

The Almanac

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

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Author, model, comedic talent

Longtime Menlo Park resident Fran Kearton dies at 93

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

The final curtain has come down on the life of Frances Peace Kearton of Menlo Park. Her varied career included fashion and runway modeling in New York City for the John Robert Powers agency; sharing a TV spotlight, comedic writing responsibilities and madcap antics for three years with Dick Van Dyke; opting for single motherhood in a time and place — 1950s Georgia — when that just wasn't done; and writing two comedic memoirs. Ms. Kearton died at Stanford Hospital on Saturday, July 12, after a brief illness. She was 93.

A memorial and celebration of her life is set for 3 p.m. Thursday, July 24, at the Menlo Circus Club at 190 Park Lane in Atherton, according to Vicki Clements, a trustee of her estate.

That Ms. Kearton found work as a humorist is not a surprise. "My mother was a very funny woman. I think (being funny) is hereditary," she told the Almanac in 2010. "She was always funny. Even when things were so bad, she was always funny."

Things did get bad. In the space of a few years early in the Great Depression, the family lost its savings to an unscrupulous stockbroker, her father died and lightning struck their rural Georgia home and it burned to the ground.

Commenting on the one intact item from the fire, a blue cloisonne vase, Ms. Kearton recalled her mother standing amid the ashes with the vase cradled in her arms. "Frances," she said, "remember the main lesson of this loss: never become too attached to material things."

Ms. Kearton said she kept the vase, and did become attached to it.

Her mother, a Vassar graduate with degrees in speech and French, discouraged Fran's Southern pronunciations. No use of "pinnies" to refer to one-cent coins, and "aigs," were not a breakfast food that may



Photo courtesy of Fran Kearton

Fran Kearton of Menlo Park in the 1940s as a John Robert Powers model in New York City. Later, she shared a spotlight and comedic writing responsibilities with Dick Van Dyke for three years and wrote two comedic memoirs. Ms. Kearton died July 12.

be scrambled or poached. As for breakfast itself, Fran pronounced it as "breas" followed by a four-letter word that rhymes with duck. Her mother let her keep that one, she said. "She felt sentimental about it because it was my last baby word."

Ms. Kearton wrote skits five days a week with Mr. Van Dyke in the 1950s for "The Fran and Dick Show" (aka "The Music Shop"), but did not consider herself a comedy writer. "Dick and I never thought we were real writers," she told a group at the Menlo Circus Club in 2010. "We were merely survivors racing into Studio B each day clutching last-minute hastily scrawled skits to feed the insatiable Venus flytrap of a daily live TV hour."

As a woman, she had difficulties that confront pioneers. She was co-host of the show, but was expected to answer phones. Her ideas had to be rearranged so that a man could claim them. "That's the only way I could get things done," she said. "I had to go around the mulberry bush."

Once, learning of Mr. Van Dyke's higher salary, she asked for a raise. She was denied, she said, on the excuse that family men had greater responsibilities

and that, with her looks, she would probably remarry soon.

She experienced harassment. Fashion modeling "was fraught with it," she said. "I was always creeping into somebody's heart, which meant they wanted me to creep into their lap, too." Even as a prestigious Powers model, men touched her inappropriately and assumed her morals were loose because she was a model. More than once she was chased around a desk, she said.

"I was a very pretty girl and sometimes that's a plus and sometimes that's a minus," she said. "I prefer to see it as a plus."

She married in 1954 to Reginald Ruston Kearton in a week in which, she said, three men proposed to her. Coming to California, she drove across the country with her mother, mother-in-law and father-in-law in the car. Her experiences with her extended family in a Los Altos estate became comic in retrospect.

At 90 and living in Sharon Heights in 2010, Ms. Kearton cleaned her own house, drove her own car, and was a Democrat in a Republican stronghold. She took tap dancing lessons, stretched before housecleaning and watched "Sit to be Fit" on TV.

Sitting for an interview in the vicinity of an unsold pile of her second memoir, "French Beds I've Slept In (and Some I Wish I Hadn't)," she said: "I might be killed by an avalanche of these books, but it's not a bad way to go."

Ms. Kearton was preceded in death by her husband and her son, Allison Hoyle Adams, who died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease). She is survived by her grandson Kristian Kearton (Malene).

Donations in her name may be made to the Golden West chapter of the ALS Association. ■

Go to tinyurl.com/FPK221 to see a 2010 profile of Fran Kearton by the Almanac's Dave Boyce.

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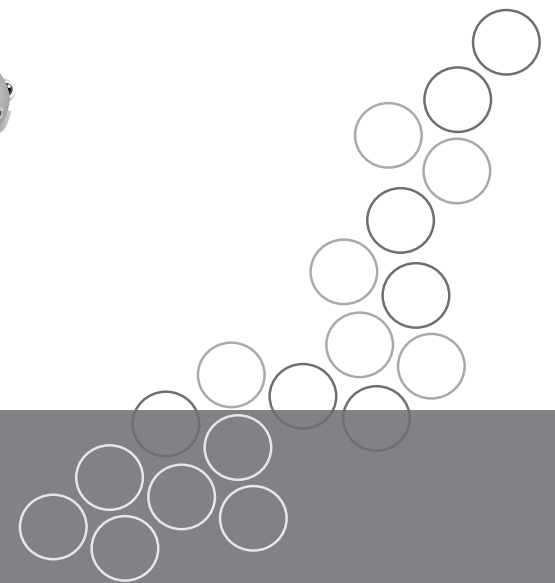
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Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Atherton tops U.S. real estate price lists

By **Barbara Wood**
Almanac Staff Writer

The Midpeninsula has always been an attractive place to live, but recently it has achieved another distinction: home of the most expensive real estate in the country.

Statistics provided to the Almanac by the online real estate database company Zillow show that in May, Atherton had the priciest real estate in the country, with Portola Valley at No. 5 and Menlo Park at number 40. In the Zillow analysis, Woodside is lumped in with the part of Redwood City with which it shares a ZIP code, but still comes in at 43.

Zillow also showed that in May, property values in Atherton, Menlo Park, Woodside and Portola Valley were all at the highest level they had ever reached in its database.

Other cities in Zillow's top 10 in May include Beverly Hills, No. 2; Fisher Island, Florida, No. 3; Santa Monica, No. 4; Manhattan, New York (10013 ZIP), No. 6; Los Altos, No. 7; Palo Alto, No. 8; Manhattan, New York (10007 zip), No. 9; and Montecito, California, No. 10.

Zillow came up with the rankings, said Zillow public relations manager Cory Hopkins, by using its Home Value Index. The index is the median value, or the point at which half the prices are

higher and half are lower, of Zillow's estimated current value for every home in an area, not just those that have recently sold.

It's not only Zillow that says Atherton is expensive. In October, Forbes magazine's website said Atherton is the most expensive ZIP code in the country. Forbes based its data on real estate listing prices over a three-month period. In the Forbes list, Portola Valley's ZIP code was ranked No. 9 and Woodside's, No. 22.

"Atherton is highly desirable as a residential community because you have large properties in a semi-rural environment" that are centrally located, said Atherton Councilman Rick DeGolia.

"It happens to be the hub of the Peninsula," said Alain Pinel, a senior vice president of Intero Real Estate Services, working out of their Woodside and Menlo Park offices. Atherton is an easy commute from San Francisco, Silicon Valley, San Jose, and even the East Bay, he said. "It's extremely convenient."

Ken DeLeon, founder of DeLeon Realty, said Atherton's ascent to the "most expensive real estate in the country is being driven by two types of clients: tech buyers from companies like Google and Facebook, and overseas buyers, particularly from China and India."

Many of these buyers, he said, "are technology executives who

Pending sales		
Atherton	5	\$2.58M to \$9.90M
Menlo Park	29	\$430K to \$2.99M
Portola Valley	4	\$699K** to \$3.39M
Woodside	10	\$749K to \$4.78M

Information is from MLSListings, which provides multiple listing services to Northern California, and does not include homes that do not use MLS.

* List price.
Sales price not disclosed

** Short sale
(sold for less than owed on mortgage)

are using stock options to purchase these trade-up homes and are drawn to the privacy and generally excellent schools Atherton offers."

Mr. Pinel said Atherton is also attractive because the town is completely single-family residential, with no commercial or multi-family zoning, a fact that helps to keep prices stable. "Stability is the best basis for acquisition," he said.

Another characteristic Atherton shares with other Midpeninsula communities is the weather. "The micro-climate in Atherton is absolutely extraordinary," said Mr. Pinel.

Does the fact that Atherton has been in the news as the most expensive real estate mar-

Active single-family home listings as of 7/17/14		
Town	Number of listings	Price range
Atherton	25 listings	\$3.8M to \$25M
Menlo Park	32 listings	\$565K to \$5.35M
Portola Valley	12 listings	\$2.19M to \$19.80M
Woodside	42 listings	\$385K to \$69.80M

Homes sold since 4/1/14		
Town	Number of homes sold	Price range
Atherton	27 sold	\$1.58M to \$18.90M
Menlo Park	99 sold	\$605K to \$5.75M
Portola Valley	23 sold	\$1.07M to \$11.80M*
Woodside	28 sold	\$700K to \$15.00M*

ket in the country also attract buyers? Mr. Pinel says yes.

"Whenever you have the reputation of being the most expensive, it does suggest subliminally to a lot of people that it is the best," he said. "And if it is the best, and you've got a lot of money, then you will be interested in going there and taking a look at it."

"There is absolutely no question that the reputation of being the most expensive is going to attract a lot of people who are going to buy not so much to live on the property but to brag to their friends and associates," he added.

Mr. DeLeon said many Atherton buyers are "drawn to prestige and seek the most

expensive communities and neighborhoods to live in."

All those factors make the area attractive for investors, and many of them, Mr. Pinel said, are from outside the United States. At least half the buyers of properties selling for more than \$5 million today are foreign nationals, he said. Some of them do not even plan to live in the properties they buy, but just want a safe place to invest their money.

Mr. DeLeon agreed. "My recent trips to China and India showed me that these buyers prefer flat and central locations in China and India, which translates to these buyers preferring Atherton to the rural

See **PRICE LISTS**, page 7

Battle lines drawn over specific plan ballot measure

By **Sandy Brundage**
Almanac Staff Writer

Voters will determine the fate of a grassroots group's proposed changes to Menlo Park's downtown/El Camino Real specific plan in the November election, the council unanimously decided on July 15.

"The initiative would lock the city in a time capsule," Mayor Ray Mueller noted.

Save Menlo's ballot measure would make these changes in the specific plan area: restrict the amount of office space in any individual project to 100,000 square feet; cap total new office space at 240,820 square feet; and require an election to exceed 474,000 square feet of new, non-

residential development.

It would also redefine open space to mean only areas no higher than 4 feet off the ground, thereby preventing balconies from counting as open space.

Voters would have to approve any changes to the ordinance.

Council members chose to put the measure on the ballot instead of adopting it. The changes are rife with the potential for unintended consequences, they said, and the voter approval requirement is worrisome.

Councilman Rich Cline described it as "a battle for the soul of downtown." He noted, as did his colleagues, that the initiative would lock the city

into its regulations unless a city-wide vote is carried out. However, the specific plan comes up for review at least once every two years and can be changed — and has been; the council voted last November to institute a 33,333-square-foot cap on medical office space for large new projects along El Camino Real.

The measure's proponents argued that the changes are necessary to prevent Menlo Park from becoming one big traffic jam, and to improve the city's jobs-to-housing imbalance by encouraging the development of residential units over office space.

Both the council and Lisa Wise Consulting, which provid-

ed an analysis of the measure, agreed that the initiative could have a positive impact on the jobs-to-housing ratio. Mayor Ray Mueller suggested that the question at the bottom of all the debate is whether the community wants a main corridor composed mostly of housing, or whether it wants the vibrancy of mixed-use development.

Speakers on behalf of the initiative challenged the consultant's analysis, but said they felt unheard by the council.

"I was very disappointed that council accepted the Wise report without exposing or discussing its errors, limitations, and overall shortcomings," said former council member Heyward Robinson the day after the meeting.

Although Vice Mayor Catherine Carlton admonished both sides of the debate to stick to the facts, he said, the report gets many facts wrong. "Although numerous errors were noted during public comment, the council chose not to pursue these in their questions or discussion, instead cherry-picking points from the report to support a previously held opinion or position. I'm left wondering why the council commissioned this report in the first place," Mr. Robinson said.

Other speakers urged the council to uphold the specific plan.

"It's a terrible — terrible! — idea to take the power to make

See **BATTLE LINES**, page 7

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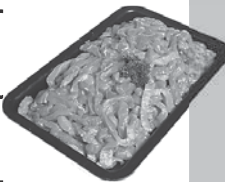
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9-year-old girl drowns in Menlo Park pool

A 9-year-old girl, Lahee Hong of Menlo Park, died Tuesday night, July 15, as a result of a drowning at an apartment community pool in the 300 block of Sharon Park Drive in Menlo Park, police reported.

Lahee and her mother were visiting friends at the apartment complex. Lahee, who did not know how to swim, was playing around the pool and accidentally fell in while trying to retrieve a ball, according to Menlo Park police spokeswoman Nicole Acker.

Her friend, who also did not know how to swim, went for help because the adults had

stepped away for a moment. "It was an unfortunate accident," Ms. Acker said. "Our condolences go out to the family."

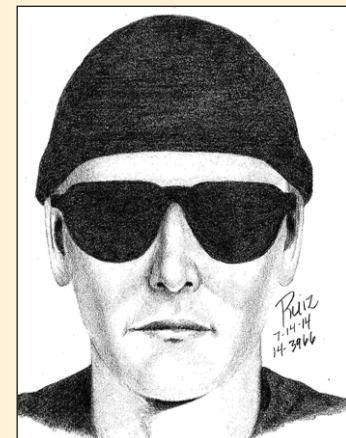
The accident happened around 5 p.m. Fire crews and police officers responded and found the girl near the pool, unconscious and not breathing, police said.

Medical personnel administered CPR in an attempt to resuscitate her, and took her to Stanford Medical Center, where medical staff continued CPR.

Despite these efforts, the girl was pronounced dead by the attending physician, police said.

Two local armed robberies may be linked, police say

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer



Police in two cities are investigating whether one man recently committed a pair of armed robberies.

Around 6:47 p.m. Sunday, July 13, a man armed with a semi-automatic pistol confronted two teenagers at gunpoint near Gilbert Avenue and Pope Street in Menlo Park, then fled with their wallets and cellphones.

Seven hours later, at 1:27 a.m. Monday, July 14, a second armed robbery occurred, this time on Hamilton Avenue in Palo Alto, about two miles away from the Menlo Park crime scene.

The suspect came up behind a man in his 40s and demanded his wallet and cellphone. When the victim hesitated, the suspect pulled back the slide on the pistol as if to load a round, according to the report.

None of the victims was injured.

The victim of the Palo Alto robbery described the suspect as a light-skinned man about 30 years old, 5-foot-10-inches tall with a medium build, and dressed in a black cap, sun-

This sketch of the robbery suspect is from the Palo Alto Police Department.

glasses, black shirt with long sleeves and black pants. The description was similar to the Menlo Park suspect, according to police.

Menlo Park investigators are continuing to work with the Palo Alto Police Department, said Menlo Park police spokeswoman Nicole Acker. "Because of the similarities in the incidents and the description of the suspect, yes, they think the cases are still linked."

Anyone with information regarding these crimes may contact Menlo Park police at 330-6300 or via the anonymous tip line at 330-6395. ▀

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Photo by Brandon Chew

Hangin' with the goats

These goats may have sensed a friend in Bobby Targ at the Hayfields open space area at the northern edge of Portola Valley. On July 9, a shepherd, guard dogs and herd of about 150 goats from Coalinga-based Living Systems came to the Hayfields for a three-week stay to lower the wildfire hazard by eating the open-space vegetation down to stubble.

Developer plans mixed-use project

Local developer Pinnacle Group has submitted an application to build a mixed-use complex at 1283-1295 El Camino Real, near Valparaiso Avenue, according to the city.

A 6,471-square-foot building would be demolished to make way for a new three-story building with 1,906 square feet of commercial space and 15 residential units.

The kind of commercial use remains to be determined, according to Menlo Park Senior Planner Thomas Rogers, and could be office, retail or some other type.

BRIEFS

The project falls within the base level size allowed by the specific plan, but will need an analysis for any additional environmental impacts as well as a review of architectural features by the Planning Commission, the planning staff said.

Update on BBC

Rob Fischer's plans to renovate the historic BBC in Menlo Park into a three-floor restaurant are moving along; he requested

building permits on June 25, according to the city's staff.

The new BBC will feature an expanded mezzanine for indoor and outdoor dining on the ground floor. According to the city, Mr. Fischer wants to add an exterior staircase, create an outdoor dining area with a bar and grill on the roof, and switch the main entry from El Camino Real to Santa Cruz Avenue.

Mr. Fischer also owns the Palo Alto Creamery along with Reposado and, in Mountain View, Gravity and Scratch restaurants.

BATTLE LINES

continued from page 5

zoning changes away from the council," Shirley Chu said.

Representatives of Menlo Park Deserves Better, a grassroots coalition formed to defeat the initiative, vowed to fight an intense battle, saying that the specific plan resulted from years of transparent consensus building by the community. The initiative, on the other hand, was written without any public input or oversight, they said.

Representatives from Stanford University and Greenheart — two developers that each have proposed large mixed-use projects along El Camino Real — told the council that if the initiative passes, their projects have to go back to the drawing board, and they weren't sure

what would emerge as replacements.

Steve Pierce of Greenheart also said that the changes would result in a minimum two-year delay — long enough that the company fears a downturn in the currently favorable economy could derail any project. "I think it's a serious risk," he said.

Stanford University's Steve Elliott said the modifications made to its project, including the removal of all medical offices and a commitment to pay a substantial portion of the costs of building a pedestrian-bicycle tunnel, will remain in effect if the initiative doesn't pass.

The council also voted to form a subcommittee composed of Councilman Cline and Mayor Mueller to draft the ballot argument against the ballot measure by Aug. 15. ■

PRICE LISTS

continued from page 5

and distant feel of the other high-end cities such as Woodside and Portola Valley," he said.

Mr. Pinel predicted that the local market will continue to be strong. "More and more buyers are buying on the Peninsula, particularly in Atherton," he said. "What we have seen in Atherton is only the beginning."

He also predicted that the number of buyers from China will increase as the Chinese economy creates more very wealthy people looking for a place to put their money. "The Chinese appetite for very, very expensive luxury real estate — that's enough to justify that prices are not likely to go down much, if at all, and are very likely to keep going up," Mr. Pinel said. ■

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Atherton civic center plan moves ahead

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Although all the money to pay for a new civic center is still not in hand, Atherton's City Council at its July 16 meeting took a major step toward making a new complex a reality, approving a contract with mack5, a veteran project management firm.

The contract allows mack5 to bill up to nearly \$900,000 for managing and advising the town on the design, construction and occupancy of the new center over a three-year period. The firm will start by helping to choose the architects for the project.

While the vote to approve the contract was unanimous, with council member Elizabeth Lewis participating via a conference call, the council did not approve it without

questions, particularly regarding spending so much without the funds in hand to build

the complex. Town officials have promised that the new civic center will be paid for largely with private funds, and the fundraising campaign has not yet begun.

"I'm struggling with the \$900,000," said council member Bill Widmer, who said he would have preferred a fixed-price contract rather than one with a not-to-exceed cap. "I'm just trying to weigh the risk," he said. Mr. Widmer asked if the contract amount could increase if the funding is delayed.

Mark Kelly, mack5's principal-in-charge, reassured the council. "We're professional services; if we're not doing the work, we're not getting paid for it," he said.

Mayor Cary Wiest said that while he would have appreciated a little more information on such a large contract, he favored its approval. "We obviously need professionals to keep an eye on the project that will be the town of Atherton's biggest in history," he said.

Council member Rick DeGolia said it is important to note

that the not-to-exceed cost of the contract, \$896,573, is for the entire three-year life of the project. For the design phase, which is as far as the town will go before the private funding has been raised, the cost is \$233,680, according to the staff report by Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi.

According to town officials, the fundraising campaign for the civic center project will officially start in the fall. By that time, however, they hope to already have commitments for most of the projects' funding. An independent committee will coordinate the fundraising, not the town council, although members may be part of the committee.

The town also has about \$10 million in library funds and \$2 million in other funds set aside

to replace some town offices — funds that will also go toward the project.

Council member DeGolia said the library funds should cover about 30 percent of the projected total project cost, and the additional funds, which are set aside for the building department offices, another 10 percent.

Those funds will be used to pay 40 percent of the initial costs of the project management, Mr. DeGolia said after the meeting. Even if the town has to abandon the civic center project because it can't raise the private funding, he said, there should be no money coming out of the town's general funds. The likelihood of not raising enough to pay the remaining 60 percent "in my opinion ... is zero," he said.

According to mack5's website, the company has provided project, cost and construction management services to a long list of clients, including the cities of Menlo Park, Palo Alto and East Palo Alto, as well as Canada College and Stanford University.

The firm was unanimously recommended by a subcommittee of the town's Civic Center Advisory Committee. ■



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Almanac publisher commended

Tom Gibboney, center, who retired June 27 as editor and publisher of the Almanac, was commended by the Menlo Park City Council on July 15 for his 21 years of service in that position. Mr. Gibboney, who is holding a proclamation by the council, is congratulated by, from left, council members Peter Ohtaki, Rich Cline, Mayor Ray Mueller, Kirsten Keith and (outside the picture) Vice Mayor Cat Carlton.

Atherton council names project manager.

Water mandates signal 'get tough' approach

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

The state Water Resources Control Board on July 15 took steps to enable local water agencies to move beyond voluntary compliance with water conservation guidelines for residents of "urban settings."

The board's mandate, which is effective on or about Aug. 1, prohibits residents from spraying sidewalks and driveways, irrigating to the extent that runoff occurs, washing vehicles with hoses not equipped with shut-off nozzles and using potable water in fountains or fountain-like devices if the water is not being recirculated.

Such restrictions are already in effect in the California Water Service Company's Bear Gulch district, which includes Atherton, Portola Valley, most of Woodside and parts of Menlo Park. The California Public Utilities Commission on May 1 issued Rule 14.1, which matches the prohibitions just announced by the state water board.

As a private company, Cal Water is regulated by the CPUC. The state water board oversees

Water board Chair Felicia Marcus called the situation 'the worst drought impact that we or our grandparents have ever seen.'

public water agencies.

For the present, Cal Water is choosing to educate customers on the prohibited practices. If voluntary conservation is ineffective, the company may use its enforcement options, including fines of up to \$500 a day. The company doesn't foresee that happening in 2014, Bear Gulch District Manager Dawn Smithson said.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission — from which Cal Water buys its water — has been asking for a 10 percent reduction in water use. Cal Water's goal is a 20 percent reduction from its customers, Ms. Smithson said. Since Feb. 1, the district has seen a 13 percent decline compared with the same period in 2013, she

said.

"A lot of effort went into making (potable) water bacteria-free and (drinkable) for folks," said state water board spokesman George Kostyrko. "We have a precious resource and we need to think about saving it, immediately."

Four hundred thousand acres of arable land are now lying fallow, and drinking water is being trucked in to communities that have gone dry, he pointed out.

Water board Chair Felicia Marcus, called the situation "the worst drought impact that we or our grandparents have ever seen. And, more important, we have no idea when it will end."

Go to saveourwater.com and ca.gov/drought for ideas on how to save water.

Cal Water has many programs to help customers conserve water use at home, including free residential conservation kits and rebates on water-efficient appliances and devices.

Go to tinyurl.com/water34 for a conservation overview, including information on free kits.

Go to tinyurl.com/water35 for information on free nozzles for irrigation sprinklers. ■

After-dark excursions set for Edgewood Park

Three after-dark events will be held at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve during July and August. The park is on Edgewood Road off Interstate 280.

On Saturday, July 26, from 7 to 10 p.m., attendees will visit Inspiration Heights, one of the highest points in the park. Astronomy Professor Darryl Stanford will

point out stars, constellations, and satellites. The event runs from 7 to 10 p.m.

On Sunday, Aug. 10, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., attendees will watch the sunset and full moon rise from Inspiration Heights. Friends of Edgewood will supply wine, water, and snacks at the event, which runs

from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 23, attendees will go for a night walk with trained docents from 7 to 10 p.m.

Admission to the events, hosted by Friends of Edgewood, is \$10 per person.

Go to friendsofedgeswood.org/events for more information and to sign up.


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Cline, Combs pull council-race papers

Two people have pulled papers to potentially run for the Menlo Park City Council this year: incumbent Rich Cline and Planning Commissioner Andrew Combs.

Mr. Cline would be running for a third term on the council. Fellow incumbents Kirsten Keith and Peter Ohtaki, also up for re-election, have said they intend to run for their second terms.

Mr. Combs joined the Planning Commission in May. Prior to that, he served on the Bicycle Commission. He has covered business and legal matters as a journalist and holds a bachelor's

■ MENLO BRIEFS

degree in urban studies and a law degree, although he does not currently practice as an attorney.

Union contract

The council voted 5-0 on July 15 to approve a new contract with Service Employees International Union, which represents approximately 134 workers.

The one-year contract includes a 4.5 percent pay raise, four hours less paid time off, and maintains employee contributions toward retirement benefits at the levels set in 2011.

The agreement also retains the use of binding arbitration, and the formation of a labor management committee.

Engineer leaves

In the latest in a steady stream of departures by Menlo Park's staff, senior civil engineer Roger Storz has announced that he has accepted a new position with the city of Campbell, effective mid-July.

According to the city's announcement, Mr. Storz has accepted the position to shorten his commute and have more time to spend with his family.

This will be the fourth vacant senior engineer position within the public works department. Among other recent departures are former Public Works Director Chip Taylor and Environmental Programs Manager Rebecca Fotu. ■

Two incumbents file for council race

Two incumbents have filed to run for re-election in November to the Atherton City Council. As of July 18, two other residents active in civic affairs had taken the first steps to becoming candidates by taking out nomination papers.

The incumbents are Bill Widmer, who is completing his first term, and Rick DeGolia, elected to a one-year term last year to fill the seat left vacant when Jerry Carlson resigned.

■ ATHERTON

Rose Hau, an architect who is vice chair of the Civic Center Advisory Committee, and Michael Lempres, an attorney who is a member of the town's Transportation Committee and its Rail Committee, have also taken out papers.

Three seats on the five-member council will be on the ballot.

The council now has only four members. Jim Dobbie, whose term was to expire in November, resigned earlier this year due to poor health, and his unfilled seat is one of the three that voters will fill in the fall.

The deadline for filing is Friday, Aug. 8, except for races in which an eligible incumbent does not file. In that case, the filing period remains open until Aug. 13.

Two show interest in running for school boards

Voters may fill three seats on each of two local school district boards, but a week into the month-long filing period for those offices, the county Elections Office hasn't exactly had to raise the flood gates.

As of July 17, an incumbent on the Las Lomas School District board had taken out papers, and a parent in the Menlo Park City

School District had filed papers to run for a seat on that board.

Stacy Jones, who applied for appointment to an open seat on the Menlo Park board in February but was passed over, has filed papers to run for a seat in November. Ms. Jones is co-chair of the district's council. She has three children in district schools.

Incumbent Richard Ginn had taken out papers for the Las Lomas Elementary School District board as of July 17.

The filing period to run for office in the Nov. 3 election runs through Friday, Aug. 8, but will be extended through Wednesday, Aug. 13, in races where an incumbent is eligible to run but does not file.

Crepes Cafe closing on July 28

Crepes Cafe in Menlo Park will be closing on July 28, according to a message posted on its doors from owner Janet Scopazzi. The message said the building's new landlords have "other plans" for the space, located at 1195 Merrill St.

A longtime cafe employee said the restaurant now under construction in the former Gambardella's restaurant space, on the south side of the same building, is going to take the entire building. The new enterprise is an expansion of celebrity chef Bradley Ogden's empire of upscale restaurants.

Crepes Cafe has been open for 10 years. In her posted message, Ms. Scopazzi, who could not be reached for comment, thanked her customers and her staff; she gave no indication that her cafe would open at a new location.

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TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR
MAP MODIFICATION**

125 DEER MEADOW

This is to notify you that an application for Modification to the Town of Portola Valley Ground Movement Potential Map and Geologic Map has been submitted for review by the Town of Portola Valley Planning Commission. The property is owned by Bob Zider, located at 125 Deer Meadow Lane and identified as APN: 077-212-070.

Planning Commission public hearing has been scheduled to review this application on Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers, Historic School House, Portola Valley Town Center, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA.

Information pertaining to the proposal may be viewed at Town Hall Building & Planning Department, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 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 herein above mentioned.

Dated: July 16, 2014

Carol Borck
Assistant Planner

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Parker Ave. saga not over

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Some residents of Parker Avenue in Atherton, a dead-end street of 21 homes on 7,800-square-foot lots, just want their street to stay the way it is. But others have been trying for years to get town regulations changed so they can further develop their property.

Town officials thought they had a solution to the problem in May when they decided to survey all the street's property owners, asking if they want 900 square feet of the town's right-of-way on the street to be transferred to each property owner. The town has a 70-foot-wide right-of-way for a paved road that is just 20 feet wide.

The results of the survey presented to the City Council at its July 16 meeting seemed clear: Only four residents said they were in favor of having the town give them the additional property, with 11 against it. Another six residents did not respond. Many residents noted they didn't want to pay extra property taxes that might result from the property transfer.

Some residents came to the

council meeting and asked that, with the clear survey results, the matter finally be put to rest.

"I beg you to please make this the last time that my neighbors have to appear before the council," said Marilee Gardner.

At the last minute, however, an email from a resident of the street sent the day before the council meeting said that county officials might be willing to take the property tax issue off the table. The email said that several more homeowners would be in favor of the property transfer with no additional taxes, and that three more residents had filled out surveys favoring the transfer.

In the end, the council did what the town's staff had asked them to do: nothing. The town is working on encroachment permit regulations, which would give official permission for use of the town right-of-way for some private uses.

Those regulations will come back in a few months. Council members said that at that point, if the situation has changed, they will once again revisit Parker Avenue. ■



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Menlo Park city hall remodel still on hold

By **Sandy Brundage**

Almanac Staff Writer

Frustrations arose at a recent Menlo Park City Council meeting over plans to renovate city hall. The council and the city's staff agree that renovating city hall — currently stuffed to the seams with employees — is the right course of action. The point of disagreement is over how much to spend.

The staff presented a \$1.2

million plan in June, and then again at the July 15 council meeting, at the council's request. The discussion closed, yet again, without the council voting on the cost.

Earlier this year the council approved spending \$300,000 on the remodel, which would rearrange workspace and is designed to improve customer service by adding features such as kiosks. The 15-year-old carpet would also be replaced for \$400,000.

Council asks staff to justify overtime labor charges.

But the staff eventually preferred a floor plan that would group departments by similarity, such as putting building next to planning, and asked for another \$500,000. The council balked at the now total cost of

\$1.2 million and asked for more data to support that figure — data which the July 15 discussion indicated the council members didn't get.

"I'm not happy with the fact that there was never a lower-cost alternative presented after we kicked it back and said this is too much," said Councilwoman Kirsten Keith.

A large part of the cost derives from the plan to carry out much of the renovation work at night,

thus driving up labor expenses, to allow the city's staff to keep working during the day.

Mayor Ray Mueller was unconvinced that was completely necessary. Why not look at whether the staff in the department being worked on could not work that day, or if they could be briefly accommodated in another space such as the library, he said.

"We went through that analysis a year ago," Mr. Mueller said. "We did. And our direction at that time was to bring us back what the cost estimates would be with that change. We haven't done that. My question is why?"

He noted that with the imminent departure of one of the city's largest sales tax revenue generators — Office Depot Max — it may be time to plan for some budgetary "belt tightening" next year.

City Manager Alex McIntyre indicated that to the best of his knowledge, the council's direction had been to figure out how to carry out the remodel with the least disruption of staff workflow, and the thinking was that doing the renovation at night was most efficient. He commented that delaying approval of the cost would delay hiring new staff for the planning department, as right now there's no place to put them.

Interim Public Works Director Jesse Quirion said the \$1.2 million was a "not to exceed" number and that once a new floor plan was approved, the city could ask for two bids, one to carry out the remodel during the day, and the other at night.

The council then voted 4-1, with Ms. Keith dissenting, to approve the floor plan. The contract will return for further discussion once bids are received. ▣



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Mama Coco restaurant opens in Menlo Park

By Tiffany Lam
Special to the Almanac

Mama Coco Cocina Mexicana, a family-owned Mexican restaurant, opened this month at 1081 El Camino Real in downtown Menlo Park, at the site formerly occupied by Mex To Go. The restaurant offers a casual dining experience, blending authentic Mexican cuisine and brightly colored décor.

Co-owners Omar Pina and Monica Pilotzi, who have two kids, ages 8 and 14, have lived in Menlo Park for 18 years. This is the first time they've run a restaurant, but Mr. Pina is familiar with the business. He has worked at restaurants in Menlo Park and Palo Alto.

"I've wanted to open my own restaurant for two to three years," he said. "When I ate at Cafe Borrone a few months ago, I looked at Mex To Go across the street and thought it was a great location. I called the owner and she was willing to sell the space."

Under new ownership, the restaurant has undergone a huge

transformation: freshly painted walls — blue, red, and yellow, influenced by the colors of restaurants in Mexico, according to Mr. Pina — new floors, and a redesigned patio.

Ms. Pilotzi's grandmother, Sotoro Tarano, is the inspiration for the restaurant's name. Known as "Mama Coco" to residents of Mexico City, Ms. Tarano established the name (derived from her first name) when she fed home-cooked Mexican cuisine to people in her community.

"She raised 12 kids by herself," said Ms. Pilotzi. "She started to cook at home, invited a few workers from the street, and soon her house was full. She fed the whole community, sometimes for free. She was everyone's mama."

The restaurant's menu uses Mama Coco's recipes. Among them are Mama Coco empanadas (\$9), homemade turnovers filled with vegetables, cheese, and corn; and Mama Coco ensalada poblana (\$9), salad with peppers, avocado, lime juice, and salmon or shrimp.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Family members at their new Mama Coco restaurant are, from left, son Omar Pina Jr., father Omar Pina Sr., daughter Alexa Pina, and mother Monica Pilotzi. The restaurant is named after Monica's grandmother.

It serves basic dishes like tacos (\$10) and burritos (price varies by filling), as well as more unusual entrees like salmon veracruzano (\$15), pan-roasted salmon with Veracruz salsa; and cochinita pibil (\$15), suckling pig. The restaurant also serves wine, beer and other

alcoholic beverages.

Mr. Pina and Ms. Pilotzi said they designed the restaurant for a "family feel," adding to the patio an area for kids to draw and play.

"We want to bring families to the restaurant so they can start making memories," noted

Mr. Pina. "Customers like it because there aren't many family restaurants around. Parents can bring their kids and still enjoy their food."

Ms. Tarano died in May, a couple of months before

See **MAMA COCO**, page 14



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Victorian Days return to history museum

Re-enactors will portray well-to-do Peninsula residents of the past, gossiping about neighbors and discussing fashion of the times, at the San Mateo County Historical Association's Victorian Days event, set for Sunday, Aug. 10.

Admission is free to the event, which will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the county history museum, located at 2200 Broadway in downtown Redwood City.

Victorian tea sessions will be held at noon, 1 p.m., and 2

p.m., when children and adults can drink tea, eat finger sandwiches and scones, and watch the re-enactors.

The tea will cost \$5 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. There will also be children's craft activities.

Visitors can stroll "History Lane" to see exhibits and meet with representatives from history groups on the Peninsula.

Go to historysmc.org for more information, or call 299-0104.

— Tiffany Lam

July 2014

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REQUIRED BY THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD, DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

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The O'Connor Tract Co-Operative Water Company has levels of manganese above the secondary drinking water standard.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. Our water system is in violation of a secondary drinking water standard. Violation of a secondary standard does not pose an immediate threat to health.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water sample results for the second quarter monitoring in 2014 have manganese levels of 57 ppb in well #1 and 135 ppb in well #2 (ppb=parts per billion). This is above the secondary drinking water standard, or secondary maximum contaminant level of 50 ppb. Manganese concentrations above the standard may have an effect on taste and tend to leave black deposits in some plumbing systems.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).** There is no health risk.

What happened? What is being done?

O'Connor Water has been above the secondary standard for manganese for many years, and this has been described to members in the annual Report on Water Quality Measurements. Recent state regulations have imposed stricter requirements for complying with the secondary standard for manganese. The state has issued the company a citation for noncompliance. The state ordered the company to start quarterly monitoring in February 2012, and this monitoring was completed in September 2012. The state also required that manganese monitoring be continued quarterly and that the results of these tests be reported to all water consumers.

We are working on a plan, which will have to be approved by the state, to communicate with all water consumers about the water quality.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this public notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For further information, contact:
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Telephone 650-321-2723
Email: oconnorwater@gmail.com
O'Connor Tract Co-Operative Water Co., System 4110019
P.O. Box 1375, Palo Alto, California 94302-1375

Atherton council hikes staff purchasing limits

By Tiffany Lam

Special to the Almanac

Atherton's town staff has been given more flexibility in making big purchases, but the change didn't come without some opposition.

In a 3-1 vote at its July 16 meeting, the Atherton City Council increased the limits on the amount of money town staff can spend without a formal bidding process.

As recommended by City Manager George Rodericks, the council increased the limit to \$25,000 for professional

services and \$30,000 for everything else, including supplies and equipment. The previous limit for both was \$15,000. Purchases will continue to be restricted to items in the town's approved budget.

Undergoing a formal bidding process takes additional staff time and resources and may not result in a lower cost, Mr. Rodericks said.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Lewis, participating in the meeting via a conference call, noted that the lower limits "were set in place at a time when we had city

managers and staff that were not as experienced or responsible as they are now."

Councilman Bill Widmer opposed the change. "It's not a question of saving staff time, but of transparency and doing the right thing for the taxpayer," he said. "Every day you read about spending limits where people didn't exercise responsibilities and there was embezzlement. Towns lose hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Mayor Cary Wiest responded that the town has checks and balances to prevent something like that from happening. "Increasing limits would give us more flexibility," he said.

Vice Mayor Rick DeGolia also voted in favor of the change. ■

Grand jury urges county to dissolve harbor district

By Tiffany Lam

Special to the Almanac

The San Mateo County Harbor District has dealt with multiple issues, from financial problems to accusations of records destruction and excess benefits paid to commissioners. Yet, San Mateo County provides the district with \$5 million annually.

A five-member Board of Commissioners governs the district, which operates Pillar Point Harbor at Half Moon Bay and Oyster Point Marina in South San Francisco. The district is funded by property taxes and commercial activities.

In a July 9 report, the San

Mateo County civil grand jury calls on the county to dissolve the district and take over its functions.

Until such dissolution occurs, the grand jury recommends the district develop plans for standardized financial reporting, eliminate use of property tax revenue, and form standing ad hoc committees that meet regularly.

The district's problems are multifold — lawsuits charging harassment, lost rent checks, police presence at commission meetings, and criticism from the press and social media on the dysfunction of the district commissioners. This year's grand jury

received multiple complaints, including about overcharging of lessees and lack of transparency in financial reporting.

This isn't the first time a grand jury has dealt with harbor district issues. Reports on the district date back to 1963. A 2001-2002 report remarked on the lack of collegiality between district commissioners. In 2006, a review by the Local Agency Formation Commission recommended the district be dissolved.

In its report, the grand jury requests responses from the Local Agency Formation Commission, the Board of Supervisors, the harbor district, and the city of Half Moon Bay.

The civil grand jury is made up of San Mateo County residents, appointed by a judge, who investigate problems and prepare reports recommending action by government agencies in the county. The agencies are required to issue a public response to the report.

Go to sanmateocourt.org/grandjury for more information about grand jury reports. ■



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR MAP MODIFICATION 100 ALAMOS ROAD

This is to notify you that an application for Modification to the Town of Portola Valley Ground Movement Potential Map and Geologic Map has been submitted for review by the Town of Portola Valley Planning Commission. The property is owned by Dawn Stockholm located at 100 Alamos Road and identified as APN: 077-271-100.

Planning Commission public hearing has been scheduled to review this application on **Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Town Hall Council Chambers, Historic School House, Portola Valley Town Center, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA.

Information pertaining to the proposal may be viewed at Town Hall Building & Planning Department, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 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 herein above mentioned.

Dated: July 16, 2014

Carol Borck
Assistant Planner

MAMA COCO

continued from page 13

the opening. "She didn't know about the name. We wanted to surprise her," said Mr. Pina.

But the restaurant is lined with reminders of her lessons, according to Ms. Pilotzi. On the walls are picture frames with paper cutouts of Spanish words, including amor (love), tradiciÖn (tradition), and sabor (flavor).

"They're things she taught us growing up. I think she would be really happy to see them here," said Ms. Pilotzi.

Mama Coco, located next to Trellis Restaurant, just south of Santa Cruz Avenue, is open every day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. ■

Hula is 'poster cat' for working cats

Maybe cats really do have nine lives

By **Kate Daly**

Special to the Almanac

In 2010, Hula's previous owner gave the tabby cat up for adoption when the owner's fiancée turned out to be a non-cat lover.

About the same time, Sue Foley was looking for a new barn cat for the family's three-acre property in Woodside.

A cat had come with the place when the family moved in years ago. "(The cat) didn't want to be indoors, and he didn't want to be around people," Ms. Foley says, but he helped keep the rodent population in check until he died many years later.

In 2010, the Foleys ended up adopting Hula, the first member of the Humane Society Silicon Valley's Working Cat Adoption Program. Since she is allergic to cats, Ms. Foley says, it's a great arrangement; Hula "doesn't want to be picked up"



Photo by Kate Daly

Hula the cat lives and works in Sue Foley's barn in Woodside.

Garden at the Humane Society in Milpitas, where handlers use clickers to train them so the cats associate feeding time with a noise and place, and learn to stick around for future meals.

When the cats are placed in new environments, they are supposed to be kept contained for a couple of weeks to acclimate to the setting. The society will loan Great Dane-sized crates for that purpose, and



Photo by Kate Daly

Hula is the the first member of the Humane Society Silicon Valley's Working Cat Adoption Program.

offer support and counseling during the transition stage.

This April, Ms. Foley introduced Hula to a group of potential adoptees at a publicity lunch held at the family home. Ms. Foley wanted others to know about the program because "it has been a very successful experience for me."

That day Hula would have said the feeling is mutual. She was taking time off from predator patrol, and busy tucking into some leftover salmon a neighbor brought to the barn.

Go to hssv.org for more information about the Humane Society Silicon Valley. ■

The Working Cat Adoption Program is designed to give independent cats another chance at life.

and sleeps in the tack room.

Now after several years of earning her room and board, Hula has become the poster cat of the adoption program.

Humane Society Silicon Valley is a private, nonprofit organization in Milpitas that will take in animals from other shelters. Director of Customer Relations Nichole Boudreau says the society has more than a 90 percent save rate and "sees hundreds of strays and feral cats every year. ... The working cats are not feral, the majority are anti-social."

There is a separate Trap-Neuter-Release Program for homeless cats. Ms. Boudreau says the difference is the Working Cat Adoption Program is designed to give independent cats another chance at life as "green pest control" at barns, warehouses, corporate campuses, plant nurseries, and private gardens.

Right now there are eight working cats available for adoption. The fee is \$10, and the cats come vaccinated, spayed, neutered, tested for feline leukemia and immunodeficiency viruses, and micro-chipped.

They roam around in an outdoor enclosed Community Cat

Frances Peace Kearton

April 24, 1920 – July 12, 2014

Fran passed away peacefully after a brief illness. A resident of Menlo Park, California, she was a true Southern belle, born and raised in Georgia, yet driven to be an artiste. After working as a John Robert Powers model, she went on to perform in the early days of live broadcast television. She and co-star Dick Van Dyke wrote copy, built sets, and acted in *The Music Shop*, shown live in Atlanta in the 1950's. Fran was a woman of many talents. She was a gifted hostess, enjoyed painting and writing, and could turn a phrase to make anyone laugh. She was prolific with a typewriter and the bon mot, leaving behind a wide trail of letters to those willing to correspond by mail. Late in life Fran wrote two delightful autobiographical books: *Waiting for the Banana Peel*, and *French Beds I've Slept In (and Some I Wish I Hadn't)*. She also enjoyed tap dancing, and shuffle-hop-stepped in class every other week. Fran will be remembered for her beauty, elegance, and extraordinary wit.



She was preceded in death by her husband, Reginald Ruston Kearton, and her son, Allison Hoyle Adams. Fran is survived by her grandson Kristian Kearton (Malene), a long list of extended family and friends, and friends and admirers from around the world.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, July 24 at 3:00pm at the Menlo Circus Club in Atherton, California. At Fran's request, please toast her life with a glass of chardonnay ("don't forget the glass of ice on the side!").

Donations can be made to the Golden West chapter of the ALS society.

PAID OBITUARY



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON REQUEST FOR VARIANCE 123 PINON DRIVE

THIS IS TO NOTIFY YOU that an application for a variance request (File #X7E-137) has been submitted for review by the Town of Portola Valley Board of Adjustment (Planning Commission). The proposed variance would allow for:

- A ground-mounted solar panel array to be located within the required 20' side yard setback area

The property is owned by Jason Donahue located at 123 Pinon Drive and is identified as APN: 077-060-110.

The Board of Adjustment public hearing has been scheduled to review the subject variance application on **Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.**, in the town council chambers (Historic Schoolhouse), 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California.

Information pertaining to the proposal may be viewed at Town Hall Building and Planning Department, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 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 herein above mentioned.

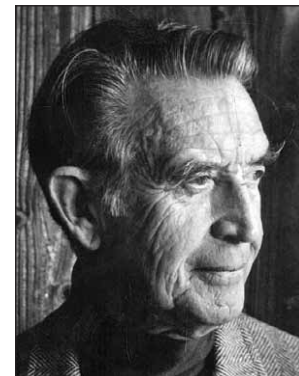
Dated: July 16, 2014

Carol Borck
Assistant Planner

Richard Patrick Brennan

Resident of Palo Alto

Richard Patrick Brennan, journalist, editor, author, adventurer, died at his Palo Alto home on July 4, 2014 at age 92. He led a full life, professionally and personally. He was born and raised in San Francisco, joined the Army during World War II after which he majored in English at San Francisco State on the GI Bill and then became a journalist for the Ukiah newspaper. His career as an editor began in the aerospace industry in Southern California where he gained experience and several lifelong friends. Lockheed brought him back to Northern California.



Adventure always beckoned in the form of long "leaves of absence": trekking through Europe, skiing in Aspen, sailing on a schooner. Later, he became Chief Editor at IDA (Institute for Defense Analyses) in Washington DC for four years before returning to California for good in 1972 and working as a consultant on transportation, environmental and technology assessment issues.

The next phase of his life included co-authoring a book on *The Future of the Automobile*. And he wrote three books on science for the layman (John Wiley & Sons). The last in the series, published in 1997, was *Heisenberg Probably Slept Here*, a layman's guide to physics.

A new adventure in 1987 was this Irish bachelor's marriage to Carolyn Fratessa in Termonfeckin, Ireland with Carolyn's cousins in attendance. He is survived by his wife of almost 27 years and an extended family of great friends, new and old; his brother, Jim, predeceased him.

He spoke of science and literature with equal joy. We will miss his quick wit and intelligence. He was unique.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Rosalie Rendu Center, 1760 Bay Road, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 or Abilities United, 525 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306. A memorial mass will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Palo Alto on Thursday July 31 at 4 pm with reception at Allied Arts in Menlo Park to follow. Burial will be private.

PAID OBITUARY

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49ers' Harbaugh gives talk on value of fatherhood

By Tiffany Lam
Special to the Almanac

"I always say I support no cause other than the 49ers," said Jim Harbaugh, head coach of the San Francisco 49ers, speaking at an Atherton fundraiser for an organization that fights human trafficking. "But this cause I support."

The event, held at an Atherton home July 15, benefited an organization called California Against Slavery (CAS) Research and Education. The program centered on the value of fatherhood, and the connection between foster care and human trafficking.

Sixty percent of trafficked children are from foster care, said Daphne Phung, president of the organization. "Kids, especially from fatherless or unhealthy foster homes, are lured by traffickers who create a perverted version of a family."

Mr. Harbaugh said his father always believed in him. "Children need you to believe in them," he said. "They have to be esteemed at home by a father, uncle, foster parent, or teacher."

All proceeds from the event



Photo by Barbara Wood/The Almanac

"Children need you to believe in them," said 49ers head coach Jim Harbaugh at an Atherton fundraiser.

will go to research on improving recruitment of foster families, according to Ms. Phung. "We want to change the perception that foster kids are hopeless and decrease the disparity between foster agencies," she said. "People who apply to become foster parents can sit in the system for two years."

Go to casre.org to learn more about California Against Slavery (CAS) Research and Education. ■

Dean named interim principal

John Dean, the Portola Valley School District's director of learning and media, has been named interim principal at Corte Madera School. The appointment was made by the district's governing board at a special meeting July 18.

He will serve in this capacity while the district searches for a permanent replacement for Michael Corritone, who

resigned in late June to take a job in the East Bay.

District Superintendent Lisa Gonzales said that after an initial recruitment process did not turn up a good candidate for principal, the school board decided, on her recommendation, to hire a search firm. A new principal could be in place as early as October, Ms. Gonzales said.

■ POLICE CALLS

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

WOODSIDE

Driving with suspended license report: A deputy on state Highway 84 stopped a vehicle with an expired registration and asked for the driver's license and evidence that he owned the vehicle. The driver told the deputy that he didn't have the paperwork; that he didn't need a driver's license in that he was not driving, but "traveling"; and that the state's driving laws did not apply to him. He was issued a ticket and his vehicle was towed. July 9.

Warrant arrest report: Deputies arrested and booked into county jail James Kehrberg of La Honda on Montelena Court in connection with three separate arrest warrants in the amounts of \$3,000, \$5,000 and \$7,500, all for driving with a suspended license. July 11.

MENLO PARK

Auto burglary reports:

■ A vehicle parked on Noel Drive was found broken into and ransacked. The interior showed evidence of a damaged ignition switch, a result of someone trying to start the vehicle without a key. Nothing was taken. July 13.

■ Someone smashed a window on a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of El Camino Real and stole personal documents. July 13.

Theft reports:

■ An Apple iPad was stolen from a residence on Madera Avenue. Estimated loss: \$500. July 16.

■ Someone stole a parking plaza permit from a vehicle parked in Parking Plaza 3 at Santa Cruz Avenue and University Drive. July 15.

■ A resident of Hill Avenue told police that his paycheck had been stolen from his mailbox. No report of losses. July 15.

■ Someone stole a purse from a shopping cart at El Rancho Supermarket at 812 Willow Road. No report of losses. July 11.

Stolen vehicle report: Silver 1993 Honda Accord stolen from Ravenswood Avenue. July 13.

The Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees

...is seeking applicants to serve on the District's Construction Bond Oversight Committee



This committee will meet four times per year to monitor expenditures for the building projects of the recently approved Measure A school construction bond. Periodically, the committee will report bond expenditures to the community.

APPLICATIONS

Applications may be downloaded from the Sequoia District web site at www.seq.org departments/administrative/construction or may be requested from the district office by calling Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services Enrique Navas at 650-369-1411, ext. 22218.

Send completed applications to
Enrique Navas
Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Sequoia Union High School District
480 James Avenue
Redwood City, CA 94062

TIMELINE

- Application filing period – July 31, 2014, to August 29, 2014
- Committee membership announced by the Board of Trustees on September 17, 2014

For further information, contact Enrique Navas at 650-369-1411, ext. 22218.



Discover the best places to eat this week!

AMERICAN Armadillo Willy's

941-2922
1031 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos
www.armadillowillys.com

CHINESE Ming's

856-7700
1700 Embarcadero East, Palo Alto
www.mings.com

CHINESE New Tung Kee Noodle House

947-8888
520 Showers Drive, Mountain View
www.shopmountainview.com/luunoodlemv

INDIAN Janta Indian Restaurant

462-5903
369 Lytton Ave.
www.jantaindianrestaurant.com

Read and post reviews, explore restaurant menus, get hours and directions and more at [ShopPaloAlto](http://ShopPaloAlto.com), [ShopMenloPark](http://ShopMenloPark.com) and [ShopMountainView](http://ShopMountainView.com)

powered by:



Middlefield Road set for \$12.5 million makeover

By Tiffany Lam
Special to the Almanac

Middlefield Road in unincorporated North Fair Oaks is in the process of a \$12.5 million redesign.

Due to an initiative by residents and businesses in the area, San Mateo County has allocated the money for the reconfiguration and beautification of a six-block stretch of Middlefield, from Pacific Avenue to 5th Avenue, according to county Supervisor Warren Slocum.

The community of North Fair Oaks, bordered by Redwood City, Menlo Park, and Atherton, has a population of 15,000, with 75 percent of them Latino.

"The redesign will attract a lot of people from surrounding communities," said Bernie Martinez, branch manager of the San Mateo Credit Union on Middlefield Road. "People will feel pride and a sense of belonging to their community."

Pinata laced storefronts, multiple taquerias, and other locally owned businesses line this area

of Middlefield Road. Above the buildings are power lines that stretch across the street.

"Our main goal is the undergrounding of these power poles," said Mr. Slocum on Monday, July 14, during a walking tour of the street. "There is 100 percent consensus that the street needs safer crossings, wider sidewalks, bike lanes, and beautification."

Surveys and feedback from public meetings have shown that consensus has not been reached on the lane configuration, with a choice between three or the current four traffic lanes.

"Traffic here goes really fast," noted Mr. Martinez, who supports the idea of three lanes. "And (three lanes) will allow for wider sidewalks."

However, concerns have been raised about traffic delays and making sure traffic doesn't back up, according to deputy county manager Peggie Jensen.

Business owners also express concerns about parking. "Without parking, we're nothing," said Esperanza Vasquez, owner of Villa Latina, a Western wear store on Middlefield Road.



Photo by Tiffany Lam/The Almanac

A view of Middlefield Road from its intersection with 5th Avenue, taken during a walking tour of the North Fair Oaks neighborhood on July 14. The power lines, now stretching across the street, will go underground as part of a redesign of a six-block stretch of the road.

"Consumers need a proper entry way to stores."

"One of the county's highest priorities is parking," said Ms. Jensen. "People want to see parallel parking, instead of diagonal, to increase safety. But this will lose 30 percent of the spaces. The ideal solution would be an off-street parking lot."

The county is bringing in

engineers to conduct traffic and parking analyses for the redesign. On Thursday, July 24, a public meeting is scheduled for the discussion of the lane reduction proposal, as well as other possible changes, including new traffic lights, more trash bins, gathering places for community events, and commissioning of public art.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Fair Oaks Community Center at 2600 Middlefield Road.

The reconstruction would be done in phases over four to five years to minimize impact to local businesses, said Ms. Jensen. She foresees construction beginning in early 2015, after the Board of Supervisors has finalized designs. ■

CALENDAR

Go to AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more local calendar listings

Talks & Authors

A Poet, a Poet, a Poet San Mateo County Poet Laureate Caroline Goodwin, East Palo Alto Poet Laureate Kalamu Chache, and "Menlo Park Renaissance Man" Jym Marks will share their poetry and talk about their creative processes. Aug. 2, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/library

Jacqueline Winspear, author of the Maisie Dobbs series, Jacqueline Winspear will share her standalone novel, "The Care and Management of Lies: A Novel of the Great War," a drama which explores love's ability to survive in a fractured world. July 30, 7:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-324-4321. www.keplers.com/event/jacqueline-winspear

Blogger Deva Dalporto In this talk for adults, Deva Dalporto will share her parent-

oriented humor — showcased in her new book "I Just Want to Be Alone" — on topics like texting abbreviations, kid messes and bathroom privacy. Aug. 2, 2-3 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-0147. www.smcl.org

USGS July Evening Public Lecture This United States Geological Survey lecture will discuss "The Ecological Value of Coastal Fog: Cooling relief and nebulous forecasts for northern California." Topics will include how fog contributes to biodiversity and how and why scientists study fog today. July 31, 7-8 p.m. Free. USGS Menlo Park campus, 345 Middlefield Road, Bldg. 3, Conf. Room A, Menlo Park. Call 650-329-5136. online.wr.usgs.gov/calendar

Classes/Workshops

3D Printing Demonstration The Portola Valley Library will host an event on the concept of 3D printing — in which a real object is made from a digital model — and its new MakerBot Replicator 2 printer. Visitors can touch samples and ask questions. Teens and adults can sign up to be trained to use the

printer. July 24, 5-6 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, Community Hall, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Printmaking with Peopleologie In this class, students will learn how to make prints using linoleum blocks with animal designs, paper, ink and brayers. Students must be age 5 or older. Please register by contacting the library. July 23, 4-5 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Clubs/Meetings

ESL Conversation Club Each week this club will give community members an opportunity to practice their English conversation skills in a welcoming environment. Wednesdays, July 9-29, 5-6 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2525. www.menlopark.org/389/Library

SRI Organon Toastmasters Toastmasters focuses on improving the communication and leadership skills of its members. Each week covers a different skill related to public speaking. Club membership is diverse, and guests are welcome. Tuesdays, through

December, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. SRI International, Building G, Laurel Avenue, opposite the Menlo Park Police Station, Menlo Park. www.sriorganon.com

Community Events

August Free First Friday For August's Free First Friday program at the San Mateo County History Museum, attendance will be free all day. At 11 a.m., preschool children can participate in a train craft project and listen to a story. Docents will lead a tour for adults at 2 p.m. Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. www.historysmc.org www.stanfordjazzfestival.org/main-events/2014/8/3/fred-hersch-trio

Lifetree Cafe Menlo Park will host two hour-long conversations called "To Frack or Not to Frack," which will focus on the facts and fiction about hydraulic fracturing with time for community members to weigh in. Complimentary snacks and beverages will be served. July 23, 7-8 p.m.; July 24, 9:15-10:15 a.m. Free. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-854-

5897. www.facebook.com/LifetreeCafeMP

Concerts

Bennett Paster & Taylor Eigsti In this Stanford Jazz Festival show, versatile keyboardist Bennett Paster will be joined by pianist Taylor Eigsti and others. July 30, 7:30-9 p.m. \$15-\$35. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. Call 650-736-0324. www.stanfordjazzfestival.org/main-events/2014/7/30/bennett-paster-taylor-eigsti

Cafe Conversations and Master Classes Music@Menlo will hold a number of conversations with performing artists, as well as master classes where educators from the Chamber Music Institute will impart their knowledge to young players. Monday-Friday, July 21-August 8, 11:45 a.m. Free. Menlo School, 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. Call 650-330-2030. www.musicatmenlo.org

Carte Blanche Concert I: Escher String Quartet At this Music@Menlo con-

See **CALENDAR**, page 18

Name: Rudi Wever

Position: Sales

Last Book Read: The Art of Racing in the Rain

Last Movie: The Icemen

Last Ride: Highway 9, across Skyline Blvd., down Page Mill Rd, and into work.

Favorite Epic Ride: Mt. Revard via Chambéry to Aix-les-Bains... amazing!

Bike: LeMond Tete de Course



Enjoy the ride.



CALENDAR

continued from page 17

cert, the Escher String Quartet will perform four string quartets by Alexander von Zemlinsky, pieces written over the course of 40 years. July 23, 8 p.m. \$70 general; \$30 under age 30. Stent Family Hall, Menlo School, 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. Call 650-330-2030. For more Music@Menlo information, go to www.musicatmenlo.org

Dena DeRose tribute to Shirley Horn As part of the Stanford Jazz Festival, pianist Dena DeRose will give a tribute to one of her major inspirations, Shirley Horn. July 31, 7:30-9 p.m. \$15-\$45. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. Call 650-736-0324. www.stanfordjazzfestival.org/mainevents/2014/7/31/dena-derose-sings-shirley-horn

Koret Young Performers Concert Music@Menlo's Koret Young Performers Concerts will feature students in the Chamber

Music Institute's Young Performers Program (ages 9 to 18). Saturdays, July 26 and Aug. 2, 1 p.m.; August 9, at noon. Free. The Center for Performing Arts, Menlo-Atherton High School, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. Call 650-330-2030. www.musicatmenlo.org

Music on the Square: Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers Blues veterans Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers will perform as part of the Music on the Square series in Redwood City. July 25, 6-8 p.m. Free. Court-house Square, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. www.redwoodcity.org/events/music-on-the-square.html

Prelude Performances Popular events at the Music@Menlo summer festival, Prelude Performances will showcase young artists (ages 18 to 29) from the Chamber Music Institute's International Program. Check website for specific dates and locations. July 22-Aug. 9, 5:30 p.m. Free. Menlo School and The Center for Performing Arts, Menlo-Atherton High School, Atherton. Call 650-330-2030. www.musicatmenlo.org

Redwood Symphony's Mid-Summer Magic For Mid-Summer Magic, Alexander Eisenberg will perform Tchaikovsky's "Violin Concerto" in a Redwood Symphony concert of easy listening favorites. The show will also include music from Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess," the John Williams score from "Catch Me If You Can" and Ravel's "Bolero." July 26, 8-10 p.m. \$25 adult; \$30 at the door; \$10 student. Canada College Main Theater, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Woodside. Call 650-366-6872. www.redwoodsmyphony.org

Taylor Eigsti & Julian Lage Prolific pianist Taylor Eigsti will perform alongside young guitarist Julian Lage and others in this Stanford Jazz Festival concert. Aug. 5, 8-9:30 p.m. \$15-\$45. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. Call 650-736-0324. www.stanfordjazzfestival.org/mainevents/2014/8/5/taylor-eigsti-julian-lage

Exhibits

'Luminous Essays' The Caldwell Gallery will have on display "Luminous Essays," an exhibit of works by fine art photographers from the Peninsula Photographic Arts Guild. July 2-Sept. 3, 5 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Caldwell Gallery, 400 County Center at the Hall of Justice, Redwood City. Call 650-654-2766. bnc.smcgov.org

'Night, Smoke and 'The New Landscape' The Cantor Arts Center will mount a new exhibit called "The New Landscape: Experiments in Light by Gyorgy Kepes," which explores art's relevance in a scientific age. Forty-five panels by the Hungarian-born American artist capturing scientific imagery (minerals, cellular patterns and tissue fibers) will be on display. Wednesday-Sunday, July 23-Nov. 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays til 8 p.m. (after September 21, the center will also be open on Mondays). Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Kids & Families

Imagination Playground Party The Portola Valley Library will host an event with Imagination Playground blocks. All ages can play and build with these safe, oversized blocks. July 24, 5-6 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Kamishibai storytelling The century-old craft of kamishibai, or papercard theater storytelling, will be shared through three Japanese folktales told in English. The program is recommended for ages 5 and up. July 25, 2-3 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. Call 650-851-0147. www.smcl.org

Music on Monday The Portola Valley Library will host a Music on Monday event for ages 3 and under, full of singing and dancing. The program, which occurs the first Monday of each month, is sponsored by the Friends of the Portola Valley Library.

Summer concert

Singer Jessica Johnson will perform soul and jazz songs on Wednesday, July 30, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Fremont Park at Santa Cruz Avenue and University Drive in downtown Menlo Park. The free event is part of the city's summer concert series.



Photo by Dan Kutler

Aug. 4, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Story Time with Todd Parr Children's author Todd Parr will hold a story time event sharing "It's Okay to Make Mistakes," his book which encourages readers to try new things and feel good about themselves. July 28, 11 a.m. Free. Redwood City Public Library, Redwood Shores branch, 399 Marine Parkway at Bridge Parkway, Redwood City. www.keplers.com/event/story-time-todd-parr

The Lizard Lady The Lizard Lady will bring a variety of creatures to the library as part of the Summer Learning Program. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Atherton Library. July 28, 3-3:45 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Toddler Storytime Story time for children ages 18 months to 3 years will be held each Tuesday at the Portola Valley Library. On the third Tuesday of each month a craft activity will follow story time. Tuesdays, June 3-July 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Film

Family Movie Night Atherton Library will host a screening of "Frozen" for its Family Movie Night event. Popcorn will be provided by the Friends of the Library. The doors will open at 6:45 p.m. July 25, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Movies on the Square: 'Gravity' Redwood City's Movies on the Square series will continue with a screening of "Gravity," the Alfonso Cuarón film starring Sandra Bullock as a scientist and George Clooney as an astronaut, who are both on a space shuttle mission. July 31, 8:45 p.m. Free. Courthouse Square, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. www.redwoodcity.org/events/movies.html

Food & Drink

Filipino Heritage Dinner Left Bank Brasserie in Menlo Park will host a Filipino Franco dinner with open seating. The prix fixe, three-course meal will be served family style. July 24, 5:30-10 p.m. \$45. Left Bank Brasserie Menlo Park, 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-473-6543. www.LeftBank.com

LB Steak Schramberg Wine Dinner LB Steak in Menlo Park will host a dinner with Schramberg Vineyard. Chef de Cuisine Kelsey Casavan will offer a four-course seasonal tasting menu to pair with Schramberg wines, and winemaker Keith Hock will be on hand to answer questions. July 26, 6-9 p.m. \$175. LB Steak Menlo Park, 898 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-321-8980. www.lbsteak.com

Live Music

John Garcia Blues Band will perform for the Menlo Park 2014 Summer Concert Series at Fremont Park. July 23, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Fremont Park, University and Santa Cruz avenues, Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2220. www.menlopark.org/241/Special-Events

PAL Blues, Arts and BBQ Festival This free festival will feature Bay Area blues musicians and others, including, Rick Estrin & the Nightcats, Aki Kumar Blues Band, Tebo, Ms. Taylor P. Collins and more. There will also be an inflatable play land for kids, art, and food and drink. July 26, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Courthouse Square, 2200 Broadway St., Red-

wood City. www.palbluesfestival.com

Singer/songwriter Shawn Colvin, a Grammy winner and memoir author, will perform folk tunes that tell stories at the Bing Concert Hall. Aug. 2, 7:30-9 p.m. \$30-\$60. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Call 650-724-2464. live.stanford.edu

Vocalist Jessica Johnson Jessica Johnson, soul and jazz singer, will perform at Fremont Park for the Menlo Park 2014 Summer Concert Series. July 30, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Fremont Park, University & Santa Cruz avenues, Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2220. www.menlopark.org/241/Special-Events

West Grand Boulevard Motown group West Town Boulevard will perform for Menlo Park's 2014 Summer Concert Series. Aug. 6, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Fremont Park, University and Santa Cruz ave, Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2220. www.menlopark.org/241/Special-Events

On Stage

'Moby Dick - Rehearsed' Stanford Repertory Theater will put on a production of Orson Welles' blank-verse adaptation of Melville's masterpiece — replete with the hunt, meditations on the sea and the mania of Captain Ahab. July 17-Aug. 10, Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. \$15 student/senior; \$25 general. Pigott Theater, Memorial Auditorium, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-725-5838. www.stanford.edu/group/repertorytheater

'The Great Pretender' TheatreWorks will put on a production of "The Great Pretender" by David West Read, a hit at the company's New Works Festival about how a children's TV host deals with the death of a popular puppeteer. See website for specific dates and times. July 9-Aug. 3, 2, 7:30 or 8 p.m. \$25-\$68. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. www.theatreworks.org/shows/1415-season/thegreatpretender

Teen Activities

Author Maggie Stiefvater on 'Sinner' In a partnership with Forever Young Adult, Kepler's Books will welcome Maggie Stiefvater back to share the new book in her Shiver Series, "Sinner." July 24, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. www.keplers.com/event/ya-maggie-stiefvater

Tinkering Teens: Designing a journal The Portola Valley Library will hold a Tinkering Teens event where children ages 13 to 18 can decorate and design their own journal. Registration is required. July 24, 4-5 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560. smcl.org

Et Alia

'Peanuts' paintings by Tom Everhart Peabody Fine Art Gallery will host an exclusive exhibition of works by Tom Everhart, who was permitted by Charles Schulz to paint his Peanuts comic strip characters in his own style. July 19-Sept. 1, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Peabody Fine Art Gallery, 603 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-322-2200. www.peabodygallery.com

Walk with a Doc, a free program of the San Mateo County Medical Association Community Service Foundation, will allow community members to stroll through the park with doctor volunteers and ask health-related questions. Walkers will receive a complimentary snack, bottled water and pedometer. Aug. 2, 10 a.m. Free. Red Morton Community Park, 1120 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City. Call 650-312-1663. www.smcma.org/walk-withadoc

We're Hiring Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Palo Alto Weekly is for looking for a talented, experienced journalist with a passion for the worlds of art and entertainment.

The ideal candidate for the full-time job of Arts & Entertainment Editor will be knowledgeable about the local scene, from Mountain View to Redwood City. You are as adept at covering the traditional arts as you are great nightlife. You can tweet from events, brainstorm multimedia features and dive into arts education. As A&E Editor, you will be responsible for seeking out and keeping our readership informed of all the significant and interesting arts happenings via our website (www.paloaltoonline.com/arts), weekly print edition and social media.

This is a great opportunity for an organized and creative self-starter who also enjoys working as part of a team. Because this is an editor position, we are looking for someone with a strong journalism background and plenty of ideas. Solid editing, writing and social media skills a must. Please email your resume, cover letter and three A&E-related clips to Editor Jocelyn Dong at jdong@pawebly.com, with "Arts Editor" in the subject line. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.

The Palo Alto Weekly, part of the independent Embarcadero Media group of news organizations, is an award-winning, 35-year-old online and print publication.



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County history goes up online

By **Tiffany Lam**
Special to the Almanac

Visitors to the San Mateo County History Museum see only a small part of the museum's collections. Most of the items and archives are stored away until needed for exhibition or research.

Many of these "hidden" pieces can now be seen online.

Go to tinyurl.com/history732 to see 500 pieces from the collections. More pieces will appear as the museum marshals resources toward the effort, said museum president Mitch Postel.

"It's becoming more and more professional among museums

to allow people access to the contents of their collections," Mr. Postel said. "A lot of bigger museums like the Smithsonian and the California Historical Society are doing it."

The county history museum currently features exhibits on natural resources, suburban development, ethnic experience, and entrepreneurial achievement on the Peninsula, including 15,000 three-dimensional objects. The collections date back to the times of the

Ohlone Indians.

The museum holds 200,000 archival items in its research library, including photographs, books, newspapers, manuscripts, memorabilia and government records.

"We have extensive collections, especially photographic collections, that we're trying to bring to the public to give a sense of what we've got," Mr. Postel said. "Only about 5 percent of our three-dimensional items, and an even smaller percentage of our archival items, are on display."

Collections posted online

include photos of and information about: the San Mateo County Sports Hall of Fame, the Charles Parsons Model Ship collection, and a sampling of James Van Court's photographs of Redwood City in the 1890s.

The history museum is open every day except Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The research library is accessible Tuesday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., and on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

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



Photo by Brian Henry

Galway, thataway

Brian Henry, Menlo Park's city aborist, took this photo of a new sign on a Civic Center light post showing the way to Menlo Park's "friendship city," Galway, Ireland. Galway, it says, is 8,055 kilometers away, approximately 5,000 miles. The other signs point to various Menlo Park city facilities. The light post is near the parking lot off Laurel Street on the south side of the city administration building, near the Burgess athletic field.

Djerassi arts program holds open house

The Djerassi Resident Artists' Program will hold an open house Sunday, July 27, at the Djerassi Ranch, located at 2325 Bear Gulch Road in Woodside.

The event, which runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., will showcase artists and scientists from Scientific Delirium Madness, the first arts-and-science-themed residency at Djerassi.

New this year is the "Plein Air Paint Out" with the Woodside Plein Air Painting Group. Members will be stationed along the trails painting landscape scenes. Finished works will be displayed at Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road in Woodside, on Friday, Aug. 1, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Go to djerassi.org/openhouse.html to buy or reserve tickets. Reservations are required. General admission is \$50. Alumni and children are free.

— Tiffany Lam

BRIEFS

RethinkWaste wins awards

RethinkWaste, the waste-management authority that handles garbage, recycling and green waste for 12 public agencies in San Mateo County, has won awards for its recycling and educational programs.

The organization won the business environmental award from Acterra, an environmental non-profit based in Palo Alto, and the gold excellence award in public education from the Solid Waste Association of North America.

The second award was for public tours of the Shoreway Environmental Center, the recycling facility in San Carlos. On the tours, students and others in the community learn what happens to their recyclables, yard trimmings and food scraps.

— Tiffany Lam



NOTICE OF

GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

The City of Menlo Park is now recruiting interested individuals to serve on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC). The GPAC would be comprised of 11 members appointed by the City Council, including two members from the City Council, three members at-large, and a representative from each of the Bicycle, Environmental Quality, Housing, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Transportation Commissions. The GPAC will help guide the General Plan and M-2 Area Update process over the next two years. Become involved in your community. **Apply today!**

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE	NUMBER OF VACANCIES	More Info
General Plan Advisory Committee	3 Positions (At-large)	Please visit the General Plan and M-2 Area Update project page at http://menlopark.org/739/General-Plan-Update

TO APPLY: Contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620 or email the City Clerk, Pam Aguilar, at PIAguilar@menlopark.org to request an application. You may also visit us online at: <http://menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/4639>

APPLICATIONS DUE MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014

TOWN OF WOODSIDE
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD
WOODSIDE, CA 94062

PLANNING COMMISSION
July 31, 2014
7:30 PM

PUBLIC HEARING

2. SV Projects LLC SDES2014-0002
360 Mountain Home Road Planner: Sage Schaan, Senior Planner

Continued hearing of review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a revision to an approved Demolition Plan (SDES2013-0004).

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.

And the winners are ...

Almanac readers name their favorite restaurants, shops, services and places to have fun

You'll see many old favorites — and some newcomers — on the list of winners of the 2014 Almanac Readers' Choice awards.

The Readers' Choice poll is all about letting readers express their opinions about the places they like, and in some cases, love, in our area.

Balloting is open for six weeks and is exclusively online. Each ballot must contain votes for at least five businesses in five categories. Voters confirm their selections by clicking on a link in an email we send after a ballot is submitted. If we don't receive a confirmation, the ballot is not counted.

We encourage businesses to actively campaign with their loyal customers to get votes, and many do. But we prohibit multiple

votes from the same person, email address or IP address. We have multiple ways of discovering cheating or ballot-stuffing, and each year we disqualify many ballots that we determine came from illegitimate email addresses.

This year more than 16,000 votes were cast, with about 70 percent confirmed and counted.

We allow a business in a neighboring city to win if it receives the most votes, which occasionally occurs. We populate the initial ballot with obvious businesses and those that did well in the voting the previous year, but any business located on the Midpeninsula (Redwood City to Mountain View) may ask to be listed.

Watch for our 2015 contest next April. ▀

Writers

Barbara Wood, Tiffany Lam, Alice Shaw, Renee Batti,
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Paul Llewellyn

Readers' Choice 2014

RESTAURANTS

American

Flea Street Cafe
3607 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 854-1226

Casual Dining

Cafe Borrone
1010 El Camino Real, #110,
Menlo Park 327-0830

Chinese Restaurant

Su Hong To-Go
630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park
322-4631

Dine with kids

Jeffrey's Hamburgers
888 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
322-1959

French Restaurant

Left Bank
635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
473-6543

Italian Restaurant

Carpaccio
1120 Crane St., Menlo Park
322-1211

Japanese Restaurant

Fuki Sushi
4119 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
494-9383

Mexican Restaurant

Cafe Del Sol
1010 Doyle St., #1, Menlo Park
326-2501

New Restaurant

Borrone MarketBar
1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
600-8095

Best Outdoor Dining

Cafe Borrone
1010 El Camino Real, #110,
Menlo Park 327-0830

Best Romantic Restaurant

The Village Pub
2967 Woodside Road, Woodside
851-9888

FOOD & DRINK

Bakery

Angel Heart Cakes
3716 Florence St., Redwood City
363-2253

Breakfast

Ann's Coffee Shop
772 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
322-0043

Dessert

Angel Heart Cakes
3716 Florence St., Redwood City
363-2253

Hamburgers

Dutch Goose
3567 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 854-3245

Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt

Baskin Robbins
863 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
323-9335

Independent Coffee/ Tea House

Cafe Borrone
1010 El Camino Real, #110,
Menlo Park 327-0830

Pizza

Applewood Pizza
1001 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
324-3486

Place to Buy Meat

Schaub's Meat, Fish & Poultry
395 Stanford Shopping Center,
Palo Alto 325-6328

Sandwiches

Woodside Deli
1453 Woodside Road,
Redwood City 369-4235

Takeout

Su Hong To-Go
630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park
322-4631

SERVICES

Auto Repair

Portola Valley Garage
4170 Alpine Road, Portola Valley
851-7442

Barber

Moses Hairstyling
1110 Crane St., Menlo Park
322-8822

Day Spa

La Belle Day Spa & Salons
36 Stanford Shopping Center,
Palo Alto 326-8522

95 Town and Country Village,
Palo Alto 327-6964

Dry Cleaner

Peninou French Laundry & Cleaners
1142 Crane St., Menlo Park
322-7562

Fitness Classes

Studio Rincon
3536 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 861-0242

Florist

J Floral Art
3489 Edison Way, Menlo Park
363-0313

Green Business

Kepler's Books
1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
324-4321

Gym

Studio Rincon
3536 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 861-0242

Hair Salon

Olive Hill Salon
2920 Woodside Road, Woodsid
851-1150

Hotel

Rosewood Sand Hill
2825 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park
961-1500

Landscape Services

The Village Gardener
205 Old County Road, San Carlos
592-9440

Manicure/Pedicure

A Touch of Elegance
1150 Crane St., Menlo Park
321-0679

Painters

Avi Decorative Painting Inc.
P.O. Box 51551, Palo Alto
329-0770

Pharmacy

Walgreens
643 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
321-1530

Plumber

Guy Plumbing
1265 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
323-8421

Travel Agency

AAA Travel Agency
430 Forest Ave., Palo Alto
262-3870

Yoga

Vibe Yoga
3750 Florence St., Redwood City
298-8423

RETAIL

Bicycle Shop

Menlo Vilo Bicycles
433 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
327-5137

Bookstore

Kepler's Books
1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
324-4321

Boutique

Alys Grace
899B Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
322-5524

Floor Coverings

Menlo Flooring and Design
905 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
305-1099

Frame Shop

The Great Frame Up
865 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
323-1097

Gift & Novelty Shop

Ladera Garden & Gifts
3130 Alpine Road, Suite 380,
Portola Valley 854-3850

Grocery Store

Draeger's
1010 University Drive, Menlo Park
324-7700

Hardware Store

Menlo Park Ace Hardware
700 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
325-2515

Home Decor & Furnishings

Flegel's Home Furnishings
870 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
326-9661

Jewelry Store

Tom Wing & Sons
888 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
326-0888

Lingerie Wear

Ela Lingerie
1139 Chestnut St., Menlo Park
796-0768

New Retail Business

Traditionally Derby
850 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
521-0778

Nursery

Ladera Garden & Gifts
3130 Alpine Road, Suite 380,
Portola Valley 854-3850

Pet Store

The Pet Place
777 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
325-7387

Produce

Sigona's Farmers Market
39 Stanford Shopping Center,
180 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
368-6993

Shoe Store

Fleet Feet Sports
859 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
325-9432

Speciality Store

Beltramo's Wine and Spirits
1540 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
325-2806

Toy Store

Cheeky Monkey
640 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
328-7975

FUN STUFF

Art Gallery

Atherton Fine Art
700 El Camino Real Suite #165,
Menlo Park 324-4278

Happy Hour

Dutch Goose
3567 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 854-3245

Live Music

Cafe Borrone
1010 El Camino Real, #110,
Menlo Park 327-0830

Place for a Date

Flea Street Cafe
3607 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park 854-1226

Place to Meet People

Cafe Borrone
1010 El Camino Real, #110,
Menlo Park 327-0830

Restaurants

American Restaurant, Place For A Date

It's not easy to label the Bay Area fresh, seasonal, sustainably grown food movement with a single word. American? "The more I thought about it, the more I liked (the designation)," says Jesse Cool, owner of **Flea Street Cafe**, which won awards in two categories. If patrons think of Flea Street's food as "American," why not? The menu features "whatever was produced by local farmers, old-fashioned simple recipes, with a modern twist and some slight ethnic influences," she says. Flea Street is entering its 35th year, and Ms. Cool and chef Carlos Canada continue their work with "respect for the old and the new ... and the integrity of the ingredient, (and) the people who raise or harvest it for us." Half Moon Bay grilled sardines, Pacific Coast oysters, sweet corn agnolotti, and chicken, beef and lamb raised humanely and sustainably are examples of items on a recent menu. Ms. Cool says she's seeing a trend in young people dining at Flea Street "because they want to know where their food comes from." 3607 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park | 854-1226

Casual Dining, Independent Coffee/Tea House, Outdoor Dining, Place To Meet People, Live Music

Cafe Borrone once again sweeps five categories, all signifying its place at the heart of downtown Menlo Park's social life for the past 25 years. Opened by Roy and Rose Borrone, the restaurant is now under the guidance of their daughter, Marina, and her husband, Chef Josh Pebbles. "It has become an institution," Ms. Borrone said. "It holds a dear spot in many hearts and it is such a part of the community. We take serving the community of guests and our staff seriously and have worked hard to continue to keep it fresh with new offerings while keeping the cafe favorites. It's a wonderful place." Looks like Almanac readers agree. Hot chocolate with real whipped cream and scones are breakfast staples, while soups, salads and Italian entrees round out lunch and dinner. And when not on tour, the All-Stars jazz band can often be found playing at the cafe on Friday nights. 1010 El Camino Real, #110, Menlo Park, (650) 327-0830

Take-Out, Chinese Restaurant

Su Hong To-Go is the Readers' Choice winner for both favorite takeout and Chinese restaurant.

The Su Hong business, including the former restaurant on El Camino Real, has been around for 37 years and has held the title of favorite Chinese restaurant with Almanac readers for two decades now. Owner Bee King said that diners enjoy the quality food and reasonable prices. "We use quality ingredients and make our items fresh every day," she said. Among some of the most popular items on the menu are the Chinese chicken salad, pot stickers, orange chicken and Mongolian beef. 630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park | 322-4631

Dine With Kids

Almanac readers have voted **Jeffrey's Hamburgers**, Menlo Park's comfort-food diner, their favorite place to go for a meal with kids. Manager Stephen Friebel said the restaurant appeals to a range of customers. "Not only do we have traditional hamburgers that customers can order off the menu, we have a burger bar, where people are able to make their burger just the way they like it," he said. Jeffrey's also offers a wide selection of milkshakes. "The lively atmosphere of Jeffrey's is the perfect place for families and kids alike to munch on their homemade burger, or sip on a vanilla shake," Mr. Friebel said. "You really don't see many places like Jeffrey's anymore." 888 El



Photo by Ciera Pasturel
Carlos Canada, executive chef of Flea Street Cafe in Menlo Park, and **Julianna Forneris**, manager.

Camino Real, Menlo Park | 322-1959

French Restaurant

Left Bank prides itself on its Mediterranean cuisine served in

the atmosphere of a true French brasserie. Local diners appreciate its authentic cuisine, lively happy hour, handsome interior, and outdoor sidewalk seating. Chef



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Brandy Monsada serves classic brasserie items, such as onion soup, escargot, steak frites, and mussels, along with seasonal specialties such as heirloom tomato salad and sweet corn fricassee. The restaurant has been hosting "Tap Takeover" beer events where a local brewery's offerings are served from all the restaurants taps for a weekend. In May the restaurant's fried-in-duck-fat French fries were named as one of the country's top 15 fries by People magazine. 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park; (650) 473-6543

Italian Restaurant

Diners double their pleasure at **Carpaccio** in downtown Menlo Park, feasting on food our readers find the best in Italian cuisine while feasting their eyes on the vibrant decor. Managing partner Ciya Martorana is the longtime familiar figure greeting patrons most days, and chef Jorge Cortes continues to offer specialties such as the Ostriche Asagio — baked oysters with spinach and asiago cheese — and a range of pastas, fish, and meat dishes. Soups, salads, pizzas and desserts round out the menu. 1120 Crane St., Menlo Park | 322-1211

Japanese Restaurant

Fuki Sushi pays attention to detail. With decor that gives the feeling of being transported to Japan, and a menu that honors authentic traditions, it's clear why Almanac readers have identified the restaurant as their favorite place for sushi. Lumi Gardner, general manager, says her restaurant keeps guests coming back because of a focus on quality and a refusal to bow to the more Americanized sushi trend of giant rolls filled with ingredients like cream cheese. "Sushi is supposed to be a bite-sized meat cuisine," she says. "That's the whole point." 4119 El Camino Real, Palo Alto | 494-9383

Mexican Restaurant

The award for this year's favorite Mexican restaurant goes to the vibrantly colored and lively **Cafe Del Sol**, known for the authenticity of its traditional Mexican menu. Owner Lionel Diaz notes that the restaurant values the tasty freshness of its food, and says: "Everything we do is fresh. We get everything from a local produce." The restaurant has established a reputation for bringing the rich flavors of Mexican cuisine to its customers. 1010 Doyle St #1, Menlo Park | 326-2501



Photo by Natalia Nazarova/The Almanac

Khephra Molloy, general manager of Vine Dining Enterprises, a restaurant management group that manages Left Bank restaurant in Menlo Park. Left Bank won for favorite French restaurant.

New Restaurant

Borrone MarketBar won as favorite new restaurant in the Readers' Choice 2014 poll. "We love our work," says owner Marina Borrone, who calls her family's new endeavor "our little gem," located next to the family's Cafe Borrone. "We designed the new MarketBar not to repeat (Cafe

Borrone) but to be reflective of our time in Italy," she says. Patrons can either enjoy a cocktail and a full-service menu that changes daily, or take home offerings such as lamb sausage prepared that morning or fresh spinach fettuccine with pesto. 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, (650) 600-8095

Romantic Restaurant

Our readers aren't the only ones who appreciate **The Village Pub**. In 2013 the Pub received Wine Spectator magazine's Grand Award for its wine list, the magazine's highest honor, which currently is bestowed on only 73

Continued on page 26



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Address	% Sold Over List Price	Days On Market
30 Southgate St., Atherton	27.37%	10
510 Alicia Wy., Los Altos	22.62%	7
1840 Valparaiso Ave., Menlo Park	43.06%	9
2412 Laura Ln., Mountain View	31.76%	8
1138 Stanislaus Ln., Palo Alto	37.53%	8
678 Webster St. #2, Palo Alto	44.07%	9
101 Alma St. #702, Palo Alto	20.93%	9
1302 Channing Ave., Palo Alto	26.02%	8
479 Ferne Ave., Palo Alto	21.12%	9
3724 Feather Ln., Palo Alto	64.88%	8
2202 Greer Rd., Palo Alto	25.75%	8



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After



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e the DeLeon Difference



old for \$1,870,000 in 9 days.

Before



After



This Crescent Park home in Palo Alto listed for \$2,698,000 and sold for \$3,400,000 in 8 days.



old for \$2,420,000 in 9 days.

Before



After



This Mountain View home listed for \$998,000 and sold for \$1,315,000 in 8 days.

Thank you Almanac Readers for voting us **Best Bakery** and **Best Dessert!**



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700 El Camino Real - Suite #165 | Menlo Park
phone: 650.324.4278 | fax: 650.324.4279
www.athertonfineart.com

Tuesday - Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am to 3:00pm | Sunday - Monday Closed

Readers' Choice 2014



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

At **Borrone MarketBar** are, from left, Roy and Rose Borrone, Josh Pebbles and Marina Borrone.

Continued from page 23

restaurants in the world. The Pub's wine list, Wine Spectator said, takes a "global approach, offering an adventurous, food-friendly mix of classic labels, rising stars and underdogs yet to be discovered." The Pub's menu, as prepared by executive chef Dmitry Elperin, is contemporary American food rooted in the culinary traditions of France and the Mediterranean and featuring hand-selected, seasonal ingredients. The restaurant is owned by Tim Stannard, Mark Sullivan and Andrew Green. They received a coveted Michelin star in 2009 and every year since. Pub owner Tim Stannard says the secret to the restaurant's success as the perfect place for a date is "a combination of many elements that come together effortlessly: ambiance, cuisine, unparalleled service, and attention to detail." That detail, he says, includes the restaurant's walls, which are



Photo by Ciera Pasturel

Tim Stannard, owner of The Village Pub in Woodside.

wrapped in burgundy-colored mohair; tables impeccably set and draped in crisp white linens, and glowing with candlelight — all of which set the mood. "The menu features impeccably prepared produce from our restaurant's private farm, SMIP Ranch, as well as the finest meats, fish, and

ingredients available, and one of the most award-winning wine lists in the world," Mr. Stannard says. "All of these details lend themselves to the most romantic dining experience in the area, and quite possibly, the country." 2967 Woodside Road, Woodside | 851-9888

Food & Drink

Bakery, Dessert

While their name echoes the angel food cakes that started their business, **Angel Heart Cakes** severs much more than angel food and more than cakes. Their menu includes, in addition to angel food, devil's food, dacquoise, cocoanut and carrot cakes, cupcakes, pots de creme, banana pudding, seasonal pocket-pies, chunky chocolate chip cookies, filled brownies, mini tarts, and angel food bread pudding plus, for four-legged friends, gourmet dog biscuits. Breakfast items include: fruit mini angel food cakes, pocket-pies, scones, individual quiches, quickbreads, coffee-cakes and granola as well as locally roasted coffee. The bakery, owned by Menlo Park residents Debbie Umphreys and Chris Rivera, has been busy in the past year, providing baked goods



Photo by Jeff McCurry

Angel Heart Cakes won in two categories, for favorite bakery and place for dessert.

for nearby businesses, including Facebook, where they've had pop-up stores. Other clients include Stanford School of Medicine and La Petite Playhouse in Redwood City, where they provide sheet cakes and mini cupcakes for birthday parties. They also sell their cakes and other goodies

through Internet delivery services. In evening hours, the bakery has been hosting cooking classes. Angel Heart baked goods are available at Roberts in Woodside, Bianchini's in Portola Valley, Sigona's in Redwood City, and at

Continued on page 28

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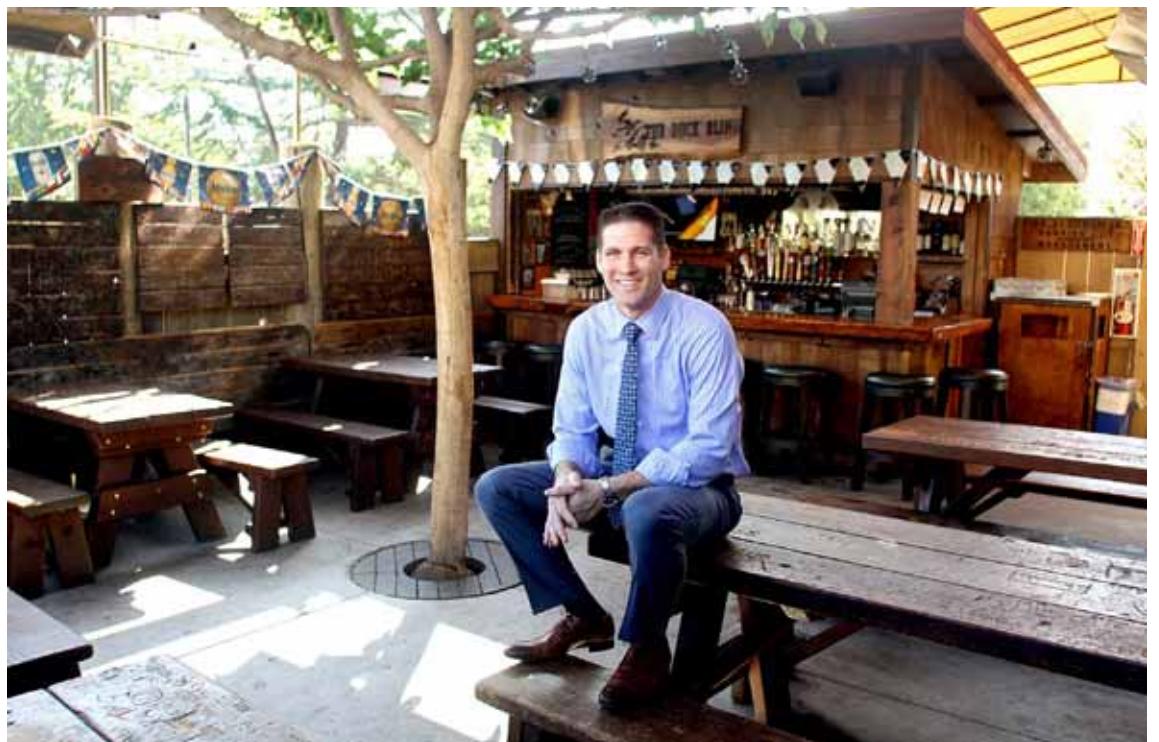


Photo by Veronica Weber

Greg Stern, owner of the Dutch Goose in Menlo Park.

Continued from page 26

the Stanford Shopping Center. 3716 Florence St., Redwood City | 363-2253

Breakfast

Almanac readers have named **Ann's Coffee Shop** in downtown Menlo Park their favorite place to have breakfast. Whether dining at the 6:30 opening time or closer to the 4 p.m. closing time, customers enjoy Ann's hash browns, French toast, and fresh-baked rhubarb pie, says Manager Nikki Poulon. Natural ingredients and warm service keep attracting customers, she says. "Even though we've been open since 1946 and arguably need little improvement, we hope the future will allow us to have even faster customer service and keep making delicious and well-known food," Ms. Poulon says. "It's an ideal family breakfast place." 772 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 322-0043

Hamburgers, Happy Hour

To many Menlo Park residents, the **Dutch Goose** is more than just a burgers-and-brews restaurant. Sure, the pub won in two categories — hamburgers and happy hour — in this year's Readers' Choice poll, but according to owner Greg Stern: "The feedback we get most often is that people like the family atmosphere. It's like 'Cheers' (the popular TV show). You walk in, and everyone knows your name." Currently, the Goose, as it's known, is considering adding pizza to the menu, although no plans have been finalized. Food selection aside, Mr. Stern says: "People come because they want to spend time with friends and family ... the fact that we have a good burger is just icing on the cake." 3567 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park | 854-3245

Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt

Known for its seemingly endless selection of flavors, **Baskin Robbins** has been selected by Almanac readers as this year's favorite ice cream/frozen yogurt shop. Baskin Robbins is the world's largest chain of ice cream specialty shops, with 7,300 shops in almost 50 countries. 863 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 323-9335

Pizza

With its gourmet pies and crusts, delivery areas around the Bay, and multitude of toppings, **Applewood Pizza** has won, yet again, the Readers' Choice award for favorite pizza. From pastas and salads to make-your-own pizzas to a wide selection of beers, the restaurant has been satisfying customers for more than three decades. Some favorites on the menu include the Hawaiian and Menlo combo pizzas. 1001 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 324-3486

Place To Buy Meat

Schaub's Meat, Fish & Poultry at the Stanford Shopping Center has won again for the category, best place to buy meat. Customers rave about "Fred's Steak," their "secret recipe" marinated steaks, and sandwiches made on the premises. Schaub's also sells fresh fish, poultry, lamb, 26 varieties of house-made sausages (including the just released Memphis blues, a Southern-influenced chicken sausage), duck, smoked salmon, and specialty items such as rabbit and buffalo, venison, pheasant, squab, quail and goose, when available. 395 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto | 325-6328

Sandwiches

The award for favorite sandwich place went to the **Woodside Deli** in Redwood City, also the winner in 2013. The deli does all cooking

from scratch and in-house, says Deli owner Dan Gallinetti. Foods not prepared in-house are imported from Italy, including six different kinds of tuna (packaged in jars). 1453 Woodside Road, Redwood City | (650) 369-4235

Service

Auto Repair

The award for best auto repair goes to **Portola Valley Garage**, a specialist in the repair of European vehicles since 1948. "Thanks to our loyal customers for voting us number 1 five years in a row," says garage owner Tom Ramies. New for this year is a nationwide 36,000-mile, three-year repair warranty, including free roadside assistance. A water pump fails in Wyoming, repairs are at no cost. "It's kind of a peace of mind thing," Mr. Ramies said. 4170 Alpine Road, Portola Valley | 851-7442

Barber

The award for best barber went to the **Moses Hairstyling** in Menlo Park, a repeat from 2013. "Oh my God, we did it again," says owner and barber Moses Moreno. What keeps customers coming back? "The quality of work, the concentration on what they need," he says. He says he tailors haircut to faces, keeping it short on top if the person is thin, and short on the sides if the person is "chubby." 1110 Crane St., Menlo Park | (650) 322-8822

Day Spa

Bella Schneider's **La Belle Day Spa & Salons** has won the 2014 Readers' Choice award for favorite day spa. From facials to makeup, hairstyling, foot soaks and massages, La Belle offers the full range of spa services. The quality of the staff, attention to

Continued on page 30

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Continued from page 28

detail, and innovative products and services make La Belle stand out, say readers. La Belle offers brides and attendants hair and makeup services, as well as massages to restore calm after all of that last-minute planning. Two locations: *36 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto | 326-8522 | and 95 Town and Country Village, Palo Alto | 327-6964*

Cleaners

In business and family-owned since 1903, **Peninou French Laundry & Cleaners** is at 1145 Crane St. in downtown Menlo Park as well as four other Bay Area locations. The store is known for handling tricky cleaning jobs, from wedding dresses to Oriental carpets and uses "all green" methods of cleaning, using mild solvents. Customer service includes pickup and deliveries or even car-door services to regular customers who call ahead for a pickup. *1142 Crane St., Menlo Park | 322-7562*

Fitness Classes And Gym

Readers of all ages enjoy the fun, nurturing environment at **Studio Rincon**, which won the Readers' Choice Award in two categories: fitness classes and gym. The studio's variety of classes offers opportunities for

men, women and children to enjoy numerous youth and adult fitness activities, ranging from dance to yoga to kickboxing. Their Youth Dance Program is currently in its fifth year. "Our guests tell us that what sets Studio Rincon apart is the welcome and warmth that greets them every time they come in," says owner Bill Petrin. This September, the studio is hosting a special yoga workshop with world-recognized instructor Jason Crandell. *3536 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park | 861-0242*

Florist

J Floral Arts was founded in 1990, moving after 13 years downtown to the current location in North Fair Oaks in 2006. Partners Jeffrey Adair and Craig Kozlowski say they strive to stay engaged and work directly with customer to meet their special needs. They've added event production to their arsenal, providing rentals, entertainment — including singers and dancers — as well as coordinating events anywhere it takes them from beginning to end. Their flowers can be ordered through their website, in person, at the workshop or by phone. Examples of J Floral Arts arrangements can be seen on Facebook and YouTube as well. Clients have included Liza Minelli, Tom Ford, the prime

minister of Canada and the queen of Thailand. *3489 Edison Way, Menlo Park; 363-0313.*

Bookstore, Green Business

Kepler's Books once again won two awards from patrons who appreciate both the renovated bookstore as well as its green, sustainable practices. There's more good stuff on the horizon: "We are looking forward to a lot of things this coming year — finishing up the store renovations; further building out the nonprofit Peninsula Arts & Letters with new programs, more funding, (and a) bigger team; continuing to enhance the in-store inventory of books; and an exciting new literary service we plan to launch in the fall," said co-manager Praveen Madan. The view from the staff's perspective sounds equally optimistic: For the first time since the bookstore relaunched in 2012, they received bonuses this year based on the number of hours worked. "I have been working here since Gutenberg invented the printing press and have never had this kind of acknowledgment," employee Nancy Salmon said, sharing her appreciation. *1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 324-4321*



Photo by Ciera Pasturel

Kepler's managers, from left, Cressida Hanson, Jean Forstner, Karen Pennington and Amanda Hall, and owner Praveen Madan.

Hair Salon

Olive Hill Salon has been voted best hair salon for the second year in a row. Owner Danielle Casa says she opened the salon in 2011 "with the goal of creating a boutique salon that specializes in color and styling while also being environmentally and socially responsible." The salon has grown every year since and currently has six stylists, she said. "This year will be our best yet as Olive Hill transitions to becoming an Aveda Salon," Ms Casa said. "Aveda's

mission statement, connecting beauty, environment and well-being, mirrors our commitment," she said. "We believe this new partnership will enhance our commitment to education, community, environment and providing excellent service." *2920 Woodside Road, Woodside | 851-1150 |*

Hotel

Rosewood Sand Hill, carrying on its six-year Readers' Choice

Continued on page 32



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Readers' Choice 2014



Photo by Veronica Weber

Danielle Casa, owner of Olive Hill Salon in Woodside.

Continued from page 30

winning streak, celebrated its fifth anniversary in April. Community members as well as guests enjoy socializing at the hotel's lounge and Michelin-starred Madera restaurant, and for those who want to stay longer, the hotel is currently renovating its extended-stay villas with decks, improved yards and enhanced living areas. 2825 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park | 961-1500

Landscape Services

This year's winner for favorite landscape services doesn't just plant flowers. They "plant smiles," says owner Frank Niccoli. Founded in 1987, **The Village Gardener** provides landscape installation and maintenance using sustainable landscaping practices. Mr. Niccoli, a gardener for 55 years, is the past president of the founding chapter of the California Landscape Contractors

Association. He teaches at Foothill College, and has even appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Network. 205 Old County Road, San Carlos | 592-9440

Manicure/Pedicure

Surrounded by beautiful blooming orchids, customers of **A Touch of Elegance** can sit back and relax as friendly specialists cater to their needs. The salon offers manicures, pedicures, waxing, lash extensions, and other personal care services. The owners are a mother-daughter pair, Hanh and Mai Hong, known for remembering customer names, and being professional and welcoming. "We're 15 years in business and still going strong," says Hanh Hong. Readers say A Touch of Elegance is the place to go, whether it's for relaxing during a casual day with friends or preparing for a wedding. 1150 Crane St., Menlo Park | 321-0679

Painters

Avi Decorative Painting Inc. has been satisfying customers with the quality of its painting and professionalism of its staff for 25 years, says owner Avi Lenchner. The company offers a range of painting and home improvement services, including in-home consultations. Mr. Lenchner says his business model puts the customer first and aims for repeat customers. The company's focus is "on delighting customers" with "sincere, ethical, and excellent performances," says Mr. Lenchner. The company also uses sustainable and environmentally friendly materials. P.O. Box 51551, Palo Alto, 94303 | 329-0770

Pharmacy

Almanac readers voted **Walgreens**, on Santa Cruz Avenue in downtown Menlo Park, their favorite pharmacy in the 2014 Readers' Choice poll. The pharmacy impresses readers



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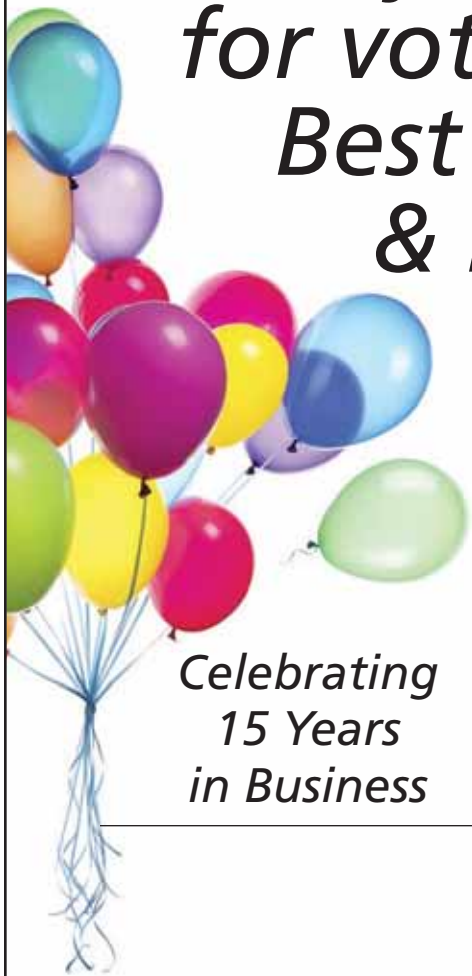
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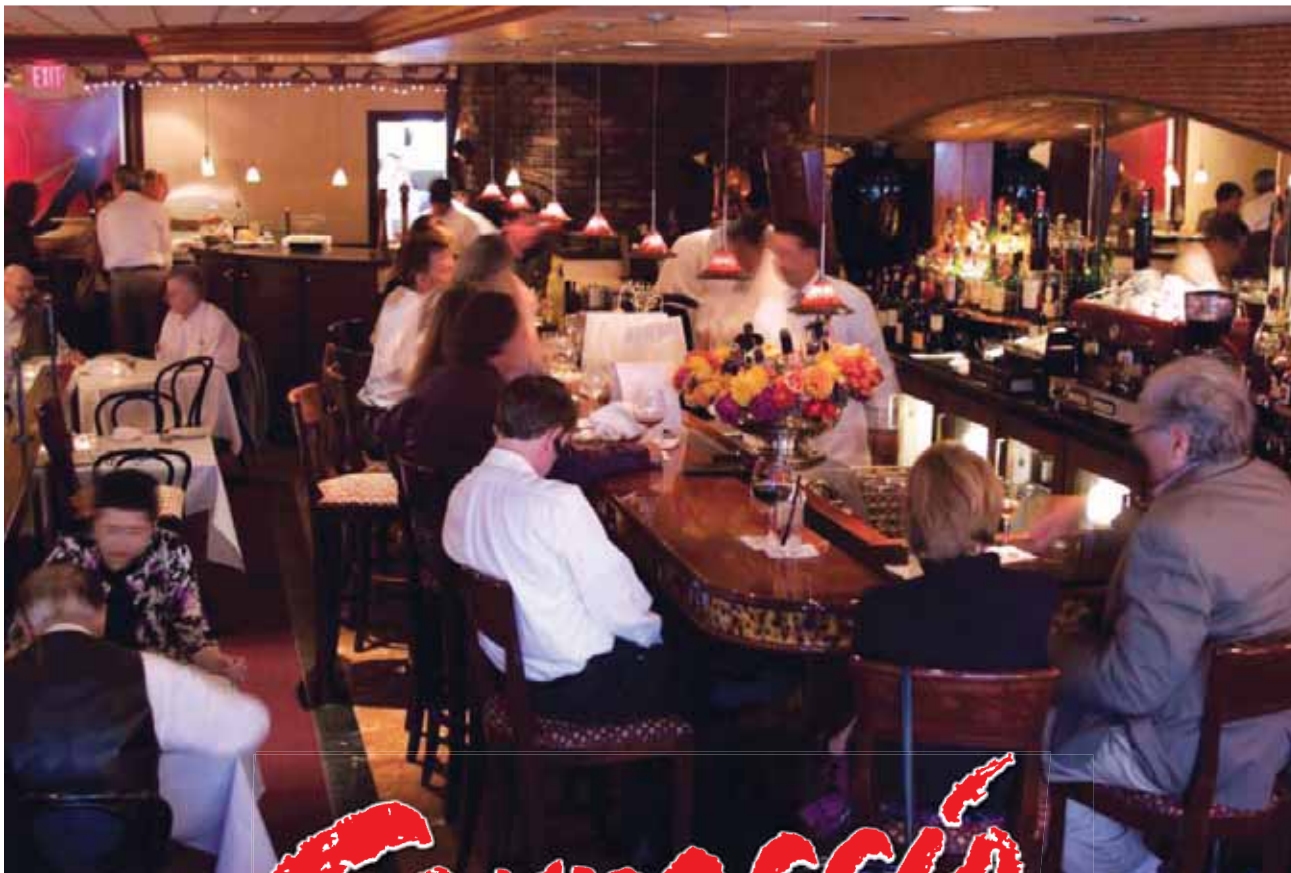
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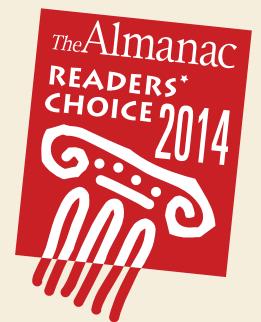
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Continued from page 32

with its fast customer service, accuracy in filling prescriptions, and overall efficiency. Store Manager Pat Murphy says the store's popularity and convenient location downtown has enhanced demand for the pharmacy. "The professionalism at the Walgreens pharmacy is unmatched," he says. "If we didn't have such kind and hardworking employees in our pharmacy, I don't think we would be so popular." 643 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 321-1530

Plumber

Guy Plumbing has won the Reader's Choice award for best plumber. The Guy family has been providing plumbing service and repair to this area for 66 years, and recently added another fourth-generation family member to the team. "We appreciate our customer loyalty and faith they have placed in our service over the years," says showroom manager Camille Guy. Guy Plumbing's showroom on El Camino offers items from small repair parts to designer plumbing fixtures. The business carries leading brands in water-saving products — such as toilets, faucets and shower heads — to provide a low-flow product without sacrificing performance, the family says. "It's reassuring to sell a product that helps conserve water, like a low-flow shower head, and still have confidence that the



Photo by Michelle Le

Guy Plumbing & Heating co-owner Alan Guy and his great-niece, Camille Guy.

product will perform satisfactorily for our customers," Ms. Guy says. 1265 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 323-8421

Travel Agency

AAA's Forest Avenue location in Palo Alto has long served as a pivotal destination for locals looking to get away. The agency offers maps, discounts and expert advice to make the most of one's time and budget. Whether planning a family trip to Disneyland, booking a trans-Atlantic cruise, or drafting an itinerary for a fortnight in Europe, AAA is committed to guiding travelers throughout the process. 430 Forest Ave., Palo Alto | 262-3870

Yoga

Opened only a few months, the newcomer **Vibe Yoga** has won the Readers' Choice award in the yoga category. Owner Rebecca Bara says she is proud of the multiple perks and amenities that Vibe Yoga provides: "It's beautiful, it's clean, we have top, knowledgeable instructors, showers, lockers, a wide variety of classes, and two yoga rooms, so there's something for everyone." Vibe Yoga holds a summer challenge where clients keep track of how much they practice to win prizes. 3750 Florence St., Redwood City | 298-8423

Retail

Bicycle Shop

The Readers' Choice for favorite bicycle shop is **Menlo Velo Bicycles**, an old school bicycle shop committed to the cycling community. Featured bicycles include those by Masi, Breezer, Specialized and Yuba. Owner Rainer Zaechelein says: "We do a quality job and take pride in our work," emphasizing the shop's dedication to consistently good customer service. He also adds that the shop's newest addition of "more and more electric bikes ... that's the exciting future of bicycles. More and more people are getting on bikes because of the electric bike." Readers says that whether you are a racer, casual cyclist, or bicycle commuter, Menlo Velo Bicycles has the bikes for you. 433 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 327-5137

Boutique

Alys Grace, this year's Readers' Choice winner for favorite boutique, attracts customers with its distinctive selection of designer clothing and accessories, says owner Tiger Bachler, owner of this upscale women's clothing boutique. "We strive to be your 'go to' boutique, whether you shop locally or online," the owner says.



Photo by Michelle Le

Marcy Magatelli, owner of The Great Frame Up in Menlo Park.

899B Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 322-5524

the needs of customers, he says. 905 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 305-1099

Floor Coverings

With more than 20 years of experience, **Menlo Flooring and Design** is a family-owned company that won this year's Readers' Choice award in the floor coverings category. "We have good old fashioned customer service," which makes it easy for customers to design the flooring they want, says owner Eugene Perez. The business just remodeled the store with an easy-to-navigate showroom that provides a wide selection of flooring systems to accommodate

Frame Shop

As **The Great Frame Up** approaches its 25th year, owner Marcy Magatelli says she continues to put service in the center of it all. In her third year on Santa Cruz Avenue, she says 50 percent of her customers are new. That's because, many say, that they do not normally stroll down El Camino Real, where she was originally located. Ms. Magatelli has become an expert in needlepoint framing and has added a line of custom-designed

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Photo by Natalia Nazarova

Mercedes and Juan Navarro (center), owners of Ladera Garden & Gifts, with employees.

molded frames. 865 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 323-1097

Nursery, Gift & Novelty Shop

Ladera Garden & Gifts won 2014 Readers' Choice awards in two categories: nursery and gift and novelty. "Well, I think that's wonderful. We have a very great community who support us," says Mercedes Navarro, co-owner with her husband Juan. The gift shop carries a range of items, from \$5 to \$100, Ms. Navarro says, adding that the plant selection is diverse, more diverse than what you tend to find in a chain store. 3130 Alpine Road, Suite 380, Portola Valley | 854-3850

Grocery Store

Richard Draeger, one of the owners of **Draeger's Market**, says shoppers keep returning to the store because of "a really unique assortment of products that are made locally by artisans in the food industry." Because the store is a small, locally owned and operated company, "we are probably best connected with the local producers," Mr. Draeger said. The Draeger's stores, which now are in four locations, "have strong

relationships with local growers, wine makers and food producers," he said. Richard Draeger is one of the 10 Draeger children in his generation, four of whom he "works with on a day-in, day-out basis," he says. Some of their children are now working in the business, the fourth generation of family members to do so. The stores now have more than 600 employees. Richard Draeger says he was only about 12 when he started working at the Menlo Park store. "We all started as baggers and checkers," during summer and other school holidays, he says. "That's how we got our start." Draeger's was founded in 1925 by Gustave Draeger, who emigrated from what is now Poland. Gustave's sons, Frank and Gustave Jr., expanded the stores, with Frank, who is Richard Draeger's father, eventually buying out his brother. Frank Draeger operated five stores in San Francisco, but sold them and decided to concentrate on the Peninsula after World War II. When Frank's children got involved in the store they once again expanded operations. 1010 University Drive, Menlo Park | 324-7700

Hardware Store

Winning in the category of hardware store for the ninth year in a row is **Menlo Park Ace Hardware**. Manager Vasile Oros credits the store's success to its efficiency. "Customers walk in and we solve their problems," he says. In addition to stocking shelves with tools, outdoor essentials, electrical equipment, and more, the store offers repair and installation services. Recently, a gardening department was added next door, which, Mr. Oros says, has gotten "a really good response." 700 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 325-2515

Home Decor & Furnishings

For 22 years, the Almanac's readers have given **Flegel's Home Furnishings** a Readers' Choice award. The business, which has involved three generations of the Flegel family, is celebrating this year the 60th anniversary of its founding in 1954. The store's quality, including prestige furniture lines, such as Stickley, Baker, McGuire and Henredon, attracts not only Silicon Valley titans, but a world-wide clientele for both home and office furnishings. Professional interior designers are available to help shoppers, at no additional cost, find exactly what they are looking for. 870 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 326-9661

Jewelry Store

Tom Wing & Sons in Menlo Park has a very different character from that of a typical jewelry store. The Menlo Park location, where Tom Wing & Sons moved in 2007, is a place of serenity, in the words of George Tom, who is president of the business. Kuan Lin (Chinese goddess of mercy) overlooks cases filled with fine jades, cultured pearls, diamonds and gemstones. Each piece is unique and has its own



Photo by Ciera Pasturel

At Draeger's Market in Menlo Park are Tori Draeger, third-generation family member in the business, and store director Dave Christine.

Continued on next page

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Readers' Choice 2014

Continued from previous page

character that becomes a part of its customer's life. George Tom and his four siblings carry on the tradition started by their father, Tom Wing Kee, in San Francisco in 1961. 888 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 326-0888

Lingerie

For high quality European lingerie, readers say they prefer **Ela Lingerie**, a full-service boutique with a large inventory of elegant lingerie and sleepwear in a wide range of sizes. Co-owner Marcia De Lima says the shop specializes in personal service and carefully selects merchandise from manufactures and designers. The store is designed with antiques and soft lighting to create a relaxing environment. Customers with special needs can special order merchandise to their liking. 1139 Chestnut St., Menlo Park | 796-0768

New Retail Business

The winner for favorite new retail business is **Traditionally Derby**, which many readers say is Menlo Park's new go-to place for furniture and home accessories. Taking over the site formerly occupied by Traditions, Traditionally Derby features a wide selection of traditional and transitional household items, including Kindel Furniture, works of art from Dorothy Draper, and painted Italian urns. Owner Eileen Bocci says the staff is made up of friendly customer service employees and experienced interior designers. "If you have a vision for what you want to achieve," the store's website says, "our goal is to help you accomplish that vision." 850 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 521-0778

Pet Store

The Pet Place owners Lynn and Marc Macy are devoted to serving both animals and their human companions. The store offers a wide selection of



Photo by Michelle Le

Brian Flegel of Flegel's Home Furnishings in Menlo Park.

products and goes the distance in helping solve problems and meet needs, from finding the right diet to referring a customer to a veterinarian, sitter or trainer. The Pet Place hosts rescue groups and shelters, and helps with adoptions and in finding temporary and permanent homes for animals. 777 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 325-7387

Produce

Receiving an already opened package of dried mangos as a gift might raise some eyebrows (something this writer experienced), but knowing that it came from **Sigona's Farmers Market** makes it more acceptable. And wow, so many choices — more than 250 kinds of artisan cheese alone — all fresh, organic and locally grown. The open-air market offers fresh-cut flowers, seasonal olive oils, and microbrews and wine, in addition to fruits and vegetables. It can

be hard to resist. 39 Stanford Shopping Center, 180 El Camino Real, Palo Alto | 368-6993

Shoe Store

Jim Gothers, co-owner with wife Lisa Taggart of **Fleet Feet Sports**, winner for best shoe store, says customers "love the personalized attention, the inclusive, non-judgmental approach, and education that our people provide." The staff genuinely cares about helping people get into the right gear to help them achieve their fitness goals, he says. The store offers weekly fun runs and training groups, including two starting in August: training for the Nike half-marathon and the "No Boundaries" program for beginning runner who want to finish a 5K. "We make all runners feel welcome, whether they are trying to qualify for the Boston Marathon, training for an ultra, or simply looking to get off their couch and trying to complete

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Photo by Michelle Le

Eileen Bocci, owner of the home furnishings shop, Traditionally Derby, which won for new retail business.

their first 5k," says Mr. Gothers.
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Specialty Store

Readers again chose **Beltramo's Wines and Spirits** as their favorite specialty store — the place to go when they want to find a wide range of beers, spirits, and wines from around the world. The Menlo Park institution was founded in 1882 by Giovanni Beltramo, and it remains a family-owned business. "I think what keeps our customers coming back is our staff," says co-owner Diana Beltramo Hewitt. "We have one of the most knowledgeable staffs around, ... they're tasting wines five days a week, and not depending on what somebody else says about the wine." The same goes for the beer and spirits specialists, she says. "They all have the personal knowledge so they can help people find good matches for what they're looking for in any price range." The store has wine tastings every Saturday, and beer and spirits tasting every other Friday. Look for some "really good wines from Bordeaux" coming in over the next few months, Ms. Beltramo Hewitt says. 1540 El Camino Real, Menlo Park | 325-2806

Toy Store

Cheeky Monkey Toys is the store to visit, say readers, not just for children, but anyone young at heart. Its shelves are stocked with quality, interactive toys for people of all ages. Currently, favorite toys include the popular family game SET and the Shrinky Dinks 3-D Fairy Garden. Cheeky Monkey recently hosted a Creativity Can event, where children and adults were challenged to imagine, create and share, after being given cans and simple materials such as feathers and wood sticks. The store has held its title in the Readers' Choice awards for 14 years. 640 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park | 328-7975

Art Gallery

The eclectic taste of **Atherton Fine Art** owner Mark Gallagher shows in the gallery's diverse range of featured artists, including Daniel Bayless, Larry Calof and Mark Dubovoy. Mr. Gallagher says he is excited about the gallery's upcoming exhibit of works by Marty Ricks, whose oil paintings reflect memories of time spent in California hills and riverbeds. In addition to showcasing artists, the gallery does framing. Mr. Gallagher says the gallery offers the latest technology in mat-cutting, with the Wizard 8000 computerized mat-cutter and a large format Bienfang mounting press. 700 El Camino Real Suite #165, Menlo Park | 324-4278



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Call Orkopina! Since 1985. Bonded, Ins. Lic. #20624. 650/962-1536

748 Gardening/Landscaping
Ceja's HOME & GARDEN LANDSCAPE
30 Years in family
Yard clean up • New lawns
Sprinklers • Tree Trim & Removal,
Palm & Stump Removal
650.814.1577 • 650.455.0062

J. Garcia Garden Maintenance Service
Free est. 21 years exp.
650/366-4301 or 650/346-6781

LANDA'S GARDENING & LANDSCAPING
*Yard Maint. *New Lawns. *Rototil
*Clean Ups *Tree Trim *Power Wash
*Irrigation timer programming. 18 yrs exp. Ramon, 650/576-6242 landaramon@yahoo.com

R.G. Landscape
Yard Clean-ups, debris removal, maintenance, installations. Free est. 650/468-8859

Sam's Garden Service
General Cleanup • Gardening
Pruning • Trimming
New Lawns • Sprinkler Systems
Weeding • Planting
(650) 969-9894

Tired of Mow, Blow and Go?
Owner operated, 40 years exp. All phases of gardening/landscaping. Ref. Call Eric, 408/356-1350

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

757 Handyman/Repairs
ABLE HANDYMAN FRED
30 Years Experience
650.529.1662
650.483.4227
• Complete Home Repairs
• Remodeling
• Professional Painting
• Carpentry
• Plumbing
• Electrical
• Custom Cabinets
• Decks & Fences

759 Hauling
J & G HAULING SERVICE
Misc. junk, office, gar., furn., mattresses, green waste, more. Lic./ins. Free est. 650/743-8852 (see my Yelp reviews)

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES:
FOR THE ALMANAC
Classified Word Ads
Friday by Noon
Classified Display Ads
Thursday by 5 p.m. for Space Reservation. Friday by Noon for Copy.

771 Painting/Wallpaper
DAVID AND MARTIN PAINTING
Quality work
Good references
Low price
Lic. #52643 **(650) 575-2022**

Glen Hodges Painting
Call me first! Senior discount. 45 yrs. #351738. 650/322-8325

H.D.A. Painting and Drywall
Interior/exterior painting, drywall installed. Mud, tape all textures. Free est. 650/207-7703

Italian Painter
Residential/Commercial, interior /exterior. 30 years exp. Excel. refs. No job too small. **AFFORDABLE RATES.** Free est. Call **Domenico**, 650/421-6879

STYLE PAINTING
Full service painting. Insured. Lic. 903303. 650/388-8577

775 Asphalt/Concrete
Mtn. View Asphalt Sealing
Driveway, parking lot seat coating. Asphalt repair, striping, 30+ years. Family owned. Free est. Lic. 507814. 650/967-1129

Roe General Engineering
Asphalt, concrete, pavers, tiles, sealing, new construct, repairs. 36 yrs exp. No job too small. Lic #663703. 650/814-5572

779 Organizing Services
End the Clutter & Get Organized
Residential Organizing by Debra Robinson (650)390-0125

790 Roofing
Tapia Roofing
Family owned. Residential roofing, dry rot repair, gutter and downspouts. Lic # 729271. **650/367-8795**

Real Estate

801 Apartments/Condos/Studios
Menlo Park - \$3295.00
Menlo Park, 2 BR/1 BA - \$3295
Mountain View, Studio - \$1,685
Palo Alto, 3 BR/3 BA - \$5995

805 Homes for Rent
Menlo Park, 2 BR/1 BA - \$3295.00
Woodside, 3 BR/2 BA - \$7,200.00

815 Rentals Wanted
Midpeninsula: Cottage
inlaw unit or pvt. suite. Dependable, respected music teacher/composer. Excel. refs. 650/281-3339 or adinjc@aol.com

825 Homes/Condos for Sale
Palo Alto
Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$899000
Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA
Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA - Call Us
Palo Alto, 4 BR/3 BA
Palo Alto, 4 BR/3 BA - Call Us!
Sunnyvale, 3 BR/2 BA - \$599999

855 Real Estate Services
All Areas: Roommates.com
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

fogster.com
Think Globally, Post Locally.

995 Fictitious Name Statement

BLOOMING BEAUTY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 261279
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Bloomington Beauty, located at 2115 Broadway St. Studio #26, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 1400 Laurel St. Apt. #3, San Carlos, CA 94070.
Registered owner(s):
DAYS I ARITA
1400 Laurel St., Apt. #3
San Carlos, CA 94070
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 June 19, 2014. (ALM July 2, 9, 16, 23, 2014)

PCS PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 261316
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PCS Professional Construction Services, located at 22 Cottage Lane, San Carlos, San Mateo County; Mail Address: P.O. Box 522, Belmont, CA 94002.
Registered owner(s):
JOHN FREDERICK SIMS
22 Cottage Lane
San Carlos, CA 94070
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed herein on July 1, 2014.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 23, 2014. (ALM July 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 2014)

BEMS M CO. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 261493
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
BEMS M CO., located at 606 Bahama Lane, Foster City, CA 94404, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BRIAN AND SHERRY CHAN
113 Starlite Drive
San Mateo, CA 94402
SYLVIA CHAN
608 Anacapa Lane
Foster City, CA 94404
SHARON AND EDWARD YEH
606 Bahama Lane
Foster City, CA 94404
This business is conducted by: A General Partnership.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 8/10/1999.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on July 9, 2014. (ALM July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 2014)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-13-601371-BF Order No.: 130230058-CA-API YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/15/2007. 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. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by 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 duly appointed trustee. 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. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): JULIE BENSON AND LEE BENSON, WIFE AND HUSBAND AS JOINT TENANTS Recorded: 5/31/2007 as Instrument No. 2007-083581 of

Official Records in the office of the Recorder of SAN MATEO County, California; Date of Sale: 7/30/2014 at 12:30:00 PM Place of Sale: At the Marshall St. entrance to the Hall of Justice and Records, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063
Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$937,421.16 The purported property address is: 20 DUNNE COURT, MENLO PARK, CA 94025 Assessor's Parcel No.: 060-153-400-1 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 714-573-1965 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site <http://www.qualityloan.com> , using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-13-601371-BF . Information about postponements

Trustee Sale No. 171-065836 Loan No. 4794MB (IKEDA) Title Order No. 1408045 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED 注: 本文件包含一个信息摘要 참고사항: 본 첨부 문서에 정보 요약서가 있습니다 NOTE: SE ADJUNTA UN RESUMEN DE LA INFORMACION DE ESTE DOCUMENTO TALA: MAYROONG BUOD NG IMPORMASYON SA DOKUMENTONG ITO NA NAKALAKIP LUU Y: KEM THEO ĐÂY LÀ BẢN TRINH BAY TÓM LƯỞC VÉ THÔNG TIN TRONG TÀI LIỆU NÀY [PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO ABOVE IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED OR PUBLISHED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.] YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 01-25-2007. 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 08-06-2014 at 12:30 PM, WACHTER INVESTMENTS, INC as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded 01-31-2007, Instrument 2007-015547 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of SAN MATEO County, California, executed by: TOWRU IKEDA AND NANCY H. IKEDA, HUSBAND AND WIFE, as Trustor, WACHTER INVESTMENTS, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, as Beneficiary, will sell at public auction the trustor's interest in the property described below, 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. The 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: 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: \$373,844.36(estimated) Street address and other common designation of the real property

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. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. 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. 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. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. QUALITY MAY BE CONSIDERED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Date: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2141 5th Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 714-573-1965 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 Quality Loan Service Corp. TS No.: CA-13-601371-BF IDSPub #0068203 7/9/2014 7/16/2014 7/23/2014 ALM

purported as: 46 LA LOMA DRIVE , MENLO PARK, CA 94025 APN Number: 074-150-600 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". The following statements; NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS and NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER are statutory notices for all one to four single family residences and a courtesy notice for all other types of properties. 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 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 Priority Posting & Publishing at (714) 573-1965 or visit this Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com using the file number assigned to this case 171-065836. 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. DATE: 07-02-2014 FOR TRUSTEE'S SALES INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (714) 573-1965, OR VISIT WEBSITE: www.priorityposting.com WACHTER INVESTMENTS INC, AS TRUSTEE 46 N. Second Street Campbell, CA 95008 (650)348-7191 BY: RICHARD B. WACHTER PRESIDENT PLM LOAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE P1102254 7/16, 7/23, 07/30/2014 ALM

Coldwell Banker #1 IN CALIFORNIA



ATHERTON | NEW LISTING!



CHRIS MCDONNELL
KELLY GRIGGS
650.207.2500/650.464.1965
CalBRE #00870468/01812313

35 RALSTON RD \$14,900,000
5BR/7BA+3 half BA. New, custom-built French masterpiece in quiet W Atherton location. Built with incredible quality & unsurpassed attention to detail.



PORTOLA VALLEY | NEW PRICE



GINNY KAVANAUGH
650.400.8076
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

75 VALENCIA CT \$3,475,000
This 3BR/3.5BA home w/1 BR guest apt on 1.6+/- acre epitomizes indoor/outdoor living with decks, gardens, pool house, pool & spa - 75Valencia.com



WOODSIDE | LAS LOMITAS SCHOOLS



HUGH CORNISH
650.619.6461
hcornish@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #00912143

205 ELEANOR DR \$3,349,000
Beautifully remodeled & updated contemporary ranch home. 5BR/5.5BA. Incredible, top-of-the-line chef's kitchen. Pool. Excellent Las Lomitas schools.



PORTOLA VALLEY



DEAN ASBORNO
650.255.2147
www.DeanAsborno.com
CalBRE #01274816

90 CHEYENNE PT \$2,998,000
On an elevated lot of just over one acre at the end of a cul-de-sac, this 3BR/2BA home offers magnificent views, with Windy Hill taking center stage.



PORTOLA VALLEY



GINNY KAVANAUGH
650.400.8076
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

8 ACORN ST \$2,750,000
Private & expansive 2-level home w/ spacious master suite, additional storage, decks and spa. Portola Valley Ranch amenities - 8Acorn.com



MENLO PARK | PENDING



HELEN & BRAD MILLER
650.400.3426
helenhuntermiller@gmail.com
CalBRE #01142061/00917768

2063 SANTA CRUZ AV \$2,495,000
Wonderful 6 yr old 2-story 4BR/3BA traditional home with fully fenced yard in Las Lomitas School District. Easy access to freeways & Central Menlo.



WOODSIDE



VALERIE TRENTER
650.888.6930
valerie.trenter@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #01367578

2025 KINGS MOUNTAIN RD \$1,999,945
Estate home on 13+ acres. Custom Colonial designed for elegant living & entertaining.

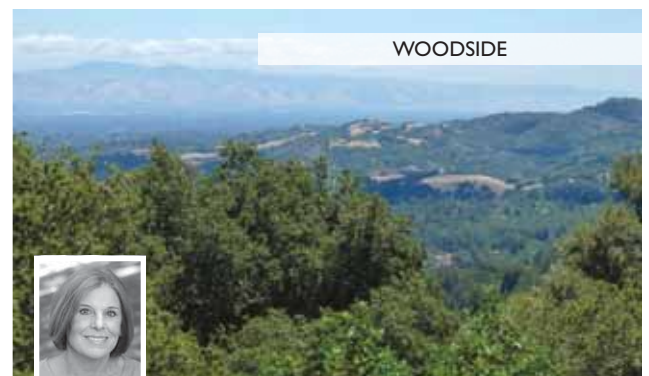


MENLO PARK | OPEN SUNDAY!



LYN JASON COBB
650.464.2622
lynjason.cobb@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #01332535

1985 OAK AVE \$1,895,000
Lovely 3BR/2.5BA ranch-style home. Large lot with fenced pool. Stanford land lease with 47 years remaining. Oak Knoll School.



WOODSIDE



MARGOT LOCKWOOD
650.400.2528
homes@margotlockwood.com
CalBRE #01017519

77 UPENUF RD \$1,695,000
Beautiful vws of the bay. Gently sloped level lots ideal for building a dream hme! 2 parcels - aprx. 14 ac sold together. Currently has 1BD/1BA cabin. PV Schools.



MENLO PARK | OPEN SAT&SUN 1:30-4:30



COLLEEN COOLEY
KATHY NICOSIA
650.325.6161
colleen.cooley@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #01269455/70000645

371 HEDGE \$1,295,000
Beautiful Suburban Park home. 1st time on market in 50 yrs. Hdwd floors, fresh paint, master suite w/ updated bath & walk-in closet. Light-filled.



MENLO PARK | OPEN SAT-SUN!



SOPHIE WHELAN-KIRK
PAT MCDONNELL
650.575.7750/650.464.3744
CalBRE #01926401/01926896

1040 BERKELEY AVE \$1,025,000
Charming 2BR/1BA home nestled on a tree-lined street. Spectacular yard will steal your heart! Plenty of room for expansion. Award-winning MP schools.



MENLO PARK | OPEN SAT-SUN!



KATIE RIGGS
PAM HAMMER
650.400.1039/650.515.5255
CalBRE #01216437/01783432

445 OAK GROVE AVE #5 \$849,000
Wonderful one-level 2BR/2BA condo close to downtown Menlo Park, shops & restaurants.



CaliforniaMoves.com

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fearless

funny

clever

curious

sweet

determined

crazy

happy

smart

extraordinary kid

Extraordinary care for your

 **Stanford** | MEDICINE



#1 children's hospital
in N. California for
ten straight years

FOR SALE



752 Chimalus Drive, Palo Alto
4-bedroom, 4-bath home in desirable
Barron Park neighborhood
OFFERED AT \$2,195,000

FOR SALE



65 Virginia Lane, Atherton
4-bedroom, 3.5-bath elegant ranch home
with pool on over 1 acre
OFFERED AT \$4,300,000

FOR SALE



1845 Bay Laurel Drive, Menlo Park
Remodeled 4-bedroom, 3-bath home
in West Menlo Park
OFFERED AT \$2,615,000

FOR SALE



81 Adam Way, Atherton
European-inspired; 5 bedrooms, 6 full baths,
2 half-baths; 1-bedroom guest house; approx. 1.08 acres
OFFERED AT \$7,195,000

FOR SALE



301 Yale Road, Menlo Park
Fully remodeled, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths; 3-room
guest house and bath; Allied Arts neighborhood
OFFERED AT \$3,495,000

PENDING



850 Cambridge Avenue, Menlo Park
Just completed in Allied Arts; 3 levels with 5 bedrooms,
each with en suite bath, plus 2 half-baths
OFFERED AT \$3,998,000

SOLD



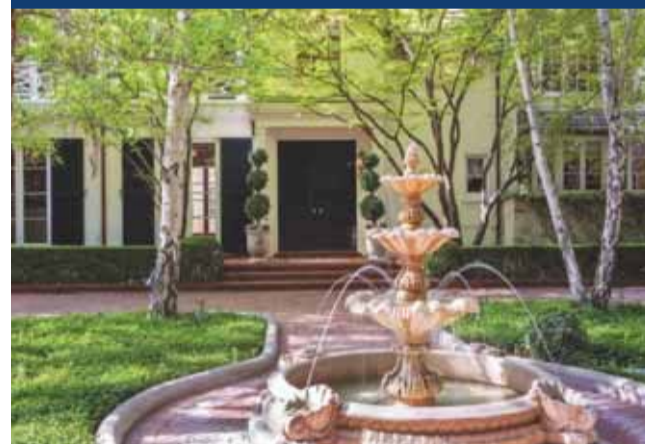
31 Fairview Avenue, Atherton
Private estate; 3 levels with 6 bedrooms, 7.5 baths,
elevator; pool, spa, sport court; approx. 1.1 acres
OFFERED AT \$12,950,000

SOLD



1080 Lassen Drive, Menlo Park
Sharon Heights home with views; 4 bedrooms,
office, and 4.5 baths; Las Lomitas schools
OFFERED AT \$4,950,000

SOLD



279 Park Lane, Atherton
Heart of Circus Club; 5 bedrooms, 7 full baths,
2-half baths; 1-bedroom cottage; approx. 2.5+ acres
OFFERED AT \$16,500,000

For more information on these properties, please visit www.tomlemieux.com

