

The Almanac

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

NOVEMBER 21, 2012 | VOL. 48 NO. 12



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Holiday Fund

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Chasing kids, **not medical records**



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Kepler's partners with Kobo e-reader

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Kepler's Books and Magazines ... and e-books, audiobooks, and MP3s: The landmark bookstore wants to let people read "their way," and on Dec. 1 plans to launch a new initiative to support Kobo e-readers.

The Kobo — an anagram of "book" — e-reader can handle non-proprietary formats, including those popular at the local library such as Adobe EPUB.

"We want people to be able to read in whatever format they want," said co-owner Christin Evans, who runs the Menlo Park store's operations. It will not, however, work with Amazon Kindle titles. At least not directly; Ms. Evans said there is a roundabout way to download some Kindle titles to a PC and then use software to port them over to the Kobo.

"We're not trying to lock people's libraries up so they only buy from us," Ms. Evans said. "That is what Amazon is trying to do. We're trying to be much more open source."

Amazon's retail practices of late have not left fans in their wake. When it launched a "showrooming" campaign to encourage shoppers to scan prices at brick-and-mortar stores, then buy online at Amazon.com for less, com-



Kepler's will have booksellers on hand at its digital labs station to help people use the Kobo e-reader.

petitors fired back — Target and Wal-Mart stopped carrying Kindles this year.

"We will continue to look at all the varieties of options that are out there and make selec-

Menlo Park bookstore to launch new digital support in December.

tions based on what we believe is the right device for our customers," Ms. Evans said. Digital inventory shouldn't be a problem, as "most of the publishers that are providing books to Amazon are excited about offering titles through other retailers and e-readers."

Kobo currently carries about 3 million titles in its catalog, according to the American Booksellers Association. In August the company announced a deal with the ABA to replace Google as the e-books vendor for independent bookstores, after the Kobo e-reader reportedly had trouble getting a foothold in the United States marketplace.

Kepler's will have booksellers on hand at its digital labs station to help people use the Kobo, and recommend titles. Launching just in time for the holiday season, the e-reader will be bundled with a case and selection of books; the store will also receive a share of revenue from customers that create Kobo accounts through the Kepler's website.

Recently Amazon has expanded self-publishing options for the Kindle, allowing authors to list short stories and other works for sale. Will Kepler's follow suit with the Kobo?

"No plans at this time for a publishing arm, but it has been discussed," Ms. Evans said, laughing as she then reviewed the store's already-expanded slate of classes for writers. "We've had two workshops since we re-opened, and another this Saturday. There's so much interest in self-publishing ... how that will evolve over time, we'll see." ■



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**Presented by
Mark Schmidt
Licensed Optician**



HOLD THE PHONE!

Cell phones are everywhere these days, and there seems to be no end to their popularity in sight. Those with a penchant for reading text messages may be paying a price (beyond their monthly fee) for doing so. Recent research shows that browsing the Internet at close range forces smartphone users' eyes to work harder than they normally would. Holding the phone closer than usual and looking at small font sizes forces the eyes to work much harder to focus on the print and align the eyes in the same direction.

This added strain on those already wearing prescription glasses and contacts may result in eyestrain and headaches. Increasing the font size on the screen may help avert problems.

As you text or browse the Internet on your cell phone or smart phone, you probably don't realize that you're straining your eyes. Please bring your eyewear prescription to MENLO OPTICAL at 1166 University Drive, on the corner of Oak Grove Avenue and University Drive. We fill prescriptions with lightweight lenses that can help you see near, far, and in between. We can help you select frames that flatter your facial construction and fit your lifestyle and personal style. Call us at 322-3900 if you have questions about lenses or frames.

P.S. Those with prescription lenses who want to avoid the eyestrain related to reading smartphone texts may want to consider progressive multifocal lenses that enable them to see at various distances.

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

Four local homes on Junior League holiday house tour

Four homes in Menlo Park and Atherton, decorated for the season, will be featured Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at the 5th annual fundraiser, "Finishing Touches," sponsored by the Junior League of Palo Alto-Mid Peninsula. There will also be a boutique for holiday shopping.

"Finishing Touches" will be based at the Rosewood Sand Hill, 2825 Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park, where guests will park and

check-in, then be transported to each home by shuttle bus on Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A limited number of self-driven tour tickets are available online.

Guests may also shop in the holiday boutique at the hotel Friday and Saturday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

On Friday there will be a luncheon and self-driven tour and evening party, "Mistletoe and Martinis," at the Rosewood

Sand Hill. On Saturday morning, Dec. 1, Isabella Sikaffy of Florabella will host "Home for the Holidays."

Visit juniorleaguehometour.com to purchase tickets for all the events.

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WEEKLY REAL ESTATE REPORT



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Rendering courtesy of Stanford University

A rendering of the eight-acre, mixed-use development on El Camino Real proposed by John Arrillaga and Stanford University.

Arrillaga revises plans for Stanford lots

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Developer John Arrillaga and Stanford University have submitted a revised plan for an eight-acre project in Menlo Park, but the changes don't bring the proposal closer to what the city hoped for.

The project will replace car lots along 300 to 500 El Camino Real with a mixed-use complex of medical offices, offices, retail and housing. Stanford confirmed that existing tenants — including Tesla, one of the city's top 25 sales and user tax generators — would move out when their leases expire on March 31 next year.

Submitted to the city during the first week of November, the revised plan cuts the amount of medical office space from 153,000 square feet to 96,000 square feet, but also eliminates 28 apartments, leaving 120 housing units.

The revisions also removed 2,000 square feet of retail space, leaving 10,000 square feet still on the drawing board. The

changes allow the project to bring the amount of office space to 133,350 square feet.

The project would also provide a 120-foot wide building break at Middle Avenue — allowing for the possibility of a pedestrian-bike tunnel — and a 15-foot wide sidewalk along El Camino Real to comply with the city's new specific plan.

Parking will primarily be underground, with some surface spots, according to Steve Elliott, managing director for development, land, buildings and real estate at Stanford.

Mr. Elliot said the floor-area ratios for the entire project are smaller than the maximum allowed by the specific plan.

Those changes weren't quite what Menlo Park was looking for as the city struggles to identify ways to increase housing density as required by state law.

"The project as it stands will provide less housing than I had hoped," Councilman Rich Cline said. "The idea that we have a growing demographic of seniors and folks in need of affordable housing seems to

have not stuck in the Stanford team discussions."

"Instead we have a tremendous amount of office space and medical, both some of the highest traffic-inducing uses you can find. The building looks pretty, but because of the size of this property, even a smaller portion of medical under the

The new plan reduces medical office space, but doesn't add more housing for Menlo Park.

allowable (floor-area ratio) will have significant impact on El Camino Real. I think it is obvious that earlier discussions with Stanford around the aforementioned desirable uses and the open invite to have Stanford involved in the specific plan from the beginning, had little impact. That is unfortunate."

Mr. Elliott served as a university representative during the specific plan process. "Stanford consistently stated that

we believed it was important for Menlo Park to undertake the planning process in order to determine what would be acceptable to the city to see developed on our parcels."

He said that while Stanford "never advocated for a specific mix of land uses, we did state that we thought a mix of uses would be appropriate for this site, including potentially office, medical office, retail, hotel and housing."

The Arrillaga proposal appears consistent with the baseline requirements of the specific plan, according to city staff, which don't trigger public benefit discussions. That means there won't be much for Menlo Park to negotiate apart from the number of below-market-rate homes on the site, and no need to get approvals for anything beyond the Planning Commission's signing off on architectural details.

Councilwoman Kelly Fergusson and other residents had argued for setting the trigger level for public benefit negotiations lower before the City Council approved the specific plan in June. Speak-

ing only in general terms — she cannot comment on the Stanford project as her husband works for the university — Ms. Fergusson said this is the sort of situation she had in mind.

So did Planning Commissioner Vince Bressler, who hopes that Stanford at least pays to build the pedestrian-bike tunnel under Middle Avenue. City staff and consultants "set the base limits pretty high for that area, and you know the rest. Patti Fry spoke many times about what we were giving away. Very few people understand this, fewer still give a damn," he said.

"I guess I expected about what we ended up with, but I was certainly hoping that Stanford would build the tunnel; who knows, maybe we will end up with the 'Arrillaga Tunnel' for a mere \$5 million in city money."

Senior Planner Thomas Rogers said that because it's a larger project, the Arrillaga-Stanford development would likely first be reviewed during a study session by the Planning Commission, although it's too early to be specific as to dates. ■

Fight begins over campaign sign suit

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

During the 2011 election cycle, a mystery: A campaign sign uprooted from Chuck Bernstein's front yard. A cellphone dropped nearby, reported to the Menlo Park police. A phone that, according to Mr. Bernstein, showed messages tagged with "Woodell" scrolling by in the upper corner of the screen.

The campaign sign belonged to Virginia Chang Kiraly, then seeking election to the board of directors for the Menlo Park Fire Protection District.

Eventually John Woodell denied vandalizing the sign, saying he would never do such a thing and that his phone had been lost hours after the sign vanished into the bushes.

And now: A lawsuit filed by Mr. Woodell against Mr. Bernstein and Ms. Chang Kiraly and unidentified parties Does 1-100 for defamation and conspiracy for their alleged comments regarding the incident.

The Oct. 11 filing alleges in part that "Before making those statements to third parties, including the police and the media, BERNSTEIN and DOES 1-20 never spoke to Plaintiff about the situation though he knew the PHONE belonged to him or someone related to him and they were neighbors."

"Starting on or around October 17, 2011 and continuing, Defendant KIRALY and DOES 1-20 made comments to individuals, other than Plaintiff, claiming that Plaintiff John Woodell stole her campaign signs from all around Menlo Park."

The involved parties didn't have much to say. Mr. Woodell had no comment, and the defendants said they weren't aware of the lawsuit until the Almanac called on Nov. 13. Six days later, only Ms. Chang Kiraly had been served with papers; Mr. Bernstein was still waiting.

"I will just reiterate that I never said anything publicly to disparage John Woodell except to state the facts as I knew them. I do not know what happened and I have always said that I did not know what happened," Mr. Bernstein said.

Mayor Kirsten Keith, an attorney, is not representing

Mr. Woodell, her husband. He retained Seth Rosenberg of Minami Tamaki LLP in San Francisco; the lawsuit seeks damages and attorney fees. A case management conference is scheduled for March 21.

"We are pursuing this lawsuit, like all of our lawsuits, to try and vindicate the rights of those who have been unfairly wronged," Mr. Rosenberg said. "The evidence will speak for itself in the judicial system."

Ms. Chang Kiraly referred questions to her attorney, Harmeet Dhillon, who said she's counseled a lot of people in the plaintiff's position to not file a lawsuit. "You're rehashing something people may have forgotten."

Asked whether the lack of supporting evidence cited in the filing was unusual, Ms. Dhillon

said that it was "a glaring defect in the complaint. As a lawyer who handles defamation matters — there are certain types of lawsuits you can file that are bare bones like this, and defamation is not

one of them."

Defamation requires "great specificity — who said what to whom and where and when."

Mr. Woodell's complaint, on the other hand, is "fatally defective," Ms. Dhillon said.

Drawing upon years of experience with defamation law, including service on the American Civil Liberties Union board of directors, Ms. Dhillon said that California is a state that takes First Amendment rights, particularly in regards to politics, very seriously. "And this is political speech about a political campaign by the people involved in the campaign."

Mr. Woodell's public political participation and standing as an elected member of the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee makes him a public figure, according to Ms. Dhillon, meaning that the bar for proving defamation is set even higher — the plaintiff must prove actual malice.

"I am very confident that this case will not proceed as is, if at all," she said.

Mr. Woodell's attorney did not immediately respond when asked about not including specific support for the allegations in the complaint. ■

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District may take back O'Connor site to address soaring enrollment

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

■ SCHOOLS

In a move described as a “pre-cautionary step,” the Menlo Park City School District has sent the tenant of its former O'Connor School site — the German American International School — notice that it may be forced to vacate the property before its lease expires.

The district sent the preliminary notice late last month to meet a termination-clause requirement in its lease with the German American school that permits it to break the lease before its June 2016 end.

Superintendent Maurice Ghysels said the notification would allow the district to take back the campus at 275 Elliot Drive in Menlo Park for the 2014-15 school year. But, he noted, the school board is waiting for an enrollment study to be com-

pleted before making any decisions about whether to reopen the campus as a district school, or whether to pursue other options now being examined to address the district's skyrocketing enrollment.

“We are on the margin of over-enrollment,” Mr. Ghysels said in a recent newsletter. Since 2000, student enrollment has increased by about 40 percent, he told the Almanac.

Enrollment this year is 2,791, up 81 from the prior school year, he said.

Current enrollment at the district's four schools — Laurel and Encinal in Atherton, and Oak Knoll and Hillview Middle in Menlo Park — is far higher than projections the district was basing facilities decisions on in earlier years. In 2009, for

example, when the school board was debating whether to renew the German American school's lease for another term, enrollment for 2014 was projected to reach a mere 2,150.

German American school officials could not be reached for comment. The school has leased the Elliot Drive site since 1991, and its 315 students occupy one building and several portables, according to the school's website.

Last March, it bid on a lease for the Las Lomitas School District's former Ladera School site. It was outbid by Woodland School, which has occupied the site since 1981.

In his newsletter, Mr. Ghysels said that an ad-hoc district committee has been “working closely with the city to rigorously analyze all available demographic and enrollment information” to try to ascertain future enrollment growth as much as possible. ■

Warrants served in business fraud case

The Menlo Park Police Department would like you to know they served two search warrants on Nov. 15, but that's about all they want you to know at this point.

A terse press release sent out Thursday, Nov. 15, informed the public that around 7:45 a.m. a team of investigators that included Menlo Park officers, district attorney inspectors, and state employment department representatives descended upon a business in the 1800 block of El Camino Real in Menlo Park, as well as a residence in the 1500 block of Laurel Place, to carry out search warrants.

Employees of Cindy's Flowers and Gifts confirmed the

business was searched, but said they have no idea what's going on. Questions were referred to an attorney, although neither the lawyer's name nor contact information was immediately available.

San Mateo County Superior Court records show the owner of the shop, Cindy Smith, was ordered to pay \$25,000 to Western State Land Corp. in August for “unpaid rent, damages and attorney fees” related to the shop's former location at 855 Santa Cruz Ave. Court documents state she leased the premises in 2007, but was evicted on July 3, 2012, after she stopped paying rent two months earlier.

Other records show Ms. Smith and a co-defendant were ordered to pay \$2,558 for past due invoices and court costs in 2011.

A year-long investigation of worker's compensation fraud and violations of state business regulations commenced after complaints were made to the police department, according to the press release.

No other details about the ongoing investigation were available. The Menlo Park Police Department asks anyone with information about this case to call Officer Felicia Byars at 330-6300 or the anonymous tip hotline at 330-6395.

—Sandy Brundage

Twelve evacuate site after hazmat spill in Menlo Park

By Dave Boyce

Almanac staff writer

Firefighters from the Menlo Park Fire Protection District and the hazardous materials handling team from San Mateo County spent more than two hours Wednesday night, Nov. 14, dealing with a spill of about 2.5 gallons of a corrosive cleaning agent at Sand Hill Foods Corp., a research and development firm at 1140 O'Brien Drive (Suite B), according to Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

Twelve people evacuated the building, including people from the adjoining suite. There were

no injuries, he said. The site is a commercial building in a light industrial district off Willow Road east of U.S. 101.

While employees were cleaning a pasteurization test machine, a hose disconnected and spilled the fluid, the chief said. Someone may not have tightened it as much as needed, he added.

The HazMat team entered the building with level B protection, meaning a protective suit and an air-breathing backpack and face mask, but no helmet or “moon suit,” the chief said.

The corrosive nature of the cleaning fluid reflected the intent of getting the testing

machine “absolutely clean,” the chief said.

After an inspection, HazMat allowed the employees back in to clean up the spill.

Sand Hill Foods shares office space with Lyrical Foods. In an email to the Almanac, Jean Prevot, the director of operations for both companies, described the incident as “a small cleaning accident” while sanitizing equipment.

“We take health and safety in our company and local community very seriously,” she said. The fire marshal and county environmental inspector have given the company the go-ahead to resume operations, she said. “We are back to full operations and taking this opportunity to review and increase our safety precautions.” ■

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



To Stage or Not Stage a Property

Dear Monica: I am the executor of an estate which owns a property I will be selling. The property is old and not in good repair but the lot and location are very good. It would cost thousands of dollars to fix the property and stage it, which I am reluctant to do. Do you think I should do all of the painting, floor refinishing, repairs and other items that the property needs, or should I just put it on the market in its present condition? Elizabeth P.

Dear Elizabeth: If the property needs as much work as you describe, but is in a good location, I do not

think that you need to invest in all of the things that would make it look its best. If there are funds to do the work, you should consider it, but you may achieve nearly the same financial result either way. If most of the value is in the land it is likely that buyers planning to build new will want to make offers on the property. There may also be some buyers who want to fix up the present house.

I advise you to clear the property of all personal belongings, and clean it both inside and outside. Your agent should extensively market the property and you will no doubt attract strong buyers in the current market.

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

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Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Gentle giant at rest

Maybe before its time, or maybe not, arborists on Nov. 13, at the direction of the Town Council, cut down the Resurrection Tree. The old oak at Portola Valley's Ford Field had survived previous scrapes with imminent demise as it overlooked the home team dugout. The foliage showed vigor to the end but the massive trunk had long been hollow, decayed and dangerous, arborists said. Plans for the remains include laying out a portion of the trunk in the pasture to allow nature to take its course.

Community asked to help plan campuses

By Renee Batti

Almanac News Editor

■ SCHOOLS

Faced with an ever-increasing enrollment and educational space needs that have significantly changed in recent years, the Las Lomas School District has begun the process to craft a facilities master plan.

The district has scheduled a town hall meeting for 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, to gather input from the community about how it should proceed in planning its campuses for the future. The

meeting will be in Cano Hall at Las Lomas School, 299 Alameda de las Pulgas in Atherton.

Carolyn Chow, the district's chief business officer, said the district has gathered input over the past few months from parents and others in the school community, but now wants to tap into the ideas of the community at large before beginning the task of creating the master plan.

The district has accommodated the growing number of

students on its two campuses — La Entrada in Menlo Park and Las Lomas in Atherton — by bringing in portable buildings. But a growing enrollment also requires expanded common spaces, such as more library and restroom space, she said.

In addition to creating more space for a greater number of students, the district must figure out how to build more flexible learning spaces to accommodate the needs of 21st century learning, Ms. Chow said.

For more information, call the district office at 854-2880. ■

Man killed in front of wife in Menlo Park

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Early Saturday evening, gunshots left a dead man in their wake on Ivy Drive in Menlo Park. His wife survived.

The man was identified as Carey Cudlip, 42, of Newark, according to the San Mateo County Coroner's Office.

Around 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 17, police responded to reports of gunshots in the 300 block of Ivy Drive and found the man lying in the street. Emergency responders pronounced him dead at the scene.

Witnesses saw two men in dark, hooded sweatshirts running away, police said. One reportedly fled north on Ivy Drive, while the other headed west on Modoc Avenue.

Investigators think the victim was shot while sitting with his wife "in or near" a car.

Cmdr. Dave Bertini said it

was too early to comment on motive. "We're still doing a lot of footwork ... trying to figure out why these people were here, what's their connection to the area, forensics."

He called reports that police have concluded the shooting happened during a robbery "inaccurate," although the preliminary investigation suggests the couple was targeted for that reason.

Carey Cudlip, 42, shot while visiting Belle Haven neighborhood.

"We're still following a ton of leads," Cmdr. Bertini said on Nov. 19.

The shooting was the latest in a spate of apparently unrelated incidents

in the city's Belle Haven neighborhood during the past six months. A drive-by shooting injured four near Ivy Drive and Windermere Avenue on Nov. 2. In June an incident on Madera Avenue left 19-year-old Jesus Molina dead.

Police ask anyone with information to call the Menlo Park Police Department at 330-6300. ■

Mike's Camera opens on Santa Cruz Avenue

■ BRIEFS

One door opens as another closes. Ritz Camera and Image filed for bankruptcy in June, paving the way for Mike's Camera to replace the chain in locations throughout the Bay Area and Colorado.

The store at 715 Santa Cruz Ave. underwent remodeling to reopen as Mike's Camera shortly before Thanksgiving. The new Menlo Park store retained five employees of the Ritz store and will hire an additional five staff members, according to a Mike's Camera representative.

Construction crew unearths skulls

A construction crew ripping up concrete on the Pacific Biosciences campus found two human skulls and other bones, according to Menlo Park police.

The crew was working on Nov. 13 when they found the bones and called police. The campus, located at 1005 Hamilton Ave. in Menlo Park, contains a known burial ground at the back of the property, police spokeswoman Nicole Acker said.

After the county coroner and police took a look at the

remains, the Native American Historical Society was contacted to take possession of the bones.

Assemblyman Gordon hosts open house

If your social calendar isn't quite full, you might drop by Assemblyman Rich Gordon's open house in Los Altos. The newly elected representative of the new 24th Assembly District is hosting an open house on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Topics for discussion include the state budget, state legislation and other items of interest. Created by redistricting, the 24th Assembly District now represents Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley, Woodside, North Fair Oaks, East Palo Alto, Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale and the coast-side San Mateo County from El Granada to the county line.

The open house runs from 4 to 6 p.m. at Mr. Gordon's district office at 5050 El Camino Real, Suite 117, in Los Altos.

Email margot.grant@asm.ca.gov or call 691-2121 to RSVP.

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Hitch in affordable housing plan

■ County challenges report on affordable housing site.

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

■ PORTOLA VALLEY

County officials are challenging an environmental report on a site where Portola Valley planned to locate housing that would be affordable to people of moderate incomes. The challenge may postpone the town's affordable housing plan.

In a letter dated Nov. 6, officials of San Mateo County's Groundwater Protection Program fault Berkeley consulting firm Stellar Environmental Solutions on its analysis of soil contamination at 900 Portola Road, a 1.68-acre former plant nursery site that the

town is planning to buy. Stellar, officials wrote, failed on several points, including adequately evaluating the lateral extent of pesticide contamination and failing to prove that contaminated soil had not migrated toward Sausal Creek.

The letter also lays out a list of further data-gathering tasks for Stellar and sets a deadline for a work plan of May 13, 2013. The site cannot be sold without the county officially acknowledging, by letter, a successful remediation of the contamination.

"At this time, Town staff does not have enough information to determine the severity of this issue but the County's letter will certainly have an impact on the timing of the town's purchase of 900 Portola Road," Mayor Maryann Moise Derwin wrote in a Nov. 15 letter to the town. "As more information becomes available, the Town will provide timely updates to keep you informed."

The Town Council at its Nov. 14 meeting agreed to hold a wide-ranging public hearing on this project on Wednesday, Dec. 12, probably one of many to come, remarked Councilman Ted Driscoll.

The transaction is at the center of an intense controversy in this upscale town over planning for construction of housing for people with moderate incomes, as required by state mandates.

Particularly irked are neighbors of the nursery site who complain that the density of the proposed housing would create an "urban setting" that would lower their property values. The neighbors say they do not oppose affordable housing, but claim that the process has not been "democratic and open."

The council signed a purchase agreement for the site in August, but the transaction is contingent on two factors: remediation of the contamination and the sale of two parcels in the Blue Oaks neighborhood — all before the escrow closing date of Dec. 21.

On Saturday, Nov. 17, the town announced that it had found a buyer for the Blue Oaks parcels at a price of \$2.88 million.

But the town could now face a steeper climb. The agreement for 900 Portola Road specifies a purchase price of \$2.6 million for the site, with an additional payment of not more than \$400,000 to address soil contamination.

Officials have said that the town would augment the Blue Oaks proceeds, if necessary, with donations and/or reserves from the town's Inclusionary Housing Fund, which has an estimated balance of \$158,000, according to the 2012-13 budget. (Subdivision developers replenish this fund with fee revenues that must be used for affordable housing.) ■

Portola Valley finds buyer for Blue Oaks properties

By Dave Boyce

Almanac staff writer

The town of Portola Valley announced Saturday, Nov. 17, an agreement on the sale, for \$2.88 million, of two properties the town owns on Buck Meadow Drive in the Blue Oaks neighborhood.

Revenues from the sale are critical to moving forward on the town's affordable housing project. The Town Council has been planning to buy a 1.68-acre property at 900 Portola Road, a former plant nursery, for several small homes for people of moderate incomes who either live or work in town.

The town was seeking \$3 million from the sale. The proceeds cannot be used for any purpose other than affordable housing, town officials say.

The announcement did not disclose the identity of the buyer in the Blue Oaks agreement.

The Portola Road project is controversial. Nearby residents formed the group Keep PV Rural to vigorously oppose it on the grounds that the density of several small homes on 1.68 acres, unusual for Portola Valley, will lower

the property values of nearby single-family homes.

In an email to the group, a copy of which was forwarded to the Almanac, Town Manager Nick Pegueros invited Keep PV Rural to a meeting at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 29, to discuss the sale and related issues. In addition to town staff, the Town Attorney, the Town Planner and Councilman John Richards — the likely mayor for 2013 — will be present.

Among the issues: a Nov. 6 letter from San Mateo County environmental officials requiring further cleanup of pesticide contamination at 900 Portola Road. The purchase is contingent on the county signing off on the cleanup.

At its Wednesday, Dec. 12, meeting, the council will consider steps to finalize the sale of the Blue Oaks properties. The agenda for that meeting will include a public hearing for a wide-ranging discussion on the Blue Oaks transaction and the planned purchase of 900 Portola Road for affordable housing.

The Blue Oaks parcels were set aside for eight units of affordable housing in 1991, but their sloping topography mitigated against such a project. ■



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED DEVIATION & VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a Public Hearing on a proposed Deviation to Resolution 2506-2010 and a variance (X7E-1334) for a proposed Addition/Remodel, Rollefson property located at 169 Wayside Road (APN 076-213-020) on **Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.** The variance would allow for construction/reconstruction within the front 50' setback and for the structure to exceed the 28' height limit.

Public Hearings provide the general public and interested parties an opportunity to provide testimony on these items. If you challenge a proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at a Public Hearing(s) described above, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the Public Hearing(s).

You may view the deviation documents at the Building and Planning Department, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Planning Commission to be heard at the time and place mentioned above.

Dated: November 15, 2012
Carol Borck Planning Technician

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Lower speed limits coming soon to Woodside Glens

By Dave Boyce

Almanac staff writer

■ WOODSIDE

The end is near for 25 mph speed limits on many of the narrow winding streets of the Woodside Glens neighborhood in Woodside.

The streets that will have the new 20 mph limits are Alta Mesa Road, Glenwood Avenue, Highland Terrace, Hillside Drive, Otis Avenue, Ridge Court and Toyon Court. The streets have

no sidewalks, vehicle speeds that are too fast for conditions, and blind curves, according to a staff report.

The state vehicle code authorizes town councils to lower a 25 mph limit if the street is no wider than 25 feet, the report said. By a unanimous 5-0 vote, the Woodside Town Council introduced the ordinance at its

Nov. 13 meeting, with Mayor Dave Tanner and Councilwoman Deborah Gordon absent. The council must vote once more to approve the ordinance — presumably at its Nov. 27 meeting — and it will take effect 30 days after that.

This change has been a long time in coming. Glens residents have been discussing a lower limit since at least 1992, Councilman and Glens resident Ron Romines said.

Lower speed limits are the first step toward improving pedestrian safety and driver awareness, Town Engineer Paul Nagengast told the council. His report also refers to a 2011 traffic study of the Glens neighborhood that recommends adding signs — “Yield,” “Stop,” “Share the Road” and the yellow-and-black pedestrian icon — at appropriate places, as well as a solar-powered, speed-detection device on Glenwood Avenue near the intersection with Canada Road.

A few Glens residents said they wanted speed bumps. “At times, it’s like a race track. As far as lowering the speed limits, you might as well put up a sign with nothing on it,” said Rich Germano.

Why not use speed bumps and speed limit signs, resident Peter Leigh asked. “Unless we do both, we’re not going to achieve anything,” he added. “It’s a little more entertainment sometimes than we really want on rural streets. I like to exercise at my own time and in my own way and not at the whim of some Federal Express driver.”

‘At times, it’s like a race track.’

WOODSIDE GLENS
RESIDENT RICH GERMANO

Residents don’t

want speed bumps, Mr. Romines said, citing well-attended community meetings from the past.

“Why would anyone at 20 mph complain about a speed bump,” Mr. Leigh countered. “You have them right here in your own parking lot, presumably not as

See **SPEED LIMITS**, page 13



Town of Portola Valley Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

(Prepared Pursuant to Section 15162(b) of the California Public Resources Code)

A notice, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code 21,000 et seq.) that the following project, with mitigation incorporated, will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Project Title: Parcel Merger and Expansion of Athletic Fields with a New Track and Artificial Turf Infill

Contact Person: Carol Borck, Planning Technician

Phone Number: 650-851-1700, Ext. 211

Project Location: 302 Portola Road, Portola Valley California, 94028

Project Description:

The proposed project is an application for amendment of Conditional Use Permit (CUP #X7D-30), parcel merger, and expansion of athletic fields with new track and synthetic turf infield. The expansion of athletic fields would include removal of a portion of the existing natural turf area, and replacing that same area with a synthetic track surface with a synthetic turf infield as specified by the applicant. Secondary improvements include an asphalt driveway, removal of existing volleyball facilities, construction of a new storage shed, construction of necessary subsurface drainage improvements, restoration of native landscaping and trail improvements, earthwork, and sewer pipeline relocation. Earthwork will include removal and recontouring of an existing berm, with the cut material used onsite as raised fill under the track and field area. Cut and fill material is proposed to balance on site.

The project is described on the following plans and materials:

Project Plans (enclosed):

Sheet A-1.2, Area Expansion/Lot Merger & Athletic Fields Improvements, 10/2/2012, prepared by CJW Architecture
Sheet A-1.3, Enlarged Plan of Merger Area, 11/5/2012, prepared by CJW Architecture
Sheet A-1.3A, Merger Detail, 9/4/2012, prepared by CJW Architecture
Sheet A-1.4, Merger Detail, 10/8/12, prepared by CJW Architecture
Sheet A-1.5, Grading Plan at Trail, 11/7/12, prepared by CJW Architecture
Sheet 1, Sewer Relocation - Context Plan, 8/12, prepared by BKF
Sheet 2, Sewer Relocation, 8/12, prepared by BKF
Sheet F-1, Drainage Map, Existing Conditions, 5/12, prepared by BKF
Sheet F-2, Drainage Map, Proposed Condition, 5/12, prepared by BKF
Sheet 3, Site Plan, 11/12, prepared by BKF

Purpose of Notice:

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that a mitigated negative declaration has been recommended for this project. Approval of a Mitigated Negative Declaration does not constitute approval of the project under consideration. The decision to approve or deny the project is a separate action. The subsequent negative declaration was prepared pursuant to Section 15162.(b) of the public resources code of California.

Address where documents may be reviewed:

Planning Department
Portola Valley Town Hall
765 Portola Road
Portola Valley, CA

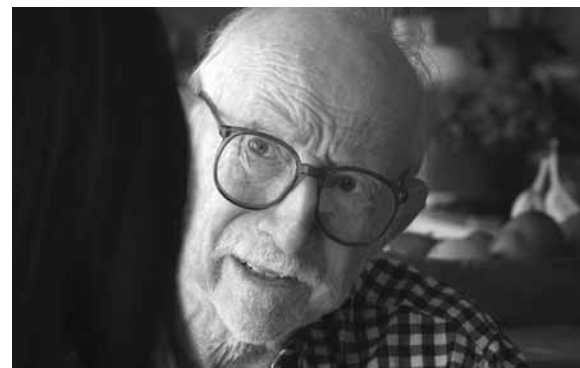
Public Review Period: Begins: November 21, 2012 Ends: January 4, 2013

Please submit any written comments on the Draft Negative Declaration to the Town of Portola Valley by 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 4, 2013.

Scheduled Public Hearings (date, time, place), if known:

Public hearings on the proposed project are scheduled to be held before the Portola Valley Planning Commission at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 and Wednesday, January 16, 2013. The planning commission will not take any formal action on the application at the December 5, 2012 meeting, but will hear comments, discuss the application, and continue the public hearing to January 16, 2013. At the January 16, 2013 public hearing, additional input will be taken, and the planning commission may either take formal action on the application or further continue the public hearing to a specific future meeting. Both public hearings will take place at the Portola Valley Town Hall Council Chambers located in the Historic School House, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California

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H1646-01QF 111412

More housing may be coming to Hamilton Ave.

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO BRIEFS

More housing may be on the way for Hamilton Avenue, if Greenheart Land Company carries through with its plan to build high-density housing.

The council voted 4-0 to approve the \$8 million sale of 777-821 Hamilton Ave. at its Nov. 13 meeting. Councilman Andy Cohen was absent.

The sale comes as a result of the state's dissolution of the redevelopment agency, which is now required to dispose of any assets. According to the staff report, proceeds from the sale go to San Mateo County for redistribution to Menlo Park and other entities.

Greenheart told the council it wants to put approximately 30 units per acre on the 2.1-acre parcel. Six owners of properties bordering the lots are also ready to sell to the developer, allowing the project to expand to 7.1 acres, with the exception of a seventh, Jim Calhoun, who owns Calhoun's Country Corner, a woodworking shop at 771 Hamilton Ave. He is reportedly hoping for a better offer. According to Greenheart, the desired price "may not make economic sense" for a for-profit company.

Police get traffic safety grant

The Menlo Park Police Department now has \$30,000 to apply toward making the city's roads safer, thanks to a state grant.

The grant, obtained from the California Office of Traffic Safety, will be used "for a year-long program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on our roadways through special enforcement and public awareness efforts," the department announced Nov. 14.

Those efforts include impaired-driving recognition and enforcement training, DUI saturation patrols, distracted-driving enforcement, and other initiatives, according to the department.

While traffic deaths declined by nearly 39 percent between 2006 and 2010 in California,

according to the announcement, state and federal officials anticipate a slight rise in 2011. DUI deaths account for nearly 30 percent of traffic fatalities, but distracted driving and impaired driving incidents are increasing.

"Despite the recent increases, California's roadways are still very much safer than they were before 2006," said OTS Director Christopher Murphy. "The Menlo Park Police Department will be keeping the pressure on through enforcement and public awareness so that we can continue saving lives and reach the vision we all share — toward zero deaths, every one counts." ■

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Hanretty restitution hearing postponed

By Renee Batti
Almanac News Editor

A court hearing to discuss what former school official Tim Hanretty should be required to pay in restitution to the Woodside Elementary School District for misappropriating the district's funds has been postponed until Dec. 11.

The hearing, a status conference before Judge Mark Forcum, had been set for 9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, in San Mateo

County Superior Court, but by the time Mr. Hanretty's case actually came up before the judge, the hour was late, according to Deputy District Attorney Kimberly Perrotti.

Because Judge Forcum's schedule was tight for the rest of the morning, all parties agreed to the postponement rather than rush what is likely to be a complicated discussion, she said.

Mr. Hanretty is serving a two-year sentence in state prison after pleading no contest to

embezzlement and other crimes involving the Woodside and the Portola Valley school districts.

At his Oct. 22 sentencing, he was ordered to pay restitution of more than \$180,000 to the Portola Valley district, where he was serving as superintendent when he embezzled \$100,926.

By the time of his sentencing, he had already repaid the Portola Valley district \$120,926, and had paid the Woodside district \$20,000.

The Portola Valley restitu-

tion matter was fairly clear-cut, but that's not the case with the Woodside district. In that case, Mr. Hanretty, who was serving as the district's business official at the time, was authorized by the school board in 2007 to take out a loan not to exceed \$632,000, but instead forged papers to obtain a \$2.6 million loan.

Although investigators have concluded that all the funds were spent on school construction projects, the unauthorized loan left the Woodside district with an unexpectedly large debt.

The district is asking for resti-

tution of about \$1.56 million in loan interest, about \$1.97 million in loan principal, and more than \$100,000 for attorney and accountant costs.

Mr. Hanretty, through his attorney Michael Markowitz, is challenging that restitution request.

Ms. Perrotti, the deputy DA, said when the parties meet for the Dec. 11 conference, it will be to try to come to an agreement on how much Mr. Hanretty should pay the Woodside district. But if that doesn't happen, a full restitution hearing will be scheduled. ■



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) X7D-137 AND LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT X6D-214 BLUE OAKS SUBDIVISION LOTS 23 THOUGH 26, 3 AND 5 BUCK MEADOW DRIVE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley will conduct a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on December 12, 2012 on the November 7, 2012 Planning Commission actions amending the Blue Oaks PUD and approving the associated Lot Line Adjustment (LLA) to implement the proposed PUD amendments. The Planning Commission approvals would remove references to below market rate housing, reduce the number of parcels in the residential area owned by the town, i.e., 3 and 5 Buck Meadow Drive (APNs: 080-240-230, -240, -250, and -260), from four (4) to two (2) and make other changes to accommodate market rate housing on one or both of the adjusted parcels.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to provisions of the zoning ordinance, on November 14, 2012 the Town Council reviewed the November 7, 2012 Planning Commission actions as presented with the November 14, 2012 report from the Town Planner and determined that before the actions become effective, it was appropriate to conduct a Town Council public hearing on them as provided for under Section 18.78.120 of the zoning ordinance and set forth in this notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the conclusion of the December 12, 2012 public hearing the Town Council will determine whether or not to uphold the approvals of the Planning Commission or take other actions consistent with findings from review of the Planning Commission record and the public hearing. All reports, plans and documents associated with the project and November 7, 2012 Planning Commission approvals are available for review in the Portola Valley Planning Department at 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California.

All interested persons are invited to appear before the Town Council at the time above-mentioned. The public hearing will be conducted in the Historic School House meeting room at the town center, 765 Portola Road. If someone challenges an action on the public hearing matters in court, he or she may be limited to raising only those issues raised at the public meetings conducted on the proposal or in written correspondence delivered to the town at or prior to the public meetings.

Dated: November 15, 2012
Signed: Sharon Hanlon, Town Clerk

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Menlo Park poet and author at Kepler's Books event

Poet and author Dominique Renda of Menlo Park will be at Kepler's Books in Menlo Park at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, to read and sign her new book, "Midnight Dreams."

"Midnight Dreams" is coauthored by Ms. Renda and her son, Blake Horsley, who grew up in Menlo Park and now lives in Los Angeles.

This is Ms. Renda's third book of poetry and the first on which she and her son have collaborated. Among its "poetic portraits," is that of a mother's feelings for her children and a

son's independent voice.

Ms. Renda says a reading at Kepler's is appropriate because, "Over the years, we spent a lot of time at Kepler's." A graduate of UCLA, she has written creatively and professionally for more than 20 years.

Kepler's is a 1010 El Camino Real near the intersection with Santa Cruz Avenue.



Dominique Renda

SPEED LIMITS

continued from page 10

an aesthetic (amenity). Are we serious about trying to lower traffic speeds in the Glens or aren't we?"

"Glens traffic safety is near and dear to my heart," said resident Monique Vandermarck, who noted that she has nightmares about her child on Woodside Glens streets. She asked the council for speed tables, which are extended flat-topped speed bumps. On a walk in the Glens with a child in a stroller, an

encounter with a moving vehicle leaves you with "nowhere to go," she said. "Speed limits are a good place to start but it is not a good place to stop."

Councilman Dave Burow attributed 25 percent of the problem to youths driving too fast and the rest to contractors. "I find myself stopping contractors and telling them they're driving too fast in the community," he said. Mr. Burow wondered aloud whether staff in Town Hall could prepare a handout that reminds contractors of the speed limits. ■



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Thomas E. Holland

February 18, 1955-November 9, 2012

After a year-and-a-half battle with brain cancer, Tom Holland quietly passed away in Zaratutz, Spain, early Friday morning.

Born in Palo Alto, California, to Sally Bubb Holland and Harry A. Holland, Jr., Tom was blessed to live a privileged life. He grew up in Portola Valley, attended Portola Valley elementary schools, Woodside High School, Cañada Junior College, and the University of Texas at Austin some 20 years later (B.A. in English, 1995; Secondary English Teaching Credential, 1996). In 2002, he earned an M.A. in Educational Linguistics from Stanford University. He loved to boast that he was the "oldest and thickest" student in his university classes.

Tom spent over 20 years in the hospitality industry as a restaurant server and manager, the last eight in fine dining with the Ritz-Carlton and Four Seasons chains. His most cherished review was "Tom demonstrates impeccable service and an infectious smile."

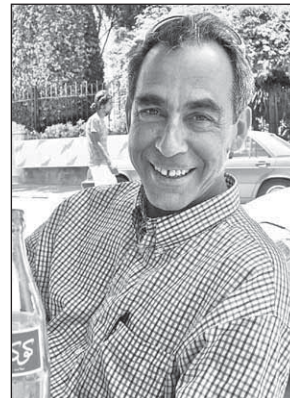
He then relished nearly 20 years in the class-

room as a teacher at various high schools in Texas, Massachusetts, and Spain, before ending at the Centro de Linguas, University of A Coruña in Galicia, Spain, where he was happiest.

He is survived by his brothers and their spouses -- Harry, John and Charlotte, Bob and Kelly -- as well as by aunts, cousins, and extended families in Brazil, France, and Spain. His smartest decision ever was marrying María Eizaguirre Altuna in January 1995, accruing over 20 years together since they met in 1991 -- both instantly smitten and endlessly devoted. As the last of ten siblings, María and her wonderful, close-knit family provided 20 nieces and nephews (and, so far, six of the grand generation). The flock ensured that life was never dull. Tom ever opined, "Only boring people get bored." He never was.

A memorial service was held November 10th in Spain.

Memorial donations may be made to organizations supporting brain cancer research.



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Michelle Le/The Almanac

Fermin has a cup of coffee after finishing his lunch at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room. He said he's employed but just lost his home, so the meals are helping him get back on his feet.



Michelle Le/The Almanac

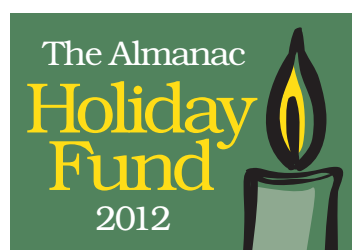
Peter Kasenchak of Skyline, chairman of the St. Anthony's advisory council and head coordinator in the dining room, chats with a guest during lunch.

Thanksgiving dinner for 1,000



Michelle Le/The Almanac

A father looks for a seat while balancing his son and a lunch tray at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room.



For 39 years St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room has been providing hot meals and a safe, warm place to eat

By Jane Knoerle
Almanac Lifestyles Editor

You're expecting maybe 10 for Thanksgiving dinner and you've been planning, shopping, and cooking for days.

Multiply your guest list a hundredfold. That's how many guests St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Menlo Park is expecting to walk through its doors on Thursday, Nov. 22. And those dining at St. Anthony's will be treated as graciously as if they were guests in your home.

The food, prepared under the direction of Chef Juventino Vargas, will be delicious: roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. Wor-

ried your turkey won't turn out right? Imagine preparing 100 to 125 of the big birds, along with 250 pounds of sweet potatoes, 150 pounds of mashed potatoes, and 100 pounds of zucchini.

Dining room manager Max Torres is hoping to have the tables bright with orange and yellow coverings. Leo Kusber of Woodside is bringing pumpkins and corn from his yard to be used as decoration. Green tree branch cuttings and orange and yellow streamers will add to the festive atmosphere.



Max Torres,
Dining Room
manager

Forty volunteers will serve the Thanksgiving meal. Helping out on Thanksgiving is so popular that volunteers have to draw numbers to participate.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room has been providing

a free meal in a safe, friendly place since the early 1970s. Peter Kasenchak of Skyline, chairman of the St. Anthony's advisory council, says: "We don't check guests, we just serve them. Who are we to judge?"

On a recent Thursday, Mr. Kasenchak bustled around the dining room, seeing everything was moving smoothly. He has been a volunteer for eight years and spends three to four days a week at St. Anthony's.

A fellow resident of Skyline, Kathy Craig, has been a volunteer for 11 years. She has worked every position, but basically stays on the line. "I do the salads," she says. She likes being a hands-on volunteer. "I'm not a fundraiser. Max (Torres) is wonderful to work with, the kindest man I ever met. The clients are always so positive. It's a pleasure to be here."

Ms. Craig, who is a senior aerobics instructor, teaches four days a week and also volunteers at Ronald McDonald House. Other local women working that day included Menlo Park residents Margaret Chiu, who was slicing bread and serving dessert, and Mary Driscoll. "I'm an expert with forks and bread," she said with a laugh, adding: "These are wonderful people that work here."

Another volunteer, Ellenrose Goddard of Atherton, does her volunteering earlier in the day. At 8:45 a.m. six days a week, she shows up at Dreager's Supermarket in Menlo Park. She visits the deli, bakery, and floral departments. "They have everything ready for me," she says. Everything ranges from pots of miniature roses and hydrangeas to salads, grilled salmon, tri-tip, macaroni and cheese, and enchiladas, to cookies and



Michelle Le/The Almanac

A volunteer for 11 years and a Skyline resident, Kathy Craig (right) greets guests and fills lunch trays at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room.



Michelle Le/The Almanac

A guest picks out a piece of bread at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room.

pies. Ms. Goddard then delivers all these high-quality goodies to St. Anthony's in time for the lunch crowd. "It's a wonderful way to start the day," she says.

While Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter are the big events, St. Anthony's needs continue throughout the year. The dining room is open six days a week (closed Sunday). The day after Thanksgiving, there will again be a line of some 500 folks expecting a hot meal.

On the day we visited, lunch included green salad, hard boiled eggs, spaghetti, zucchini, cantaloupe, breads, beverages and an array of desserts. Many of the guests also carried bags of take-home groceries that are available at the end of the serving line.

Gerardo, who was having lunch with his mother, said they walk over for lunch almost every day. Fermin, another

See **ST. ANTHONY'S**, page 16

Gifts to Holiday Fund

For the 20th year, the Almanac offers readers the opportunity to increase their charitable donations with gifts to the Holiday Fund, which seeks matching funds from foundations and private donors.

The Almanac has chosen 10 local nonprofit organizations to benefit from donations to the Holiday Fund. These organizations help the most vulnerable of our neighbors, be they children, the aged, homeless, hungry, sick or abused.

Starting with this issue

and over the next several weeks, the Almanac will publish stories about these organizations.

The total amount donated is divided equally among the 10 organizations.

The Holiday Fund could not happen without the help of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and the donors that provide the matching grants.

Since the Holiday Fund started in 1993, donors have contributed more than \$3 million to a wide range of local nonprofit organizations.

Give to The Almanac Holiday Fund

Your gift helps children and people in need



Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed \$167,000 for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched, to the extent possible, by generous community corporations, foundations and

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

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

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

Provides after-school and academic support and activities for 3,200 young people, 6 to 18, at clubhouses in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood, East Palo Alto, and Redwood City, and offers programs at Flood and Belle Haven schools in Menlo Park, Hoover Community School in Redwood City, and McNair School in East Palo Alto

Ecumenical Hunger Program

Provides emergency food, clothing, household essentials, and sometimes financial assistance to families in need, regardless of religious preference, including Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for more than 2,000 households.

Project Read

Provides free literacy services to adults in the Menlo Park area. Trained volunteers work one-on-one or in small groups to help adults improve their basic reading, writing and English language skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, at work and in the community. In 2007-08, a total of 120 tutors assisted more than 300 students.

St. Francis Center

Provides services for families in need with the goal of helping them to live in dignity and become self-supporting community members. The center assists 2,400 people each month with such services as low-income housing, food and clothing, shower and laundry, counseling, community garden, and education.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

Provides primary medical and preventive health care for all ages at its clinics in Belle Haven and East Palo Alto. It also operates a mobile clinic at school sites. Of the 16,500 registered patients, most are low-income and uninsured and live in the ethnically diverse East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

Serves hundreds of hot meals six days a week to people in need who walk through the doors. Funded entirely by voluntary contributions, St. Anthony's is the largest dining room for the needy between San Francisco and San Jose. It also offers emergency food and clothing assistance.

Second Harvest Food Bank

The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributed 30 million pounds of food last year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to some 162,000 people each month through more than 700 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

InnVision Shelter Network

Provides shelter/housing and supportive services across 18 sites in Silicon Valley and the San Francisco Peninsula. Serves thousands of homeless families and individuals annually on their path back to permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

JobTrain

Provides training and job placement for people with the biggest problems, including returning parolees, long-term unemployed, homeless, welfare clients, marginalized youth, and those recovering from drug and alcohol abuse.

StarVista (formerly Youth and Family Enrichment Services)

Provides 22 programs to help people who struggle with substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health, and relationship and communications issues. Helps strengthen youth, families, and individuals to overcome challenges through counseling, education, and residential services.

DONATE ONLINE: siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund

Use the form below to donate by mail.

Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

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Signature _____

I wish to designate my contribution as follows: (select one)

☐ In my name as shown above

– OR – ☐ In honor of: _____ (Name of person)

The Almanac Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All donors and gifts amounts will be published in The Almanac unless the boxes below are checked.

☐ I wish to contribute anonymously. ☐ Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

The organizations below provide major matching grants to the Holiday Fund.



The William and Flora Hewlett
Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard
Foundation



The Almanac will make every effort to publish donor names for donations received before Dec. 31, 2012, unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.



Michelle Le/The Almanac

Edelmira Sanchez (center) volunteers at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room.



Michelle Le/The Almanac

Security guard Win Van Nguyen greets guests during lunch at St. Anthony's. He has worked there for 23 years, 20 of those as a driver.

Thanksgiving dinner for 1,000

ST. ANTHONY'S

continued from page 15

guest, said St. Anthony's was "a blessing from God. The food is like homemade." Although he is working, Fermin is living in his truck.

While it is a little late to donate food for Thanksgiving dinner, Max Torres reminds us that donations of frozen turkeys, hams, cranberries, canned tuna, tomato sauce, pasta, noodles and other staples are always welcome. Large quantities of single items are preferred. Donations may be brought or sent to St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, 3500 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Cash, checks and credit card donations are still the most popular ways to make a charitable gift. Major credit cards are accepted. Donations may be made by mail, in person, or online.

Visit paduadiningroom.com or call 365-9664 for more information. ■

On the cover: A girl finishes her meal with her mom at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, one of 10 beneficiaries of the Almanac's Holiday Fund.

Nothing else matters when you're hungry

By Caitlin Kerk of the Second Harvest Food Bank

One day Chris looked at his mom and asked the question no parent wants to hear, "Are we homeless?" Eddie and Love had always worked hard to support their family, but after hitting a bump in the road, they found themselves out of work. With no money and no place to call home, they couldn't buy food for their two children. But thanks to Second Harvest Food Bank, the family is now able to get the nutritious food they need to thrive.

"Hunger exists in every corner of our community and affects people of all shapes and sizes, every race and ethnicity, employed and unemployed, and highly educated and uneducated," said Kathy Jackson, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. "Though they can sometimes be hard to recognize, the faces of hunger are all around us. It may be a neighbor who lost his job in the economic downturn, a cafeteria worker at your child's school, or the clerk at your neighborhood hardware store."

Second Harvest provides food to nearly 250,000 people every



Gifts to the Almanac's Holiday Fund help the Second Harvest Food Bank and nine other community organizations.

month — that's one in 10 people in the two-county region. The number of people the Food Bank serves has increased nearly 50 percent since the recession started, and the need continues to rise despite the improving economy.

To keep pace with the growing need, Second Harvest Food Bank hopes to raise \$12.4 million and 2 million pounds of food during its Holiday Food and Fund Drive. This is a critical campaign for Second Harvest, which raises nearly half its annual revenues during the holidays.

To ensure that everyone has access to food right in their own neighborhood, Second Harvest Food Bank partners with more than 300 nonprofit agencies to

Continued on next page

StarVista provides lifeline for teens in stress

By Sharon Navarro, grants and development manager for StarVista,

Imagine that as a young teen, you are responsible for taking care of your older sister's baby and trying to earn enough money to put food on the table. The only adults in your life — your mother and older sister — are addicts who are not even able to provide for themselves.

Despite these tremendous difficulties, you still try to attend school as much as possible. But when your mom is incarcerated a few years later, and your older sister can not pay the rent,

you are faced with eviction and homelessness.

That's what life was like for Simone (not her actual name), now 18, before she arrived at StarVista's Daybreak program in March. As the only transitional living program in San Mateo County for homeless teens and young adults, Daybreak is a safe place to move from life on the streets to positive, independent living.

"When Simone first came to Daybreak, she was depressed, hopeless, felt worthless, and had very low self-esteem. (Not surprisingly, she was having trouble attending school) and the school expressed deep concerns for her wellbeing," her Daybreak counselor recalled.

Since its inception more than 20 years ago, Daybreak, located in Redwood City, has helped hundreds of youth by providing transitional housing and independent living-skills training, and offering a respite from hunger and homelessness.

Residents participate in a

structured 12-month program, where they are required to attend school, work, and save a portion of their paychecks. Daybreak also helps youth locate housing in the community when they leave the program. Studies show that 80 percent of youth who participate in programs like Daybreak move on to a stable, independent-living situation rather than to the streets or a homeless shelter.

Like all Daybreak residents, Simone participates in individual and group counseling to help her work through emotional issues and achieve her goals. She also receives coaching on personal health and self-care, helping her access educational opportunities and learn how to shop, cook, plan meals and manage her money.

These days, staff see Simone smiling around the Daybreak house most of the time. She is enrolled in a GED program and has obtained two jobs. "She is now the head 'chef' of the house, and she's helping to teach other residents how to cook," her counselor reports.

At StarVista, we recognize that building strong and healthy communities begins with helping each person develop her or his own path of personal growth. We are dedicated to transforming the lives of children, young people, adults and families, and providing life-changing support and services.

In addition to Daybreak, StarVista offers 20 programs

that serve more than 31,000 people annually throughout San Mateo County with counseling, prevention, early intervention, education and residential programs. No one is turned away for lack of funds. All of our programs are free or offered on a sliding-scale basis.

Visit star-vista.org or call (650) 591-9623 to get more information about StarVista, located at 610 Elm St., Suite 212, San Carlos CA 94070. ■



Gifts to the Holiday Fund help StarVista and nine other community organizations.



Backyard mural at Daybreak shelter in Redwood City.



Chris, Eddie, Love and Bella

Continued from previous page

provide food at more than 740 sites throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, including pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and after-school programs. Second Harvest is one of only a few food banks that does not charge its partners for the food it provides. Last year, Second Harvest provided the equivalent of 38 million meals and more than 50 percent of the food it distributes is fresh produce.

You can help families like

Eddie and Love's by donating to Second Harvest's Holiday Food and Fund Drive. Every dollar donated provides two nutritious meals. You can also host a food drive or drop off food at one of the many collection barrels located throughout the community.

Visit www.SHFB.org or call (866) 234-3663 for more information. If you need food, call Second Harvest's Food Connection hotline at (800) 984-3663 to learn about food-assistance programs in your neighborhood. ■



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- * Saint Anthony's Dining Room
- * Local Adopt-a-Teacher

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IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS

ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES FROM PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. EDITED BY TOM GIBBONEY

A gift to the Holiday Fund helps those in need

As the Almanac's Holiday Fund heads into its 20th year, donors can look back with pride on a history of giving that has provided nearly \$3.5 million to local nonprofits since it was launched in 1993. The history of giving to the Holiday Fund reflects the economic health of Silicon Valley, with peak donations reaching nearly \$400,000 in 1999 and 2000, then plunging to around half that amount until falling even more in 2009. Since then, donors have picked up the pace, helping to push the 2011 total to \$167,000, a jump of \$30,000.

We hope all our readers and other donors keep that momentum going as we begin this year's drive. Last year, nearly 200 Almanac readers contributed to the Holiday Fund, which also received sizable gifts from the Rotary Club of Menlo Park and the Hewlett and Packard foundations, bringing the total amount raised to \$167,000. That amount was divided equally among the 10 nonprofit agencies that provide food, shelter and counseling to homeless, sick and hungry residents who are down on their luck.

This year leaders of the nonprofit agencies see a wide range of needs that can be eased by the popular Holiday Fund grants. The Silicon Valley Community Foundation makes it possible for every dollar contributed to the Holiday Fund to be passed directly to the nonprofit agencies. No fees or other charges are taken out by the Almanac or the foundation.

If you are able, we urge you to consider a donation to the Almanac's Holiday Fund as we enter our 20th year. Your contribution will help support agencies that provide a safety net to local residents who have nowhere to turn. These are our neighbors who may have been laid off unexpectedly, or had a catastrophic illness, or suffer from addiction or mental health problems. They deserve our help.

This year the Almanac's Holiday Fund will support the following nonprofit agencies in the community:

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

Provides after-school and academic support and activities for 3,200 young people, 6 to 18, at clubhouses in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood, East Palo Alto, and Redwood City,

and offers programs at Flood and Belle Haven schools in Menlo Park, Hoover Community School in Redwood City, and McNair School in East Palo Alto

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Provides primary medical and preventive health care for all ages at its clinics in Belle Haven and East Palo Alto. It also operates a mobile clinic at school sites. Of the 16,500 registered patients, most are low-income and uninsured, and live in the ethnically diverse East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and North Fair Oaks areas.

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The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributed 30 million pounds of food last year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to some 162,000 people each month through more than 700 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

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JobTrain

Provides training and job placement for people with the biggest problems, including returning parolees, long-term unemployed, homeless, welfare clients, marginalized youth, and those recovering from drug and alcohol abuse.

StarVista (formerly Youth and Family Enrichment Services)

Provides 22 programs to help people who struggle with substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health, and relationship and communications issues. Helps strengthen youth, families, and individuals to overcome challenges through counseling, education, and residential services.

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac



Portola Valley Archives

Our Regional Heritage

In the 1920s, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve was the site of Scout camps. Here in their uniforms are the unidentified girls of Tent 4, in a photo taken June 12, 1926.

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TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) X7D-30 FOR A PARCEL MERGER AND EXPANSION OF ATHLETIC FIELDS WITH A NEW TRACK AND ARTIFICIAL TURF INFILL AT THE WOODSIDE PRIORY SCHOOL AT 302 PORTOLA ROAD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Town of Portola Valley will conduct a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on December 5, 2012 on a proposal for a parcel merger and expansion of athletic fields with a new track and artificial turf infill at the Woodside Priory School at 302 Portola Road. The project will also include constructing a storage shed and asphalt driveway, removing an existing berm, relocating a sewer line, undergrounding utility lines, removing a volleyball court, installing drainage for the artificial turf and track, constructing trail improvements, removing vegetation, and planting new vegetation.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 5, 2012 the planning commission will not take any formal action on the application. The commission will open the public hearing, take public input, discuss the application and public comments, and then continue the public hearing to January 16, 2013. At the January 16, 2013 public hearing, additional input will be taken and the planning commission may take formal action to approve, conditionally approve or continue consideration of the application to a specific future meeting. All reports, plans and documents associated with the project are available for review in the Portola Valley Planning Department at 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California. The specific reports, plans and supporting documents for the December 5, 2012 Planning Commission public hearing will be available in the Planning Department on November 30, 2012. Any new reports or information to support review at the January 16, 2013 continued public hearing will be available in the Planning Department on January 11, 2013.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an initial study and proposed mitigated negative declaration has been prepared for this project, and a Notice of Intent to adopt this proposed mitigated negative declaration is being published separately. The initial study and proposed mitigated negative declaration are available in the Planning Department at town hall. The public review period for these documents will be from November 21, 2012 to 5:00 p.m., January 4, 2013.

All interested persons are invited to appear before the Planning Commission at the times above-mentioned. The public hearing will be conducted in the Historic School House meeting room at the town center, 765 Portola Road. If someone challenges the proposed action in court, he or she may be limited to raising only those issues raised at the public meetings conducted on the proposal or in written correspondence delivered to the town at or prior to the public meetings.

Dated: November 15, 2012
Signed: Carol Borck, Town Planning Technician



WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT FREDERICK AND SUBURBAN PARK PROJECT

Sealed proposals for the FREDERICK AND SUBURBAN PARK PROJECT will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00:00 PM on Wednesday, December 12, 2012** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "FREDERICK AND SUBURBAN PARK PROJECT."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment, and other appurtenances for rehabilitation and replacement of sanitary sewer mains by Horizontal Directional Drilling, Cured-in-Place Pipe, and Open Trench Construction, as indicated on the project plans.

The contract documents may be inspected at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District; San Francisco Builders Exchange, Attn: Deanna Johnson, 850 So. Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94110; Peninsula Builders Exchange, Attn: Andrea Nettles, 735 Industrial Road, Suite 100, San Carlos, California 94070; Santa Clara Builders Exchange, Attn: Kanani Fonseca, 400 Reed Street, Santa Clara, California 95050; Builders Exchange of Alameda, Attn: Richard Owen, 3055 Alvarado Street, San Leandro, California 94577; Construction Bidboard Incorporated, Attn: Plan Room, 11622 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92130; and, Contra Costa Builders Exchange, Attn: April Hamilton, 2440 Stanwell Drive, Suite B, Concord, California 94520.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District upon payment of a check or money order in the amount of \$60.00 for each set. The check or money order must be issued to the West Bay Sanitary District. All payments are nonrefundable.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at **10:00 am on Tuesday, November 27, 2012** at the West Bay Sanitary District Office in Menlo Park, California.

Each bid proposal shall be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or a proposal guaranty bond payable to the order of the West Bay Sanitary District in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid as a guaranty that the bidder will execute the contract if it be awarded to him in conformity with the proposal. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in an amount not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price and a labor and material bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

The District ("Owner") reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to determine which proposal is, in the judgment of the District, the lowest responsible bid of a responsible bidder or group of bidders and which proposal should be accepted in the best interest of the District. The District also reserves the right to waive any informalities in any proposal or bid.

Bid proposals received after the time announced for the opening will not be considered. No bidder may withdraw his proposal after the time announced for the opening, or before award and execution of the contract, unless the award is delayed for a period exceeding forty-five (45) days.

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Contract Code Section 22300, and upon the request and at the expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld by the District to insure performance under the Contract may be deposited with the District, or with a state or federally chartered bank as escrow agent who shall deliver such securities to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Only those securities listed in Government Code Section 16430 or other securities approved by the District are eligible for deposit. The deposit of securities with an escrow agent or the District shall be made in the form and on such terms and conditions as the District may require to protect the interest of the District in the event of the Contractor's default. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities that are deposited and shall receive any interest thereon.

Pertaining to Sections 1770, 1773, and 1773.1 of the California Labor Code the successful bidder shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. Copies of such prevailing rates are on file at the District office of the West Bay Sanitary District and which copies shall be made available to any interested party on request. The successful bidder shall post a copy of such determinations at each job site.

In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code Section 3300, the District has determined that the Contractor shall possess a valid Class A License or a combination of Class C-12 "Earthwork and Paving", C-34 "Pipeline" and C-42 "Sanitation System" licenses at the time this contract is awarded. Failure to possess the specified license(s) shall render the bid as non-responsive and shall act as a bar to award of the contract to any bidder not possessing said license(s) at the time of award.

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

/s/ Phil Scott
District Manager

Dated: October 11, 2012

Holiday traditions at museum

The San Mateo County History Museum will explore holiday traditions from around the world from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. The free day will feature children's crafts and a handbell choir.

The children's crafts will include making a German tree ornament, Filipino star lantern, English party favor, and Mexican New Year's noise maker. Children may also have a free photo taken with Santa. The

San Francisco State University Handbell Choir will perform traditional holiday songs beginning at 1 p.m.

The event is held in conjunction with Redwood City's Home Town Holiday Celebration on Courthouse Square. The museum is located at 2200 Broadway in the Old Courthouse in Redwood City.

Visit historysmc.org or call 299-0104 for more information.



'Nature's Paintbox' exhibit

"Bay Sunset," is part of the exhibit "Nature's Paintbox," featuring watercolors by Barbara von Haunalter of Los Altos Hills now on display at the Portola Art Gallery at Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road in Menlo Park. Ms. von Haunalter's paintings are plein air work created in and around the Bay Area. The exhibit continues through Nov. 30. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (not open Sunday). Call 321-0220.

CALENDAR

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more calendar listings

Special Events

Thanksgiving Dinner at Little House Cafe Peninsula Volunteers is presenting a Thanksgiving dinner for families and friends to enjoy. Nov. 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$9. Non-refundable tickets must be purchased in advance by Nov. 20. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

Nativity School Christmas Tree Lot Christmas trees: Noble, Fraser, Douglas and Grand Firs up to 13 feet. Christmas wreaths and garland also available. All volunteer-run fundraiser for benefit of Nativity School. Open from Nov. 23 to Dec. 15, Nativity School, 210 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park. www.nativitytrees.com

Talks/Authors

An Evening with Anita Moorjani Attendees spend the evening with author Anita Moorjani as she speaks about her near-death experience and the lessons she learned. Diagnosed with cancer in 2006, she was given only hours to live when she fell into a coma and entered another dimension. Nov. 26, 7-9 p.m. Sofia University, 1057 East Meadow Circle, Palo Alto. Call 888-96-SOFIA. www.sofia.edu/calendar.php

Concerts

Peninsula Women's Chorus: 'Star of Wonder' Concert "Star of Wonder" features a collection of music from around the world, from Penderecki to the French Baroque to the U.S. premiere of "Star-Crossed" by Filipino composer Saunder Choi. Dec. 16, 4 p.m. \$30 general/\$35 premium/\$10 18 and under. St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. www.pwchorus.org

Haydn and His Students V Main feature is Beethoven's famous Quartet in Bb, Op. 130. The fifth movement of this work, which the composer considered his best ever, appears on the "golden record" the Voyager probes sent to outer space in 1977. Nov. 25, 4-6 p.m. \$25 (discounts for seniors and students). All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Call 415-520-0611. www.newesterhazy.org

Exhibits

'Playing Grown-Up: Toys from the Harry P. Costa Collection' This exhibit explores toys from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s that allowed children to mimic the activities of adults. Toys will include an antique pedal fire truck and airplane, Tonka work trucks, and an electric 1929 Lionel Stove & Oven, through Dec. 31, Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$5 adults, \$3 seniors/students, free for children 5 & under, free for association members. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104. www.historysmc.org

Stanford Art Spaces Stanford University Cuba 2012: American Photographers in Havana, exhibit through Jan. 17. Reception Nov. 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Paul G. Allen building on the Stanford University campus. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Stanford Art Spaces, 420 Via Palou, Stanford. Call 650-725-3622. cis.stanford.edu/~marigros

Kids & Families

Atherton Library Preschool Storytime Children ages 3-5 are invited for stories and activities every Monday morning. Through May 20, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Free Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Nutcracker Showcase Children ages 5 and up are invited to come in pajamas and enjoy scenes from the Nutcracker danced by children from the Western Ballet Company in Mountain View. Nov. 26, 7-8 p.m. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Et Alia

University Public Worship Each week the University Public Worship includes preaching from a different reverend or rabbi; music by university organist, Dr. Robert Huw Morgan, and the Memorial Church Choir. Sundays through Dec. 30, 10-11 a.m. Stanford Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. events.stanford.edu/events/333/33389

POLICE CALLS

This information is from the Atherton and Menlo Park police departments. Under the law, people charged with offenses are considered innocent until convicted.

MENLO PARK

Commercial burglary reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$1,800 in theft of cash from locked safe inside locked office, LB Steak restaurant at 898 Santa Cruz Ave., Nov. 4.

■ Losses estimated at \$1,390 in break-in through classroom window and that of laptop computer, Phillips Brooks School at 2245 Avy Ave., Nov. 7.

Theft reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$1,000 in theft of several pieces of lingerie during an open house, Hobart St., Nov. 6.

■ Loss estimated at \$600 in theft of locked bicycle from apartment's underground parking area, East Creek Drive, Nov. 8.

■ Loss estimated at \$500 in theft of cash from unforced entry into apartment and theft from bedroom drawer, Terminal Ave., Nov. 5.

■ Loss estimated at \$500 in theft of locked bicycle from train station in October, Menlo Park Caltrain station at 1120 Merrill St., Nov. 4.

■ Loss estimated at \$400 in theft of bicycle from fenced-in alley near apartment building, Menlo Ave., Nov. 2.

■ Unknown loss in theft of Obama-Biden political lawn sign from front yard, Santa Cruz Ave., Nov. 2.

WOODSIDE

Theft reports:

■ Losses estimated at \$480 in theft of cellphone from student backpack sitting on shelf in school library. Police charged suspect with petty theft after selling phone for \$100 in North Fair Oaks neighborhood, and buyer charged

with receiving stolen property, which has not been recovered, Woodside High School at 199 Churchill Ave., Nov. 7.

■ Losses estimated at \$230 in online purchase of cellphone that was never delivered, Buck Court, Nov. 7.

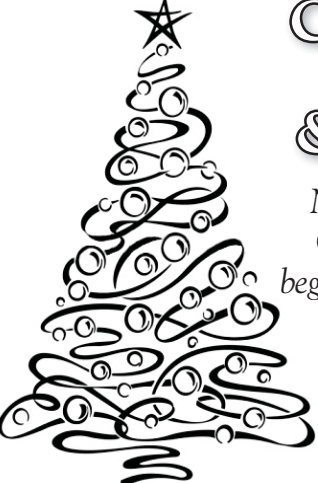
■ Unknown loss in theft of cellphone from backpack in women's locker room, Woodside High School at 199 Churchill Ave., Oct. 30.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Theft report: Unknown loss in theft of ring in nursing facility, The Sequoias retirement community, 501 Portola Road, Nov. 5.

WEST MENLO PARK

Residential burglary report: Losses estimated at \$5,000 in theft of tablet computer, laptop computer, \$1,800 in cash and several pieces of jewelry, Altschul Ave., Nov. 11.



CHRISTMAS TREES & WREATHS

Nativity School will be selling Christmas Trees & Wreaths beginning Friday, November 23rd and ending on Saturday, December 15th. This is a fundraiser for Nativity School.

HOURS – Closed Mondays

Opening day has extended hours from 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NATIVITY SCHOOL

Corner of Oak Grove & Laurel, Menlo Park

For information go to www.nativitytrees.com

Fire-Proofing and Delivery Service are available

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❁ Welcoming *Winter* ❁

Holiday events in the arts world include ballet, theater, comedy, family festivities and a wealth of concerts

By Rebecca Wallace

There's no reason to have a silent night during the holiday season. Local arts groups provide all manner of soundtracks, with styles of sound as diverse as classic carols, Baroque music, Latin jazz, Low Countries music, Hanukkah songs and gospel.

Revelers who are more visually oriented can also choose from holiday home tours, puppet shows, model-train displays and, of course, the ballet. For a sampling of the many holiday options on the Midpeninsula, keep reading.

MUSIC

Young voices from Brentwood Academy in East Palo Alto will provide the soundtrack to the annual **tree-lighting** at the Four Seasons Hotel on Nov. 26 at 2050 University Ave. in East Palo Alto. A toy and shoe drive will also be part of the free event, which is planned from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Call 650-470-2828.

The Baroque ensemble **Musica Pacifica**, with viola da gamba, recorder, violin, organ, harpsichord, oboe and voice, performs Christmas music from 18th-century Italy, France and Germany at 8 p.m. Nov. 30. The concert is in the First Lutheran Church at 600 Homer Ave. in Palo Alto. Tickets are \$12-\$35. Go to sfems.org.

The **Ragazzi Boys Chorus** welcomes winter with carols, Native American chant, Hanukkah music and other songs in a concert at 5 p.m. Dec. 1 at the First Congregational Church, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto. Composers will include Allen Gordon Bell, Randall Thompson and Mendelssohn. Tickets are \$10-\$27. Go to ragazzi.org or call 650-342-8785.

"Christmas in Antwerp and Amsterdam" features 16th- and 17th-century music from the Low Countries, presented in Latin and Dutch by the California Bach Society and various instrumentalists. The program will be performed locally at 8 p.m. Dec. 1 at All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$10-\$30. Go to calbach.org or call 650-485-1097.

The women's choral group **Kitka** will perform "Wintersongs," a program of "seasonal harmonies from Eastern Europe," at 4 p.m. Dec. 2 in St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Tickets are \$15-\$27 in advance and \$15-\$32 at the door. Go to kitka.org or call 650-854-6555.

"Sacred Songs for a Sacred Season," a performance by Irish singer/songwriter Mary McLaughlin, her Cor Aingli Singers, and the women's vocal ensemble Zambra, is planned for 4 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Vallombrosa

Center, 250 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park. Gregorian chant and ancient Gaelic sacred and mythic song are on the program, and tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children under 16. Go to coraingli.com or call 831-335-4879.



Recorder player Claudia Gantivar will perform with the California Bach Society on Dec. 1 in Palo Alto.

Stanford's Memorial Church hosts the annual **Festival of Lessons and Carols**, with the Memorial Church Choir directed by organist Robert Huw Morgan and the Stanford Chamber Chorale directed by Stephen M. Sano, at 8 p.m. Dec. 7 and 8. The events are free. Go to music.stanford.edu.

"Winter Dance with Bay Bells" features the handbells group in a free holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at Grace Lutheran Church, 3129 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Go to baybells.org or call 877-76-BELLS.

The community singers of the **Menlo Park Chorus** mark the season with a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 330 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park. Tickets are \$12/\$15, with refreshments after the performance. Go to menloparkchorus.org.

"Star of Wonder" is the theme this year for the Peninsula Women's Chorus' holiday concerts, with the programs including the Roches' "Star of Wonder" along with music

by Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki and Baroque composer M.A. Charpentier. Performances are 2:30 p.m. Dec. 8 and 4 p.m. Dec. 15 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto; and 4 p.m. Dec. 16 at St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. Admission is \$10-\$30. Go to pwchorus.org or call 650-327-3095.

The Stanford Chamber Chorale and the Stanford Symphony Orchestra play their free annual **"Holiday Musicale"** at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 8 in Memorial Church on campus, presented by the Friends of Music at Stanford. Go to music.stanford.edu.

Five centuries of Christmas music, with a focus on nature, are represented in the **San Francisco Choral Artists** program planned for 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. Music by Howells, Poulenc and Kodaly is on the bill. Tickets are \$12-\$25 in advance and \$15-\$30 at the door. Go to sfca.org or call 415-494-8149.

The young musicians of the **California Youth Symphony** play holiday and classical classics at a 2:30

John Rutter's "I wish you Christmas" is on the bill for **Schola Cantorum's** holiday concert at 1:30 and 3 p.m. Dec. 9, along with Kirke Mechem's "Seven Joys of Christmas" and other offerings. The concert is at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto at 1985 Louis Road; tickets are \$25 general and \$10 for students and children. Go to scholacantorum.org or call 650-254-1700.

Schola Cantorum's lengthy **"Messiah Sing"** includes many choruses and solos not as commonly heard. The Messiah-thon is planned for Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts at 500 Castro St. A chamber orchestra will accompany singers, and Gregory Wait will conduct. Tickets are \$24 general, \$20 for seniors and \$18 for students. Go to scholacantorum.org or call 650-903-6000.

The ethereal voices of the **Chanticleer** men's chorus return to Stanford's Memorial Church for an 8 p.m. concert on Dec. 11, presented by Stanford Live. Gospel and holiday classics are on the bill along with Gregorian chant. Tickets are \$54. Go to live.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS.



"'Twas the Night Before Christmas" performed by Dancers Repertory Theatre and the Menlo Park Academy of Dance.



Chanticleer returns to Stanford's Memorial Church for this year's holiday concert on Dec. 11.



The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir will be back on the Peninsula for its annual holiday concert on Dec. 16 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts.

p.m. concert on Dec. 9 at Foothill College's Smithwick Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Tickets are \$15 general and \$10 for students and seniors. Go to cys.org or call 650-325-6666.

Guest conductor Masaaki Suzuki of Bach Collegium Japan conducts the **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra** in J.S. Bach's Christmas

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

cantata “Christen, atzet diesen Tag” and other works by Bach on 8 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Center for Performing Arts at 555 Middlefield Road in Atherton. Tickets are \$30-\$105. Go to philharmonia.org or call 415-252-1288, ext. 302.

Stanford’s cheerful “**Messiah Sing & Play-Along**” is at 8 p.m. Dec. 14 in Memorial Church, conducted by Stephen M. Sano. Trumpeters always get a big hand. Admission is \$10 general, \$9 for seniors, \$5 for non-Stanford students and free for Stanford students. Go to music.stanford.edu or call 650-723-3811.

Ragazzi Continuo, a men’s ensemble of eight graduates of the Ragazzi Boys Chorus, will perform Gregorian chant and Christmas carols including “The Holly and the Ivy” at two upcoming concerts: 8 p.m. Dec. 14 at Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley; and 7 p.m. Dec. 22 at Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. Tickets are \$18-\$20. Go to ragazzicontinuo.org or call 650-342-8785.

The 40-voice **Silicon Valley Boy-choir** sings family songs for the holidays at a 5 p.m. concert on Dec. 15 at First Baptist Church, 305 N. California Ave., Palo Alto. Go to svboychoir.org or call 650-424-1242.

HaShirim, a community choral group, performs a Hanukkah concert of Jewish songs from 3 to 4 p.m. Dec. 16 in the Schultz Cultural Arts Hall at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Admission is \$5 general and free for JCC members. Go to paloaltojcc.org or call 650-223-8664.



The Ragazzi Boys Chorus sings songs of winter Dec. 1 in Palo Alto.

Carols ring with gospel soul as the **Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir** sings its annual holiday concert at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts at 500 Castro St. This year’s performance is Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m.; admission is \$36 general, \$31 for seniors and students, and \$28 for children ages 12 and under. Go to oigc.org or call 650-903-6000.

DANCE

Santa hats, feather boas and saddle shoes are all part of Smuin Ballet’s “**The Christmas Ballet, 2012 Edition**,” which dances across the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts Stage from Nov. 28 through Dec. 2 this year. Both afternoon and evening shows are planned at 500 Castro St., with tickets ranging from \$23 to \$68. Go to smuinballet.org or call 650-903-6000.

Western Ballet brings its 50th annual rendition of “**The Nutcracker**” to the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

at 500 Castro St. from Dec. 7-9. Admission for the afternoon and evening performances is \$30 general, \$25 for seniors and students, and \$23 for children ages 12 and under. Go to westernballet.org or call 650-903-6000.

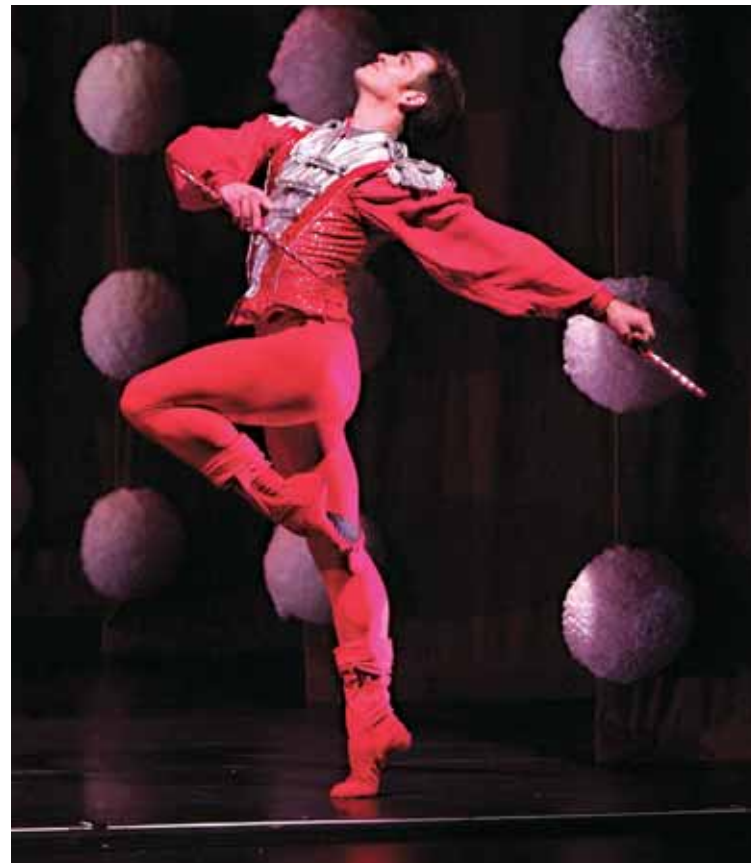
“**The Nutcracker**” comes to Spangenberg Theatre at 780 Arastadero Road in Palo Alto Dec. 7-9, presented by Dance Connection of Palo Alto. Afternoon and evening performances are planned; tickets are \$14-\$25. Go to danceconnectionpaloalto.com or call 650-322-7032.

“**’Twas the Night Before Christmas**” will be performed Dec. 9, 15 and 16 by Dancers Repertory Theatre and the Menlo Park Academy of Dance in 1 and 4 p.m. shows at Woodside High School’s performing-arts center, 199 Churchill Ave., Woodside. Tickets are \$12-\$20. Go to twasthenight.org.

A fairy tale from the Russian forest, set to music by Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov, comes to the stage in the Bayer Ballet Company’s “**A Winter Fairy Tale**,” performed Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., Dec. 15 at 5:30 p.m., and Dec. 16 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 general and \$25 for seniors and students; performances are at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts at 500 Castro St. Go to bayerballetacademy.com or call 650-903-6000.

ARTS & CRAFTS AND EXHIBITS

Palo Alto’s **Fibre Arts Design** gallery is holding a design and gift show through Nov. 25, showing such artistic creations as jewelry, ceramics, handbags and clothing in hopes of having them adorn holiday shopping lists. The gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from



Smuin Ballet dancer Jonathan Powell in “Drummer Boy” in the holiday program.

noon to 4 p.m., at 935 Industrial Ave. Go to fibreartsdesign.com or call 650-485-2121.

Gallery House hosts its annual holiday show, with longer hours for showing and selling its members’ artistic creations from Nov. 23 through Dec. 24. During the time, the gallery at 320 S. California Ave. in Palo Alto will be open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Go to galleryhouse2.com or call 650-326-1668.

Hundreds of Nativity scenes from around the world are on display Dec. 1-5 at the Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. The annual **Christmas creche exhibit** also includes marionette shows and performances by the Menlo Minstrels and other groups. Admission is free to the exhibit, which is open each day from noon to 9 p.m. Go to christmascreche.org or call 650-856-3781.

The **Portola Art Gallery** is focusing on smaller works in its December exhibit, with an eye to art that could make a good holiday gift. “Small Works & Treasures” runs the whole month, with paintings and fine-art photos by its member artists. The gallery is at the Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park, open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to portolaartgallery.com or call 650-321-0220.

Handmade toys, fine art, ornaments, strolling singers and eco-friendly gifts are among the offerings at Peninsula School’s annual **December craft fair** at 920 Peninsula Way in Menlo Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 2. Admission is free, with proceeds from the sales benefiting the school and its students. Go to peninsulaschool.org or call 650-325-1584.

KIDS AND FAMILIES

The Westwind Community Barn hosts its annual **holiday barn-lighting** on Dec. 2, with cookies and hot cider; children’s games, crafts and pony rides; student groups singing; and Pony Club and 4-H members demonstrating horse grooming and management skills. The free event happens from 1 to 4 p.m. at 27210 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills. Go to losaltoshills.ca.gov.

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O Tannenbaum

Where can you find fresh-cut trees for Christmas?

For many families, selecting the just-right Christmas tree is an early segue into the holiday season. Should it be the classic Noble fir or a stretch — maybe a Nordmann fir?

Beginning the day after Thanksgiving, several nonprofits will open their annual Christmas-tree lots, with some offering snow-flocking and flame-proofing, as well as delivery service and set-up at home.

New this year at Webb Ranch in Portola Valley, which is celebrating its 50th season, are “Cookies with Santa,” a free gift for return customers. The gift includes a jar of ingredients that makes just under two dozen chocolate-chip cookies, R.J. Rudikoff, managing partner with Webb Ranch, Inc., said.

On Fridays, after school, kids can sample cookies and get their photos snapped with Santa himself.

“We’re trying to have a picture environment,” with snowmen, penguins and sleigh cutouts, Rudikoff added.

But true tree aficionados might want to make a day of choosing and cutting, then picnicking in Los Gatos at the Patchen California Christmas Tree Farms. n

— Carol Blitzer

Nativity School Christmas Tree Lot

Location: 1250 Laurel St., Menlo Park

Dates, hours: Nov. 23 through Dec. 15, Tuesday-Thursday, 4 to 8 p.m.; Friday, 4 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Opening day 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; closing day 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kinds of trees: Douglas, Fraser, Grand and Noble firs from Oregon, 2 to 14 feet (fresh cut and stand available)

Other items: Wreaths (20 to 30 inches in diameter), candy cane wreaths, Advent wreaths and garland. Delivery to Menlo Park, Atherton, Palo Alto and Redwood City; discount on multiple trees to same address. Flame-proofing available.

Benefits: educational and extracurricular programs at Nativity School; staffed by parent and community volunteers

Prices: \$20 to \$409 (pre-order form on website); 6- to 7-foot tree is \$49-\$72

Information: 650-275-3750 or www.nativitytrees.com

Menlo Park Kiwanis Christmas Tree Lot

Location: on Stanford University campus next to the football stadium on El Camino Real at Embarcadero Road

Dates, hours: opens Nov. 23, weekdays 2 to 8 p.m., weekends 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Kinds of trees: Noble firs from Oregon

Other items: delivery available

Benefits: Kiwanis Club of Menlo

Park, which provides scholarships for Menlo-Atherton High School students, and donations to St. Anthony’s Padua Dining Room, rebuilding Together, Project Read/Menlo Park Library

Santa’s Village

Location: Webb Ranch, 2720 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

Dates, hours: Nov. 23 through Dec. 24, daily 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Kinds of trees: Douglas, Grand,

Noble and Silvertip firs from Washington and Oregon

Other items: Wreaths, garlands, poinsettias, boughs, mistletoe

Extras: Help choosing, wrapping, loading, plus delivery available; snow flocking, fire retardant, free net wrap and tie down

Prices: \$14.95-\$700 (18-foot range); 6- to 7-foot trees \$47-\$98; live ones from \$9.99

Information: 650-854-5417 or www.webbranchinc.com

Kiwanis Christmas Tree Lot

Location: Lucky Market parking lot, Foothill Expressway at Arboretum (2175 Grant Road, Los Altos)

Dates, hours: Nov. 23 (opens 10 a.m.) through Dec. 16; weekdays 3 to

7:30 p.m.; weekends 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Kinds of trees: Noble firs, 2 to 13 feet

Other items: Tree stands, wreaths, garlands, table decorations; set up and delivery for a fee

Prices: \$19-\$359; 6- to 7-foot tree is \$75

Benefits: Kiwanis Club of Los Altos Foundation

Information: 650-988-9900 or <http://lakc.netfirms.com/TreeLot.htm>

MVLA High School Sports Booster Christmas Tree Lot

Location: 1035 El Monte Road, Mountain View, Corner of El Camino Real and El Monte Road (in the Blockbuster/CVS parking lot)

Dates, hours: Nov. 23 through Dec. 17, weekdays 4 to 7 p.m., weekends 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Kinds of trees: Noble firs from Oregon, 3 to 11 feet

Extras: Free bagging, fresh cut. Trees are guaranteed; if dry out early, free tree next Christmas season

Prices: \$25-\$200, tax-deductible (6- to 7-foot tree is \$75)

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Information: mvlattrees.com or reindeer@mvlattrees.com

The Ladera Country Shopper Merchant's Holiday Fair

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Santa at Konditorei: Photos by Susan Thomas

~ Plus ~

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Alpine Optometry: Holiday cards
Ladera Cleaners and Diane's Beauty: Holiday candy
Chase Bank: Cookies and drinks and gifts

Décor without dazzle

Home-made ornaments can become part of the holiday tradition

by Eric Van Susteren

Christmas has come to be associated with spectacle and glitz. With their deep-colored shimmering tinsel, endless strings of dazzlingly bright multi-colored lights, and increasingly (and disturbingly) realistic depictions of playful cherubs and pious seraphim, house and tree decorations may be the worst offenders of the wintertime gaudiness arms race.

Why not try ornaments that are more reserved and subdued? Using soft, tasteful colors and simple and easy-to-create designs, the restrained crafter can make ornaments that keep up with the Jones', but won't induce headaches when looked at.

Nancy Van Susteren has been creating home-made decorations for years; she contributed the following instructions for paper stars:

Paper stars

These easy-to-make holiday stars are constructed with paper temporary blinds found at Lowes or Home Depot for less than \$5 each. They filter light nicely and look elegant hanging in front of a window. If allowed to hang freely from a skylight or cathedral ceiling, they will twist and turn gently in the wind.

Supplies:

temporary paper blinds
cutting surface
straight edge
box cutter with new cutting blade
single-hole punch
hole reinforcements (not shown)
glue or glue stick
heavy-duty white thread and needle
scissors



1. Using a cutting surface (the pictures show a quilt cutting board, but a kitchen cutting board would work, as well), place a straight edge on top of the folded blind at a very sharp or acute angle, and slowly and gently slice through all the layers of folds, a few folds at a time, moving the cut layers out of the way.



2. Cut one peak in half for gluing star together.



3. Punch holes on bottom, straight edge of star, about a quarter inch from edge and roughly in the middle of the fold a couple of folds at a time. You can use a previous hole as a template to make the hole locations consistent.



4. Put a thin coat of glue over the entire surface of the half peak you cut in step 2.



5. Roll paper blind into loose cylinder shape and glue half peak to full peak on other end, matching edges so that they form another corresponding peak. If edges don't quite match, trim with scissors.



6. Thread white heavy-duty thread or light string (using a large needle makes it easier) through all the holes.



7. Hold both ends of string in one hand and gently press the star flat.



8. Gently (but snugly) tie the two ends of the string together, and cut the string close to the knot.

Using paper punch, punch hole in one peak or valley, reinforce with a hole reinforcement. Hang and enjoy.

It's important to remember that the length a blind is cut will be half the diameter of the actual star, so a 3-inch cut will make a 6-inch star. Different sized stars have different uses: a small star (3 to 6 inches in diameter) might work well for a Christmas tree ornament, while a larger star could be perfect for hanging in a window.

One blind can make quite a few stars, depending on the size of the blind and the stars. In order for a star to look its best, there should be between two and four times as many "ridges" as the length of the cut. For example, a star with a 3-inch cut (which will make a 6-inch star) would need between six and 12 ridges, plus a half ridge for gluing. That means a single cut could yield two to three smaller stars or a single larger star.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

continued from page 22

Life on the prairie, Yuletide-style, comes to life in Peninsula Youth Theatre's production of "A Little House Christmas," presented on the SecondStage at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., on Dec. 7 at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and Dec. 8 at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 on Friday and \$10 on Saturday. Go to pytnet.org or call 650-903-6000.

The model trains roll and the LEGO skyscrapers climb in the annual **LEGO and train holiday display** at the Museum of American Heritage at 351 Homer Ave. in Palo Alto. The sweeping display is open Dec. 7 through Jan. 13, Friday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 general (free for museum members). Go to moah.org or call 650-321-1004.

More trains can be seen at the annual Christmas show presented by the **West Bay Model Railroad Association** from noon to 6 p.m. Dec. 8 and noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 9, in the former baggage building near the Menlo Park train station at 1090 Merrill St. Admission is free. Call 650-322-0685.

POTPOURRI

The **Filoli** mansion and gardens hosts its annual nine-day "Holiday Traditions" event from Nov. 23 through Dec. 1 at 86 Cañada Road in Woodside. Holiday decorations and gifts are planned, along with a holiday shopping evening and a Nov. 24 performance by the Joe Sharino Band. Go to filoli.org or call 650-364-8300.

Visitors tour holiday-decorated homes in Atherton as part of "Finishing Touches: A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes & Boutique," put on by the Junior League of Palo Alto/Mid Peninsula. Tours and related events are Nov. 30 and Dec. 1; tickets are \$40 and up. Go to juniorleaguehometour.com.

Hanukkah: It's not just for dreidels anymore. Hillel at Stanford hosts "Light It Up! 'Casino Royale' Style," a black-tie Hanukkah party for young adults ages 21 and up, starting at 9 p.m. Dec. 8. The event at 565 Mayfield Ave. on campus will include a DJ, dancing, blackjack, food, a bar and even dreidel games; tickets are \$15 online and \$20 at the door. Go to paloaltojcc.org or call 650-223-8605.

Los Angeles comedian Avi Liberman headlines the annual evening of comedy and Chinese food known as "Chopshticks" starting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24. He's been on The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson, as well as E! and Comedy Central. "Chopshticks" is at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center at 3921 Fabian Way in Palo Alto; tickets are \$50 general and \$47 for students and JCC members in advance, and \$55 for everyone at the door. Go to paloaltojcc.org or call 650-223-8664. ■

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995 Fictitious Name Statement

ADAM'S FIRE STOP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 252939

The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Adam's Fire Stop, located at 3100 Rolison Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063; Mail Address: PO Box 61071, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
ADAM R. LIBERATORE
3101 Louis Rd.
Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 29, 2012. (ALM Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012)

AVELLINO LAB USA, INC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 252928

The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Avellino Lab USA, Inc., located at 1505 Adams Drive, Suite B2, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
AVELLINO LAB USA, INC.
1505 Adams Drive, Suite B2
Menlo Park, CA 94025

This business is conducted by: A Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 10/02/2012.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 26, 2012. (ALM Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012)

LAMARQUE'S
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 253091

The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Lamarque's, located at 1139 Carlton Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
SILVIA LAMARQUE
1139 Carlton Ave.

Menlo Park, CA 94025

MARTIN LAMARQUE
1139 Carlton Ave

Menlo Park, CA 94025

This business is conducted by: Husband & Wife.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 11/01/2012.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 7, 2012. (ALM Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 2012)

PICCOLO RISTORANTE ITALIANO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 253114

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Piccolo Ristorante Italiano, located at 651 H Oak Grove, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
ELIO D'URZO
1219 Alameda de las Pulgas
Belmont, CA 94002

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 7, 2012. (ALM Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 2012)

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asantillan@pawekly.com

997 All Other Legals

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

Case No.: CIV516999
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: STEVE ROBERT PARDINI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

STEVE ROBERT PARDINI, STAV ROBERT PARDINI, STAVROS PARDINI to STAVROS ROBERT PARDINI.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:
December 11, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, Room: 2E of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

THE ALMANAC.
Date: October 18, 2012
s/ Joseph C. Scott
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 2012)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
TWILA S. COE
Case No.: 122816

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of TWILA S. COE.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: A.V. ROBERTSON COE, III in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO.

The Petition for Probate requests that: A.V. ROBERTSON COE, III be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on December 4, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 28 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

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

Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
s/ Douglas P. Barnes
Douglas P. Barnes, A Professional Law Corporation
210 Almendra Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030
(408)395-4800
(ALM Nov. 7, 14, 21, 2012)

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Trustee Sale No. 429477CA Loan No. 3013691526 Title Order No. 602116228 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 05-11-2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 12-05-2012 at 01:00 PM, CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded 05-18-2007, Book , Page , Instrument 2007-077183, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of SAN MATEO County, California, executed by: GEORGE PLAVJIAN, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor, WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, FA, as Beneficiary, will sell at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Sale will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to the Deed of Trust. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Place of Sale: THE MARSHALL STREET ENTRANCE TO THE HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS, 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY, CA Legal Description: LOT 1, AS DESIGNATED ON THE MAP ENTITLED " CARRIAGE SQUARE, ATHERTON, SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA ", WHICH MAP WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ON MAY 4, 1955 IN BOOK 41 OF MAPS, AT PAGE 27. Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$2,775,044.07 (estimated) Street address and other common designation of the real property: 1 SURREY LANE ATHERTON, CA 94027 APN Number: 061-340-030 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c) the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one of the following methods: by telephone; by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting. DATE: 11-12-2012 CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY, as Trustee DEREK WEAR-RENEE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY California Reconveyance Company 9200 Oakdale Avenue Mail Stop: CA2-4379 Chatsworth, CA 91311 800-892-6902 For Sales Information: www.lpsasap.com or 1-714-730-2727 www.priorityposting.com or 1-714-573-1965 www.auction.com or 1-800-280-2832 CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE

USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, this information can be obtained from one of the following three companies: LPS Agency Sales and Posting at (714) 730-2727, or visit the Internet Web site www.lpsasap.com (Registration required to search for sale information) or Priority Posting and Publishing at (714) 573-1965 or visit the Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com (Click on the link for "Advanced Search" to search for sale information), or auction.com at 1-800-280-2832 or visit the Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the Trustee Sale No. shown above. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. A-4323831 11/14/2012, 11/21/2012, 11/28/2012
ALM

T.S. No. T09-49592-CA / APN: 079-182-090-5 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 01-28-2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 2923.54 the undersigned, on behalf of the beneficiary, loan servicer, or authorized agent, declares as follows: [X] The mortgage loan servicer has obtained from the commissioner a final or temporary order of exemption pursuant to Section 2923.53 that is current and valid on the date the notice of sale is filed and [X] The timeframe for giving notice of sale specified in subdivision (a) of Section 2923.52 does not apply pursuant to Section 2923.52 or 2923.55 Notice to Potential Bidders If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will

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TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS
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be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. Notice to Property Owner The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714) 573-1965 or visit this Internet Web WWW.PRIORITYPOSTING.COM, using the file number assigned to this case T09-49592-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Trustor: MARY V. NEUMEYER, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: CR Title Services, Inc. P.O. BOX 16128, TUCSON, AZ 85732-6128 866-702-9658 Recorded 02-04-2004 as Instrument No. 2004-020107 in book , page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of SAN MATEO County, California, Date of Sale: 12-10-2012 at 12:30 PM Place of Sale: AT THE MARSHALL ST. ENTRANCE TO THE HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS, 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$1,306,507.04 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 236 CORTE MADERA ROAD PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028 A.P.N.: 079-182-090-5 Legal Description: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. The Trustee shall incur no liability for any good faith error in stating the proper amount of unpaid balances and charges. For Sales Information please contact PRIORITY POSTING AND PUBLISHING at WWW.PRIORITYPOSTING.COM or (714) 573-1965. REINSTATEMENT LINE: 866-702-9658 Date: 11-14-2012 CR Title Services, Inc. P.O. BOX 16128 TUCSON, AZ 85732-6128 Michael D. Schaffer, Vice President Federal Law requires us to notify you that we are acting as a debt collector. If you are currently in a bankruptcy or have received a discharge in bankruptcy as to this obligation, this communication is intended for informational purposes only and is not an attempt to collect a debt in violation of the automatic stay or the discharge injunction. P998534 11/14, 11/21, 11/28/2012 ALM

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S No. 1232665-37 APN: 063-302-310-6 TRA: 21-014 LOAN NO: Xxxx8346 REF: Sandoval, Ana Marie IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED March 09, 2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On December 11, 2012, at 12:30pm, Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded March 20, 2007, as Inst. No. 2007-041784 in book XX, page XX of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of San Mateo County, State of California, executed by Ana Marie Sandoval and

Israel Sandoval, wife and husband as joint tenants, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the financial code and authorized to do business in this state: At the main entrance of the City Hall of Records, 401 Marshall Street, Redwood City, California, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: Completely described in said Deed of Trust The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 545 E. Bell Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$667,317.29. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (619)590-1221 or visit the internet website www.rppsales.com, using the file number assigned to this case 1232665-37. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web Site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales information: (619)590-1221. Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, 525 East Main Street, P.O. Box 22004, El Cajon, CA 92022-9004 Dated: November 07, 2012. (11/21/2012, 11/28, 12/05) R-421814 ALM

SUMMONS
(Citation Judicial)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(Aviso al demandado):
ANDREW GARDNER; and All Persons Claiming any Legal or Equitable Right, title, Estate, Lien, or Interest in the property Described in the Complaint

Adverse to Plaintiffs Title, or Any Cloud on Plaintiffs Title thereto, and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(Lo esta demandando el demandante):
CHRIS MONET

Case Number: CIV514696
(Numero del Caso)

NOTICE! You have been sued. The Court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and cost on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibido mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): San Mateo Superior Court 400 County Center Road, Redwood City, CA 94063 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demand-

ante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado es): Chris Monet, PO Box 67365, Scotts Valley, CA 95067: 415-933-0506

Date: (Fecha): June 19, 2012

John C. Fitton Clerk, by Ouida Lewis, Deputy (Secretario) (Adjunto) Notice to the Person Served: You are served as an individual defendant. (ALM Nov. 21, 28 Dec. 5, 12, 2012)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to sections 21700 - 21716 of the California Business and Professions Code, known as the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, that the undersigned, ALL ABOARD MINI STORAGE will sell at public auction on December 18, 2012 at 1:45 P.M. at 1520 WILLOW RD., MENLO PARK, CA 94025 the following personal property, household goods, business property and/or vehicle to wit:

#60 Harold Manning- Mattress, Spring, Frame, Trunks, Shelves, Metal, Wood, 35 Boxes, Chest of Drawers.

#88 Richard Edwin Seggie- aka Richard E. Seggie Jr., aka R.D.E Seggie Jr.- Sofa, Bookcase, Coffee Table, End Table, Chairs, Speakers, Collectables, Mattress, Spring, Frame, Chest of Drawers, Bedding, Toys, Trunks, Tools, Hobby Equipment, Storage Cabinets, Metal, 2 Boxes, 1 Bag.

#149 Harold Manning-Auto parts, Sofa, Loveseat, Bookcase, Table, Speakers,

Collectables, Bedding, Toys, Trucks, 50 Boxes, 2 Bags, Tools, Hobby Equipment, Storage Cabinets.

#150 Elizabeth Ayala Rosales- aka Elizabeth Rosales- Dishes, Utensils, Pans, Pictures, Paintings, Artwork, Sofa, Loveseat, Coffee Table, End Table, Misc.Table and Chairs, Big Screen TV, TV Cart, Mattress, Spring, Frame, Night Stand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest of Drawers, Clothing, Bedding, Sports and Hobby Equipment, Exercise Equipment, 2 Boxes and 10 Bags.

#152 Harold Manning-Misc Table and Chairs, Dresser, Drawers, Carpet, 15 Boxes, Tools, Pro-Tools, Metal, Wood.

#334 Theresa Loraine Bridges, aka Theresa L. Bridges, aka Theresa L. B.- Bookcase, Mattress, Springs, Frame, Chest of Drawers, Clothing, Bedding, Bedroom Furniture, Lawn Equipment, Vacuum, 30 Boxes, 10 Bags.

#529 Harold Manning- Lamps, Coffee Table, End Table, 20 Boxes, Tools, Power Tools, Storage Cabinets, Desk, Office Chair, Metal, Wood, Combustibles.

#534 Harold Manning-Speakers, Dresser, BBQ, 15 Boxes, Hand Truck, Shelves, Metal, Wood.

#536 Harold Manning-Pictures, Paintings, Lamps, End Table, Misc Table and Chairs, Vacuum, 20 Boxes, 3 Bags, Dolly, Desk, Combustibles.

Said sale is for the purpose of satisfying lien of the undersigned for storage fees, advertising, and lien costs. The undersigned reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. All rights to damages by reason of a deficiency on

this resale and incidental damages, and any and all other appropriate remedies are hereby reserved.

Dated this Wednesday 14 day of 2012

Nor Cal Storage Auctions, Inc.
State License Bond #7900390179
(916) 604-9695

Dates Published 1st PUBLICATION
November 21, 2012 and 2nd
PUBLICATION November 28, 2012

By: Renee Moya
Agent for Owner
ALM

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- NOTICES OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE
- PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES
- TRUSTEE'S SALE
- RESOLUTIONS
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The **Almanac**
326.8210

CASHIN | GROUP

EXCLUSIVE



Shearer Drive, Atherton

Excellent remodel or building opportunity on approximately .7 acre
Call for more details
Offered at \$3,300,000

FOR SALE



Gold Coast of Lake Tahoe

Rubicon Bay with ~7.35 acres,
400 ft. of lakefront
Offered at \$19,950,000

PENDING – OFF MARKET



Hallmark Circle, Menlo Park

Upgraded view property with
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths
Offered at \$2,130,000

EXCLUSIVE



151 Almendral Avenue, Atherton

No detail has been overlooked in this luxurious 6-bedroom home; 1-bedroom guest house; pool, spa, garage with room for 8 cars. **Price upon request**

EXCLUSIVE



361 Ridgeway Road, Woodside

Fully renovated with resort-inspired grounds and western hill views;
4 bedrooms, over 1 acre. **Offered at \$3,995,000**
Co-listed by: Joe and Mary Merkert, Alain Pinel Realtors

Counting our
Blessings,
and so is he...



Pardoned!

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**
to Everyone!

Kristin Cashin

DRE# 01438764

Shane Stent

DRE# 01868925

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EXCLUSIVE AFFILIATE OF
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

650.399.0500

kristin@oliverlux.com

thecashingroup.com