

**READERS' CHOICE 2010**  
Vote for your favorites – Page 2

# The Almanac

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

JUNE 16, 2010 | VOL. 45 NO. 42



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## Dance teacher Marianne Crowder dies at 104

Marianne Elser Crowder, who taught dance and exercise to generations of Menlo Park residents, died June 4 of pancreatic cancer at her home in Palo Alto, surrounded by family and friends. She was 104.

Ms. Crowder celebrated her 104th birthday at a party April 23 at the Menlo Park Recreation Center. Nearly 100 guests, most of them former students, gathered to wish their beloved teacher well.

Born in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Ms. Crowder exhibited her gift for dance at a very early age, according to her daughter, Susan Miller. She enrolled in the Perry Mansfield School of Dance and Theater in Colorado and studied with many of the leading pioneers of modern dance. After completing her studies, she joined the Hanya Holm Dance Company during its residencies at Bennington College and Mills College.

She managed and performed with the Perry Mansfield Company on the vaudeville circuit. Settling back in Colorado Springs, she taught modern and folk dance, becoming chairman of the dance department at Colorado College.

After she and writer Paul Crowder were married, the couple moved to California in 1940. For 19 years she taught in the Stanford University drama department and choreographed dances for Stanford's drama and music departments. An expert in historical dance, she received choreographic commissions for the Carmel Bach Festival and the film, "The Court Dances of the Renaissance."

Beginning in 1949, she initiated a series of courses in corrective exercise, sponsored by Palo Alto Adult Education and, later, Menlo Park Recreation. She also began a studio to teach young girls dance. Many programs, with scripts written by her husband, involved hundreds of local students through the years.

She retired from active teaching at 95. In 2007 she was honored as the oldest Girl Scout in America.

She is survived by her daughters, Anne Gully of Tempe, Arizona, and Susan Miller of Lafayette; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A private family memorial service is planned. The family prefers donations to: The UCSF Foundation, Pancreas Cancer Program



Almanac Photographer Michelle Le

**Marianne Crowder**, left, is greeted by former student Betty Risser at Ms. Crowder's 104th birthday party at the Menlo Park Recreation Center on April 23.

Fund, P.O. Box 45339, San Francisco, CA 94145-0339.

### OBITUARIES

#### Damon Wedding

Retired Farmers Insurance Agent



Damon Wedding

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, June 15, at the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park, for Damon Wedding of Atherton. Mr. Wedding died June 4 at the age of 89.

Mr. Wedding was a Farmers Insurance agent in Menlo Park for 35 years. He was also a member of the Menlo Park Kiwanis Club for 35 years, a past president, and program chairman for the past 12 years.

Mr. Wedding was a native of Kentucky, and his first eight years of education took place in a one-room country school. He worked his way through Western Kentucky University, graduating in 1943. In college, he trained with the infantry ROTC. During World War II, he served for three and a half years, including taking part in the Battle of Okinawa. His last command was that of company commander with the rank of captain.

Mr. Wedding worked for more than 20 years in the field sales

department of the Pontiac Division of General Motors. He married Dona Gearhart in 1949. The couple moved to Omaha, Nebraska, and later returned to California. Mr. Wedding changed careers in 1967 and later became a Farmers Insurance agent.

The Weddings recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Over the years, the couple made many trips to the Hawaiian Islands, their favorite vacation spot.

Mr. Wedding is survived by his wife, Dona of Atherton; daughters Linda A. Bonini of San Pedro, Rosemary L. Wedding of Scottsdale, Arizona, and Cindy M. Keitel of Camarillo; brother Jim Wedding of Columbus, South Carolina; and a grandson.

Donations in Mr. Wedding's memory, may be made to the Menlo Park Kiwanis Foundation, P.O. Box 311, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

#### Ruth Paya

Writer and early SLAC employee

Ruth Marian Paya, a longtime Menlo Park resident, died April 29 at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Hospice and Palliative Care Center. She was 89.

Born in Port Huron, Michigan, she served as an officer in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. In 1945 she moved to Menlo Park with her husband, Charles Paya, to attend Stanford University.

See OBITUARIES, page 8

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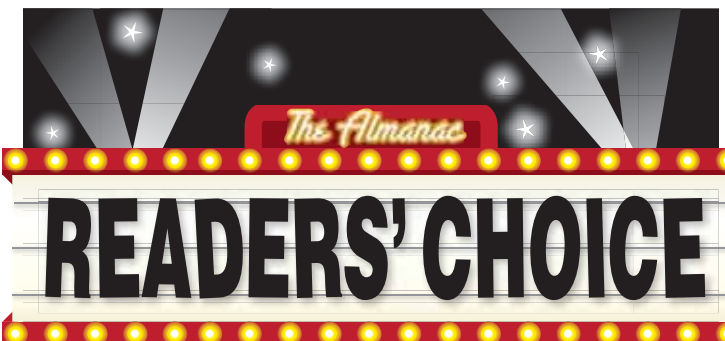
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# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## Arrillaga will help fund Menlo gymnastics center

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

Palo Alto developer John Arrillaga is leaving his mark on Menlo Park's Civic Center, to the delight of city officials and athletes.

The city revealed last week that Mr. Arrillaga, who is already helping the city to build a new gymnasium, will also help fund a new gymnastics center, city officials said.

Based on preliminary talks between the city and Mr. Arrillaga, the city would pay \$6.2 million of the estimated \$11.5 million cost of the center, with Mr.

Arrillaga covering the rest — a similar arrangement the city and donor are using to pay for the gym project. The city's payment would essentially zero out its remaining Measure T and recreation-in-lieu funds, according to Deputy City Manager Kent Steffens.

Prior to its talks with Mr. Arrillaga, the city was short of money for both the new gym, and the new gymnastics center. Mr. Arrillaga initially offered to donate to the gymnasium after he was approached by council members Kelly Fergusson and John Boyle; he has played and coached basketball in Menlo Park for decades.

"This is pretty fantastic news,"

Councilman Heyward Robinson said at the June 8 City Council meeting, joining other council members in expressing his gratitude for the donation. "Congratulations to staff for whatever you did to pave the way for Mr. Arrillaga to be so generous."

The city already has a master plan for the new gymnastics center, which would be built at the site of the existing gymnasium/gymnastics center in the Civic Center. The city has said that it won't demolish the existing building until the new gymnasium opens this fall.

There is no timetable for the gymnastics center project, Mr. Steffens said, though he noted

that Mr. Arrillaga is already working with an architect to design it. "I don't have a schedule yet, but I know from experience that Mr. Arrillaga likes to work fast," he said. Once the facility is designed, it would go to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission for review, according to Mr. Steffens.

"We discussed the gymnastics center project briefly with Mr. Arrillaga months and months ago, when we were working on the gym," Mr. Steffens said in an interview. "At that point he said, 'Let's work on the gym, and see how it goes.' We've made a lot of progress on the gym, and a couple of weeks

ago we talked to him again, to see if there may be an interest on his part in working with us on the gymnastics center. There was. We showed him the floor plans, and he showed an interest."

The city is still trying to figure out how it will relocate the many gymnasts who use the popular program, if and when the current gymnasium/gymnastics center is demolished to make way for the new one.

The city included the news that Mr. Arrillaga had agreed to fund the gymnastics center in the staff report for the council's June 8 meeting, and Mr. Robinson brought up the topic at the meeting. ■

## Sun campus won't be reassessed

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

The Sun Microsystems campus in Menlo Park won't be reassessed, despite the fact that the company has changed hands, the city of Menlo Park has learned.

Oracle completed its purchase of the company in January, a deal valued at over \$7 billion. While California law stipulates that property be reassessed when it changes hands so that property taxes are based on a more recent valuation of the property, the hardware giant has apparently found a way around that.

The property's current assessed value is \$355.4 million, according to information on the county assessor's Web site.

Discussing the news at their June 8 meeting, City Council members said they were disappointed but not surprised by it. The fact that Oracle avoided a reassessment suggests that state law needs to be tightened, Councilman Heyward Robinson said. ■



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

### Work in progress

Construction is well under way on a new gymnasium in Menlo Park's Civic Center, seen here from Alma Street. The city expects the gym, funded in part by Palo Alto developer John Arrillaga, to open in the fall. The contractor is Vance Brown Builders.

## Atherton pays \$619,000 in John Johns case

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

The town of Atherton paid a total of about \$393,200 in attorney fees to investigate former finance director John Johns, and to fight the lawsuit he subsequently filed against the town, Atherton officials announced on June 8.

With the \$225,000 settlement Atherton paid to Mr. Johns in April, plus another \$1,305 in an employee tax, the town's total bill is \$619,500. The employee tax, for Medicare, was required because part of Mr. Johns' settlement was paid as back wages.

Mr. Johns sued the town in 2008 over his October 2007 firing, claiming his termina-

tion was in retaliation for blowing the whistle on fiscal improprieties in Atherton's building department and other departments.

He had filed an earlier wrong-



John Johns

ful termination lawsuit, and offered to settle the matter for a \$10,000 pay-out, he said. When the town refused, he abandoned that lawsuit, but filed another after a criminal investigation by the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office was dropped.

Mr. Johns was hired as the town's finance director in 2001. In 2006, he conducted an audit of the town's building department, which had already undergone

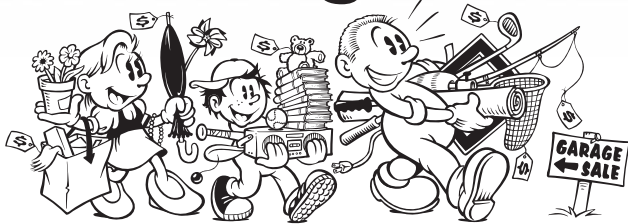
two previous internal audits, as well as a personnel investigation because of irregularities.

Mr. Johns' audit recommended more oversight of the department, and singled out problematic properties that appeared not to be in compliance with town building law.

In August 2007, he was put on administrative leave while a pri-

See **JOHNS**, page 8

# rummage sale



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## Horsley, Vargas in run-off for county supervisor seat

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

■ ELECTION 2010



Don Horsley, left, and April Vargas

Former San Mateo County Sheriff Don Horsley and Coastside resident and businesswoman April Vargas will be on the November ballot in a runoff election for the District 3 Board of Supervisors seat.

The two candidates were the top vote-getters in the June 8 election, but a candidate for a supervisor seat must win 50 percent of the vote, plus one, to win the election.

The count as of June 14 shows Mr. Horsley with 30,154 votes, or 39 percent of the vote; Ms. Vargas, 18,271, or 23.6 percent; Jack Hickey, 12,588, or 16.3 percent; Matt Grocott, 11,045, or 14.3 percent; and Michael Stogner, 5,168, or 6.7 percent.

The candidate who wins in November will replace Rich Gordon of Menlo Park, who won his race June 8 in the Democratic primary for the District 21 state Assembly seat. The winner will take his or her seat on the five-member Board of Supervisors in January.

Mr. Horsley, a resident of Emerald Hills, currently serves as president of the Sequoia Healthcare District Board. He served as county sheriff from 1993 to 2007, and as a member of numerous law enforcement

and public service commissions and boards.

Ms. Vargas, a resident of Montara, served a four-year term on the Midcoast Community Council from 1999 to 2003, and has served on several county governmental committees. She also served for two years as legislative advocate for the environmental group, Committee for Green Foothills.

The five-way contest was an anomaly for a supervisor race in San Mateo County, which for years has not seen a race between viable candidates for a board post.

In District 2, appointed incumbent Carole Groom of San Mateo took 75 percent of the vote. Her only challenger, Daniel Kaul of San Carlos, appeared to lose interest in the race, and announced at one point that he would neither actively campaign nor give interviews to the press.

## Community college tax squeaks by

Measure G, the \$34 annual parcel tax for the San Mateo County Community College District, appears to have passed with the slimmest of margins in the June 8 elections. Uncounted ballots might still change the outcome.

With a required two-thirds (66.7 percent) voter approval, the measure received 60,113 yes votes or 67.1 percent of the total, according to the latest counts from the county elections office.

No votes were 29,493 or 32.9 percent of the total.

The measure is expected to generate about \$6.5 million over four years, and will be used to help restore classes, rehire teachers, and reduce the waiting list of students, which numbers around 14,000, district officials said.

The money would help counter state cuts to the district of \$20 million over the current and coming budget years, officials said.

Property owners 65 years old or older can claim an exemption to the tax.



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## Gordon wins Democratic Assembly primary

By Gennady Sheyner  
and Sue Dremann

Palo Alto Weekly

In a race in which all three candidates spoke often and forcefully about the need for reform in Sacramento, voters chose the candidate with the most experience in government over an outsider who had pledged to shake things up.

Rich Gordon, a 12-year San Mateo County supervisor, defeated entrepreneur Josh Becker and former Palo Alto City Council member Yoriko Kishimoto in the Democratic primary for the 21st Assembly District. Mr. Gordon appears poised to succeed Ira Ruskin in the 21st Assembly District, though he will face opposition in the general election this fall.

According to the latest state election returns, Mr. Gordon received 12,476 votes or 38.5 percent of the total; Mr. Becker received 10,925 votes or 33.6 percent of the total; and Ms. Kishimoto received 9,088 votes or 27.9 percent of the total.

Mr. Gordon took San Mateo County with 42.6 percent of the votes, versus 33.4 percent for Mr. Becker and 24 percent for Ms. Kishimoto.

The district covers northern Santa Clara County and southern San Mateo County, and includes The Almanac's entire circulation area.

At about 10 p.m. on election night, with his victory all but certain, Mr. Gordon gave an emotional speech to a crowd of cheering supporters at the Lucie Stern Community Center in Palo Alto, in which he acknowledged his early anxieties about the race. He trailed Mr. Becker in cash raised for most of the campaign, but finished with his strongest fundraising month, while picking up key endorsements from local officials, unions and newspapers along the way.

"When I started the race, I only knew what I wanted to accomplish," Mr. Gordon told his

### ■ ELECTION 2010

supporters. "But I had no clue, candidly, if I'd find people who would come with me.

"What has transpired has been amazing," he added, before hugging his husband, Dennis McShane, to a burst of applause.

Despite a wave of momentum in the final month of the campaign, Mr. Gordon's victory had been far from certain. Mr. Becker, a former Congressional aide, united a wide group of entrepreneurs, technologists and business executives behind his enthusiastic campaign, which focused largely on creation of clean-tech jobs.

But while Mr. Becker's campaign raised the most cash and made the most use of social media and technology, in the end old-fashioned name recognition won the election, Mr. Becker said. Mr. Gordon spent 12 years on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, while Ms. Kishimoto served on the Palo Alto City Council for eight years, including a stint as mayor in 2007, before terming out last year.

"One of the biggest challenges of the race was running against two politicians with high name IDs," Mr. Becker said. "It's a big district and you can't meet everyone.

"We felt the more people learned about us, the more they said they would vote for us," he said.

On Election Day, Mr. Becker's campaign headquarters on El Camino Real in Palo Alto was filled with supporters, including his parents, who flew in from Pennsylvania to walk precincts and staff phones in the last days of the race. He thanked everyone in attendance for their hard work.

Mr. Becker said he now plans to focus on his eight nonprofits and to work on behalf of clean-tech legislation, particularly Assembly Bill 32.

Ms. Kishimoto took her loss with equanimity and said she

was proud of her "grassroots campaign." Despite being outspent by her two opponents, she kept the race close.

On election night, as Mr. Gordon's victory appeared increasingly likely, she reflected on her accomplishments.

"I've spent most of my time talking to voters, visiting farmers' markets and visiting families," Ms. Kishimoto said. "I'm very proud of what my campaign has done."

Mr. Gordon's victory means he will now be a heavy favorite in the November race against Republican Greg Conlon in the largely Democratic district. Mr. Ruskin, whom both men hope to succeed, will be termed out at the end of the year.

### Greg Conlon

Mr. Conlon, an Atherton resident, ran unopposed for the Republican nomination. But that didn't prevent him from celebrating with about 50 friends, family members and supporters at a restaurant in Los Altos on election night. His campaign is just gearing up, he said; lawn signs are due to arrive next week.

Of the three candidates for the Democratic nomination, he always thought Mr. Gordon would be the toughest opponent, he said, because of his ability to raise money, and his support from labor unions. But Mr. Conlon said he hopes to ride the national anti-establishment wave, as well as general frustration among voters with California's state government, to victory.

"I only run to win," he said, adding that he takes issue with the assumption that races in the 21st Assembly District end in the Democratic primary. "I know what I'm up against."

— Sean Howell contributed to this story.

## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Gloria Darke



### Condition of House

Dear Gloria, We are about to close escrow on our house and the movers have come and packed us. After removing the pictures and paintings, of which we had many, there are several holes in the wall. I have looked over the contract and it doesn't say anything about repairing the holes. I want to do the right thing. On the other hand, the buyer insisted that we fix so many items from our inspection report that I didn't think we were contractually obligated to do that frankly, if I don't have to have someone in to fix this, I would prefer not to. What is your opinion?

Bette G

Dear Bette, You bring up two good points. I will address the importance of both buyer and seller feeling that they were fairly treated, both during the negotiations and during the escrow period. The reality is that often the buyer has the seller somewhat "over a barrel" once the negotiations are finished over price,

terms and close of escrow. Then people get in to the nitty gritty of the inspection reports and some buyers will insist that every little thing be done, down to an item in the inspection report which recommends that grouting around the bathtub needs to be redone. This definitely leaves a bad taste for a lot of sellers and they are not inclined to leave a bottle of champagne on the kitchen counter for the buyers. Your question about the holes in the walls is actually a gray area and one that is not spelled out in the contract we use in this area. Some of my colleagues have said that they have the seller disclose this in the original sellers disclosure so it doesn't become a problem when the buyers open the door to see their new home and the first thing they see are hundreds of holes in the walls. I would suggest you call a painter and get an estimate to fill the holes and possibly match the paint from what you have. It may be a lot less expensive than you think and in the long run, buy good will.

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

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## City of Menlo Park Community Services Department



# Summer Concerts 2010



See insert in today's paper for more information

# Derry project steps back in line

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

stalled development project for a parcel between El Camino Real and the train tracks looks set to start moving through Menlo Park's approval process again soon, according to City Manager Glen Rojas.

The Derry family has told the city that it's preparing to complete the final steps in the approval process for a development project off

Oak Grove Avenue, on the east side of El Camino Real.

Shortly after the Planning Commission's final meeting on the project in March 2008, the family asked the city to halt the process for reasons it did not disclose.

The proposal is for 108 condominium units and 24,925 square feet of commercial space, a scaled-back version of an approved project that nearby residents waged a referendum campaign to over-

turn in 2006. Rather than send the project to a citywide vote, the City Council at the time instructed the developer to negotiate with citizens who led the referendum drive.

The O'Brien Group, the company developing the site, is still "completing its due diligence," Mr. Rojas said. After it completes that work, the city would set up a timeline through which the council could approve the project.

## MP could vote on Bohannon project June 15

By Sean Howell

Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park's City Council is scheduled to vote on whether to approve a prodigious land development project near Marsh Road and Bayfront Expressway at its meeting Tuesday, June 15. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the council chambers, located between Laurel and Alma streets in the Civic Center complex.

Proposed by the Bohannon Development Co., the project includes three eight-story office buildings and a 230-room hotel with a sports club, totaling nearly 1 million square feet, as well as several large parking garages.

The city would have to make major zoning and general plan concessions to allow for the new buildings. It would receive nearly \$14 million in various mitigation fees, an estimated \$1.6 million in

annual tax revenue, and various other public benefits, including a revenue guarantee, revenue from a hotel tax increase, a one-time payment of \$1.25 million to fund capital improvement projects in the eastern reaches of the city, and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

While the size of the buildings, traffic impacts and greenhouse gas

See **BOHANNON**, page 17

### OBITUARIES

continued from page 3

She continued to live in Menlo Park until 2006, when she moved to Woodside Terrace retirement community in Redwood City.

When Ms. Paya became a single parent with four sons under the age of 10 and a teenage daughter, she refreshed her typing and shorthand skills and in 1964 was hired by the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, according to her daughter, Susie Marglin. In 1970 she trans-

ferred to the neurology department at Stanford Medical Center.

After her five children were grown, Ms. Paya worked for a newspaper in Agana, Guam. A few years later, she boarded a tramp steamer and sailed through Micronesia, writing a manual for women about traveling alone, according to Ms. Marglin.

In the years after retirement, she wrote a weekly column for seniors in the Palo Alto Times. She also taught at Palo Alto High School's adult night school. At Woodside

Terrace, she wrote the monthly newsletter.

Ms. Paya is survived by her children, Susie Marglin of Bellevue, Washington, Charles Paya of Gardnerville, Nevada, Daniel Paya of Redwood City, Patrick Paya of Atlanta, Georgia, and Bruce Paya of Menlo Park; and eight grandchildren.

Memorials in her name may be made to the Ruth Paya memorial scholarship fund at Hawes Elementary School in Redwood City. ■

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE



**NOTICE OF HEARING TO COLLECT ASSESSMENTS AT THE EXISTING FEE RATES FOR THE SIDEWALK AND TREE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE CITY OF MENLO PARK LANDSCAPING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that the City Council of the City of Menlo Park will hold a Public Hearing on adoption of a resolution overruling protests, ordering the improvements, confirming the diagram and ordering the levy and collection of assessments at the existing fee rates for the sidewalk and tree assessments for the City of Menlo Park Landscaping Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that the City Council will hold this Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 22nd day of June, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, Civic Center at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard.

Any person interested may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to this matter.

Visit the City's website for City Council, public hearing, agenda, and staff report information at [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org).

Dated: June 1, 2010  
MARGARET S. ROBERTS, MMC, City Clerk

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 9, 2010 and June 16, 2010

### JOHNS

continued from page 5

vate attorney hired by the town conducted an investigation into complaints against him. The investigator's report painted Mr. Johns as a bully who may have improperly done outside work while on the town's time, but did not include charges of wrongdoing.

Mr. Johns, who called the report from the investigation flawed and inaccurate, was nevertheless fired several weeks after being placed on leave.

The investigation, conducted by the Mary Toppliff law firm, cost the town \$10,010, according to the town's June 8 statement.

The other legal costs broke down as follows: Stubbs & Leone law firm, \$157,647; McDonough, Holland & Allen PC, town attorney Wynne Furth's law firm, \$126,237; and Atkinson-Farasyn LLP, former town attorney Marc Hynes' law firm, \$99,292. ■



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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
AND  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETING JUNE 28, 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 – None**

**STUDY SESSION ITEMS**

**Study Session and Environmental Review/389 El Camino Real, LLC/389 El Camino Real** – Study session to consider a project at the old Anderson truck lot that would include demolishing an existing single-family house at 612 Partridge Avenue and residential triplex at 603-607 College Avenue and constructing 26 residential units, consisting of 17 townhouse units and nine detached single-family units, on the subject parcels in the C-4(ECR) (General Commercial Applicable to El Camino Real) and R-3 (Apartment) zoning districts. The project would require the following applications:

- 1) Use Permit for construction of three or more units in the R-3 zoning district and new construction of residential units in the C-4(ECR) zoning district;
- 2) Architectural Control for design review of new buildings;
- 3) Tentative Map to merge seven legal lots into two legal lots, abandon the public street easement for Alto Lane, and create residential condominium units;
- 4) Below Market Rate Housing Agreement to provide three on-site BMR units in accordance with the City's Below Market Rate Housing Program; and
- 5) Environmental Review to review the proposed project for potential environmental impacts.

The application is being submitted subject to the State Density Bonus Law, Government Code Section 65915 and relevant amendments, which may allow for waivers of City's Zoning Ordinance development standards such as setbacks, building height, parking etc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that said Planning Commission will hold a study session in the Council Chambers of the City of Menlo Park, located at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, on Monday, **June 28, 2010**, 7:00 p.m. or as near as possible thereafter, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon.

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

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

DATED: June 10, 2010 Deanna Chow, Senior Planner

PUBLISHED: June 16, 2010 Menlo Park Planning Commission

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



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

### Mayor at your service

Menlo Park Mayor Rich Cline bags Terri Zingale's groceries at the Safeway store on El Caminio Real in Menlo Park on June 10 as part of a prostate cancer awareness campaign. Shoppers were asked to donate money to prostate cancer research.

## Run-off election to pick county treasurer

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

Sandie Arnott, the current deputy treasurer for San Mateo County, got the most votes in the June 8 primary election for county treasurer, but she will face a run-off election in November because she did not receive the necessary majority of 50 percent plus 1, said David Tom, county elections manager.

Ms. Arnott's opponent in November will be San Mateo County Community College District board member Dave Mandelkern, who came in second in a four-way race.

The treasurer acts as a banker for county public agencies such as school and sewer districts. The treasurer also manages these agencies' investment portfolio, currently valued at about \$2.6 billion. Lee Buffington, who has been the treasurer for 25 years, retires at the end of the year.

In the race, Ms. Arnott got 38 percent of the nearly 61,000 votes cast in county's 456 precincts,

according to semi-official results from the registrar's office.

Mr. Mandelkern took second place with 17,000 votes, or 28 percent, the report said.

Bringing up the rear were certified public accountant Joe Galligan with 25 percent and investment adviser Richard Guilbault with 9 percent.

**Coroner prevails**  
San Mateo County Coroner

Robert Foucrault easily withstood a primary election challenge by Stacie Nevares, an analyst for the police department of the University of San California at San Francisco.

According to the latest count in the June 8 election, Mr. Foucrault received 50,767 votes, or 69 percent of the total. Ms. Nevares received 22,969 votes, or 31 percent of the total.

### Menlo College commencement

Jane E. Shaw, chairman of the board for Intel Corp, was the keynote speaker, and Robert (Bob) Lurie, chairman of the board for the Lurie Company, received an honorary business doctorate at the May 8, 2010, commencement at Menlo College in Atherton.



### TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on the Proposed Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011, Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., in the Historic Schoolhouse, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California.

Comments may be submitted in writing prior to the Town Council meeting or presented at the meeting. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Town Council at the time and place herein above mentioned.

The Proposed Town Budget for fiscal year 2010/2011 is available for viewing on the Town website at [www.portolavalley.net](http://www.portolavalley.net). as well as copies are available between 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Portola Valley Town Hall, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California and, via mail by contacting Sharon Hanlon, Town Clerk at 650-851-1700 ext. 210.

Sharon Hanlon  
Town Clerk  
June 10, 2010

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# Stanford Hospital Health Notes

A community health education series from Stanford Hospital & Clinics

## From the Inside Out: Deep Brain Stimulation Designed To Control Parkinson's Disease

Someone, maybe even Resa King herself, would have noticed sooner or later. When she walked, she wasn't swinging her right arm as she did the other. It was one small change in how her body behaved, something a relative noticed. Curious, she sought out a neurologist who wanted to see what happened when she tried to bring her thumb and forefinger together as quickly as she could. She thought she'd done pretty well, but there was a small tremor in her right arm.

Even though King was just 39, Parkinson's disease was already altering her body movements, slowly affecting her ability to control its motions, even simple ones like walking. Her leg dragged, she said, and people would ask her, "Did you hurt your knee?"

It would become much, much worse over the years. Early onset Parkinson's disease, what had attacked King, is not as common as the variety that shows up in people past age 65. Be-

cause it affects younger people working full time and raising children, the tremor that is often its most dominant feature, early onset Parkinson's can be very noticeable and disabling. The disease hits the brain deep in its center, where much of motor control resides. With Parkinson's disease, a neurochemical called dopamine is not generated in enough quantity to facilitate the cascade of neural communication that normally allows us to walk and talk, and even think.

***"Eventually, if all these medications fail, we start thinking about other types of therapy, like deep brain stimulation."***

— Jaimie Henderson, MD, Director, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

"For whatever reason those brain cells die, and we still don't know most of the reasons," said Jaimie Henderson, MD, Director, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery at Stanford Hospital & Clinics. "The risk factors are being studied. It's clear there are some genetic components as well as some environmental—pesticides, jet fuel, other types of toxins like metals—but it's unclear as to what precise environmental factors may cause it or contribute to its development."

One percent of people over the age of 65 will develop Parkinson's disease; 1.5 million people have it now; about 50,000 people are diagnosed with the disease each year.

### New options

King received the best treatment available, a group of medications that replace or mimic

dopamine, with varying degrees of effect and duration. At first, they worked well for King, keeping her Parkinson's disease symptoms in check; the side effects, however, can be almost as disruptive of normal life as the illness. Little by little, King could do less and less. She would break glasses while unloading them from the dishwasher. She couldn't walk a straight line. She couldn't drive, or go to the store, or eat out at a restaurant.

Even with the maximum dosage of medication, she wasn't living anything close to a normal life.

Finally, she decided she wanted to see a doctor at Stanford Hospital & Clinics. She'd heard of a surgery that might help, something that seemed radical, and, to some, scary. The treatment is called deep brain stimulation—produced by a pacemaker-like device implanted in the brain and powered by a battery-driven control placed under the skin in the chest. Just as a cardiac pacemaker electrically regulates the speed of the heart's beating, the deep brain stimulator may regulate abnormal electrical rhythms in the brain that have emerged with Parkinson's disease.

"Medication is really the cornerstone of treatment for Parkinson's disease," Henderson said. "However, eventually all those medications will fail and then we start thinking about other types of therapy, like deep brain stimulation."

Henderson and Helen Bronte-Stewart, MD MSE, became King's physicians. Henderson's research has included the development of a lightweight replacement of the bulky halo frame that once held patients still for the many hours the surgery took. Now, a patient's head is secured with something that looks



Resa King, whose life was drastically altered by early onset Parkinson's disease, decided to try deep brain stimulation when her medications no longer worked.

like a brimless plastic cap that covers just a couple of square inches around the entry point into the brain. Bronte-Stewart is the director of the Stanford Comprehensive Movement Disorders Center.

### Inside the brain

King was awake throughout the five-hour surgery. Henderson and Bronte-Stewart need to be able to see the impact of the surgery, mapped



Parkinson's disease affected Resa King's ability to do even the simplest of tasks. The movement disorder, which typically develops in people over age 65, can slow speech, gait and thinking. The surgery King had gave her back a control of her body she had not known for years.



Before Resa King had surgery to implant a pacemaker-like device in her brain, she would not have been able to hold a glass for fear of dropping it. The side effects of medications for Parkinson's can cause unpredictable and involuntary movements.

## About Deep Brain Stimulation:

**How does it work?** DBS devices are typically placed in the subthalamic region of the brain, and the simulator sends out the pulses of electricity that alter Parkinson's effect on movement. What Stanford researchers—Henderson was a member of the research team—recently discovered is that those changes happen because the electrical pulses are picked up by neural wires, called axons, which run from that region to outer regions of the brain.

**Who can it help?** Stanford evaluates patients for two days, one day on their medication and one day off. DBS is most effective with people who have had a good response to medication, but whose ability to live their life normally has been severely hampered by the side effects of the medication. Those side effects include uncontrollable movements. On average, DBS gives patients a 60 to 80 percent improvement in symptoms and a 50 to 60 percent reduction in medication use.

**Who can't it help?** DBS will not alter the effect of Parkinson's disease on speech or cognition. Nor is it effective on other movement disorders that may have some of the same symptoms as Parkinson's disease. It cannot help those who do not respond to medications.

For more information about Parkinson's disease: [stanfordhospital.org/dbs](http://stanfordhospital.org/dbs)

Join us at: [stanfordhospital.org/socialmedia](http://stanfordhospital.org/socialmedia)

out with sub-millimeter accuracy the precise region deep in the brain that is involved with movement, the sensorimotor region. "It's relatively painless," King said, "but it does go on a long time."

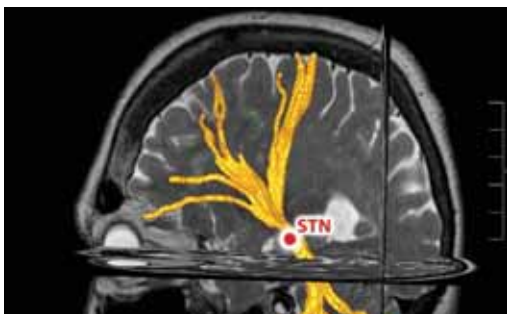
*"We're exploring, listening to the brain, to the chatter of what the neurons are doing just to do a very simple movement."*

—Helen Bronte-Stewart, MD, MSE, Director, Comprehensive Movement Disorders Center, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

The target zone in the brain Henderson aims with a probe for is about the size of a lima bean and the precision of movement required about half the thickness of a thumbnail.

More is involved, of course, than just physical movement of the probe. As the microelectrode is moved around in the subthalamic nucleus in the brain, Bronte-Stewart listens to the sound of the neurons' electrical activity. "From the outside, it sounds like static," she said. "The electrode picks up firing from a small volume of neurons and nerve fibers. For me, however, it's like listening to the different instruments and melodies of an orchestra. We're trying to find the one that's talking to us, that's responding to the sensory inputs from specific joints of her body that I am moving."

The challenge of this surgery is that every person's brain is slightly different, which means that the exact place of the sensorimotor region may be different in different people and you can-



Working within the brain requires finding precise targets. The target for the deep brain stimulator is the subthalamic nucleus of the brain (where the letters STN are marked). It is roughly the size of a lima bean. Once that is located, the scale is further reduced—to a tenth of a millimeter. This image shows the sensorimotor networks as they extend to the outer portions of the brain.

not see it on an MRI scan. "Everybody has their own anatomy," said Bronte-Stewart, "their own wiring. We're exploring, listening to the brain, to the chatter of what the neurons are doing just to do a very simple movement."

*"People who saw me before and after—their reaction was astonishing. Their jaws dropped and they said, 'Wow, Resa, you look so great!'"*

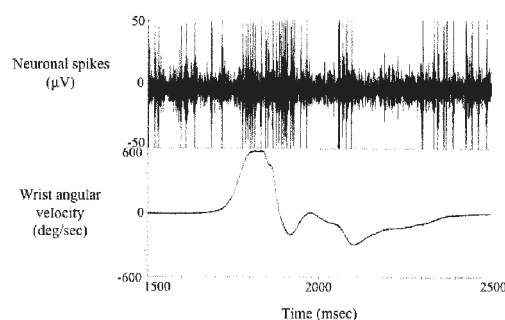
—Resa King, patient, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

Once the stimulator is implanted, its activity needs to be adjusted—again, according to each patient's make-up. But even while she was still in the hospital, King said, she was able to get out of bed and walk to the bathroom. "I was like, 'This is really cool!' The nurses were trying to help me, but I said, 'I don't need that much help!'"

### Increasing knowledge

Deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease has been FDA approved for both sides of the brain

### Neuronal activation with passive extension of the wrist



The brain is our body's central control organ and every physical movement, no matter how small, can be tracked by electrical activity as shown above. When physicians implant a brain stimulator, they can plot its impact with information like this.

since 2002. King believes that as time passes, the device will be refined and improved. Bronte-Stewart agrees. She and Henderson continue to seek greater and more refined knowledge about the brain's behavior and what affects it. For Parkinson's, that knowledge particularly involves what Bronte-Stewart calls nodes of hypersynchrony—a place in the brain where networks coincide and coordinate, "a sweet spot," she said, "where, if we zap it, we might be able to normalize the whole network."

Right now, DBS has a specific set of Parkinson's symptoms that it can improve: speed of movement, fluidity of movement, gait and tremors. It will not improve problems with speech or cognition.

Pretty quickly after her DBS surgery, King was able to cut her medication dose in half. "Then, I was driving and I started cooking again. You just have to let your body get used to it," King said. "One thing I did notice—people who saw me before and after—their reaction was astonishing. Their jaws dropped and they said, 'Wow, Resa, you look so great!'"

The surgery doesn't promise complete reversal, but for those it helps, it represents a big step. "It started a whole new chapter in my life," King said. "You're impatient to be perfect. This is not a cure, but it helps. Life is pretty doable." Her arm is still a bit stiff, and she still walks slowly. Now, however, she can walk in a straight line.



Norbert von der Groeben

Deep brain stimulation cannot remove all the symptoms of Parkinson's disease, but, for King, it has made it possible for her to return to most of the activities she had had to give up.

Stanford Hospital & Clinics is known worldwide for advanced treatment of complex disorders in areas such as cardiovascular care, cancer treatment, neurosciences, surgery, and organ transplants. Consistently ranked among the top institutions in the U.S. News & World Report annual list of "America's Best Hospitals," Stanford Hospital & Clinics is internationally recognized for translating medical breakthroughs into the care of patients. It is part of the Stanford University Medical Center, along with the Stanford University School of Medicine and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford. For more information, visit [stanfordmedicine.org](http://stanfordmedicine.org).

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## Picturing the Peninsula

The work of Woodside artist Leah Lubin, including "Five Act Ballet in Progress" (shown), is being featured at the Atherton Library through June. Ms. Lubin will be at the library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane in Atherton, at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 19, for a presentation on her style and technique.



She said she will also bring along six photo collages of San Francisco, and a print of her photo collage of Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters, now displayed at the Beat Museum in San Francisco. The event is free, and Ms. Lubin says ice cream will be served, courtesy of the library. The show now on exhibit features photo collages of Peninsula scenes, including Woodside's Green Fair at Runnymede Farm.

## Want to run for the school board?

Residents of the Las Lomitas School District who are thinking about running for one of three open seats on the school board in November are invited to attend a panel discussion by current board members at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 23.

The discussion will be held in the school district office at 1011 Altschul Ave. in Menlo Park.

Board members are expected to talk about their roles and responsibilities in holding office. Information pertinent to serving on a governing

board and to the election process will also be discussed, according to a news release from the district.

The terms of Jamie Schein, Leslie Airola-Murveit, and Jay Siegel expire this year. It is unknown whether they plan to run for re-election. Board terms are four years.

Anyone thinking about running but unable to attend the meeting can obtain information about serving from board members. Their names and contact information are available by calling the district office at 854-2880.

## Announcing the All New Info 2010 Publications

**2010-11 info PALO ALTO**

**Our annual Info publications are being completely redesigned with a new format and all-glossy pages.**

The information you have come to enjoy and use all year long will still be included:

- City and Community Services
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## COMMUNITY WORKSHOP – EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT



The Menlo Park Municipal Water District (MPMWD) is beginning the process of developing an emergency water supply project for the eastern service area of the district. The eastern service area includes properties in the Belle Haven, Willows, Flood Park and Burgess Park areas that receive water from the City of Menlo Park.

The eastern service area is entirely dependent on the availability of water from the Hetch Hetchy water system operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The City of Menlo Park is planning to construct a network of 3-4 groundwater wells to act as a back-up emergency water supply in the event of a disruption of service from the Hetch Hetchy system.

The purpose of the Community Workshop is to provide residents and businesses with information about the City's project and to afford interested residents the opportunity to participate in developing criteria for prioritizing future well sites.

The meeting will take place:

Wednesday, June 30, 2010, 6:30 p.m.  
City of Menlo Park Recreation Center  
700 Alma St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

For more information, contact the City's Engineering Services Division at (650) 330-6740 or visit our website at [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org) (follow the links to the City's Capital Improvement Project page and look for Emergency Water Supply Project).

## Block party, summer concert June 23

It isn't really summer in Menlo Park until the first beach blankets hit the grass in Fremont Park for the annual concert series, a rite that will take place on Wednesday, June 23, this year.

Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, a band that plays jazz classics from the 1940s and 1950s, will perform from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the park, at the corner of Santa Cruz Avenue and University Drive.

June 23 is also the date of the first summer block party, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, which will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The chamber is making a concerted effort this year, even more so than usual, to make the event appealing to kids. There will be a "kid zone" with a giant slide, and children will be given "passports" they can use to collect stickers from various places on Santa Cruz Avenue. The winner gets free tickets to a Giants game.

In addition to the Fremont Park concert, five bands will play on a



Photo courtesy, City of Menlo Park

Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers will kick off Menlo Park's annual summer concert series with a performance at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 23.

separate stage, including the Raytones, Blue, and Members, according to Brian Flegel, who's helping to organize the event. There also will be a community stage, with

local youth bands and dance groups. Most restaurants will stay open late, according to Mr. Flegel.

Go to [menloparkchamber.com](http://menloparkchamber.com) or call the chamber at 325-2818 for more information about the block party, or to buy sidewalk space for your business or organization.

Concerts will follow every Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. through Aug. 11, the date of the second block party. Beatles tribute band Sun Kings will close out the concert series on the same date.

### CONCERT SCHEDULE

- June 23:** Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers (jazz classics)
- June 30:** Zoo Nation (U2 Tribute band)
- July 7:** Pat Wilder & Serious Business (blues)
- July 14:** The Hitmen (70s funk)
- July 21:** Fito Reinoso (Cuban/salsa)
- July 28:** The Contenders (classic rock)
- Aug. 4:** Tom Rigney (Cajun)
- Aug. 11:** Sun Kings (Beatles tribute band)

## Contractor settles wrongful death lawsuit

A contractor working for the city of Menlo Park has settled a wrongful death lawsuit stemming from a 2007 accident in which a bicyclist died for \$2.4 million.

Deborah Johnson, a 51-year-old Palo Alto woman, fell and hit her head on July 22, 2007, while riding on Sand Hill Road with friends, west of

Branner Drive. Ms. Johnson died two days later, after being hospitalized.

In the suit, John Gerity, Ms. Johnson's husband, alleged that Ms. Johnson fell when her bike hit the base of a detached cylindrical traffic marker in the bike lane.

The settlement was finalized in November 2009. The

city was not a party to it, according to City Attorney Bill McClure.

An insurance company representing O.C. Jones & Sons, the company that installed the traffic markers, paid the full amount of the settlement, according to John McGirr, the city's revenue and claims manager.

## MP hires interim police chief

Menlo Park has hired an interim police chief from outside the department as it searches for a replacement for the recently departed Bruce Goitia.

Ray Samuels, the former police chief of Newark, Calif., and a public safety consultant, has been on the job since Mr. Goitia retired June 1, according to City Manager Glen Rojas.

The city is in the process of setting up interviews, and hopes to hire a new chief by the end of July, Mr. Rojas said. He affirmed that the city's list includes candidates from within the department.

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### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**NOTICE OF HEARING TO RECOMMEND THAT THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT IMPOSE BASIC AND ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR FUNDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 COUNTYWIDE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) GENERAL PROGRAM**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City Council of the City of Menlo Park will hold a Public Hearing to recommend that the San Mateo County Flood Control District impose basic and additional charges for funding the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Countywide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Program.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the City Council will hold this Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 22nd day of June, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, Civic Center at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard.

Any person interested may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to this matter.

Visit the City's website at [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org) for City Council, public hearing, agenda, and staff report information.

Dated: June 1, 2010  
MARGARET S. ROBERTS, MMC, City Clerk

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 9 and June 16, 2010.

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## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TOWN OF ATHERTON  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STREET RECONSTRUCTION 7  
PROJECT NO. 56006

Notice is hereby given that SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, until 3:00 p.m. JULY 7, 2010, at which time they will be publicly opened and read, for performing the following work:

LAYOUT OF WORK, REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF ASPHALT CONCRETE PAVEMENT ON STREET, REPLACEMENT OF DRIVEWAY APPROACHES, PLACEMENT OF CONCRETE VALLEY GUTTERS, INSTALLATION OF GRADED SWALES ON PARK LANE FROM CAMINO AL LAGO TO ELENA AVENUE. RESTRIPE AND ADDITIONAL ASPHALT ON ALEJANDRA AVENUE

The Engineer's Estimate for the project is: \$449,357.00

Per Section 6.01 of the Town of Atherton's Standard Specifications, the General Contractor shall perform, with his own organization, work of a value amounting to not less than 50% of the total contract, excluding specialty items as indicated on the bid schedule.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for STREET RECONSTRUCTION 7, Project No. 56006", along with date and time of bid opening.

Plans and specifications may be obtained at the Town of Atherton Public Works Department, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton CA 94027, for a non-refundable fee of \$30.00. Additional important information is contained in Town of Atherton Standard Specifications, which are available online at [www.ci.atherton.ca.us/](http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/). If shipping is requested, there will be an additional charge of \$25.00.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to David Huynh, Project Engineer, telephone: (650) 752-0555 or by written Requests for Information (RFI) to: Public Works Department, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, CA 94027, preferably no later than five days before bid opening. RFIs may be emailed to [dhuynh@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:dhuynh@ci.atherton.ca.us) or faxed to (650) 688-6539.

For information on obtaining Plans and Specifications, Standard Specifications or obtaining a Plan Holders list, please call Judy Bellmont at (650) 752-0570.

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

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

## 'Flavors of the Garden' at Allied Arts

Allied Arts Guild and Cafe Primavera will present the second annual "Flavors of the Garden," a day of food and wine tasting, music, entertainment, and children's activities, from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road, in Menlo Park.

**AROUND TOWN**

The open-air marketplace will emphasize fresh, sustainable living. There will be wine tasting, gourmet food by Cafe Primavera, local produce and herbs, organic clothing, and live entertainment. Plein air painters will demonstrate their talents in the gardens.

Wine tasting will be \$20, which includes an eco-friendly glass and three tasting tickets.

An adventure passport will navigate children around the property to participating booths for interactive games and prizes. There also will be a kids' reading corner with story time provided by Kepler's Books at noon, 1 and 2 p.m.

Vendor products will be sold for profit. Among those taking part are Marshall Farm honey, Kahe Sparkling Nectar, Webb Ranch, Herbs by Kathleen, Wild Thyme Botanicals, La Copa Loca artisan gelato, Olivas de Oro organic olive oil, and O'Bon eco-friendly stationery and pencils.

"Flavors of the Garden" is open to the public and there is no admission fee. Donations will benefit Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford.

### Vintage Affaire

Invitations are in the mail for the annual Vintage Affaire, a benefit for the Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The event will be held Saturday, June 26, in the gardens of a private estate in Woodside.

There will be a new format this year. The event will be in two tiers. Tier one, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., will include a silent auction, wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres prepared by guest chefs. Tier two will feature all activities from tier one, plus a live auction from 5 to 7 p.m., and gourmet dinner and music from 7 to 9 p.m.

Cost for tier one is \$125 per person; tier two is \$250 per person.

Go to [vintageaffaire.org](http://vintageaffaire.org) for more information.

*Continued on next page*

Continued from previous page

### Opera at Little Store

“The Three Divas” — Eileen Meredith, Erin Neff and Simona Snitskovaya — will present in an evening of opera arias and Broadway favorites from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday, June 27, at The Little Store, 3340 Woodside Road in Woodside.

Dinner that evening, at \$75 per person, will include a flute of champagne, curried broccoli soup, Caesar salad, mashed potatoes, peas, and a choice of lamb chops or prawns piccata, with chocolate cake for dessert.

For reservations, call 851-8110.

### Jazz concerts at Filoli

Tickets are now on sale for the 20th annual Jazz at Filoli series. The six summer concerts begin June 27 with the Larry Vuckovich All-Star Band. The next performance is the Nicolas Bearde Quartet on July 11. Concerts are Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Tables and chairs are set up on the tennis court at the Woodside estate. Complimentary snacks and drinks, including beer and wine, will be served. Box lunches are also available, with advance reservations.

Jazz concert tickets are \$60 per person for each concert. Reservations may be made by calling 364-8300, ext. 508.

### Benefit dinner at Marche

Marche Restaurant, at 898 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park, will host a Pacific Coast seafood dinner Friday and Saturday, June 25 and 26, when a portion of proceeds will be donated to the oil spill cleanup in the Gulf Coast. Reservations begin at 5:30 p.m.

For each seafood dinner sold, \$10 will be donated to the Louisiana Bayoukeepers, members of the Waterkeeper Alliance.

The dinner will include Salt Rock Rainbow with ahi tuna, walu and king salmon; confit of Half Moon Bay albacore with olive oil pudding; Hawaiian mero bass and abalone with porcini mushrooms; and Kashiwase Farms peaches.

Cost of the dinner is \$80 per person. Wine pairings will be available at an additional charge of \$59 per person. There also will be a la carte offerings each evening. For reservations, call 324-9092.



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June 23 & August 11  
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Menlo Park



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**Ages 7-11 Kids Camp**  
 Session 2: June 28-30 \$150 (Mon-Wed)  
 Session 4: July 12-16 \$250 (Mon-Fri)

**All Camps run from 9:00am - 2:30pm at the Cartan Field**

**Register online, please visit [menlobaseballcamps.com](http://menlobaseballcamps.com)**  
 Please contact: Jimmy Meuel, Assistant Baseball Coach, Camp Director  
 650-543-3769 or [jmeuel@menlo.edu](mailto:jmeuel@menlo.edu).




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**At Kepler's**

Janelle Brown, Peninsula native and author of "This Is Where We Live," will discuss and sign the novel at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 24, at Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real in Menlo Park. The book tells the story of a young couple who face a series of events that deal a crushing blow to their personal and professional aspirations. Ms. Brown is also an essayist and journalist and spent five years as a senior writer at Salon.com.

Photo by Margo Silver



**LUCILE PACKARD CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**



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 Provided by Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

# Your Child's Health University

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

**BREASTFEEDING SEMINAR**

While breastfeeding is natural, much can be learned to make the "dance" easier and more relaxed. Our certified lactation consultant provides tips for breastfeeding success as well as information on how partners can participate in the feeding process.

- Thursday, July 8: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

**MULTIPLES SEMINARS**

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

- Multiples Breastfeeding Seminar: Thursday, July 15: 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
 - Preparing for Multiples Class: Sunday, July 18: 12:30 - 5:00 pm

**MOVERS & SHAKERS**


Our newest facilitated group is open to mothers and their babies 6-12 months of age. Meetings are topic driven by those in attendance with occasional speaker presentations.

- Every Wednesday, 3:00 - 4:30 pm

**CAR SEAT EDUCATION & INSTALLATION**

The Kohl's Child Safety and Outreach Program at LPCH offers a free car seat check and installation education at LPCH. Appointments can be made online or by calling 650-736-2981.

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.



**Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford**

**POLICE CALLS**

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

**MENLO PARK**

**Residential burglary report:** Two bicycles valued at \$5,000 and \$3,500 stolen, 1000 block of San Mateo Drive, June 8.

**Commercial burglary report:** Computer valued at \$900 stolen, TauTona Group in 4000 block of Campbell Ave., June 9.

**Grand theft reports:**

■ Bicycle valued at \$3,000 stolen, 800 block of Coleman Ave., June 7.

■ Bicycle valued at \$1,200 stolen, 800 block of Roble Ave., June 5.

■ Camera thought to be stolen, 200 block of San Mateo Drive, June 5.

**Auto burglary reports:**

■ UPS trucks broken into and cell phone and tennis shoes valued at \$200 stolen, 1300 block of Adams

Court, June 7.

■ Navigation unit, iPod and iPod charger with total value of \$365 stolen, 900 block of Middle Ave., June 9.

■ Apple iPod valued at \$350 stolen, 1300 block of Almanor Ave., June 10.

**Child Protective Services reports:**

■ 1100 block of Willow Road, June 9.

■ 400 block of Sherwood Ave., June 9.

**WOODSIDE**

**Fraud report:** Unauthorized use of checks resulting in \$6,300 in total losses, 100 block of Corto Lane, June 4.

**Battery report:** Two youths fought and hit law enforcement officers as the officers tried to make arrests during physical altercation between the youths, Woodside High School at 199 Churchill Ave., June 4.

**WEST MENLO PARK**

**Residential burglary report:** Two Social Security cards and U.S. Treasury bonds valued at \$4,000 believed stolen from desk, 1100 block of Sherman Ave., June 7.

## Police substation hits another snag

The city of Menlo Park is contemplating a lawsuit against a land developer it has been working with to build a police substation on Willow Road, near the Belle Haven neighborhood.

The developer is far behind schedule in building the station, and is in violation of a contractual agreement with the city, according to City Manager Glen Rojas.

The two-story, 3,800-square-foot facility was scheduled to open in October 2008, but has been

delayed several times since then. The hold-up began when PG&E didn't respond to requests related to moving power lines underneath the site, but that hasn't been the only cause of the delay, Mr. Rojas said in an interview.

"We're trying to assess what we're going to do," he said. "They're so far behind schedule that we may need to look at other options."

The City Council discussed the issue in closed session at its June 8 meeting.

## July 1 deadline to apply for commissions

Menlo Park residents interested in serving on any of several city commissions have until July 1 to apply.

Seats are available on the housing, library, transportation, environmental quality, and parks and recreation commissions. Commissions are made up of volunteers, and meet once per month. They make recommendations to city staff and the City Council on various policy issues, and sometimes serve as unofficial liaisons between residents and the city.

The City Council selects commission members. While people

can apply for multiple commissions, the city asks that people rank the commissions in order of their preference.

Visit [tinyurl.com/CommApp](http://tinyurl.com/CommApp) to download an application, and to read detailed descriptions of what each commission does. Applications are also available in the city administration building in the Civic Center complex, between Laurel and Alma streets.

For more information, contact City Clerk Margaret Roberts at 330-6620, or [mroberts@menlopark.org](mailto:mroberts@menlopark.org).

# Vigil for victims of Gulf undersea gusher

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

Danna Breen, a resident of Portola Valley, joined people across the nation June 8 in using MoveOn.org to organize some 200 evening vigils for the victims of the oil well disaster in the Gulf of Mexico.

About 25 people from Portola Valley and nearby communities showed up. They formed a standing circle and took turns sharing concerns.

"If we could just live a little more prudently and responsibly," Ms. Breen said, and recommended that people do more to conserve energy personally, including drying their clothes on a clothes line.

Ms. Breen's daughter Tenley read off statistics from the oil disaster, including a report of 238 dead sea turtles and a grave threat to nesting brown pelicans and their annual



Photo by Dave Boyce/The Almanac

A vigil for the victims of the oil well disaster in the Gulf of Mexico drew about 25 people from nearby communities to Triangle Park in Portola Valley on June 8. This woman and her daughters are from San Carlos.

production of 100,000 chicks. She also noted a serious threat to sperm whales in the Gulf.

"From dogcatcher on up, everybody's bought and sold. It's ridiculous," said Elizabeth Feinler of

Menlo Park, expressing outrage toward the oil industry and politicians. "I think that (issue) should be job one. If we get something to happen there, it trickles down to everywhere."

## BOHANNON

continued from page 8

emissions were prominent topics of concern early on, the focus of debate has shifted recently to the question of whether the city would be getting enough money in the speculative deal.

Even more recently, Councilman Andy Cohen told developer David Bohannon that he could not support the project unless he (Mr. Bohannon) funded a major, comprehensive land-use planning study of the city's "light industrial" region, similar to the three-year study currently under way in the city center. Mr. Cohen did not

made that suggestion in the public meetings during the negotiating process.

"With such a plan in place, then I could see supporting a project such as this, as long as I knew that it was part of a larger vision for the area," Mr. Cohen wrote in the letter to Mr. Bohannon, a copy of which he provided to The Almanac on Monday, June 14.

The council as a whole has previously signaled that it did not want to pursue such a study. The city is instead carrying out several separate efforts to plan the large area, a program Mr. Bohannon has said he supports.

"It's no secret that 'let's do more planning' is a euphemism for, 'let's not do anything,'" Mr. Bohannon said in an interview.

On the five-person council, John Boyle, Rich Cline, and Heyward Robinson have signaled general support for the project, though the vote is not certain. Mr. Cohen and Kelly Fergusson have expressed more reservations than their council colleagues. ■

## BIRTHS

### Menlo Park

- Amy and Anthony Desler, a son, June 1, Sequoia Hospital.
- Armita Abadian and Sam Kavusi, a son, June 1, Sequoia Hospital.

### Woodside

- Heather and Owen O'Keeffe, a daughter, May 25, Sequoia Hospital.



## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING TO AUTHORIZE COLLECTION OF A REGULATORY FEE AT EXISTING RATES TO IMPLEMENT THE LOCAL CITY OF MENLO PARK STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Menlo Park will hold a Public Hearing to authorize collection of a regulatory fee at existing rates to implement the local City of Menlo Park Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the City Council will hold this Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 22nd day of June, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, Civic Center at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard.

Any person interested may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to this matter.

Visit the City's website at [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org) for City Council, public hearing, agenda, and staff report information.

Dated: June 1, 2010  
MARGARET S. ROBERTS, MMC, City Clerk

Published in THE ALMANAC on June 9 and June 16, 2010.

## HILDING M. STRANDBERG



Hilding M. Strandberg (age 87)

Passed away June 4, 2010 in Stanford Hospital surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by Patricia, his wife of 61 years, his children and their families: Carol (Bernie), James (Agnes), Richard (Quynh Hoa), Kristen (Fred), Hildi and eight grandchildren. Dr. Strandberg graduated from Colorado State

University in 1946 with a degree in Veterinary Medicine. He owned and operated the Redwood Pet Hospital in Redwood City for many years. Prior to settling in Atherton he served in the US Army

and later in the Air Force attaining the rank of Lt. Colonel. While serving in the US Army he was stationed in post-war Japan where he established the first US Army Veterinary clinic in Tokyo and initiated a rabies immunization and control program. He also advised and worked with Japanese industry in their efforts to re-enter officially approved food processing and exportation facilities.

He was an honor roll member of the AVMA, California VMA, Peninsula VMA and the AAHA. He was a long-time member of the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. His hobbies include hiking, photography and traveling.

A memorial service will be held Friday, June 18th, at 2:00 PM at the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, California. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to the donor's favorite charity.

PAID OBITUARY

## DAMON WEDDING



Damon Wedding, a 53 year Atherton resident has passed away at the age of 89. He is survived by his loving wife, Dona, of 60 years and their three daughters, Linda A. Bonini of San Pedro, CA, Rosemary L. Wedding of Scottsdale, AZ, Cindy M. Keitel and son In-law Eric, of Camarillo, CA along

with a grandson Chris Keitel also of Camarillo, Ca, and a brother Jim Wedding of Columbus, SC.

Damon has been a Farmers Insurance Agent in Menlo Park, CA for the past 35 years. He has also been a member of the Menlo Park Kiwanis Club for 35 years having served as President and was Program Chairman for the last 12 years.

Damon was a native of Kentucky. His first eight years of education was in a one room country school. He worked his way through Western Kentucky University, and graduated in 1943. While there, he trained for four years in the infantry ROTC. He served three and a half years in World War II, which included the Battle

of Okinawa. His last command was that of Company Commander, and his last rank was of Captain.

Following his military service, Damon worked for over twenty years in the Field Sales Dept. of the Pontiac Division of General Motors. In 1948, he met his wife to be, Dona Gearhart in Fresno, Ca and they married in 1949. Soon after their marriage they were transferred to Omaha, NE and lived there until 1957 when Damon was transferred back to California. In 1967 he changed careers and later became a Farmers Insurance Agent.

Damon believed in a strong family commitment and his home was his castle. He loved doing home projects and landscaping. He had great integrity, generosity and kindness.

The Hawaiian Islands were both Damon's and Dona's favorite vacation spot and many trips were made there over the years.

A Memorial Service was held June 15th at 2:00p.m. at the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church at 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, Ca 650-323-8600 with a reception followed. The family has asked that Memorial Donations and gifts be made to the Menlo Park Kiwanis Foundation, P.O. Box 311, Menlo Park, Ca 94026 in Damon's memory.

PAID OBITUARY

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**Editor & Publisher**

Tom Gibboney

**Editorial**

**Managing Editor** Richard Hine

**News Editor** Renee Batti

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**Senior Correspondents**

Marion Softky, Marjorie Mader

**Staff Writers**

David Boyce, Sean Howell

**Contributors** Barbara Wood,

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**Photographer** Michelle Le

**Design & Production**

**Design Director** Raul Perez

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**Advertising**

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Walter Kupiec

**Real Estate Manager** Neal Fine

**Real Estate and Advertising**

**Coordinator** Diane Martin

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**Newsroom: (650) 854-2690**

Newsroom Fax: (650) 854-0677

**Advertising: (650) 854-2626**

Advertising Fax: (650) 854-3650

e-mail news and photos with  
captions to:

[Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com)

e-mail letters to:

[letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com)

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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](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com), and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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

**CALL** the Viewpoint desk at 854-2690, ext. 222.

## Squeezing the Gateway project

With their last-minute, misguided effort to grab a share in the profits of the Menlo Gateway development for the city, Menlo Park City Council members Andy Cohen and Kelly Fergusson have stirred up an unrealistic expectation that could end up scuttling the project altogether.

If such an idea gains a third vote at the council's June 15 meeting, it would be a deal-breaker for the Bohannon Development Co., simply because it would make the project almost impossible to finance. Company vice president David Bohannon said that research by his company could find no other examples in the state in which a developer shared profits with a city.

Perhaps Mr. Cohen and Ms. Fergusson are simply reflecting the beliefs of their supporters who oppose the huge project that involves building three eight-story office towers, a hotel, and several parking garages at Marsh Road and the Bayfront Expressway. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$363 million.

At this writing, it is not clear if council member Heyward Robinson, who often votes with Mr. Cohen and Ms. Fergusson, would join them in opposition or side with Mayor Rich Cline and member John Boyle, who do not see profit-sharing as a deal-breaker and are expected to vote to approve the deal.

Mr. Robinson abstained at a May 25 meeting when council members indicated their feelings on the project, while his colleagues split 2-2.

By permitting office use — rather than sales-tax-generating industrial use in force now on the site — supporters of profit-

sharing see the city giving up a huge windfall to the developers after the buildings are paid for. They believe that the city should get a portion of that cash flow. Estimates by a city-hired consultant show that before expenses, the Menlo Gateway office buildings alone would reap \$35 million per year in rent beyond what a project that maximizes the current zoning would produce.

On the other side, the developers say they will provide major benefits to the city, including a revenue guarantee that is unprecedented in the state. Consultants estimate the project will provide \$1.67 million (plus a more recent pledge of \$150,000 in transit occupancy tax) to the city, not counting nearly \$14 million in mitigation fees and various other payments. The Bohannons agreed to add a one-time payment of \$250,000 to the city's Belle Haven neighborhood last month, in addition to \$1 million already designated for Belle Haven and Bedwell Bayfront Park.

The company also has agreed to a host of environmental stipulations, including an agreement to completely offset carbon emissions generated by the operation of the buildings, reduce vehicle trips to and from the buildings by 17 percent, and build the offices to meet U.S. Green Building Council LEED Gold standards, and the hotel to meet LEED Silver standards.

We believe the city has extracted as much as it can from the Bohannons for Menlo Gateway. The council should approve the project without a profit-sharing restriction on June 15. If members are conflicted or Mr. Robinson continues to abstain, we recommend the council put the issue on the November ballot, an idea Mr. Bohannon himself suggested. That would give both sides ample time to make their case to Menlo Park voters.

**EDITORIAL**

*The opinion of The Almanac*

**LETTERS**

*Our readers write*

**Stanford sees disconnect in editorial**

*Editor:*

The June 2 editorial ("Can Menlo Park live with the hospital project?") ends with a puzzling statement: "Menlo Park must go it alone on this development, without any support from Stanford or Palo Alto."

The author must not have read Palo Alto's recently released draft environmental impact report or been aware of the collaboration between Palo Alto and the city of Menlo Park staff during the preparation of the DEIR. Those discussions lead to specific traffic mitigation measures in the DEIR to be implemented in Menlo Park, if feasible and desired by Menlo Park. These are in addition to the extensive alternative transportation programs for commuting employees to be offered by the Stanford University Medical Center (SUMC) sponsors. Menlo Park features to be supported financially by SUMC sponsors include:

- Traffic adaptive signal technology at Menlo Park intersections;
- Fair share contribution to the

proposed bicycle underpass under the Caltrain tracks at Middle Avenue;

- Coordination with Menlo Park on potentially feasible intersection improvements;

- Fair share payment of the Menlo Park shuttle fee on an ongoing annual basis;

- Fair share payment to increase the frequency of the "U-line" bus service from the East Bay.

The combination of these and numerous other measures described in the DEIR show that no intersections in Menlo Park would experience increased congestion due to future SUMC traffic in the morning peak hour commute period and only three in the evening. And those three can be improved by Menlo Park with contributions from the SUMC sponsors.

It is expected that feasible mitigation measures will be actively discussed with the city of Menlo Park staff while review of the DEIR is under way. But most importantly, the community will receive the benefits of modernized and expanded hospitals, including critically needed emergency facilities.

**Jean McCown**  
Director of Community  
Relations Stanford University

*The Editor replies: Ms. McCown correctly notes that Stanford may help Menlo Park mitigate the 10,000 new vehicle trips per day the new hospital will bring into the area, but mostly through "fair share" negotiations. The editorial's final point was that the university is willing to make upfront impact fee payments to Palo Alto, which must approve the project before construction can begin, while help for Menlo Park comes in "fair share" fees of considerably less value.*

**Wrong solution for Junipero Serra**

*Editor:*

So, cash-strapped Santa Clara County is to spend \$1.5 million to make Junipero Serra Boulevard nicer for about six Stanford faculty residences, forcing traffic onto other routes. That must be gratifying to non-Stanford residents of the county.

If 90 percent of people exceed a speed limit, then that speed limit is not reasonable: it used to be 55 mph, and 45 mph is a safe speed under most conditions. Also it is not clear where the accidents cited occurred, nor why the College Terrace residents have any stake in the change.

At least 90 percent of the traffic

on Junipero Serra is Stanford-related. However, since Stanford traffic has blocked most nearby roads, Junipero Serra is West Menlo Park's main access to Palo Alto. If the process were truly multi-jurisdictional, San Mateo County would have been involved in the planning.

Things that do need to be fixed are for the county to abide by the posted signs that deny access to large trucks along the stretch between Alpine and Page Mill roads; and alter the bike diversion near Campus Drive West. Virtually no one uses it, so vehicular traffic headed to Menlo Park has to cross over the yellow line to avoid cyclists, thus imperiling themselves.

Other improvements needed: trim the vegetation that is a hazard to cyclists; remove debris and landslide material from the bike lane; and construct a decent pedestrian path from Santa Cruz Avenue to Campus Drive so that Stanford people can walk safely to and from campus.

This is just another example of Stanford insulating itself from problems it causes, and shifting them to other neighborhoods.

**Janet Davis**  
2455 Alpine Road, Menlo Park

See **LETTERS**, next page

## Our Regional Heritage

Linden Towers, the ostentatious home of James C. Flood in what is now the Atherton neighborhood of Lindenwood, was completed in 1880 and at the time was the Peninsula's largest and most lavish mansion. It was nearly seven stories high, with a 150-foot tower and was the centerpiece of Mr. Flood's 600-acre estate on the east side of Middlefield Road in Atherton.

Menlo Park  
Historical Association



## LETTERS

Continued from previous page

### Devastated by loss of pet parrot to coyote

Editor:

My parrot was taken off his perch by a coyote last week at 12:30 a.m. I had witnessed a coyote on my property three weeks ago at 10:30 a.m. but my dogs and I were able to chase him away.

Then last week we were awakened by the sound of death and a flock of feathers.

Coyotes are a concern in my neighborhood. Someone lost their poodle to what she believes is a coyote, and five people I know have lost their cats.

I am outraged at the animal-rights advocates who say, "Don't worry, they are of no harm." Have they ever had an animal taken from them in the night? The coyotes are getting more bold and hungry all the time. Must we really wait until a child is taken to do something about this?

They say to call if you see a starving coyote so they can revive it and release it back into the wild. Hello? We do not want them around here.

Yes, we live in the wild but what about rights for domestic animals and people? How many more animals must we lose and whose obligation is it to protect us? We can't even bring dogs on most trails these days and yet it's mountain lion territory.

I have pictures of this beautiful creature of mine that was a baby at 16 and was supposed to live until 85. He was wild and

yet I couldn't release him because he would have been eaten by the wolves and it turns out he was anyway. This is a crime and I am sick with grief and we are devastated by this loss in our family.

Cindy Georgakas  
La Cuesta Way, Woodside

### Stop charging unfair development fees

Editor:

Extortion of deep-pocket neighbors who want to build something is currently the tool of choice for local city councils to meet their budget deficits.

It's one thing to ask project developers to mitigate extra costs to the community generated by a project. If these expenses can be objectively justified, so be it.

However, that certainly is not the case in Menlo Park where the City Council is seriously considering that Bohannon Development Co.'s Menlo Gateway Project should pay 25 percent of its profits to the city for the right to proceed. There is no quid pro quo here. The city didn't pay real estate taxes for years, or run any risk of losses. Why should they share any profits with Bohannon? Will they share any losses?

Similarly, in Palo Alto, the City Council is trying to extort millions of dollars from the Stanford hospital expansion and improvement project over and above the identified mitigation costs. And the Stanford Hospital is not a profit-making operation; it just does life-saving miracles for all of us.

Please, local councils, stop the extortion and find other ways to balance your budgets.

Reginald W. Rice  
Tioga Drive, Menlo Park

### Visioning plan will make bureaucracy grow

Editor:

Do we really want to add to our (already burgeoning) Menlo Park city payroll and retirement obligation?

A majority of residents, merchants and property owners are objecting to the scope of the Menlo Park downtown "Vision" plan. Maintaining the city's small-town atmosphere is clearly what is strongly preferred.

So why will the consultant be recommending five-story parking structures, several hundred new downtown living units, and four- and five-story commercial and mixed-use buildings? Simply because the city planning staff and the city manager have a vested interest and are dictating the results. To them it means growth.

And, as with most bureaucracies, growth means increased staff, more and increased salaries, and increased retirement benefits.

Just the planning process alone has already cost more than \$1 million. How many more desks and more payroll costs will there be in city hall if and when the plan is implemented? And this doesn't even begin to address the traffic, congestion and the reduced quality of life we will all experience.

It's time for the City Council to regroup and take a fresh look at this gargantuan project and learn from a successful small downtown model such as nearby Los Altos.

Robert Ekedahl  
Chateau Drive, Menlo Park

## WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT (the District), in Menlo Park, California, will receive bids from registered pest control companies for furnishing all labor, materials, transportation and services for:

### RODENT AND COCKROACH CONTROL PROGRAM (SANITARY SEWERS) FOR WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

located in Menlo Park, California, each bid to be in accordance with the specifications and other contract documents now on file with the administration office, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025, where they may be examined and copies obtained or go to [www.westbaysanitary.org](http://www.westbaysanitary.org) to download a copy of the bid.

General Scope of Work:

Provide rodent and cockroach control services in the WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT's Sanitary Sewers.

Each bid shall be made out on the proposal form to be obtained at the administration office at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California; shall be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or bid bond for ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid made payable to the order of the WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT; shall be sealed and filed with the administration office at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025, on or before **Wednesday, July 7, 2010 at 2:00pm** and will be opened and publicly read aloud at or about 2:00pm of that day in the boardroom at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025.

In accordance with the provisions of California Food and Agricultural Code Section 11701-11711, the District has determined that the Contractor shall possess a valid **Qualified Applicators License** issued by the State of California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation at the time that the contract is awarded.

The above-mentioned check or bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if awarded to him, and will be declared forfeited if the successful bidder fails to enter into said contract within twenty (20) days after being requested to do so by the WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT, Menlo Park, California.

The Contractor may substitute securities for the amounts retained by the District to ensure performance of the contract in accordance with the provisions of Section 22300 of the Public Contract Code.

The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or waive any informality or honest clerical error in a bid.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of forty-five (45) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

Bidders are hereby notified that the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District (SMCMVCD) will conduct all inspections of contractor's work and the costs of said inspections are to be incorporated in the bidders' Schedule of Proposed Items (PROPOSAL). All work shall be performed to the satisfaction of the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District, 1351 Rollins Road, Burlingame, CA 94010. The District's Rodent and Cockroach Control Program is coordinated through the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District.

West Bay Sanitary District  
Board of Directors  
San Mateo County, California

/s/ Phil Scott  
District Manager  
Dated: June 10, 2010



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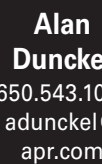
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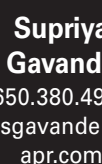
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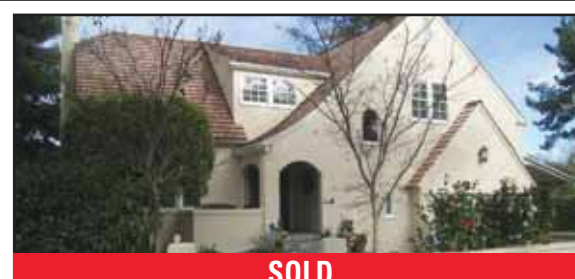
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