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TOP STORIES OF 2011

PAGE 5





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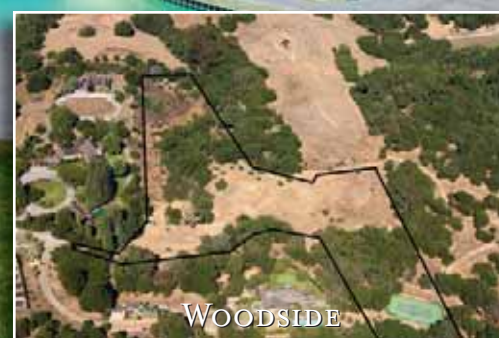
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Photo by Melinda Weck (Peter's wife)

Lima Bear series co-author Peter Weck and his three girls.

Bedtime stories with a message

Father, son collaborate on three books for children

By Jane Knoerle
Almanac Lifestyle Editor

Peter Weck grew up enjoying his father's bedtime stories about Lima Bear and his friends. Now the father of three little girls, he has teamed up with his dad to capture these and other stories in print.

Peter Weck lives in Atherton. His father, Thomas Weck, lives in Wilmington, Delaware. They have collaborated on three books for children, ages 4 to 8, that not only make good bedtime reading, but carry a message.

"Lima Bear Press has a very straightforward mission: to publish children's stories that are engaging, imaginative, and humorous while each carries an important life message, such as tolerance, honesty, or courage," the publisher said.

In the first book in the series, "The Megasaurus," the bean-shaped bears of Beandom are under attack by a monster who loves eating beans. The king-

dom's wise owls all have ideas on how to get rid of the monster, but an ordinary bear, L. Joe Bean, provides the solution. The message? Learn to follow your own convictions, even when others think differently.

Each book also includes an "extend the learning" page and an activity page.

"The Megasaurus," "The Cave Monster," and "How Back-Back Got his Name" are the first three titles in the Lima Bear Stories series published this year by Lima Bear Press. The authors are planning 10 books for the series.

The dust-jacketed hardcover books are handsomely illustrated by Len DiSalvo, who teaches art illustration and animation at the Art Center Design College in Tucson, Arizona.

Peter Weck, whose daughters are now 2, 4 and 6, grew up on the bedtime stories his father told about Lima Bear and his friends. "I memorized every word. And when he changed a story, even a little bit, I would correct him," he says with a laugh.

Mr. Weck, a resident of Atherton since 2003, has lived in the Bay Area since 1989. He grew up in Madison, New Jersey, and came west to attend Cal Berkeley.

After working at Hewlett-Packard, he founded his first startup company in 1996. He is currently CEO of StoryJumper, a web-based company that enables anyone to create and illustrate children's stories. He also serves on the board of the Menlo Park Library Foundation.

He says his goal is to help children foster a love for creating, reading and listening to stories.

Thomas Weck is the former



Thomas Weck

See PETER WECK, page 11

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Local News

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Top stories of 2011

By Almanac Staff

What happened in 2011? The better question might be: What didn't happen?

Menlo Park

Not much happened in Menlo Park this year. OK, maybe a little happened.

Let's start with the news no one has heard: Facebook moved to Menlo Park! The social networking giant took up residence at the old Sun/Oracle Campus now known as 1 Hacker Way. The blessings the move will confer on the city remain to be seen, but according to the environmental impact report for the planned campus expansion, they include the potential for snarled traffic alongside the economic benefits.

Both the El Camino Real/downtown specific plan and high-speed rail got more expensive this year: the specific plan to the tune of \$225,980,

to make community-inspired changes, and high-speed rail by at least \$62.5 billion.

On the other hand, unions cost less, as the council negotiated pay freezes and benefit cuts for city employees, bringing Menlo Park closer to implementing Measure L, the pension reform initiative passed in 2010. Several senior staff won't be around to see the impact: City Manager Glen Rojas, Public Works Director Kent Steffens, and Business Development Director David Johnson all rode off into the sunset.

The year also brought tragedies as drive-by shootings, bicycle accidents, and a laboratory explosion killed people within the community.

The Menlo Park review would not be complete without revisiting one of the wackier campaign moments in recent memory. What appeared to be the missing cellphone of John

Woodell, husband of Councilwoman Kirsten Keith and a figure in local Democratic circles, mysteriously turned up in a neighbor's bushes next to an uprooted campaign sign for Republican Virginia Chang Kiraly. Mr. Woodell has assured the public that he would never mess with a campaign sign.

Ms. Kiraly, along with fellow newcomer Rob Silano, won a seat on the Menlo Park Fire Protection District Board. Both victors were endorsed by local unions despite supporting pension reform, which may have helped them beat incumbent Bart Spencer, who lost the seat he'd held on the board for 12 years.

Atherton

The word of the year in Atherton is "interim." It's a word that reflects a year of uncommon change in Town Hall administration and promises continuing shifts and adjustments in 2012.



Photo courtesy of the American Institute of Architects/San Mateo Chapter

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg checks out the emerging new vision of Belle Haven as the yellow team turns the community's wish list into realistic designs. Standing next to him is Facebook's director of real estate, John Tenanes, and at the far right, Menlo Park's business development manager Dave Johnson listens to the discussion.

The year unfolded with the Jan. 3 assumption of city management duties, on an interim basis, by John Danielson, a retired former city manager of Elk Grove and Wildomar, California. At year's end, four top administrative jobs in the

town, including city manager, are held by interim employees.

But other words also aptly describe Atherton's employment scene over the last 12 months — for example: "shock," and

See **TOP STORIES**, page 8

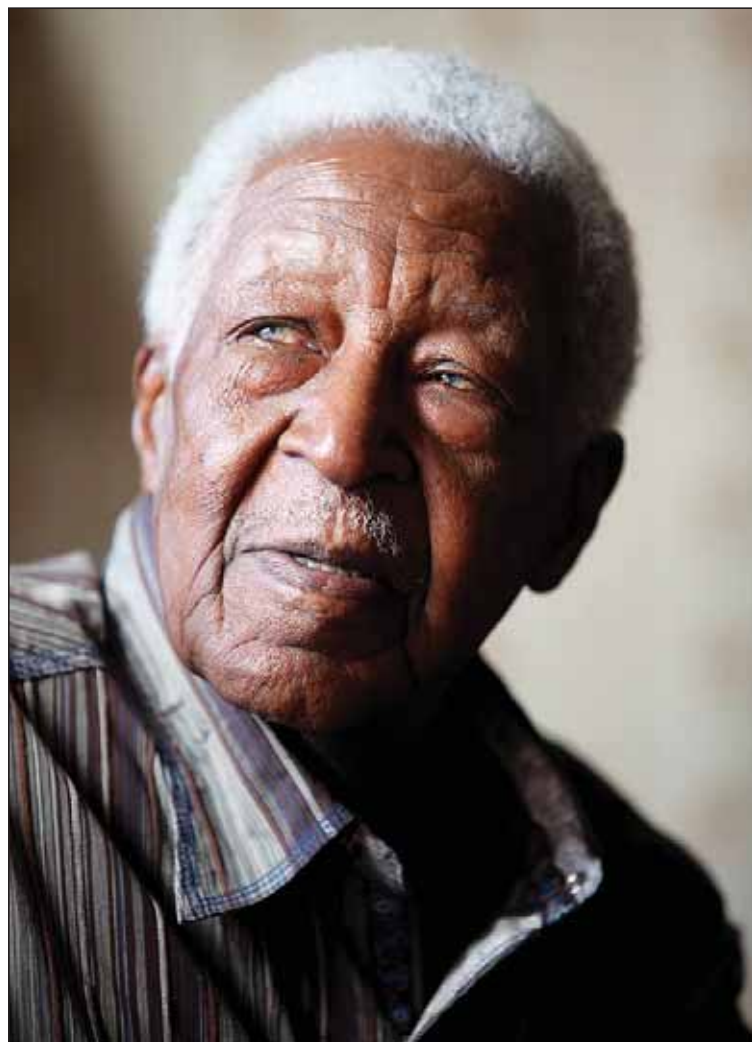


Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Carl Clark belatedly honored for World War II heroism

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

Carl Clark, a 95-year-old African-American war veteran and longtime Menlo Park resident, received an early Christmas gift Thursday afternoon, Dec. 22, in the form of a phone call from Congresswoman Anna Eshoo: Mr. Clark will be recognized, for his heroic, life-saving actions 66 years ago, aboard a ship attacked by kamikaze planes during World War II, the congresswoman informed him.

Ms. Eshoo had been informed of the development that afternoon as well, and following her phone call, her office sent out a news release hailing the decision by the U.S. Navy to award the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with the Combat Distinguishing Device for his heroism in the aftermath of the May 3, 1945, attack on the USS Aaron Ward.

"Today I'm proud to announce Carl Clark is at long last being properly acknowledged by his country as a true American hero

who has saved the lives of many of his shipmates and played an undeniably significant role" in saving the Aaron Ward, she wrote.

"It is a singular privilege to be in a position to correct the record for those who have fought to preserve our freedoms," she said. "Carl Clark served our nation during a time when the Navy was deeply segregated and a culture of racism was prevalent.

"His courage stands as a symbol of the greatness of our nation, and this award, also given to Senator John McCain, calls out Mr. Clark as a true American hero."

Saving the ship

The belated recognition is largely the result of Congresswoman Eshoo's efforts over the last two years, and Mr. Clark, reached by phone in his Belle Haven home late Thursday afternoon, acknowledged those efforts.

"It makes me feel so grateful that somebody had enough faith in what I did and what it meant to our country," he told

the Almanac.

Mr. Clark joined the Navy in the 1930s, when blacks could serve only as mess attendants — essentially, officers' servants, he explained.

He was one of six black men aboard the Aaron Ward when it was attacked around sunset by six kamikaze planes, which turned the ship "into a junkyard," Mr. Clark said in an earlier interview. He was also the only black man in an eight-person damage-control unit, which was to spring into action during any attack to put out fires and take on other urgent roles.

When the first signs of the attack were apparent, Mr. Clark recalled, the seven other men in the unit huddled in one area of the deck, yards away from him. When the first plane hit, all seven men were killed. Mr. Clark was flung up against an overhead structure, breaking his collarbone; his helmet and shoes were blown off his body.

See **WAR HERO**, page 9

Carl Clark waited 66 years for recognition of his courageous actions.

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Council appeals to agency to keep interim manager

By Barbara Wood

Special to the Almanac

■ **ATHERTON**

One of the few things the warring Atherton City Council members can agree on is that they like the job John Danielson, the interim city manager, is doing for them.

According to state law governing retired public employees, however, he's already worked for the town for the maximum term of a year that a retiree may work for the same public employer while receiving retirement benefits.

In order to try to get around the rule, the council voted on Dec. 21 to send a letter of appeal to the state Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) board asking that Mr. Danielson, a retired city manager of Elk Grove, be allowed to stay in Atherton for up to one more year.

The letter paints a dire picture of the current state of staffing in Atherton's town offices.

"At present, the key positions of Police Chief, Finance Director, Public Works Director, and Building Official are filled with interim or new contract employees," the letters says. "We have no Assistant City Manager, no City Clerk, and 13 of 16 general employees were laid off due to

financial constraints. In short, we are in the middle of a fiscal restructuring that has been orchestrated and planned by Mr. Danielson."

In fact, the original letter presented to the council was so dire that newly-appointed mayor Bill Widmer, who must sign the letter, asked to have it toned down. "If I need to sign it I would like it to be true," Mr. Widmer said. "I think we could be a little softer with our analysis of the current situation."

Council member Elizabeth Lewis came up with an acceptable solution: Instead of saying the "situation has actually deteriorated during the past year," she suggested the letter say "it has gotten better because of city manager John Danielson's leadership."

Mayor Widmer said he hopes it will take far less than a year to find a permanent city manager.

The letter says that Mr. Danielson may also be needed by the town to respond to lawsuits that have been filed during his tenure. City attorney William Conners said the suits were filed by some of the employees laid off by the town during the last year when Atherton contracted out most of its building and public works jobs. ■

Council sets rules for new library in the park

By Barbara Wood

Special to the Almanac

As consultants prepare to analyze the environmental impacts of the new library proposed for town-owned Holbrook-Palmer Park, the Atherton City Council has clarified three aspects of the project.

The actual library design will not be determined until the environmental impact report is completed and Atherton residents have had their say about what they want to see in the new library. In order to make the EIR as complete as possible, however, it needs to look at the "worst-case scenarios" for possible library designs.

Council members agreed at their Dec. 21 meeting that the new library, whatever its final size, will not occupy more than 10,000 square feet of park space — an area about 5,000-square-feet less than now occupied by the park's main house and the patios, walkways and parking areas surrounding it.

The library could be more than 10,000 square feet if it is more than one story.

The council also agreed that the library should be located as far away from the park's historic water tower as possible within the area where the main house currently is.

The town will update the current master plan for the park, the 2005 "Schematic Landscape Master Plan," to show the proposed footprint of a new library in the park as well as showing the existing main house building replaced with a library and the associated changes in the public use of the space.

The existing 82-year-old, 4,790-square-foot library building, located near the town center, could be reused for public uses ranging from town offices, records storage, an art center, school or senior center.

The building would probably be classified as historic, so it would be difficult to get permission to demolish it. ■

College district asked for \$564 million, but quietly

■ Monetary figure left off all campaign brochures asking voters to approve bond measure.

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

A voter might have been hard pressed this fall to determine how much money was on the table with respect to Measure H, a construction bond measure proposed by the San Mateo County Community College District.

The district was asking property owners for \$564 million plus interest, which typically doubles the debt. The figure appeared in official election materials, but not in the district's direct-mail campaign, which included at least six slick, expansive, full-color direct mail pieces.

Voters rejected the measure by a narrow margin on Nov. 8. Previous bond measures raised \$675 million, and Measure H was the third request since 2001 for the district's three colleges: Canada College in Woodside, Skyline College in San Bruno, and the College of San Mateo in San Mateo.

To pass, such measures need a 55 percent majority, not the two-thirds normally needed to increase a tax. Voters granted this privilege to school construction bonds in 2001, and Measure H just missed the mark, passing

with 53.09 percent.

Had it passed, property owners would have paid about \$13 a year for every \$100,000 of a property's assessed value for the life of the bonds, typically 30 years.

In waging the direct mail campaign, the committee Citizens for Support of Community Colleges in San Mateo County spent \$140,000 on production costs, according to finance reports and confirmed by spokesman James Keller, the interim president of Canada College.

What direct mail said and did not say was the committee's responsibility, Mr. Keller said. Also on the committee were the president of the College of San Mateo, the district chancellor, district communications director, and all five district board members.

Why didn't the total indebtedness figure appear? "I thought we were trying to emphasize what we needed (the money) for," Mr. Keller replied.

Direct mail is "campaign persuasion material," 2011 board President Richard Holober said in a telephone interview.

But \$564 million in tax revenues for a public agency? Is that not an important detail? "I don't agree with you, but you're entitled to your opinion," Mr. Holober said.

Mr. Keller substantially agreed. The voter, he said, can find the total indebtedness on the ballot

itself. Might a direct mail piece have more impact than a ballot statement? "Don't you read (the ballot)?" Mr. Keller asked.

On the ballot, the total appears as \$564,000,000 and is located 11 lines down and 54 words into a 77-word sentence devoted to what can be done with the money and how it will be looked after. Lawyers write such ballot statements, Mr. Holober said.

By leaving "\$564 million" out of direct mail, the committee was counting on voters not caring about total indebtedness because they want to help carry on the college district's substantial contributions to the county, Mr. Keller said. "We're all fairly optimistic," he said in describing the committee. "We're very proud of what (the district) has done."

What voters care about, political campaign consultants say, is the bottom line for them and their families, Mr. Holober said. Figures in millions of dollars "have no meaning" to voters, he said.

"In hindsight, we probably would have gotten a higher 'yes' if we had spelled out the cost per \$100,000 (of assessed value)," he said.

Asked to comment, Jack Hickey, a Libertarian and an opponent of most tax increases, said that stating the total indebtedness of Measure H would have raised

See **BOND MEASURE**, page 10

Archdiocese says Myers cannot act as a priest

■ Church silent on review board's investigation of former St. Raymond pastor.

By **Sandy Brundage**
Almanac Staff Writer

Although the San Francisco Archdiocese declared the findings of its independent review board (IRB) a "personnel issue" and thus confidential, a spokesman confirmed that Father William Myers can no longer act as a priest.

A pastor at St. Raymond's Catholic Church, Father Myers was put on administrative leave a month after the church learned about an incident on April 19, when the priest followed a 17-year-old boy into a dressing room at a Ross Dress for Less in San Francisco, according to the church.

Describing the encounter as

a "boundary violation," George Wesolek, spokesman for the archdiocese, said no physical contact occurred. The San Francisco District Attorney's Office said it decided not to press charges against Father Myers for lack of corroboration, and that no further allegations had surfaced during the investigation.

Mr. Wesolek said the pastor, when confronted by church officials, admitted struggling with a sexual addiction to adults and receiving therapy for sexual identity issues while serving in Stockton. More than a month passed before the church found out about the incident via a source who tipped off the archdiocese on May 26.

The Almanac obtained church assignment records showing that Father Myers took leave from the Diocese of Stockton from 1996 to 2000, but the records don't say why.

Bishop Stephen Blaire of Stockton said that while the diocese knew Father Myers had undergone therapy, "at no time was it suggested or otherwise reported to the Diocese that the therapy was in any way related to sexual conduct with minors." According to church officials, he also received treatment following his removal from St. Raymond.

Ordained in 1988, Father Myers joined St. Raymond four years ago after transferring from St. Brendan Church in San Francisco. The archdiocese repeatedly refused to confirm whether he kept an apartment in the city in addition to his parish lodgings in Menlo Park.

"What can be said is this, William Myers cannot act as a priest," Mr. Wesolek said via email. "More importantly, he will not return to St. Raymond's." ■



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The Planning Commission meets on the first and third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.; Commissioners are appointed for a four-year term; one member is appointed from each Council district. A listing of district addresses is provided on the Town's web site at www.woodsidesidtown.org, Town Hall, Planning, Planning Commission, Districts.

Interested residents may request information and applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-12 noon and 1-5:00 PM at Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, at the Town's web site, www.woodsidesidtown.org, Residents, Volunteer Opportunities, or telephone the Town Clerk at (650) 851-6790. Deadline for applications is *Friday, January 13, 2012, 5:00 PM.*

TOP STORIES

continued from page 5

“anger,” and “uncertainty” as the town laid off 13 of its 16 general employees, giving their jobs in the building and public works departments to private outside contractors and weathering a court challenge of the actions.

Mr. Danielson, supported by a unanimous City Council, maintained throughout the turmoil of the July and August layoffs that the actions were needed to return the town to fiscal stability. The savings from the staffing cuts would go a long way, he said, toward closing an estimated \$856,000 structural deficit in the town’s budget — a deficit Mr. Danielson was tasked with fixing before his temporary job ran its course.

Meanwhile, an interim public works director, Michael Kashiwagi, was hired in the spring after public works director Duncan Jones announced his retirement in April after eight years on the job. Mr. Kashiwagi still holds the position, and it’s unclear when the town intends to find a permanent replacement.

In July, Police Chief Mike Guerra announced his retirement after less than two years on the job, and the town simultaneously announced the appointment of Ed Flint as interim police chief, a position he still holds.

In late October, Finance Director Louise Ho, one of only a handful of full-time, permanent employees left in Town Hall after the summer layoffs, unexpectedly announced her retirement, effective late November. By Dec. 9, the town had brought in an interim finance director, Debra Auker.

When Mr. Danielson arrived in town, he told the Almanac he hoped he could finish the tasks the council handed him in six months. As the year ends, the City Council is scrambling to extend his contract for up to one more year, although such a move must be approved by the state’s public retirement agency — CalPERS — to do so if Mr. Danielson is to continue collecting a pension.

If Mr. Danielson remains in Atherton beyond Jan. 2, when his contract as interim manager expires, one of his chief duties will be to take the “interim” out of the city management post by recruiting a permanent leader for the town.

Woodside

Baseball and peanuts, cheese and crackers, horses and carriages — some things are meant to be together, like trees and Woodside. Reflective of trees’ standing in town, the established penalty for felling a

significant tree without having first obtained a \$60 permit runs \$5,000, with the next tree costing \$7,500, and \$10,000 apiece thereafter.

Two Woodside households in 2011 ran afoul of this law, but no one had the book thrown at them. The council discussed the matter several times and took note of lower fines in nearby communities, but a reasonable penalty that actually deters people is yet to be enacted.

The council opted to continue a precedent set in 2009, when a couple faced at least \$92,000 in fines, but the council levied a fine of just \$10,000 for cutting 10 significant Coast Live Oaks. (A tree is significant in Woodside if it measures at least 9.5 inches in diameter at 48 inches above ground.)

In the first 2011 case, resolved in July, the council fined the couple \$5,000 for one buckeye, but nothing for seven bay laurels, which can transmit sudden oak death. By the book, the council could have demanded \$72,500.

The second 2011 case, also addressed in July, could have included a \$42,500 fine but ended up at \$11,074, the appraised value of one blue gum eucalyptus and four Monterey cypress trees. The council suspended the fine if the couple followed through with a replanting scheme at their expense.



Almanac photo by Michelle Le

Community activists won a battle against the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission’s plan to cut down Granny, a centuries-old heritage oak tree in North Fair Oaks. In October the commission agreed to tunnel a water pipeline under the tree to make room for a new Hetch Hetchy water pipeline.

Dec. 13 to reject Stanford’s money, echoing precedents set in 2006 and 2010 when unanimous votes by the board accomplished the same thing. But this time the offer expires Dec. 31.

The project included a sea of troubles from the point of view of Stanford Weekend Acres residents, and they took up arms of resistance in the form of impassioned rhetoric, whenever the opportunity arose, as it did in community forums in October, November and December.

Among the troubles: a crazily inconsistent public right of way,

least study the possibilities for what is widely acknowledged to be an unsafe path. Stop the unjustified allegations that the trail cannot be made safe and get facts to work with, they argued.

At long last, they said, the supervisors should take the long view and use this opportunity to finally fix the problems of getting children, dogs and families, by foot, by scooter, by bike, safely from Portola Valley, Ladera and Weekend Acres into Menlo Park and Stanford.

The troubles remain. Perhaps the supervisors can end some of them, as board President Carole Groom proposed, by repairing the cracks and bumps in the path and seeking grants for additional work.

Community college district

In a first for school bond measures, voters rejected Measure H, which needed only a 55 percent majority — not the two-thirds majority normally needed to increase a tax — which would have raised \$564 million in construction funding for the San Mateo County Community College District.

The Nov. 8 decision missed the mark by just under two percentage points. The unofficial tally from the county Elections Office showed 53.09 percent, or 48,933 voters, favoring the measure while 46.91 percent, or 43,238 voters, opposed it.

Each of the three campuses — Canada College in Woodside, Skyline College in San Bruno and the College of San Mateo in San Mateo — have buildings that are 40 to 50 years old, governing board members said, but the 2008 economic meltdown and the still-struggling economy may have made Measure H unpalatable.

Asked to justify another half-billion dollars of indebtedness,

board members noted the need for up-to-date science, technology, engineering and math curriculums, and that the district lost \$200 million in state funding in 2006, and \$25 million in 2008 when Lehman Brothers investment bank collapsed.

Measure H would also have allowed bond funds to replace \$2 million in annual maintenance expenses, enabling the district to enroll 6,000 to 7,000 more students, about 10 percent of whom would be full-time, board member Richard Holober told the Almanac.

Elementary schools

For the past few years, local schools have faced several key common challenges: painful funding cutbacks, burgeoning enrollment, and the need to upgrade and expand facilities. In 2011, another common feature was added to the mix: Three of the four elementary school districts in the Almanac’s coverage area have — or soon will have — new superintendents.

The year began with Ken Ranello’s announcement that he was retiring from his post as superintendent of the Menlo Park City School District after nine years. The school board quickly launched a search, and in May, announced that Maurice Ghysels, former superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District, would take on the district’s leadership effective July 1.

In recent years, the district has been engaged in major campus renovations at all four schools, to culminate with a massive reconstruction project at Hillview Middle School, which is scheduled for completion by the beginning of the 2012-13 school year.

In April, Woodside Elementary School’s superintendent and principal, Diana Abbati, announced she would be leaving the district at the end of June to take over as superintendent of the Los Gatos Union School District. The five-school Los Gatos district is considerably larger than the Woodside district, which has only one school.

With only months before the start of a new school year, the school board sprang into action, and by July, announced that Beth Polito would take over as superintendent and principal. Ms. Polito was assistant superintendent of educational services in the Saratoga Union School District before beginning her tenure in Woodside on Aug. 1.

The year is closing with the announcement by Eric Hartwig that he is retiring at the end of the current school year from his



Almanac file photo by Dave Boyce

This narrow, old and inconsistent path along the south side of Alpine Road is considered unsafe, but on Dec. 13 San Mateo County supervisors rejected, for the third and probably final time, Stanford University’s offer of an inflation-adjusted \$10.4 million to fix it. Many residents of Ladera decried the decision to turn down a gift of millions, but most residents of Stanford Weekend Acres welcomed it, citing the many complexities it presents for their neighborhood.

County trail

After five years, the time for choosing came in 2011 for Stanford University’s offer of \$10.4 million to improve an old trail along Alpine Road between Portola Valley and Menlo Park. To be, or not to be: that was the question. The answer: not to be (barring a revised vote before year’s end by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors).

The supervisors voted 3-2 on

intense high-speed commute traffic, complex neighborhood exit and entries, freeway ramp and creek bank issues that raised questions as to whether \$10 million was enough, and a deep mistrust of Stanford’s intentions.

Equally impassioned were advocates, many from Ladera, who urged the supervisors to take the money and use a couple hundred thousand dollars to at

WAR HERO

continued from page 5

The second plane's hit "blew me right across the ship."

In spite of his injuries, Mr. Clark grabbed a fire hose, usually manned by a team of at least two, and began a long fight against the fires that were spreading on board the ship. He carried the hose, often by himself, sometimes watching as sailors jumped overboard in an attempt to save themselves. "I stayed with it until the last plane hit," he said.

A critical moment occurred when a plane flew into the ammunition locker, setting it ablaze. Mr. Clark went into the locker and put out the fire, he said. A similar hit to the ammunition locker on the USS Little, part of the group of five destroyers in the water that night with the Aaron Ward, also caused a fire. But that fire wasn't extinguished, and the resulting explosion tore the ship in half, causing it to sink. "I saw it go down," Mr. Clark said.

After the attack, Mr. Clark worked through the night, single-handedly carrying a number of survivors to the medic ward, in spite of his broken collarbone.

Although the ship's captain told Mr. Clark he would make every effort to have him awarded for his heroism, those efforts were unsuccessful. Mr. Clark, supported by the historical record of racism in the military, attributes the denial of a commendation to his race.

Two-year effort

Congresswoman Eshoo was approached in 2009 by writing instructor Sheila Dunec, who teaches local "life stories" classes. It was in Ms. Dunec's World War II stories class that Mr. Clark told the harrowing story of the ship's attack and his unrecognized efforts to keep the ship from turning into an inferno and sinking.

After hearing the story, Ms. Eshoo set out to ensure that

Mr. Clark's heroism finally be acknowledged.

She managed to secure testimony from one of the few surviving officers of the ship, retired Navy Captain Lefteris Lavrakas, and in a November 2010 letter she sent Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, she wrote: "The Aaron Ward became one of only two ships in naval history to endure so many kamikaze hits and survive — and Carl Clark is the reason why. (His) efforts that night are why so many survived and one of the main reasons the ship did not capsize."

She also asked Secretary Mabus to expedite the review to complete it by year's end. In her letter, she cites the comments of retired Captain Lavrakas, who recommended the award: "Please hurry up, Carl and I are both in our 90s and we need to correct this injustice for Carl."

Although it took an additional year, the award is now on its way. According to Congresswoman Eshoo's office, a local public ceremony is being planned to present the award sometime in January.

Lucky — and grateful

Mr. Clark, a 57-year resident of the Belle Haven neighborhood, said he is deeply grateful to Congresswoman Eshoo, and also to Ms. Dunec for "starting the ball rolling."

"She's the one who saw there was something there (to recognize), and I love her for it."

Although he suffered a broken hip two years ago, Mr. Clark laughs when asked how his health is now. "My health is perfect — I don't even catch a cold," he replied energetically.

"I thank God every morning that I don't have anything wrong with me. The man's looking down on me."

But Mr. Clark didn't reserve those sentiments for the here and now. Referring to that hellacious day 66 years ago, he added: "I was lucky. God was looking after me on that day, too." ■

appear to be going anywhere anytime soon.

Among the district's priorities is a "21st Century Learning" program that focuses on technology in the classroom. And at Ormondale School, a natural, but highly unusual, phenomenon has led to a development unique to local public schools: With 70 boys and 36 girls at the third-grade level — a 66 to 34 percent ratio — the district launched three all-boy classrooms in August. ■

Almanac reporters Sandy Brundage, Dave Boyce and Renee Batti, and photographer Michelle Le, contributed to this report.

Town's environmental committee in the doghouse over website

By Barbara Wood

Special to the Almanac

With accusations of misconduct and misuse of funds flying, Atherton's City Council has suspended one of its own committees, the Environmental Programs Committee, until its activities and finances can be investigated.

The dispute began in November when council member Kathy McKeithen discovered that the website of the Environmental Programs Committee contained an argument against putting a new town library in Holbrook-Palmer Park.

In October, a split City Council had voted to choose the park as the "preferred site" for a new library.

Ms. McKeithen, council member Elizabeth Lewis, and residents Valerie Gardner and Frank Merrill Jr. are the only current members of the Environmental Programs Committee. It has openings for eight more members.

After Ms. McKeithen com-

■ ATHERTON

plained about the website, it was taken down. According to Ms. Gardner, the committee returned \$9,600 in sponsorships, "because our website is down and no longer providing the visibility we committed to our sponsors."

In a report to the council, Interim City Manager John Danielson said Atherton residents had "questioned whether the EPC represents the views and opinions of the Town Council or, is an independent body creating opinion pieces on local governance issues."

"I have to say," said council member Jim Dobbie, "that ever since I've been on the council I've felt that the EPC has been out of control."

"I would certainly like to see it disbanded," he said.

But other council members worried that if the committee was eliminated the town would lose a large federal grant it has been given to promote energy efficiency in private homes in town.

Mayor Bill Widmer said he favored having the town look further into the committee's activities. "The issue at hand is ... were or were not any rules broken with the spending, with the postings on the website," he said.

Town officials said they need to do more research. "I'm not accusing anybody of any wrongdoing," said Mr. Danielson. "I couldn't trace back on the website where the opinion pieces were coming from."

Town Attorney William Connors said the town does not yet know exactly what the committee may have done inappropriately. "Right now we have more questions than we have answers," he said. Among other things the town needs to look into, "we need to have a better handle on who is approving expenditures," he said.

Council members voted to suspend all activities and meetings of the committee until the council meets in January. ■



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TOP STORIES

continued from previous page

post as superintendent of the Las Lomas School District. Mr. Hartwig, who was principal at Menlo-Atherton High School for nine years, has led the two-school Las Lomas district for nearly five years.

The school board has appointed a subcommittee to spearhead a search for a new superintendent to be in place by July.

Meanwhile, Tim Hanretty in August began his second school year as superintendent of the two-school Portola Valley School District, and doesn't

School board previews \$5.4 million upgrade

By Barbara Wood

Special to the Almanac

Woodside Elementary School's campus needs \$5.4 million of work with another \$827,000 in projects, such as installing solar panels, considered lower priority, the one-school district's board learned at its recent meeting.

Board members asked the consultants, who have spent three months putting together a list of items that need to be addressed on the campus, to return in January with a timetable that shows how quickly projects must be undertaken.

Bruce Thompson, former superintendent of the district, acted as a consultant on preparing a facilities master plan working with BFGC-IBI Group Architecture Planning and other consultants.

Among the top projects on the list are shoring up the eroding bank of the creek that runs behind the campus, and replacing and repairing the roofs of a number of campus buildings.

The creek project may not be able to wait, Mr. Thompson and consultant Jeff Lea of Lea and Braze Engineering told the board, because wet weather may cause further erosion. The erosion is threatening some of the school's playing fields.

Mr. Lea said the best solution appears to be "stitch piers" that would be drilled into the ground next to creek banks to prevent further erosion. The piers would probably cost \$100,000, which is about \$50,000 less than had been estimated for the repairs, and because they are not in the

creek would not require outside government agency approvals.

At the Dec. 7 meeting, the board unanimously approved

Among the top projects is shoring up the eroding bank of the creek that runs behind the campus.

spending \$6,250 to hire a soils consultant needed to begin the repair project. How to pay for the actual repairs is unknown, however. "I'm not sure we have \$100,000," said Wendy Crandall, who was elected board president by board members earlier in the day.

One item on the list that drew

comments from the audience was \$1.23 million to pay for a new classroom for the campus preschool. The preschool is tuition-based. Robin Wasco, the district's chief business official, said that while the preschool pays the district for use of the facilities, the district does not make any money from it. "Our preschool program's financial goal is to break even, after paying salaries, benefits, supplies, and overhead," she said after the meeting.

Other items on the facilities master plan are:

- \$981,000 for roof replacements, maintenance and repairs.

- \$573,000 for security improvements, including \$235,000 for a camera system and \$44,900 for additional lighting on the campus.

- \$338,800 for items needed to comply with state and federal laws, including \$126,000 for gas shutoff valves.

- \$616,400 for repairs to Sell-

man Auditorium, which was completely renovated in 2002 at a cost of \$1.5 million.

- \$198,000 to replace and upgrade the school's intercom and phone system.

- \$46,000 to replace school clocks with satellite clocks.

- \$597,713 to install solar panels and upgrade buildings to house them. Mr. Thompson said this project may end up costing only half this much as costs are falling.

The board has not yet figured out how the repairs and improvements will be paid for, but is keeping the possibility of asking voters to approve a bond measure. If a bond measure is approved, the district can be paid back for some improvements already made.

The facilities plan will be back before the board at its Jan. 17 meeting, although an emergency meeting may be necessary before that to approve funds for immediate creek repairs. ■

Menlo Park shooting wounds boy, 17

By Almanac Staff

For the second time in one week, Menlo Park police are investigating a shooting.

A caller reported gunfire around 6:25 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 22, in the 1400 block of Plumas Avenue. When police arrived, they found a 17-year-old boy shot, according to reports. He was treated at a hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

Witnesses described the suspects as two Hispanic men driving a white compact vehicle west on Plumas Avenue, police said.

The shooting comes four days after police responded to a report of a group of men standing around with guns outside a house on Hollyburne Avenue on Dec. 18. During that call,

officers were shot at, and one officer returned fire.

No officers were injured, but one suspect received minor injuries and was treated at Stanford Hospital and released, according to police spokesperson Nicole Acker.

Six people were arrested for their alleged involvement in that incident, and the investigation led to a police chase in Mountain View on Dec. 21: The suspect, a parolee, slipped away despite the attentions of helicopters, United States marshals, and both Menlo Park and Mountain View police.

Anyone with information about these cases is asked to call the police at 330-6300 or the anonymous tip line at 330-6395.

BOND MEASURE

continued from page 7

"a red flag" for voters. "Any brochure that we would have put out would have had the number," he said. "They should have had that in there. That's disingenuous, I would say, and not unexpected."

Plenty of donors

The Measure H campaign, which finance reports show collected \$341,323 as of Oct. 22, got off to a rolling start with a donation of \$131,822 in January.

This was left over from 2010, when the district campaigned successfully for a \$34 parcel tax, Mr. Keller said.

Sixteen other donors, all corporate, gave more than \$5,000 to the campaign. Major donors included construction companies Robert A. Bothman Inc. of San Jose (\$50,000), Hensel Phelps Construction Company, which has offices in San Jose (\$25,000), and McCarthy Building Companies, which has offices in San Francisco (\$25,000). ■

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How do you know it's a police officer?

■ Police impersonator steals driver's keys.

By Barbara Wood

Special to the Almanac

■ **ATHERTON**

After a young woman from Atherton was pulled over recently by what turned out to be a police impersonator who stole her car keys, Atherton police advise that there are several things that can be done to make sure the driver of an unmarked vehicle is really a police officer.

"If you suspect the person in the unmarked car is not a police officer," Sergeant Sherman Hall said, "calling 9-1-1 is a reasonable way to verify the authenticity."

The 9-1-1 dispatcher can tell if the stop is legitimate; if not they can send help. "If you don't have a telephone, and have genuine concerns, head for a well-lit, populated location," he said.

He added that the law requiring hands-free use of cell phones while driving has an exception for calling 9-1-1. A genuine police officer will show a badge and police department photo identification, he said.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, Nov. 30, when a 23-year-old woman driving a 2007 BMW pulled over at Atherton Avenue at Elena Avenue when she saw a car with

a blue light on its roof following her.

"The suspect approached her and asked for her driver's license and registration, as well as her car keys," Sgt. Hall said.

When the woman asked why she had been stopped, she was told she was following the vehicle in front of her too closely.

"The suspect asked her if she had had anything to drink," Sgt. Hall said. "He also asked if there was anything edible in the car." The man gave the woman back her driver's license and registration but instead of returning her keys, drove away.

Sgt. Hall said the woman initially believed the "officer" might be repositioning his car so she waited a short time for him to return before she called a family member to bring a spare set of car keys so she could drive home.

"Upon reflecting upon the unusual nature of the encounter, she called us about 20 minutes after the event," Sgt. Hall said. "We searched the area, but did not find the suspect."

Because the fake officer had her keys and address, the Atherton police did "keep special watch over the car," he said.



Photos by Michelle Le/The Almanac



President's award

Leonard Friedman, 87, delays the ceremony for his President's Volunteer Service Award, in order to finish a game of bridge. Mr. Friedman received the national award on Dec. 12 for 19 years of service with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, where he runs a bridge club.

The man was described as a Hispanic or Filipino male adult between 27- and 50-years-old driving a dark Honda or Toyota. He was not in a police uniform.

"These kinds of incidents are unusual," Sgt. Hall said. "We

take them very seriously. In fact, we immediately alerted neighboring agencies."

Only about a handful of such incidents occur in Northern California each year, he said, and senior officers in Atherton could not recall this ever hap-

pening in Atherton before.

Sgt. Hall also said in California every emergency vehicle must display a forward facing, solid red light. Blue lights are OK, but the cluster of lights must include a solid red one, he said. ■

PETER WECK

continued from page 3

president of Louis Berger & Associates, a consulting firm. He served in the Peace Corps and graduated from Harvard Business School.

Since retiring almost 10 years ago, he has been working on a number of projects including founding two companies with two of his children: DW Fitness and Lima Bear Press. "He wears a lot of hats," says his son.

The senior Weck recently appeared on the Steve Adubato show on PBS in a conversation about the Lima Bear stories.

Father and son collaborated on their series through e-mail and lots of phone calls. "My dad comes out three or four times a year, so we also worked person-to-person," says Peter Weck. ■

The books in the Lima Bear Stories Series are available at \$15.95 each at Cheeky Monkey in Menlo Park.

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OBITUARIES

Obituaries are based on information provided by the family.

Nancy DiSanto

Nancy DiSanto of Menlo Park died Nov. 19 due to complications from breast cancer. She was 48.

Ms. DiSanto, a resident of Ladera since 1993, was an active community member and school volunteer.

Born in the Philippines, Ms. Di Santo was raised in San Diego. She received her registered nurse and bachelor of science in nursing degrees from San Diego State University.

After meeting her future husband, Jim DiSanto, a Naval officer and F14 pilot at Miramar Naval Air Base in San Diego, they were married in 1991. After moving to Ladera, Ms. DiSanto became a nurse in the intensive care unit at Stanford Hospital and eventually worked as a nurse in the hospital's neurosurgery department. In 2009-2010, she worked as the study nurse coordinator for a Stanford melanoma prevention trial.

An avid volleyball player, Ms. DiSanto served as coach and assistant coach for her daughters' volleyball teams at La Entrada Middle School, which won every match, including the league championship, say fam-

ily members. Both daughters played in the USA Volleyball National Tournament in Atlanta in June of this year.

Ms. DiSanto is survived by her husband, Jim; and daughters, Jennifer and Jacqueline, all of Ladera.

The family is establishing a nonprofit foundation in honor of Nancy. Gifts to the foundation will be donated in support of breast cancer research. More details will be available on the forthcoming website for the Nancy Di Santo Memorial Charity Foundation for Breast Cancer Research.

Services were held Dec. 3 at St. Denis Church in Menlo Park.



Nancy DiSanto

Emil Magrin

Emil Magrin, a carpenter, automobile racer, airplane pilot and resident of Woodside for 43 years, died Dec. 4 from complications of a fall. He was 84.

Born in St. Louis, Mr. Magrin went to school in San Francisco and on the Peninsula, helped his father, a farmer, raise artichokes, cabbage, bean sprouts and peas, and graduated from Jefferson High School in Daly City in 1945.

He joined the U.S. Merchant Marine in 1945 and went to sea on troop transport ships. In August of that year, when U.S. forces dropped two atomic bombs in Japan, he was on Leyte in the Philippines.

After the war, he took up carpentry and racing stock cars under the name Emil Zola to avoid having his real name appear in newspapers read by his father, who disapproved of

his racing, the family said.

In the late 1950s, Mr. Magrin bought an airplane and got a pilot's license, going on to earn a multi-engine rating.

He moved to Woodside in 1968 and stayed, retiring from a working life in 1978, relatives said.

His memberships included the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County, the Lions Club and the Elks Club. He loved golf and bowling, the family said.

Mr. Magrin is survived by his wife, Lou Ann Magrin; daughter Victoria Beninga of Meadow Vista, California; son Ron Magrin of Kauai, Hawaii; sister Mary Bistolfi of Daly City; as well as three step-children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

The family prefers donations be made to the Redwood City Elks Lodge. A memorial service was held Dec. 10 at the Redwood City Elks Lodge.

Virginia Davison

A memorial service was held recently for Virginia B. "Ginny" Davison of Portola Valley, who died at home Dec. 1. She was 81.

She was active in the community as a past president of the Woodside-Atherton Auxiliary and on the board of the Children's Hospital at Stanford.

The service was held at St. Dennis Church in Menlo Park and was followed by a celebration of her life at the Sharon Heights Country Club.

Born in Spokane, Washington, she grew up in Boise, Idaho. She attended Stanford University, where she met her husband, Orrin "Dave" Davison.

They were married in 1952 and eventually moved to Portola Valley, where they raised their four children, Susan, Kathleen, Mike and Scott.

Survivors include her brother, Ambrose "Ham" Burroughs, her husband, four children, and 12 grandchildren.

The family prefers donations

to Pathways Hospice Foundation, 585 N. Mary Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94085; or to the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford.

Gary Cook

Gary Cook, a resident of Los Altos who grew up in Atherton, died Nov. 8 at the age of 62.

A lifetime resident of the Bay Area, he graduated from Stanford in 1970, and earned an MBA at UCLA.

He was equally inspired by art and Stanford football, and was an accomplished chef, family members said.

As president of Cook Properties, he ran a commercial real estate business with his brothers. For 19 years, he served on the board of directors of the Mid-Peninsula Housing Corporation, a nonprofit organization on the Peninsula that develops and manages affordable housing.

Mr. Cook had a penchant for discovering small theater and dance companies, which he enthusiastically promoted among his friends and family. Among his favorites were the Crucible Fire Arts Festival in Oakland, the wall-dancing of Flyaway Productions in the Mission district, and Intersection, a San Francisco theater group.

Survivors include his wife, Micki; her sons, Brian and Alex; and his brothers, William and Robert Cook.

Friends gathered on Nov. 13 to celebrate his life. The family suggests memorial donations to Lymphoma Research Funds for Dr. Ranjana Advani, Stanford Cancer Center, 875 Blake Wilbur Drive, Stanford, CA 94305; or by calling 866-543-0243.

Alfred Gardner

Alfred James Gardner, a resident of Menlo Park for 42 years, died Oct. 28 at Stanford Hospital at the age of 91.

Born in Patterson, New Jersey, he had a wonderful life, the family said. He served 22 years in the U.S. Air Force and was employed at Lockheed Missiles and Space Company for 15

Continued on next page

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Girls soccer team wins AYSO title

By Sal Arora of the AYSO Region 109 (Menlo Park-Atherton).

■ SPORTS

The Menlo Park-Atherton AYSO Girls (under 19) team recently won the AYSO Silicon Valley Area Championship. This area covers Menlo Park, Atherton, Los Altos, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, Portola Valley and Woodside.

Pastor Guzman has a reputation among local soccer parents as a coach who can transform a bunch of recreational soccer players into a hard-driving, high-performing team.

So, even after his 2011 Menlo Park-Atherton girls-under-19 team, the Green Unicorns, lost the opening game of the season ... and then a second, and a third, and a fourth ... Guzman, assistant coach Rudy Medina, and the girls never stopped believing that they could pull together.

After all, he had coached eight of the same players in 2009, the year his girls-under-16 team won the AYSO Silicon Valley Area championship.

The fifth game of the season

was a turning point: the Menlo Park team tied a tough Los Altos opponent. And then they began to win, each victory moving them higher in the standings. When the regular season ended, the Green Unicorns found themselves in fourth place in the league.

The quarterfinal playoffs pitted the team against the Los Altos Gazelles, whom they shut out with a 3-0 score. Moving on to the semifinals, the team faced the first place West San Jose Destiny. The Unicorns prevailed, scoring two goals and short-circuiting their opponent's destiny by limiting the other team to a single goal.

In the Nov. 13 AYSO Silicon Valley Area championship game, the Unicorns faced the Mountain View White Lightning, another team that had trounced the Unicorns during



Unicorn members, front row, from left, Naomi Tovar, Coach Rudy Medina, Elissa Webb, Lindsey Hom, Amanda Louie, Rebecca Pless, Rubi Guzman and Coach Pastor Guzman. Back row, from left, Rebecca Kaplan, Kimberly Medina, Brianna Quincy, Francesca Meffert, Shelby McDonald, Katelyn Doherty, Isabela Montoya (leaning forward), Angelica Causor, Hannah Lawry (in blue), and Paola Jimenez.

the early part of the season. Dedication to training, hard work and a desire to win paid off with a 4-1 win.

Says Coach Guzman: "The girls' team chemistry was great. After those first four games, our defense came together, and they only let in five goals through-

out the rest of the season. They love AYSO, and they were very motivated to win the championship."

Team members are: from Menlo-Atherton High School, Lindsey Hom, Shelby McDonald, Isabela Montoya, Katelyn Doherty, Rubi Guzman,

Paola Jimenez, Kimberly Medina, Francesca Meffert, Elissa Webb, Angelica Causor, Naomi Tovar; from Pinewood, Brianna Quincy; from Middle College, Rebecca Kaplan; from Castilleja, Amanda Louie and Rebecca Pless; and from King's Academy, Hannah Lawry

Continued from previous page

years. He received many awards for his service, namely the Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters.



Alfred Gardner

In civilian life, he enjoyed participating in numerous organizations and received special awards in many of them, the family said.

He and his wife Florence enjoyed traveling and cruising. He was especially proud of his family and their accomplishments, she said.

Mr. Gardner is survived by his wife of 69 years, Florence; daughter Carol, son Alfred, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Ann Ellen Gingrich

Ann Ellen Gingrich of Menlo Park died Nov. 24 at Stanford Hospital. A funeral Mass is planned on the 100th anniversary of her birth on March 1, 2012, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Irvine, California.

Born and raised in Grand Blanc, Michigan, she married Robert Gingrich, a young executive at General Motors, in 1934. They moved to California in 1943, settling initially in Pasadena, their home for 20 years and where they raised their three children, Susan, Michael and Mary Ann.

After the children were grown, they moved to Huntington Beach, and following Bob's death in 1974, she moved to nearby Irvine, where she lived for 35 years. She was an active member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, serving in many roles including an extended period as president of the Altar Guild.

She moved to Menlo Park in 2010 to be close to her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Ann and John Brock.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob; her daughter, Susan; and her four siblings, Frances, Joe, and Robert Gainey, and Mary Catherine Turnbull.

She is survived by her son, Michael of Dodgeville, Wisconsin; her daughter Mary Ann Brock; 10 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Visit AlmanacNews.com/obituaries for more information and to leave observances.

SUMMER 2012

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The Almanac
THEALMANACONLINE.COM



Almanac photo by Michelle Le

Pop-up store

Lanna Keller checks out scarves made by locals in Asha, India, at the Fair Trade Marketplace, a pop-up store at 846 Santa Cruz Ave. in downtown Menlo Park that the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church opened during the holidays. The store sold handcrafted products from developing countries. Church volunteers staffed the store.

A party goer's guide to New Year's Eve festivities

By Jane Knoerle
Almanac Lifestyles Editor

Local residents who want to ring in the New Year with gusto might check out party plans at the British Bankers Club, 1090 El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

The BBC will be open all day Saturday; however, the real festivities begin with a New Year's Eve ball beginning at 9:30 p.m. The "New Year princess" will greet guests at the door with a complimentary glass of champagne. Professional ballroom dancers will entertain at 11 p.m.

Ticket levels include options for a nine-course dinner with "Russian style" appetizers; hot and cold appetizers only; or just joining the merriment for the party, dancing and drinks. Dinner packages are available for \$99 per person. General admission at the door is \$35 (cash only).

Disc Jockey D-Gree will be mixing the music, including hits from the '80s, '90s, and today's top 40.

Guests are asked to "dress to impress." For the ladies, that means evening dresses. For gents: dress shirts and slacks (no jeans, tennis shoes, or flip-flops).

For more information, call 327-8769.

Madera at Rosewood

Madera restaurant at Rosewood Sand Hill, 2825 Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park, is planning an upscale evening suited to its venture capital clientele.

The first dinner seating at 5:30 p.m. features a three-course prix fixe menu at \$95 per person. The second seating, available only with a guest room package, is a four-course prix fixe menu at 8:30 p.m. at \$195 per person.

The menu will feature such dishes as Wagyu beef, seared duck breast, caviar, lamb chop, quince gastrique, Brussels sprouts, Thumbelina carrots, chestnut puree, and chocolate fondant for dessert.

For reservations call 561-1540.

Left Bank Bistro

The Left Bank Bistro, 635 Santa Cruz Ave., in Menlo Park, will celebrate bonne annee with a four-course prix fixe menu for \$64.50. A limited regular menu and children's menu will also be available. There will be party

favors and a champagne toast at midnight. The last seating is 11 p.m.

Dinner will feature a foie gras torchon, beef short rib terrine, "surf and turf" main course of lobster and beef tenderloin or Coquilles Saint Jacques, with opera cake for dessert.

For reservations call 473-6543.

Flea Street Cafe

Flea Street is offering dinner at \$95 per person, with wine pairing for \$45. The meal starts with an "amuse" of deviled egg, followed by either lobster bisque or artichoke and fennel salad. Pear champagne sorbet refreshes the palate, followed by a main course of filet of beef, herb-crusted seafood or wild mushroom strudel. There will be chocolate truffle torte or tangerine pudding cake for dessert.

Flea Street is located at 3607 Alameda de las Pulgas in Menlo Park. For reservations, call 854-1226.

Oak City Bar & Grill

Oak City Bar & Grill, 1029 El Camino Real in Menlo Park, known for its live music ranging from big band to jam sessions, goes all out on New Year's Eve when it features the bluesy Kaye Bohler Band, starting at 9 p.m. Dinner will be available starting at 5 p.m. Reservations are strongly suggested; call 321-6882.

The Village Pub

The Pub will have two seatings on New Year's Eve. The first, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., will feature a menu of chilled lobster terrine or celery root soup, a choice of roast guinea hen, filet of beef, or sea bass in papillote, followed by Baked Alaska. Cost is \$105 per person, with wine pairing at \$70.

The second seating, 8 to 10 p.m., will offer the same dinner with the addition of a foie gras torchon and a cheese course for \$145 per person. Wine pairing is \$95.

The Alexandra Kaprielian Band will play from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m., with a champagne toast at midnight. For reservations, call 851-9888.

Many popular local restaurants, such as Carpaccio in Menlo Park, will be open New Year's Eve serving their regular menu at regular hours.



WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the District Board of West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday evening, January 11, 2012 in conjunction with its regularly scheduled meeting which commences at 7:00 p.m. The location of the meeting is at the District's offices, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025.

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider a proposed increase in Sewer Connection Fees for all District customers. The proposed rates are as follows:

Connection Fee Dollars

	District	Authority	Total
Residential Unit	\$2549.00 \$5,596.00	<u>\$1,740.20</u>	\$4289.20 \$7,336.20
Supplementary Connection Fee	\$347.70 \$763.20	\$237.30	\$585.00 \$1,000.50 (c)
Non-Residential Use Equal or Less than 325 mg/l BOD and/or SS	\$11.59 \$25.44/gpd + \$347.70 \$763.20	<u>\$7.91/gpd</u> <u>+\$237.30</u>	\$19.50 \$33.35/gpd \$585.00 +\$1,000.50
Greater than 325 mg/l BOD and/or SS	\$11.59/gpd \$25.44	Ratio(a)	Total(b)

(a) The connection fee for Authority expansion costs is calculated by multiplying \$7.91/gpd times the average daily flow in gpd, times the ratio of the highest of the BOD and SS concentrations to 325 mg/l subject to a minimum connection fee \$7.91/gpd plus \$237.30 per connection.

(b) The total connection fee is the sum of the District and Authority connection fees subject to a minimum connection fee of ~~\$19.50~~ \$33.35/gpd plus ~~\$585.00~~ \$1,000.50 per connection.

(c) The connection fee for a supplementary connection(s) to the same building shall be ~~\$585.00~~ \$1,000.50 per connection. [Amended by General Regulation No.2012-01]

At the Public Hearing, any interested person may address the District Board. Written comments may be submitted at or before the Public Hearing by addressing them to the District Board at the address indicated above.

/s/ Phil Scott
Phil Scott
District Manager

Dated: November 14, 2011

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Almanac photo by Michelle Le

New restaurant in Sharon Heights

Tomonari and his wife Keiko Mitsunobu at their recently opened restaurant called Mitsunobu, located in the Sharon Heights Shopping Center. The Japanese restaurant, which services Japanese California, has replaced the highly rated Kaygetsu.

Lana Sundahl retires from dental practice

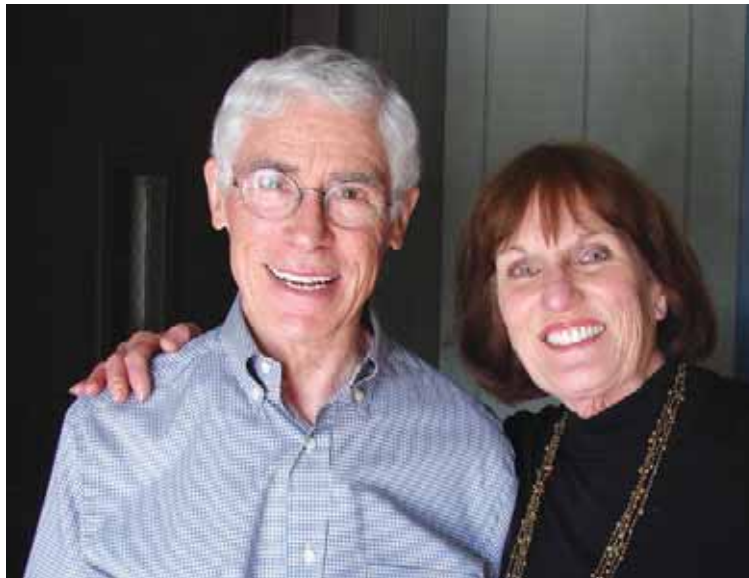
More than 70 former patients and their families gathered Dec. 4 at a party in the office of Dr. Jan Gabus for Dr. Lana Sundahl, who is retiring after practicing dentistry for the past 33 years.

Dr. Sundahl, who began her practice in 1978, said she is the first woman to set up her own dental practice in Menlo Park.

She said she has two other firsts. She was the first woman president of the Mid-Western Dental Society, a nonprofit organization providing dental care to those unable to afford it. Further, she was the first woman president of any dental society in California.

Dr. Sundahl's patients will now be cared for by Dr. Jan Gabus, who shares the same medical building at 1300 University Ave. in Menlo Park. Dr. Gabus is a longtime friend and associate.

In retirement, Dr. Sundahl



Lana Sundahl is retiring, and Jan Gabus is taking over her practice.

and her husband, Roger, Portola Valley residents, plan to spend more time with their grandchildren and their North Dakota

family. She said she is looking forward to time for gardening and staying in touch with many of her former patients.

Las Lomas district offers transitional kindergarten

For the first time, the Las Lomas School District is offering a transitional kindergarten program called "Young Fives," under the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010.

Children who turn 5 between Nov. 1 and Dec. 2, 2012, are eligible for the Young Fives program. The following year, they will enter the regular kindergarten program.

Children who turn 5 before Nov. 1, 2012, are eligible for the regular kindergarten program.

Registration packets for the

2012-13 school year for all grades — including Young Fives and regular kindergarten — will be available at the Las Lomas School office beginning Jan. 9, 2012. Completed packets will be accepted no sooner than 8 a.m. on Jan. 30, 2012.

To register a child for Young Fives or regular kindergarten, bring the original birth certificate or passport, proof of residence (original phone bill and PG&E bill), and child's immunization record.

There are two sessions of kin-

dergarten: 9 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. and 10:35 a.m. to 2:05 p.m. Due to the bus schedule, kindergartners living in the Ladera area are placed in the first session, and kindergartners in the Woodside area are placed in the second session.

Tours of the school for parents of incoming new Young Fives and kindergarten students are scheduled for 2012. Tours are for adults only. Call the school office at 854-5900 to reserve a place.

Visit tinyurl.com/Fives-913 for more information on the Young Fives program.

TOWN OF WOODSIDE
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD
WOODSIDE, CA 94062

INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR COMMITTEES

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

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

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

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

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

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

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

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

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

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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

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

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

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

RECREATION COMMITTEE

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

The Committee guides the activities of the community recreation programs.

TRAILS COMMITTEE

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

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

WOODSIDE HISTORY COMMITTEE

Meets second Thursday of each month, 10:00 a.m.; appointed for two-year term.

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

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

Interested residents may request information and applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-12 noon and 1-5:00 p.m., from the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, or telephone (650) 851-6790, or through the Town's web site at www.woodsidetown.org. Deadline for applications is Friday, January 20, 2012, 5:00 p.m.

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The Almanac, established in September, 1965, is delivered each week to residents of Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside and adjacent unincorporated areas of southern San Mateo County. The Almanac is qualified by decree of the Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish public notices of a governmental and legal nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued December 21, 1969.

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year and \$100 for two years.



WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.TheAlmanacOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

TOWN SQUARE FORUM

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

EMAIL your views to:

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

MAIL or deliver to:

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

CALL the Viewpoint desk at 223-6507.

Atherton about to be roiled by library spat

We hope Atherton residents think twice before they sign a petition calling for a costly referendum on whether to build a new library in Holbrook-Palmer Park, a proposition sure to split the community and start the new year off on a contentious note.

The petition drive is an 11th-hour effort to derail a 3-2 City Council vote on Oct. 19 that agreed with the two-year study by the Library Steering Committee to locate the new facility in the park. Over the last two years, committee members attended more than 100 public meetings, which should have been enough to cover the concerns of anyone who was interested in how the new library would benefit the town and its residents.

Yet instead of welcoming what could be a tremendous asset to the town, a contingent of nay-sayers are doing everything they can to force a vote on the issue before the Library Committee and its supporters have a chance to explain once again why the site was selected and what impact it will have on the park.

We suspect that former council member Didi Fisher and her supporters, including council members Elizabeth Lewis and

Jerry Carlson, who serve with her on the Town Center Task Force committee, were surprised by the council's approval of the park site, which would take up to \$8 million away from a town center project that could include the library.

In order to move forward on a referendum, Ms. Fisher must obtain signatures from 15 percent of the town's 4,850 registered voters, or 728 residents. Before residents decide whether or not to sign this document, we urge them to keep in mind that doing so might help to start a process that could lead to a town expenditure of up to \$41,000 for the special election sought by Ms. Fisher, who does not want to wait until the next scheduled election in June, which would lower the town's cost to \$15,000. With a 50 percent turnout, a special election would cost about \$17 per voter, while a June election would cost \$6 each.

A few months ago, Ms. Fisher's group conducted an online poll that found a majority of respondents opposed to building a new library in the park. But the poll could have been manipulated to obtain those results. If the council would agree, the best course would be for the town to conduct its own survey using a professional firm whose

work can be trusted. If the council chooses this option, members will need to approve the survey questions, which can mislead respondents if not worded clearly.

But whether a poll is conducted or not, holding off on the petition drive would give the city time to complete the environmental review process and public outreach, including the planned door-to-door visits to every household in town. The Library Committee wants to make sure that all residents get a full explanation of how they decided to locate the library in the park. In our view, it makes no sense to try to short-circuit this process with a divisive referendum.

By moving the library to the park, the way would be clear for Atherton to design and build a new town center complex to house the police station and other departments in and around the site of the current town hall.

Given Atherton's current fiscal crisis, the town will not be able to underwrite the expense of building a new town center anytime soon, if ever. It will be up to private donors, and it could take years to raise the \$20 million or more that will be needed. A new library should not be held hostage by this effort. Instead, the library should move to the park, leaving its current site to be part of a new town center. ▀

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

LETTERS

Our readers write

Time for Portola Valley to wake up

Editor:

Portola Valley residents are about to lose their views over the large open meadow along Portola Road. And, more building will be going on above, right next to Windy Hill.

Development proponents have cleverly arranged for these important planning decisions to be made during the busy holidays. So while our volunteer town commissioners are bogged down in the minutiae of regulations at the planning meetings, precious few residents are there to witness the impending loss of our valuable open spaces.

Through the complications of using the conditional use permit process, the applicant is proposing to add approximately 15,000 square feet of additional floor area on the property. Without the permit approval only 526 square feet would be allowed. The 2,400-square-foot agricultural building plus acres of "fruit and vegetable" gardens

Continued on next page



Portola Valley Archives

Our Regional Heritage

In the 1980s, community productions were annual fundraisers for Portola Valley schools. Casts of 200 were typical. Here moms and their daughters show their show business talents.

LETTERS

Continued from previous page

will certainly mar open vistas over the meadow. (A meadow historically only is used for mowed grasses to produce hay.)

Be aware, too, that in the future after tempers cool, a second use permit application could then propose a commercial winery, as happened with Fogarty.

Please step up to protect the spirit of our general plan. Throughout the plan, statements can be found aspiring to the goal of preserving open meadows in the valley and our precious views of the hillsides.

Please participate; the next meeting will be on Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Schoolhouse on Portola Road. It's up to us, the town residents, to let our elected officials know how we feel about respecting our general plan.

Marilyn Walter

Coyote Hill, Portola Valley

Should special-ed students pay for extra care?

Editor:

In a recent local Op-Ed piece entitled "A sad day for everyone," Sue Lempert writes about a 7-year-old boy, out of control in a special education class at George Hall Elementary School, who was subdued by a San Mateo police officer with pepper spray.

The real story, which should outrage taxpayers, lies in the public policy which created this situation.

Ms. Lempert states that, "Public schools, according to federal law, must provide an equal and appropriate education for each child, no matter what the physical, social or mental disability." She then says, "Four years ago, I reported that the cost to educate a non-special education student in the San Mateo Union High School District was \$9,000 per year. But the cost for some special education students ran as high as \$110,000 a year."

I have empathy for parents of children with anxiety disorder, learning disability, and other issues. However, I suggest that equal funding per student should be public policy. Anything beyond that is charity, and not the proper role of government. If the schools cannot accommodate these special children with normal funding, they should either pay the family the amount expended for mainlined students or require the family to provide the added funding to accommodate their children in the system.

Jack Hickey
Emerald Hills

Caltrain can survive without high-speed rail

By James R. Janz and Michael J. Brady

Caltrain has two alternatives: One involves introducing high-speed rail to the Peninsula, which most residents have now learned is a very bad idea, and very bad fiscal policy for the entire state. The other alternative involves saving Caltrain and removing the risk of high-speed rail from the Peninsula Caltrain corridor.

In the first alternative, Caltrain says that it wants electrification and argues that this is its only salvation; more on that later. What we do know is that electrification will cost close to \$1 billion, a lot of money for the Peninsula. Caltrain has formed a "sort of" marriage with high-speed rail, having entered into what is called a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the California High-Speed Rail Authority. In essence, Caltrain, which owns the Caltrain corridor/right-of-way, would grant high-speed rail the right to run its trains from San Jose to San Francisco. In return, high-speed rail will pay for the \$1 billion cost of electrification. Nothing is final; no contracts are signed; but that is in the winds.

In the second alternative, Caltrain has the legal right to tell high-speed rail to "take a hike." Caltrain owns the corridor and they can allow, or refuse to allow, HSR on the corridor. Most Peninsula residents have "wised up" since the 2008 election; they now realize two things, one micro, and one macro: The micro is that high-speed rail will do untold aesthetic, economic, and environmental damage to our prized Peninsula towns and cities; the macro is that estimates now say this project

could cost up to \$240 billion! How in the world could the state of California ever afford that? The carrying costs would eat up half the annual state budget. Is high-speed rail truly the top priority in these times?

We now know that we actually do not want high-speed rail on the Peninsula. Therefore, let's make a deal with Caltrain: First, Caltrain will promptly dissolve the "marriage" with high-speed rail, canceling the MOU and telling the High Speed Rail Authority that they will not be allowed to run high-speed trains up the corridor. Second, Caltrain will continue with its present service, which gets you where you want to go. Third, with regard to the Caltrain annual operating deficit, we have to understand that all rail systems run at a deficit; it's in the nature of the beast. So we will support a campaign to raise the needed funds to subsidize Caltrain operations.

If the second alternative is adopted, it means that the Caltrain system will continue to operate just like it is presently with no huge capital expenditures to "improve" the system. Of course, in addition, Caltrain should at least "try" to operate on a leaner basis, perhaps reducing the CEO's \$400,000-plus salary and taking the low bid operator, instead of, in these times, hiring someone who is \$20 million more expensive than the next bid (which they just did). Come on: let's have a few reforms; we're ready for it.

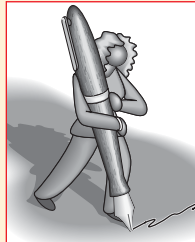
In addition, there is nothing terribly wrong with the present diesel system, other than the fact that it is an aging fleet. Did you know that there is something called a "DMU" (diesel multiple unit)? It is a single

car, operated by diesel, with an electric motor inside. That one car serves as the locomotive itself; it's self-propelled. It can fill itself with passengers and sail up to San Francisco during non-rush hours; at times other than rush hours, you can have two or three cars, and so on. It gives you great flexibility (the scheduling flexibility prized by Caltrain). It could enable you to send a car every 15 minutes if desired.

Caltrain says it must have electrification and "EMUs" (electric multiple units). But these are just like diesel DMUs; the only difference is that they start up a little faster; so from Menlo Park to San Francisco, you will probably get there a few minutes faster. Is that worth a billion dollars for the electrification expense, and the loss of thousands of trees on the Peninsula to electrify the corridor?

It's time for Caltrain to wise up. We will support the operating subsidy request, but Caltrain will have to maintain its historic role and physical footprint, because we do not want to destroy what we have worked so hard to build and maintain on our Peninsula. There is plenty of room for a deal. Many of us are ready; but is Caltrain? Let's hope so. ■

James R. Janz served from 2000 to 2008 on the Atherton City Council, including two terms as mayor. He is a founding member of the Atherton Rail Committee, and currently serves as board president of the Community Coalition on High-Speed Rail (CC-HSR). Michael J. Brady is an attorney, mediator, and arbitrator located in Redwood City, and a board member CC-HSR. The opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of CC-HSR.



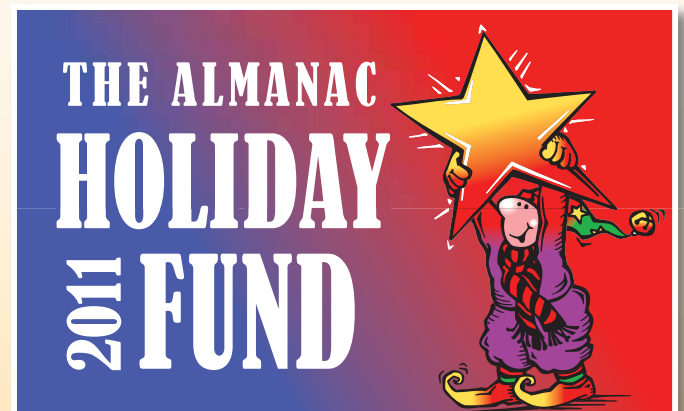
GUEST
OPINION

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Holiday Fund

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siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund



Holiday Fund

■ Helping increase your donations to local charities

Finding Home

Shelter Network helps Stephanie regain her strength and permanent housing.

By Maria Duzon, communications manager, Shelter Network

In 2006, Stephanie's family was living comfortably. She had never dreamed of becoming homeless. But that year, everything changed when their 22-year-old son Nate, a student at UC Berkeley, tragically passed away.

"I must have hugged over 400 people at his funeral, including the mayor and the police chief," said Stephanie. "You don't see that kind of support for just anyone. Nate was special."

Nate's death was devastating to Stephanie and her family. On top of the emotional struggle, her husband's contracting jobs plummeted with the economy. Stephanie's income alone was not enough to sustain their lifestyle. They decided to take the kids and start a new life in Kentucky.

After three months in Kentucky, Stephanie was earning just \$6.85/hour, and her husband found only sporadic construction jobs. When their house flooded, Stephanie moved with the children back to the

■ HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Almanac's Holiday Fund benefit the Shelter Network Program and nine other community-service organizations.

Bay Area to live with her mother, while her husband stayed in Kentucky. Her mother's depression quickly made the living situation impossible. Stephanie ended up homeless, living in her car with five children.

Stephanie was referred to Shelter Network, and the family quickly moved into a transitional apartment at Shelter Network's Haven Family House in Menlo Park. She was so grateful to have their own safe, clean apartment where they could



Stephanie with her children at Shelter Network's Haven Family House.

begin to rebuild their lives.

At Shelter Network, Stephanie's case manager helped her budget and search for housing. The children attended the on-site summer camp and received new backpacks for school. They were given free food, diapers, clothing and shoes — allowing her to save every dollar.

Stephanie's case manager helped her enroll in college classes for an AA in business administration. In October — less than four months after coming

to Shelter Network — Stephanie and her children moved into their own apartment.

"My biggest motivator is my children, to show them that no matter what happens they can always pick themselves back up and succeed," said Stephanie. "Shelter Network has given me the opportunity to work hard and get our lives back. I am eternally grateful." ■

Visit shelternetwork.org for more information.

How teens help peers prevent pregnancy

By Shelly Masur, executive director, and Kris P. Ahmed, director of training, Teen Talk Sexuality Education.

Mayerlin was 16 when she had her son. A Woodside High student who had the distinction of holding one of the district's highest state test scores, Mayerlin got pregnant her first time. She had a long-time boyfriend and

didn't think getting pregnant would ever happen to someone like her.

Sitting in front of a classroom of middle school students, she says, "I never thought of birth control, because I thought I would never get pregnant."

Mayerlin joined Teen Talk's Teen Parent Panel because, she says: "Lots of people think it is cool and normal to be a teen

parent. I want to change that perspective because being a teen parent is very hard. You have to dedicate your life to your baby."

The Teen Parent Panel, a program of Teen Talk located in Redwood City, educates youth on the realities of teen parenthood. Panelists share personal stories with peers and provide students and speakers with an invaluable opportunity to learn from each other.

These resilient teen parents discuss issues from how their relationships changed with their partners, parents and friends, to the pressures they felt to become sexually active in the first place.

Panelists make an impact every time they present. Mayerlin's story spurred one student to offer her money. Another student wrote: "Your story really made me realize that having a baby is lots of work and not an easy job, and if you're planning to have sex you need to talk about birth control."

Maria also had a baby at 16. Maria discloses family conflict when faced with her pregnancy; many family members were disappointed, while others saw no problem.

Maria talks about how young Latinas should focus on their education before starting a fam-



Teen Talk panel member Maria Mendoza, left, and Jackie Samayoa, panel coordinator.

Photo by Kris Ahmed

Continued on next page

Hirzel
fine jewelry

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

LARGEST SALE IN OUR 59 YEAR HISTORY!

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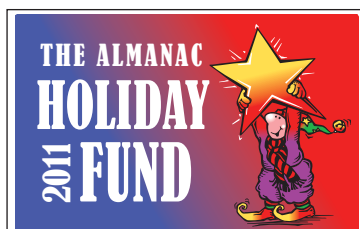
Continued from previous page

ily. A critical discussion given 52 percent of Latinas in the U.S. will become pregnant as teens and only one quarter finish high school after having a baby.

Teen Talk's Teen Parent Panel is part of its comprehensive approach to preventing teen pregnancy. In addition, Teen Talk partners with school districts, including the Sequoia Union High School District, to provide classroom-based education.

Nationally recognized for its innovative work, Teen Talk has been selected to start a new program, Teen Success, aimed at assisting teen mothers. Through weekly support groups, these teens gain information, skills and learn behaviors to prevent another pregnancy and graduate high school.

Working together, Teen Talk's programs help teens beat the



Gifts to the Holiday Fund benefit Teen Talk Sexuality Education and nine other local community-service organizations.

odds by finishing school, keeping a job, and escaping poverty.

As one teen mom says, teen pregnancy is 100 percent preventable.

You can help Teen Talk get this important message out by giving to the Almanac Holiday Fund. ■

Visit teentalkca.org for more information about Teen Talk. Local contact info: Teen Talk, 120 James Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062. Call (650) 367-1937.

Giving to the

Holiday Fund

Your gift helps children and others in need



Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents.

Last year, Almanac readers contributed more than \$95,000, and with available matching grants, \$138,678 was raised for 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched, to the extent possible, by generous com-

munity corporations, foundations and individuals, including the Rotary Club of Menlo Park, the David and Lucille Packard Foundation and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. No administration costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

All donations to the Holiday Fund will be shared equally among the 10 recipient agencies listed below.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

Provides after-school and academic support and activities for 1,100 youths each day, ages 6 to 18. Operates clubhouses in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood, East Palo Alto, and Redwood City and after-school programs at schools in these communities designed to extend the learning day and supplement the schools's curriculum.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

Provides emergency food, clothing, household essentials, and sometimes financial assistance to families in need, regardless of religious preference, including Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for more than 1,500 households.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

Provides comprehensive primary medical, dental, behavioral and preventive health care for all ages at clinics in Belle Haven and East Palo Alto. Of the more than 30,000 registered patients, over 97 percent are low-income and uninsured from the ethnically diverse East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

Serves hundreds of hot meals six days a week in a social and friendly atmosphere to anyone in need. Funded entirely by voluntary contributions from the community, St. Anthony's is the largest dining room for the needy between San Francisco and San Jose. It also offers groceries to take home and distributes clothing to families.

Second Harvest Food Bank

The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributes 45 million pounds of food each year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to some 250,000 people each month through more than 650 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Project Read Menlo Park

Provides free literacy services to adults in the Menlo Park area. Trained volunteers work one to one or in small groups to help adults improve their basic reading, writing and English language skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, at work, and in the community.

Shelter Network

Provides short term-shelter and transitional housing services to more than 4,500 homeless men, women and children each year. Offers a range of housing and support programs for families and individuals to become self-sufficient and return to permanent housing.

Teen Talk

Provides educational programs for youth and adults to help teens make healthy choices that will result in lower rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Its iTeen Talk program serves more than 3,500 youth at public school sites in San Mateo County.

StarVista

Formerly Youth and Family Enrichment Services, StarVista provides many programs to help people who struggle with substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health, relationship and communications issues. Helps strengthen youth, families, and individuals to overcome challenges through counseling, education, and residential services.

Fair Oaks Community Center

Provides housing assistance, childcare programs, older adult nutrition, emergency shelter referrals, legal services for low income tenants and loc-cost exercise programs for youth and adults.

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Rotary Club of Menlo Park

The Almanac will make every effort to publish donor names for donations received before Dec. 31, 2011, unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.

Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more calendar listings

Art Galleries

'Rodin and America' An exhibit on sculptor Auguste Rodin's influence on American artists. Through Jan. 1, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford.

'Small Treasures' The Portola Art Gallery hosts a group exhibition of smaller works for the holiday gift season. Throughout December, the gallery's artists will show paintings and fine-art photographs. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. Call 650-273-3505. www.portolaartgallery.com

'To Great Lengths,' Installations by Esther Traugot Installation of works by artist Esther Traugot. Traugot covers objects of nature (trees, seeds, insects, branches) in crocheted threads in an attempt to "prop up" or "put back" what has been abandoned or broken. Through Jan. 22, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800 ext. 306. www.arts4all.org

Sukey Bryan: 'Waterforms' Stanford artist Sukey Bryan is exhibiting prints and large paintings in the Anita Seipp Gallery. The art focuses on water as it cycles through the natural environment in many forms, including rain, ocean, glaciers, icebergs and waterfalls. Jan. 3-Feb. 3, weekdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Castilleja School, 1311 Emerson St., Palo Alto. Call 650-328-3160, extension 7878. www.castilleja.org

Winter Solstice Exhibition A winter-solstice-themed exhibit will run through Jan. 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. The Gallery at Fibre Arts Design, 935 Industrial Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-485-2121. www.fibreartsdesign.com

Auditions

'Alice' Los Altos Youth Theatre is holding auditions for the play "Alice," a quirky version of the classic "Alice in Wonderland." Actors should prepare a one-minute monologue or poem showing character and humor, come prepared to move, and bring a list of rehearsal conflicts. Jan. 9 and 10, Ages 10-20 Rehearsal Jan 18 - Mar 14 Performs Mar 15-30, Bus Barn Theatre 4-6 p.m. Free. Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-947-2796. losaltosrecreation.org

Classes/Workshops

Rose Pruning and Care Encourage profuse flowering with winter pruning and proper care. Learn about soil and amendments for healthy, happy roses. Mulches are also discussed. The class will go to a nearby garden for a demonstration and some hands-on pruning. Bring: a snack; pruning shears are optional. Jan. 7, 10:30 a.m.-noon. \$38. Common Ground Garden Supply and Education Center, 559 College Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-493-6072. rosepruningandcare.eventbrite.com/

Viva Badminton Winter Camp: A two-week, two-session badminton academy focuses on technique. Dec. 19-23 and Dec. 26-30, 9-11:30 a.m. Royal Badminton Academy, 190 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Call 650-838-9318. wintercamp.royalbadminton.com

Yoga 101 Workshop Series This workshop is designed for beginning students or those wanting a step-by-step review. It focuses on the fundamentals of yoga, breathing and elemental versions of all poses. Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 2, 7:15-8:30 p.m. \$45 if paid before Dec. 31, \$50 afterward. Blue Iris Studio, 3485 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. Call 650-858-1440. www.blueirisstudiopalooalto.com

Clubs/Meetings

Model Railroad Club Open House The West Bay Model Railroad Association holds

monthly open houses the fourth Wednesday of every month, and the club is currently seeking new members who are interested in model railroading, regardless of their skill level in the hobby. 7-10 p.m. Free. West Bay Model Railroad Association, 1090 Merrill St., Menlo Park. Call 650-322-0685. wbmra.ning.com

Community Events

Holiday Skating on the Square Downtown Redwood City hosts an outdoor skating rink through the winter, through Jan. 16. Check website for hours. \$12 (skates are free). Court-house Square, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. www.redwoodcity.org/events/skating.html

Used-Book Sale The Friends of the Palo Alto Library organization is holding monthly sales of used books, CDs and DVDs on Sat. and Sun., Jan. 14-15 and Feb. 11-12. Sale hours: Sat., main sale room open 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; children's and bargain rooms open 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., all rooms open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission free. Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-213-8755. www.fopal.com

Vegetarian Dinners The Peninsula Macrobiotic Community serves a vegetarian dinner every Monday (except holidays). Full vegan meal includes soup, grain, beans or bean products, vegetables, dessert and beverage. Communal seating. Lecture monthly. Diners are asked to make phone reservations by Mondays at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 12-Jan. 30, 6:30-8 p.m. \$15. First Baptist Church, 305 N. California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650 599-3320. peninsulamacro.org

Concerts

'Back to Bach' Organist James Welch performs his annual New Year's Eve concert with the music of Bach, including Prelude and Fugue in D Major, Sonata in C Major, and settings of In dulci jubilo. Joining him is his son Nicholas, performing Bach's Partita in B-flat Major on the piano. Dec. 31, 8-9 p.m. \$10 at the door. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-856-9700. welchorganist.com

'I Like Ludwig' SFCO presents a program of Beethoven selections. Jan. 1, 3-5 p.m. Free. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. Call 415-692-5258. www.sfchamber-orchestra.org/concerts/mainstage/

Dance

New Year's Eve Contra Dance Hosted at a special location, this event features caller Tina Fields and Star Thistle (Chetani Cheryl McKinney, Dave Kistler, Lonna Whipple, David Wright). Attendees are asked to bring a dish for the potluck. Dec. 31, 8 p.m.-midnight, \$20 general, \$16 for members, \$10 for students. Palo Alto Masonic Center, 461 Florence St., Palo Alto. www.bacds.org/series/contra/palo_alto

Exhibits

'directly indirect' An exhibition called "directly indirect" features abstract and representational paintings and prints, and mixed-media installations, by eight artists. Exhibit runs Jan. 9-27, open weekdays 3-6 p.m. Reception: Jan. 14, 5-7 p.m. Free. Kriewall-Haehl Gallery, Woodside Priory School, 302 Portola Road, Portola Valley. kriewallhaehlgallery.blogspot.com

'Images of Menlo' Art Exhibit The third-annual "Images of Menlo" exhibit showcases plain air art by Menlo College students and local artists. The show, currently on display in the Administration Building, includes more than 30 oil and acrylic paintings of the Menlo campus. Through Jan. 13, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Menlo College, 1000 El Camino Real, Atherton. Call 650-543-3901. www.menlo.edu

'Rodin and the Dancing Body' Rodin's friendship with dance artist Isadora Duncan is the starting point for this installation, during

which students will move through the museum's auditorium with their dancing bodies, providing visitors with a perspective on a significant aspect of Rodin's work. Through Jan. 1, open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 8 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, 328 Lomita Drive and Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'The Legend of Rex Slinkard' An exhibition focuses on the works of the early-20th-century California artist Rex Slinkard. During his life he emerged from his roots as a rancher to become a painter who helped influence the modernist bent of the nascent California art scene. Through Feb. 26, open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 8 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, 328 Lomita Drive and Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Antique Toys, 1870-1930 In addition to early American toys, the exhibit also features turn-of-the-century toy trains and accessories from fine European toymakers such as Marklin and Bing. Through April, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-321-1004. www.moah.org

Family and Kids

'New Year at Noon' Cheeky Monkey Toys is hosting an early New Year's countdown for kids and their parents, with crafts and a balloon drop at the stroke of noon. Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Cheeky Monkey Toys, 640 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. www.cheeky-monkeytoys.com

Information Night for Parents Bullis Charter School is a small K-8 public school based in Los Altos. Open enrollment ends Feb. 3, and an information session for parents is Jan. 10, 7-8 p.m. Free. Bullis Charter School, 102 W. Portola Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-947-4939. www.bullischarterschool.com

LEGO Holiday Display The Museum of American Heritage (MOAH), The Bay Area LEGO User Group (BayLUG) are co-hosting the 2011 LEGO Holiday display at MOAH. Weekends through Jan. 15, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$2. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-321-1004. www.moah.org

Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo Ongoing exhibits at the museum and zoo include "Bobcat Ridge," "Africa's Bats," exhibits on physics and math, and a "Buzzz" display on insects and spiders. Museum hours: Tue.-Sat. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 1-4 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, 1451 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. www.friendsjmnz.org

Randel McGee as Hans Christian Andersen Storyteller Randel McGee brings Hans Christian Andersen and his famous fairy tales to life, creating papercuts as he tells. For ages 6 and up. Jan. 9, 4-4:45 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Film

'Last Call at the Oasis' Castilleja School will host a screening of the film "Last Call at the Oasis" by director Jessica Yu ("Breathing Lessons: The Life and Work of Mark O'Brien"), followed by a question-and-answer session. The event is part of Castilleja's "Global Week: Fresh Water-Commodity or Human Right?" Jan. 3, 7-9 p.m. Free. Castilleja School, Chapel Theater, 1310 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-328-3160.

Live Music

Acoustic Blues Mighty Mississippi Acoustic Blues night, with dinner served from 5 p.m. Dec. 30, 8-11 p.m. Free. Oak City Bar & Grill, 1029 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. oakcitybarandgrill.com

Kaye Bohler Band Reservations are suggested for a New Year's Eve performance by the bluesy Kaye Bohler Band, with dinner served from 5 p.m. Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m. Oak City Bar & Grill, 1029 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. oakcitybarandgrill.com

Rolling Stones 50th Celebration The Rolling Stones tribute concert "Satisfaction 5-0, A Celebration of 50 Years of The World's Greatest Rock 'N' Roll Band" is planned on New Year's Eve, with musician Rudy Colombini in the lead role. Dec. 31, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$39.50. Club Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 775-220-0995. clubfoxwc.com

On Stage

'The Secret Garden' TheatreWorks pres-



Pig Headed by Nicholas Lamkin of Atherton.

SHP student wins art contest

Nick Lamkin of Atherton, a senior at Sacred Heart Prep, is featured as winner in the experimental/abstract category in the annual student art competition in "The Artist's Magazine."

His prize-winning work, "Pig Headed," shows a large pig in military uniform with small sheep wearing gas masks in the foreground. Inspired by Pink Floyd's album "Animals," Nick selected newspaper and magazine clippings showing war and other tragedies involving innocent victims

and adhered them to the background.

Nick attended the Rhode Island School of Design pre-college program last summer and plans to continue his art studies in college. His art teachers include Peggy O'Leary, head of the department of fine arts at Sacred Heart Prep, and Phyllis Aroner of Redwood City.



Nick Lamkin

ents the musical adaptation of "The Secret Garden," based on the classic novel about a young orphan who discovers a hidden garden. Through Dec. 31, 8-9:45 p.m. \$19-\$72. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-1960. theatreworks.org

Michael Fosberg's 'Incognito' After being raised white, Michael Fosberg discovers his father is black. He explores this in his autobiographical play. Jan. 14, 8-9:30 p.m. \$15-\$20. Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org

Outdoors

Historic Folger Stable Visitors can view the historically restored Folger Stable and miles of woodland trails. View historic displays and video in the carriage room. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. Free. Wunderlich Park, 4040 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-2660.

Religion/Spirituality

New Year's Eve Service The evening — which will focus on the question "What pattern do you want to set in the coming year?" — includes a talk by Asha Praver, chanting, meditation, affirmation and a fire ceremony intended to give strength to positive resolutions. Dec. 31, 7:30-8 p.m. Free. Ananda, 2171 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. Call 650-323-3363. www.anandapaloalto.org

Seniors

'Senior New Year's Eve Day Bash' Dancing and a buffet lunch, with a champagne toast at 1:30 p.m. Tickets available at the Lucie Stern and Cubberley community centers, Avenidas and the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center. Dec. 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$13 pre-sale/\$18 day of event. Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-4953. www.cityofpaloalto.org/recreation

Singles

'Pre-New Year's Eve Singles Dance' Singles celebrate New Year's Eve one night early. Dancing and DJ, hats and horns. Adults of all ages are welcome. Dec. 30, 8 p.m.-mid-

night. \$15 if bought by Dec. 29, \$20 at the door. Sheraton Hotel, 625 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. Call 415-507-9962. www.thepartyhotline.com

Sports

Menlo Atherton Little League Registration Menlo Atherton Little League registration is open. Children may be registered for T-ball, A, AA, AAA and majors. The deadline is Jan. 13, 2012. Go to www.m-all.org.

Talks/Authors

Ethics & War Series: Lawrence Wright Lawrence Wright is an author, screenwriter, playwright, and a staff writer for The New Yorker magazine. Jan. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Cemex Auditorium, Zambrano Hall, Knight Management Center, Stanford. Call 650-723-0997. ethicsinsociety.stanford.edu

Jacqueline Widmar Stewart Jacqueline Widmar Stewart shares "The Parks and Gardens in Greater Paris," benefiting East Palo Alto Kids Foundation. Jan. 7, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 74 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto. www.booksinc.net

Linda Grey Sexton Linda Grey Sexton shares "Half in Love: Surviving the Legacy of Suicide." Jan. 11, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 74 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto. www.booksinc.net

Michael Gazzaniga Author Michael Gazzaniga speaks about his book "Who's In Charge?: Free Will and the Science of the Brain." Jan. 3, 7 p.m. Audience members must buy the event book or a \$10 gift card (admits two); bookstore members get in free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.com

Volunteers

Nature Volunteer in Local Schools The Palo Alto- and San Jose-based organization Environmental Volunteers is seeking people to help kids love science and nature. In various schools, volunteers work with small groups of children and involve them in hands-on, discovery-based learning. Next training is Jan. 6, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Environmental Volunteers. Call 650-961-0545. www.evols.org

Second Harvest Food Bank needs cash

With 250,000 people needing its services each month, the Second Harvest Food Bank of San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties is asking for help to keep the shelves stocked.

According to the nonprofit,

donations of food and money have dropped compared to last year, and the food bank has only reached 25 percent of its annual \$11.3 million fundraising goal.

Go to www.SHFB.org or call 866-234-3663 to donate.

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- **FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE**
800-899
- **PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES**
995-997

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Bulletin Board

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

Dance Expressions - 5 to 6 years
 Dance Expressions 2012 - NEW!
 Introduction to opera
 Stanford music tutoring
 Thanks to Saint Jude

120 Auctions
Advertise Your Auction
 in 240 California newspapers for one low cost of \$550. Your 25 word classified ad reaches over 6 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

130 Classes & Instruction
Aviation Maintenance
 Work on Jet Engines. Train for Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved. Financial aid if qualified - Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance (888) 242-3382 toll free. (Cal-SCAN)

High School Diploma!
 Graduate in 4 weeks! FREE Brochure. Call Now! 1-866-562-3650 ext. 60 www.SouthEasternHS.com (Cal-SCAN)

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!
 Graduate in just 4 weeks!!! FREE Brochure. Call NOW! 1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 www.continentalacademy.com (AAN CAN)

German language class
Instruction for Hebrew
 Bar and Bat Mitzvah
 For Affiliated and Unaffiliated
 George Rubin, M.A. in
 Hebrew/Jewish Education
 650/424-1940

133 Music Lessons
Barton-Holding Music Studio
 Accepting new students for private vocal lessons. All levels. Call Laura Barton, 650/965-0139
 FUN, Piano/Guitar/Violin Lessons

Hope Street Music Studios
 In downtown Mtn. View Most instruments, voice All ages & levels (650)961-2192 www.hopestreetmusicstudios.com

Jazz & Pop Piano Lessons
 Learn how to build chords and improvise. Bill Susman, M.A., Stanford. (650)906-7529

Piano Lessons in your home
 Children and adults. Christina Conti, B.M. 15+ yrs exp. 650/493-6950

SMALL GROUP CHORAL SINGING
The Manzana Music School
 www.ManzanaMusicSchool.com
 Palo Alto Kids & Adults Guitar, Banjo, Mandolin, Violin, Cello, & Bass lessons

135 Group Activities
<http://www.meetup.com/omgmeetupg>

145 Non-Profits Needs
 DONATE BOOKS/HELP OUR LIBRARIES.

150 Volunteers
 Conversation Partners needed
 Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats
 FRIENDS OF THE PA LIBRARY
 Help feed cats shorelineSafeway

homeless cats need your help
 museum volunteers

152 Research Study Volunteers



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PARENTS, TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS:
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For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts
 BMW 2008 328i Sedan - \$23,988
 Mini 2009 Mini Cooper - \$18,300

202 Vehicles Wanted
CASH FOR CARS:
 Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com

Donate a Vehicle
 2011 Tax Deduction! Help struggling families. Cars, trucks, boats and RV's wanted running or not. Free towing/Tax deductible. 877-493-GIVE (4483). www.MakeADifferenceDonations.org (Cal-SCAN)

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210 Garage/Estate Sales
 Redwood City, Quartz St, ONGOING

215 Collectibles & Antiques
 custom & designer clothing - Svaries

220 Computers/Electronics
 Have a business? You need Free V

235 Wanted to Buy
CASH FOR GUNS!
 Eddy's, Mtn.View (650)969-GUNS

240 Furnishings/Household items
 Cafe Latte-Colored Leather Sofa - \$700

245 Miscellaneous
Infrared iHeater
 Save up to 50 percent off your next heating bill. Advanced Portable Infrared iHeater! Heat 1000 sq. ft. for about 5 cents an hour! Free Shipping! Call 1-888-807-5741. (Cal-SCAN)

Alta Mesa Plot - \$6200.00
Alta Mesa Plot
 Subdivision 7, Hillview, will negotiate. 808-280-6075

CEMETERY PLOT, Alta Mesa
 Lawn plot in Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto. Plot will accommodate 1 casket or 1 casket and 1 urn or 2 urns. Current market value \$8800.00.

250 Musical Instruments
 Donate 1916 Baldwin Palor Grand Piano to a charitable organization, appraised at \$5,000.00, or sell B/O

Schimmel Grand Piano
 Schimmel concert chamber grand piano(CC 208LE)(6ft 10in). Purchased in 1999 and in excellent condition. Seller is moving.

Kid's Stuff

330 Child Care Offered
 Holiday Art Camps 650 799 0235
<https://www.babysitterhq.com/>
 Nanny Personal Assistant

345 Tutoring/Lessons
 Chess Lessons for kids and adult
 French Group Lesson 650-691-9863

355 Items for Sale
 4 Years BOY Summer clothes\$40
 Avent bottles,bowls,forks,spoons
 Big lotBOY 5Years winterclothes
 Box withBoyBabyBlankets/comforte
 BOY24mon SUMMER only clothes
 Jackets BOY 6mon-3 years \$5
 Pink BarbieJeep1998MattelRemote
 Size 3T suit/tuxedo jacketRenew
 Stuffed animals box full only\$20
 Toddler shoes Size 4-6Boy - 3
 Toddler Soccer cleats size13 \$5

Mind & Body

415 Classes
 2-DAY INTENSIVE Hypnosis: Creati

425 Health Services
Diabetics with Medicare
 Get a Free Talking Meter and diabetic testing supplies at No Cost, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call 888-781-9376. (Cal-SCAN)

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 with Medicare. Get FREE CPAP Replacement Supplies at No Cost, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, prevent red skin sores and bacterial infection! Call 888-699-7660. (Cal-SCAN)

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Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Technology
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Business Analyst (Ref. #RSLPALBA21). Research, elicit, analyze, validate and document business requirements, and to ensure that requirements clearly reflect true business needs, correctly representing all stakeholders. Extensive travel required to various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S.

Technology Consultant (Ref. #RSLPALTC31) Provide technology consulting to customers and internal project teams. Provide technical support and/or leadership in creation and delivery of technology solutions designed to meet customers' business needs and, consequently, for understanding customers' businesses. Extensive travel required to various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S.

ITO Service Delivery Consultant (Ref. #RSLPALITO11) Provide expertise for IT infrastructure, application infrastructure, and related services throughout the lifecycle of a deal in accordance with contractually established terms and conditions and established technical standards. Extensive travel required to various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S.

Mail resume to Hewlett-Packard State and Local Enterprise Services, Inc., 5400 Legacy Drive, MS H1-6F-61, Plano, TX 75024. Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address and mailing address. No phone calls please. Must be legally authorized to work in the U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

560 Employment Information

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640 Legal Services
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 Injured in an auto accident? Call Jacoby and Meyers for a free case evaluation. Never a cost to you. Don't wait, call now, 888-685-5721. (Cal-SCAN)

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Driveways • Yard maintenance
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WEEKLY MAINTENANCE
TRIMMING/ PRUNING, TREE SERVICE, STUMP GRINDING, CLEAN UPS, AERATION, IRRIGATION, ROTOTILLING. ROGER: 650.776.8666

751 General Contracting

NOTICE TO READERS It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500.00 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

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Real Estate

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Mountain View, Studio BR/1 BA - \$1225
Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1,595/mo
Sunnyvale - \$1,795/mo
Sunnyvale, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1,795/mo
Sunnyvale, 2 BR/2 BA - \$2000

805 Homes for Rent
\$3250 / 2br - 1200ft beautiful Midtown Duplex Home In The Heart Of Palo Alto.2+br/2.5 (sf Bay / Palo Alto) , 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$3250

809 Shared Housing/Rooms
ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

825 Homes/Condos for Sale
Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA - 1,699.00

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Advertise Vacation Property in 240 California newspapers for one low cost of \$550. Your 25 word classified ad reaches over 6 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)
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Tahoe Vista Townhouse
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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

BOCCI DESIGNS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 247608
The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Bocci Designs, located at 125 Somerset Street, Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
EILEEN R. BOCCI
125 Somerset Street
Redwood City, CA 94062
This business is conducted by:
An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 10/31/2011. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 14, 2011. (Almanac Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2011)

THE COLLEGE TOOLBOX FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 247840
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
The College Toolbox
1810 Cordilleras
Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
JAMES KOBLOCK
1810 Cordilleras
Redwood City, CA 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 11/01/2011. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 30, 2011. (Almanac Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2011)

COOK SMARTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 247940
The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Cook Smarts, located at 1983 Euclid Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
JESSICA DANG
1983 Euclid Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: Sole Proprietor.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on December 7, 2011. (Almanac Dec. 21, 28, 2011, Jan. 4, 11, 2012)

FILING YOUR FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT? We Offer Professional Help.

ALMANAC • 326-8210.

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: CIV509889
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: NAZIA GIVENS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
YOUSEUF MOHAMMAD MESKIENYAR to YOSEF GIVENS.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: Friday, January 6, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, Room: 2E of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
THE ALMANAC
Date: November 22, 2011
/s/ Beth Labson Freeman
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(The Almanac Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2011)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: CIV509936
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner LYDIA CARDOZA BELLO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
LYDIA CARDOZA BELLO to LYDIA B. CARDOZA.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: January 10, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, Room: 2E of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior

to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC.
Date: December 2, 2011
/s/ Beth Labson Freeman
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(The Almanac Dec. 14, 21, 28, 2011, Jan. 4, 2012)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to sections 21700 - 21716 of the California Business and Professions Code, known as the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, that the undersigned, ALL ABOARD MINI STORAGE will sell at public auction on January 16th, 2012 at 3:00 P.M. at 1520 WILLOW RD., MENLO PARK, CA 94025 the following personal property, household goods, business property and/or vehicle to wit:
137 Tavakeoma Vailea Mataele aka. Tavakeoma Mataele aka. T Mataele Microwave, Night Stand, Clothing, Bedding, Baby's Furniture, Air Conditioner, and Approx. 20 Boxes.

204 David Allen Thompson aka. David Thompson Stools/Bar Aquarium, Clothing, Vacuum/Carpet Cleaner. Air Conditioner, Tool Box, Trash and Approx. 2 Bags.

358 Suzanne Meholic aka. Suzanne Christine Meholic 1 Chest and Approx. 12 Plastic Bins.

Said sale is for the purpose of satisfying lien of the undersigned for storage fees, advertising, and lien costs. The undersigned reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. All rights to damages by reason of a deficiency in this resale and incidental damages, and any and all other appropriate remedies are hereby reserved.

Dated this 19th day of December, 2011

J. Michael's Auction, Inc.
State License Bond #142295787
(916) 543-1575

Dates Published December 28th, 2011 and January 4th, 2012

By: Jodi Parker
Agent for Owner
Almanac

Call Alicia Santillan
(650) 326-8210 x6578
to assist you with your legal advertising needs.
Or e-mail her at:
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Juliana Lee
李文



merry christmas

&
2012

happy new year!



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MBA & LLB

KELLER WILLIAMS