



Open space district unveils sweeping 'vision plan' | Page 3

The Almanac

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

OCTOBER 9, 2013 | VOL. 49 NO. 5



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Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Woodside Priory students hike the summit of Windy Hill Open Space Preserve in May 2012. Among the top priorities of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's vision plan is opening up the Hawthorn area of Windy Hill with new trails to the Portola Valley trail system.

Open space district unveils sweeping regional 'vision plan'

By Sue Dremann
Palo Alto Weekly

Bay Area residents could gain access to much more open space, including more family-friendly areas, according to a new Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District "vision plan" unveiled Oct. 2.

The district's long-range plan encompasses its 62,000 acres of mountainous, foothill and bayland open-space preserves and considers how it should approach buying and managing new properties.

The open-space district preserves and encompasses natural areas from Half Moon Bay to Los Gatos.

The preliminary Vision Plan Project includes outdoor and recreational opportunities, enrichment experiences such as education and interpretive centers, the improvement of plant and animal habitats, maintenance of coastal agriculture to provide jobs and locally grown

food, and protection of culturally significant areas that are at risk of development.

The Community Advisory Committee, a group of consultants, nonprofit organizations and members of the public, developed the plan over 14 months and identified 74 poten-

Among the priorities: More public access to district lands and a focus on family activities.

tial projects in specific open-space areas in order of their priority.

The district will hold a series of community meetings to gain public input in October and November; its board of directors will view the finalized plan in December.

Directors on Oct. 2 agreed that the district's preservation

of more than 500 square miles since its founding in 1972 has been a major accomplishment in preserving the area's natural heritage. But about half of the land does not have improvements, such as trails that make them accessible to the public. The plan would prioritize opening some currently closed areas and improving others for the enjoyment of families.

Top priorities include:

- Opening the Hawthorn area of Windy Hill with new trails to the Portola Valley trail system.

- Improving access to the Spring Ridge Trail at Windy Hill.

- Reopening closed areas at Russian Ridge and increasing access to vistas and other areas through new trails.

- Reopening a closed section of Alpine Road as a regional trail connection between Portola Valley and Skyline Boulevard.

- Improving trail connec-

See **OPEN SPACE**, page 6

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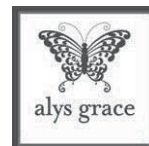
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EYE CARE NEWS



Presented by
Mark Schmidt
Licensed Optician



HAVING THE BEST OF BOTH

The term "monovision" involves wearing one contact lens to correct for distance vision and the other to correct near vision. The term is something of a misnomer in that the eyes still work in tandem. It's just that one eye will see more clearly than the other, depending on what is being looked at. In time, the brain compensates for the discrepancy, allowing the person wearing monovision contacts to see well at all distances with a single pair of lenses. The reading lens is worn on the non-dominant eye, which frees the

dominant eye to concern itself solely with distance viewing. Monovision is a good option for those who need glasses for distance viewing and are just starting to need a correction for close viewing.

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P.S. "Modified-monovision" contacts provide less magnifying power to the near-vision lens, which helps impart clearer distance vision to individuals who do not do a lot of close-up work, but also prefer more intermediate for computer usage.

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

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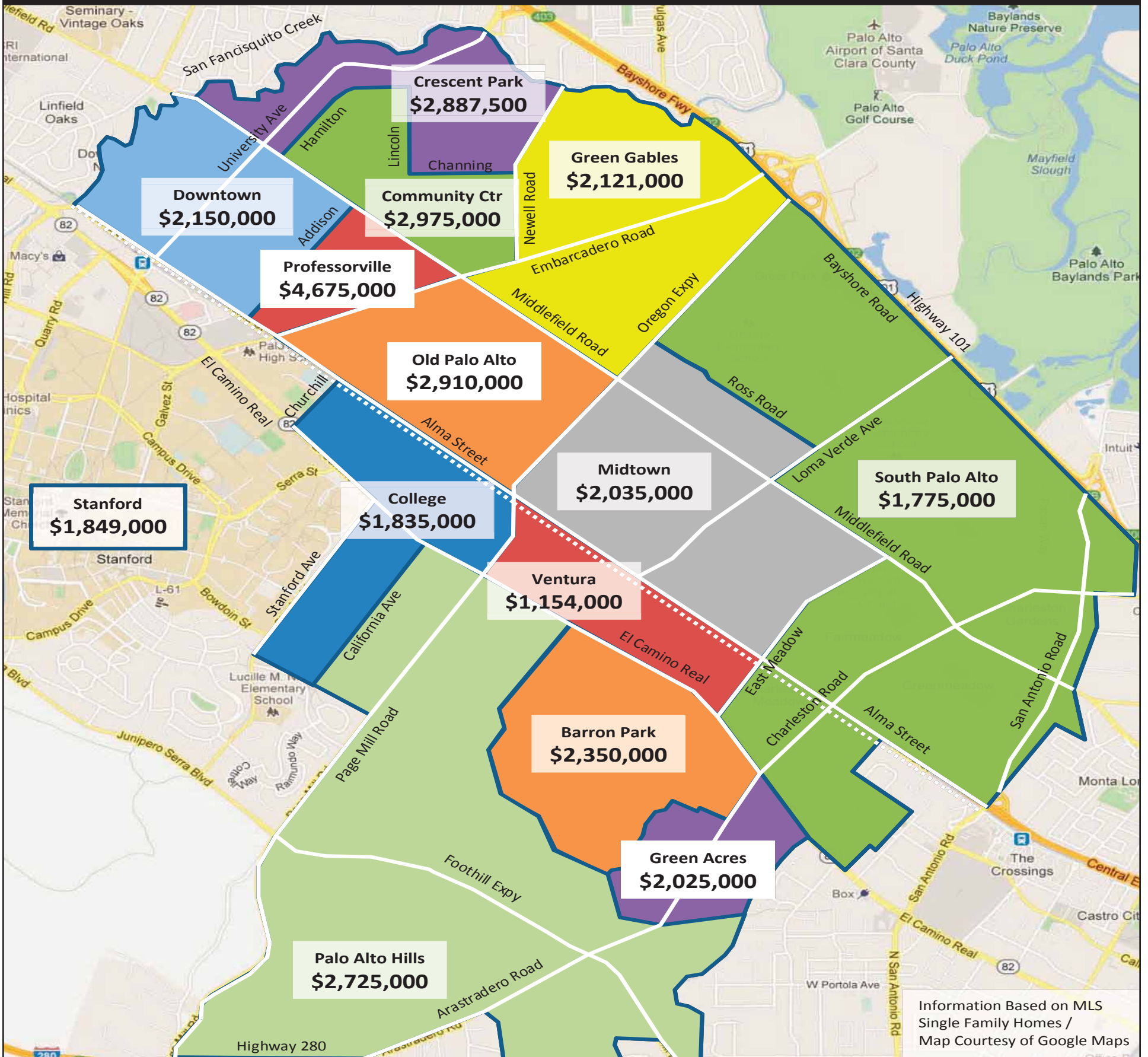
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Commission studies Facebook housing plan

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

One question that quickly arose when Facebook decided to relocate to and then expand in Menlo Park was: “What about employee housing?”

The Menlo Park Planning Commission prepared to hold a study session to discuss an answer to that question during its Oct. 7 meeting: Facebook has announced its partnership with St. Anton, a real estate developer, to build a 394-unit apartment complex on 10 acres of land off Marsh Road.

The complex, to be built from 3606 to 3639 Haven Avenue, will include 15 affordable housing units subsidized by the social networking company that will be income-restricted for 55 years and indistinguishable from other apartments at the complex, Facebook said.

St. Anton will provide another 23 affordable units, according to the staff report, adding 38 total to the city’s inventory.

Construction of the \$120 million project of approximately 630,000 square feet should start in October, according to Facebook, and finish within two years.

Tech companies are known for the amenities provided on campus for employees; in this case, Anton Menlo extends that off campus. The project will offer everything from a convenience store and a sports pub to a bike repair shop and doggy daycare. Public transport will

The 630,000 square foot complex would cost an estimated \$120 million to build, Facebook says.

be accessible via bike and pedestrian connections to the Bay Trail, on-site shuttles and new sidewalks and crosswalks along nearby Haven Avenue.

The site design incorporates the addition of 400 new trees, according to the planning staff report, as well as 691



St. Anton Partners

Aerial rendering of the proposed 394-unit apartment complex in Menlo Park.

parking spaces.

“We are thrilled to have new housing options coming to the City of Menlo Park to serve the Silicon Valley and the Marsh Road and Willow Road business areas,” said Menlo Park Mayor Peter Ohtaki said in a public statement. “Providing

new housing opportunities for employees working in the area will allow people to live where they work and to spend more time enjoying this great city.”

The Planning Commission does not need to approve the project, but will have the chance to provide feedback on

the architectural design during the Oct. 7 study session.

The community development director will determine whether the project complies with the zoning code, which was recently modified during the city’s hous-

See **FACEBOOK**, page 8

City scrambles to cover planning staff departures

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Two planners from the city of Menlo Park will be leaving within the next two months, just as the city finds itself facing a development boom.

Associate Planner Rachel Grossman will leave Nov. 1 to work for Google, according to staff. In her two years with Menlo Park, she managed several major projects, including Facebook and the SRI renovation.

The second planner, Momoko Ishijima, will leave after this week to work for the city of Sunnyvale. Ms. Ishijima’s one-and-a-half years with Menlo Park saw her assist with the housing plan update, residential and small commercial projects and plan reviews.

Community Development Director Arlinda Heineck said the two planners represent a third of the department’s capacity. To cope, the city is hiring contract planners through the Metropolitan Planning Group as well as

recruiting interns, according to a memo written on Sept. 16.

Earlier this year the City Council opted to use a mix of contractors, provisional employees and potentially two new full-time planners instead of hiring nine full-time staff that would have been spread among planning, building and public works departments.

City Manager Alex McIntyre, with other senior managers, had advocated for hiring full-time staff that would be better acquainted with the nuances of local regulations than contractors.

Some of the projects approaching the planning pipeline: Facebook’s new “west” campus as well as its Marsh Road housing development in partnership with St. Anton; the Stanford-Arrillaga complex on El Camino Real; school expansions; the second round of housing plan updates; and the Greenheart Land Company’s mixed-use development at

See **STAFF DEPARTURES**, page 8

How can the city help small businesses?

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park City Council reaffirmed that the devil’s in the details as it started exploring whether to create a small business commission during its Oct. 1 meeting.

What defines “small,” they asked. Should it be a commission, or a committee? How would members be chosen?

Those questions quickly inspired an energetic discussion in the wake of Vice Mayor Ray Mueller’s request that the city look at forming a commission that would provide feedback on the environment for small business in Menlo Park; advocate for small business friendly improvements; interact with the economic development manager; and provide analysis of policy matters.

“It’s a great signal to business owners in town how much we care about their success,” Mr. Mueller said.

During public comment, Chamber of Commerce CEO

■ MENLO PARK

Fran Dehn suggested that the commission should focus on ways to eliminate barriers to attracting and retaining businesses. She said the city has lost opportunities thanks to the labyrinth of procedures that must be navigated to open a business

Council to study streamlining permitting process and forming small business commission.

in Menlo Park; often, the owner decides to go elsewhere.

“We have to look at the permitting process. We have great people who work in the city but we have to look at some of the very, very basic things,” Ms. Dehn said.

Councilwoman Catherine Carlton agreed, and questioned whether limiting discussion to small businesses would lead to

solutions and streamlining for all sectors of the city’s commercial membership. “Do they really have specific issues? ... It’s great for showing us all the symptoms,” she said, but suggested that what causes problems during the planning and permitting process for small entities versus larger ones may differ.

Councilman Rich Cline appeared to be wondering whether the commission would become another version of the Downtown Alliance, a coalition of Menlo Park business and property owners, saying that some businesses perhaps have an unfair amount of representation already.

“I would hate to have the same old, same old voices,” he said, citing Draeger’s as an example of a historic name with great influence and also noting that Facebook already has widespread civic representation.

In the end, the council voted 5-0 to schedule a study session to investigate ways to streamline the city’s procedures for business owners, including whether a commission would be useful. ■

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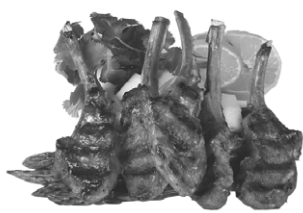
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Sheriff's deputy charged with molesting relative

A San Mateo County sheriff's deputy has been arrested and charged with molesting an underage female relative, a Santa Clara County deputy district attorney said Oct. 1.

Galen Underwood, 40, was arrested Wednesday night, Sept. 25, at his Gilroy home after a teenage relative told a school counselor that he had sexually abused her over the course of several years, starting when she was under 14, Deputy District Attorney Stuart Scott said.

Deputy Underwood, who has worked for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office since January 2005, has since been charged with seven felony counts stemming from the alleged abuse, Mr. Scott said.

His most recent assignment had been working in South County Patrol, predominantly in unincorporated areas around Menlo

Park and North Fair Oaks, Deputy Rebecca Rosenblatt said.

The charges are three counts of continuous abuse of a child between the ages of 11 and 13, and one count each of oral copulation on a person under 16, rape by foreign object, lewd acts on a child and penetration of a family member, Scott said.

Deputy Underwood appeared in Santa Clara County Superior Court on Sept. 30 but did not enter a plea. He is scheduled to return to court on Oct. 15, Mr. Scott said.

A spokeswoman for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office said Oct. 1 that Deputy Underwood has been placed on paid administrative leave.

Deputy Underwood is being held in Santa Clara County Jail on \$2 million bail.

— Chris Cooney,
Bay City News Service

Open space district unveils 'vision' plan

continued from page 3

tions and completing the Bay Area Ridge Trail near La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.

■ Fully opening La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve to the public.

■ Developing new El Corte Madera Creek trails at the parking area.

■ Improving baylands trail connections with East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Palo Alto.

■ Working with East Palo Alto on its Cooley Landing project.

The directors suggested adding a provision to work with cities on wildlife corridors in urban areas and to locate and save more open space within cities.

Making improvements to open space, such as interpretive centers and other educational features, is important, but director Larry Hassett cautioned against creating too many facilities that would detract from the core value of open space: creating open, free green corridors.

General Manager Stephen Abbots said the plan's concept of additional "facilities" means designing more family-oriented spaces such as trails that lead to open fields to allow children to romp freely — adding "trails and a bench — not gazebos."

Board members agreed. "This is an area of different cultures," director Jed Cyr said. "Families aren't four people anymore; they are 20 people get-

ting together for gatherings."

The board also considered the pitfalls of too widely expanding the district's role. A vague definition of what the district would protect as "culturally significant" could quickly lead to confusion. While most people would agree to preserve a Native American burial ground, deciding which structures on acquired properties would be saved or razed is a more complex issue, directors said.

The workshop will continue on Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. with directors reviewing the 74 specific projects. A series of public workshops begins on Oct. 21. Workshops take place as follows and will focus on preserves in these specific areas:

■ Oct. 21: San Mateo Coast/Half Moon Bay regions — Hatch Elementary School, 490 Miramontes Ave., Half Moon Bay, from 6 to 9 p.m.

■ Oct. 28: Los Gatos Foothills and Sierra Azul regions — West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga, from 6 to 9 p.m.

■ Nov. 4: Cupertino Foothills and Skyline regions — Graham Middle School, 1175 Castro St., Mountain View, from 6 to 9 p.m.

■ Nov. 16: Cupertino Foothills and Bayfront regions — Fair Oaks Community Center, 2600 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Visit openspace.org/imagine for more information on the vision plan. ■

Tech changes fuel new strategies at Project Read in Menlo Park

By Mike Goodkind, Project Read-Menlo Park volunteer.

Literacy education at Project Read-Menlo Park is evolving as quickly as the sweeping technology changes in Silicon Valley, says Roberta Roth, Project Read's literacy outreach specialist.

Volunteer tutor Susan Speicher, a retired educator from Atherton, looks up at the "Project Read" banner in the Menlo Park Public Library's tutoring area, shakes her head smiling, and says, "This should really be called 'Project What You Need.'"

Technology skills to complete a job application at an employer's online kiosk, or fluency with an email account to keep in touch with a teen's high school teacher, are as important as the ABCs once considered the end-all of literacy education.

Eight PCs loaded with relevant software, an in-kind donation from the Foundation for the Future and the volunteer support of Menlo Park technology consultant Susan Kayton, are available for registered learners and tutors in the Project Read Computer Lab whenever the main Menlo Park Library is open.

In addition to the one-on-one tutor-student matches the program offers, computer lab volunteers are available at various scheduled times or by appointment to help students find resources, such as GED preparation, and English language or typing lessons. New resources are constantly being added, says lab volunteer Mercy Nuesca, who is applying her recently acquired skills from a master's program in library science, as well as the suggestions of tutors and learners, to find new programs.

Perhaps Project Read's greatest challenge at the moment, Ms. Roth says, is to prepare students for the recently revised GED exam, which unlike previous versions will be administered entirely online and will require keyboarding skills for test takers to complete written exercises.

"But even for those folks who aren't ready for the GED, literacy, keyboard and basic computer skills, including email, are becoming essential," she says. "We've had several students tell us they need to use Craigslist if they want to apply for a job as a nanny. When applicants go to Home Depot,



Margarita Joachin of Menlo Park uses the Project Read-Menlo Park Computer Lab to write a story of her journey to the United States from El Salvador. Ms. Joachin studies with volunteer tutor Susan Speicher through Project Read.

■ GUEST ARTICLE

Costco or Safeway to apply for a job, they are pointed toward a computer kiosk to complete the application."

Jessica Bayliss of Menlo Park, education director for Mountain View-based Education Portal, started tutoring in August. So far she has helped her student, Angelica Reyes, keep in touch with her six children's schools, including that of a daughter whose high school expects parents to use email, and with the caregivers for her preschool son with special needs.

But it isn't all about technology. When she first came to the Bay Area from El Salvador more than three decades ago, Margarita Joachin of Menlo Park told herself, "I don't need English." Her brother-in-law interpreted what little English she needed when they worked together as janitors.

But her daughter, Cindy, now 27, encouraged her to go to school. Ms. Joachin wanted to sign up for adult school classes, but "they told me I needed to learn some more first."

Three years ago she found Project Read from a library circular and was matched with Ms. Speicher. The pair usually meets 90 minutes twice weekly, a typical commitment, Ms. Roth says.

Before Ms. Joachin's daughter, a Google employee, married earlier this year, Ms. Speicher helped her student prepare so she could give a speech at the English-language wedding.

First-year tutor Skip Bond, a retired microbiologist, says that the multidimensional program has helped his student, Oscar Galicia, talk more confidently with his plumbing customers. "I reassured Oscar his English conversation is really pretty good." To help Oscar gain fluency, Skip often talks with Oscar about newspaper articles they share on a computer, and they also read and discuss books.

Project Read, which now serves about 90 adult learners, needs more tutors for the more than 20 students now on its waiting list. No experience is necessary, and teaching material and other resources are provided by the program.

The education level of tutors ranges from Ph.D.s to folks who themselves haven't finished high school but have learned skills and now want to give back, Ms. Roth says. For example, Ms. Joachin says a long-term goal is to become a tutor herself.

For information about Project Read's upcoming tutor training, starting Oct. 9, contact Ms. Roth at rlroth@menlopark.org, or call 330-2525. Online or DVD training is also available for prospective tutors who can't make in-person sessions at Menlo Park Library. ■

The **Almanac**
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LET'S DISCUSS:

Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at AlmanacNews.com

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Flood Insurance will cost more

Dear Monica: My home is in Palo Alto in a flood zone and I have heard that rates are going up soon. Can you tell me anything about this?
Robert T.

Dear Robert: In 2012 Congress passed insurance reform that attempts to make flood insurance rates reflect the actual flood risk of the insured property. If you have a current flood policy on your home and you do not let it lapse, you should see modest rate rises of about 10%. If you cancel or rewrite your flood insurance policy, you will be charged at the new rates. If you

have had a subsidized lower rate, different rate adjustments will apply. Also other rules apply to secondary homes, commercial and investment properties.

If you sell your property you will need to provide an elevation certificate to your buyer prior to close of escrow. The new owner will pay at the new rate. To obtain an elevation certificate you will need to hire a licensed surveyor who will likely charge in the \$500-\$2,000 rate to provide this.

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TOWN OF WOODSIDE

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Districts 3

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The Planning Commission participates in the administration of the planning laws and policies of the Town. It is responsible for recommending to the Town Council ordinances and resolutions necessary to implement the General Plan and adopted development policy. The Commission also conducts necessary public hearings to administer the planning laws and policies of the Town and acts upon applications for zoning amendments, conditional use permits, variances, subdivisions, and other related functions as may be assigned by the Council.

The Planning Commission meets on the first and third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

To obtain information on residency or addresses of residential properties located in District 3, please check the Town's website at www.woodsidesidtown.org, What's New, Town Council and Planning Commission Districts.

Interested residents may check residency requirements and request information and applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-12 noon and 1-5:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, on the Town's web site at www.woodsidesidtown.org, What's New, or by telephoning (650) 851-6790. Deadline for applications is Tuesday, October 22, 2013, 5:00 p.m.

Woman and children injured in car accident

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

A woman and three young children were among those slightly injured in a car accident near Atherton on Friday, Oct. 4, a California Highway Patrol official said.

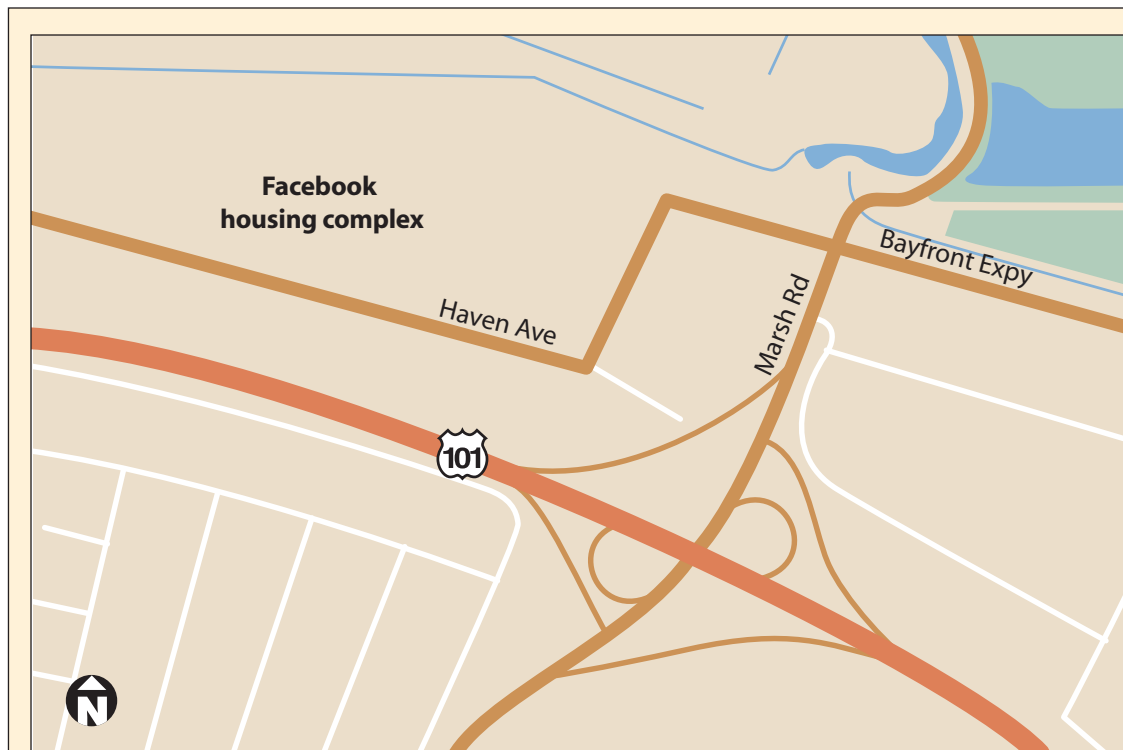
A 1998 tan Chevy pickup collided with a parked silver Dodge pickup around 8 a.m. near First and Williams avenues in North Fair Oaks, according to the CHP.

The preliminary investigation suggests the driver of the Chevrolet lost control, drifting toward the right and running into the Dodge before overturning, the CHP said.

Officer Art Montiel said the driver, a 25-year-old woman, and a 17-year-old passenger were treated for lacerations to their arms. Along with the woman's 1-year-old, 5-year-old and 6-year-old children, everyone was transported to the hospital as a precaution, he said.

All four minors were believed to have been riding without seat belts or car seats. Charges may be filed against the woman for driving without a license, misdemeanor child endangerment and allowing minors to ride unrestrained, according to the CHP.

Witnesses to the collision may contact the CHP at 207-0315.



The complex would be built on 10 acres along Haven Avenue in Menlo Park.

STAFF DEPARTURES

continued from page 5

1300 El Camino Real.

Other departures

The past three years has brought quite a lot of change-over to Menlo Park City Hall.

Earlier this year, City Clerk Margaret Roberts and Finance Director Carol Augustine

accepted positions with other cities, while Police Cmdr. Lacey Burt retired.

Chief of Police Bryan Roberts and Engineering Services Manager Matt Oscamou left in 2012; Public Works Director Kent Stefens in 2011 and Business Development Manager Dave Johnson, City Manager Glen Rojas and Personnel Director Glen Kramer, all retired in 2010 or 2011. ■

FACEBOOK

continued from page 5

ing element update to allow high-density residential development on the Haven Avenue site. With the provision of affordable units, the new zoning allows a density bonus to permit construction of 40 units per acre.

While staff agreed that the density bonus is appropriate, the report indicates they don't agree with the applicant's request to slightly raise the maximum building height from about 54 feet to a little over 57 feet. The current design proposes using the height increase to build three apart-

ments on top of a fitness center. Staff has suggested that those units could be put somewhere else on the site instead. ■

Check AlmanacNews.com for updates. The Planning Commission study session was held after the Almanac went to press.

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Sridhar Kalluri, Ph.D. has been at the Starkey Hearing Research Center since 2004, first as research scientist and now as the Manager of Hearing Science.



Shu-En Lim, Au.D. is a clinical audiologist at Pacific Hearing Service. Dr. Lim earned her B.S. degree at Northwestern University and her Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) at Vanderbilt University.

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Caltrain travels back to 1863 for its 150th anniversary

Some anniversaries merit a big celebration. Caltrain, in honor of 150 years of railroad service between San Francisco and San Jose, will celebrate by re-enacting a picnic that took place in 1863 in Menlo Park when construction of the line was almost finished.

Costumes, a 19th-century style band and historical displays will add a touch of the past to the festivities. The event starts at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Menlo Park Caltrain station at 1120 Merrill St.

State of Menlo Park; new sister city

It's that time of year again. Menlo Park Mayor Peter Ohtaki will present the annual State of the City speech Thursday, Oct. 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the Stanford Park Hotel, located at 100 El Camino Real.

During the event, the city will sign a "sister city" agreement with Galway, Ireland.

Members of the Menlo Park Historical Association have been working for months to bring the two cities together. What's the connection? In Galway sits a neighborhood called Menlo Park, the former home of Dennis Oliver, who later came to the United States during the 1800s and with his brother-in-law, D.C. McGlynn, erected an arched gate in what became known as Menlo Park, California.

BRIEFS

Domestic violence

As October is "Domestic Violence Awareness Month," the county will hold a ceremony and provide resources such as counseling and referral services on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

The event starts at 11:30 a.m. at 400 County Center in Redwood City. Representatives from Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse, community service providers and various faiths will be on hand to provide support.

Pumpkin festival

St. Raymond School gets a jump on Halloween by holding a pumpkin festival on Friday, Oct. 11, from 3:30 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Activities include pony rides, bounce houses and, of course, pumpkins. Admission is free. The school is located at 1100 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park.

Saturday: Free landscaping class

Learn the secrets of drought-tolerant landscaping on Saturday, Oct. 12. Menlo Park is hosting the free three-hour class, which starts at 9 a.m. at the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center at 700 Alma St. The class will also talk about how to qualify for up to \$3,000 in

Almanac launches new website

The Almanac community's primary online source for local news and discussion is undergoing a facelift designed to make the site more readable and the content more accessible.

The new look introduces new "section" fronts for news, art & entertainment and bloggers, as well as improved presentation of the Town Square reader forum.

"We have sought to organize the presentation of vast amounts of content in a way that is clean and simple," Almanac publisher Tom Gibboney said.

"Like anything different, it will take time to get familiar with the new layout," Mr. Gibboney said, emphasizing that additional changes and improvements will be added in the weeks ahead.

Readers are encouraged to provide their feedback and



The Almanac launched a new website design this week.

suggestions, as well as report any bugs or problems. Comments can be emailed to editor@AlmanacNews.com.

In addition to the new design, the site will feature a number of local blogs, with more to be added in the future.

rebates for replacing lawns with water-efficient landscaping.

Registration is required. Call 349-3000 or go to bawsca.org/ classes to sign up.

Oct. 15: Dine out to help seniors

Peninsula Volunteers is holding its annual "Dine Out" fundraiser on Tuesday, Oct. 15. Ten percent of the proceeds from participating restaurants will be donated to the non-profit in support of its "Meals on Wheels" food delivery pro-

gram for homebound seniors in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Participating restaurants in Menlo Park include Amici's East Coast Pizzeria, Carpaccio,

Celia's, El Cerrito, Lutticken's, Menlo Grill, Menlo Hub and Round Table Pizza. In Woodside, Alice's Restaurant and the Woodside Bakery & Cafe have signed up.

Election 2013: Candidate forums

The League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County is sponsoring these candidate forums:

■ Menlo Park Fire Protection board, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, in the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St. in Menlo Park.

■ Atherton City Council, co-sponsored by the Atherton Civic Interest League, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15, in the Pavilion at Holbrook-Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave. in Atherton.

Written questions will be accepted from the audience. For more information contact Ellen Hope at ellenhope@aol.com.

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Talk on building girls' high school in Kenya

Margo McAuliffe of Menlo Park and the Rev. Daniel Kiriti of Kenya will talk about the creation of St. Francis Xavier High School in Naivasha, Kenya, at a 7:15 a.m. breakfast Thursday, Oct. 17, at the University Club in Palo Alto.

The school, built from the ground up by Kenyan locals, graduated its first class in 2010.

Ms. McAuliffe, former math teacher at Menlo-Atherton High School, is the founder of Kenya Help, a program that funded and launched the building program with the help of Father Kiriti.

Also speaking is Maya McAuliffe, 16, Ms. McAuliffe's grand-



Maya McAuliffe with a child in Kenya. She will talk about a local program that helped build a high school in Kenya.

daughter, who attended the Kenya high school last summer, living with the students.

The event is free, however, donations are welcome. Email Ms. McAuliffe at margo@kenyahelp.us for reservations.

Christine Heaton named to Las Lomas board

Christine Marie Heaton, a high school teacher who has two children in the Las Lomas School District, has been appointed to fill the seat on the Las Lomas school board vacated by the August resignation of Ann Jaquith.

Ms. Heaton was the unanimous choice at an Oct. 1 special meeting of the Las Lomas board. Her term will end in December, 2014.

Ms. Heaton, the Social Studies Department chair and a teacher at Homestead High School in the Fremont Union High School District, has lived in the Las Lomas district for 21 years.

The other candidates for the seat were Alifya Duggal, Bradley Scott Adelberg, and John Earnhardt.

"The Board had four talented candidates from which to choose and we are grateful for their interest and commitment

to our schools," said Superintendent Lisa Cesario in a press release.

She said Ms. Heaton's education and professional experience "will be invaluable to the board while we move forward with the challenges of growing enrollment, implementation of common core standards, and integrating technology."

At the Las Lomas schools, Ms. Heaton has volunteered on the School Site Council, the SELPA Parent Resource Council and as a special education resource parent.

She received her bachelor's degree in government and politics from George Mason University and holds a masters' degree in education from UCLA and a masters' degree in public administration and preliminary administrative services from Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont.

Service for Alice C. Gilbert, longtime Woodside resident

A memorial Mass will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at St. Denis Catholic Church, 2259 Avy Ave. in Menlo Park for Alice C. Gilbert of Woodside, who died peacefully Sept. 27. She was 91.

Ms. Gilbert, a resident of Woodside for 57 years, was a 1974 honor graduate of San Jose State University, with a bachelor's degree in English. She worked at the Belmont branch of the San Mateo County

Library for a number of years.

Ms. Gilbert is survived by her children, Jane Hutton, Valerie Matonis, Linda Marelich and William Gilbert; numerous grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, John M. Gilbert, and daughter Eileen Gilbert Hill.

The family prefers donations to: St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, 3500 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park CA 94025.

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Director, Stanford Mood and Anxiety Disorders LaboratorySonja Lyubomirsky
Director, Positive Psychology Lab UC RiversideDavid Kelley
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■ POLICE CALLS

This information is from the Menlo Park Police Department and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. Under the law, people charged with offenses are considered innocent unless convicted.

LADERA

Auto burglary report: Someone smashed a passenger side window and broke into a vehicle parked in the 3600 block of Sand Hill Road and stole a purse containing \$500 in cash, credit and debit cards, checkbooks and other items, Sept. 20.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Theft reports:

■ A copper bird cage with a value of about \$200 is missing from atop a spa at a residence on Alpine Road, Sept. 24.

■ Three rhododendrons and three Chinese witch hazel plants, a total value of \$450, are missing from the front of a residence on Grove Drive, Sept. 24.

WOODSIDE

Residential burglary report: A housekeeper reported the ransacking of a house on Southday Way and was unsure as to whether anything had been taken from inside cabinet and dresser drawers. The owner is living in China and unreachable. An investigation turned up five sets of fingerprints from inside the house, Sept. 23.

Auto burglary reports:

■ A hiker visiting the Thornwood

Open Space Preserve parked at Old La Honda and Portola roads returned to his vehicle to find that a passenger side window had been broken and that \$350 in property was missing, Sept. 20.

■ A handbag valued at \$100 is missing from a locked van parked at Old La Honda and Portola roads; its passenger side window was broken. The driver and passenger had been taking a walk on a trail, Sept. 17.

Theft reports:

■ Someone recently stole three backhoe buckets from a road construction site on Runnymede Road near Canada Road, Sept. 17.

■ A resident of Crest Road is missing a watch from the top drawer of his nightstand. The resident has a video camera watching the front door and was investigating for anything unusual, Sept. 16.

Providing false information report:

A cyclist stopped for a moving violation on Canada Road told the deputy that she didn't have an ID. A search by a dispatcher found an inconsistency in the identity information she did give, and she responded by presenting a driver's license and an apology, adding that she was "broke." She was cited and released, Sept. 28.

MENLO PARK

Residential burglary reports:

■ Someone broke into a locked garage of a house under construction

Continued on next page

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Margaret Shenk Head

June 10, 1947 – September 22, 2013

Margaret Shenk Head, aged 66, died peacefully and surrounded by family on September 22, 2013, from complications of Type I diabetes, a disease she had fought bravely since age 13. Margaret was born June 10, 1947, in Palo Alto, CA, the daughter of Jay L. Shenk and Virginia R. Shenk of Menlo Park.

Margaret attended Menlo Atherton High School and the University of California at Davis. She worked as a nurse for several years and then turned her full attention to raising her children. Later in life Margaret married Jerald Head and the two were together for 19 years. He predeceased her earlier this year. Thrilled to become a grandmother four years ago, she loved to spend time with her young granddaughter.

Margaret enjoyed family camping trips throughout the Pacific Northwest and traveled to Hawaii yearly when she could. She learned to love tennis as a girl and played most of her life. Margaret was an avid reader, passionate about her roses ("her other children") and was, in her lifetime, the soft-hearted owner of several well pampered cats.

Those who knew her will remember Margaret as a devoted mother and grandmother who dedicated her life to her family. A loyal friend and confidant, she had an astonishing ability to make friends on the spot. Her talent for making those around her feel comfortable and welcome never ceased to amaze.

Margaret is predeceased by her sister, Barbara J. Shenk, of Seattle, WA, and is survived by her children, Marcia A. Cheney, of Portola Valley, and Ryan D. Cheney, of San Jose, and her granddaughter Emma Virginia Cicchetti, of Portola Valley, CA.

Margaret was buried in a private service with family at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto. Memorial donations can be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) at jdrf.org

Crippen & Flynn and Carlmont Chapels

PAID OBITUARY

Continued from previous page

on Bay Road and got away with items with a total estimated value of \$7,585, including two flat-screen TVs, an empty purse, a video game console with game controllers and games, a woman's bike, a laptop computer, a surfboard, a DVR/DVD player with speakers and a printer, Sept. 28.

■ Two computers — an Apple laptop and an iMac — are missing from a business located on Burgess Drive. The thief apparently entered through an open front window, Sept. 30.

■ Someone broke into a residence on Pierce Road through the bathroom window and absconded with a video game console and game and \$84 in cash, Sept. 24.

■ A man with a backpack in a shopping cart in the Safeway supermarket on Sharon Park Drive picked out \$160 worth of shaving razors and skin cream, placed them into his backpack and left without paying for them, Sept. 25.

Robbery report: A male and a female, both about 14 years old and wearing black hooded sweatshirts, robbed a 15-year-old male of his \$300 iPhone while he was walking home from school on Coleman Avenue near Santa Monica Avenue. The male robber, of medium build and short hair, asked to borrow the victim's phone to call his mother, then handed the phone off to the female, who ran off with it. When the phone's owner attempted to run after her, the male punched him on the side of the face and warned him not to follow them. The vic-

tim refused medical treatment, Sept. 27.

Animal cruelty report: The Peninsula Humane Society has taken custody of four dogs from a residence on Sevier Avenue in a follow-up to a report of two loose pit bull puppies. Police tracked the dogs to the residence and discovered two other dogs. All were malnourished, afflicted by fleas and lethargic and were living in a yard covered in dog feces with no supply of water or food, Oct. 1.



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Carolyn Fox Jessup

Carolyn Fox Jessup passed away on Sunday Sept. 29th at her home in Atherton. She was 85 years old. She was an avid gardener and a member of the Woodside Atherton Garden Club. In addition, she was an excellent tennis player and her partner in mixed doubles was usually her husband John Jessup. They were married in 1989 and she moved from Woodside to Atherton. She is survived by her husband John, her twin sister Marilyn Pickett, her sister Fritz Dorroh, her own children Randy Havre and Casey Havre, her husband's children Dedie Jessup, Toby Jessup and David Jessup and her grand child Candace Havre. A private service will be held at her home.

PAID OBITUARY

Delmur William Bogue

September 6, 1929- August 31, 2013

Del was born in the original Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto to Marie Collette (Smith) and Wilbur Lawrence Bogue. He lived his whole life in Menlo Park where his sister Darlene (predeceased), brothers Warren, Dohn and Melvyn (predeceased) were born. He graduated from Sequoia High School in 1948. He was a veteran of the Korean War and a Life Time Member of the V.F.W. As a father he was a Boy Scout Leader. He was a retired member of Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 300. During his retirement he tackled Commercial Salmon fishing.

Unexpectedly, he passed away from a lingering blood disease. His wife Gunhild B. "Be" Bogue was at his side. Together they raised five children, three of which were his step children, Edith (predeceased), Carl (predeceased), and Jeanne. Ann and Walter were of their 59 year marriage. He felt great pleasure in five grand children and three great grandchildren.

He was proud to be a member of the VFW. At his wish the VFW will perform Final Rites at a future date. Memorial donations may be made in his memory to the VFW Post 69, Veteran's Memorial Bldg, 1455 Madison Ave., Redwood City. Or donation in his memory to the Golden Gate Regional Center, 3130 La Selva St, Ste 202, San Mateo, that has provided support to his daughter Ann.

PAID OBITUARY

Alice C. Gilbert

Alice C. Gilbert passed away peacefully on September 27, 2013 at age 91. Born in Long Island, New York, Alice was a resident of Woodside for 57 years.

Alice was a 1974 graduate of San Jose State University, with a BA in English with honors. She worked for the San Mateo County Library, Belmont branch for a number of years.

She is survived by daughters, Jane Hutton (David), Valerie Matonis (Greg), and Linda Marelich (Mark), and a son, William Gilbert (Erika); several nieces and nephews, and numerous grandchildren. She was preceded in death by John M. Gilbert, her husband of 67 years, and by a daughter, Eileen Gilbert Hill.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to St Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Menlo Park. A memorial Mass will be held on October 19th at 1 pm at St. Denis Parish, Menlo Park. Interment will be private.

PAID OBITUARY

Eleanor Thoreau

October 1, 1923 - August 27, 2013

Eleanor "Ellie" Vayssie Thoreau peacefully passed away on Tuesday, August 27th, 2013 in her home in Menlo Park, Ca. Ellie was born in Ross, California on October 1, 1923, to her parents, Gladys and Addington Lee Wise. She grew up living in the St Francis Woods neighborhood of San Francisco with older brother, Addington.

She graduated from Lowell High School and married her high school sweetheart, Robert Vayssie, in May of 1943. Together they had three daughters, Robin, Joelle, and Lisa as well as six adoring grandchildren, Dana, Sarah, Kelsey, Haley, George, and Brandon, who will forever remember her as their Gammie.

Later in life, she met H D Thoreau, which led to a second marriage in 1993. Ellie was above all a devoted mother and grandmother. She was tireless in her interest and effort to support her family and friends, treating them all with respect, sincere interest, and an honesty that came from the heart.

A private service was held on October 1.

If you would like to make a donation in her name, please give to Pathways Home Health & Hospice or a charity of your choice.



PAID OBITUARY

David J. Goerz

September 25 1934 - September 25, 2013

David J. Goerz Jr., loving husband, father, and grandpa, 79 years old, a resident of Palo Alto, Calif., died of cancer on Sept. 25 in Palo Alto.

He was born in Los Angeles, California, September 25, 1934, the son of Magdalena and David J. Goerz, Sr.

He graduated from UCLA, Phi Beta Kappa, BA in Physics. He received his MS in Applied Physics at Stanford University. He continued on in graduate work at Stanford, where he was a Research Assistant, a Research Associate, and a member of the Academic Council. David Goerz also headed several departments in the development of the Stanford Linear Accelerator. Additionally he participated in the formation of companies making medical linear accelerators and lasers.

Mr. Goerz founded Vactite, Inc. a leading manufacturer of ultra high vacuum systems for the testing of space components and the production of semi conductors. He was an instructor in the Mechanical Engineering Department at UC Berkeley, teaching ultra high vacuum technology.

David J. Goerz, Jr., married Mary E. Larsen in the Stanford Chapel on Jan. 26, 1962.

He joined Bechtel Corporation where he spent 25 years, rising to the position of Vice President. He held senior management positions in marketing, business development, research, financing, and management of major programs, many with operations worldwide. While Vice President of Bechtel, International, Inc. he led the effort for the development of the Jubail Industrial Complex in Saudi Arabia. David pioneered development for Bechtel China: a joint venture called China American International

Engineering, Inc.

In 1992 he formed Goerz & Associates, Inc., a technical and management consulting firm providing services to industrial and utility companies.

In 2010 David Goerz Jr. founded Fuelina, Inc., now Fuelina Technologies LLC to develop and manufacture alternative fuels. He served as Chief Executive Officer and President.

David Goerz held seven patents and has five pending patents, both U.S. and international.

The family homes and garden were enriching to David. Their children were his pride and joy. Traveling the world on business and just for fun with Mary was the best of adventure.

David Goerz was a Trustee, Deacon and Elder at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church.

David is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Mary Elizabeth Larsen Goerz, their three children: David J. Goerz, III (Kristin), Karen Elizabeth Goerz Preston (Michael), Julie Anne Goerz Hayes (Jerry) and

seven grandchildren: Lauren and Ashlynn Goerz, Danny and Steven Preston, Savannah, Madelyn, and Olivia Hayes. Dave was predeceased by his parents and two grandchildren: Jason and Jennifer.

David Goerz, Jr., was a man of stature, strength, brilliance, integrity, devotion and faith in Jesus.

In lieu of flowers friends may donate to the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025; Hoover Institution, 434 Galvez Mall, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-6010; or Pathways Hospice, 585 North Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085.



PAID OBITUARY

New location for Woodside's Barn Dance

Woodside's biennial Barn Dance will have a new location and lots of new activities for both adults and children this year as it moves to the Mounted Patrol Grounds on Kings Mountain Road, on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Event organizers Ellen Mer-nick and Stacy Stauffer and Woodside's Recreation Com-mittee promise a full moon that night in addition to dancing to live country-rock music by the Santa Cruz Beach Cowboys. A

AROUND TOWN

special feature will be a pump-kin patch with pumpkins for sale.

Children's activities during the day include pony, mechan-ical bull and fire truck rides, as well as a petting zoo, clowns and magicians.

Dinner will include barbecued tri tip, hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, corn, salad and drinks.

Tickets at \$35 for adults and

\$15 for children can be pur-chased at Woodside Town Hall until Oct. 18 (unless they sell out as they have in previous years) during business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed noon to 1 p.m. for lunch, Monday through Friday or by mailing a check to: Town of Woodside, P.O. Box 620005, Woodside, CA 94062. For more information call 851-6790.

Harvest supper

A multi-course gourmet har-

vest supper, created by Chefs Mark Sullivan and Dmitry El-perin of Spruce and the Village Pub, will highlight the seventh annual Artful Harvest to be held from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, at the Djerassi Ranch, 2325 Bear Gulch Road in Woodside.

The menu will include just-picked organic produce from the SMIP Ranch on the Djerassi property, which supplies many ingredients for both the Pub and Spruce.

Hors d'oeuvres and wine will kick off the afternoon at 3 p.m. Supper will be served at 4 p.m. in the rustic artists' barn, which opens onto spectacular views of the Pacific.

The afternoon will feature entertainment by violist Nils Bultmann, choreographer Christy Funsch, and storyteller and author April Sinclair. There will be a silent auction of art-work by Djerassi alumni.

Tickets are \$250 per person and benefit the Djerassi Resi-dent Artsts Program.

Visit djerassi.org/artfulhar-vest.html or call 747-1250 for reservations.

Pancake breakfast

Firefighters will be flipping flapjacks from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the 13th

annual annual pancake break-fast to benefit the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation. The event takes place at Fire Station No. 1, 300 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park.

Along with pancakes and sausages, Hobee's coffee cake, and Peet's coffee, there will be a silent auction featuring such items as a visit from the vin-tage fire truck "Old Tom" to a birthday party or event, dinner at Menlo Grill Bistro & Bar, and a night stay at the Stanford Park Hotel. Junior League volunteers are also planning activities for children.

Tickets for the breakfast are available at the door, where donations will be accepted.

JobTrain fall gala

Thirteen Silicon Valley cou-ples and Google are hosting a benefit for JobTrain on Satur-day, Oct. 12, at Rosewood Sand Hill in Menlo Park. The 7:30 p.m. gala will feature a cocktail reception, hors d'oeuvres, music by electronic violinist Jennifer Spingola and dancing to the music of Pride & Joy.

Visit jobtrainfallgala.event-brite.com for tickets at \$250 per person. JobTrain is a nonprofit vocational center located at 1200 O'Brien Drive in Menlo Park.



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Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES FROM PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. EDITED BY TOM GIBBONEY

Thomsen, Sarver for Sequoia district board

Three candidates are running for two seats on the Sequoia Union High School District board: incumbents Alan Sarver and Chris Thomsen who are seeking second terms, and challenger Georgia Jack, a Redwood City mother who has long been active in elementary schools in her community.

This race unfolds as the Sequoia district is in the midst of several major challenges:

- Deploying the Common Core standards and tests.

- Preparing to cope with an enrollment increase that is expected to bring at least 1,700 additional students to the district by the year 2020.

- Ending the busing of East Palo Alto students to Woodside and Carlmont high schools and instead giving them priority access to Menlo-Atherton, if space is available.

All three candidates outlined thoughtful approaches to dealing with these vitally important issues. The first two challenges will be front and center on the board's agenda over the next several years.

But while we like Ms. Jack's energy and eagerness to serve, at this critical time we believe experience is a key requirement. Mr. Sarver and Mr. Thomsen have spent the last four years getting up to speed and are fully knowledgeable about the challenges that lie ahead for the district.

They were first elected four years ago after the retirement of Sally Stewart and Gordon Lewin. Mr. Sarver lives in Belmont and Menlo Park is the home of Mr. Thomsen.

In separate interviews, both candidates said they will look to Superintendent Jim Lianides' task force to guide the board through the process of finding space to accommodate what is expected to be at least 1,700 additional students. The estimated \$200 million cost of a new comprehensive high school takes that option off the table, but both incumbents are open to the district funding one or two smaller, 400-student campuses — about \$40 million per school. In any case, the district will have to ask voters to approve bond measures.

Common Core, a new teaching and testing standard, has launched nationwide and is being adopted in all Sequoia district schools to replace the current standardized tests and their supporting curriculum. Both candidates called it a major improvement and said that

teachers love it, in large part because they no longer have to “teach to the test” as they did with the current curriculum.

Both Mr. Sarver and Mr. Thomsen believe the district will find ways to manage the space needs at Menlo-Atherton and still accommodate East Palo Alto eighth-graders who would normally be bused to Carlmont and Woodside. Open-enrollment choices and adjusting M-A's northern boundary should allow space for all Menlo Park and Atherton students who attend M-A now, they said. Both candidates also praised all other Sequoia district high schools, which they said deserve more attention and respect, particularly Woodside High.

In our view, this is not a time to install a new person on the Sequoia board. We recommend voters return Alan Sarver and Chris Thomsen to four-year terms on the Sequoia Union High School District board.

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Voters face big school bond measures in Las Lomas, Menlo Park City districts

Attracted by high-performing schools in the Las Lomas and Menlo Park City districts, more and more young parents are flocking to Menlo Park and pushing elementary and middle school enrollment to record levels. Las Lomas enrollment has jumped 40 percent in the last 10 years and topped 1,400 students this school year. It is expected to continue its upward trend for at least another few years.

In the Menlo Park City district, projected enrollment in 2022 is 3,000 to 3,350 students, compared to 2,904 today. These numbers worry school officials, who cite them when they talk about the bond measures going before voters in each district on Nov. 5.

Residents of the Las Lomas district are being asked to approve the largest of the two — \$60 million to build two-story buildings, eliminate 18 portable classrooms, and renovate existing facilities on the Las Lomas and La Entrada campuses.

Menlo Park City district voters will be asked to approve \$23 million to build a new school on the O'Connor site near Menalto

Continued on next page

Freedom and vigilance

By Cherie Zaslowsky

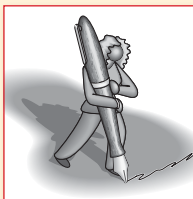
Menlo Park recently purchased several surveillance cameras and roving license-plate readers. Let's try putting the argument regarding local surveillance into a larger perspective, rather than getting bogged down in definitions of privacy and the like.

Recall that Thomas Jefferson warned us that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. When a people keep watch over their government, their freedom is maintained. Conversely, when a government keeps watch over its people, tyranny isn't far behind, if not already in place. Ask

anyone who lived in East Germany under the watchful eye of the Stasi, or in Soviet Russia.

Remember, too, that Benjamin Franklin warned us we should never give up essential freedoms for the hope of safety, as we'd end up with “neither liberty nor safety.” Why? Consider: When we relinquish freedom, to whom do we relinquish it?

To the state. And the more power the state has, the closer we are to dictatorship, totalitarianism and tyranny. The Constitution and Bill of Rights protect our rights. From whom? From the gov-



GUEST OPINION

Continued on next page



Woodside Historical Association

Our Regional Heritage

What is now Woodside's Independence Hall was moved to Albion Avenue in 1944 and used for community activities such as a meeting place for Boy and Girl Scout troops. It was moved and became Woodside Town Hall in 1991.

EDITORIAL

continued from page 18

Avenue, which will continue to be leased to the German American International School until the 2015 school year. The district expects to hold classes at O'Connor beginning in 2016 for third- through fifth-grade students coming from the nearby K-2 Laurel School.

For Las Lomas parents, the bonds are expected to cost \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation, or \$300 for a \$1 million assessment. The Menlo Park City bond would be less expensive — \$8.70 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation, or \$87 for a \$1 million assessment. Residents who have owned their homes for many years will likely have an assessed valuation of less than \$1 million. Passage of both measures will require 55 percent of those voting.

Las Lomas residents are continuing to pay off two earlier bond measures for \$12 million each — one passed in 1999 and

the other in 2001. And residents continue to pay a \$311 annual parcel tax.

School board leaders in each district have worked hard to convince voters to approve the bonds, using yard signs, phone banks and networking to get supporters out and make sure the schools will be able to accommodate the enrollment jump they are experiencing now and will see in the coming years. To save space, the Las Lomas district plans to build two-story classroom structures on each campus equipped with modern technology and better accessibility to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements.

The Menlo Park City district is bulging at the seams, squeezing students into every available room at K-5 Encinal School, which was just recently remodeled. Being able to funnel K-2 students to O'Connor will ease pressure at Encinal and Oak Knoll.

A major factor in the effort to convince residents to approve these much-needed school

improvements is the booming housing market. Menlo Park home prices have historically been strong due to the city's excellent schools, and that trend

is continuing, pushed along by the tech boom in the Valley. And the presence of Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park has not hurt either.

We recommend that Menlo Park City school district and Las Lomas school district residents approve Measure S and Measure W on Nov. 5.

FREEDOM
continued from page 18

ernment. The founders had no illusions about the lust for power among the unscrupulous.

Imagine a see-saw with the peoples' freedom on one side, and governmental power on the other. When the peoples' freedom is highest, governmental power is lowest. Conversely, when governmental power is highest, the peoples' freedom virtually vanishes. Our founders wisely chose a balance-point, giving government only carefully defined, strictly limited powers, and bequeathing to "we the people" the liberty that allows us to pursue our lives, fortunes, and happiness without governmental interference.

Let's now reconsider the impact and implications of having surveillance video cameras on our city streets. These cameras, high atop their lookout posts, are as ominous for what they imply about the balance between our freedom and the power and control of government, as for the glaring potential for abuse resulting from such technology. For these cameras, among other things, are symbols of a dangerous shift in the public's relation to its government.

They imply that the people require the vigilance of their government, rather than the other way around. The argu-

ment for them is the argument of surrendering some facet of liberty for the promise of safety — the irony being that such sacrifices have historically resulted in the loss of both freedom and safety.

Today we are in danger of allowing advances in technology to blind us to perennial truths about power, politics, human nature, and the tendencies of governments. We've forgotten that most of the large-scale atrocities committed throughout history, including genocide, have been inflicted on innocent people by their own governments.

At present, in the context of the NSA scandal, abuses and targeting by the IRS, as well as governmental ability to virtually discard the Fourth Amendment and eavesdrop on our private conversations and emails, the sudden appearance of the all-seeing eye of the surveillance camera in our tranquil suburbs hardly appears innocuous. We ignore the encroachment on our freedoms, and the concomitant growth of the power of the state, only at our peril.

Concerned residents can voice their objections to local surveillance by emailing the Menlo Park City Council at city.council@menlopark.org and by attending City Council meetings and making their voices heard.

Cherie Zaslowsky lives in downtown Menlo Park.

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD
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**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
October 16, 2013 7:30 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Extenet Fiber Optic on HWY 84 CUSE2103-0006
Highway 84 between Skyline and Woodside Road Planner: Sage S. Schaan, Senior Planner

Review for approval/denial of a proposed amendment to a previously issued Conditional Use Permit (CUSE2010-0006 and Amendment CUSE2011-0012). The project is located in the Caltrans right-of-way on the La Honda Road portion of Highway 84 (between Skyline Boulevard and Woodside Road) on a utility pole on Highway 84 near Mile Marker 16.17 (nearest cross street Friars Lane). The project includes replacement of an existing antenna with two pairs of new antennas, allowance of a second wireless service provider (WSP) on an existing facility, and replacement of a radio equipment box on the pole.

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



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Born and raised in Portola Valley and now residing in Woodside, Erika's passion for her community, for real estate, and for the best interests of her clients has allowed her to consistently rank in the top 1% of Coldwell Banker nationally. She is also one of the top agents in the entire United States according to the latest *Wall Street Journal* rankings. Erika is committed to staying up to date with the latest technology and the most advanced marketing for her clients. With nearly two decades of real estate experience, Erika Demma is the perfect choice for real estate sales or purchases on the mid-Peninsula.



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