

FILM STRIKES CHORD

'RACE TO NOWHERE'

documentary has one principal thinking of 'fundamental changes' in the classroom

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

Insights often have the most value after the occasion has passed and one has had time to ponder the deeper meanings, so it is all the more remarkable that Kelly, a ninth-grader in the documentary "Race to Nowhere," needs just two sentences to capture the multi-faceted dilemma facing many middle- and high-school students today.

"You have to be smart, but also you have to be pretty, and also you have to do sports and you have to be involved in the arts, and you have to find something unique about yourself," Kelly says in the film. "And you have to know yourself before you do all that, you're going to lose yourself."

Vicki Abeles, a mother and former lawyer, co-directed this 2009 documentary that played to

a nearly full house on Jan. 18 at the performing arts center at Woodside High School. Principal David Reilly arranged the presentation, introduced it and took questions afterward.

"Race" is showing again at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church at 330 Ravenswood Ave. in Menlo Park. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

The film is short on data, long on anecdotal testimony from students, parents and educators, and carries a message that should be no surprise: competition for grades and stature has gotten way out of hand, in part thanks to anxious parents attuned to what they believe to be

grim realities in a race to have the right education credentials for their children.

School issues dominate home life as kids are being turned into "little professionals," the film says. "There's so much more to a child's life than what's going on at school," one parent remarks.

The pressure to achieve, the film claims, starts in middle school and just builds. The focus becomes high test scores and the right combination of extracurricular activities to impress admission officers at the right colleges. It's called "doing school," and it is subverting fundamental skills such as problem-solving, working in groups and

thinking critically, the film says.

An attorney in the film notes that her interns, on being given an open-ended writing task, will not infrequently ask her how many paragraphs she wants. "(They) fall apart on non-formulaic questions," she says.

"At Menlo-Atherton High School, there's a lot of concern about how hard students are working now," said M-A parent Terry Aguiar who attended the Woodside showing with her husband. "There's huge pressure to take advanced placement classes and to get As."

The Aguiars attended the screening to get another point of view. Their bottom line: Parents should

exchange views and concerns with other parents, Ms. Aguiar said. "It takes a village," she added.

Engaging the community in education issues is one of the film's recommendations, along with attending to each student's learning style and individual interests, and cutting the homework load.

Less homework

That "Race to Nowhere" was shown at Woodside High is testament to Principal Reilly's concern. "I want my entire staff to see this film," he told the audience afterward. "I think we need to redefine success in this society and it is not (state academic ranking) and preparing for standardized tests."

Research has shown benefits from reducing the homework load, and it would seem to be the low hanging fruit. In the film, an advanced-placement (AP) biology

Photo above and on cover by Michelle Le

ABOVE: David Reilly, principal of Woodside High School, hosted a screening of the documentary film "Race to Nowhere" to a nearly full house at the school's performing arts center in January. Mr. Reilly said that the film led him to reconsider the topic of homework and that he wants his entire staff to see it.

ON THE COVER: A screen grab from the documentary film "Race to Nowhere," an anecdotal portrayal of the intense competitive stress that middle- and high-school students face.

Continued on page 19

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TOWN OF ATHERTON
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2011 SPRING PATCHING
PROJECT NO. 56050

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. APRIL 6, 2011, at which time they will be publicly opened and read, for performing the following work:

Grind and replace approximately 17,000 square feet of asphalt to a six-inch depth. This work to include all necessary traffic control and will involve grinding, sweeping, tack coating, replacing asphalt to appropriate depth in an appropriate number of lifts and finish rolling per town of Atherton Standard specifications (see below) and special provisions included in this document. Some hand work around utility access hole covers will be necessary (special provision #107).

The Engineer's Estimate for the project is: \$100,000

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 2011 SPRING PATCHING, Project No. 56050", along with date and time of bid opening.

Plans and specifications may be obtained at the Town of Atherton's website at www.ci.atherton.ca.us under Bid Solicitation at no cost. Additional important information is contained in Town of Atherton Standard Specifications which are available on line at www.ci.atherton.ca.us/publicworks.html. Contractor shall be responsible for any addendums that may be posted on the Town's website. No Planholders list shall be available.

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 or faxed to (650) 688-6539.

By: _____
Duncan L. Jones, P.E., City Engineer

Date: _____



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CALENDAR

Go to AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more local calendar listings.

Special Events

Town of Woodside's Green Vision

Demonstration of cutting-edge energy saving devices. Explore the new High Energy Home program that will save money and reduce the amount of energy a home wastes. Refreshments. Hosted by Conservation & Environmental Health Committee of the Town of Woodside. March 30, 6:30-9 p.m. Free. Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-575-6940.

Community Events

Compassion Weekend Projects range from construction and landscaping to education and relationship-building. April 2-3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park.

Talks/Authors

'Joe Carcione: The Green Grocer'

Joe Carcione (1914-1988) was well known on radio and television as The Green Grocer. He was famous for his enthusiasm for fruits and vegetables, and his tip of the day — what to buy and when, and how to cook. His sons Pete and Joe Carcione will give a presentation about their father. April 2, 1-2 p.m. Included w/museum admittance: \$3-\$5. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104. www.historysmc.org

Daniel A. Olivas' 'The Book of Want'

"When Moses descended Mount Sinai carrying the Ten Commandments, he never could have foreseen how one family in Los Angeles in the early twenty-first century would struggle to live by them," the publisher says of this book. March 30, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Guy Kawasaki presents his new book, "Enchantment: The Art of Changing Hearts, Minds, and Actions." March 31, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Jenny Blake discusses her new book, "Life After College: The Complete Guide to Getting What You Want." March 24, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Joshua Foer discusses his book "Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything." March 28, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Margo True, the food editor at Sunset Magazine, discusses her new book: "The One-Block Feast: An Adventure in Food from Yard to Table." March 23, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Benefits

MPAEF 'Rock the Foundation'

Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation hosts "Rock the Foundation," a party, dance and auction. All proceeds benefits the children of Laurel, Encinal, Oak Knoll and Hillview Middle School. Music by Pride & Joy. Silent auction for parties, getaways, fine wine and special teacher events. April 9, 7 p.m. to midnight. \$85. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. Call 650-325-0100. mpaef.org

Treasure Market 2011 Fine arts and collectibles sale to benefit the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University. Jewelry, furs, art, furniture, china, books, silver and more. Friday night opening party includes hors d'oeuvres and drinks (\$75 members/\$100 nonmembers). March 25-27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$5 Saturday and Sunday. Treasure Market 2011, Arriaga Center 341 Galvez St., Stanford. Call 650-723-2997. museum.stanford.edu/TM

Classes/Workshops

Computer Coaching One-on-one tutoring sessions on computer use are available every Monday. Noon-1 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. www.smcl.org/en/node/2842

e-Book Drop-In Session An information session on downloadable library materials. April 4, 5 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560.

Intermediate Photoshop Elements Retouch photos using Photoshop Elements. Learn how to smooth wrinkles and blemishes, whiten teeth, change eye color, and apply decorative borders, filters and more. April 2, 9:30 a.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-0147.

Sustainable Urban Gardening Classes Classes on growing urban edibles will now be held at Little House. Next class is March 24, 10

a.m.-noon. \$30. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-326-2025 ext. 221.

Kids & Families

Carnival of Chaos Comedy will present a comedy variety act including juggling, stunts and music. March 31, 4:30-5:15 p.m. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Doctor Noize Children's musician Doctor Noize performs March 30 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; and April 3 at 3 p.m. \$10. Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-4930. www.doctornoize.com

Paws for Tales Pet Assisted Therapy teams and their handlers are from the SPCA's Paws for Tales program. Sign up in advance. April 2, 11 a.m. to noon. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Science Storytime with Mariela

Kleiner Mariela Kleiner will introduce the work of Einstein and basic science concepts to kids. March 27, 11:30 a.m. Free. Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com

Tomato and Pepper Plant Sale Heirloom, popular and unusual varieties of tomato and pepper seedlings will be sold. Grown organically from seed by Master Gardeners of San Mateo and San Francisco Counties. Sales are cash and check only. April 2, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. College of San Mateo Greenhouse, 13 Happy Hollow Lane, Menlo Park. Call 650-854-3901.

Et Alia

'Women and Jazz' Marcus Shelby brings his trio to San Mateo County Library for a musical presentation that reflects the works of female jazz composers and celebrates pioneering women in American history. March 28, 7 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422.

Luciano Chessa Berkeley-based Italian composer, performer and scholar Luciano Chessa presents a program including Joan La Barbara's "Hear what I feel" and the premiere of Sylvano Bussotti's "Variazioni Chessa." April 9, 2-3:30 p.m. \$10 general admission; \$5 students with ID; free for Sequoia Union High School District students. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. Call 650-279-4278. www.maacmusic.org

'RACE TO NOWHERE'

Continued from page 17

teacher notes that grades went up after he cut his class's homework in half.

But changing the homework regimen at Woodside High would involve "a huge paradigm shift," Mr. Reilly said in an interview. "Teachers would have to reflect on how to maximize their use of instructional time. How do we fulfill and complete assessments within the class period, which then takes away from instructional time?"

"It's a completely different way of delivering content," he added. "You have to make fundamental changes in the classroom."

For example? Having students get lectures via personal computer and save homework for the classroom, where help is available and distractions are fewer, he said. It's a "very, very interesting" concept called "reverse" or "flipping" school, Mr. Reilly said.

Homework battles would no longer involve parents. Students, their option of coasting through lectures now gone, would be demonstrating their understanding or lack of it in real time. An online discussion group could allow students to discuss the lecture before class.

"This would level the playing field a little bit," Mr. Reilly said, referring to advantages enjoyed by kids who have such discussions with knowledgeable parents. "That's an example of a paradigm shift. That's not easy. That takes time."

Woodside High has five in-school programs for students of all abilities to discuss class work and do homework, Mr. Reilly said. New in January is the Honors Consortium program, one evening per week for honors and AP students to work independently or in a group and to review material with a teacher.

What is the right amount of homework, and what does it accomplish?

Homework can be a sorting tool to winnow out students who can't complete it, and who are then "systematically denied opportunities" that other students enjoy, said Diane Tavenner, the co-founder of Summit Preparatory Charter High School in Redwood City, in an interview.

"We are very aware of the research about homework," she said. Summit students get no more than 30 minutes per day per class. With five subjects, that two and a half hours a night, and it's commonly completed before

going home, Ms. Tavenner said.

The school offers two hours of after-school support every day plus a free daily study hour with teacher and technology resources. The challenge for teachers is to make homework meaningful and avoiding "learning out of the classroom," she said.

Typical college prep schools have much higher loads, sometimes as much as seven hours a night, she said.

Students surveyed at Atherton's private co-ed Menlo School for grades 6-12 reported two and a half hours a night, Upper School Director John Schafer told the Almanac.

School administration recommends between 20 and 40 minutes per day per class, with ninth-graders at the lower end of that range, Mr. Schafer said, noting that the time actually needed varies by student ability.

There's a point at which more is not better, he added. If 10 math problems can do the job, why assign 25? ■

INFORMATION

"Race to Nowhere" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 330 Ravenswood Ave. in Menlo Park. Tickets are \$15 at the door.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 4, 2011

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

PUBLIC MEETING ITEM

2011-12 Capital Improvement Program/General Plan Consistency:

Consideration of consistency of the 2011-2012 projects of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan with the General Plan.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that said Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on public hearing items in the Council Chambers of the City of Menlo Park, located at 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, on **Monday, April 4, 2011**, 7:00 p.m. or as near as possible thereafter, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon. If you challenge this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

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

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

DATED: March 17, 2011 Deanna Chow, Senior Planner
PUBLISHED: March 23, 2011 Menlo Park Planning Commission

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



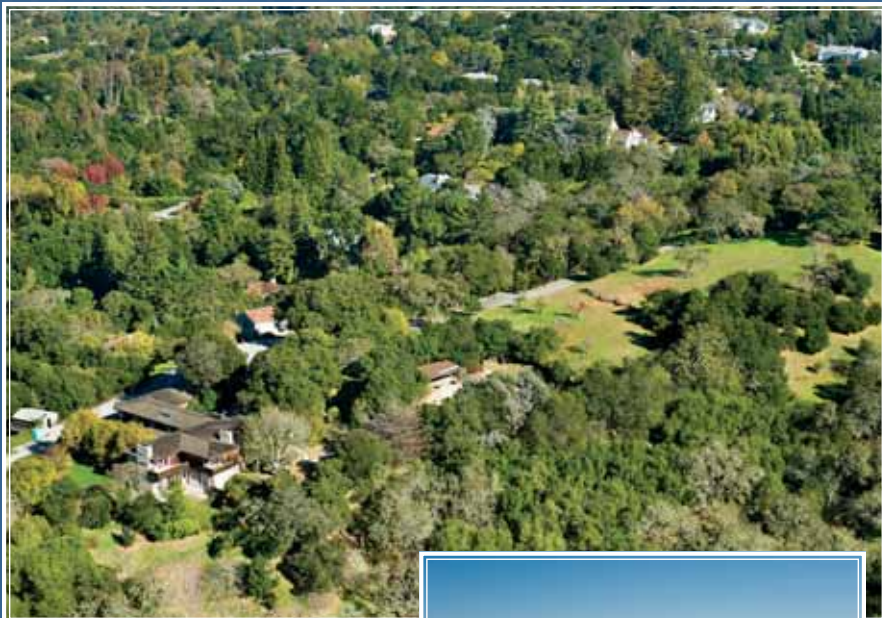
TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO THE OPEN SPACE, CONSERVATION AND RECREATION ELEMENTS OF THE TOWN GENERAL PLAN AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD OF PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the town's general plan on April 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., Town Hall (Historic Schoolhouse), 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California. The proposed amendments are contained in the document "Public Hearing on General Plan Amendments: Conservation Element, Open Space Element and Recreation Element, and Related CEQA Findings" dated March 1, 2011. Copies of the report may be inspected at Portola Valley Town Hall and on the town web site at PortolaValley.net. The changes include the definition of "open space preserve" as recently adopted by the town council as well as related changes, updating and reorganization of the text. The Planning Commission will consider all evidence, written and oral pertaining to the proposed amendments and will make recommendations to the Town Council. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Planning Commission to be heard at the time and place herein above mentioned.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a proposed negative declaration regarding the above mentioned general plan amendments has been prepared and is available for review. The Planning Commission of the Town of Portola Valley will consider the proposed negative declaration at its meeting on April 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., Town Hall (Historic Schoolhouse), 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California. The review period will extend to March 30, 2011. Comments may be submitted in writing prior to the Planning Commission meeting. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Planning Commission at the time and place herein above mentioned. Copies of the proposed negative declaration are available at Portola Valley Town Hall, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California. Dated: March 15, 2011

Signed: _____
CheyAnne Brown, Building and Planning Assistant



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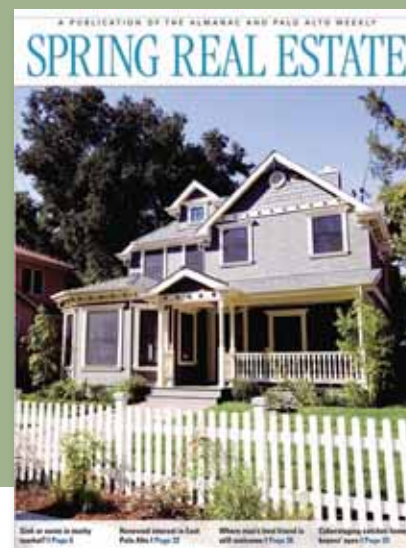


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MODERN TRADITIONALISM, PALO ALTO \$3,795,000
5 BR 3.5 BA Dwntrwn/Professorville Victorian renovated
in 2007 w/best of contemporary/modern finishes.
Zach Trailer 650.325.6161



NEW LISTING! PORTOLA VALLEY \$1,649,000
3 BR 2 BA Light & bright, updated Ladera home located
on a desirable & quiet on a cul-de-sac.
Karen Fryling/Rebecca Johnson 650.324.4456



NEW LISTING! MENLO PARK \$879,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Spacious town home located close to
parks, shops and restaurants.
Pam & Katie Hammer 650.324.4456



BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED, MENLO PARK \$874,900
3 BR 2 BA Beautifully updated. Refinished hardwood
floors. Skylights. Master suite. 2-car garage.
Ken Morgan/Arlene Gault 650.328.5211



STUNNING HOME ON AN ACRE, ATHERTON \$2,478,000
Elegant living room, gourmet kitchen, spacious family
room. Acre+ with pool.
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751



PRIVATE AND QUIET, MENLO PARK \$2,139,000
This beautifully remod. & spacious Sharon Heights
home of approx 2900+ sf is move-in ready!
Maya & Jason Sewald 650.323.7751

ATHERTON

OVER 1 ACRE \$11,500,000
7 BR 7 full BA + 2 half Newly constructed 3-level
home, cabana & pool on over 1 acre | Tom LeMieux,
650.323.7751

MUST SEE! \$6,495,000
6 BR 7 full BA + 3 half Exceptional Atherton Estate
with entertainment complex. | Hugh Cornish,
650.324.4456

CLASSIC REMODELED HM-1 AC \$4,388,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Classic remodeled home on over
1-acre. Cul-de-sac. Pool, tennis court, wine room,
more! | John & Janet Dore, 650.324.4456

LINDENWOOD CUL-DE-SAC \$3,995,000
5 BR 5 BA Updated home, guesthouse & studio on
cul-de-sac. | Tom LeMieux, 650.323.7751

GORGEOUS REMODEL \$3,295,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Elegant living room, gourmet kitchen,
exquisite master suite, lovely lot with pool. | Keri
Nicholas, 650.323.7751

COUNTRY LANE CUL-DE-SAC \$3,195,000
5 BR 3.5 BA Sunny home & private gorgeous lot
with ample guest parking, expansive lawns, pool &
patio. | Barbara Piuma, 650.851.2666

MENLO PARK

CUL-DE-SAC CENTRAL MENLO \$2,195,000
4 BR 3 BA Cul-de-sac. Remodeled kitchen. Mstr
bdrm with walk-in & remodeled bath. 2-car garage;
Spa. | Kristin Cashin, 650.614.3500

CHARMING FELTON GABLES \$2,125,000
3 BR 3.5 BA Polished details throughout this prop-
erty with vaulted ceilings and hardwood floors. |
Tammy Cole, 650.614.3500

DOWNTOWN LIVING! \$1,398,750
3 BR 3 BA New construction! High-end finishes.
Steps to downtown Menlo Park. | Nathalie de Saint
Andrieu, 650.324.4456

JUST LISTED! \$1,335,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Sophisticated home in downtown MP.
9-ft ceilings in kitchen/FR. Luxurious MST BR suite.
| Lyn Jason Cobb, 650.324.4456

3-LEVEL PARK FOREST HOME \$1,050,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Chic living! Updated home with soar-
ing ceilings, great room kit & private garden terrace.
| Tom LeMieux, 650.323.7751

MENLO PARK

MENLO PARK CUL-DE-SAC \$945,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Spacious multi-level townhse w/
LR, formal DR, eat-in kit., loft, 2-car garage & patio
garden | Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh, 650.851.1961

LOW-CHORE LIVING \$939,000
2 BR 2 BA Charming unit with many amenities. 2
car garage. | Susan Berry, 650.614.3500

PRIME MP LOCATION! \$768,000
2 BR 2 BA Spacious 1-level condo. Generous LR,
DR, Master. Hi ceilings, HW flrs. Lovely patio. Garage.
| Dan Ziony, 650.325.6161

NEAR BURGESS PARK \$699,000
2 BR 2 BA Gorgeous, remodeled cottage-style
townhm located w/in lush setting - off of Alma St. |
Julie Spillane, 650.325.6161

LINCOLN GREEN COMPLEX! \$389,000
Remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Property includes
covered parking and storage. | Joe Carcione,
650.614.3500

PRICE REDUCED! \$388,000
2 BR 2 BA Beautiful Menlo Commons unit. This
55+ community is minutes to everything MP has to
offer! | Hickingbotham IV, 650.324.4456

PALO ALTO

NEW SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN \$5,498,000
6 BR (5 en suite + 2.5 BA) Beautiful 5900sf new
home in PA's most culturally rich neighborhood. |
Lan L. Bowling, 650.328.5211

OLD PALO ALTO \$4,995,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Stunning home on approx 10,000sf lot
in PA's most sought-after location. Formal LR & DR.
| Zach Trailer, 650.325.6161

CRESCENT PARK ESTATE \$3,998,000
7 BR 6.5 BA Exceptional Crescent Park Estate. 3
story home- 7 beds, 6.5 baths, on 18,600 sf lot. Pool
| Leannah Hunt & Laurel Robinson, 650.325.6161

A VICTORIAN STYLE GEM! \$2,095,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Elegant Victorian Style 4 large bed/2.5
bath, Separate dining room, formal living room. |
Pooneh Fouladi, 650.325.6161

STUNNING MEDITERRANEAN \$1,888,000
4 BR 3 BA Stunning Mediterranean built in '06.
Located on tree-lined street in Midtown. | Sharon
Witte, 650.325.6161

PALO ALTO

DOWNTOWN LIVING \$1,065,000
2 BR 2 BA Prime location w/all the amenities. 2 car
parking w/storage. Easy access to downtown PA. |
Kristin Cashin, 650.614.3500

DOWNTOWN PA TOWNHOME \$995,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Lovely Downtown PA Townhome.
Updated kitchen, private patio, bright living spaces,
pool. | Zach Trailer, 650.325.6161

CLEAN & COMFY HOME \$929,000
3 BR 2 BA Extra large lot, freshly painted and car-
peted. Hardwood floors and beam ceilings. | Cathy
McCarty, 650.614.3500

SECLUDED HOME IN NORTH PA \$850,000
2 BR 1 BA Secluded Private Home in the Walter
Hays Elem District. Fenced Yard, Hwd Flrs, Fireplace
| Leannah Hunt & Laurel Robinson, 650.325.6161

2-YEAR NEW TOWNHOME \$845,000
3 BR 3 BA Elegant 2-year new townhome, many
green built w/energy efficient features. | Judy Shen,
650.328.5211

PORTOLA VALLEY

EUROPEAN-INSPIRED ESTATE \$11,000,000
5 BR 5 full BA + 2 half Custom built in 2003,
Exquisite home, expansive kitchen, library, media rm,
gsthse, pool. | Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh, 650.851.1961

LUXURY LIVING \$6,395,000
3 BR 3.5 BA Stunning steel & glass architecture by
Tobin Dougherty. Set on a private knoll with views. |
Scott Dancer, 650.851.2666

EXQUISITE REMODEL \$3,495,000
4 BR 2 BA + 2 half-BAs (1BR currently is an
office), add. office, tennis ct, spa. www.190PortolaRoad.
com | Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh, 650.851.1961

PRIME WESTRIDGE PARCEL \$2,995,000
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www.187Bolivar.com | Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh,
650.851.1961

VACATION YEAR ROUND \$2,150,000
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pool, lawn, terraces | Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh,
650.851.1961

PORTOLA VALLEY

LANDMARK ESTATE \$1,949,000
2 BR 1.5 BA 2 guest houses, Large Artist Studio/
Workshop & Horse Corral and Stable on 1 ac. PV
Schls. | Steven Lessard, 650.851.2666

PRIME LADERA \$1,789,000
4 BR 2 BA Fabulous home in prime Ladera with
view and level yard. | Keri Nicholas, 650.323.7751

TONS OF CHARM! \$1,699,000
6 BR 3 BA Wonderful home w/view of Windy Hill.
Sunny and bright! Very flexible floorplan. | Bonnie
Biorn, 650.324.4456

WOODSIDE

20 PRIME ACRES \$14,900,000
7 BR 6.5 BA 20 prime acres adj. to the town of
Atherton. Magnificent views of SF Bay & glorious
hills. | Steven Lessard, 650.851.2666

THE BUCK ESTATE \$12,900,000
6 BR 7 full BA + 2 half Designed by noted architect
Albert Farr, who modeled Buck after Hampton
Court. 2.86 ac. | Scott Dancer, 650.851.2666

OLD WORLD CRAFTSMANSHIP \$8,995,000
4 BR 3 full BA + 2 half New Eastern style home
on 3.25 ac w/guesthouse, pool and wrap-around
veranda. | Ed Kahl, 650.851.2666

MUST SEE! \$5,895,000
5 BR 4 BA Custom-built home situated on beauti-
fully landscaped 5.67 ac at the end of a cul-de-sac. |
Hanna Shacham, 650.324.4456

RESORT STYLE LIVING \$3,598,000
4 BR 4.5 BA Private & serene 1+ ac setting w/pool
& tennis ct. 4100 sf of high quality construction. |
Berdine Jernigan & Sally Lau, 650.851.2666

SUNNY PRIVATE SETTING \$3,295,000
3 BR 2 BA Main house w/LR, fam. rm, designer kitch-
en. 1BR/2BR guesthse w/den. Pool, tennis & horse fac.
| Ginny & Joe Kavanaugh, 650.851.1961

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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Huge Used Book Sale April 9-10
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Jazz Sunday Apr. 3 in Menlo Park
Palo Alto Stories
Spring Break Science Camp
Spring Down Horse Show March 6th

130 Classes & Instruction

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140 Lost & Found

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Runaway Cat!

145 Non-Profits Needs

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please donate your used books

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feed homeless cats (PA or MV)
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11'460 mile ultraGentlyUsed garagd incl nuGarminGPS 650-868-0608

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to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. 888-902-6851. (Cal-SCAN)

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Stanford, Arrillage Center For Sports & Recreation, 3/26-3/27

215 Collectibles & Antiques

1930's Style Mickey Mouse Framed - \$5.00
Disney's Donald Duck Framed 50's - \$25.00
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Mickey Mouse Holiday Animation - \$30.00
Org. Disneys Donald Duck Straws - \$20.00
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220 Computers/ Electronics

Asian Scales. Looking For Franch - \$70
HDMI CABLE FOR BLUE RAY NEW - \$10.00
IBM Selectric II Typewriter - \$350
LASER PRINTER/COPIER: Xerox

230 Freebies

applaiances - FREE
Free cat - FREE

240 Furnishings/ Household items

Felix Charles Table & Chairs - \$550
2 Teak Armchairs - \$700
24 poster, cannonball twin beds - \$200.00
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Felix Charles Table and chairs - \$450
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NICE WOOD STORAGE BOXES - \$50
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Public Notices

26 ■ **The Almanac** ■ March 23, 2011

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YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NDEX WEST, LLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 04/15/2008 as Instrument No. 2008-041877 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of SAN MATEO County, State of CALIFORNIA. EXECUTED BY: JENNIFER HELEN ADAMS AND ANTHONY HAYWARD ADAMS, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 04/05/2011 TIME OF SALE: 12:30 PM PLACE OF SALE: AT THE MARSHALL ST. ENTRANCE TO THE HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS, 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY, CA. STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 5933 ALPINE ROAD, PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94028 APN#: 080-030-090-7 FKA 080-030-090 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$1,147,145.10. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: PRIORITY POSTING & PUBLISHING, INC. 17501 IRVINE BLVD., SUITE ONE TUSTIN, CA 92780 714-573-1965 www.priority-posting.com NDEx West, L.L.C. as Trustee Dated: 03/10/2011 NDEx West, L.L.C. MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. P808428 3/16, 3/23, 03/30/2011
Almanac

Foreclosure No. 3539563 LAD No. 4476605 APN#077-271-140-4 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On 3/29/2011, at 12:30PM Mid Valley Title and Escrow Company, Trustee, or Successor Trustee or Substituted Trustee of that certain Deed of Trust executed by Hen P. Truong and Dora M. Garcia, trustees of The Dora Maria Garcia Trust dated April 30, 1992 recorded 03/06/2007 as Instrument No. 2007-033942, of Official Records of San Mateo County, California and pursuant to that certain Notice of Default thereunder recorded 6/24/2010 as instrument No. 2010069089, of Official records of said County, will under and pursuant to said Deed of Trust sell at public auction for cash, lawful money of the United States of America, a cashier's check payable to said Trustee drawn on a State or National Bank, a check drawn by a State or Federal Credit Union, or a check drawn by a State or Federal Savings and Loan Association, or Savings Bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and Authorized to do Business in this State, at At the Marshall St. entrance to the Hall of Justice and Records, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA all that right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: shown on said Deed of Trust. (X) The street address or other common designation of said property: 250 Alamos Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (X) Name and address of the beneficiary at whose request the sale is being conducted: Caldwell Trust, James and Roberta ttees, 328 Monterey Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010 Directions to the above property may be obtained by requesting same in writing from

the beneficiary within 10 days for the first publication of this notice. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, as to title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the unpaid balance due on the note or notes secured by said Deed of Trust and interest plus the following estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Sale: \$498,092.87 Notice To Property Owner YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 2/26/2007 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. For Sales Information please call 714-573-1965 or refer to priority-posting.com Dated 3/3/2011 The undersigned mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent for the mortgagee or beneficiary declares that the mortgagee or beneficiary has satisfied the requirements of California Civil Code 2923.5.: Mid Valley Title And Escrow Company Address: 601 Main Street Chico, California 95928 Phone: (530) 893-5644 By: Greg Wood, Foreclosure Officer P809441 3/9, 3/16, 03/23/2011
Almanac

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 10-0162666 Title Order No. 10-0006668 APN No. 077-151-050-0 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 11/26/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.' Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by ARTHUR HU, AND JOHNNIE HU, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, dated 11/26/2007 and recorded 12/14/07, as Instrument No. 2007-175855, in Book , Page), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of San Mateo County, State of California, will sell on 04/13/2011 at 12:30PM, At the Marshall Street entrance to the Hall of Justice, 400 County Center, Redwood City, San Mateo County, CA at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any of the real property described above is purported to be: 20 ALISO WAY, PORTOLA VALLEY, CA, 94028. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$903,556.42. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. If required by the provisions of section 2923.5 of the California Civil Code, the declaration from the mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent is attached to the Notice of Trustee's Sale duly recorded with the appropriate County Recorder's Office. DATED: 03/16/2011 RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA

93063 Phone/Sale Information: (800) 281 8219 By: Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. FEI # 1006.129392 3/16, 3/23, 3/30/2011
Almanac

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
LENORA ANN FITTING
Case No.: 120954

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LENORA ANN FITTING.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: JOAN M. SCOTT in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO.

The Petition for Probate requests that: JOAN M. SCOTT be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 8, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 28 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063, Southern Branch.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
/s/ J. Robert Taylor
541-B Cowper St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
(650)322-4433
(The Almanac March 23, 30, April 6, 2011)

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
MYRTLE L. ATKINSON FOUNDATION
"The MYRTLE L. ATKINSON FOUNDATION'S report for 2010 will be on file at its office, 5 Pembroke Place, Menlo Park, for a period of 60 days. Anyone who is interested may call (925) 254-5040 for an appointment to review it"
(Almanac March 23, 2011)



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