turkington, was a member.

He is survived by his wife, Alexandra Alissandratos Turkington; his children, Tom Turkington, Anne Von Feldt, Ted Turkington, and Vittoria d'Aste-Surcouf; his sister Dana Turkington Horner; and six grandchildren.

Donations to the Michael J. Fox Foundation may be made in Mr. Turkington's memory.

TELLER WEINMANN

6-6-19 2-25-09

An honest man here lies at rest,
as e'er God with his image blest;
The friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age, and guide of youth;
Few hearts like his, with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so inform'd;
If there's another world, he lives in bliss;
If there is non, he hade the best of this.

Robert Burns

PAID MEMORIAL

MARCELLA SEARLES

Marcella Searles, a long-time resident of Menlo Park, died on February 8th after a short illness.

Marcella was born and raised in Susanville, CA (Lassen County). In 1946 she enrolled in the University of Southern California, where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. While there she renewed an acquaintanceship with Charles, a former navy pilot who had been stationed in Susanville during the war. They were married in 1948 and were together for over 50 years until his death in 1999.

In 1953 she moved to Menlo Park to be closer to her family. In addition to being a supportive wife and mother, she was active in real estate for over ten years. In recent years she volunteered at Filoli, where she spent many happy times working with her friends and serving guests at the Summer Jazz concerts.

Marcella is survived by her children, Sally Porter, Melinda Kaewert and Scott Searles; four grandchildren; one great grandchild; sister Ellen Wachhorst; and brother Arthur Mathews. At her request, no services will be held.

PAID OBITUARY

LED street lamps may come to Menlo Park

By Sean Howell
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO WATCH

One way or another, Menlo Park looks set to put high-efficiency lights in its streetlamps.

The city is poised to sign an agreement with PG&E, authorizing the energy company to replace high-pressure sodium bulbs with light-emitting diodes on several city streets. The retrofits would either be funded through the federal stimulus package, or through the redevelopment purse for some areas of the city east of Middlefield Road, if the application for stimulus funds falls through.

Either way, the project would cost about \$160,000, with about 10 percent of the city's 2,300 streetlights converting to LED. It would save the city between \$13,000 and \$15,000 per year in energy costs.

The City Council could approve the contract with PG&E at its meeting Tuesday, Feb. 23.

Homeowner's default cost city \$100K

Between legal fees and missed loan payments and homeowners' association dues, the default on loans by a homeowner of a below-market-rate housing unit in the Menlo Square complex cost Menlo Park about \$100,000, according to the city.

The city re-acquired the one-bedroom condominium Dec. 1, 2009, through a court ruling, after covering mortgage installments and homeowners' fees for

over two years to prevent various lenders from foreclosing. The payments came through the city's flush below-market-rate purse, funded by land developers.

City management is recommending that the City Council at its Feb. 23 meeting choose to resell the home to another applicant for below-market-rate housing, rather than recoup its losses by selling the unit at market rate.

Bohannon project schedule delayed

The approval process for the million-square-foot Menlo Gateway office/hotel development proposed by developer David Bohannon has been delayed, as Menlo Park works to revise its analysis of greenhouse gas emissions generated by the project.

City management originally expected to present the City Council with a draft term sheet at its Feb. 23 meeting following negotiations with the Bohannon Development Co.

Now, the city hopes to do so in early April, and to prepare the project for a final vote prior to the council's summer recess.

The shift could mean a crowded agenda for the council and Planning Commission in late spring and early summer, as the city unveils preliminary long-term plans for the downtown area, and works to pass a budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year. ■

ERNEST H. NORBACK 1913-2010

Retired attorney, communitarian-at-large, activist in a life of service to others. His only extravagances: a profound love of life, shared by & with wife, Aileen; an insatiable quest for knowledge of human nature & culture, and a wanderlust that took them all over the world. Ernie's life itself was his magnum opus and legacy to the many who loved him. The full measure of the man, his outsized, signature brand of humanitarianism and easy genius combined, are captured in his simple creed (scribbled & carried with him always): "Happiness, freedom and peace of mind are always attained by giving them to someone else."

Survived by wife, Aileen, daughter & son-in-law, Kathleen & James Bidwell; grandchildren Melissa Anderson, Jonathan Dominguez, Kristin & Michael Bidwell; great-grandchildren Joshua & Jeremy Anderson, Jesse Dominguez; nieces Linda Zukowski, Janet Wessell, nephew Bill Wessell; other family members, and many, many friends. Predeceased by son, Thomas Carter Norback; sister Violet Wessell; parents Josef & Mary. At his request, there will be no service. Instead, a celebration of his life will be held for family & friends on Saturday, April 3, 2:00PM, at his home. Donations in his memory to: ACLU, Planned Parenthood, Amnesty International.

PAID OBITUARY

JOHN ALEXANDER GARIBALDI FEBRUARY 2, 1940 - FEBRUARY 4, 2010



John died in his home with his wife, Carol, by his side at age 70 after a year long battle against pancreatic cancer. He was born in San Francisco in 1940. At a young age, John's family moved to Menlo Park where he graduated from Menlo

Atherton High School in 1958. After attending Arizona State University, John became a fire fighter for the Menlo Park Fire District where he faithfully served until his retirement at the age of fifty-two.

This is where the fun really began. Along with his wife, Carol, he set out to enjoy his early retirement to the fullest. The two of them traveled the world and made friends from every corner. With their time split between Napa and Lake Tahoe, John enjoyed the best each area had to offer. He cherished his time on the golf course at Silverado and skiing the chutes

of Squaw Valley. Most importantly, he cherished the time with his friends and family. Nobody was a better storyteller than John. His wit kept us all laughing. We will dearly miss his sense of humor, but most of all we will miss the special relationship he shared with each of us. For this, he will never be forgotten.

He was the son of the late John Arthur Garibaldi. He is survived by his mother Dian Garibaldi of Menlo Park; wife Carol Garibaldi; brother David Garibaldi; son, Scott Garibaldi, daughter, Shelley White; step children, Trish Porter, Charlie King, Michael King; his grandchildren, Ashley, Danielle, Derek, Matthew, Turner, Logan, Will, Evan, Grace, Sam, Lauren, Timothy, Connor, and Shannon will deeply miss the man they know as Pop.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, February 10 at 11:00 am at the Church of the Nativity at 210 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to The Riekes Center for Human Enhancement, 3455 Edison Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025. www.riekes.org.

PAID OBITUARY

ARTHUR WARNER MIDDLETON



Arthur Warner Middleton, born in San Francisco on May 21, 1923, passed away at his home in Woodside, California, on February 12, 2010 at the age of 86. Arthur, also known as "Middie," was a graduate of Lowell High School. A lifelong CAL

Bears fan, he graduated from UC Berkeley, where he was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. During World War II, he served overseas as a pilot with the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Arthur lived in San Jose with his first wife, Joanne Kraemer Middleton, who preceded him in death in 1972. He worked for Western Plumbing Supply, then later had a successful career in commercial real estate. He moved to Los Altos Hills with his second wife, Marian Winters Middleton, who died in 1993. He reconnected with his childhood friend, Derith "Derry" Coonan Middleton in 1993. They married later that year and lived happily at their home in Woodside. Derry and Arthur lived across the street from one another on Green Street in San Francisco and had kept in touch with each other and fellow members of "The Green Street Gang."

Arthur loved his family and friends. He was known for his constant intellectual curiosity, which led to a number of interests and hobbies. In the early 1950s, he and a group of San Jose friends started the "Honeysuckle Social and Investment Club," which sparked his interest for researching and investing in the stock market. He loved learning about birds, which recently included working with the California Bluebird Recovery Program and personally monitoring several birdhouses in Woodside. He also taught children to build birdhouses. Arthur's fascination with birds started with his Boy Scout Troop 14

affiliation. He was proud of his Eagle Scout status. Arthur enjoyed his membership in the Sainte Claire Club in downtown San Jose, where he was once ranked #1 for billiards and played dominoes. More recently, he enjoyed playing dominoes with friends at the Menlo Country Club. He took great pleasure in his many travels and often used his sketching and water color painting talents to chronicle them. Arthur was a wonderful storyteller. He surprised several of his relatives and friends with stories about their lives and last year, with his daughter, Anne, wrote and self-published "Middie's Memoirs." Arthur cared so much about people and often was the conduit for keeping in touch with his many friends and organizing reunions -- Lowell High School classmates, Beta fraternity brothers, Honeysucklers, and Troop 14 and Green Street Gang members. A sports enthusiast, he was on the swim teams at CAL and Lowell. He also enjoyed playing golf and tennis.

Arthur is survived by his wife, Derry; daughters, Anne Middleton, Patsy Sevison (Larry) and Gail Tidwell (Steve); and grandchildren Kristiina Gagner (Scott) and Travis Tidwell. Arthur is also survived by step-children Bruce Coonan (Mary Frances "Mike"), Kevin Coonan (Karen), Sarah Hart (George), Terry Coonan (Judy) and Pres Winters (Jan); 11 step grandchildren and seven step great grandchildren. Preceding him in death were his parents Alex Whitten Middleton and Annie Squier Middleton; his brothers Billy Middleton and Jack Middleton, and his sister Barbara Egidio.

Donations in Arthur's memory can be made to HOPE Rehabilitation Services or Stanford Hospital. HOPE, an organization for which Arthur served as a board member for many years, assists people with developmental disabilities to live and participate in their communities. More recently, Arthur came to deeply appreciate Stanford Hospital, where he received excellent care. Plans for a private celebration of Arthur's life are pending.

PAID OBITUARY

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INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Districts 4

The Planning Commission participates in the administration of the planning laws and policies of the Town. It is responsible for recommending to the Town Council ordinances and resolutions necessary to implement the General Plan and adopted development policy. The Commission also conducts necessary public hearings to administer the planning laws and policies of the Town and acts upon applications for zoning amendments, conditional use permits, variances, subdivisions and other related functions as may be assigned by the Council.

The Planning Commission meets on the first and third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.; Commissioners are appointed for a four-year term.

District 4 encompasses the Emerald Lakes area, the Cañada Road area north of Arbor Court/Olive Hill Lane, including the Runnymede Road and Raymundo Drive areas.

Interested residents may check residency requirements and request information and applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-12 noon and 1-5:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, on the Town's web site at www.woodsidetown.org or by telephoning (650) 851-6790. Deadline for applications is Friday, March 12, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

■ 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

Residential burglary report: Construction site, Broad Acres Road, Feb. 16.

Auto burglary reports:

■ Window smashed and GPS device and phone charger stolen, first block of Holbrook Lane, Feb. 13.

■ Two subwoofer speakers stolen from trunk, Parker Ave., Feb. 15.

MENLO PARK

Residential burglary reports:

■ Golf clubs and bag valued at \$2,400 stolen from garage, 1200 block of Middle Ave., Feb. 16.

■ Two computers valued at \$1,400 stolen, East Palo Alto Academy High School, Feb. 12.

■ Jewelry of "no real value" stolen, 1800 block of Santa Cruz Ave., Feb. 17.

Auto burglary reports:

■ Tote bag and wallet stolen for estimated loss of \$550, first

block of Scott Drive, Feb. 17.

■ Apple iPod valued at \$270 stolen, 1000 block of Almanor Ave., Feb. 13.

■ Cell phone valued at \$100 stolen, 200 block of Van Buren Road, Feb. 16.

■ Window smashed and purse stolen with losses estimated at \$40, 1000 block of Windermere Ave., Feb. 16.

■ License plates stolen, 1300 block of Carlton Ave., Feb. 16.

Stolen vehicle report: White Ford 150 pickup truck, 4000 block of Campbell Ave., Feb. 16.

Spousal abuse reports:

■ Arrest made, 1200 block of Sevier Ave., Feb. 12.

■ Unspecified location in Menlo Park, Feb. 14.

■ Arrest made, 1200 block of Carlton Ave., Feb. 17.

Child protective services report: Sharon Road, Feb. 14.

Fraud report: Forgery, 800 block of Willow Road, Feb. 12.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Residential burglary report: Jewelry stolen via unlocked window, 100 block of Willowbrook Drive, Feb. 11.

Theft report: Purse stolen from unlocked vehicle with losses that include \$3,000 in cash, credit cards, checks, driver's license, Social Security card and U.S. passport, 100 block of Possum Lane, Feb. 12.

Noted sculptor featured at Art in Action luncheon

Sculptor Bruce Beasley is the guest speaker at Art in Action's annual luncheon, Atelier d'Artistes, on March 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club in Menlo Park.

Mr. Beasley is a well-known West Coast sculptor whose work can be seen locally at the Djerassi Foundation and Stanford Univer-

sity, as well as at Beijing's Olympic Park, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, SFMOMA, and the Oakland Museum of California.

The event includes demonstrations by local artists, a silent auction and a tribute to Dick Sperisen, the coordinator emeritus for arts education and school design of the San Mateo County

Office of Education, in honor of his 50-plus years of contributions to the education of students.

Art in Action is a Menlo Park-based nonprofit group dedicated to bringing quality arts education to elementary school classrooms.

Tickets to the event are \$75. For reservations, call 566-8339, ext. 200, by March 1. For information, go to www.artinaction.org.

■ BIRTHS

Menlo Park

■ Xochilt and Vincente Ventura, a girl, Jan. 5, Sequoia Hospital.

■ Penny Bryant and Brian Heery, a son, Jan. 12, Sequoia Hospital.

■ Jennifer and Jeffery Doane, a son, Feb. 9, Sequoia Hospital.

Woodside

■ Carey Gibson and Gregory Carrier, a son, Feb. 8, Sequoia Hospital.



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BACK AS PATIENTS.



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

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year and \$100 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
854-2690, ext. 222.

Viewpoint

Ideas, thoughts and opinions about local issues from people in our community. Edited by Tom Gibboney.

District elections for supervisor

There is a political sleight of hand going on right under the nose of San Mateo County residents, but unless there is a major public outcry, it doesn't look like much will change.

The sneaky behavior is the now common practice of candidates for county supervisor to either be appointed or run unopposed. This is a scenario that has come about in recent years in part due to the high cost of campaigning in this far-flung county of 700,000 residents, who live in diverse communities from the Coastside to the suburbs of San Francisco to the Peninsula.

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Under current rules, supervisors must reside in their home district but run county-wide, a daunting proposition that most candidates want to avoid, and many have.

The last five members of the board have been appointed or have run unopposed. The most recent appointee was Carole Groom, former mayor of San Mateo, who was named last year to fill the unexpired term of Jerry Hill. (The first contested election in years will be held June 8 to fill the seat held by Rich Gordon, who is termed out and is now a candidate for state Assembly.)

More contested elections could be held if the 2010 Charter Review Committee that is meeting now decides to recommend that certain changes be made in the county's charter. If supervisors agree, a ballot measure could go before the public in November, requiring district-wide rather than county-wide elections.

We can't imagine why anyone would oppose such a change.

San Mateo is now the only California county to require that supervisors be elected county-wide. It is an embarrassment that should be revised to reflect the reality that many good candidates simply cannot afford the time or money to mount a county-wide campaign.

Last year the county grand jury strongly supported changing the present election format to one that gives each of the five election districts its own candidate. The grand jury report said that district-wide rather than county-wide elections would foster more competition for supervisor seats by attracting more candidates due to the lower cost.

The grand jury also said the smaller, district elections, would increase voter interest and encourage more diversity among the candidates, who could appeal to much smaller constituencies. These candidates would be much more likely to discuss serious local issues that often do not even come up during current campaigns.

Now is the time for the antiquated system of electing our county supervisors to be thrown out and a new version put before voters, if those serving on the Charter Review Committee have the courage to take action and the supervisors agree to put the issue on the ballot.

County residents are being shortchanged in this system that in many cases allows supervisors to decide who will replace them if they term out or move on to other positions. A new charter should require that election of supervisors be by district, and when a vacancy occurs, a replacement can be chosen only by election.

LETTERS

Our readers write

**Ignoring the facts
of Cargill project**

Editor:

After having attended almost all of the Cargill/DMB "community meetings" on the development issue and several of the Redwood City Council meetings on the same issue it became apparent to me that something was going on beyond community input.

At each and every DMB community meeting the overwhelming sentiment of those in attendance was against development. However, DMB controlled the meetings and set the agendas in such a way that opposition to their development plan was virtually ignored. In one instance, one among many, DMB required that all in attendance make a choice among various plans they offered. Not one of those choices allowed restoring the wetlands or not developing the area.

The mayor and Redwood City Council (RCC) seem to see this development as a short-term fix to budget problems. They are ignoring the facts, including:

■ That there is no foreseeable demand for the proposed housing (vacancy rates are at an all-time high);

■ That there is no way to control the locations to which sup-

posed residents would commute (it is planned that they will go to and from the East Bay);

■ That there is presently insufficient water, garbage, power, public transportation, and highway space for the proposed population increase;

■ And that the proposed included shopping center would

**Our Regional
Heritage**

Children at the Portola Valley Ranch have a playhouse that is a miniature (red) replica of the town's historic 1909 schoolhouse. Here, Mayor Robert Anderson presides over the grand opening in October 1986.



Portola Valley Archives

be in competition with others nearby which are already finding it difficult to keep afloat.

Despite such drawbacks, these public officials forge ahead with plans for what is undoubtedly a financial and environmental disaster.

If housing were truly an issue then why did the Redwood City

Council deem it appropriate to declare the decrepit houses in the vicinity of City Hall an architectural treasure and of historical interest? Only the developer that is "restoring" these "treasures" did not complain.

Businesses in the area that had

See **LETTERS**, next page

Reasoning behind the Cargill decision

By Heyward Robinson

The Menlo Park City Council recently passed a resolution opposing the Cargill/DMB “50/50” plan for the Redwood City salt ponds. Normally, cities do not consider development in neighboring jurisdictions except through comments as part of formal environmental reviews. But the proposed development of 1,400 acres of San Francisco Bay is so inappropriate and out of place that we were compelled to take a position.

It is remarkable that this project is even being considered. No project like this has ever been approved since the 1960s, when permits to fill and develop on or around the Bay became required. The Cargill plan would fill 17 times as much of the Bay as the largest project to date (84 acres for Oakland airport in 1968). The site is not zoned for development, but rather as “tidal plain.”

The Redwood City general plan says this about the area: “Most of the land which is vacant cannot be developed because it is San Francisco Bay, its tributaries, salt ponds, and wetlands.” Quite simply, this site is in the Bay, and we quit putting projects like this in the Bay 50 years ago.

The project faces tremendous regulatory hurdles, and approval of the required permits is far from assured. The primary state regulator (the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission — BCDC) states



unequivocally that every effort should be made to “restore, enhance or convert these [salt ponds] to subtidal or wetland habitat.” It is difficult to imagine BCDC, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other regulators that seek to restore and expand Bay wetlands approving a project that does the opposite.

Cargill/DMB has launched a massive publicity campaign to try to salvage its project. A key piece of this campaign is to convince elected leaders and the public that these salt ponds are an “industrial site,” and as such are not part of the Bay and ill-suited for anything but development.

This argument is incorrect. The 1,400-acre site remains part of the Bay. It is consider a “managed wetland” by BCDC, Redwood City, and other government entities. It can be restored to a tidal marsh and habitat for birds, reptiles, fish, and other aquatic species (as is currently being done in Napa, Menlo Park, and San Jose).

Redwood City, like other Peninsula cities, is facing tremendous pressure to build additional housing. Increasing housing is important, but so is restoring and expanding open space. Not all locations are appropriate for development. The DMB/Cargill site fits into this category.

Redwood City should stop this project now, before more public and private resources are expended. Rather than locating a massive development here, the site should be transferred to the Don Edwards National Wildlife refuge and put on the list of salt ponds slated for restoration.

Heyward Robinson is a member of the Menlo Park City Council.

LETTERS

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invested in these properties and desired to renovate them for housing/office space were consistently denied permits until the city could decide what to do. Their ultimate decision favored one person and avoided the possibility of adding additional housing or office space near downtown.

The development of the tide-lands is likewise going to benefit Cargill and DMB, not Redwood City citizens, and in the long run it will produce tremendous negative impact, both social and environmental. However, some people will get very rich. Guess who!

Van Thein
Redwood City

Nice to know Farmers Market open year-round

Editor:

I really appreciated your (Feb. 3) article reminding us that there is a flourishing year-round Farmers Market in Menlo Park.

Eating locally grown produce and meat has become our best hope for clean and healthy food. It was a very informative article and made clear that real “home-grown” organic food is accessible to us.

As one who is starting to have growing doubts about the

“organic” labeling of food, now that the enormous industrial food producers, such as Walmart, are taking over, local food seems the best option.

Gita Dev
Mountain Home Road,
Woodside

Council undermines city’s strength

Editor:

Our City Council continues to undermine the strength and fiscal stability of our city.

As The Almanac reported in the Feb. 10 edition: “A key source of revenue [sales tax] for Menlo Park fell by 21 percent in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, making an already dour revenue picture even bleaker.”

Meanwhile, of course, the huge swatches of former auto dealers remain empty, producing no revenues and no property taxes for our increasingly desperate city. All the while, this council busies itself wildly protesting Redwood City’s growth prospects, which, by the way, would produce huge benefit to Menlo Park retailers, the breed of which is suffering mightily.

Sloane Citron
Laurel Street, Menlo Park

A ‘delusional’ analysis of Cargill project

Editor:

I recently had the opportunity to read the “Preliminary Analysis of Transportation and Circulation,” paid for by the land developer Cargill/DMB that intends to convert Redwood City wetlands to housing, which would make them a lot of money.

The “analysis” is a truly remarkable document. As a piece of creative writing it is superb. As an objective evaluation of the impact of paving over wetlands to add tens of thousands of new residents to our area, it is somewhere south of delusional.

The document includes some wonderful and appealing suggestions — streetcars, bike routes, subsidized links to Caltrain — all good and effective ways to reduce car traffic and improve our quality of life in Redwood City and surrounding communities.

And these are all solutions Redwood City could have done long ago, if the city had the political will to fund them. I encourage our elected City Council to take action now on these important transportation initiatives, and skip the trouble of destroying wetlands in the process.

Cedric Crocker
Redwood City



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 8, 2010

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

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Architectural Control/Daryl Harris/11 Carriage Court: Request for Architectural Control to modify the rear portion of the existing single-family townhouse by adding 24 square feet to the first floor and 157 square feet to a sunroom on the second floor, and modifying the exterior of the sunroom in the R-1-S(X) (Single Family Suburban, Conditional Development) zoning district.

Use Permit Revision/Dan Thompson/263 Santa Margarita Avenue: Request for a use permit revision to modify a previous approval to construct first- and second-story additions to an existing single-story, single-family, nonconforming residence that would exceed 50 percent of the replacement value of the existing structure in a 12-month period in the R-1-U (Single-Family Urban) zoning district. Modifications include alterations to the first and second floor plans, changes to the roof line, and new exterior finishes and architectural features.

Use Permit Revision/Steve Borlik/1235 San Mateo Drive: Request for a use permit revision to modify a previous approval for first floor renovations and a second-story addition to an existing nonconforming, single-story residence that would exceed 50 percent of the replacement value of the existing structure in a 12-month period in the R-E (Residential Estate) zoning district. Modifications include alterations to the first floor plan, the addition of two dormers on the front elevation, and window and door changes.

Use Permit Revision and Architectural Control/German American International School/275 Elliott Drive: Request for a use permit revision and architectural control to add one new portable building on a portion of an existing tennis court and to install ten new parking stalls, including three for disabled access, off of the existing emergency vehicle access road. The portable buildings would remain until either the termination of the lease or expiration of the lease on June 30, 2011. The maximum school enrollment would remain unchanged. The applicant is also requesting a use permit for a new pole sign that would be approximately 7.5 feet in height and include interchangeable letters and the color yellow for a portion of the sign. The sign would be located on the campus near the entrance of the main building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that said Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on public hearing items in the Council Chambers of the City of Menlo Park, located at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, on Monday, March 8, 2010, 7:00 p.m. or as near as possible thereafter, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon. If you challenge this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

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

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

DATED: February 18, 2010 Deanna Chow, Senior Planner
PUBLISHED: February 24, 2010 Menlo Park Planning Commission

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

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