



Hundreds gather to remember
local legend Tom Martinez. *Page 3*

The Almanac

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Hundreds gather to remember coaching legend Tom Martinez

Hundreds gathered at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church on Friday to remember Tom Martinez of Menlo Park, a longtime coach at the College of San Mateo who was a mentor and quarterback coach to Tom Brady of the New England Patriots.

Mr. Martinez died Tuesday, Feb. 21, on his 66th birthday, of a heart attack during a dialysis session while awaiting a kidney transplant.

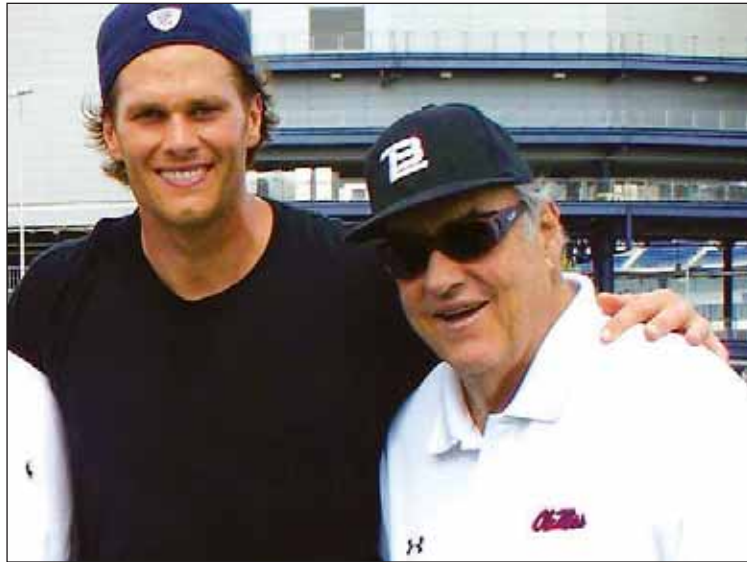
Tom Brady, a two-time winner of the Super Bowl MVP award and a native of San Mateo, was in attendance, but his father, Tom Brady Sr., spoke.

Mr. Martinez was a coach to Tom Brady from age 12 and into his NFL career, often texting him after NFL games, and holding a coaching session as late as last fall.

During 32 years of coaching at the College of San Mateo, none of Mr. Martinez's teams had a losing season. He coached three sports: football and women's basketball and softball. He retired from coaching in 2005 for health reasons.

Mr. Martinez's health had declined due to complications from diabetes, said Paul Doolley, CEO of MatchingDonors.com, who was working to find a kidney donor for Martinez.

On June 12, 2001, Mr. Martinez announced that he had one month to live, due to diabetes and cancer. "I've been told I'm



Tom Brady with coach Tom Martinez.

Courtesy Tom Brady's Facebook page

out of here, and I don't accept that," he said. "I'm going to fight to the end."

Tom Brady urged the public to send potential organ donors to MatchingDonors.com to see if they could be a kidney match. More than 300 potential donors stepped forward, Mr. Dooley said.

Mr. Brady posted this message on his Facebook page: "I am deeply saddened by the passing of my coach, mentor and friend. Coach Martinez's invaluable assistance and support will never be forgotten and will always have a lasting impact on my life. The time we spent together remain some of my fondest memories. His

legacy of commitment, toughness and determination will live on forever."

Mr. Martinez was married to Olivia Martinez, a longtime member of the governing board of the Sequoia Union High School District. They were married for 46 years, and had three children: Tom, Lisa and Linda; and six grandchildren.

The family requests that donations be made to the Tom Martinez Goal Line Fund to help people needing organ transplants through MatchingDonors.com.

Go to tinyurl.com/Martinez-221 for more information and to see videos about Tom Martinez.

Author's talk in Menlo: 'Story of Courage in the Holocaust'

Author Marty Brounstein will discuss his book, "Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust," at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St. in Menlo Park.

The book tells the story of Frans and Mein Winjnakker,

a Catholic couple who saved the lives of at least two dozen Jews living in southern Holland during the Holocaust and World War II. An author, speaker and management consultant, Mr. Brounstein is married to one of those saved by the Winjnakkers.

Copies of the book will be

available for purchase and signing after the talk. Refreshments will be served. No reservations are required for the free program supported by Friends of the Menlo Park Library.

Free van service to the program is available for local seniors and those with disabilities. For transportation, call 330-2512.

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Local News

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Still wanted: Menlo cold case resurfaces

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Twenty years ago, Primitivo Silva died, shot at a gas station on Marsh Road. Menlo Park police haven't stopped looking for the killer since.

As Fugitive Watch celebrated its 20-year anniversary on Feb. 23, the police took a moment to remind the suspected shooter, Jose Pantoja Mendoza, that he's still a wanted man.

Mr. Mendoza was briefly in custody in Mexico, according to police, but escaped before he could be extradited to the United States.

Detective Christine Powell said he may have made his way back into the country. "Even though it's 20 years later, the case is still important to us," she said. "We don't forget."

Fugitive Watch enlisted the services of forensic artist Victoria Lywood to create sketches of what Mr. Mendoza, now 42, might look like today. The organization, created by two former police officers, has grown into a local television program, newspaper and website dedicated to tracking down those hiding from the law.



Courtesy of Fugitive Watch

The photos are of the suspect, Jose Pantoja Mendoza, at age 22, when he allegedly committed the crime. The sketches by forensic artist Victoria Lywood are of how he might look now at age 42.

As part of its anniversary celebration, detectives from San Jose and Hayward, as well as Menlo Park, presented updates on cold cases from their jurisdictions. To date, Fugitive Watch has helped capture 1,205 suspects, the organization said.

Go to fugitive.com or call 1-800-922-8448 to share information about Mr. Mendoza's whereabouts. ■

Changes to planning staff coming to Portola Valley

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

Planning Manager Leslie Lambert has been back in her office at Portola Valley's Town Hall since last August, working four mornings a week — but the continuing effects from a concussion she suffered in January 2011 were at the core of a discussion by the Town Council at its Feb. 22 meeting.

The council, with members Ann Wengert and Jeff Aalfs absent, agreed in concept to phase out Ms. Lambert's position, create a new position of planning department manager, and allow Ms. Lambert to take a new part-time position, that of planning/building services adviser.

"The incumbent in the (planning manager) position is no longer able to fulfill the breadth of position duties, nor to work in a full-time capacity," Barba-

ra Powell, the town's interim assistant manager, said in a report.

Ms. Lambert fell at or near her home in Mountain View and had taken an extended leave of absence to recover from a "serious concussion."

In her new position, she would work 20 hours a week and be paid her current salary prorated for part-time work. As a part-time employee, she will earn \$45.79 per hour, Ms. Powell said.

Before her injury, Ms. Lambert led in-house planning services, with duties that included supervising a two-person planning staff and the environmental



Leslie Lambert

See LAMBERT, page 8



Almanac photo by Michelle Le

The plan is to draw water from a public aquifer to irrigate the private golf course at Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club, and potentially four public facilities.

Menlo Park plans third outreach meeting on well for golf course

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

It'll take a little while longer before the Menlo Park City Council gets a chance to decide whether to pursue a partnership with the Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club to build a well to draw water from a public aquifer to irrigate the private golf course and potentially four public facilities.

The club, which has offered to pay for construction of the well, currently uses more than 60 million gallons of

potable water per year, purchased from the Menlo Park Municipal Water District. The district in turn pulls its supply from the Hetch Hetchy, according to the club and city.

Using the well to irrigate Nealon, Jack Lyle, and Sharon Parks, along with La Entrada School, would decrease the city's demand for Hetch Hetchy water by an additional 13 million gallons a year.

City staff announced on Feb. 23 that a third community outreach meeting will take place this spring to take

a closer look at Jack Lyle Park as a potential well site.

Nealon Park, zoned as an open space conservation district, was the preferred site, but according to a statement released by the city, feedback from the community and two commissions indicate Jack Lyle Park, zoned as a public facilities district, may be a better choice.

The Parks and Recreation Commission voted 4-2 in December to support further consideration of the well,

See WELL, page 8

What do residents want in new library?

Library in park is opposed by a vocal group of Atherton residents.

Holbrook-Palmer Park Pavilion at 150 Watkins Ave.

The meetings are sponsored by the Atherton Library Building Steering Committee, which for about two years has been studying the need to either renovate the existing library or build a new facility.

The City Council recently

approved the committee's recommendation to build a new library in the park — an idea opposed by a vocal group of residents, some of whom want the existing library in the Town Center to be renovated.

Denise Kupperman of the library steering committee said the meetings are being facilitated by Shauna Wilson Mora of the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center, and David Schellinger of Lowercaseproductions, a San Francisco "branding" and

See LIBRARY, page 8

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Menlo Park to review library, gym parking

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

The Library Commission's recent conclusion that about one third of drivers hoping to stop at either the main Menlo Park Library or the new gym in the Civic Center have trouble finding a parking spot, leads to a couple questions: How big a problem is it, and what could be done?

It turns out that when there's a tournament happening — particularly after school hours — parking is an exercise in frustration for about 31 percent of visitors, according to the commission in a Feb. 2 memo. During 10 months of spot checks, commissioners said they witnessed illegal parking, unsafe drop-offs of children, and drivers leaving without finding a space.

Community Services Director Cherise Brandell said that parking is mainly a problem when the basketball league is playing. Transportation staff will take a look at the situation in about six weeks, after construction of the new gymnastics center finishes, which will free an additional 40 spaces, she said.

Some community members suggested unlocking the side doors of the gym to provide easier access to other lots. According to Ms. Brandell, the side doors are only locked when there's a single staffer on duty, as a safety precaution.

Transportation Commissioner

Ray Mueller wondered whether congestion was necessarily bad. "It underscores a great opportunity for cross-marketing. It would be great to see the library marketing itself to patrons of the gym," he said. "A gym that is effectively drawing more families to the vicinity of the library, I believe is a fantastic opportunity, even if it does create congestion in the parking lot."

Some community grumbling pointed a finger at the planning process for the new Arrillaga Family Gymnasium, but Councilman Rich Cline called the project well thought out. "We had this discussion in detail when the Friends of the Library and the commission cautioned against a full parking lot. I remember staff committing to check ins and to being open to modifications if needed," he said, recalling that everyone knew the parking situation would need review.

Once the city assesses the situation, Mr. Cline commented, it may be time to sit down and consider potential changes. "It is great to have folks take time to show where the city may need to make improvements."

The Library Commission suggested several fixes, including better coordination of program schedules between both facilities, improved signs and directions for sports league participants, and more traffic mitigation by the transportation department. It also asked for increased parking enforcement. ■

Man assaults hotel employee

Police are looking for a man in connection with an assault on a hotel employee as she was checking rooms at about 2:15 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Best Western Hotel at 15 El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

The employee "sustained non-life threatening injuries" in the struggle, and managed to get to a phone in the hotel room, at which point the man fled, said Nicole Acker, spokesperson for the Menlo Park Police Department.

The hotel, at the border with Santa Clara County, is just north of the bridge across San

Francisquito Creek.

The victim described the man as black and about 5 feet 10 inches tall with a slender build. He wore dark jeans, a black waist-length zip-up jacket over a long-sleeve light blue shirt, and a black baseball cap, police said. He had covered his face with a black ski mask and wore black fabric gloves, police said.

Police are asking anyone with information to call 330-6300 and ask for the investigations unit or Officer Felicia Byars, or call the anonymous tip line at 330-6395.

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Neighbors, developer, city reach consensus on housing project

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

It's not very often that you get to write a story like this in Menlo Park, where a faceoff between a developer and a neighborhood turned into a collaboration that seems to have left both parties ... pleased.

In 2008, when Matteson Companies proposed building 48 homes on the former Chevrolet truck lot at 389 El Camino Real, residents living in the Allied Arts neighborhood that borders the 1.23-acre project site said no. Loudly, and often.

Four years later, they're saying OK to a scaled-down proposal to build 26 homes. The consensus came about thanks to city staff, a neighborhood task force, and the developer.

Task force leader Annie Berlin described the collaboration as a surprise.

"It wasn't always easy, but it was a solid 'three-legged stool' from which we worked hard and pushed for making it a better project. I think you would find all participants very satisfied and that the project as a whole was better for this process and that Matteson made a lot of compromises," she said.

The compromises included reducing the number of units, and making changes to the landscaping and construction materials to help the project blend into the neighborhood. Matt Matteson, president of the development company, described the many changes as "positive."

The project's draft environmental impact report (DEIR)



Courtesy of Matteson Companies

A rendering of townhomes planned for development at 389 El Camino Real, on the site of a former car lot.

came out Feb. 17; the public comment period runs through Monday, April 2.

As far as the DEIR goes, concern remains about parking and traffic, given the number of children and senior citizens that live in the area, particularly during construction.

"What you may have witnessed on El Camino with the hospital renewal project (at Stanford) — the size, speed and volume of large trucks — will only get worse with more

construction," Ms. Berlin said. "That said, the task force representing the neighborhood will remain vigilant that the construction disruption be kept to a manageable level."

The 26 units consist of nine single-family homes and 17 townhouses, with three units set aside for the city's below-market-rate housing program. The plan includes 60 parking spaces, with two 26-foot wide driveways off El Camino Real providing the main access to

the property.

Open space is incorporated as 7,256 square feet of private yards for the single-family homes, and an additional 11,059 square feet of shared, landscaped space.

The Planning Commission expects to hold a hearing and study session on the project on Monday, March 19, in the council chambers at the Civic Center at 701 Laurel St. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Go to tinyurl.com/875933p to review the DEIR. ■

Town may hire firm to recruit manager

By Renee Batti
Almanac News Editor

The Atherton City Council will meet in a special session at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, to decide whether to hire a recruiter to find a new city manager — abandoning a plan to have former interim manager John Danielson conduct the search.

The council will vote on a recommendation to budget up to \$17,000 to hire an executive firm to recruit a permanent manager, which the town has been without since October 2010.

The likely change in course is the result of a delay by the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) in signing off on Mr. Danielson's contract as an independent contractor.

When Mr. Danielson, a retired city manager, was hired as

ATHERTON

Atherton's interim manager in January 2011 at a rate of \$15,000 per month, he was collecting a pension from the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS). Under state law, his tenure in Atherton was limited to a specified number of hours, and only one year in duration if he was to continue receiving his pension.

But because he failed to recruit a new manager before his contract ended Jan. 2, the town tried to get an extension from CalPERS. When that effort failed, the council approved a contract, carefully crafted to pass muster with CalPERS, to hire Mr. Danielson as a consultant to recruit a new manager

and to advise the new interim manager, as needed. It then submitted the contract to the state agency to make sure it met all legal requirements.

In a staff report, Interim City Manager Theresa DellaSanta said that CalPERS contacted the town last week and said its review of Mr. Danielson's contract could take up to two more months, and now she and Mr. Danielson "felt it was appropriate" to end the delay and ask the council to shift course so that the town could more quickly hire a new manager.

Also on the Feb. 28 special meeting agenda, the council will discuss the city manager recruitment process and establish a timeline for hiring a manager.

The meeting will be held in the Town Council Chambers, 94 Ashfield Road, in the Town Center. ■

Green energy home wins award

Tavinder and Vivek Wadhwa have won Menlo Park's 2011 Environmental Quality Award, for their passive energy home, the city announced.

The first passive energy home in San Mateo County, the house uses insulation and other construction features to reduce energy consumption by 90 percent, according to the city.

The Clarum Homes design also relies upon solar technology and heat recovery ventilation for temperature control and power supply.

The award presentation takes place at the Feb. 28 meeting of the City Council, which starts at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Civic Center at 701 Laurel St.

Menlo council addresses budget, high-speed-rail lobbyist

Council members have money on the mind, judging by the agenda for the Tuesday, Feb. 28, council meeting.

Planned highlights of the evening include a preliminary discussion of how to adjust the city's operating budget for fiscal year 2011-12, with a more detailed debate scheduled for the March 13 meeting, and debate over whether to retain the city's high-speed rail lobbyist.

Keeping Capital Advocates on contract through December 2012 would cost Menlo Park

BRIEFS

another \$50,000. Palo Alto and Atherton recently decided to drop the same lobbyist.

Go to tinyurl.com/6utgyuz to review the agenda. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Civic Center at 701 Laurel St.

At Kepler's

Local tennis coach Marcus Cootsona will talk about his

new book, "Occam's Racquet: 12 Steps to Smarter Tennis," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

Mr. Cootsona has taught tennis for 29 years, and has been a store owner, playwright, screenwriter, and retail consultant. He'll be introduced by Stanford coach Dick Gould.

Admission for the evening requires the purchase of Mr. Cootsona's book or a \$10 gift card, admitting two. Members get in free. The talk starts at 7 p.m.

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Market Shifting Toward Sellers

Dear Monica: I am trying to find a home to buy and would even rent for awhile until I found the right place. But I can't find anything on or off the market in either category that I like. Are sellers gaining the upper hand?

Jessica B.

Dear Jessica: In certain parts of the Mid-Peninsula the inventory of homes to buy or rent is extremely low causing a shift in the market from buyers to sellers. Prices have begun to rise

in some areas as well and there have been many properties that have sold with multiple offers.

As March begins, typically the start of the best selling season of the year, we will soon be able to see whether a more permanent shift in the market may be taking place. If supply remains tight and demand high, buyers should prepare themselves for this by being creative and flexible. You may have to buy a less than perfect home and rework it to your liking.

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

Menlo Park plans more outreach on well for golf course

WELL

continued from page 5

“with significant reservations.” It asked for another site possibility besides Nealon and Jack Lyle parks and that the commission take another look after an environmental impact report is released.

The Environmental Quality Commission unanimously recommended on Feb. 3 that the council not pursue any specific proposals regarding ground water use, including cost, siting, and other considerations, until developing a city gray water plan and clarifying long-term ground water rights with the county.

As for this specific well, the commission also recommended finding land that’s not zoned as open space — a key issue raised by residents as well.

Several commissioners favored innovative public-private part-

nerships, but expressed concern about the nature of this specific proposal.

“One concern is that the use of the resource, a country club, is not open to the public. By contrast, transit shuttles provided via public-private partnership are open to the public,” said Commissioner Adina Levin. “I also expressed concern with the fairness and public perception at offering public resources at a discounted price to a country club, at the same time that the city was contemplating reduction of services to low-income residents with the dissolution of the (redevelopment agency).”

Public Works Director Chip Taylor said it’s important to note that the project is not yet at a decision point. “We don’t have to make a decision right now; we can take the time to talk about it.” ■

LAMBERT

continued from page 5

programs coordinator, preparing staff reports for the Planning Commission, and serving at commission meetings as the Town Hall liaison.

Her new duties would include providing assistance to the public on policies and procedures related to planning and building services, serving as a liaison for homeowners associations and permit applicants, and educating the public about planning and building requirements, the report said.

Asked by a council member if Ms. Lambert agreed with this new arrangement, Ms. Powell replied: “Yes, very much so.”

“I wanted to do the best thing for the town and for myself,” Ms. Lambert said in a telephone interview. The planning staff

members “need somebody to guide them, so that was a really hard decision.”

Mayor Maryann Derwin asked whether the town could afford these changes.

Ms. Powell said she had talked with Town Planner Tom Vlastic, a consultant on contract from the Menlo Park-based firm Spangle & Associates, and concluded that the new manager would assume duties now outsourced, thereby saving money. And there are places in the budget from which funds can be drawn, she added.

“So it would be a wash?” Ms. Derwin asked.

“Yes,” Ms. Powell said.

Councilman Ted Driscoll asked Ms. Powell if she concurred with his perception that Ms. Lambert’s position would be retired when she retires. Ms. Powell said she concurred. ■

LIBRARY

continued from page 5

information design firm.

“We understand that the location of the library is pending completion of the EIR (environmental impact report), and that there is some controversy,” Ms. Kupperman wrote in an email. “However, in the meantime, it is important to gain insight into what services, collections, programs and spaces the community

wants included in the library.

“These aspects will inform the determination of the size of the new library, and we also need to gain an understanding of what the community wants the library to look like.”

On March 6, between the two scheduled meetings at the library, the Friends of the Atherton Library has scheduled a Jump for Joy Music performance for children. The program is set to begin at 6 p.m. at the library.

‘Our Town’ in Portola Valley

Actors from the Woodside Community Theatre are joining with the Portola Valley Theatre Conservatory in its production of “Our Town,” which runs March 2-4 and March 9-11 at Lane Hall Theatre, 945 Portola Road in Portola Valley. There will be a preview show on March 1.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning drama was written by Thornton Wilder in 1938. “It’s a fresh telling that makes the play as crisp and relevant today as it was when Wilder wrote it,” says Portola Valley Theatre Conservatory director Cheryl Goodman-Morris.

The cast of 20 includes many local residents.

“In addition, Mark Bowles, one of the producers of the Woodside Community Theatre, and Darlene Batchelder, who has carried a number of leads with WCT, along with her husband, Darrell, are joining us to make a terrific cast for ‘Our Town.’ Matt Waters, who is a math teacher at Woodside Elementary, plays the lead of George Gibbs,” says Ms. Goodman-Morris.

“Our Town” is set in 1901 in the fictional town of Grover’s Corners, New Hampshire. It is a love story about George



Photo by Ashley Pogue of Portola Valley

Taking lead roles in “Our Town” are Matt Waters, a math teacher at Woodside Elementary, who plays George Gibbs, and Claire Jungleib of Portola Valley, who plays Emily Webb.

and Emily, the boy and girl next door.

Guiding the audience on their visit to Grover’s Corners is the Stage Manager. “He sets every scene and in doing so, gets us to think about things that are real and important by showing us the very things that make life worth living,” says Ms. Goodman-Morris.

Although the three-act play is set in 1901, the actors wear modern-day dress. “Our Town” is a love letter from the past that packs a powerful wallop for the present,” says Ms. Goodman-Morris.

In addition to Matt Waters of San Carlos playing George Gibbs, other leading players are Claire Jungleib of Portola Valley playing Emily Webb and Joe Khirallah of Redwood City playing the Stage

Manager.

Other local residents in the cast are Dorian Dunne, Owen Crevelt, and George Comstock of Portola Valley; Darrell and Darlene Batchelder, Carter Murphy, and Liz Matchett of Woodside; and Geoff Moyer of Ladera. Deborah Rosas of La Honda is costume designer.

Mr. Comstock, a former mayor of Portola Valley, is appearing in his first play at age 88.

Performances of “Our Town” are at 7:30 p.m. on March 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10; and 2 p.m. on March 4 and 11. There will be an opening night champagne toast celebration on March 2.

Visit pvtc-ca.org or call 851-8282, ext. 105, to purchase tickets. Tickets range in price from \$10-40.

Welcome mat out for winged hunters

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

Horses have long lived at the Horse Park at the corner of Sand Hill and Whiskey Hill roads in Woodside. Bluebirds, owls and bats have too, maybe in houses they found, maybe in ones they built, but not until recently have they had homes built for them.

The Horse Park recently added accommodations for these creatures, as well as perches for hawks, and falcons and eagles, said Nancy Benson, a member of the Horse Park’s board of governors.

Talons that grab and hold? Eyes that see in the dark? Ears attuned to the tiniest of rustled leaves or the merest speck sailing by in the still air, on the prowl for blood? Yes, rodents and mosquitoes, this is about you, mostly.

Gophers and ground squirrels, with their holes and their

The Horse Park recently added accommodations for these creatures, as well as perches for hawks, and falcons and eagles

tunnels, pose risks to horses and riders in cross-country activities, Ms. Benson said. And while mosquitoes are not a huge problem, they can breed in the year-round water hazards in the obstacle course. “Bats eat lots of insects,” Ms. Benson said.

But horses alone do not an ecosystem make. While the new facilities are meant to encourage winged predators, the initiative included 14 bluebird houses. “It was also kind of like an ecology thing,” Ms. Benson said. “We’re also trying to encourage the other animals.”

In addition to equestrian facilities for competitions and train-

ing, the Horse Park is committed to “thoughtful stewardship of the land (and) adding value to the community,” according to its website.

The bird and bat houses are from Birder’s Garden, a retailer in San Carlos, and paid for from the \$2,800 raised from some 18 donors in a 2011 campaign, Ms. Benson said. The raptor perches are homemade, she added.

As of February, the houses — owl, bluebird and bat — were unoccupied.

Barn owls reportedly prefer gophers, shrews, mice and voles. Hawks and their cousins dine on ground squirrels, and bats are famous for echo-locating and catching insects on the wing.

The Horse Park is also home to great horned owls, Ms. Benson said. They have excellent vision and hearing, according to Wikipedia, but not much sense of smell: a bad combination for the skunk with its high-contrast coloring and its air of impunity. ■

'Rusty' van Bronkhorst dies at 79

Russella "Rusty" van Bronkhorst, 79, a lifelong resident of the Midpeninsula, died Feb. 20 at Stanford Hospital surrounded by her family. She had lived in Palo Alto, Portola Valley and Menlo Park.

Born in Palo Alto in 1932, she graduated from Palo Alto High School in 1950. She went to work at Hewlett-Packard, serving in the secretarial pool when there were fewer than 100 employees at the company.

It was there that she met her future husband, Ed van Bronkhorst. They were married in 1957 and shared a love and friendship that spanned almost 50 years. He died in March 2006, after which Rusty moved to the Vi senior living community in Palo Alto.

While raising her three sons, she worked as campaign manager for U.S. Representative Pete McCloskey's successful congressional campaigns.

She was a founding investor of Embarcadero Media, the parent company of the Palo Alto Weekly and the Almanac, among other community news operations, and served on the board

of directors for 22 years.

Upon her retirement from the board in 2002, the Palo Alto Weekly established an award in her honor, given annually to an employee who exemplifies her belief in hard work, integrity and dedication to serving the community through fair and accurate reporting and ethical business practices.

"Rusty was the first person I turned to for support when starting the Weekly because I knew she shared my belief in the importance of quality local journalism," said Bill Johnson, publisher and founder of the Palo Alto Weekly, president of Embarcadero Media, and a friend from when both worked for Mr. McCloskey in the 1970s.

"She provided much wisdom and support to me and our young staff as we established the paper and tried to figure out how to run a successful business while also serving the com-



Rusty van Bronkhorst

munity with good journalism," Mr. Johnson said. "She had very high expectations of us, but they were never unrealistic and she always acknowledged the challenges and successes."

She was an accomplished golfer and enjoyed playing bridge and dominoes. She was also an accomplished chef, often hosting elaborate dinner parties at her home in Portola Valley.

She and her husband loved to travel together, and in later years they saw most of the world while on cruise ships, often sailing for months at a time. After his passing, she continued to cruise with the many friends they made from all over the world.

She is survived by her three sons, Kort van Bronkhorst of Napa, Jon van Bronkhorst of Redwood City, and Derek van Bronkhorst of Campbell; and six grandchildren. Her extended family included her longtime helpers and caregivers, Lola Panisi and Leslie Tokahata.

A private family service has been held. The family prefers memorial donations to the Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital.



Almanac photo by Veronica Weber
Woodside Elementary School students Anita Mokkupati, center, and Andrew Piro, right, and fellow classmates help load some of the 1,500 boxes of medical supplies, clothing and toys onto a cargo container bound for the children's hospital in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Woodside helps load aid for Zimbabwe

Children from Woodside Elementary School recently helped load a 40-foot-long ocean container, parked at the school, with medical supplies, clothing, toys and school supplies for children suffering from HIV and AIDS in Zimbabwe.

Diane Eskenazi of Woodside and her Woodside-based nonprofit Peace Builders Inc. organized the effort.

Goods valued in excess of \$500,000 included 100,000 pieces of new children's clothes and

shoes, donated by Gymboree, which operates children's apparel stores; medical supplies from Medshare and the Oakland Children's Hospital; and 3,600 backpacks filled with school supplies from Office Depot via Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization, Ms. Eskenazi said.


The shipment, loaded on Feb. 17, is going to the Harare Children's Hospital in Zimbabwe. Along with the supplies are 200 colorful friendship heart letters, created by Woodside schoolchil-

dren, with messages of "love and caring" for the sick children in Zimbabwe, Ms. Eskenazi said.

AIDS affects more than 40 percent of the population of Zimbabwe, she said.

Peace Builders, Ms. Eskenazi's organization, has shipped more than \$65 million in medical and other aid to orphans and for disaster relief around the world, she said.

Go to www.buildpeace.com for more information about Peace Builders.



EYE CARE NEWS

**Presented by
Mark Schmidt
Licensed Optician**

**ARE YOU READY FOR
ELECTRONIC EYEGLASSES?**


You needn't be an "early adopter" (a person who embraces new technology before most other people do) in order to appreciate the latest advance in eyeglasses. The new electronic eyeglasses known as emPower! are glasses that contain batteries, microchips, and liquid crystal lenses that change the degree to which they bend or refract light. That is, by reorienting the molecules in the lens crystals, emPower! glasses are able to do what ordinary bifocals

and no-line progressive lenses do in the lower portion of their lenses by altering their thickness and curvature. The difference is that the bottom reading portion of emPower! lenses can be turned off or on to make it easier for the wearer to see in non-reading situations.

Eyeglasses can flatter your appearance and bring new emphasis to your eyes. Please visit **MENLO OPTICAL** at 1166 University Drive, on the corner of Oak Grove Avenue and University Drive, where you'll find eye-catching designer frames in rich colors and elegant detailing on the temples, as well as classic frames that look great and have stood the test of time. We are also here to address your eyewear repair needs. Call us at 322-3900 if you have questions about eyewear.


P.S. Research shows that when people wearing bifocals, trifocals and no-line progressive lenses look forward while descending a staircase, their view becomes distorted and they are more likely to fall.

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



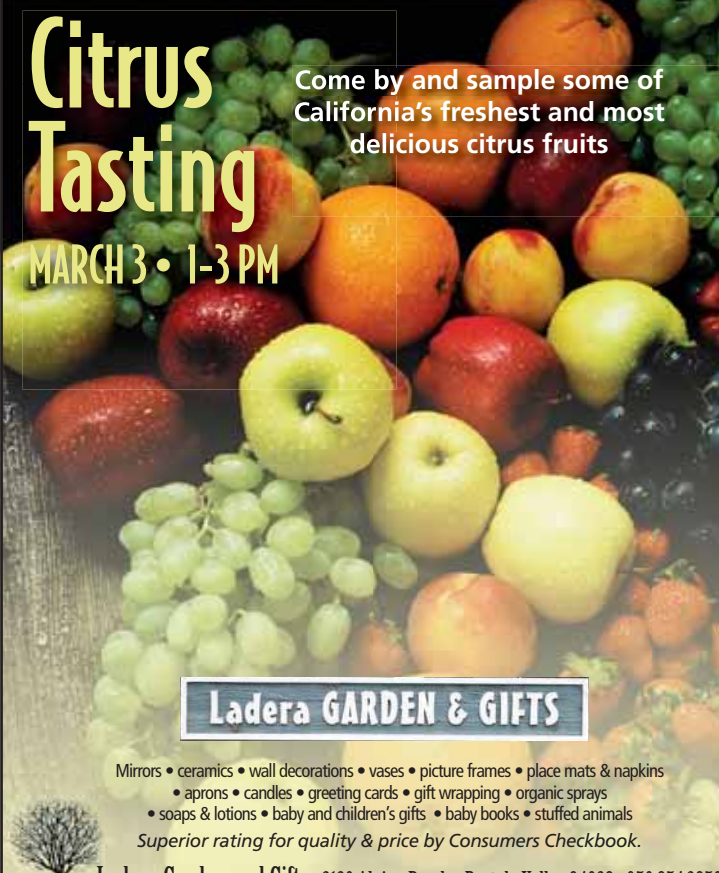
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Remembrance Service for Ann Gage

A celebration of the life of Ann Weatherup Gage will be held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, March 3rd at the Evergreen Valley Methodist Church, 3520 San Felipe Road San Jose, CA.

Ann passed away on January 20th. She experienced the final days of her life with her extended family providing loving and tender care.

Ann was born in 1945 in Redlands, California. Her father's naval career had the family often moving from the east coast to the west coast and back again before finally settling in southern California when she was 16. She came to Stanford in 1963 and graduated with a BA in Psychology in 1967 and MA in Speech Pathology and Audiology 1968.

After her graduation and marriage to Stanly Gage in 1967, she and Stan settled in Portola Valley where they have lived for almost 45 years. Ann's career was lovingly

dedicated to teaching special needs children with some time out to raise their children Chris and Sarah.

Ann was a consummate quilter producing many hundreds of fine art quilts both as an amateur and professional, winning many awards for her quilts, and donating many for fund raisings at charitable events.

In lieu of flowers or other remembrances, donations to CASA of California (Court Appointed Special Advocates --<http://www.californiacasa.org/Donate/index.htm>--)) would support a cause that was very dear to Ann.



PAID OBITUARY

Margaret Ellen Waters

Margaret Ellen - "Peggy" - Waters, 91 years of age, passed away peacefully at her home in Menlo Park with her family at her side on February 11, 2012. Peggy was born in 1920 in Paris, France, the first child of Robert James Kelleher of Ware, Massachusetts, and Hazel Rose Simpson of Rochester, New York. Her father was an executive and plant manager for Northeast Electric Company and later General Motors, a position that entailed travel to France. Peggy and brother Robert grew up in Paris, the New York City area, and Rochester. She attended elementary school in France, the United States and in England, and high school and her freshman year of college at the Sorbonne in Paris. In 1939, she and her brother returned to the U.S. just ahead of the German invasion of France, and her parents followed later. Back home in the USA, Peggy attended Regis College near Boston for a year and then spent two years as a fashion model in New York City. During this period she was engaged to William S. Farrel, a midshipman at the Naval Academy. They were married in Rochester, New York in 1943. When Bill was reassigned as Executive Officer of the submarine SNOOK, she and her young son Bill relocated from New London to San Diego to live with her husband's parents. The SNOOK was lost with all hands in April, 1945, while on combat patrol in the South China Sea.

In 1948, Peggy married Major George Frank Waters, USMC in Coronado, California and embarked on a new life and a 60-year marriage that ended with Frank's passing in January, 2008. For the next 16 years, they moved about the country with the Marine Corps, spending time in North Carolina and Virginia and on the West Coast. They returned to

California in 1958, and then relocated to Hawaii for several years. Frank's final assignment with the Marine Corps brought them to Stanford University and Menlo Park in 1962, where they decided to set down roots and remain for the rest of their lives.

Peggy was devoted to her family and home. She enjoyed showing her pure bred dachshunds, collecting fine antiques, decorating her home and gourmet cooking. She took wonderful care of her mother during her mother's final 20 years. Peggy cared deeply about her neighbors and made many enduring friends in her Felton Gables neighborhood.

Peggy was graceful, gracious, intelligent and wise - she was a true lady. She had a beautiful smile and a kind and gentle spirit. She took loving care of husband Frank and son Bill, enjoyed the company of daughter-in-law Susan and doted on her two grandsons, Nolan and Galen. She was at the center of her family. Her family loved and admired her. She will always be in our hearts.

A gathering of friends and neighbors is planned at her home to share memories. She will be laid to rest with Frank at Alta Mesa Cemetery, Palo Alto. Peggy is survived by son Bill, Susan, Nolan and Galen Farrel of Salinas, CA, beloved sister-in-law Pat Kelleher of Roswell, GA, and nephew Bill Whitney and wife Jean of the Phoenix area.

Donations in Peggy's name may be given to the SPCA or American Red Cross.



PAID OBITUARY

Motorcyclist injured in collision with Lexus

A head-on collision Saturday involving a motorcycle and a car stopped traffic for nearly an hour on state Highway 84 in unincorporated San Mateo County near Skylonda.

The motorcyclist suffered severe but non-life threatening injuries.

The crash occurred shortly before 1:30 p.m. when a 20-year-old Stockton man riding a motorcycle west on Highway 84 (La Honda Road) lost control west of state Highway 35 (Skyline Boulevard) while trying to

negotiate a left curve in the road, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The motorcycle crossed over into oncoming traffic, and collided head-on with an east-bound 2007 Lexus driven by a 67-year-old Menlo Park man, CHP officials said.

The collision closed Highway 84 in both directions for 40 minutes, and one-way traffic control remained in effect until both lanes reopened at 2:57 p.m.

Bay City News Service

'Town hall' meeting on Project Read

A "town hall" meeting to discuss funding cutbacks and fundraising needs to address illiteracy is set for Thursday, March 8, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St. in the Menlo Park Civic Center.

The meeting is sponsored by Literacy Partners, a non-profit that supports Project Read Menlo Park. The group's board members will provide an update on how Project Read is addressing adult illiteracy, and

discuss the organization's need to increase its impact in spite of a 20 percent loss in government funding.

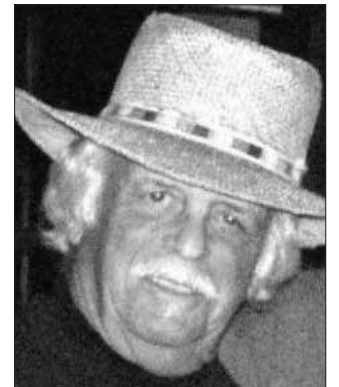
Tutors and adult learners will discuss how Project Read has made a difference in their lives.

Fifteen percent of the adult population in San Mateo County is functionally illiterate, according to Literacy Partners. To attend, RSVP the head of Literacy Partners, Tim Grow, at timgrow4@gmail.com.

Charles Bennett Leib, Jr.

April 28, 1943-December 28, 2011

A memorial gathering and plaque dedication will be held at 3pm on Saturday, March 10th at Alpine Inn Beer Garden (Zott's), 3915 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. The Los Trancos Woods Community Marching Band will play. Info - Judy 650-948-1003 or marketpoin@aol.com



PAID OBITUARY

Ruth "Ruthie" Montgomery Jackson

March 25, 1911 - January 27, 2012

"Ruthie" passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by the love of her friends and family on January 27, 2012, leaving the small gold country town of Sutter Creek, California with a little less heart, soul, humor, and generosity. Ruth was 100 years old. For the full version of Ruth's obituary, please go to her website at <http://ruthmontgomeryjackson.com/Book/Welcome.html>.

Friends and community members are invited to attend a Memorial Celebration on March 4, 2012 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Sutter Creek Auditorium in Sutter Creek. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ruth's honor may be made to the Amador Community Foundation "Andra J. Fuller Memorial Scholarship" at www.amadorcommunityfoundation.org



PAID OBITUARY

College bond measure donors named

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

In the waning weeks of the 2011 fall election season, and during the week after the Nov. 8 election, 22 corporate or institutional donors gave a total of \$68,500 to a campaign for passage of a bond measure for local community colleges, including Canada College in Woodside.

As required by law, the campaign committee, Citizens for Support of Community Colleges in San Mateo County, filed campaign finance reports identifying the donors and the amounts given to Measure H, a \$564 million bond measure for the San Mateo County Community College District. The measure failed to get the 55 percent voter approval required for passage.

The reports include summary reports at about 12 weeks and two weeks before an election, and individual reports in the last two weeks for donations of \$1,000 or more. Semi-annual reports in January and July cover contributions made during the previous six months.

Late donations

Reports for the last two weeks before the Nov. 8 election show four donations of \$1,000: American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in Oakland; BKF Engineers in Redwood City; Shannon-Leigh Associates, a sign-maker in San Leandro; and Artik Art & Architecture in San Jose. Testing Engineers Inc. in San Leandro gave \$1,500.

Four corporations gave \$2,500: Bayview Painting Construction in Burlingame; GRD Energy Inc. in Corte Madera; tBP Architecture in Concord; and Atlas Pellizzari Electric Inc. in Redwood City.

Six donors gave \$5,000: Northern California Carpenters Regional Council Local 217 in Foster City; Netronix Integration Inc. in San Jose; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local

617 in San Mateo; John Plane Construction Inc. in Brisbane; Kwan Henmi Architecture/Planning in San Francisco; and gkkworks, an architecture firm in Sacramento.

In the week following the election, reports show \$1,500 contributions from two donors: Verde Design Inc. in Santa Clara; and WRNS Studio, an architectural firm in San Francisco.

Three donors gave \$2,500: Vanir Construction Management Inc. in Sacramento; Corlett, Skaer & DeVoto Architects Inc. in Santa Clara; and PAE Consulting Engineers Inc. in San Francisco.

Webcor Construction Management Inc. in Alameda gave \$5,000, and Program Management Integration Inc. in Emeryville gave \$7,500, the report shows.

Early donations

In January 2011, the campaign committee reported a donation of \$131,823 from itself — contributions left over from a successful 2010 campaign for a \$34 parcel tax, committee chair James Keller told the Almanac.

In the three months leading up to the election, but before the last filing deadline on Oct. 22, corporate donors gave \$210,000, records show.

Four donors gave \$1,500: AFSCME in

San Francisco and Oakland; Alfa Tech, a construction management firm in San Jose; LPAS, an architectural firm in Sacramento; and Sugimura, Finny Architect in San Jose.

The Building & Construction Trades Council in Foster City, and BKF Engineers in Redwood City gave \$1,000. The Plumbers, Steamfitters, Refrigeration Fitters Local 467 in Burlingame gave \$2,000.

Seven donors gave \$2,500: CSW/ST2, a civil engineering firm in Novato; AEDIS Architecture & Planning in San Jose; Denali Group, an environmental consultant in Pleasant Hill; GRD Energy Inc. in Corte Madera; Flad & Associates, an architectural firm in San Francisco; Q Builders in Palo Alto; and Blach Construction in Santa Clara.

Eight donors gave \$5,000: Advance Soil Technology in San Jose; Pankow Special Projects LP, a builder in Pasadena; Keenan & Associates, an insurance broker in Torrance; Intermountain Electric Company in San Carlos; Steinberg Architects in San Jose; Allana+Buick+Bers, an architectural firm in Palo Alto; Noll & Tam Architects and Planners in Berkeley; and CSI Inc. in Pacifica.

Chevron Corp. in Concord gave \$7,500, and Design Acquisition Corp. in Fremont gave \$10,000.

Of the four largest donors, three gave \$25,000 each: Hensel Phelps Construction Company in San Jose, McCarthy Building Companies Inc. in St. Louis, and Swinerton Inc., a construction management firm in San Francisco. Robert A. Bothman Inc., a builder in San Jose, gave \$50,000.

Marts Edward Beekley

Aug. 22, 1931-Feb. 16, 2012

Dr. Beekley passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by loving family and friends. He will be remembered as a beloved family man, scholar-athlete, pediatrician leader, and winemaker, student of John Muir and Louis Pasteur, and steward of the land.

He was born in Glendale, near Cincinnati, Ohio, to Dr. Ferris E. Beekley and Elizabeth Marts Beekley. He was the grandson of farmers whose families had first settled the Ohio River Valley in 1803. He grew up in the small community of Sharonville, Ohio, in the house that served as both his father's medical office and home. As the second of four generations of football players, he graduated from The Ohio State University as an All-Star defensive back for his lifelong mentor, Woody Hayes. At The Ohio State University he met and married his wife of 58 years, Mary Suzanne (Sue) Griffin. Following in his father's footsteps (class of 1925), he was a second-generation graduate of Cincinnati medical school (class of 1957). From 1958 to 1961 he was stationed with the Public Health Service in El Centro and the San Francisco Presidio. In 1963 he completed his medical training as Chief Resident at Los Angeles Children's Hospital, mentored by Dr. Arthur Parmelee.

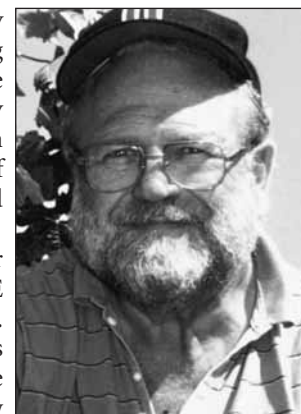
In 1963 Dr. Beekley began his life-long career with Kaiser Permanente. He served as Assistant Chief of Pediatrics at the Santa Clara Medical Center and Chief of Pediatrics at the Redwood City Medical Center. He was widely respected as a clinician for both his encyclopedic knowledge of medicine and his compassionate bedside manner. While working with colleagues he led by example, putting into practice his father's words: "Work hard. Be silent. Work speaks for itself."

Following his father's teaching to "make the most of life in work and play," he devoted himself to the art and science of winemaking. Passionately committed to California viticulture, he nurtured his own grapes from vine to bottle. Though an expert on California winemaking, his stuck to his motto: "Never give up your daytime job". He was a member of The Society of Medical Friends of Wine, The Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers Association and The Peninsula Wine Group. A farmer at heart, he pruned every vine by hand, but made a yearly celebration of the harvest with his large group of friends and family.

Dr. Beekley is survived by his wife, Sue Beekley, sisters Jane Foulser and Barbara Bachman, son Bruce Beekley (Jan Beekley), daughters Sarah (Michael Hahn) and Ellen (Tracy Page), and Grandchildren Sarah, Brent, Anjali, Brett, Jenna, James, Lauren and Natalie.

His memorial page can be viewed at www.sympathytree.com/martsebeekley/

Friends are invited to attend a memorial service at Christ Episcopal Church of Portola Valley at 815 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA at 2 pm on March 17th. Internment will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the JW House or the Christ Church of Portola Valley Outreach Charities.



ALBERTA MARTIN

— Long-Time Teacher at Menlo-Atherton High School

Passed away on February 16, 2012 after a brief illness, surrounded by her loving family: son Richard and his wife Elisabeth, and their four children.

She was born Alberta Ennis Jones in Marshall, Missouri, September 1915. The family moved to San Jose in 1925 and eventually numbered seven children. Her sisters Irvina Fammatre and Janice Petrinovich, both of San Jose, and her brothers Leland Jones of San Jose and Gayle Jones of Fremont survive her. She was preceded in death by her sisters Doris Cleland and Margaret Stoker. She leaves twenty nieces and nephews. She was a graduate of San Jose High School ('32) and San Jose State College ('36) where she was elected Student Body Secretary her senior year. In July 1939, she married Richard H. (Ky) Martin of Redwood City.

In the spring of 1941, Mr. Martin (Stanford '36) enlisted in the Navy and was on active duty at Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 — the day she was to have sailed to Hawaii to join him. During the war years, she accompanied him to various stateside postings throughout the US. She supported our veterans all her life.

Following the war, she had two sons, Joseph (66) and Richard (64). In 1949, Mr. Martin was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and passed away in 1960. In 1949, she joined the faculty at Sequoia High School, and later taught at the brand-new Menlo-Atherton High School, where she taught business subjects from 1951 until she retired in 1980. She bought a lot across from Flood Park on Bay Road, had a home built, and lived there until she turned 95. She fell and broke her hip last May and could no longer live alone. She spent her last few months with her son Richard and his wife Beth at their home in San Jose.

Over the course of her long teaching career, she was a strong positive influence on hundreds

and hundreds of lives, teaching young women the skills they needed to have successful and productive business and professional careers. She was an inspirational teacher and a tireless worker, teaching both night school and summer school year after year, in addition to her normal teaching duties. She was an active member of the Menlo Park Garden Club for many years, serving as Secretary and later as President. She was a Member of the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church since 1956. She was also a member of Theta Alpha Delta Sorority for businesswomen.

For herself she always set the highest standards and never failed to meet them. In her dealings with others, she was modest and generous, ethical and fair. Her kindness, sense of humor and generosity were evident in all that she did. She was a natural-born leader, and helped countless people find the courage they needed to alter the course of their lives for the better.

She was a loving and devoted daughter, the World's Greatest Mom, and a beacon of sanity and stability to everyone she met. All her long life she drew strength from the life and example of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

She leaves two sons, Joseph of Manassas, VA, and Richard of San Jose and his wife Elisabeth; four grandchildren, Kisha, Gareth, & Christina Martin, all of San Jose, her grandson Matthew and his wife Brandy Martin of Hollister, and Richard and Alyssa Martin, her two great-grandchildren, also of Hollister. A Memorial Service was held at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, San Jose. Interment with her husband will take place at San Joaquin National Cemetery. The family welcomes contributions to the Paralyzed Veterans of America.



PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

Supervisor race donors named

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

The candidate filing period is open for the June 5 election to succeed Rose Jacobs Gibson on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. Candidates must file by March 9.

So far, seven people say they plan to run for the District 4 seat. Candidates must reside in the district but they run county-wide. The district includes Menlo Park, Redwood City, East Palo Alto, and the unincorporated areas of North Fair Oaks and Oak Knoll.

Four of the candidates filed fundraising reports with the county Elections Office, covering the period July 1 through Dec. 31, 2011.

Redwood City school board member Shelly Masur leads the candidates in fundraising, according to the reports.

The other candidates, in

alphabetical order, are Menlo Park council members Andy Cohen and Kirsten Keith; county school board member Guillermo "Memo" Morantes of Menlo Park; East Palo Alto Councilman Carlos Romero; Redwood City planning commissioner Ernesto "Ernie" Schmidt; and East Palo Alto Councilman David E. Woods.

No reports were on file for Mr. Cohen, Ms. Keith or Mr. Romero. Mr. Cohen and Ms. Keith announced their intention to run in recent weeks.

Shelly Masur

Ms. Masur reported income of \$28,202 from 80 donors who gave \$100 or more. Of the 24 who contributed \$500 or more, 12 are from Redwood City: Don Horsley, \$500; Alisa MacAvoy, \$500; John Seybert, \$500; Georgina LeBerge, \$500; Sheila Cepera, \$500; Bret M. Di Marco, \$1,000; Tiffany C. Di Marco, \$1,000; Jonathan Pedley, \$1,000; Daniela Pedley, \$1,000; Lisandra Carlos, \$1,000; Brett Queener, \$1,000; and Cameron Karr, \$1,000.

From the Almanac's circulation area: Karen Tully of Menlo Park, \$700; Mary A. Keach of Woodside, \$1,000; and Susan M. Speicher of Atherton, \$1,000.

From elsewhere in the Bay Area: Josephine Lucey of Sunnyvale, \$500; Lenny T. Mendonca of Montara, \$500; John R. Baker of San Francisco, \$550; Carrie Du Bois of San Carlos, \$1,000.

From outside the Bay Area: Mary Kerr of Seattle, \$500; Thomas Zuber of Los Angeles, \$500; Merle I. Millar of St. Louis, \$750; Sandra K. Masur of New York City, \$1,000; and Milton Masur of Westbury, New York.

Memo Morantes

Mr. Morantes reported income of \$12,160 from 21 donors, including four for \$500 or more: Evladio Segovia of San Carlos, \$500; Floyd Gonella of Atherton, \$500; G. Morantes of San Jose, \$511; and Dieter Bruno of Atherton, \$1,000.

Ernie Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt reported \$9,935 from 19 donors, including 11 of \$500 or more: Alicia Aguirre of Redwood City, \$500; Manuel Ramirez of Redwood City, \$500; William Richardson of Redwood City, \$500; Humberto Chavez of Sunnyvale, \$500; Samuel Wong of San Mateo, \$500; Hector Flamenco of Los Altos, \$700; Carlin Wiegner of Menlo Park, \$1,000; Eric Lochtenfield of San Mateo, \$1,000; Lori Lochtenfield of San Mateo, \$1,000; Gordon McDonald of San Jose, \$1,000; and Bob Ricks of Pacific Grove, \$1,000.

David Woods

Mr. Woods reported contributions of \$495, but did not name the donors.

Donors to college board candidates are named

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

ELECTION 2011

Mateo, \$500; and the District Council of Iron Workers in Pinole, \$500.

The report shows Ms. Miljanich receiving two loans of \$3,128 each from her colleagues, one from Mr. Mandelkern's campaign and one from Ms. Schwarz's.

Karen Schwarz

Ms. Schwarz raised \$16,515. Two of the 12 donations were for \$500 or more: the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 617 in San Mateo, \$500; and the District Council of Iron Workers in Pinole, \$500.

Dave Mandelkern

Mr. Mandelkern raised \$36,515, including loans. Six of the 28 donations were for \$500 or more: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 617 in San Mateo, \$500; San Mateo County Firefighters Local 2400 in San Mateo, \$500; Ken Varner of Colma, \$500; John Goldman of Atherton, \$500; the District Council of Ironworkers in Pinole, \$500; and Mary Anne Rothberg of New York City, \$500. Mr. Mandelkern lent his campaign \$25,000.

Joe Ross

Of 30 donations to Mr. Ross' campaign, five were for \$500 or more: Sandra Wrobel of Redwood City, \$500; Steven Westly of Menlo Park, \$550; Ira M. Lechner of Escondido, \$500; Thomas Adams of Palo Alto, \$1,500; and Ronald Turiello of Redwood City, \$5,000.

Mr. Ross lent his campaign \$12,833.

Final campaign finance reports filed with the San Mateo County Elections Office lists donors and amounts given in the Nov. 8 election for the governing board of the county Community College District. Incumbents Dave Mandelkern, Patricia Miljanich and Karen Schwarz were each re-elected to three open seats, and raised a total of \$65,030, according to the reports.

Of the three challengers — Joe Ross, Michael Stogner and Jaime Diaz — only Mr. Ross filed a report with the county Elections Office. That report showed contributions totaling \$41,013.

The reports itemize campaign donations of \$100 or more. Below is information on donations of \$500 or more.

Patricia Miljanich

Ms. Miljanich raised \$11,990, including loans. Two of her seven donors gave \$500 or more: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 617 in San

Sarah Mummah named Gates Cambridge Scholar

Sarah Mummah, 23, of Atherton is one of 40 Americans selected for scholarships by the Gates Cambridge Trust.

The scholarships enable students from outside the United Kingdom to pursue graduate studies at the University of Cambridge in Cambridge, England.

Ms. Mummah, a 2010 Stanford graduate, will pursue a master's degree in public health at Cambridge. She plans to conduct research into health behavior changes through Cambridge's recently established Behaviour and Health Research Unit.

She is executive director of DreamCatchers, a nonprofit she founded in 2008 as a Stanford undergraduate. DreamCatchers aims to build an after-school model for improving the health and education of low-income middle school students.

DreamCatchers' academic

program provides students with tutoring, mentorship and study-skills coaching. Its health behaviors program provides healthful snacks, nutrition education, and family cooking classes.

At Stanford, she earned a bachelor's degree with honors in human biology, with a self-designed concentration on addressing inequities in health and education through social interventions.

The Gates Scholarship program, established in 2000, was funded by a \$210 million donation by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. More than 1,000 Gates Scholars have received scholarships since 2001.



Sarah Mummah

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Registration notice for Woodside School

Registration packets for the 2012-2013 school year will be available at the Woodside School office at 3195 Woodside Road starting Feb. 28, 2012. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Nov. 1, 2012, are eligible to attend kindergarten in August 2012.

An orientation to the kindergarten program will be held Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 8:30 a.m.

to 10 a.m. One-year kindergarten and transitional kindergarten will be discussed.

Birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization records and a physician's report will be required before a child enters school in the fall.

Visit woodside.k12.ca.us or call 851-1571 for more information about the school.

Andy Cohen enters supervisor race

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

A crowded race for a seat on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors got even more crammed as Menlo Park Councilman Andy Cohen joined the contenders. And as expected, the candidate's stance on issues raised during his time on council are coming under scrutiny.

Mr. Cohen announced his intention to run on Feb. 17, joining fellow council member Kirsten Keith and five others who says they plan to run for the District 4 seat that will be left open when Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson terms out this year after serving on the board since 1999. The district includes Menlo Park, Redwood City, East Palo Alto and unincorporated North Fair Oaks and Oak Knoll.

He listed several reasons for running, including housing needs in the county created by the elimination of local redevelopment agencies, transportation issues, and budget bottlenecks from reduced tax revenue and economic downturn.

"Although Menlo Park is

relatively fortunate, many of the problems our city council has faced over the past 8 years are affecting other cities and the county more severely.

I hope to be allowed to offer my experience and training in these three areas and generally," Mr. Cohen wrote in an email to the Almanac.

The former judge, known for casting unpredictable votes that often left him in the minority on council issues, and combative discussions with staff, finishes his second term on the City Council this year. During the 2010 election he campaigned against two incumbents — Rich Cline, who won re-election, and Heyward Robinson, who lost.

Mr. Robinson questioned the candidate's stance on taxing hotel guests, saying in a letter to the editor that if Mr. Cohen, who now supports a county proposal to raise the tax, had backed increasing Menlo Park's transient occupancy tax in 2010, it could've meant an additional \$500,000 to \$600,000 for the



Andy Cohen

city's tight budget.

"I have changed my position. ... The reasons for this change are several, but suffice it to say that elimination of the (redevelopment agency) alone justifies this change in policy," Mr. Cohen responded. "At the time of my prior vote there was information in my possession that several of the smaller family run local hotels were already feeling the effects of the recession. I felt it had not been shown that Menlo Park was in such distress as to justify an increase."

Board of Supervisors candidates have until March 9 to file the paperwork. The field to date includes Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith, East Palo Alto councilmen Carlos Romero and David Woods, Redwood City Planning Commissioner Ernie Schmidt, Redwood City school board member Shelly Masur, and county education board trustee Guillermo "Memo" Morantes.

If no candidate gets more than 50 percent of the vote during the June 5 primary, votes cast for a runoff election in November election will determine the winner.



'Matai Bay'

"Matai Bay" is one of the recent works by Frances Freyberg to be featured in Portola Art Gallery's March show, "Aotearoa: A Photographic Journey of New Zealand." Ms. Freyberg has traveled to New Zealand many times to visit family and explore the country. Photos in the exhibit are from her 2006 and 2011 trips. A reception for the artist will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Portola Art Gallery in the Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road in Menlo Park.

'Walk in the Wild' sculpture tours

The Djerassi Resident Artists Program's "Walk in the Wild" annual sculpture tours will again be available to the public from mid-March through October.

The walking tours of the 580-acre facility in Woodside include a selection of the more than 40 sculptures created by resident artists on the property over the past 33 years.

There will be five director's tours (\$50 per person) led by the new executive director Margaret H. Knight and 12 two-mile free tours led by the program staff. Advance reservations are

required for all tours

On March 7, the Djerassi Program will begin taking reservations for all five director's tours (May 20, June 23, June 24, Aug. 5 and Sept. 9) and the first six of the two-mile tours (March 18, April 8, April 29, May 13, May 27 and June 17).

On June 6, the program will take reservations for the final six two-mile tours (July 1, Aug. 12, Sept. 2, Sept. 16, Oct. 7 and Oct. 21). Both tours involve strenuous hiking.

Visit djerassi.org for more information. For reservations, call 747-1250.

■ POLICE CALLS

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

MENLO PARK

Residential burglary reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$4,000 after entry through unlocked side window and theft of desktop computer, two cell phones, notebook computer and printer, Partridge Ave., Feb. 21.

■ Losses estimated at \$1,200 after forced entry through rear window and theft of miscellaneous tools and jewelry, Almanor Ave., Feb. 15.

■ No loss in attempted burglary when resident, awakened by sound of knocking on window, looked and saw Hispanic-looking man with mole on left side of mouth who then ran off, Middle Ave., Feb. 22.

Commercial burglary reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$1,200 after break-in to storage locker and theft of six chain saws, Haven Ave., Feb. 15.

■ Door frame and lock damaged in attempted burglary, Ritz Camera at 715 Santa Cruz Ave., Feb. 22.

Theft report: Loss estimated at \$500 after unsolved break-in and theft of office chair, 2100 block of Sand Hill Road, Feb. 13.

Vicious animal incident report: Victim's forearm lacerated after attempting to pet dog being walked by owner, Avy Ave. and Zachary Court, Feb. 21.

Possession of weapon report: Jesus Contreras, 32, of Menlo Park arrested and booked after admitting to carrying 24-inch Pakistani sword, Hollyburne Ave., Feb. 22.

Theft report: Losses estimated at \$1,000 in theft of camera and other items mistakenly left along road after unanticipated stop, 300 block of El Camino Real, Feb. 15.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Theft report: Losses estimated at \$200

in theft of purse from unlocked vehicle, Corte Madera Middle School at 4575 Alpine Road, Feb. 16.

purses, cell phone and \$300 in cash, Ladera Oaks Swim & Tennis Club at 3249 Alpine Road, Feb. 15.

LADERA

Theft report: Losses estimated at \$2,700 in theft of purse from gym cubbyhole, Ladera Oaks Swim & Tennis Club at 3249 Alpine Road, Feb. 21.

Auto burglary report: Loss estimated at \$1,400 in break-in and theft of two

WOODSIDE

Theft report: Losses estimated at \$1,000 in theft of GPS device, stereo, purse and riding gear from unlocked vehicle, 600 block of Mountain Home Road, Feb. 10.



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Narrow roads are Woodside's Gordian knot

■ Residents prefer narrow roads, but firefighters need avenues.

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

The dimensions of a road can mean different things to different people. Consider the seemingly contrary views of local firefighters and residents of the neighborhood bisected by Old La Honda Road, a scenic, narrow, steep and winding road about three and a half miles long with tributary roads of similar character, some privately maintained.

The topic of Woodside's rural roads and whether they're wide enough for fire trucks came up for another extended discussion at the Feb. 14 Town Council meeting. As happened in a similar discussion in January, results were inconclusive.

Life in Woodside's rural/urban borderland offers substantial wooded privacy and substantial property values. The narrow roads, some 12 to 14 feet across, are symbolic of Woodside's rural (as distinct from suburban) character. Vehicle encounters may take a little time to resolve, but there usually is time. Besides, with private roads, residents bear the cost of making them wider. Such initiatives might involve considerable neighborly talk and compromise, not to mention the shared expense.

Firefighters have a different perspective. The woods in and around this neighborhood are thick and dry and near a major earthquake fault. In emergencies, firefighters need clear paths,

immediately, to prevent conflagrations and to help people who may be desperate. At the same time and on those very same roads, fleeing residents need clear paths out.

One all-but-immovable object is the state fire code that mandates a minimum road width of 20 feet, though local fire districts have some discretion. The Woodside Fire Protection District, which serves Woodside, Portola Valley and nearby unincorporated areas, will allow 18-foot widths, and gravel on the surface to help with the rural character, Fire Marshal Denise Enea said in an interview.

With exceptions for major trees, that's about it for the district's flexibility. "We want to make sure that we can get in and people can get out," Ms. Enea said. "This isn't a subjective matter. It is not my opinion, or like I created this. It's set in stone."

"One thing about dealing with state and federal governments," mayor and builder Dave Tanner said at the council meeting. "They really don't like it when you reduce their standards."

A committee decision?

Private roads provide access to some 380 parcels in Woodside, about 15 percent overall, Town Manager Kevin Bryant said.

A private road can run "thousands and thousands of feet," Ms. Enea said. A vehicle stalemate during an emergency "would be deadly," she added. "Nobody would be able to get in



Almanac photo by Michelle Le

Narrow Woodside roads, such as Old La Honda Road (shown here with a large truck on Sunday), can pose serious and even life-threatening situations when fire trucks are speeding toward an emergency and have little or no room to pass. But residents see narrow roads as adding to the town's rural character.

or get out. We would be backing up thousands of feet."

Some of those roads are near Old La Honda Road, a neighborhood from which about 10 residents came for the council meeting. A few spoke.

Nancy Serrurier is engaged in building a home on Orchard Hill Road, which is private with four existing houses, Ms. Enea said. For a project like hers to pass muster, the Architecture and Site Review Board and the Planning Commission must vet it, and the fire marshal must sign the final building inspection. It needs an 18-foot road, Ms. Serrurier said.

And since it's the Serruriers' project, widening the road will be at their expense.

(A fire district can't require a resident to widen a public road. That is a matter for the town, Ms. Enea said.)

None of the neighbors wants a wider road, Ms. Serrurier told the council. "The opportunity to really work together doesn't exist. We must submit."

Narrow private roads can stay narrow until someone builds a new home or extensively remodels one, Ms. Enea said. A major project triggers code updates all around, including the fire code as applied to the road.

If remodeling has this drawback, so may doing nothing. The fact that a road may have to be widened at the expense of one or more property owners could dampen future sales prospects and lower market values.

Resident Corinne Moesta suggested forming a working group that includes private-road residents. "We would like to work toward a fair resolution to this problem," she said.

"What is safe?" asked Mary Zverblis, who lives on Martinez Road. "There seems to be a lot of subjectivity and softness as to what is safe."

Councilman Peter Mason represents the neighborhood. The fire marshal sees road width standards "as a set of rational criteria, but I don't think that view is widely held," he said.

Twenty-foot roads throughout the town "would be horrible. It would ruin the town," Councilwoman Deborah Gordon said.

People need to sit and talk, maybe a group of two town staff, two

council members, two residents and two fire district representatives, she said. "We're all working to try to do the same thing."

"We know where the residents stand on the (narrow roads) issue on Old La Honda Road, and the council is supposed to serve as impartial advocates for residents, always looking out for what is in the best interest of the entire community," Ms. Enea wrote in an email. "I think a subcommittee with town staff, council representatives and the fire district will be very productive in understanding the boundaries of modifying state code."

Ms. Gordon also suggested smaller equipment and vehicles, including fire trucks, that fit the roads. "That's the approach I would take to solve this problem," she said.

"Our fire trucks are as small as we can get with the ability to carry water to a neighborhood that has no water," Ms. Enea said when asked about truck sizes. Besides, she noted, firefighting is a regional activity. Trucks from Menlo Park and Redwood City need access as well.

Residents want to defend Woodside's rural lifestyle. "At the same time, how important is your life?" Ms. Enea asked. "There are egress codes for a reason. They are there for life safety."

Residents should be talking to their elected representatives on the fire district board, Councilman Dave Burow noted. "I think you elected these officials in the last election," he said. "We're influenced by residents. It seems like the other group (the fire board) should be influenced as well." ■





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Viewpoint

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

Library parking crunch shouldn't be a surprise

The current concerns about the periodic lack of parking in Menlo Park's Lot 6, between the library and the new Arrillaga Gym in the Civic Center, is a problem that city officials should have seen coming.

Back in 2008 when the city first got word that philanthropist John Arrillaga was willing to provide more than half the funds needed to build Menlo Park a new gym with two NBA-size basketball courts, most city officials went to great lengths to rush the project through the planning process and make sure the donor got what he wanted.

With few other options, the city and Mr. Arrillaga agreed to build the gym behind the Recreation Center and share a downsized parking lot with the library.

The available spaces shrunk from 132 to 115, clearly not enough when the gym is hosting a tournament or other special event. Library supporters cried foul over the parking lot grab, but lost a close vote at the Planning Commission and got mowed down 4-1, with Andy Cohen dissenting, at the City Council.

Now, two years later, the parking problem is again an issue that has been confirmed by a Library Commission study. It is no surprise that on certain days and at certain times it is impossible to find a parking spot in Lot 6, which is forcing library users to park far away at a lot off Alma Street. For the elderly and parents with children who want to use the library, such remote parking is a hardship that the city should do everything it can to remedy.

The good news is that on most days and most times, there is adequate parking in Lot 6. But it is hardly acceptable to say there is no parking problem 69 percent of the time, as shown in the commission's study, which also shows that on nearly one out of three visits to the lot, library patrons or gym users will be shut out and forced to either park far away or skip a visit to the library or gym altogether.

City officials say in about six weeks, 40 spaces will be reopened in the main Burgess lot after the new gymnastics gym is completed. They hope that players and spectators headed to the basketball gym will take advantage of these newly open slots, which would relieve the squeeze for library patrons.

We hope so, but also believe that more work could be done by the city to educate gym users that they are not automatically entitled to park in Lot 6. Perhaps better signs inside and outside the gym would help. Another possible solution would be to impose time limits on some or all the Lot 6 spaces.

Mr. Arrillaga made a magnificent gift to the city, for which all residents should be grateful. The city would have been hard-pressed to construct such an expensive building on its own without using reserves or issuing more bonds.

But looking back, it appears that in the eagerness to make sure nothing went wrong with Mr. Arrillaga's project, decisions were made in the planning process that in retrospect could have been given more thought.

Many library users and others, including this newspaper, raised good questions about the parking squeeze that would result from the loss of spaces and the increased parking pressure from the gym. Today's problem could have been avoided with better analysis two years ago.

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

LETTERS

Our readers write

Did Cohen change position on tax?

Editor:

I was fascinated to read that Menlo Park City Council member Andy Cohen, a candidate for county supervisor, supports a county proposal to increase taxes charged to hotel guests (so called transient occupancy taxes, or TOT).

In 2010, council member Cohen adamantly opposed a similar proposal in Menlo Park. His opposition helped keep the measure off of the ballot, depriving voters a chance to consider the issue.

Had an increased TOT passed, the additional \$500,000 to \$600,000 in annual revenue would go a long way toward helping balance the city's budget and prevent the city from having to contemplate laying off police officers and other draconian cost-cutting measures.

Has Mr. Cohen changed his position on increasing TOT taxes or does he believe that the county and city should be taxed differently?

Heyward Robinson
Former City Council member

No need for food, beverages at 'paseo'

Editor:

Reading John Kadvany's guest opinion last week brought a smile to my face and made me wonder if he has an awareness of what businesses are in Menlo Park's downtown.

His argument is that to make the proposed "paseo" (a closed off Chestnut Street downtown) function well, the city must have a food truck, kiosk, or food stand located on the Paseo. That way people relaxing there will have easy access to food and drink.

I have a simple question for John. How long has it been since you've visited the downtown and seen the businesses on Santa Cruz Avenue? Less than 100 feet from the proposed paseo is La Boulanger. Close by is Noah's Bagels, and nearby is Ann's Coffee Shop.

All three would be happy to provide food and drink to anyone wishing to linger and relax on the paseo. The Menlo Park city government should not support one kind of business to the detriment of already existing downtown businesses.

Mark Flegel
Flegel's Fine Furniture
Santa Cruz Avenue



Portola Valley Archives

Our Regional Heritage

The Alpine Inn beer garden, known as Zot's by many patrons who recall the 1940s ownership by the Rossotti family, was opened about 1852 by Felix Buelna at the intersection of Arastradero and Alpine roads in Portola Valley. At first it was known as the Casa de Tableta (house of cards), and although it has had numerous owners over the years, it has survived nearly intact. At this ceremony on May 24, 1969, a crowd helped celebrate the inn's dedication as California's registered historic landmark No. 825. Town dignitaries, descendants of early customers, and Mr. and Mrs. Enrico Rossotti attended to see the official plaque presented by the chairman of the state's Historical Landmarks Committee.

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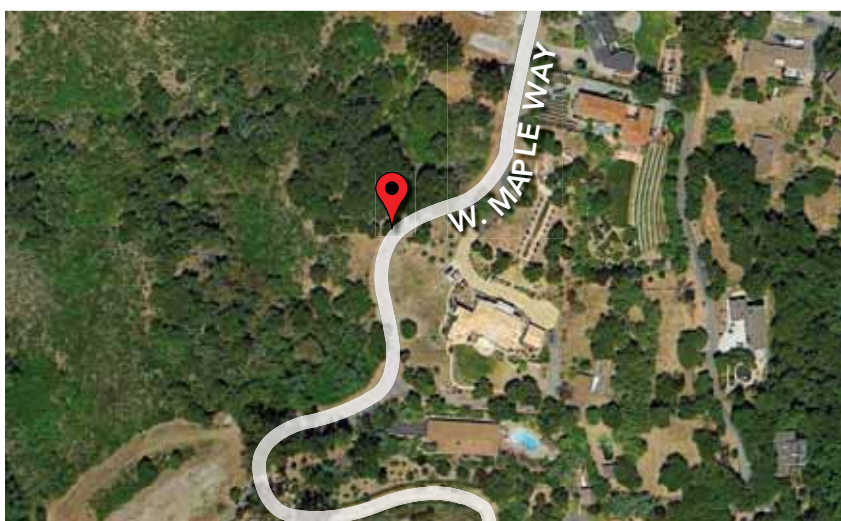
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