

Inside this issue  
**Fall Real Estate**

# The Almanac

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

OCTOBER 10, 2012 | VOL. 48 NO. 6



WWW.THEALMANACONLINE.COM

## MEASURING THE WILL OF THE

# VOTERS



BALL PARK

LIBRARY



TOWN CENTER

TOWN OF  
ATHERTON

On Nov. 6  
Atherton residents  
will cast their votes  
on three controversial  
ballot measures

PAGE 5

# Delivering medical *wonders*



AWARD-WINNING  
HEALTH CARE



*See our story at*

[pamf.org/findadoctor](http://pamf.org/findadoctor)



*Palo Alto Medical  
Foundation*

A Sutter Health Affiliate

Part of the Sutter Health network



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

The tension is palpable in E dorm of the Women's Correctional Facility in Redwood City. This one-room dorm is designed for 18 inmates and currently home to around 50, all either newly arrived or awaiting sentencing. The women's jail is holding around 120 inmates, about 143 percent of its 84-bed capacity, jail superintendent Lt. Alma Zamora said.

## Hard cases changing tenor of jail population

By Dave Boyce

Almanac staff writer

A year into a cost-reducing measure to selectively relocate some state prison inmates to county jails, the population at the San Mateo County jail is seeing changes to its collective attitude and to its demographics.

Attitude problems among inmates have grown, Sheriff Greg Munks told the Almanac in an interview. "We're having a much harder clientele, we're having a much more difficult clientele," he said. Inmates with disciplinary problems and troublesome gang affiliations have led jail officials to shut down a treatment program and convert that space to special housing, he said.

The prison arrivals are inmates convicted of "non-violent, non-serious and non-sex-related" crimes. Most are women and some are not happy about their new living situations. "They would prefer to be in prison," Mr. Munks said. County jails, designed for short term stays, don't have a prison's visitor facili-

ties and space for personal property. "County jails are tougher time, if you will," he said.

There's been violence recently in E dorm, designed for 18 women and home to around 50 in triple-tier bunks. A state inmate punched a county inmate sev-

**New county jail facilities could lower some tensions, sheriff says.**

eral times because as the county inmate was passing by, her hair touched the state inmate's towel, according to a jail statement. Minutes later, another state inmate punched a county inmate for refusing to hand over money, the statement said.

The inmates involved have been relocated, jail spokeswoman Detective Rebecca Rosenblatt said. At the end of September, 14 women were under maximum security detention, most having come from prison. "Prison yard politics" have become an issue, Ms. Rosenblatt

said. There is "a higher level of criminal sophistication," she said, when asked to elaborate.

"California incarcerates nearly 20,000 women in state prisons and local jails, and typically these offenders have committed less serious crimes than their male counterparts and have lower recidivism rates," according to a September 2011 policy brief from The Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at UC Berkeley. Women offenders — a "very vulnerable population" — respond well to "gender-responsive correctional programming, although sadly they are often overlooked because of their smaller numbers," the report said.

Friendlier housing for men and women will be part of the new \$160 million jail scheduled to open in 2015 at the corner of Maple and Blomquist streets in Redwood City. Open dorm-like spaces with wooden doors and a few people per room will make up "a good portion" of

See **JAIL**, page 6

### CALLING ON THE ALMANAC

Newsroom: **223-6525**  
Newsroom fax: **223-7525**  
Advertising: **854-2626**  
Advertising fax: **854-3650**  
Classified ads: **854-0858**

■ E-mail news, information, obituaries and photos (with captions) to: [editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:editor@AlmanacNews.com)  
■ E-mail letters to the editor to: [letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com)

To request free delivery, or stop delivery, of The Almanac in zip code 94025, 94027, 94028 and the Woodside portion of 94062, call **854-2626**.

**THE ALMANAC** (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Wednesday by Embarcadero Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County, The Almanac is delivered free to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. Subscriptions for \$60 per year or \$100 per 2 years are welcome. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Copyright ©2012 by Embarcadero Media, All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



## Peninsula School

NURSERY THROUGH 8TH GRADE • PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION SINCE 1925

**We believe education can be engaging and joyous.**

- Celebrating arts and academics
- Working together to cultivate curiosity and imagination
  - Strong community building
  - Focusing on the process of learning
- Low student teacher ratio, small class size

**OPEN HOUSE** Nursery, Kindergarten, First Grade  
Saturday, October 27,  
10-11:30 a.m. *Children welcome.*

**SCHOOL TOURS** October 11 & 25, November 8 & 15,  
December 6 & 13, January 10, beginning at 10:00 a.m.  
*Parents only please—registration not required.*

For an appointment, please call (650) 325-1584, ext. 5  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 18, 2013**

**920 PENINSULA WAY, MENLO PARK, CA | 650.325.1584**  
[WWW.PENINSULASCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.PENINSULASCHOOL.ORG)

Photo: Marc Silber



**Cynthia graduated with a Bachelor in Theatre from Barnard College at Columbia University in New York City.**

**As a Residential Life and World Languages Faculty member, Cynthia is involved in student's lives on just about every level. If she's not working in the dorms, she can be found in the classroom, teaching 6th Grade French, or in the Performing Arts Center, assistant directing and stage managing Priory's theatrical productions.**

**As a 2005 Priory graduate, Cynthia was active in the Performing Arts department and continues sharing her passion for the arts with current students in the Priory.**

**Cynthia also has a strong interest in volunteering and has worked at the Stanford Jazz Workshop for the past 12 summers and volunteers once a week at Hidden Villa leading school groups on tours of the farm and wilderness.**

**ONE OF THE MANY REASONS TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO:**



**Woodside Priory School**  
Admissions Office  
302 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028  
650/851-8223 ■ [www.PrioryCa.org](http://www.PrioryCa.org)

**OPEN HOUSE for Prospective Students and Families**

Saturday, November 10th, 2012 at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, November 28th, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 8th, 2012 at 10 a.m.

**For information and to R.S.V.P. contact Admissions at 650.851.8223**

# Woodside Day of the Horse

**The first horse came to Woodside and Portola Valley in 1769 with Gaspar de Portola.**

They camped in a nearby valley and discovered the Bay. Now the Woodside horse population is by far the largest of any Peninsula town.



**The San Mateo County Sheriff's Mounted Search and Rescue Unit**

consists of civilians who volunteer their own time, money and horses for search and rescue operations work as a team with the Sheriff's Office and other emergency agencies.



© Nancy Dunlop Cawdrey

Founded shortly after Pearl Harbor to help guard our rugged coast, the **Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County**

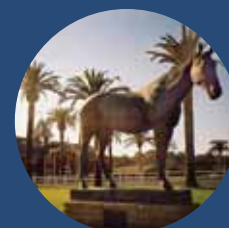


evolved into a community service organization which participates in rodeos, equestrian events, charitable activities and assists the Sheriff's search and rescue team.

**The beautiful 100 year old Folger Stable in Wunderlich Park** has been renovated thanks to the efforts of over 600 community donors dedicated to preserving our equestrian heritage. Public horse boarding will continue a century old tradition at the Stable.



## October 13th, 2012 Woodside Town Hall



Adults and kids — over 20 clubs and organizations present — learn about horses and riding programs  
 Wells Fargo Stagecoach Rides • Pony rides • Equine petting zoo • Puppet show  
 Horsey activities for kids • Watch a blacksmith and equine veterinarian in action  
 • Woodside Community Museum Exhibit • Live Music!

See over 300 costumed riders along the Woodside Trails in celebration of this year's theme, "Camelot"

Admission Free • 10:00am to 2:30pm

[www.Whoa94062.org](http://www.Whoa94062.org) • [whoa94062@sbcglobal.net](mailto:whoa94062@sbcglobal.net) • 650.380.6408



... In memory of Bill Lane, the initiator of this ad and a champion for the Woodside Day of the Horse ...

## MEASURING THE WILL OF THE VOTERS

Three ballot measures give Atherton voters a say on library, ballpark, and Town Center

By Renee Batti  
Almanac News Editor

In addition to choosing two members of their City Council this November, Atherton residents will cast ye or nay votes on three ballot measures, the most controversial of which asks whether a library should be built in the town's only park.

Measure F asks voters whether the town should build a library in Holbrook-Palmer Park, razing the Main House to make way for the new building, and using existing funds dedicated for library purposes only.

Another question before voters, Measure M, also involves the park.

It asks whether the Menlo-Atherton Little League should be permitted to improve the existing ball field and surrounding areas in the park, using private funds. The improvements would include building a permanent spectator stand and restrooms, and the resurfacing of the nearby tennis courts.

Measure L asks residents whether funding to build a new Town Center should be restricted primarily to private donations.

### A rancorous debate

Although a number of residents opposed the idea of putting a new library in the park from the beginning, the debate

grew more heated a year ago when the council, by a 3-2 vote, rejected opponents' request to put the question to voters, and instead approved the project, pending a favorable environmental review.

Council members Elizabeth Lewis and Jerry Carlson voted against the project, and also pushed for a town-wide vote. Mayor Bill Widmer and council members Kathy McKeithen and Jim Dobbie relented last spring, allowing the vote to go forward.

The rancor over the issue continues to grow. A citizens group — spearheaded by residents

including Didi and John Fisher, Rose Hau, Sherman Hall III, and Valerie Gardner — has led the charge against Measure F. Calling itself "Save Our Park," the group has a website and has distributed fliers claiming, among other things, that residents weren't given an opportunity to decide where they prefer the library to be built.

The park was chosen by the council as the preferred site for a new library after about two years of study and discussion led by a volunteer steering committee headed by resident Denise Kupperman, a longtime volunteer who is now running for a council seat. The committee held more than 100 public meetings and conducted a series of community workshops.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Measure F** asks voters whether the town should build a library in Holbrook-Palmer Park, replacing the current library in Town Center, shown here.

The committee, which also included Councilwoman McKeithen and library staff members, recommended the park site as the option most conducive for building a facility that would also serve as the heart of the community, creating space for community groups to meet while adding much more space to house the library's collections.

The option of renovating and expanding the existing 4,790-square-foot library,

which is in need of seismic retrofitting, was considered a poor alternative for a number of reasons. For one thing, it would require the library to move into a temporary space for about two years.

Also, noise from trains roaring through on nearby tracks is disruptive to programs such as children's story-time, and has been a longtime complaint of library patrons and staff.

Walter Sleeth, co-chair with Ginny Nile of a pro-Measure F

citizens group, said in a written statement that building the library in the park "would allow for a quieter library away from the rail line. It would connect the library's programs to the outdoor areas in the park."

"In addition, the library will be designed to have spaces to continue as a magnet for community events, replacing the outdated and costly Main House."

Continued on page 8

## Woodside works on affordable housing; councilman pushes back

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac staff writer

Staff in Woodside Town Hall are at work resolving three high-priority items among the town's affordable housing obligations to the state. One member of the Town Council is less than happy about it.

State law requires cities and towns, through the mechanism of zoning, to plan for housing for people of moderate and low incomes, even in communities such as Woodside with its seven-figure median home price. In San Mateo County, a moderate

income is around \$86,500 for an individual and \$123,600 for a family of four, according to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

This law does not require that the homes be built — and the town meets most of its obligations with second units — but the law does specify sanctions available if a group advocating for affordable housing successfully sues over inaction. Woodside is in little danger as it has a plan certified by the HCD. But there are loose ends.

When Town Manager Kevin

Bryant introduced the topic for discussion at the Sept. 25 council meeting, Councilman Tom Shanahan, a regular crit-

**'I don't think this is of interest to this community other than complying with the law.'**

COUNCILMAN TOM SHANAHAN

ic of government regulation, responded: "I don't think this is of interest to this community other than complying with the

law. Is there any effort on the part of San Mateo County to push back?"

There is not. Affordable housing is an issue between a town and the state. But Councilman Dave Burow chanted, "Shanahan for supervisor, Shanahan for supervisor." A vote of support for Mr. Shanahan's views? No, Mr. Burow told the Almanac. He said he was suggesting that if Mr. Shanahan wanted to change a policy, he should run for higher office.

"The notion of affordable housing is a good idea," Mr. Burow added. "I'm not sure

the best idea is to force it on a town."

The council was reacting to a staff report by Woodside Senior Planner Licinia Ramalho McMorrow that lists 22 affordable housing obligations, broadly worded by the state, and supposed to be accomplished by January 2014.

The tepid enthusiasm for these mandates continued with Councilman Peter Mason. "I'm not sure how much of this stuff we really want to do," he said. Asked later to elaborate, he said

See WOODSIDE, page 8

4420 Alpine Road | Portola Valley | 650.851.1711  
3015 Woodside Road | Woodside 650.851.1511  
Visit us anytime at [www.robertsmarket.com](http://www.robertsmarket.com)

**FRESH PRODUCE**

LARGE **\$2<sup>59</sup>**  
HONEY CRISP APPLES lb

VINE RIPE **\$1<sup>79</sup>**  
CLUSTER TOMATOES lb

DRISCOLL **\$3<sup>29</sup>**  
RASPBERRIES per basket

**MEAT AND SEAFOOD**

TANGY **\$5<sup>98</sup>**  
DIJON CHICKEN BREAST lb

**\$4<sup>98</sup>**  
BBQ RIBS lb

LEMON **\$5<sup>98</sup>**  
BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST lb

**\$3<sup>98</sup>**  
GROUND CHUCK lb

**ON SALE GROCERY**

**\$8<sup>99</sup>**  
ILLY WHOLE BEAN COFFEE  
8.8 OZ. - ALSO GROUND

**\$2<sup>49</sup>**  
ANNIE'S NATURAL DRESSINGS  
8 OZ.

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**  
SMART BALANCE BUTTERY SPREAD

**\$3<sup>69</sup>**  
WHITE CASTLE CHEESEBURGERS  
6 COUNT

**\$3<sup>29</sup>**  
MILKBONE DOG BISCUITS  
24 OZ.

**DELI DEPARTMENT**

Come by Roberts Market deli and try  
a Roberts Burrito Chicken or Beef **\$6.99 lb.**

We also have tasty Tamales  
Chicken  
Pork or **\$3.19 ea.**  
Jalepeño/Cheese

A side of our Taco Pasta Salad would go great with that! **\$6 lb.**

**WINE AND SPIRITS**

**1.75L Spirits Sale**

<i>Absolute Vodka 80°</i> .....Reg. \$32.99	<b>Sale \$29.99</b>
<i>Ketel One Vodka 80°</i> .....Reg. \$39.99	<b>Sale \$34.99</b>
<i>Bombay Sapphire Gin 94°</i> .....Reg. \$39.99	<b>Sale \$34.99</b>
<i>Jim Beam Bourbon 80°</i> .....Reg. \$26.99	<b>Sale \$23.99</b>
<i>Jack Daniels Tennessee Whiskey 80°</i> .....Reg. \$39.99	<b>Sale \$34.99</b>

**Tutor sentenced in molestation case**

By Sandy Brundage  
Almanac Staff Writer

A former Menlo Park City School District employee was sentenced Oct. 5 to three years in state prison for two counts of felony child molestation.

Yung Chi Chu, 48, was arrested in 2011 at his San Carlos home on suspicion of fondling the 10-year-old daughter of a friend. After an initial plea of not guilty, he later pleaded no contest in exchange for a shorter sentence.

Although the defendant asked the court for probation and counseling, San Mateo Superior Court Judge Craig Parsons followed through on the plea bargain, sentencing Mr. Chu to three years with 241 days credit for time served.

The sentence includes a ban on contact with the girl, lifetime registration as a sex offender, and \$1,080 in restitution and fines. District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said Mr. Chu will serve his time in state prison and not the county jail, which has been receiving non-violent offenders under California's new realignment policy.

The molestation came to light when the girl's father discovered hundreds of late-night text messages sent to her by Mr. Chu, who was her tutor. The defendant also

sent photos of naked men and asked for nude photos of the victim, but she refused, according to the district attorney's office.

Although the 10-year-old girl was not a student in the Menlo Park school district, officials sent an advisory to parents following the arrest that stated Mr. Chu had resigned his position during a disciplinary investigation into unrelated misconduct after working as a computer technician for three-and-a-half years.

Then-superintendent Ken Ranella described Mr. Chu's duties as assisting staff at the Teacher Educational Resource Center, and Encinal and Laurel Elementary schools.

"(Computer technicians) are not assigned duties that would require them to be alone with children without the presence of a credentialed teacher," he wrote in the advisory, and noted that the suspect had no criminal record before or during his employment with the district.

He had no prior convictions in San Mateo County. The defendant was in custody on \$275,000 bail and represented by attorney Frank Bell at the time of sentencing.

"Mr. Chu confessed even before he was arrested. He felt badly about what he had done and wanted to get it off of his chest," Mr. Bell said. ▀

**JAIL**

continued from page 3

the women's facilities and all of the men's, Mr. Munks said. No bars and no sliding steel doors, at least not in this section of the jail, he said. The current jail will continue as the maximum security section for men.

The county Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the new jail in May 2012, but the proposal is controversial. At a recent supervisors meeting, protestors argued for spending the money in other ways, including incarceration alternatives.

There will be alternatives to ease inmates back into the community, Mr. Munks said. Inmates who earn the privilege, and wear a GPS bracelet, will be allowed to attend community college and job training during the day and return at night to the structured environment of jail.

"If you normalize, or soften, the setting, you bring the tension level down," the sheriff said. Such housing will be for inmates who

show the potential to turn their lives around; helping them along will be new spaces for treatment programs, mental health and family relations.

"We recognize that the whole idea (of incarceration in jail) is to help people re-enter the socio-economic fabric of the community," Mr. Munks said. "These are our neighbors. They are our community members. They're coming back one way or another. What can we do to increase their chances of success?" Under the relocation program, prisoners are repatriated to county jails according to the counties in which they lived at the time of their conviction.

"Jail plays an important role for some people," Mr. Munks added. "Sometimes they're not motivated to make changes until three, four, five times in jail, when they really hit bottom." The difficult cases will remain in high-security cells and serve their time, he said. "We shouldn't beat our heads against the wall and waste time on them." ▀

# Police association tactics under fire

By Renee Batti  
Almanac News Editor

## ATHERTON

A number of residents and City Council members are criticizing a pre-election mail and telephone campaign by the Atherton Police Officers Association that they say is spreading false and misleading information to residents.

An APOA flier that reached mailboxes in late summer, warning residents that “you are in danger of losing your Atherton police,” prompted Mayor Bill Widmer and Councilman Jim Dobbie to dispute, in a public letter to council colleagues, several key points of the “scaremongering” mailer. The council voted unanimously last month to place discussion of the mailer on the Oct. 17 council agenda.

The APOA, the employee group of the town’s police officers and sergeants, also announced in a recorded message left recently on residents’ telephones that it has endorsed incumbent Elizabeth Lewis and Cary Wiest for the two open council seats.

The wording of the message, recorded by APOA president and police officer David Metzger, has caused some residents to cry foul, saying that the association implied that the two other candidates — Greg Conlon and Denise Kupperman — would support outsourcing police services.

“They don’t directly say that

we would outsource, but the (implication) is pretty strong,” Mr. Conlon said.

The prepared statement delivered by Mr. Metzger said that Atherton police officers “are working hard to maintain the level of service you currently receive, as well as the safety and security of the town of Atherton.

“However, your police department could eventually

### An APOA flier warns residents that ‘you are in danger of losing your Atherton police.’

be outsourced to the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Department, depending on the current and future actions of your City Council. With this in mind, (the association is) supporting ... Elizabeth Lewis for reelection and ... Cary Wiest for election.”

Although a few residents have publicly advocated outsourcing police services, the idea has proven to be a hot potato, and it appears that a large majority of residents oppose it. Which posed a problem for candidate Kupperman.

“It was of concern” for several residents at an event held

late last month in support of her candidacy, Ms. Kupperman said. She had to explain to those raising questions that she has never advocated outsourcing police services, she added.

When she heard of the phone message, she said, she went to the police station to speak with Mr. Metzger and tell him that his call “includes a misstatement of my position.” He responded that “there was no implied message,” she said. But the message, she insisted, “was suggestive — not explicit but implicit.”

“That’s how I interpret it and how a number of residents interpreted it.”

Ms. Kupperman said she wasn’t seeking the APOA endorsement, and that the association had a right to endorse whomever it chose to. “But they don’t have a right to misrepresent my position,” she said.

Mr. Metzger was not available for comment.

Although the APOA traditionally endorses candidates in council races, the double-punch approach this campaign season has made some residents nervous. Mayor Bill Widmer said he has heard from “a number of residents who have said they’re afraid to put out signs (for candidates Kupperman or Conlon) for fear there could be retribution.”

Councilwoman Kathy McKeithen, whose term ends in December, said in a statement sent to the Almanac that within minutes of receiving the APOA’s “robocall” herself, she received calls from several residents worried that if they endorsed can-

Continued on page 15

# Ten Fu restaurant closes in Menlo Park

By Jane Knoerle  
Almanac Lifestyles Editor

Ten Fu Chinese Restaurant has been sold to Fey Enterprise LLC of San Mateo. Its owners, Ruth and John Wang, are retiring after 28 years in business at 1352 El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

The restaurant closed Sept. 29. After extensive remodeling, it will re-open as a Chinese restaurant around Christmas, according to the Wang’s son, Joseph.

With Ruth as hostess and John as chef, the Wangs attracted a loyal clientele. Ten Fu (means heavenly blessings) was the kind of place where they recognized you and remembered what table you preferred.

Their menu featured at least 15 chicken dishes and 19 beef dishes, but the most popular dish was honey walnut prawns, a combination of prawns, mayonnaise, honey and glazed walnuts,



Ruth and John Wang are retiring.

which tastes much better than it sounds. Ten Fu chicken — crispy chicken in a hot and spicy garlic sauce — was another favorite.

For more than 10 years, Mr. Wang demonstrated how to make hand-pulled noodles to the children at Laurel and Encinal schools. He even let the kids try their hand at stretching the

rope of dough into noodles, a technique he learned at culinary school in Taiwan. He also brought along generous helpings of chow mein, so they could sample the finished product.

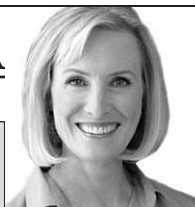
Ruth and John Wang moved here from Taiwan in 1980. Ruth was born in Korea; John was born in China. They have raised their two sons, Joseph and Timothy in Menlo Park, while running the restaurant. There are now three grandchildren.

A year-and-a-half ago, John suffered a heart attack. He has made a complete recovery, but it caused the couple to think about how they wanted to spend the rest of their life and they are taking it in a new direction.

A deeply religious man, John is a member of the Forerunner Christian Church in Fremont. Next year he will travel to China to do missionary work and Ruth will be going with him. ■

## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



### May I Rebuild What Exists Now?

**Dear Monica: I own a duplex on a lot that is zoned R1. If I tear it down, may I rebuild it as a duplex? Peter S.**

ing to the present rules. These rules might allow you to build a main house and a secondary unit like a guest house, on a smaller scale.

Dear Peter: You need to discuss this with the Planning Department of your city. The rules in many towns include the right to rebuild two units under certain circumstances. If the duplex was legally built with a permit, it is likely the city would allow you to rebuild another duplex even with an R1 zoning. If the property was not legally built with a permit, or there is no record of a permit, then you must rebuild accord-

You will probably be allowed to remodel the existing duplex and bring it up to date without being asked to adhere to any other rules. It may be just as expensive to do this as it would be to tear down and build new, but the size of the existing units could remain the same or possibly expanded. Go to your city’s building department and talk to a planner to get the information you need.

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



STANFORD  
HOSPITAL & CLINICS

Stanford University Medical Center

**FREE  
ORAL CANCER  
SCREENING**

at Stanford Hospital & Clinics

Sat., October 20

8:00am – 12:00pm

Stanford’s Adult ENT Clinic

801 Welch Road, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Palo Alto, CA 94304

If you use alcohol or tobacco or lack dental care, you may be at risk for oral cancer. Come to our Oral Cancer Screening Clinic to be examined by Stanford doctors and learn more about oral cancer prevention and detection. Screening is quick and painless, and resources for tobacco cessation and low-cost dental care will be available.

For more information, 650.427.9777, email [OralCancer@stanford.edu](mailto:OralCancer@stanford.edu) or visit us at: [med.stanford.edu/ohns/news/ocs.html](http://med.stanford.edu/ohns/news/ocs.html)

# ATHERTON: MEASURING THE WILL OF THE VOTER

continued from page 5

But opponents of Measure F argue that other sites, including the existing one, would be feasible for a rebuilt library, and should be further explored. The ballot argument against the measure says a library would change the park's character and disrupt its tranquility, competing "with the intended use of the park as a recreational area."

The ballot argument in favor of the measure is signed by Mayor Widmer, Councilwoman McKeithen, and three residents. The argument against it is signed by five former mayors: Didi and John Fisher, Malcolm Dudley, Jim Janz, and current Councilman Jerry Carlson.

Visit [tinyurl.com/MeasureF116](http://tinyurl.com/MeasureF116) to see arguments and rebuttals.

Both sides accuse the other of deception and of issuing inaccurate information. For example, opponents say a library in the park could be built to a size up to 20,000 square feet. The environmental impact report studied options that included a 13,500-square-foot structure and one of only 10,000 square feet, which essentially locks the

town into those two options.

Mayor Widmer and Councilwoman McKeithen noted that the larger option was studied on the advice of a town planner, who said the town needed some flexibility. But the larger size "was not the steering committee's number," Ms. McKeithen said.

Although the council hasn't voted on the building's size, it has stated that the footprint can be no larger than 10,000 square feet, and "I have said ... and the EIR recommended that the total library should be 10,000 square feet or less as the most preferred version," Mr. Widmer said.

Although a future council could approve a 13,500-square-foot library, with a small second floor, "there has never been a 20,000-square-foot plan as is being publicized by the No on F people," he said.

Calls to Didi and John Fisher were not returned.

After throwing considerable energy and support behind a library in the park, Councilwoman McKeithen acknowledges that the opposition may prevail. "If we had a level playing field, (Measure F) would have

a chance," she said. But, she added, the Save Our Parks campaign has put out false information, and that may doom the project.

"But don't take my word for it," she said. "Do your own homework. Look at the documents yourself" before deciding how to vote.

## Measure M

The question voters face about the proposed, privately funded ball field improvements in the park is far less complicated and controversial. The Little League proposes to build covered bleachers to seat up to 200 people, and restrooms that will be open to all park users, as well as make improvements to the field itself.

Jeff Morris, who was a leader in the effort to win town approval for the existing ball field about 10 years ago, said the latest proposal wouldn't increase use of the field, but it would make it safer and better maintained.

"Little League is already there," he said. "We built it, kids have been playing on it, but the field was never maintained."

Bob Hellman of Atherton,

whose family foundation "Build Our Ballpark" is partially funding the project, said the renovation would deal with a number of safety issues, including spectators being hit by balls and kids spraining their ankles on the poorly maintained field.

The Little League will resurface the playing field as well as the nearby tennis courts. The project will add drainage and sprinkler systems on the field, he said. The bleachers will be built on "the safest part of the field." The field will continue to be used by other youth sports groups like soccer and lacrosse, he said.

Frank Merrill, a Parks and Recreation commissioner, and Tree Committee member Rachel Croft wrote the ballot argument against Measure M. Putting the question before voters now is premature, and has forced an "up or down" decision without leaving room for future negotiation between the town and Little League to come up with the optimal plan, they argue.

Visit [tinyurl.com/MeasureM116](http://tinyurl.com/MeasureM116) to see ballot arguments.

## Measure L

Mayor Widmer, Councilwoman McKeithen and three residents signed the ballot arguments in favor of Measure L. There is no ballot argument against it.

An effort is already under way to design and raise private funds for the building of a new Town Center, a project that would create a new police station and administrative offices. Currently, staff works out of cramped spaces in buildings that, in some cases, don't meet building code standards. The planning and building departments operate out of decrepit portable buildings.

With Measure L, the council is seeking input from voters on how the center should be paid for. Voting for the measure would restrict the funding to primarily private donations, grants, and building fees, and would not allow the use of general fund tax money or parcel tax funds without voter approval, according to the impartial analysis of the town attorney.

Visit [tinyurl.com/MeasureL-116](http://tinyurl.com/MeasureL-116) to see the ballot arguments. ■

## WOODSIDE

continued from page 5

he was referring to low-priority items such as a program to promote energy efficient housing. The town has taken care of that already in the general plan in a chapter devoted to sustainability, he said.

Of the 22 obligations, the report shows six as complete, eight as ongoing (and likely to remain so), and eight more incomplete. Three of those have high priorities:

- "Provide opportunities for multi-family housing." The town is in a conversation with Canada College about having more apartments built on campus for faculty and staff.

- "Promote affordable housing opportunities for persons with disabilities of all types, not limited to physical disabilities." Amend the municipal code to update the definition of "family" and include under the umbrella of the term "disability" people with mental or psychiatric limitations.

- "Provide for emergency shelter and transitional housing (for the recently incarcerated)." Amend the municipal code to allow such housing without requiring a conditional use permit.

"We have to show progress,"

Ms. Ramalho McMorrow said.

A new seven-year period begins in 2014 with a new set of obligations from the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) on behalf of HCD.

Woodside will be expected to plan for 62 new residences for lower income residents. Most would be second units. Of these, 23 would be for very low incomes (defined in Woodside as relatives and college students), 13 for low incomes (employees living on site), 15 for moderate incomes (in cottages and apartments at Canada College), and 11 more for above-moderate incomes.

## Ardent critic

In an interview, Mr. Shanahan noted that he was "not fully informed" on affordable housing and reminded this reporter of his dim views, as a council candidate, of government spending, particularly when it involves an unfunded mandate.

"I don't think that government should strive for a profit," he said. "I do think that government should strive for efficiency."

The housing mandates, he said, show a bureaucracy responding to pressures that existed in the 1990s, when jobs were plentiful and housing was not. "I see a whole agency that

## 'Significant' mail theft reported in Woodside

A "significant theft" from mail boxes at Bear Gulch Road and Skyline Boulevard (state route 35) in Woodside occurred Oct. 3-4, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office reported Thursday night.

"Numerous mailboxes were forced open with pry tools and locks were cut with bolt cutters," sheriff's deputy Owen Yoch said in an email alert. The thefts occurred between 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3, and 8 a.m. the next day, he said.

Mail theft is often connected to check, credit card and identity theft, he said. A U.S. postal inspector is working with the Sheriff's Office to investigate these thefts. Mail theft is a federal offense punishable by a long term in federal prison, Deputy Yoch said.

He advises those who see suspicious vehicles or situations to call the Sheriff's Office at

(650) 363-4911 with a full description of the people and vehicles, including license plate numbers. Don't try to apprehend the suspects, he said.

## West Bay wins safety award

West Bay Sanitary District, which provides wastewater collection for Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and other nearby areas, recently won a state-wide award for outstanding accomplishments in safety and risk management, said district manager Phil Scott.

The award, which includes \$10,000 to be shared equally among the district's 26 employees, was given by the California Sanitation Risk Management Authority. Each employee received a jacket with the award embroidered in front.

## BRIEFS

is involved with the counting of units, an agency whose mission has become overgrown with rules and regulations," he said.

Today, there are "ghost towns" in the Central Valley, he said. Should people who earn moderate incomes in San Mateo County then go to the Central Valley to find affordable homes? "Over time, do not things adjust?" he replied. "That's why a lot of those units were built in the Central Valley. ... A lot of people here have

made an individual decision to do that."

Building affordable housing in San Mateo County will exacerbate the housing glut, he said. Developers in the Central Valley are crying out: "I have empty buildings that are deteriorating. I need people," he said.

"In the great scheme of things, can we afford to keep doing these things? Something's got to give in the state of California."

What about the hours commuting? Clean air mandates drove up the price of gas and

now the state has high unemployment and a terrible credit rating. "If we have the cleanest air in the world and have no more IBM plants in San Jose, how do all the people in IBM feel about that? ... It's good that we have clean air, but (the state) has to become competitive again. Can we spend less on affordable housing so that we can be more competitive?"

Besides, he added, "Silicon Valley is rapidly turning into a headquarters town," like Manhattan or Hollywood. ■



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

## Raising funds for burn victims

A 1940s firetruck heads along Middlefield Road toward Atherton as part of the 19th annual Peninsula Firefighters Burn Relay. A convoy of firetrucks and emergency vehicles stopped at fire stations and municipal buildings on the route from Mountain View to San Francisco to raise money for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, which helps rehabilitate burn victims and provides funds for an annual summer camp for child burn victims.

## Ellen Pao and Kleiner part ways

By Sandy Brundage  
Almanac Staff Writer

Ellen Pao has maintained a low profile since news of her sex discrimination lawsuit against a Menlo Park venture capital firm broke four months ago. The junior investment partner surfaced with a post on Quora in June stating she still worked at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers (KPCB), but now that's changed.

"Update: I have been terminated from my job at KPCB. On Monday afternoon, senior management told me to clean out my office, leave, and not come back," she posted on Oct. 3.

As with much else in this case, what happened appears to depend on where you're standing.

"Ms. Pao remains an employee of the firm, however, because of long standing issues having no relationship or bearing on the litigation, Kleiner approached Ms. Pao to facilitate her transition, over an extended period of time, out of the firm. The proposed terms, that did not require Ms. Pao to waive any legal rights or claims, are generous, fair and intended to support Ms. Pao in a successful career transition," a Kleiner Perkins spokeswoman said.

Meanwhile, the discrimination lawsuit continues, with KPCB appealing a judge's ruling against forcing the case to arbitration.

Ms. Pao, who earned both a



Ellen Pao says she was fired by Kleiner Perkins, but the Menlo Park venture capital firm disagrees.

law degree and an MBA from Harvard, filed the lawsuit on May 10 after working at Kleiner Perkins for seven years. The suit alleges that the firm discriminates against women for promotions and compensation, and retaliated against her after she complained about harassment by a peer who allegedly pressured her into a brief sexual relationship.

The lawsuit details specific instances of gender exclusion, including a company ski trip in January 2012 and several dinners to which only male employees were invited. The host of one event reportedly said that inviting women would "kill the buzz."

In its rebuttal, Kleiner Perkins said, "On the contrary, a dinner to which Plaintiff appears

to refer to as male-only was, in fact, attended by male and female KPCB partners, and male and female entrepreneurs and leaders."

The firm's response claims Ms. Pao has "twisted facts and events in an attempt to create legal claims where none exist." The filing references an independent investigator who interviewed 17 partners, including every female partner at the time, "provided Plaintiff multiple opportunities to provide information and documents, and, after a thorough review, concluded the Plaintiff's discrimination and retaliation complaints were without merit."

The long-standing issues referred to in the company's statement regarding the separation agreement with Ms. Pao are performance-related, according to public comments by attorney Lynne Hermle, who represents the venture capital firm.

Kleiner Perkins in its rebuttal to the lawsuit cites reviews that questioned her initiative, interpersonal skills and ability to work as a team member. "Based solely on repeated and widespread performance concerns" raised by colleagues inside and outside the company, "Plaintiff did not earn the necessary support of her male and female partners for promotion."

Attorney Alan Exelrod, who represents Ms. Pao, was not available for comment, but told the Wall Street Journal on Oct. 4 that the termination was retaliation for the lawsuit. ■

## Summary Real Estate Reports for Week of October 8.

Available at  
[PeninsulaSpecialist.com](http://PeninsulaSpecialist.com)



Reports for:  
Atherton  
Woodside  
Portola Valley  
Menlo Park

STEVE GRAY offers 30+ years of local knowledge. Born in Menlo Park. Raised in Atherton. A Woodside resident.



Steve Gray  
DRE# 01498634  
650-743-7702  
sgray@cbtnorcal.com

## CALIFORNIA POPS ORCHESTRA 2012-2013 Season!



Kim VENAS CONDUCTOR

Season Premiere **Oct 14**  
*Turn on the Heat!*

Hits from Gershwin, Berlin & Porter with renowned Society Pianist Frederick Hodges & Singer Ann Gibson

**Dec 16 Christmas Special**

**Jan 27 Gotta Dance!**

**March 17 Big Band Tribute**

**May 19 Great Music of the Movies**



Tickets \$37-\$42, youth \$15 & service fee

All Shows Sunday 3pm  
Now in Los Altos

**Smithwick Theater**  
Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Rd.  
FREE Concert Parking in Lots 5 & 6  
NO STAIRS from parking to theater



[WWW.CALPOPS.ORG](http://WWW.CALPOPS.ORG)  
(650)856-8432

Season (5 Shows) \$171-\$194 youth \$70 & service fee

## Tour Palo Alto's New Passive Home



### PALO ALTO PASSIVE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON DEVOTED TO SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTHY building practices. Featuring beautiful Spanish Revival style architecture, this new passive home reduces energy consumption by an incredible 90%! One of the few in the Bay Area, it features the latest in green technology. We hope to see you there!

FREE! NO TICKETS OR RESERVATIONS NEEDED.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH  
1:00-5:00PM

1510 PORTOLA AVENUE  
PALO ALTO

CLARUM HOMES

For more info, call 650.800.3550 or visit [PaloAltoPassive.com/tour!](http://PaloAltoPassive.com/tour!)

## Woodside gives green light to Skylonda farmers' market

By Dave Boyce

Almanac staff writer

The second Skylonda farmers' market this year, and the first fully legitimate one, is expected to open at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in the parking lot near the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Highway 84 in Woodside.

By a unanimous vote on Sept. 26, the Woodside Planning Commission amended use permits to allow open air sales at 17265 and 17285 Skyline Blvd. No more than eight vendors will be allowed. The decision was made after a discussion of about 25 minutes, said senior planner Sage Schaan.

The farmers' markets will be held on Wednesday afternoons between 3 and 7 p.m. (or dusk, if it comes sooner), with one additional hour at each end for

set-up and disassembly.

Items allowed for sale include produce, flowers, plants and prepared foods, according to a Planning Commission staff report. There will be no outdoor cooking. Food trucks will not be a part of the scene, Mr. Schaan said.

"It was never MY intention to interfere with any local businesses," market manager Maggie Foard told the Almanac. "There is a good deli at Skywood Trading Post and good burger scene at Alice's across the street. We have Cafe Questa down in La Honda, The Mountain House a few minutes up the road on King's Mountain (Road) and the Bella Vista. There are good places to eat out. What we don't have up here is a convenient place to shop for fresh goods."

The market will offer local organic vegetables, organic apples, honey, grass-fed beef, wild and sustainable seafood, native plants and seedlings, fresh goat cheese, free-range eggs and goat's-milk chocolate made by Ms. Foard, she said, adding: "Alice's Restaurant across the street will put on (a) weekly

Continued on next page

# 10% on 10/10

On Wednesday, October 10, 10% of your purchases from these Town & Country Village stores and restaurants will be donated to Breast Cancer Connections.

A Street Bike Named Desire  
Ambassador Toys  
Asian Box  
Astor Gift & Home  
Bespoke Home  
Books, Inc.\*  
Calafia Café & Market  
a Go-Go\*  
Cold Stone Creamery\*  
Create It Ceramics  
Day One  
Douce France\*  
HALO—A Blow Dry Bar\*  
Hobee's Restaurant  
(dinner sales only from 5-9 pm)

Jamba Juice  
Lisa DeNeffe Photography  
Mom's The Word  
Nanoo\*  
Patrick James\*  
Scandia Home\*  
Sportissimo\*  
Toss Designs  
Touleh Pet Boutique\*  
Urban Nest  
U Threads\*  
Village Cheese House  
Wilby Optical\*  
Xercise Lab\*

\* Mention Breast Cancer Connections and receive 10% off your purchase!

TOWN & COUNTRY  
VILLAGE  
SHOPPING DAY  
*to benefit*  
BREAST CANCER  
CONNECTIONS



Breast Cancer Connections is a non-profit resource center offering free programs and support services for those facing breast cancer. For more information: [www.bcconnections.org](http://www.bcconnections.org) • Helpline: 650.326.6686



## Matched CareGivers



*"There's no place like home."*

When you, or someone you care about, needs assistance... you can count on us to be there.

We provide Peninsula families with top, professional caregivers.

Call now

(650) 839-2273

[www.matchedcaregivers.com](http://www.matchedcaregivers.com)

## TOWN & COUNTRY VILLAGE

MORE THAN 60 SHOPS, RESTAURANTS & SERVICES • [TANDCVILLAGE.COM](http://TANDCVILLAGE.COM) • EL CAMINO REAL & EMBARCADERO ROAD, PALO ALTO



Like Facebook.com/TandCVillage

Continued from previous page

Wednesday market menu consisting of ingredients from the market such as a grass-fed burger and a special market salad.”

Buying a truckload of broccoli or carrots and showing up claiming to be a local farmer is not allowed. The market is one of 31 certified by the San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures, which requires that the goods are being sold by the people who produced them. “Truly a farm-to-table transaction,” Ms. Foard noted. ■

## Free financial planning information

The public is invited to get personal finance questions answered for free at the Silicon Valley Financial Planning Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto.

About 40 certified financial planners will meet with people and answer questions, said event spokesman Gary Rous-


selo. There will be presentations on investing, taxes and saving for retirement.

The church is at 505 East Charleston Road. The event is sponsored by the Financial Planning Association of Silicon Valley.

Visit [tinyurl.com/Plan-103](http://tinyurl.com/Plan-103) for more information and to register.



 ShopMenloPark.com

 Support Local Business



### EYE CARE NEWS

**Presented by  
Mark Schmidt  
Licensed Optician**

**LIKE DAY AND NIGHT**

For wearers of prescription eyeglasses, the development of “photochromic” lenses may seem like an answer to a fervent wish. These lenses exhibit “photochromism,” the mechanism by which they darken outdoors (when exposed to ultraviolet rays) and fade back to their initial transparent state indoors (or behind UV-blocking windows). This transformational process is possible because of the naphthopyran molecules embedded in the lenses, which change shape due to a chemical process when exposed to UV light. Their new molecular structure

then absorbs portions of visible light, which causes the lenses to darken. The benefit for wearers of glasses with photochromic lenses is that they do not have to switch eyewear when going outdoors and back inside.

No one wants to carry around two pairs of glasses. When you’re driving or walking during a sunny day, you no longer need to switch from your clear glasses to sunglasses. Please bring your eyewear prescription to MENLO OPTICAL at 1166 University Drive, on the corner of Oak Grove Avenue and University Drive. We can help you choose from a variety of lenses, including photochromatic lenses and polarized lenses. We carry frames that suit many personal preferences. Call us at 322-3900 if you have questions about eyewear.

P.S. Because an automobile windshield blocks most, or all, UV light, photochromic lenses will not darken in cars and therefore may not be suitable as driving sunglasses.

*Mark Schmidt is an American Board of Optician 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.*



**BEST NEW FOOD & DRINK ESTABLISHMENT**



# MENLO GRILL

— B I S T R O & B A R —

A classic American grill with a warm and inviting neighborhood feel, serving approachable and healthy comfort food.

- Breakfast, lunch, dinner and late night snacks
- Extensive wine-by-the-glass list and craft brews
- Housemade desserts
- Outside patio dining
- Hand crafted cocktails
- No corkage fee

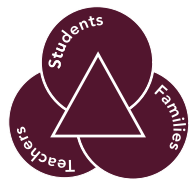
*Parking is plentiful, easy and free*

**650-330-2790**

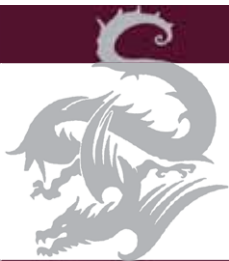
**100 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA**

**[www.menlogrill.com](http://www.menlogrill.com)**

Located at the Stanford Park Hotel



# Mid-Peninsula High School



**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Saturday, October 20, 2012**  
**10:30am-Noon**



**RESPECT • KINDNESS • ACCEPTANCE • RESPONSIBILITY**

Mid-Peninsula High School, a community for learning since 1979, offers students a stimulating, nurturing, safe environment that empowers them to reach their full academic and social potential.

- Grades 9-12
- UC accredited
- Team Sports
- Rolling Admissions
- Small Classes
- Flexible Academic Programs

(650) 321-1991 [www.mid-pen.com](http://www.mid-pen.com)

1340 Willow Road,  
 Menlo Park

## Thief strikes at Menlo Park church

By Sandy Brundage  
 Almanac Staff Writer

It takes a particular kind of thief to walk away with money collected during church services. Menlo Park detectives are still hoping to determine exactly what kind of thief for themselves, as they continue to investigate who stole from the Church of the Nativity.

The weekend of Aug. 26 saw the disappearance of checks and money collected from the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses, according to a notice from Monsignor Steve Otellini. He thanked parishioners for donat-

ing anew to cover the loss, and asked those whose checks were taken to keep an eye out at the bank for signs of processing.

The exact amount stolen defies a precise accounting, although the Catholic church that stands tall at 210 Oak Grove Ave. averaged about \$10,000 in offerings each weekend, according to the weekly church bulletin. The donations were kept in an office safe.

### The case of the missing collections.

“On Monday morning when we usually count the money,” Monsignor Otellini said when asked how the church discovered the theft. He declined to comment on whether it appeared to be an inside job.

Police spokeswoman Nicole Acker said detectives are continuing to interview the necessary parties. ■

### Correction

The cover story in the Oct. 3 issue of the Almanac erred in describing the linear accelerator at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory as being used to accelerate protons. It accelerates electrons (and positrons, which are electrons but with an opposite electrical charge).

**SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM**

Join today:

[SupportLocalJournalism.org](http://SupportLocalJournalism.org)

# ON SALE NOW!

### Just to remind you...

The Fall Sale is underway with three weeks left to order custom sofas, chairs and loveseats in your choice of fabrics.

This is our Last Fall Sale as we prepare for our retirement in the spring. So START MOVING on those projects you have been putting off...the country house, or the Holiday gift for the children.

This is your last chance to purchase beautiful custom pieces from Traditions and it is our thank you for your wonderful support through the years. Join us for this event on now until October 27th.

And...Every piece of furniture in the store is on sale. Come share in our celebration!

**TRADITIONS**



850 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park • Wed-Sat 10am-5:30pm • [www.TraditionsForTheHome.com](http://www.TraditionsForTheHome.com) • 650.325.4849

# Arrillaga eyes sites on El Camino Real

By Sandy Brundage  
Almanac Staff Writer

As the Almanac first reported, developer John Arrillaga has his eye on El Camino Real — more specifically, former auto dealership lots now owned by Stanford University.

University spokeswoman Jean McCown said the developer “is working on some concepts for these sites that are consistent with the (Menlo Park) Specific Plan; however, they are not yet ready for possible application to Menlo Park or for public release until an application is filed.”

**The developer is working on concepts for former auto lots owned by Stanford.**

City sources confirmed the billionaire’s interest and suggested the project involved medical office buildings, but details remain scarce. In addition to the Stanford Park Hotel, the university owns five lots — approximately 8.4 acres, with address numbers from 300 to 550 — along the segment of El Camino Real zoned for mixed use that lies within the boundaries of Menlo Park’s new specific plan.

Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith said it was too soon to discuss Mr. Arrillaga’s project. “It is my understanding that this project will continue to be refined. It would be premature for me to comment on it at this time.”

Mr. Arrillaga has donated \$15

million to Menlo Park during the past four years for construction of a new gymnasium, gymnastics center and renovated recreation center.

More recently, he has applied to build a complex of four office towers and a theater at 27 University Ave., bordered by El Camino Real and the Caltrain station, in downtown Palo Alto. The towers, ranging in height from six to 10 stories, would be linked in pairs by bridges. The theater would potentially serve as a new home for TheatreWorks.

The proposed site currently houses the historic MacArthur Park restaurant, which would need to be relocated to accommodate Mr. Arrillaga’s plan. The building, designed by architect Julia Morgan of Hearst Castle fame, first housed visiting military families in Menlo Park during World War I. When the city contemplated razing the building after the war, Palo Alto bought it for \$1 and moved it to University Avenue, where it now serves as a restaurant.

He isn’t the only developer interested in El Camino Real. Architect Sam Sinnott presented “some initial concepts for a housing development at 1295 El Camino Real,” Associate Planner Thomas Rogers said, but hasn’t submitted a full project application yet. ■



## TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION AND ARCHITECTURAL & SITE CONTROL COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley is accepting letters of interest from Town residents to serve on the Architectural and Site Control Commission and the Planning Commission beginning in January 2013.

All interested residents are requested to please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council via the Town Clerk at [shanlon@portolavalley.net](mailto:shanlon@portolavalley.net) by Friday, November 9, 2012.

More information about these Commissions can be found on the Town’s website:  
[www.portolavalley.net](http://www.portolavalley.net)

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE  
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD  
WOODSIDE, CA 94062  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
October 17, 2012  
7:30 PM**

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Mark & Susan Lonergan VARI2012-0001  
81 Oak Haven Way Planner: Licinia McMorrow, Senior Planner

Review and approval/denial of a Variance to install new deck supports in an area exceeding 35% slope to sustain an existing cantilevered deck a 1.13-acre parcel at 81 Oak Haven Way.

- Housing Actions ZOAM2012-0003  
Townwide Planner: Licinia McMorrow, Senior Planner

Review and recommend approval, conditional approval, or denial to the Town Council of an ordinance to amend the Woodside Municipal Code as it pertains to definition of family and permitted use modifications for transitional housing and emergency shelters as required by State law and as listed as action items in the 2007-2014 General Plan Housing Element Program.

- Water Conservation in Landscaping ZOAM2012-0004  
Townwide Planner: Licinia McMorrow, Senior Planner

Review and approval/denial of a Resolution of Intention to amend the Municipal Code to comply with new legislation on water conservation in landscaping, using model ordinance language from the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency as a guide for ordinance development, to be consistent with the California Water Conservation in Landscaping Act (amended 2006).

All application materials are available for public review at the Woodside Planning and Building Center, Woodside Town Hall, weekdays from 8:00 – 10:00 AM and 1:00 – 3:00 PM, or by appointment. For more information, contact the Woodside Planning and Building Department at (650) 851-6790.

## Families Endorse Candidates In Menlo Park Council Race

We are a group of Menlo Park families from a number of neighborhoods across our city. We are taxpayers, homeowners, and parents of children in the local schools. We want our future Menlo Park City Council to: (1) improve our community (2) demonstrate fiscal responsibility and (3) achieve reasonable development in our downtown corridor.

More specifically, we support:

- Timely, reasoned development to address the blight on El Camino, increase business, and eliminate retail vacancies in accordance with the Menlo Park Specific Plan for the Downtown and the El Camino corridors.
- Responsible management of our city budget for the long term.
- Privatization of city services, if it reduces costs while maintaining the high quality we expect and full access to all Menlo Park residents.
- Continued proactive monitoring of the California High Speed Rail to ensure the project does not negatively impact our city or residents.
- Continued reform of the pensions for our employees such that the long-term cost of these pensions is affordable to the city.

We recently invited the five Menlo Park City Council candidates to two informal forums at a local Menlo Park home. The forums allowed us to interact directly with each of the candidates for an hour where they discussed their civic experience, why they were running, and their views on various issues facing Menlo Park. We commend each of the candidates for their time and energy in past service to the city, for their desire to devote even more time as a member of the City Council, and for the time they took to meet with our group.

After careful consideration, we believe there are two candidates best equipped to take the action needed to address Menlo Park’s critical challenges, and help the City Council operate as an effective team. We strongly support the following two candidates in November’s election:

- Catherine Carlton
- Ray Mueller

We believe these candidates bring decisiveness, relevant and varied experience, a level-headed approach to problem solving, and a sense of urgency to the Menlo Park City Council.

Respectfully yours

Bob Burlinson	Mark Box	Stuart Johnston	Andy Kirkpatrick	Jodi Scherba
Katrien Burlinson	Michelle Box	Ann Stoner	Judy Kirkpatrick	Rod Scherba
Dianne Child	Charles Catalano	Michael Stoner	Lisa Kim-Lohmann	Ted Schlein
Jeff Child	Kelly Brennan	Alice Hom	W. Scott Lohmann	Scott Wachhorst
Maria Hilton	Doug Feick	Daniel Hom	Anne Morrissey	Sydney Wachhorst
Skip Hilton	Adrienne Fioretti	Joan Joss	Richard Morrissey	
Jeff Bird	Steve Fioretti	Randy Joss	Jim Riley	
Tina Bird	Tom Hayse	Doug Keare	Karen Riley	

# SACRED HEART SCHOOLS

*Where scholarship and values matter.*



## PRESCHOOL THROUGH 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ON ONE CAMPUS

- Roman Catholic, independent school
- Rigorous academic program
- Coeducational
- Average teacher/student ratio 1:16
- Complete fine arts program
- Outstanding athletic programs
- Community service opportunities
- Beautiful 63-acre campus
- New and modernized facilities
- Financial assistance available

## OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

### Preschool & Kindergarten

Nov 3, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.  
Feb. 2, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.  
No reservation required.  
For information call  
650.473.4061

### Middle School - Grades 6-8

Oct. 20, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.  
Nov. 17, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.  
**Reservation required.**  
For information call  
650.473.4011

### Preparatory - Grades 9-12

Oct. 21, 2012 - 1:00 p.m.  
Nov. 18, 2012 - 1:00 p.m.  
No reservation required.  
For information call  
650.473.4006



**Lower School - Grades 1-5, please call for appointment, 650.473.4011**



SACRED HEART SCHOOLS  
ATHERTON

150 Valparaiso Avenue • Atherton, CA 94027  
Inquiries and RSVP: [admission@shschools.org](mailto:admission@shschools.org)  
[www.shschools.org](http://www.shschools.org)

## Irene Elizabeth Bauer

May 6, 1910-Sept. 16, 2012

Betty (Irene Elizabeth) Bauer, a long-time resident of Portola Valley, CA, peacefully passed away on September 16th, 2012, at the age of 102. She was born May 6, 1910, in Anaconda, Montana. She and her brother Ralph grew up in Upper Michigan. She attended Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin, with studies in psychology and botany, and later graduated from Boston School of Occupational Therapy.

She married Carl R. Bauer, a civil engineer, in 1940. Together they raised three children. In 1946, the family moved from Toella, UT, to Los Trancos Woods in Portola Valley where Nancy was born.

In 1965, after going back to school for additional education in teaching preschool children, and with her husband's full support, Betty proudly opened Betty Bauer's Country Pre-School in Los Trancos Woods. It embodied all she enjoyed: the freshness of young children, exploring nature, crafts and art. The school was very successful for several years. Betty was an explorer of many subjects. She loved to walk in the woods, and we often went camping as a family. She read a lot, particularly on spiritual matters. She was especially drawn to Jungian psychology. Betty was a faithful member of Christ Church, and



attended regularly.

Carl, age 72, died in January 1983. In 1989, after her pets passed on, Betty became a resident of The Sequoias in Portola Valley. As a person who naturally enjoyed others and made friends easily, she brought light and comfort to patients in the Sequoias Health Center through her weekly visits. Even up to the last few weeks of her life, Betty continued to extend kindness and help to those around her.

She leaves behind her three children: Barbara E. (Babbie) Shenkel (Cena Anderson) of Billings MT; Webster R. (Bill) Bauer of San Diego, CA; and Nancy H. Conti (Jim Conti), of Jamestown, CA.; two grandchildren: Thor Erik Shenkel, (LaDawn McIntyre) of Tigard, OR; and Aaron Conti, Lakewood, WA; and her nephew Ralph Hayden III (Marge Hayden), of Joppa, MD, and their four grown children: Sarah, Rachel, Josh and Dan. She will be missed.

Services are planned for Saturday, November 10, 2012, at Christ Church, Portola Valley, at 2:00 pm, followed by an informal reception.

Please consider a donation of time or money in lieu of flowers, to a charity of your choice, or one of Betty's: the National Radio Project, Oakland, CA, or Christ Church, Portola Valley, CA.

PAID OBITUARY

## Woodside meets on Town Center's future

The Woodside Town Council will meet Tuesday, Oct. 9, to consider formation of a community task force to "identify issues and develop community goals, policies, and strategies" on the future of the Town Center area. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Independence Hall.

A staff report recommends a 14-person panel that includes members of the town's decision-making and advisory bodies as well as volunteers from the

community, with monthly public meetings over possibly 21 months. Staff would assist.

Among the topics for the panel's consideration: urban design, street design and traffic analysis. The project's scope may also trigger an environmental review.

Also on the agenda: an appeal by a resident regarding the alleged unpermitted felling of two significant trees and whether the statutory fine of \$12,000 is appropriate.

## PV weighs fate of old oak

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

A fateful discussion regarding the hollowed out old oak tree that overlooks the home-team dugout at Ford Field is the first item of new business for the Portola Valley Town Council when it meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in the Historic Schoolhouse. The prognosis is negative.

The dugout has gone unused since April 2008, when the council voted to close it and save the tree pending a pruning and support from a metal brace. The tree's friends won the day despite negative reports from six arborists, one of whom reconsidered after the remediation.

Remediation probably won't save it this time. A recent arborist's report and the town's insurer both recommend removal. Were the tree overlooking

a public pathway, it would be down already, Public Works Director Howard Young says in a staff report.

In a town that values its trees, felling a photogenic oak is not a light matter, and so the report shows due diligence:

■ The report considers spending \$25,000 to \$30,000 to move the tree. Possible, the report says, but it might not thrive and could break apart.

■ The report considers moving the ball field some 38 feet. Aside from the estimated \$60,000 cost, the move would include shrinking the parking lot, diminishing the distance between the snack shack and home plate, and forcing removal of two mature redwoods. Such steps "do not meet the test of reasonableness," the report said.

The report includes considerations for a memorial. ■

Serving the community for over 22 years



Charlie Porter

Farmers Agency®  
License # 0773991

671-A Oak Grove Ave  
Menlo Park  
650-327-1313

[cporter2@farmersagent.com](mailto:cporter2@farmersagent.com)

Are you getting  
the service you  
deserve?

We answer our phones!

We help you manage your  
portfolio of insurance needs.

Licensed and experienced staff

We are here  
for you.



FARMERS®

# Tactics under fire

continued from page 7

didates other than the APOA's choices, they might "receive differential treatment from the police," or might be "targeted." She said the call constituted "intimidation."

The association didn't conduct interviews before making endorsements, but sent out a questionnaire to all candidates. Both Ms. Kupperman and Mr. Conlon said their answers in no way suggested that they support outsourcing police services.

"I said I was definitely against it ... unless we're going into bankruptcy," Mr. Conlon said, adding that he made it clear he didn't think bankruptcy is in the town's future.

Incumbent Elizabeth Lewis posted the questionnaire and her responses on her website. "I do not believe Atherton should outsource its police department to the county at this time," she said in response to a question asking if she would "ever consider" such a move.

But she said she prefers to never say never "because life is long and circumstances change."

"If at some future date, the economic conditions of the town are such that there is no other choice but to join forces with other departments to avoid bankruptcy, as an elected official I would have to make that hard fiscal decision considering what would be best for the town's solvency."

## The mailer

Although the APOA flier included no endorsements, its message was dramatic — and to some, alarming.

After stating that the council "has revealed its intention to severely cut police officer pay and benefits forcing most to look for work elsewhere," the mailer claimed that "the council will most likely outsource policing to another agency."

APOA vice president and police dispatcher John Mattes defended the assertion: If the town significantly reduces benefits, "you're going to have people who are looking to leave."

The town won't be able to find qualified candidates if compensation is inferior to that of other agencies, so the town will be forced to outsource services, he said.

The flier criticized the manner in which parcel tax revenues have been spent — not enough police department spending, it implied. It also said that the department received a mere 0.2 percent funding increase,

"which does not even cover inflation, much less the funds needed for proper staffing in the ... department."

Mayor Widmer said town staff is fact-checking all claims in the flier to give council members accurate information when they discuss the mailer this month. But in the colleagues letter he and Mr. Dobbie issued, they noted that police salary increases were nearly 3.9 percent for officers and about 1 percent for sergeants.

"We believe the mailer is a scaremongering attempt with misrepresented data by the APOA to attempt to assist in their upcoming contract negotiations (the contract expires next year) and to sway voters to support 'their' candidates," they wrote. "We believe the residents need to know the facts."

# Algae clogs Menlo Park water lines

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

California Water customers in Menlo Park may have been wondering what's up their pipes after experiencing low water pressure during the past month. In a word — algae.

CalWater provides service to 18,800 addresses in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. According to district manager Tony Carrasco, water drawn from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) system "is experiencing naturally occurring algae blooms

in its water supply source. As a result, some customers are experiencing difficulty with aeration screens and home filtration systems becoming clogged. It is possible that lower water pressure is associated with the clogging."

The SFPUC said the algae presents a seasonal problem, although the factors responsible for the current bloom have yet to be determined.

"Recently, we have received some sporadic reports of clogged aerators, filters, and screens with algae from various customers in the regional system," said Tyrone Ju, direc-

tor of communications. "We are currently investigating and will report back on our action when we have determined the cause. In the meantime, people experiencing a decrease in pressure or flow are advised to simply remove the aerators, filters, and other screens to clean them."

In an online post to its customers, CalWater said the algae presents no health hazards. Both water utility companies are cleaning their screens and filters more often, and they suggest customers do the same.

Contact CalWater at 558-7800 for more information. ■

Mr. Widmer said in an interview that the flier "talks all about trust. But trust goes both ways. I don't think they should be putting words in people's

mouths and leading people to believe that their safety is jeopardized."

Personally, he said, he values "the work that the police depart-

ment does here. There's no question in my mind about their integrity and trustworthiness, etc. My comments are with regards to these tactics." ■



# DENISE

# KUPPERMAN

Atherton City Council ♦ 2012

## Elect Denise Kupperman Atherton City Council

The professional experience we need to keep Atherton a safe and beautiful place to live.

"I will use my experience as a corporate controller, environmental planner and a dedicated Atherton civic volunteer to balance our town budget without cuts to police services, build our new library, improve traffic and pedestrian safety and keep Atherton a wonderful place for families."

### Endorsed by:

Jerry Hill, State Assembly

Marie Gilmore, Mayor City of Alameda

William Grinley, Atherton Rail Committee and Former Planning Commission member

John Ruggiero, Traffic and Transportation Committee

Tina and Jeremy Isenberg, John and Daryl Lillie Lida Urbanek, Paul Wythes, Marie Zahn, Jeffrey Berry, Tom and Katy Kelly

Join Us, Vote by Mail or on Nov. 6

[www.denisekupperman.com](http://www.denisekupperman.com)

paid for by the Committee to Elect Denise Kupperman to the Atherton City Council 2012

# Trees for park or Belle Haven?

By **Sandy Brundage**  
Almanac Staff Writer

## ■ MENLO BRIEFS

**M**enlo Park residents usually like trees. But when it comes to the city planting native trees and shrubs at Bedwell Bayfront Park, the response is an unusual “don’t do it.”

At the Oct. 9 council meeting, the city will reconsider whether to use a \$350,000 state grant to carry out its plan. The Friends of Bedwell Bayfront Park, a

nonprofit that serves as guardian to the former landfill, has questioned whether the soil’s deep enough to support the proposed 1,000 plants. The nonprofit wants the project canned; city staff wants to either hire a consultant to design the landscaping or renegotiate the grant to pay for planting 400 trees in Belle Haven.

High-speed rail will also put in an appearance, both during a closed session discussion at 5:30 p.m. regarding the city’s two ongoing lawsuits against the California High-Speed Rail Authority, and during regular business when the council discusses whether to tweak the name of its related subcommittee to reflect a broader focus

on all things rail, not just high-speed rail issues.

Go to [tinyurl.com/99myvhs](http://tinyurl.com/99myvhs) to review the agenda. The regular meeting starts at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Civic Center at 701 Laurel St.

## Kepler’s grand reopening

Kepler’s Books and Magazines officially debuts its new look and inventory on Tuesday, Oct. 16.

Michael Doyle, author of “Radical Chapters: Pacifist Bookseller Roy Kepler and the Paperback Revolution,” will hold a discussion with Christin Evans, one of the new owners of the long-time Menlo Park landmark.

The party runs from 7 to 10 p.m. at the bookstore (1010 El Camino Real). Snacks, drinks and books will be on hand. ■

**Light Touch Chocolate Chip Cookie \$1.99**

- 4 grams of fat
- 140 Calories
- Made with all Natural ingredients

**Open to the public:**  
Shop our healthful food marketplace and save **20% Off** your entire purchase\*

\*Expires 10/31/2012 Menlo Park location only

**LITE FOR LIFE**  
Offering Low Carb, Low Sugar, Gluten Free  
713 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park  
650.323.5483

**VOTE!**  **Elizabeth Lewis**

**The Common Sense Choice for Atherton Council**

**Town of Atherton**

### Here’s What Atherton and Regional Leaders Say about Elizabeth

#### ATHERTON LEADERS

**Mervin Morris**

“Elizabeth listens! She listens to Atherton residents, to her fellow council members, to city employees and she acts with vigor to make Atherton a better place to live. We need Elizabeth!”

**John Davey**, President Atherton Civic Interest League (ACIL), Former Chair Park and Recreation Commission – “Elizabeth has exceeded my expectations in her position on the Atherton City Council. She takes a reasoned, reasonable and rational approach to issues facing the Town and is willing to consider both sides.”

**Stephen Nachtsheim**, President Menlo Park Fire Protection District –

“We need a Council that works together to solve the problems facing Atherton. Elizabeth brings a good common sense approach to looking at solutions and has demonstrated her openness to hearing input from her constituents. She deserves to be re-elected.”

**Peter F. Carpenter**, Former President Atherton Civic Interest League (ACIL), and Former President Menlo Park Fire Protection District –

“We need a City Council which works together to serve our Town. Elizabeth is committed to a truly collaborative Council and will serve us well as our City Council Member.”

#### REGIONAL LEADERS

**Rich Gordon**, California State Assembly 21st District –

“Elizabeth has the traits needed to be a great leader – she listens, she cares, and she works for progress. Atherton is fortunate that her public service is in our region.”

**Maryann Moise Derwin**, Mayor Portola Valley, Chair, SMC Council of Cities and San Mateo County Library JPA Board Member –

“Regionally, Elizabeth is a tireless advocate for the people of Atherton and a respected voice among her colleagues on other town and city councils in San Mateo County. We all enjoy working with her!”

**Jeff Gee**, Vice Mayor Redwood City, Chair SF Airport Noise Abatement Roundtable –

“Elizabeth and I serve on several county-wide committees together. She does her homework, asks great questions, and works hard to make sure our county is a great place. Atherton is in good hands with Elizabeth representing her community on county-wide issues.”



To see more of Elizabeth’s endorsers and learn more about her, please visit her website: [www.ElizabethLewis.org](http://www.ElizabethLewis.org)

**Your Vote Counts on November 6!**

Paid for by Lewis for Atherton Council 2012

[www.ElizabethLewis.org](http://www.ElizabethLewis.org)

**Atherton Council 2012**

650.533.8830 • FPPC# 1350389

give \$1 get \$5\* all month

THE BREAST CANCER SOCIETY INC.

**pinkparty** sat, oct 20, 12-7pm  
refreshments will be served

10% OFF all regular priced items & 10% of all sales will be DONATED to The Breast Cancer Society

**Apricot Lane BOUTIQUE**

DOWNTOWN LOS ALTOS  
315 Main St • 650.209.5961 • [apricotlanelosaltos.com](http://apricotlanelosaltos.com)

\*See store for details. \*\*May not be combined with any other offer or discount. Other restrictions may apply, see store for complete details.

**THE GIRLS’ MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**ALL GIRLS** Woodshop  
Engineering  
Field Science  
Computer Science  
Skateboarding  
Start-Ups

**REDEFINED**

**OPEN HOUSE**  
SAT. NOV 10  
SUN. DEC 9  
1-4PM

Come see us at the new campus  
3400 West Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303 | 650.968.8338

## Talk on 'State of the City'

With both the Kepler's grand reopening and the annual "State of the City" speech on the same evening, Tuesday, Oct. 16, is looking like a busy night.

Mayor Kirsten Keith will address Menlo Park from the Stanford Park Hotel at 100 El Camino Real. Co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the event includes recognition of the city's commissioners, and runs from 6 to 8 p.m.

### Sand Hill delays

Pacific Gas & Electric crews have returned to working during the day on Sand Hill Road between Branner Drive and Saga Lane to replace a 24-inch segment of gas pipeline in Menlo Park.

Crews will be working weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. until reaching Saga Lane in approximately two weeks. At that point they'll switch back to night work to finish the replacement between Saga Lane and

### BRIEFS

the Rosewood Hotel, according to Menlo Park Public Works Director Chip Taylor. The project should be finished by the end of October, the city says.

Once the new pipe is in place, PG&E is required to repave the portion of Sand Hill Road within the project boundaries. For more information, call PG&E at 1-888-743-7431.

### Candidates form

Candidates for local state Senate and Assembly races have been invited to participate in an election forum from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17, at the Menlo Park City Council Chambers at 701 Laurel St. in the Civic Center.

## CHRISTOPHER FORTUNE MASTERS

January 7, 1941 – October 2, 2012

Christopher F. Masters, 71, passed away at his home after a noble battle with pancreatic cancer. A native of Milwaukee and resident of Atherton for 30 years, he is survived by three daughters; Yvonne, Lisa and Megan; three step-children; Christle, Amber and Dustin; and his loving wife, Dede. He also leaves behind eight devoted grandchildren, a sister and brother, and countless nieces, nephews and cousins.

Chris earned his Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from Cornell University when he was 25. In 1984, he earned an M.S. in Management from Stanford Business School. Chris was fortunate enough to spend much of his later life devoted to organizations which nurtured his heart, such as KAINOS, The Peninsula Community Foundation, St. Denis

Parish and the Cardiac Therapy Foundation.

Chris enjoyed many passions and took much pleasure in nature hikes, his book club, home projects, cooking (and eating!), classical music, travel, weekends in San Francisco, and lots of celebrations punctuated by generous sips of pinot noir!



He will be remembered for his sense of humor, his insatiable quest for spiritual truth, and his impressive sense of integrity. Those who loved him are forever touched by these qualities.

His family has organized a celebration of life to be held at 1:00 pm on October 20 at St. Denis Parish in Menlo Park. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in his name to the Cardiac Therapy Foundation or a charity of your choice.

PAID OBITUARY

### POLICE CALLS

#### MENLO PARK

##### Residential burglary reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$7,700 in entry through closed but unlocked window and theft of Apple iPad and iPod, DVD player, two tablets, a laptop computer, a video game system and several pieces of jewelry, Sherman Ave., Sept. 28.

■ Losses estimated at \$2,000 in entry by unknown means and theft of Apple iPod, clothing and miscellaneous jewelry, Coleman Ave., Oct. 3.

■ Losses estimated at \$1,023 in break-in to locked garage and theft of 12-gauge shotgun and miscellaneous clothing, Willow Road, Oct. 3.

##### Auto burglary reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$1,300 in break-in through right rear window and theft of Apple iPad, 2800 block of Sand Hill Road, Sept. 28.

■ Loss estimated at \$190 in break-in through window and theft of tote bag containing thumb drive and phone card, 2800 block of Sand Hill Road, Sept. 29.

##### Theft reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$1,500 in theft of unlocked bicycle from residence driveway, Willow Road, Sept. 29.

■ Loss estimated at \$400 in theft of hedge trimmer and lawn edger from back of pickup truck, Sherman Ave., Sept. 28.

■ Loss estimated at \$300 in theft of cell phone from bag on bench, Middle Ave., Oct. 3.

■ Loss estimated at \$200 in theft of iPhone, Bohannon Drive, Oct. 4.

■ Loss estimated at \$90 in theft of USPS package containing compression socks and two pairs of gloves, Hermosa Way, Oct. 2.

**Fraud report:** Losses estimated at \$2,524 when victim, told she won jackpot, paid fee and tried unsuccessfully to cash check on account with insufficient funds, Roble Ave., Oct. 3.

##### Stolen vehicle reports:

■ Gray 1995 Honda Accord, Willow Road, Oct. 2.

■ Black 1995 Cadillac Seville, Pierce Road, Oct. 3.

#### LADERA

**Missing property report:** Losses estimated at \$20,000 with two rings gone missing, Alpine Road, Oct. 2.

**BOOK  
SOME  
TIME  
WITH  
NATURE**  
THE NEW ATHERTON LIBRARY

## Vote **Yes** on Measure F Build our New Library at No Cost to Taxpayers

- Allows Atherton to build our new library in Holbrook-Palmer Park
- Provides for a new state of the art library connected to the quiet peaceful setting of our park
- Expands library programs for people of all ages
- Makes traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at Watkins
- Preserves our park open space
- Creates a place where we can play, run, learn and gather together

**JOIN US!**  
Vote by Mail or on Nov. 6  
**Yes on Measure F**

[www.friendsofholbrook-palmerpark.org](http://www.friendsofholbrook-palmerpark.org)

paid for by Friends of Holbrook-Palmer Park Supporting Measure F



Our Community. Our Future. Our Library.

#### Endorsed by:

Bill Widmer, Mayor Town of Atherton

Kristi Waldron, Former Chair,  
Planning Commission

Sandy Crittenden,  
Park and Recreation Commission

Steve and Diana Dohrmann, John and Daryl  
Lillie, Marion Oster, Melissa Palecek,  
Lida Urbanek, Ted and Betty Ullman

**Editor & Publisher**

Tom Gibboney

**Newsroom**

**Managing Editor** Richard Hine

**News Editor** Renee Batti

**Lifestyles Editor** Jane Knoerle

**Staff Writers**

Dave Boyce, Sandy Brundage

**Contributors** Marjorie Mader,

Barbara Wood, Kate Daly

**Special Sections Editors**

Carol Blitzer, Sue Dremann

**Photographer** Michelle Le

**Design & Production**

**Design Director** Shannon Corey

**Designers** Linda Atilano, Lili Cao,

Diane Haas, Rosanna Leung,

Paul Llewellyn, Scott Peterson

**Advertising**

**Vice President Sales**

**and Marketing** Tom Zahiralis

**Display Advertising Sales**

Adam Carter

**Real Estate Manager** Neal Fine

**Real Estate and Advertising**

**Coordinator** Diane Martin

**Classified Legal Advertising**

Alicia Santillan

Published every Wednesday at  
3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

**Newsroom: (650) 223-6525**

Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

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

Advertising Fax: (650) 854-3650

Email news and photos with  
captions to:

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

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

The Almanac, established in October 1065, 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](http://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](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com)

**EMAIL** your views to:

[letters@almanacnews.com](mailto: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.

## Endorsements

### Ballot choices in Atherton

#### Vote yes on Measures F, M and L

After months of wrangling between supporters and opponents of building a new library in Holbrook-Palmer Park, the Atherton City Council finally agreed to put the issue before voters on Nov. 6. But Mayor Bill Widmer and his colleagues Kathy McKeithen and Jim Dobbie, who made up the razor-thin 3-2 majority that favors the park site for the library, also backed a proposal to put two additional measures on the Nov. 6 ballot: Measure L regards financing plans for a new town center, and Measure M would give permission to build permanent structures in the existing Little League ball field, including restrooms, in the park. (In addition to the ballot measures, Atherton voters will elect two City Council members Nov. 6. The Almanac will endorse in that race Oct. 24.)

**EDITORIAL**

The opinion of The Almanac

#### Park is by far best site for new library building

We hope that unreasonable fears about parking and an increase in visitors from other cities do not derail a golden opportunity for Atherton to build a new library in the serene setting of Holbrook-Palmer Park at virtually no cost to the town. Because Atherton is a member of a county library consortium, a portion of city property taxes has been funneled into a library fund that will reach \$8 million in about two years. The funds can be used only for library purposes, so why not take advantage of this amazing offer?

A new library would replace the little-used Main House, which is not a historic building. Adequate parking exists to serve the library, and the park's emphasis on low-key activities is very compatible with library use. Traffic studies show there would be little difference in impacts whether the library is located in the park or at Town Center. A side benefit for the town is the likely availability to use community rooms for meetings and other town functions.

We urge residents to vote yes on Measure F, to bring a modern library to Holbrook-Palmer Park.

#### Little League has big plans for park

After playing on a temporary field for more than 10 years, the Menlo-Atherton Little League is proposing an ambitious project to build a Victorian-style, 200-seat covered bleacher structure, backstop, foul poles, dugouts, scoreboard, and public restrooms; and to renovate the playing field and resurface the nearby tennis courts. The outfield fence could be removed at the end of the season, and the restrooms would be available to all park users.

We expect many residents will welcome Little League's improvements to one of the few facilities in the park available for children. The league says one-third of its 520 players live in Atherton, which is more than enough reason to give the offer a thumbs-up.

We urge voters to support Measure M to upgrade the Little League field and resurface the tennis courts.

#### Private funding for new Town Center

This measure did not need to go before voters, an argument made to the City Council by member Elizabeth Lewis, who is chair of a group hoping to raise private funding for a new Town Center. Why would anyone vote no on this measure, which simply asks if the town should primarily use private donations to fund the project?

There is no question that the dilapidated Town Center buildings need to be replaced and at this time it makes no sense to rule out any funding source, including any voter-approved taxes that might be proposed.

We urge voters to support this measure, which we hope will attract private donors to help fund a new Town Center.

### Measure could change election

#### More accountability in limiting vote for supes

For most local residents, the Board of Supervisors is a body they know little about. Many would not be able to identify their district or their supervisor if you asked them.

We believe this would change dramatically if voters approve a new way to elect supervisors — from the current countywide elections to district elections. Under the present system, each of the five supervisors represents a specific geographic area but must run countywide, which creates a huge visibility problem that only candidates with substantial financial resources or backing can resolve. The county has 340,000 registered voters, and one direct mail piece to reach those likely to vote can cost more than \$40,000, candidates say.

Measure B could change all that by requiring each candidate for supervisor to run only in his or her own district. In that way, many more local candidates could compete for this prestigious position, often a steppingstone to higher office. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo started as a supervisor in 1982.

District elections could intensify the interest. Of the seven candidates who ran in the District 4 primary election in June, the two front runners were from Redwood City, but among the runners-up were three from Menlo Park and one from East Palo Alto. A more contained election could also attract candidates from unincorporated North Fair Oaks and Oak Knoll. District voters may have much more exposure to county issues than they have today.

Oddly, some current supervisors oppose by-district elections, claiming that each supervisor represents all county residents. We find that argument specious, given the varied landscape and development of San Mateo County, which includes maritime communities along the Pacific coast as well as densely populated urban areas adjacent to San Francisco Bay. There are distinctly different regions in the county that deserve to be represented, which has rarely happened under the present system. San Mateo County is the only one of the state's 58 counties to hold at-large elections. It is time to change this archaic system so that supervisors are much more accountable to their constituents.

We urge voters to support county Measure B, to elect supervisors by district.



Woodside History Committee/Peter Rich

### Our Regional Heritage

Cyclists Nick van Male, left, and Peter Rich slow for a photo at the banked oval track at Searsville Lake. Built in 1956, the dirt track was used for informal racing but never caught on and was closed the next year.

## LETTERS

Our readers write

**Cost claim  
in city contract disputed**

In last week's Almanac, Measure L co-chairs Henry Riggs and Roy Theile-Sardina repeat their oft-cited claim that the Menlo Park City Council's 2007 decision to increase employee pension rates was a "mistake," implying that employee compensation immediately increased by 35 percent.

This is not true. The actual cost of the agreement was approximately 5.3 percent over the contract's three-year period, in line with expected cost-of-living increases. The increased cost of the pension enhancement was offset by a corresponding smaller salary increase. Council, including Measure L supporters Andy Cohen and John Boyle, unanimously approved the agreement. These and other details are outlined in a Feb. 13, 2007 staff report.

Like other public and private employers, the Council negotiated this agreement cognizant of the local compensation landscape. Most other agencies in the area, including Palo Alto, Los Altos, Redwood City, Woodside, Menlo Park Fire, and West Bay Sanitary District had already retroactively enhanced their pension formulas. Concern about the city's ability to hire and retain high quality employees played a role in the decision to bring Menlo Park in line with these agencies.

In 2010, in the midst of the economic downturn, Kelly Ferguson and the rest of Menlo Park council imposed a two-tier pension on the city's non-safety employees. Ironically, the sanitary district has taken no such action, and even continues to pay its employee's 8 percent obligation to CALPERS. As a ratepayer, I'm wondering why sanitary district board members Roy Theile-Sardina and Ned Moritz so readily criticize Menlo Park's decisions while leaving their own agency's labor costs untouched.

*Heyward Robinson  
Menlo Park City Council,  
2006-2010*

**Another option for civic  
engagement project**

*Editor:*

Menlo Park would be well-advised to contract with the highly regarded Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center for its civic engagement project.

Although PCRC is best known historically for its community mediation program, another of

**Police union's robocall intimidates residents**

By Kathy McKeithen

Having just read a recent article entitled "Atherton Council responds to Police Association's 'scaremongering attempt'" I note the following statement by the Vice President of the APOA (Atherton Police Officers Association): "Mr. Maltbie came and gave them a full-blown presentation. ... Now if they're not looking to contract out police services, then why did they have that meeting?"

As one of the two City Council members on the Finance Committee in the spring of 2010, I know exactly why Mr. Maltbie (City Manager of San Carlos, which had recently outsourced its policing to the county Sheriff's Office) was at our meeting. First, the town was facing an almost \$1 million budget deficit in the upcoming year, with much larger deficits to come. Second, the council charged the Finance Committee with the task of developing a five-year plan to avoid such budget shortfalls.

As part of this directive, we looked at every conceivable means of lowering general and employee costs, including outsourcing any and every possible function then being delivered by the town. We believed that was part of being thorough. In the end, the building and public works departments were selected to be outsourced

by then Interim City Manager John Danielson and we ultimately ended with a balanced budget. It is a choice which has been well received and, in the ensuing year, been given high marks by the community.

As for the recent mailer and robocall sent out by the APOA, I believe the community should take note of what I perceive is really happening.

Protecting the right to vote is a fundamental right of our democracy. I believe it has been challenged in this Atherton election. Years ago laws were passed on the basis that people were denied their right to vote if there was intimidation, critical falsification of facts and fear of repercussions. Today I see that in Atherton. A recent telephone call by a representative of the APOA indicated that if one did not vote for the two City Council candidates endorsed by the APOA our town would be less safe,

implying that the other two candidates supported outsourcing. This is intimidation. The falsification of facts lies in the implication that the council is considering outsourcing and that the other two candidates endorse it. Moreover, there is a clear absence of information given in the form of conveying to the listener the fact that the police are part of the Teamsters

Union and that their contract is up for renegotiation this spring after five years (see Mayor Widmer's YouTube presentation for details).

Finally, while receiving this robocall and within minutes thereafter, I received several telephone calls from residents concerned that if they endorsed candidates other than those selected by the APOA would they receive differential treatment from the police? Could they be targeted? They had always previously supported our police and highly respected them but could their name associated with a different candidate make a difference?

It is these three elements — the intimidation effect, the critical factual failings coupled with the fear of retribution that I fear poses a serious threat to our right to vote and makes this more than a simple legal endorsement. When I ran for City Council I refused to meet with the police, my reasoning being that they were not residents to whom I was responsible but rather employees answerable to the town. It seemed inappropriate for me to allow employees to direct how I would represent the town. It seems far worse for employees to direct voters how to vote based on fear and misinformation.

*Kathy McKeithen is a member of the Atherton City Council who will finish her final term this year.*

GUEST  
OPINION

its major functions is developing civic engagement, and it has a well-earned track record of success in this field. As a bonus, since PCRC is a not-for-profit entity, it stands to offer Menlo Park more effort for its dollars than the city can obtain with any other alternative.

*Jim Madison  
Holly Avenue, Menlo Park*

**Vote yes on Atherton  
library measure**

*Editor:*

"I'd be happy if I could think that the role of the library was sustained and even enhanced in the age of the computer."

--Bill Gates

Atherton is so fortunate to have a community library, staff, daily hours, and online services. As a child who loved reading and had no access to a library, I am ever mindful of the treasure that is our wonderful, welcoming, and free community library.

However, the Atherton library is seismically unsafe, a major concern for the city and for adults and children who frequently visit to read or borrow books, magazines, movies, music, reference materials, as well as study and use educational programs.

Fortunately, Atherton has ample funds specifically earmarked for a public library and an ideal new building site ready

to go to create a technologically advanced new library. A new library in Holbrook-Palmer Park, in the footprint of the unsafe old "Main House," would take no park open space.

Like Palo Alto's Mitchell Park and library, the park location will complement both library and park usage. With Atherton voters' approval, construction on a new library could begin soon while library operations continue uninterrupted at the current Station Lane location.

Please join me Nov. 6 in voting yes on Measure F, to endorse the Atherton City Council's 2011 majority decision to accept the EIR and replace our unsafe and outmoded library with a modern library in Holbrook-Palmer Park.

*Mary Sweeney  
Irving Avenue, Atherton*

**Council member urges  
'no' vote on library**

*Editor:*

Holbrook-Palmer Park would be a good location for the Atherton library. But, would the library be good for the park?

The 3,500-square-foot Main House would be replaced by a 13,500-square-foot structure. The size is predicated on serving a user base of 16,000 people, including over 9,000 living in four unincorporated areas.

If over half of the potential

users live outside of Atherton, what will this do to Watkins Avenue traffic and parking in the park?

How will contention problems be administered between the county-run library and other users of the park? How will this limit the town's ability to book profitable events in park facilities?

Usage of library funds for maintaining the park is limited by the county library system. There will be no funds available to cover general park operating expenses.

The library will dominate the park in several ways, including imposing size and location,

continual to and from traffic and parking usage, to a larger extent from persons from outside of town, and scheduling contention of events within the park.

The park is and should remain the town's gem without one user dominating all other users. Vote "No" on F.

*Jerry Carlson, member  
Atherton City Council*

## TOWN SQUARE

Post your news and views  
on TownSquare at:  
[www.TheAlmanacOnline.com](http://www.TheAlmanacOnline.com)

SUPPORT LOCAL  
JOURNALISM

Support The Almanac's  
coverage of our community.

Memberships begin at only 17¢ per day

Join today:  
[SupportLocalJournalism.org/Almanac](http://SupportLocalJournalism.org/Almanac)

# PROPERTY SHOWCASE BY HUGH CORNISH



FOR SALE

OVER AN ACRE IN WEST ATHERTON  
**32 Reservoir Road, Atherton**  
 Ranch-style, 4-bedroom, 3.5 bath with pool, on flag lot  
 Offered at \$2,795,000



FOR SALE

TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY  
**47 Camino por los Arboles, Atherton**  
 Approx. 1.45 acres close to Menlo Circus Club; existing house with pool  
 Offered at \$5,950,000



FOR SALE

DELIGHTFUL WEST MENLO CHARMER  
**1801 Doris Drive, Menlo Park**  
 3 level custom home with 4 bedrooms, 4 full and 2 half baths  
 Offered at \$4,850,000



NEW PRICE

EXQUISITE WOODSIDE ESTATE  
**1000 Mountain Home Road, Woodside**  
 4 bedrooms, 4 full and 3 half baths with cottage, pool & pool house  
 Offered at \$6,850,000 Co-listed with Natalie Comartin



FOR SALE

CUSTOM HOME WITH VIEWS OF WINDY HILL  
**500 Portola Road, Portola Valley**  
 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath with expansive lawn & pool  
 Offered at \$3,899,000 Co-listed with Joe & Ginny Kavanaugh



FOR SALE

ENGLISH COUNTRY ESTATE  
**160 Phillip Road, Woodside**  
 Central Woodside on approx. 2.7 acres, with pool, guest house, studio  
 Offered at \$5,995,000



## HUGH CORNISH

#1 Agent, Menlo Park – El Camino Office, 2011  
 Ranked #41 Nationally by *The Wall Street Journal*, 2012  
 Over \$1.5 Billion in Sales

[www.HUGH CORNISH.COM](http://www.HUGH CORNISH.COM)

650.566.5353  
[hcornish@cbnorcal.com](mailto:hcornish@cbnorcal.com)

DRE# 00912143



FOR SALE

RARE BUILDING OPPORTUNITY  
**5010 Alpine Road, Portola Valley**  
 Approx. 23 acres, surrounded by open space, water tanks, electrical system  
 Offered at \$8,995,000

This information was supplied by Seller and/or other sources. Broker believes this information to be correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyers should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction.

