

The Almanac

THE HOMETOWN NEWS FOR ATHERTON, PORTOLA VALLEY AND WOODSIDE

DECEMBER 24, 2014 | VOL. 50 NO. 16

WWW.THEALMANACONLINE.COM

scenes of the *season*

Photographer Michelle Le
captures holiday scenes
in Almanac country

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Our Neighborhoods 2015





Happy Holidays



from all of us at

The Almanac

Mountain View
VOICE

Palo Alto
Weekly

2014



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Constance Mills talks with Norton Pearl in this photo from the cover of the Dec. 17 Almanac.

Cover picture has backstory

Constance Mills, a longtime Menlo Park resident, was surprised to see her picture on the cover of the Dec. 17 Almanac, looking at photographs taken by Norton Pearl (at her right in the picture), who has donated 250,000 images to the San Mateo County History Museum. She sent us the message below on Dec. 19.

My name is Constance Wyant Mills. I called yesterday about my picture with Norton Pearl on the cover of the Almanac.

I was raised in Burlingame, as was Mr. Pearl. I did not know him, because of an age difference. I knew his brother Steven.

The picture I am pointing at is of an eighth-grade dance at McKinley School in Burlingame, which Mr. Pearl and I both attended. In the center of the picture is a girl who grew up three houses from mine and a friend for many years. Her name

'I cherish my memories of Menlo Park and all the friends I have made here over the years.'

was Margaret Ann Thomson. She has since passed away.

I came to Menlo Park in 1961 as the bride of William C. Mills (Bill), to live in the home Bill's father built and where he was raised. When we were first married, Bill and I had a Menlo Recorder paper route to help make ends meet.

Bill was in the first class to graduate (1954) from the brand new school called Menlo-Atherton High School.

We had two sons, William Christopher Mills and James Arthur. Chris followed in his dad's footsteps, and graduated from M-A as well. Today the boys are married, one living

in Placerville and the other in Santa Clara, and they have their own children.

My husband Bill worked as a Menlo Park fireman and then a Menlo Park police officer. I began my career in the library field at the Menlo Park Library in 1967 and retired as librarian with San Mateo County in the summer of 2004.

We both had a great love for this town and wanted our jobs to be in areas where we could help Menlo Park to prosper. Sadly, Bill died in 1970 of a rare and then untreatable disease and he has a Redwood tree planted in his memory near the former Menlo Park police station.

Later I married Richard J. Corpstein, who was also a Menlo Park police officer. He passed away in 1995 from early onset Alzheimer's.

This is a wonderful town and I cherish my memories of Menlo Park and all the friends I have made here over the years. ▀

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE PENINSULA

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

offers expanded learning programs where young people aged 6 to 18 are welcome every day after school and in the summer.

At each of the Club's three clubhouses and six schoolsite programs, trained staff and a team of volunteers help members develop academic and life skills. Now in its 56th year, the Club focuses on academics, science and technology, life skills and college and career planning. Over the past seven years, in neighborhoods where only two-thirds of the youth graduate from high school, 85% of the Club's schoolsite members have graduated from high school with a plan. In partnership with schools, community partners and families, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula is helping to support youth as they work to graduate from high school ready for college or career.



Supporting the youth of our community to become self-sufficient adults by completing high school ready for college or career.

Community conditions in neighborhoods served by BGCP:

- Only 2/3 of students graduate from high school.
- 60% of students score below proficient in reading and 50% for math.
- Mean household income is \$18,000 or less.
- Many families work multiple jobs and have limited access to affordable childcare.
- Many parents don't speak English or have limited education.
- Only 7% of students in our at-risk neighborhoods have a parent who attended college.
- Street violence and gangs are prevalent.

The Club offers the following solutions in partnership with schools and families:

- Extended-day learning aligned with schools that blends technology, academics, social and leadership skills and sports.
- Safety and support for children at nine sites in East Palo Alto, eastern Menlo Park, and Redwood City.
- College and career exploration programs.
- Volunteers and staff mentors as positive adult role models.
- The Club serves all interested youth; All youth are welcome and no youth are turned away.

1,800 youth attend the Club programs regularly.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteer: Contribute your time, talent and energy and help a young person to realize his or her potential.

Donate: The Club's annual budget of \$7.9 million depends on individual, foundation, corporation and public partner support. Please support these programs that are transforming our community.

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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Facebook starts developing third campus

By Sandy Brundage

Almanac Staff Writer

Facebook is starting small when it comes its third Menlo Park campus, located on Constitution Drive near the corner of Chilco Street and Bayfront Expressway. One building will first be redeveloped, with the remaining nine buildings to be renovated after the social media company comes forward with a “master plan” for the campus next year.

The Planning Commission voted 6-0, with John Onken recused due to recent business dealings with Facebook, to approve the permit needed to proceed with converting a 185,000-square-foot warehouse and distribution building on the site to “general offices and ancillary employee amenities.”

Facebook bought the 59-acre property earlier this year from TE Connectivity. Gehry Partners, the firm founded by renowned architect Frank Gehry, is designing that site in addition to Facebook’s “west campus” next door.

Commissioner John Kadwany described the building as an “anchor point” for the entire campus. Facebook representatives told the commission that it will contain about 1,500 employees once renovations are finished. Removing mezzanines and making other internal adjustments will leave the finished project with 108,108 square feet of floor area.

External changes will include fresh white paint, a shuttle

stop, a new garden at the entrance and possibly a cedar deck and a trellis to replace a loading dock, according to the staff report. A cafe, fitness center and other amenities may also be built.

The site would also gain 34 trees, for a total of 95.

Given the site’s location within a flood zone, flood proofing is taking a high priority. Facebook representatives said they were still figuring that out, but one likely outcome is that the building’s entry points will be elevated.

The company estimated that the new building would lead to 3,742 to 4,465 daily vehicle trips to and from the campus, depending on when other occupants at the site vacate the premises. TE Connectivity, for example, along with other businesses, still uses a portion of the property.

Facebook representatives told the commission that approximately 50 percent of its employees participate in programs designed to reduce traffic, and that in addition to bike and pedestrian paths, a “people mover” transporter will run between all three campuses, passing through an existing tunnel to cross the Bayfront Expressway.

The company will have three options for meeting its obligation to provide affordable housing in exchange for the new construction: Facebook will either pay \$1.2 million to the city’s below-market-rate housing fund; provide four off-site housing units; or a combination of the two. ■



Image courtesy of Gehry Partners LLP

The redevelopment of Facebook’s third campus, (the area on the left circled in red) located next to its “west campus,” will start with a single 185,000-square-foot building at 300 Constitution Drive, near the corner of Chilco Street and the Bayfront Expressway.



Image courtesy of Gehry Partners LLP

The converted warehouse will have the trademark cubicle-free “open design” for the 1,500 Facebook employees expected to work there.

Atherton councilman resists calls for his resignation

■ Councilman Bill Widmer named city manager of Rancho Palos Verdes in Southern California.

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton City Council member Bill Widmer surprised many on Dec. 17 when it was reported he had been named the new city manager in Southern California’s Rancho Palos Verdes. Then he surprised them again when he said, for now, he isn’t going to move from Atherton or resign his council seat. The new job starts Jan. 1.

Atherton City Man-

ager George Rodericks said he learned on Dec. 17 from reporter Megan Barnes of the Daily Breeze that Mr. Widmer’s \$215,000-a-year contract was approved Dec. 16 by the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council. Mr. Widmer did not mention his new job at the Atherton council meeting that night, but told other council members after the meeting, after Mr. Rodericks told him he knew about it.

The contract posted online by Rancho Palos Verdes says Mr. Widmer “will relocate from

his current residence to another residence that is within or near the city” but also offers him a “temporary travel and housing allowance” of \$3,000 per month starting Jan. 1 for a maximum of nine months.

The contract also states that Mr. Widmer “shall not spend more than an average of four hours per week in teaching, counseling or other non-employer related business without the prior



Bill Widmer

approval of the council.” Mr. Widmer said he now spends 20 to 30 hours a week on Atherton council business.

Mr. Widmer said last week that he had not received a copy of the contract, so had not signed it, but “probably would” when he receives it.

Mr. Widmer, who was just elected to his second council term in November, said that, for now, he is not moving from Atherton and will remain on the council.

“I’m not going to be bullied out of office. I’ll make my own decision in my own good time,” he said.

When asked if he is getting pressure from those who supported his election not to resign, Mr. Widmer said in an email: “My supporters have sent congratulations and want me to do what’s best for me and my family. They have expressed appreciation for all I have done for the Town. I have also received comments on how disappointed they are in those who are using the situation to make unpleasant and uncalled for comments.”

That isn’t sitting too well with council members in either city. In Rancho Palos Verdes, a closed session meeting with the city attorney was scheduled for Monday, Dec. 22 (after the

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Homes flooded by broken main

Homeowners on Harkins Avenue and Avy Avenue found more water than could be accounted for by the rain the night of Dec. 16.

A broken water main at Harkins and Altschul avenues had flooded the yards and garages of seven homes in West Menlo Park around 9 p.m., according to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District.

Five vehicles from the district responded, Chief Harold Schapelhouman said. Access to the shut-off valve was made difficult by a layer of road debris.

Three properties on Harkins Avenue and four on Avy Avenue suffered water damage, according to the chief. The owners were asked to contact their insurance companies to assist with making repairs.

WIDMER

continued from page 5

Almanac goes to press), "to discuss the employment of a new City Manager." Because the meeting is a closed session, there is no other information about what will be discussed at the meeting, but the council will have to report any action.

Reporter Barnes wrote in the Daily Breeze that Rancho Palos Verdes Councilwoman Susan Brooks had said: "He should have resigned his position immediately upon accepting this — to do anything other than that would be like trying to be in two marriages at the same time. ... You can't have your allegiance to two cities."

In Atherton, the new mayor, Councilman Rick DeGolia, said he had asked Mr. Widmer to resign. "If Bill knows that he will have to resign at some point over the next year, then it is in Atherton's best interests for him to do that now," he said. "I have communicated that to him."

Mr. Widmer said that because his Atherton home is currently under construction and he has a son in college who still lives at home, the Rancho Palos Verdes council has agreed that he can remain a resident of Atherton.

"I'll have an apartment down there and I'll come back when I can," he said. "I've got nine months to decide what I need to do."

According to a staff report to the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council, Mr. Widmer was chosen from among 49 applicants for the job.

"Some (Atherton council) meetings I'll have to attend by phone," Mr. Widmer said. "If it becomes a problem, the mayor and I will decide what to do. Probably sometime in the future I'll step down, but that's a time that's not been determined."

Mr. DeGolia said, however, that if Mr. Widmer's contract requires him to move from Atherton that he should resign now.

"I strongly believe that if he is going to have to move, or if he will have to cut back on his time as a council member, or if

he will have to be on the phone for our meetings, then whether or not he is legally required to do so, he should resign now," Mr. DeGolia said. "This would be in the best interests of Atherton, so that his replacement can get up to speed right away, because we have very important issues in front of us that are complex and we want someone involved in these issues who will be here for the long haul."

Mr. Widmer said he doesn't see it that way. "I need to assess what the job requirements are. I need to assess the workload," he said. "I'll make the best decision for me, for the town of Atherton, for the town of Palos Verdes. That's what I'm going to do."

Mr. Widmer said a recruiter contacted him about the Rancho Palos Verdes job. "I've looked at a couple of other city manager's jobs before," he said. The Rancho Palos Verdes City Council is "a unique organization of business executives. ... They value private industry experience and good communication skills."

Mr. Widmer said he had applied for the job before filing for re-election "and then nothing happened." Only near the end of October was he interviewed, he said. He was called for a second interview on Nov. 5. "Nothing was finalized. You don't know what you've got until you're there," he said.

In the Nov. 4 Atherton election, he came in third in a four-person race for three open council seats, 29 votes ahead of losing candidate Rose Hau.

Mr. Widmer described Rancho Palos Verdes as a beach community of 42,000 people. It is between Redondo Beach and Long Beach, and is "fairly affluent," he said. The community has lots of parks and "interest in maintaining a rural environment."

"I think it's a great opportunity," he said. "I think it will be fun."

Atherton City Manager George Rodericks said he will put a discussion of possible ramifications of Mr. Widmer's new job on the agenda for the next council meeting on Jan. 21. ■

Officers back at work before shooting review is finished

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

Although the district attorney's review of the Nov. 11 fatal shooting of a burglary suspect is not yet complete, Menlo Park Police Chief Bob Jonsen said he felt comfortable allowing the police officers involved in the incident to return to work.

"I have reviewed most, but not all, of the evidence and at this point I am comfortable with the officers returning to duty," the chief told the Almanac, adding that he and San Mateo County District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe conferred before he reinstated the officers. He said they "both agreed there was no reason for (the officers) not to be back on the job."

He said he had not seen the results of the forensic tests conducted by the county's crime lab, including any that would answer the question of whether the suspect had fired his gun at the officers.

The three veteran officers were placed on paid leave, and the DA started an investigation into the incident, as is standard policy fol-

lowing a shooting.

Sgt. Jaime Romero and Officer Scott Mackdanz were back at work last week, according to the chief, while Officer Nicholas Douglas is still recuperating from a knee injury sustained during the incident.

Chief Jonsen said the length of administrative leave is up to the police chief. He consulted Mr. Wagstaffe once the officers indicated they were physically and psychologically ready to return to work.

Only two of the three officers were wearing body cameras. One camera may have been turned on after the shooting, and one may have been left off. Sgt. Romero activated his camera immediately after the shooting, the police chief said.

The third officer's camera had been turned in for repairs, so he was not wearing one. The cameras are mailed back to the manufacturer in Seattle for repairs, Chief Jonsen said. Late last year the department bought 40 VIEVU cameras, which cost more than \$1,000 each, but at that time had not ordered extra units.

Shooting

The shooting occurred on Willow Road in Menlo Park around 12:50 p.m.

An employee had reported spotting a suspected burglar near 64 Willow Place. The police officers did not initially see the suspect, Jerry Lee Matheny, 52, of Riverside County, who fled as they arrived, the police chief said.

A foot chase ensued. According to the report, Mr. Matheny pulled a handgun and pointed it at the officers after they attempted to stop the pursuit with a Taser. Sgt. Romero told his attorney that he heard a shot and then returned fire.

All three officers fired their guns, according to the district attorney. No information has been released yet as to whether the crime lab determined that Mr. Matheny had shot at them.

At the time of the shooting, Mr. Matheny was wanted by the state for a parole violation related to drug charges, and also had two counts of felony commercial burglary and one count of identity theft pending in San Mateo County. ■

Menlo Park police contract approved

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

With little comment, the Menlo Park City Council voted 4-1 on Dec. 16 to approve a new employment contract with the Police Officers' Association that abandons the use of retired county judges as arbitrators in disciplinary appeal cases in favor of a list of five professional arbitrators.

During the meeting, Councilwoman Kirsten Keith cast the sole dissenting vote, commenting that she wanted both police unions to use the same process. The council approved a contract with the Police Sergeants' Association last year that uses retired judges for binding arbitration.

"I'm not going to approve this, for myself," Ms. Keith said. "I really wanted to see the same

terms that the Police Sergeants Association had for the Police Officers Association. The point was to have people who are in the community, retired (county) judges that you actually see when you're around and who are accountable to community, as arbitrators."

The POA, which represents 37 members of the police department, approved the contract in November.

Mayor Cat Carlton told the Almanac the week prior to the vote that the change came after the POA refused to agree to using retired judges.

The five arbitrators — Alexander Cohn, Joseph Grodin, John LaRocco, Carol Ann Vendrillo and John Wormuth — were vetted by the city's labor consultant, who checked their work in other jurisdictions, City Attorney Bill McClure told the council.

The issue of binding arbitration came to the forefront after the Almanac broke the story of a veteran officer fired after being caught naked with a prostitute in a motel room and reportedly admitting it wasn't the first time he had hired a hooker for sex. The arbitrator, James Margolin, reinstated the officer and also awarded him \$188,000 in back pay.

At least 16 jurisdictions in California rely on binding arbitration in police disciplinary cases. The state doesn't require that arbitrators make their decisions public, and due to confidentiality laws, both parties must give permission before an arbitrator can release a case ruling. Statistics compiled from the few records available showed that arbitrators overturned or reduced discipline in nearly 60 percent of the cases. ■

Restitution ordered in residential burglary cases

A judge has ordered a former San Carlos PetSmart employee and her boyfriend to pay a total of \$163,432 in restitution to the victims of residential burglaries, San Mateo County prosecutors said.

In November, San Jose residents Ashley Lynn Kirk, 24, and Juan Carlos Ortega-Ramos, 25, were sentenced to a total of 29

years in prison for a series for residential burglaries involving break-ins of the vacant homes of residents who were boarding their pets at PetSmart. The charges included the theft of a silver Porsche 911S from a Portola Valley home.

Judge Susan Etezadi on Nov. 6 sentenced Ms. Kirk to 10 years

and Mr. Ortega-Ramos to 19 years in state prison.

At hearings on Dec. 5 and 19, Judge Etezadi ordered restitution for eight of the pair's 12 victims in varying amounts — from \$400 to \$109,253, prosecutors said. Four of the victims were listed as not having yet been compensated.

Inspirations

a guide to the spiritual community



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Learning science, math and more in school garden

By **Barbara Wood**
 Almanac Staff Writer

There's a lot more growing in the garden at Corte Madera School in Portola Valley than plants. The school garden has, for the past two years, been used to grow the knowledge of Nancy Rhodes' fifth-grade students in subjects as diverse as math and art.

The students have also learned lessons on science, engineering, reading and writing, while helping Ms. Rhodes and art teacher Brigid Horgan revitalize the garden at the fourth- to eighth-grade school.

The garden isn't new — but the way it is being used is. All the teachers at Corte Madera have been trying to use project-based learning, with academic subjects incorporated into hands-on projects. In Ms. Rhodes and Ms. Horgan's classroom, the garden is part of the project.

The garden hadn't been used much lately and was in need of revitalization. Ms. Horgan, who had helped to get the garden installed in 2003, teamed up with Ms. Rhodes. The two got a grant to put in new plants, soil and an irrigation system, and put their students to work.

Ms. Rhodes garden project is called "A Symbiotic Garden: Designed for a Purpose." Ms. Rhodes hoped to have her students answer the question: Can animals live without plants, and can plants live without animals? Students designed planting beds that would attract different animals to the garden to help them answer the question.

As part of the design process they used math skills to figure out the size of garden beds and how much soil would be needed to fill them. They also designed and built a garden workbench.

They are working on a field journal of plants and animals in the garden, using reading and writing, research and observational skills as well as drawing.

In Ms. Horgan's art classes the students are making mosaic stepping stones and mosaic markers for the student-designed and planted garden beds.

Another garden-related project will be to design and build a covered greenhouse.

Parents and other community members have helped out with the project. Alex Von Feldt and Steve Masley helped the students choose what plants to grow and where to find them. Ms. Rhodes' daughter, landscape architect Taya Rhodes

Shoup, helped the students with their designs. Ms. Rhodes' husband Lucien has come in to help the children do garden maintenance.

These are the garden beds designed by the students and a list of the plants, mostly native perennials, in each:

■ **Butterfly garden:** beautiful rockcress, morning glory, Joaquin sunflower, deer brush, California false Indigo bush and American pearly everlasting.

■ **Bird garden:** aster, California poppy, island bush snapdragon, Western blue flax and snowy penstemon.

■ **Bee garden:** wild lupine, cosmos, baby blue eyes, bush anemone and California cone flower.

■ **Hummingbird garden:** white hibiscus, pineapple sage, blue lupine, Chinese houses and fuchsia.

■ **Fruits and vegetables:** carrots, blueberries, tomatoes, artichokes, grapes, sweet onions, raspberries and strawberries. ▣



All Photos by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Top: In the symbiotic garden at Corte Madera School, Nancy Rhodes shows students from her fifth-grade class how to deadhead flowers — removing flowers after they fade, which can encourage more blooms.

Middle: Students in Nancy Rhodes' fifth-grade class taste the nectar from nymph coral salvia flowers in the symbiotic garden at Corte Madera School.

Left: A bee pollinates a nymph coral salvia flower bush in the symbiotic garden at Corte Madera School.

Town facilities close or operate on holiday hours

Local town halls and other public facilities will close or operate on special holiday hours over the next two weeks.

Menlo Park

City offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, through Thursday, Jan. 1. Offices will reopen for regular business at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2.

The Arrillaga Family Recreation Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Dec. 29 through Dec. 31, and on Jan. 2. It will be closed on Dec. 24 through Dec. 26, and Jan. 1. Regular hours resume on Monday, Jan. 5.

The Arrillaga Family Gymnasium will be closed through Dec. 28. It will be open Dec. 29 through Dec. 31, and Jan. 2, from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be closed Jan. 1. Regular hours will return on Monday, Jan. 5.

Both the main and Belle Haven branches of the public library will be closed on Dec. 24, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. They will close at 5 p.m. on Dec. 31.

If you have business at the Chamber of Commerce, it will be open by appointment only until Jan. 2, and closed on Dec. 25, Dec. 26 and Jan. 1.

Woodside, Portola Valley

In Woodside, Town Hall closes at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24,

and reopens at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5, 2015.

In Portola Valley, Town Hall closes at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, and reopens at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5.

The 8 a.m. opening of Town Hall in Portola Valley reflects the new business hours that commence with the new year: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with a lunch break from noon to 1 p.m.

The public libraries in Portola Valley and Woodside will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day and will close early, at 5 p.m., on the two Wednesdays of the holiday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Normal business hours apply otherwise. Both libraries open at 11 a.m. every day. Closing times are 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 5 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. The libraries are closed on Sundays.

Atherton

Town offices in Atherton will be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 2. The police department will remain open.

Construction is not allowed in Atherton on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

The Atherton Library closes at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, and is closed on Dec. 25. It closes at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, and is closed on Jan. 1.

Town adopts new sign limits

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton is spring cleaning early this year. On Dec. 17 the City Council adopted new regulations on signs and cellphone towers.

One ordinance sets new restrictions on construction and real estate signs.

The other requires anyone who wants to modify an existing cellphone tower or other telecommunication facility, or erect a new one, to get a 10-year permit and work with the town on design, siting, screening and location of the facility.

First Amendment protections limit regulations on political signs, but the town has leeway on signs advertising businesses.

The new regulations limit all signs to 16 square feet, or, if both sides are used, to 8 square feet. Signs can't be more than 4 feet on a side.

If the signs are under 2 1/2-foot tall, they must be set back at least 6 feet from a paved roadway, driveway or intersection. Signs between 2 1/2 to 4-foot tall must be set back at least 10 feet. Signs taller than 4 feet must be

■ ATHERTON

set back at least 20 feet.

Construction site signs are limited to one per property with an active construction permit. They must include the site address plus contact information for the person in charge of the job. All subcontractors' signs must be part of the main sign.

Real estate signs are limited to one per property and must be on or next to the property. They can't be illuminated and must not block pedestrians or vehicle line-of-sight.

Temporary open house signs are limited to three per property, with two at the nearest intersections and one at the property. They can be posted on weekends only.

While the sign ordinance

replaces an existing Atherton ordinance, the town currently has no cellphone tower ordinance.

The new law requires telecommunication companies to pay the town to place equipment in the town's right-of-way, to hold public meetings to discuss new facilities or major modifications to existing facilities, and to design and site equipment to minimize the impact on neighbors. ▀



Multimedia Advertising Sales Representative

Embarcadero Media is a locally-owned and independent multimedia company based in Palo Alto. We have published in Palo Alto for the last 35 years, with award winning publications such as the Palo Alto Weekly, Mountain View Voice and Menlo Park Almanac on the Peninsula, and the Pleasanton Weekly in the East Bay. In each of these communities our papers are the dominate, best-read and most respected among its various competitors. We also operate extremely popular interactive community news and information websites in all of our cities, plus unique online-only operations in Danville and San Ramon.

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Chimney fire knocked down

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

Firefighters called to a home at 5 Cherokee Court in Portola Valley on Sunday, Dec. 21, arrived at about 1:53 p.m. to see flames on the roof in the vicinity of the chimney.

Twenty minutes later, the fire had been knocked down, Battalion Chief Rob Lindner of the Woodside Fire Protection District told the Almanac.

The residents were at home at the time, but no one was injured, Mr. Lindner said. Woodside firefighters got to the scene first and were assisted by crews from Menlo Park and Redwood City.

Five firefighting trucks with three or four firefighters each were on the scene, along with an ambulance and two battalion chiefs to manage the operation.

One crew went inside and concentrated on limiting water damage — the flames had triggered a sprinkler inside the chimney — while another crew fought the fire on the roof, Mr.

Lindner said. The last crew left the scene at about 3:45 p.m., he said.

Firefighters have not determined what caused the fire, nor is there an estimate on damages. Flames damaged the upper three feet of the stove pipe, but the sprinkler protected the sections of pipe below, he said.

The chimney, which is made of wood, was not damaged, he said. A wooden chimney? The high quality of stove pipes these days makes wooden chimneys an option, he added.

Water damage was a significant concern for the firefighters inside. Sprinkler water did intrude into the area between the first and second floors, Mr. Lindner said. ▀

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Camera helps capture alleged package thief

By **Sandy Brundage**
Almanac Staff Writer

A few days after a security camera captured the theft of a package from the doorstep of a home in the Willows neighborhood, Menlo Park police arrested a suspect.

The package vanished on Dec. 12, and the victim shared footage of the theft with neighbors and via social media, according to the police report. That paid off six days later, when police received a call about a group of people hawking magazine subscriptions near Bay Road and Windermere Avenue.

Officers said they found

36-year-old Tara McKenzie of Detroit, Michigan, with the group, which consisted of people from out of state. Based on the security footage, neighborhood tips and another magazine solicitor, she was identified as a suspect in the package theft and arrested, according to the report.

The encounter yielded a second arrest. Officers discovered that another magazine salesman, 31-year-old Deandre Knowles from Chicago, had \$26,000 in warrants from Los Angeles and from Glendale for soliciting without a permit. He was also taken into custody and booked into the San Mateo County jail, police said. ■

Conservation tip: Save water by updating your bathroom fixtures. By using high-efficiency showerheads and installing aerators on your faucets, you can save up to 1,750 gallons per year.

Visit www.calwater.com/conservation for more water-saving tips and to see if you qualify for a conservation kit containing high-efficiency showerheads and aerators at no charge.



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Deputy pleads not guilty to charges

■ He is accused of allowing an inmate to use a cellphone in the jail.

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

San Mateo County Sheriff's Deputy Juan Lopez is due in court at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, when a judge will consider when to evaluate the evidence against Mr. Lopez and his alleged co-conspirators, and whether the case should go to trial.

Mr. Lopez, a 26-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office and an unsuccessful write-in candidate for sheriff in the June elections, pleaded not guilty on Dec. 16 to two felony charges: conspiracy to commit a crime and conspiracy to obstruct justice, District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said.

Mr. Lopez allegedly conspired with two corrections officers to allow contraband — cellphones — into the jail and to allow the phones to be used by an inmate there, an illegal activity, Mr. Wagstaffe said. The obstruction of justice charge is derived from the same "set of facts," Mr. Wagstaffe said.

The conspiracy charges include drug smuggling of

oxycodone, alprazolam and ibuprofen into the jail, prosecutors said.

Mr. Lopez, whose work included transporting prisoners to and from jail, "had knowledge of (a) phone and allowed it to be used" by the inmate, Mr. Wagstaffe said. The inmate using the phones was a gang member, which adds gravity to both charges, he said.

Stuart Hanlon, Mr. Lopez's attorney, said he is not yet ready to talk about the case as he is still in the discovery process — the required disclosure of evidence by prosecutors.

Prosecutors have charged six others as co-conspirators, including three members of a Lopez family not related to Deputy Lopez. The alleged co-conspirators are: corrections officers George Ismael and Michael Del Carlo; inmate Dionicio Lopez Jr., 26, who is alleged to have used the phones; Dionicio Lopez's sister, Amanda Lopez, 25; Dionicio Lopez's girlfriend, Roxanne Ingebretsen, 28; and Dionicio Lopez's mother,

Leticia Lopez, 55.

The charges stem from an 11-month investigation that began in December 2013, after the District Attorney's Office learned from the Sheriff's Office of a cellphone smuggled into the jail sometime over the previous eight months, prosecutors said.

Mr. Lopez was arrested at gunpoint on Nov. 13, 2014, by Alameda County officers in a dramatic scene outside his home in Newark.

According to the Sheriff's Office, Mr. Lopez has been on administrative leave since July. Asked why, Deputy Rebecca Rosenblatt said she would not elaborate on a personnel matter. The decision to put Mr. Lopez on leave was not a result of the District Attorney's Office's criminal investigation, Mr. Wagstaffe said.

Asked for specifics on the conspiracy charges, Mr. Wagstaffe would not elaborate. The evidence and witness testimony will be seen and heard in court, he said.

He did say that Mr. Lopez's cellphone had a photo on it of the inmate using a contraband phone. ■

Four rob Menlo Park market at gunpoint

By **Sandy Brundage**
Almanac Staff Writer

A cashier was beaten and another robbed at gunpoint after four men entered the El Rancho Market around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, according to Menlo Park police.

The suspects entered the market, located at 800 Willow Road, wearing hoodies and masks, police said. One man demanded that a cashier open the register, and when the worker was unable to do so, punched him several times in the face.

Two other suspects grabbed an attendant and forced him into

the check-cashing booth as one assailant brandished a handgun, according to the report.

The four men left with \$18,000 and fled south on Durham Street on foot, evading a search by Menlo Park police and officers from other agencies. The suspects were last seen near Arnold Way and O'Keefe Street.

The police released the following descriptions of the robbers:

■ A black man standing about 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall, wearing a white hooded sweatshirt and dark red mask with black gloves, dark jeans and dark or gray tennis shoes.

■ A man of unknown race standing about 5 feet 10 inches to

6 feet tall, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a dark mask with black gloves, blue jeans and dark or gray tennis shoes.

■ A man of unknown race standing about 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall, wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and a white mask with black gloves, black jeans and white tennis shoes.

■ A black man standing about 6 feet tall, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a white mask with black gloves, blue jeans and gray and white tennis shoes.

Police ask that anyone with information about the robbery call them at 330-6300 or contact the anonymous tip line at 330-6395. ■

Christmas, New Year's schedule for Caltrain, buses

Caltrain and SamTrans have announced their schedules for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

On Wednesday, Dec. 24, Caltrain will operate a regular weekday schedule of 92 trains. SamTrans buses will operate on regu-

lar non-school weekday service.

On Christmas Day, Caltrain will operate a regular Sunday schedule of 32 trains between San Francisco and San Jose. SamTrans buses will operate on regular Sunday service.

Starting at 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve, Caltrain will offer free rides as a way of encouraging partygoers not use their cars for late-night transportation. Extra trains will leave the San Francisco station at 12:45 a.m., 1:15 a.m., 1:45 a.m. and 2:15 a.m., making all local stops to the San

Jose Diridon station.

Caltrain will operate on a regular weekday schedule on New Year's Eve, in addition to the extra trains. On New Year's Day, it will operate on a Sunday schedule.

SamTrans buses will also offer free service on New Year's Eve from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. New Year's Day. RediWheels will offer free rides between 8 p.m. and midnight.

On New Year's Day, SamTrans buses will operate on a Sunday schedule.

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Menlo food truck event granted 5-year permit

By Sandy Brundage
Almanac Staff Writer

Off the Grid's weekly food truck event rolled away from a recent Planning Commission meeting with unanimous approval to continue for five years in Menlo Park.

The event launched in the Caltrain parking lot off Merrill Street earlier this year over the protests of about 20 downtown business owners and patrons.

"When we started this process with Off the Grid, we had an outpouring of complaints and worries and all the rest," Vice Chair John Onken said, and noted that the outcry has since evaporated.

"We're really, really happy and excited to have been here almost a year," Benjamin Himlan, Off the Grid's director of business development, told the commission during the permit hearing on Monday, Dec. 15.

He said the company, which operates in 21 other locations around the Bay Area, has permits of varying length at other

sites, ranging from one year to indefinite.

The Wednesday night event in Menlo Park is experiencing a typical winter slowdown, according to Mr. Himlan. About 600 to 800 people came each week during the summer, but that has now dropped by approximately 60 percent.

As a result, Off the Grid has been closing at 8 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. and will go on hiatus from Dec. 22 through Jan. 4. The longer hours will return in March, he said.

Off the Grid pays \$750 a month to Caltrain for the use of its parking lot, and the city receives sales tax revenue from food purchases, according to the city staff.

Commissioner Katie Ferrick asked whether Caltrain's upcoming electrification project would impact the event, and the answer from staff was that "it depends" on how the parking lot would be reconfigured.

Mr. Himlan said Off the Grid would work with the rail



Elf Project wrappers, from left, are Garrett Gavello, Alex Tsotadze, Wiebke Janssen, Chloe Bouquet, Chris Rowland, Lizzie Kruse, Sheera Eskenazi, Corey Tanis, Brooke Freitas, Zach Abuel-Saud, and Livvi Borenstein-Lawee.

Wrapping gifts for kids in need

For the fourth year in a row, the Elf Project has called on local students to wrap Christmas presents for children in need.

On Dec. 8, Sacred Heart Prep students wrapped more than 500 Christmas gifts donated by Peace Builders, an orga-

nization founded by Diane Eskenazi of Woodside that has sent more than \$80 million in medical and other forms of aid for disaster relief and orphaned children throughout the world.

The Elf Project gifts included new clothes, shoes, toys, back-

packs and blankets, and went to children served by Inn Vision Shelter Network, Project We Hope, St. Francis of Assisi Youth Club, and St. Anthony's Padua Church, among others.

Visit Peacebuilder07@aol.com or call (650) 218-3000 for more information.

agency to accommodate any changes.

After confirming that the city may revoke the use permit

should its conditions — which include litter management and a ban on alcohol sales — not be upheld, the commission voted

7-0 to grant a five-year extension to Off the Grid. The permit will now expire in February 2020. ■

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NEW TOOL PROVIDES ACCESS, UNDERSTANDING OF WBSD BUDGET

West Bay Sanitary District is proud to announce a new partnership with OpenGov, a powerful financial reporting tool. Our new OpenGov site presents and visualizes our revenues and expenses in an understandable format- from multi-year trends to operational details. By leveraging the OpenGov Platform, viewers can use the web-based software to enhance access, understanding, and analysis of our annual budget.



Explore our OpenGov site at:
WestBaySanitaryCA.OpenGov.com

AFFORDABLE SEWER LINE REPAIR PLANS AVAILABLE

West Bay Sanitary District announces a partnership with Home Emergency Insurance Solutions (parent company HomeServe) to offer sewer line repair service plans to District customers.

West Bay Sanitary District strives to provide excellent service to its customers. A number of our customers have asked for a way to receive assistance with the significant cost of repairing or replacing a sewer lateral pipe. That is why we've partnered with Home Emergency Insurance Solutions to offer District homeowners optional, exterior sewer line protection.

HAVE QUESTIONS? Call Home Emergency Insurance Solutions at 1-855-807-6628 or visit the secure website WestBaySewerPlan.com.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UNDERWAY

The District's 2014 North Palo Alto area project is approximately 12,500 feet of sanitary sewer mains located between Middlefield Road and the Bayshore Freeway, and between Willow Road and San Francisquito Creek, within the City of Menlo Park. The Burns Easement Rehabilitation project area is a small area approximately 2,300 feet along an easement adjacent to Burns Avenue between Middlefield Road and Dinkelspiel Lane within the Town of Atherton.

The project involves the replacement and rehabilitation of the sewer mains with the standard open trench method in areas where the pipeline needs replacement. A trenchless method using a structural cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) liner or pipe-bursting is used in areas where the pipeline can be rehabilitated. The estimated cost for construction of the project is approximately \$3,200,000.



WEST BAY LEADS COLLECTION SYSTEM OF THE FUTURE

West Bay Sanitary District is excited to be the lead agency of the Wastewater Collection System of the Future. This consortium of 9 progressive agencies with wastewater collection systems has come together for a series of workshops to share information, compare practices, and develop strategies to further improve efficiency, innovation, system management, and Level of Service.

The District has selected V. W. Housen & Associates and Dewpoint Consulting to guide the discussions and develop a roadmap to sewer system excellence.

An update on the findings of the group will be presented in January at the Winter Conference of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies in Palm Springs, CA.



HULSMANN WINS ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTATION AWARD

The Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) presented West Bay's Robert Hulsmann with the Electrical Instrumentation Person of the Year Award. The award is in recognition of Hulsmann's accomplishments in operating a top quality organization and leading the way in the water environment field.

Robert Hulsmann joined the West Bay Sanitary District three years ago from the City of San Mateo and has since improved the operation of the District's 12 publically owned pump station facilities and 50 STEP and grinder pumping stations. His experience has allowed West Bay to perform many more repairs in house than in the past, thus saving the District money and reducing down time.

"Bobby always displays a can-do attitude," says Sergio Ramirez, maintenance superintendent. *"If you want something done you ask Bobby."*

Hulsmann holds a state certification as a Maintenance Mechanic Grade III and a Collection System Maintenance Grade I issued through CWEA's Technical Certification Program.

Established in 1929, CWEA's awards program strives to acknowledge outstanding achievements and honor exceptional water environment professionals. Congratulations for the award, Bobby, and for your continued efforts to keep California's water clean and the community safe.

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

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ZERO INCREASE IN SOLID WASTE RATES FOR 2ND YEAR

In October the District Board of Directors made it official: there will not be an increase in rates in 2015 for the District's 2,200 solid waste customers in unincorporated San Mateo County.



For more info go to rethinkwaste.org

This is the second year in a row that no increase was needed. The rate increases that were implemented in prior years are now providing the needed revenue to cover the increased costs of the weekly pick up of the compost cans. External costs such as labor and fuel rates have stabilized as well. Combined, these factors enable the District to provide a "no increase" year in solid waste rates.

"We are pleased that there will be no rate increase for our solid waste customers in 2015, for a second straight year," said WBSD Director Fran Dehn. *"It's very important for our customers to receive the recycling, organic materials, and solid waste collection services from Recology with stable rates for the upcoming year."*

Recology San Mateo County provides collection services for refuse, recyclable materials, and compostable materials under a ten-year franchise agreement with the District which began in January of 2011.

WBSD JOINED IN SUMMER BLOCK PARTY EVENT

The Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce Summer Block Party on Santa Cruz Avenue was the perfect spot this summer for District employees to meet the public to give away prizes and pass out flyers and balloons. On June 18, several hundred adults and children learned about the West Bay Sanitary District and were reminded to "Call Us First" for sewer problems.

INTRODUCING SILICON VALLEY CLEAN WATER

Silicon Valley Clean Water (SVCW) is the new name of the South Bayside System Authority (SBSA), the wastewater treatment facility owned by the cities of Redwood City, San Carlos, and Belmont, and the West Bay Sanitary District. More than 200,000 residents and businesses are served by SVCW.



by **Phil Scott**
District Manager

I am pleased to announce that the West Bay Sanitary District Board of Directors has approved the 2014/15 budget that projects \$21,058,847 in revenues and \$15,549,134 in total expense and liabilities plus an operating reserve in the General Fund of \$6,505,889. The most significant cost is our non-operating expenses, which have risen to 61% (\$9.5M) of all expenses and include support of the wastewater treatment plant operations at Silicon Valley Clean Water (SVCW), and debt service on the bonds to fund SVCW's Capital Improvement projects.

The District's budget also anticipates a Capital Asset Fund budget of \$7,912,500 to perform capital improvement projects to the District's sewer pipelines and pump stations as well as equipment replacement and allowance for unanticipated emergency repairs.

In addition, West Bay Sanitary District is now providing sewer maintenance services to the Town of Los Altos Hills and the Town of Woodside. The District began cleaning the sewer lines and performing television inspection of the sewer lines in the Town of Los Altos Hills in August of 2014 and so far has cleaned approximately 10 miles of the scheduled 26 miles for the year. The Town of Los Altos Hills has 54 miles of sewer lines and the goal is to clean about half of the system each year. With regular cleaning, maintenance, and inspection of the sewer lines West Bay will be striving to reduce sewer overflows in the system and identify pipelines for rehabilitation and replacement.

The Town of Woodside has approximately 4 miles of sewer pipeline. West Bay will be cleaning the entire system annually. We are pleased to tap the expertise of West Bay staff to affordably help some of our smaller

neighboring communities that don't have the resources necessary to maintain their wastewater pipelines.

Wastewater professionals provide value to our customers. We pride ourselves in promoting and being associated with the one vocation that has done more to improve the health of the public than any other in history. Moving human waste out of the house and out of the streets has increased the life-expectancy rate more than vaccines, medicines, or any other medical advances.

We protect the Public Health! Out of the 1.2 billion gallons of wastewater per year we manage, more than 99.999% of that was handled without the wastewater leaving the pipes. Of the miniscule amount that left the pipes, 95% was recaptured.

Most of the time your wastewater professionals operate out-of-sight and out-of-mind, and that's good. But if you do have a sewer problem, please "Call Us First" so we can help you and determine if it is our responsibility at the main sewer or if it is a homeowner plumbing issue. We provide courtesy cleaning of the sewer lateral if you have a conforming clean out and we may be able to save you money. We enjoy being of service and providing you value while protecting the public health.



For any questions or for service please call us at **(650) 321-0384**. And ask our serviceman for a refrigerator magnet with our number for easy reference.



Scenes of the *season*

Photographer Michelle Le
captures holiday scenes
in Almanac country



Clockwise from top: Handmade wooden reindeer are for sale at the Menlo Park Kiwanis Club's Christmas tree lot in front of Stanford Stadium on El Camino Real; Christmas tree lights up the night on Woodside Road at Canada Road in Woodside; a Nativity creche under the tree on Woodside Road.



Clockwise from top left: Raj Taneja holds his daughter Aanya, 3, as they shop for a tree at the Menlo Park Kiwanis Club's Christmas tree lot in front of Stanford Stadium on El Camino Real; dressed as a Christmas tree, Kaitlynn, 6, picks up Toni, 5, during the annual holiday open house at Fire Station 7 in Woodside on Dec. 17; families listen to a Christmas story read by Santa during Menlo Park's tree lighting event in Fremont Park on Dec. 5; Kaitlynn, 6, swings herself on a firetruck while other kids play during the annual holiday open house at the fire station in Woodside.

Holiday Fund 2014

Clubs provide youth with gift of opportunity

By David Cruz, development associate, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula.

Maria walked in to the Boys & Girls Clubhouse in east Menlo Park on the first day of her freshman year of high school. She was shy and hesitated to participate in club activities.

It was here that she met Desiree Caliguiran, the clubhouse unit director. Desiree, a former teacher who takes pride in knowing each of her students, soon discovered that Maria's mother and father had been incarcerated and that the experience had dramatically affected Maria's outlook on life.

These traumatic events, coupled with health complications, had required Maria to leave her school and move into a home-school program during middle school. She was losing hope.

Desiree spent time with Maria every day, developing a personal relationship as a mentor and confidant. She became the consistent, caring adult Maria could trust and rely on for emotional and academic support.

"Desiree is fully aware of my life situations and is there for me, when I need her," Maria says. "I like that I have someone to go to. I haven't had that before."

The clubhouse is a place of hope for Maria and young people with stories such as hers. Adults like Desiree serve as positive role models who encourage

HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Almanac's Holiday Fund help the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula.

youth to work hard to pursue their goals.

Youth thrive in the clubhouse culture, where members encourage each other to pursue academic achievement, develop new skills, and participate in enrichment activities.

For a young person facing challenging circumstances, Maria continually shows enthusiasm and resilience. She envisions a better reality for herself and her family, and wants to become a lawyer after college.

"I want to be a lawyer to help people. Education will help me little by little if I invest my time now," she says. "I want to go to any college, and I will go to any college and work hard because that's what it will take for me to accomplish my dreams."

Now, no longer a shy participant, Maria excels at school and in the club. She spends her afternoons and evenings in the clubhouse, where she loves to read, participates in culinary classes, and is an enthusiastic member of the video production elective.

Each day, she receives 90 minutes of homework help — and she's receiving no grade lower



Photo by David Cruz

Maria, right, with her Boys & Girls Clubs mentor, Desiree.

than a B.

When asked to reflect on her future, Maria says: "I am not letting my home situation stop me from pursuing my dreams. I'm proud that with all I'm going through, I am still working toward a great future."

By partnering with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, you can provide our communi-

ties' youth with the best gift anyone could ask for — the gift of an opportunity to work hard toward a great future.

Each year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula provides expanded learning time opportunities to more than 1,900 under-served youth at nine locations in eastern Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and the

North Fair Oaks neighborhood of Redwood City. Members, ages 6-18, attend at least twice a week during the academic school year and receive tutoring, mentoring, and academic support.

Visit bgcp.org or contact David Cruz at dcruz@bgcp.org or (650) 646-6132 to learn more about the Boys & Girls Clubs, or to get involved. ■

Surrounded by illness, mother turns to Ecumenical Hunger Program

By Petra, mother of 4, who is currently enrolled in the Ecumenical Hunger Program's Women's Support Group.

I came to the Ecumenical Hunger Program in 2003 after my husband was incarcerated and I was left with no way to support my children.

My life has not been an easy one and it just seems like it is one problem followed by another. Not only have I been dealing with constant financial problems but recently, I have also had to deal with death and illness in my family.

I became the guardian of my niece's child who tragically passed away from SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome) on May 5, 2014. My father, whom

HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Almanac Holiday Fund benefit the Ecumenical Hunger Program.

I took care of after he suffered two strokes, passed on Aug. 7, 2014. And my beloved mother was recently diagnosed with lymphoma. In addition to all of this, I am a diabetic, suffer with depression, and have to take medication for both.

I am no stranger to the stress that illness can bring. My 9-year-old son, Joshua, was diagnosed with a genetically based disease

at a young age. On his worst days, he can suffer more than 13 seizures and the doctors can only do so much for him. He has suffered brain damage that continues to get worse with each seizure. He isn't expected to live past his next birthday. I am devastated by life but I am trying to hold myself together for the sake of my other children.

Although it saddens me to know that I don't have the support of my brothers, I do have amazing friends that include the staff at the Ecumenical Hunger Program.

I call EHP whenever I feel lost and speak to a case manager or

Lesia, the executive director. They always have the door open for me and I don't know what I would do without their support.

My family's income is limited as I receive Social Security disability benefits and my husband's part-time income when he can find work.

The Ecumenical Hunger Program is a lifesaver, providing the things that we need to live. My kids were only able to get their back-to-school supplies and clothes because of EHP's help. I truly don't know what I would do if EHP wasn't in my life.

My son is now at the Lucile

Packard Children's Hospital Stanford. It is only a matter of time before he passes. I come to the Ecumenical Hunger Program often these days because seeing my son at the hospital is very painful for me. I feel as though I am going to break down any day now, but with the constant support from my friends and EHP, I know I can survive this. ■

Go to ehpcares.org or call (650) 323-7781 for more information on the Ecumenical Hunger Program, which is located at 2411 Pulgas Ave. in East Palo Alto.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Las Lomitas Elementary School District of San Mateo County, California, hereby invites and will receive sealed proposals for the furnishing of all labor and materials for the following work:

**Las Lomitas Elementary School District
Piggyback Bid for Modular Classroom Buildings and
Modular Toilet Room Buildings at Various Sites**

Work done shall be in strict accordance with Plans and Specifications prepared by:
Sugimura Finney Architects
2155 S. Bascom Ave. Ste 200
Campbell, CA 95008

Plans and Specifications will be distributed via:
Bidders calling 650-854-6311 ext 42 to reserve a document set 48 hours prior to bid walk will be provided documents during the mandatory bid walk

Additional Plans and Specifications may be viewed at:
Las Lomitas School District Main Office
1011 Altschul Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

By appointment only / 48 hr. notice or Online via District document portal
Call 650-854-6311 ext 42 for appointment or directions to access online portal

Written bids must be submitted no later than
2:00 PM Monday January 05, 2015
at the Las Lomitas Elementary School District Main Office.

Mandatory Pre-bid conference has been scheduled for
1:00 PM Friday December 26, 2014

Attendance is mandatory at pre-bid conference. Attendees must be present for the entire meeting in order to be deemed a qualified bidder.

Meet at The following Site
La Entrada Middle School (Meet at main office)
2200 Sharon Rd, Menlo Park, CA 94025

In accordance with the provisions of California Business and Professions Code Section 7028.15 and Public Contract Code Section 3300, The District requires that the bidder possess the following classification of contractor's license at the time the bid is submitted:

Class B General Contracting

Any bidder not so licensed at the time of the bid opening will be rejected as non-responsive. No bids will be accepted from, or a contract awarded to, any party or firm in arrears to the District or who is a defaulter as surety, contractor, or otherwise.

Each bid must be accompanied by certified check, cashier's check, or bidder's bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the tendered bid, made payable to the order of **Las Lomitas Elementary School District** as a guarantee that the bidder will, after being notified of acceptance of his/her bid, enter into a contract with the Board in accordance therewith and file the necessary bonds as called for in the Specifications.

Rejection of Bids

The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Board also reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid received.

Selection of Lowest Bid

The successful bidder will be selected per the lowest base bid.
Per Public Contract Code Section 20103.8

PIGGYBACKING: COOPERATIVE PURCHASING/OTHER AGENCY

It is the intent of the Las Lomitas School District that other Public School Districts, Community College Districts and public agencies throughout the State of California (listed herein, but not limited to) may purchase identical items at the same unit price(s) subject to the same terms and conditions, pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 20118 and 20652.

Agencies participating in this bid shall be responsible for obtaining approval from their approving body of authority when necessary and shall hold the Las Lomitas School District harmless from any disputes, disagreements or actions which may arise as a result of using this bid. Building freight/shipping charges are included in the bid prices for the Las Lomitas School District only. Additional freight/shipping charges that may be required by other agencies are outside the scope of the base bid. Furthermore, additional charges are due to site conditions that may apply and are also outside the scope of the base bid.

The Las Lomitas School District waives its rights to require other Districts to draw their warrants in favor of this District and authorizes each District to make payment directly to the successful bidder.

Prevailing Wage Requirements

This Project is a "public work" to which general prevailing wage rates will apply in accordance with Labor Code Section 1770, et seq. The Prevailing wage rates are available on the DIR website at www.DIR.ca.gov.

The Contractor and all Subcontractors under the Contractor shall pay all workers on all work performed pursuant to this Contract not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the School District.

This project is subject to labor compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. The successful Bidder shall comply with all requirements of Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1, of the Labor Code. Contractor shall submit certified payroll monthly via the eCPR system.

Escrow Accounts

Pursuant to Section 22300 of the Public Contract Code, the Agreement will contain provisions permitting the successful bidder to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under the agreement or permitting payment of retentions earned directly into an escrow account.

Payment Bond

Before commencing any work under the contract, the Contractor shall file a Payment Bond with the Owner. It shall be a surety bond, shall be issued by corporations duly and legally licensed to transact business in the State of California and approve by the Owner. They shall be issued at the expense of the Contractor; and shall be maintained by him and at his expense during the entire life of the Contract. This bond shall be in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price and shall secure the payment of all claims for labor and materials used or consumed in the performance of this contract.

Disabled Veteran's Business Enterprise

In accordance with Education Code Section 17076.11, The Las Lomitas Elementary School District has "a participation goal of at least 3% per year of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the school district for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises." Thus, all contractors bidding on this project are required to make a good faith effort to achieve this 3% participation goal. Requirements for demonstrating that this good faith effort has been made are included in the Project Manual



Rema and Col. Joe Cotton

Atherton couple celebrates their 70th anniversary

By Michael Farbstein, son-in-law to Rema and Joe Cotton.

On Dec. 22, 1944, a young man named Joe Cotton asked Rema Nelson to marry him. Recently returned to the states from being shot down over Greece in World War II, and spending three harrowing months evading the Nazis, Mr. Cotton was ready for a challenge of a more domestic sort.

They eloped from their native Indiana to Kentucky, where it was legal for the 15-year-old Miss Nelson to wed the 22-year-old Joe Cotton. When they returned home, and told their parents, Rema's father said to his daughter, "You'd better make this stick."

Indeed they have. Monday, Dec. 22, marked the 70th wedding anniversary for Joe and Rema Cotton, who have lived in Atherton since 1971.

The years have brought more than the usual share of adventures and struggles. The Cottons moved many times, as Joe pursued his assignments as an Air Force test pilot. They lived in Texas, Ohio, Alabama, Florida and Great Britain, finally settling at Edwards Air Force Base in the Mojave Desert, where Joe flew some of the most exotic airplanes of his generation (XB-70 program).

Along the way, their three children were born, Chris Cotton of Atherton, Connie Jo



Air Force test pilot Joe Cotton.

Cotton of Palo Alto, and Candy Cotton Farbstein of San Mateo.

In 1966, Joe retired as an Air Force colonel, and the family moved to the Bay Area, for Joe to spend the next 15 years flying with the test group for United Airlines.

Joe retired in 1982, and it was Rema's turn to take the helm of the relationship and do what she wanted them to do. They are actively involved in the lives of the children, their five grandchildren, and their two great grandchildren.

Now, at ages 92 and 85, Joe and Rema face considerable medical hurdles. But their love grows richer ever year.

The determination and commitment of the greatest generation is not just reserved for the battlefields of war.



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Atherton's new mayor lays out his vision

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

New Atherton mayor Rick DeGolia's vision for the coming year includes a new civic center that creates all its own energy and a free high-speed fiber Internet system for the whole town.



Rick DeGolia

Mr. DeGolia was unanimously selected by members of Atherton's City Council as their new mayor on Dec. 17. Elizabeth Lewis was named vice mayor, also by unanimous vote.

Mr. DeGolia said he is so committed to listening to the town's residents that he will have lunch with all comers every Tuesday in the town's council chambers.

The Tuesday lunches, Mr. DeGolia said, will be bring-your-own brown bag, from noon to 2 p.m. in the town's council chambers at 94 Ashfield Road. The lunches, he said, will help him meet one of his goals for the year, "encouraging the conversations with you that I feel like we need to have."

"I want to increase resident awareness, communication and engagement with the town," Mr. DeGolia said.

Among the issues that need to be discussed, he said, are how the town's police department can keep all its vacancies filled; road safety, especially on El Camino Real; high-speed rail; and Caltrain electrification.

"There's an issue of significant construction that we experience throughout Atherton and how to manage the noise, traffic, and proximity of ever-larger houses on our property lines," he said.

Mr. DeGolia said he also wants to hear how residents want to prioritize the projects laid out in several recently adopted master plans. The master plans — for a new civic center, for bicycle and pedestrian routes, for the town's drainage system and (not yet completed) for Holbrook-Palmer Park — contain far more projects than the town has money to pay for.

Another of Mr. DeGolia's goals for the year might help make communicating with residents easier. The town's six-month-old Technology Committee wants to improve Internet and cellular services in Atherton, Mr. DeGolia said. Serving on the committee are, in addition to Mr. DeGolia, Councilman Bill Widmer, "technology savvy residents,"

and technology specialists from each private and public school in town. Mr. DeGolia said he and the committee hope to figure out a way to

use the pool of property taxes set aside for the library to help provide a free basic fiber Internet system for the town. He envisions a "public-private partnership," with the library paying an annual fee to subsidize the fiber system.

"This is still in the conceptual stage," Mr. DeGolia said, but he hopes to bring "a concrete proposal" to the town during his year as mayor.

Other priorities listed by the mayor include:

- A continued commitment to the town's fiscal health and investment in infrastructure. "I believe that we should continue to limit our operating expenses," and pay down long-term liabilities, he said.

- Continue work on the town's new civic center. "I am extremely excited by the civic center project," he said. "It will improve Atherton by dramatically creating a pedestrian-friendly center to our town, where people can gather and celebrate our history and what is special about the town of Atherton." Mr. DeGolia said he hopes the complex will be able to generate all the energy it consumes, making it the "first net-zero civic center in California."

In Atherton, the position of mayor is largely ceremonial. The mayor is chosen by the other council members and usually rotates each year. They mayor presides over council meetings, but according to the town's Council Handbook, the mayor has "no additional powers or authority different from other members of the City Council." ■

Holiday parking

Guests driving in from out of town to celebrate the holidays? They now have a place to park, thanks to Menlo Park pausing enforcement of the ban on overnight parking through Sunday, Jan. 4. Citations will start again at 2 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5, according to the city.



For the children

In keeping with a holiday tradition, the seventh-grade students at St. Raymond School in Menlo Park collected new books for the children at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital to open on Christmas morning. The students enjoyed picking their favorite books and wrapping them with a note from Santa.

CALENDAR

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

Art Galleries

'How Does Your Garden Grow' The Portola Art Gallery will host an exhibit called "How Does Your Garden Grow," composed of watercolor paintings by Barbara von Haunalter. Many pieces are plein air work created in or nearby the San Francisco Bay Area. Monday-Saturday, Dec. 1-31, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free. Allied Arts Guild, Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. Call 650-321-0220. www.portolaartgallery.com

'Treasures Revealed' The Portola Art Gallery will host "Treasures Revealed," a joint exhibit of work by Shaowei Liu and Yvonne Newhouse with watercolor paintings of brief, precious moments in life. Monday-Saturday, Jan. 1-31, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. Call 650-321-0220. www.portolaartgallery.com

Classes/Workshops

Movers and Shakers Pre-Toddler Class This PlaySteps class for babies approximately 5 to 12 months old, and their parents and caretakers, will encourage movement and play in order to develop strength, balance and coordination. Tuesdays, Jan. 6-March 24, 10-10:45 a.m. \$154 Menlo Park resident. Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center, 849 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-323-0805. www.play-steps.com

Clubs/Meetings

Rotary Club of Menlo Park The Rotary Club of Menlo Park, a service club dedicated to working on both community and international projects, meets weekly on Wednesdays. The group is composed of men and women who live and work in Menlo Park, Atherton and surrounding communities. Visitors are welcome. Wednesdays, Nov. 5-Dec. 31, 12:15-1:30 p.m. \$20 lunch. Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. www.menloparkrotary.org

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

Exhibits

'Loose in Some Real Tropics' The Cantor Arts Center will arrange an exhibit called "Loose in Some Real Tropics": Robert Rauschenberg's "Stoned Moon" Project, 1969-1970, which shares and documents Rauschenberg's lithographs, drawings, photographs and correspondence from his participation in the NASA Art Program capturing the Apollo 11 mission. Wednesday-Monday, Dec. 24-March 16, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday

til 8 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Kids & Families

January Free First Friday Program The Free First Friday Program at the San Mateo County History Museum continues with free admission and activities for all ages. At 11 a.m., preschool-age children can learn about cars, make automobiles out of cardboard and listen to a reading of the story "Cool Cars." At 2 p.m., docents will lead a tour of the museum for adults. Jan. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. www.historysmc.org

Toddler Dance Party Bonnie Lockhart will perform at Atherton Library's Toddler Dance Party, which will lead into a regular Toddler Storytime session. This event for children 18 to 36 months old is sponsored by the Friends of the Atherton Library. Jan. 6, 10:30-11 a.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org

Health

New Year's Day Yoga Class This yoga course will help community members kick off the year with stretching, movement, seated poses and meditation. Jan. 1, 9:30-11 a.m. \$18. Menlo Pilates & Yoga, 1011 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-854-3864. [nennenberg@aol.com](mailto:nonnenberg@aol.com)

Food & Drink

LB Steak Christmas Eve Dining For Christmas Eve, LB Steak in Menlo Park will offer a regular a la carte dinner menu, as well as a four-course prix fixe menu for \$68.50. Dec. 24, 4-9 p.m. Prices vary. LB Steak Menlo Park, 898 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-321-8980. www.lbsteak.com

Left Bank Brasserie Christmas Eve Dining Left Bank Brasserie in Menlo Park will serve a regular lunch menu and a limited a la carte dinner menu on Christmas Eve. There will also be a \$56.50 three-course prix fixe menu with choices available. Dec. 24, 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Prices vary. Left Bank Brasserie Menlo Park, 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-473-6543. www.leftbank.com

New Year's Eve Celebration at LB Steak LB Steak Menlo Park will offer a limited regular a la carte dinner menu and a \$75.50 four-course prix fixe meal, as well as festive decorations, complimentary sparkling wine and party favors. The last seating will be at 11 p.m. Dec. 31, 4 p.m.-midnight. Prices vary. LB Steak Menlo Park, 898 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-321-8980. www.lbsteak.com

New Year's Eve Celebration at Left Bank For New Year's Eve, Left Bank Brasserie Menlo Park will serve a limited regular menu and a four-course prix fixe dinner. There will also be balloons, streamers, sparkling wine and party favors. The last seating will be at 11 p.m. Dec. 31, 11:30 a.m.-midnight. Prices vary. Left Bank Brasserie Menlo Park, 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-473-6543. www.leftbank.com

On Stage

Actor Duffy Hudson as George Burns

Actor Duffy Hudson will impersonate George Burns in a performance that will include jokes, singing, dancing and the star's memorable style. Refreshments will be provided. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Menlo Park Library. Jan. 3, 2-3:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2501. menlopark.org/545/ Saturday-Series

'Peter and the Starcatcher' TheatreWorks will stage a holiday production of "Peter and the Starcatcher," a Tony Award-winning, adventure-filled sequel to "Peter Pan." See website for specific dates, timing and pricing. Dec. 3-Jan. 3. \$19-\$74. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-1950. www.theatreworks.org

Religion/Spirituality

Candlelight and Carols service This Christmas Eve service at Ladera Community Church will explore the meaning of Christmas through short readings and favorite carols. Dec. 24, 8-8:45 p.m. Free. Ladera Community Church, 3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-854-5481. www.ladera.org

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service This Bethany Lutheran Church service will present the Christmas story, thoughts about its significance, and candlelight and carols at its conclusion. Dec. 24, 10 p.m. Free. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. www.bethany-mp.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=293804

Carol-Sing Sunday This Ladera Community Church event will feature a handful of Christmas stories and singing of favorite carols. Dec. 28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Free. Ladera Community Church, 3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-854-5481. www.ladera.org

Christmas Pageant The Christmas Pageant at Ladera Community Church will offer a telling of the Christmas story with sheep, shepherds, angels, innkeepers and Mary and Joseph welcoming baby Jesus. Dec. 24, 5-6 p.m. Free. Ladera Community Church, 3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-854-5481. www.ladera.org

Family Christmas Eve Service This Bethany Lutheran Church service will invite children to put on costumes and retell the Christmas story. The event will also include Christmas carols and a gift for each child. Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Free. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. www.bethany-mp.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=293804

University public worship Memorial Church has historically been an important center of spiritual and ceremonial life at Stanford University. Services are held weekly and are open to the public. Sundays, Oct. 26-Dec. 28, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. web.stanford.edu/group/religiouslife/cgi-bin/wordpress/



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-Suzanne, Palo Alto



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www.careindeed.com
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Menlo Park, CA 94025

Tokyo Subway to close

By Elena Kadvany

Tokyo Subway, a three decades-long Japanese staple in downtown Menlo Park, is closing Wednesday, Dec. 24.

“I’m going to retire, what can I say?” said owner Toshio Akabori. He opened the diminutive restaurant at 605 Santa Cruz Ave. (one storefront away from the corner of El Camino Real) in August 1985, and said he’s been thinking about retiring for awhile now.

A Tokyo-native, Mr. Akabori said his lifelong dream was to open a restaurant in America.

He worked his way up from hotel kitchens in Japan to Guam, where he cooked and learned English, and finally, a culinary apprenticeship in Missouri before landing in Menlo Park.

The restaurant got its name for its long and narrow shape that he said reminded him of similar restaurant spaces housed in Tokyo’s underground system.

He said he was sad to retire after so many years. His parting words: “Thank you for everything to my loyal customers.”

Check out Elena Kadvany’s food blog on AlmanacNews.com.

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POLICE CALLS

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

WOODSIDE

Stolen vehicle: Someone “dumped” a stolen vehicle across the street from a residence on Quail Meadow Drive, then stole another vehicle, unlocked and parked in the residence’s driveway with the keys inside. Dec. 11.

ATHERTON

Attempted burglary: Police arrested two teenage boys on suspicion of attempted burglary, prowling, resisting arrest and probation violations in connection with a Jennings Lane resident who claimed that he saw the boys attempting to open the sliding glass door into his residence. Dec. 6.

Theft: Someone stole a wallet containing \$1,000 in cash from an unlocked vehicle parked in front of the Atherton Library on Dinkelspiel Station Lane. Dec. 5.

MENLO PARK

Residential burglaries:

■ An unlocked window in a home on Market Place provided an entrance to someone who then rummaged through drawers in bedrooms and unwrapped several Christmas presents in the family room. The thief stole jewelry, two pairs of shoes and \$450 in coins. Estimated loss: \$18,100. Dec. 15.

■ Someone broke into a locked construction site on Santa Cruz Avenue and stole a saw, a compressor, a tool box and a tool kit. Estimated loss: \$2,050. Dec. 15.

■ Residents of an apartment complex on Mills Street found a first-floor storage room broken into — a window was dismantled and a door taken off its hinges — but nothing missing. A second locked door showed pry marks. No reported losses. Dec. 11.

■ The resident of Lassen Drive found the home’s garage open and evidence of tampering inside, along with a broken garage window and an unplugged electric garage-door opener within reach of the window. No losses reported. Dec. 13.

■ An unlocked closet window allowed someone to get inside a home on Ambar Way, rummage through drawers in bedrooms and unwrap Christmas presents in the family room. Nothing

was missing. Dec. 15.

■ An alarm may have scared away whoever took the screen off a window and opened the window of a house on Carlton Avenue. No reported losses. Dec. 16.

Auto burglaries: Thieves broke into vehicles parked in the 2100 block of Santa Cruz Avenue and the 1100 block of Willow Road and stole several items in both incidents, but police haven’t yet received lists of missing goods. Dec. 13.

Thefts:

■ A laptop computer was stolen from a woman’s desk at Curious.com at 100 Middlefield Road. Estimated loss: \$1,500. Dec. 16.

■ Someone stole an unattended and unlocked bicycle from the driveway of a home on Oak Court. Estimated loss: \$400. Dec. 18.

■ A package of parts for a remote-controlled four-bladed helicopter was stolen from a front porch on Durham Street. Estimated loss: \$167. Dec. 15.

■ An unlocked and unattended bike was stolen from a bike rack on Oak Knoll Lane. Estimated loss: \$250. Dec. 17.

■ A thief got away with two large lanterns decorating a home on Lemon Street. Estimated loss: \$150. Dec. 17.

■ Someone stole a bike from a carport on Live Oak Avenue. No report of losses. Dec. 12.

■ Several items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked on Santa Cruz Avenue. No estimated of losses. Dec. 13.

■ A thief walked off with several packaged Christmas gifts from a front porch on White Oak Drive. Estimated loss: Less than \$950. Dec. 14.

Traffic accident: A vehicle traveling north on Gilbert Avenue clipped the left rear of a bike being ridden by a 16-year-old cyclist heading in the same direction as they approached Willow Road. The cyclist fell down — because he overcompensated by turning too far to the right, he said. When the cyclist got up, he said the driver was yelling at him, which scared him and he continued on his way to school. Dec. 17.

Battery: A customer at a smog station on Willow Road became combative over payment for services and caused minor injuries to the station employee after grabbing the car keys from the employee’s hand. The employee did not need medical attention and the customer paid for the services. The District Attorney’s Office is looking into the case. Dec. 13.

RealEstate

Real Estate Matters

Home prices up, time on market down in Menlo Park

By Hadar Guibara,
Serenio Group Real Estate

Scanning the performance of the Menlo Park real estate market over the last four years reveals an unmistakable trend: As the price of homes goes up, the length of time homes sit on the market goes down.

Logic argues against this. One would think that when homes become more expensive, buyers would be more selective and spend more time shopping and strategizing. The term "priced out of the market" applies in most commercial sectors and means that when an item is priced too high, it usually sits on the shelf.

But this is Menlo Park real estate, and some other-wise sound economic theories don't apply here. In this city, rising home prices are causing buyers to jump on those properties faster than ever. This includes investors both foreign and domestic as well as people who simply want to make a life here.

Price trends

Looking at the price-per-square-foot metric, it's easy to see what's been taking place since the start of 2011.

That year kicked off with an average square-foot price in January of \$663. The average fluctuated during 2011, going as high as \$792 in October and as low as \$552 in September.

In 2012, the average price per square foot jumped into the mid-700s and low \$800s. The rise continued in 2013, with a November high of \$998

and an average just below \$900.

During the first 10 months of 2014, the square-foot price of Menlo Park homes has averaged \$956.40. It's been as high as \$1,125 in June and \$1,032 in October.

Less time on market

Rising home prices clearly aren't dissuading buyers. The trend seems to be attracting them. And it's not just "buyers," but rather buyers who are eager to quickly pay above the listing prices of the homes.

From January to October 2014, listed homes have been bought, on average, in 20.6 days. By comparison, in the same time period in 2011, homes in Menlo Park averaged 44.1 days on the market before being sold.

Looking at the month-to-month sold price-to-list ratio during the first 10 months of this year, buyers have paid from 5.3 percent to 9.8 percent above initial asking prices, with the average being 7.2 percent.

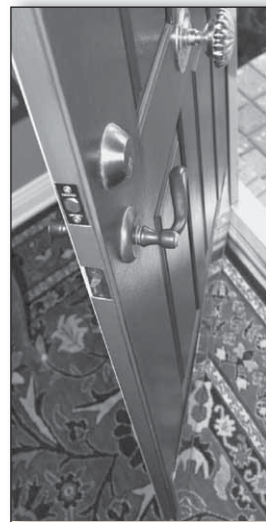
This is another trend to watch. In January to October 2011, home buyers actually paid less, on average, than the homes' list prices: 99.99 percent of the list price, to be exact.

These numbers indicate that even with higher home prices, Menlo Park is a very attractive community to many, and a variety of buyers are eager to own property here. ▣



Hadar Guibara

Hadar Guibara is a Realtor with Serenio Group of Palo Alto. She can be reached at hadar@serenogroup.com.



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Ed Kahl

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www.EdKahl.com



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INDEX

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- JOBS 500-599
- BUSINESS SERVICES 600-699
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- FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE 800-899
- PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES 995-997

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

Pregnant? Considering adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (CalSCAN)

Pregnant? Thinking of adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/ New Mexico/Indiana (AAN CAN)

2015 Dance Classes

George Burns in Menlo Park!

HIPPIE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Hogmanay Dance Palo Alto

I need 2 tix It's Wonderful Life

Montclair Women's Big Band Live!

new Holiday music

SPACE WANTED
Need to rent storage space for my violin business. 650-325-7087.

Stanford music tutoring

USED BOOKSHOP AT MITCHELL PARK

130 Classes & Instruction

Airbrush Makeup Artist
Course For: Ads . TV . Film . Fashion 35% OFF TUITION - SPECIAL \$1990 - Train & Build Portfolio . One Week Course Details at: AwardMakeupSchool.com 818-980-2119 (AAN CAN)

German Language Classes

Instruction for Hebrew

Bar and Bat Mitzvah. For Affiliated and Unaffiliated. George Rubin, M.A. in Hebrew/Jewish Education 650/424-1940

133 Music Lessons

Christina Conti Private Piano Instruction
(650) 493-6950

Hope Street Music Studios
In downtown Mtn.View. Most Instruments voice. All ages & levels 650-961-2192 www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com

135 Group Activities

Thanks St, Jude

140 Lost & Found

Lost Cat - KIRBY PLACE, PALO ALTO
HE'S STRICTLY AN INDOOR CAT AND RAN OUTSIDE LAST NIGHT (DEC 18) BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 6AM THIS MORNING (DEC 19)
LONG HAIRED, DARK COLORED. HAS A MAIN COON LOOK TO HIM, VERY BUSHY TAIL, VERY "LION" LOOKING
NO COLLAR
PLEASE HELP US FIND HIM. REWARD!!!
70 KIRBY PLACE , PALO ALTO
650.888.8357

145 Non-Profits Needs

DONATE BOOKS/HELP PA LIBRARIES

WISH LIST FRIENDS PA LIBRARY

150 Volunteers

Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats

FRIENDS BOOKSTORE MITCHELL PARK

FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY

JOIN OUR ONLINE STOREFRONT TEAM

Research at Stanford Needs You!

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

Cash for Cars
Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com (AAN CAN)

Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat
to HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Sq.Green Glass Dish Set - \$75.00

235 Wanted to Buy

Cash for Diabetic Test Strips
Don't throw boxes away - Help others. Unopened / Unexpired boxes only. All Brands Considered. Call Anytime! 24hrs/7days (888) 491-1168 (Cal-SCAN)

240 Furnishings/ Household items

Christmas Dishes 48Pc. - \$75.00

Pottery Barn Dining Room - \$500/\$600

Screen Door - \$60

245 Miscellaneous

DISH TV
Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) SAVE! Regular Price \$32.99 Call Today and Ask About FREE SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 888-992-1957 (AAN CAN)

DISH TV Retailer
Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) & High Speed Internet starting at \$14.95/month (where available.) SAVE! Ask About SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 1-800-357-0810. (Cal-SCAN)

Get The Big Deal!
from DirecTV! Act Now- \$19.99/ mo. Free 3-Months of HBO, starz, SHOWTIME & CINEMAX. FREE GENIE HD/DVR Upgrade! 2014 NFL Sunday Ticket. Included with Select Packages. New Customers Only. IV Support Holdings LLC- An authorized DirecTV Dealer. Some exclusions apply - Call for details 1-800-385-9017 (Cal-SCAN)

Sawmills
from only \$4397.00- Make and save money with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

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Double plot, Great location! Magnolia Sec. 8, Lot 2015. Priced to sell at \$6,999. 408-568-5863

Ugly Christmas Sweaters
Also beautiful party clothes. Vintage. See all at 831 Villa St., (x-street Castro) MV. Hours 1-6pm.

Kid's Stuff

330 Child Care Offered

Brand New Preschool Open House

345 Tutoring/ Lessons

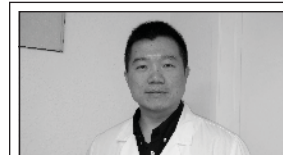
Online Writing Tutor

355 Items for Sale

Did You Know
Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

Mind & Body

403 Acupuncture



Treatments for Alzheimers
Acupuncturist Jay Wang PhD, specialized in chronic illness for seniors. Call 650-485-3293 for a free consultation. 747 Altos Oaks Dr., Los Altos

425 Health Services

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Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

460 Pilates

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488 Spa Services

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Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Computers
Chief Architect, Mobile Gaming.
Menlo Park, CA. BS in CS, CIS or r/d + 7 yrs exp in job offered or r/d. Overseas mobile game dev. Apply: Punchbox USA Inc., jobs@us.chukong-inc.com

Inventory Takers
Now hiring! Start: \$10.75/hr. Flex P/T work! Reg wage reviews. Advancement oppts. Must have reliable trans. EEO/Vet/Disabled. Apply at www.rgisinv.com Select San Francisco Bay Area.

To place a Classified ad in The Almanac, The Palo Alto Weekly or The Mountain View Voice call 326-8216 or at fogster.com

MS History/Geography Teacher
Palo Alto, CA. Teach Middle School History and Geography in French according to the French Ministry of Education curriculum guidelines. BA history or rel. field + 2yrs. exper. Resumes to Head of School, International School of the Peninsula, 151 Laura Lane, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

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550 Business Opportunities

AVON
Earn extra income with a new career! Sell from home, work, online. \$15 startup. For information, call: 877-830-2916. (CalSCAN)

560 Employment Information

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Mailing brochures from home. Helping home workers since 2001. Genuine Opportunity. No Experience required. Start Immediately www.mailingmembers.com (AAN CAN)

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\$2K Sign-On Bonus - SAME DAY APPROVALS! Stay Warm w/ APU New KW Trucks! Earn \$55K p/yr! CDL-A Req. (877) 258-8782 www.ad-drivers.com (Cal-SCAN)

Business Services

624 Financial

Big Trouble with IRS?
Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage and bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, and resolve tax debt FAST. Call 844-753-1317 (AAN CAN)

Big Trouble with IRS?
Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage and bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, and resolve tax debt FAST. Seen on CNN. A BBB. Call 1-800-761-5395. (Cal-SCAN)

Do You Owe \$10,000
to the IRS or State in back taxes? Get tax relief now! Call BlueTax, the nation's full service tax solution firm. 800-393-6403.

Reduce Your Past Tax Bill
by as much as 75 Percent. Stop Levies, Liens and Wage Garnishments. Call The Tax DR Now to see if you Qualify 1-800-498-1067. (Cal-SCAN)

Social Security Disability
benefits. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-966-1904 to start your application today! (Cal-SCAN)

628 Graphics/ Webdesign

Did You Know
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To place a Classified ad in The Almanac call 326-8216 or online at fogster.com

636 Insurance

Auto Insurance
starting at \$25/month. Call 855-977-9537 (AAN CAN)

Lowest Prices
on Health & Dental Insurance. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (CalSCAN)

Home Services

748 Gardening/ Landscaping

J. Garcia Garden Maintenance Service
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Yard Clean-ups, debris removal, maintenance, installations. Free est. 650/468-8859

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.

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)

767 Movers
Sunny Express Moving Co.
Affordable, Reliable, References. Lic. CalT #191198. 650/722-6586 or 408/904-9688

771 Painting/ Wallpaper

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Quality work
Good references
Low price
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775 Asphalt/ Concrete

Roe General Engineering
Asphalt, concrete, pavers, tiles, sealing,
artificial turf. 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



805 Homes for Rent

Menlo Park Las Lomas, 3 BR/2 BA -
\$4300/mo

Palo Alto Home, 4 BR/2 BA - \$4600/mo

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

All Areas: Roommates.com
Lonely? Bored? Broke? Find the perfect
roommate to complement your person-
ality and lifestyle at Roommates.com!
(AAN CAN)

811 Office Space

THERAPIST OFFICE SUBLET

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$899000

Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$1099000

Sunnyvale, 3 BR/2 BA - \$899000



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PHONE:

650/326-8216

995 Fictitious Name Statement

LA ESTRELLITA MARKET RWC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 262955

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

La Estrellita Market RWC, located at
2205 Middlefield, Redwood City, CA
94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

CIELO STAR, INC.
2211 Middlefield Rd.
Redwood City, CA 94063

This business is conducted by: A
Corporation.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 13, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014)

LA ESTRELLITA MARKET EPA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 262956

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

La Estrellita Market EPA, located at 2387-
2381 University Ave., East Palo Alto, CA
94303, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

FIRE STAR, INC.
2381 University Ave.
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: A
Corporation.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 13, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014)

JAMES BELLMER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 262981

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

James Bellmer, located at 2110
Stockbridge Ave., Woodside, CA 94062,
San Mateo County, USA.

Registered owner(s):

PAIGE FOX
2110 Stockbridge Ave.
Woodside, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An
Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 17, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014)

BRUSH WITH SCIENCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 262995

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

Brush with Science, located at 36
Coronado Ave., San Carlos, CA
94070, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

JULIE NEWDOLL
36 Coronado Ave.
San Carlos, CA 94070

This business is conducted by: An
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 10/15/1999.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 17, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2014)

SERENITY DESIGN & CABINETS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 263064

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

Serenity Design & Cabinets, located at
3015 E. Bayshore Rd., #108, Redwood
City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

MICHELLE L. SIMMONS
3015 E. Bayshore Rd., #108
Redwood City, CA 94063

This business is conducted by: An
Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 21, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 17, 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 2015)

RARC PERFECTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 263273

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

Rarc Perfection, located at 401 California
Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010, San Mateo
County; Mailing address: PO Box
117609, Burlingame, CA 94011-7609.

Registered owner(s):

ALLIED LOMAR INC.
401 California Dr., Ste. 500
Burlingame, CA 94010
CA

This business is conducted by: A
Corporation.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on December 11, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 14, 2015)

WATTIE BOONE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 263274

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

Wattie Boone, located at 401 California
Dr., Ste. 500, Burlingame, CA 94010, San
Mateo County; Mailing address: PO Box
117609, Burlingame, CA 94011-7609.

Registered owner(s):

ALLIED LOMAR INC.
401 California Dr., Ste. 500
Burlingame, CA 94010
CA

This business is conducted by: A
Corporation.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on December 11, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 14, 2015)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. M-259705

The following person(s)/ entity (ies) has/
have abandoned the use of the fictitious
business name(s).

CARLOS RENGIFO

The information given below is as it
appeared on the fictitious business
statement that was filed at the County
Clerk-Recorder's Office.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):
JOSHUA'S MOVING PACKING SERVICES
1379 Hollyburne Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON:
02/20/14

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S)/ENTITY(IES):
EVELIA RENGIFO
1379 Hollyburne Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

CARLOS RENGIFO
1379 Hollyburne Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY:
General Partnership.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo
County on December 16, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 14, 2015)

AW & ASSOCIATES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 263074

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

AW & Associates, located at 1212 H El
Camino Real #516, San Bruno, CA 94066,
San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

GILBERT WILLIAMS
1212 H El Camino Real #516
San Bruno, CA 94066

This business is conducted by: An
Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on November 24, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 14, 2015)

M CARGO EXPRESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 263272

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

M Cargo Express, located at 1055 Rollins
Road Suite 313, Burlingame, CA 94010,
San Mateo County.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the follow-
ing owner(s):

FRANCISCO G. MOLINA RIVAS
1055 Rollins Rd. Apt. 313
Burlingame, CA 94010-2593

This business is conducted by: An
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business

name(s) listed above on 11/19/2014.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on December 11, 2014.

(ALM Dec. 24, 31, 2014, Jan. 7, 14, 2015)

997 All Other Legals

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF
PIERCE JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

KASIMILI TONGAMOA JR., father, of
HEVENLY SHYANN ROSE TONGAMOA;
DOB: 6/3/07; Cause No. 14-7-01472-8;
A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights
was filed on 8/22/14.

A Fact Finding hearing will be held
on this matter on: January 7, 2015
at 8:30 a.m. at Pierce County Family
and Juvenile Court, 5501 6th Avenue,
Tacoma, WA 98406.

YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS
HEARING.

THE HEARING WILL DETERMINE IF
YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR
CHILD ARE TERMINATED. IF YOU DO
NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING THE
COURT MAY ENTER AN ORDER IN YOUR
ABSENCE TERMINATING YOUR PARENTAL
RIGHTS. To request a copy of the Notice,
Summons, and Termination Petition,
call DSHS at 1-800-423-6246. To view
information about your rights in this
proceeding, go to [www.atg.wa.gov/
TRM.aspx](http://www.atg.wa.gov/TRM.aspx).

DATED this 25th day of November, 2014,
by MARGARET PIWONSKI,

Deputy County Clerk

PUBLISH — December 10th, 17th, and
24th, 2014
ALM

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE File No.
7023.111028 Title Order No. 140156406
MIN No. APN 073-071-090-2 YOU ARE
IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST,
DATED 02/10/05. 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 bid-
der 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 §5102 to
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 satisfy
the obligation secured by said Deed of
Trust. The undersigned Trustee disclaims
any liability for any incorrectness of the
property address or other common des-
ignation, if any, shown herein. Trustor(s):
Tom Landers and Tracy Newhart

Recorded: 02/24/05, as Instrument No.
2005-029369, of Official Records of SAN
MATEO COUNTY, California. Date of Sale:
01/05/15 at 12:30 PM Place of Sale: At
the Marshall Street entrance to the Hall
of Justice, 400 County Center, Redwood
City, CA The purported property
address is: 240 LINDENBROOK ROAD,
WOODSIDE, CA 94062 Assessors Parcel
No. 073-071-090-2 The total amount of
the unpaid balance of the obligation
secured by the property to be sold and
reasonable estimated costs, expenses
and advances at the time of the initial
publication of the Notice of Sale is
\$521,539.10. 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, plus interest. The purchas-
er shall have no further recourse against
the beneficiary, the Trustor or the
trustee. 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 auc-
tion does not automatically entitle you
to free and clear ownership of the prop-
erty. 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 exist-
ence, 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, ben-
eficiary, 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 877-484-9942 or 800-280-2832
or visit this Internet Web site www.U.S.A-Foreclosure.com or
www.Auction.com using the file number assigned
to this case 7023.111028. 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 tele-
phone information or on the Internet
Web site. The best way to verify post-
ponement information is to attend the
scheduled sale. Date: December 3, 2014
NORTHWEST TRUSTEE SERVICES, INC.,
as Trustee Melissa Myers, Authorized
Signatory 1241 E. Dyer Road, Suite 250,
Santa Ana, CA 92705 866-387-6987 Sale
Info website: www.U.S.A-Foreclosure.com or
www.Auction.com Automated
Sales Line: 877-484-9942 or 800-280-
2832 Reinstatement and Pay-Off
Requests: 866-387-NWTS THIS OFFICE IS
ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND
ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL
BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE ORDER #
7023.111028: 12/10/2014, 12/17/2014,
12/24/2014 ALM

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No.:
9411-8079 TSG Order No.: 1637105
A.P.N.: 076-232-010-9 NOTE: THERE IS
A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED (The
above statement is made pursuant to
CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(c)(1). The
Summary will be provided to Trustor(s)
and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant
to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(c)(2).)
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED
OF TRUST DATED 11/18/2005. 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. NBS Default Services, LLC, as
the duly appointed Trustee, under and
pursuant to the power of sale contained
in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded
11/23/2005 as Document No.: 2005-
205906, of Official Records in the office
of the Recorder of San Mateo County,
California, executed by: RANDALL C.
SINGLE AND AULAIRE NAUGHTON
SINGLE, as Trustor, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC
AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR
CASH (payable in full at time of sale by
cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state
or national bank, a check drawn by a
state or federal credit union, or a check
drawn by a state or federal savings and
loan association, savings association, or
savings bank specified in section 5102
of the Financial Code and authorized to
do business in this state). All right,
title and interest conveyed to and now
held by it under said Deed of Trust in
the property situated in said County
and state, and as more fully described
in the above referenced Deed of Trust.
Sale Date and Time: 01/13/2015 at
01:00 PM Sale Location: At the Marshall
Street entrance to the Hall of Justice and
Records, 400 County Center, Redwood
City, CA 94061 The street address and
other common designation, if any, of
the real property described above is
purported to be: 112 RUSSELL AVENUE,
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028 The under-
signed Trustee disclaims any liability for
any incorrectness of the street address
and other common designation, if any,
shown herein. Said sale will be made in
an "AS IS" condition, but without cov-
enant or warranty, expressed or implied,
regarding title, possession, or encum-

brances, to pay the remaining principal
sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed
of Trust, with interest thereon, as pro-
vided in said note(s), advances, if any,
under the terms of the Deed of Trust,
estimated fees, charges and expenses of
the Trustee and of the trusts created by
said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$1,264,993.13
(Estimated). Accrued interest and addi-
tional advances, if any, will increase this
figure prior to sale. It is possible that at
the time of sale the opening bid may be
less than the total indebtedness due.
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you
are considering bidding on this prop-
erty 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 exist-
ence, 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, ben-
eficiary, 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)730-2727 for information
regarding the trustee's sale or visit this
Internet Web site, www.servicelinkASAP.com, for information regarding the sale
of this property, using the file number
assigned to this case, T.S.# 9411-8079.
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. 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. NBS Default Services, LLC 301
E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1720 Long Beach,
CA 90802 800-766-7751 For Trustee
Sale Information Log On To: www.servicelinkASAP.com or Call: (714)730-
2727. NBS Default Services, LLC, Nicole
Rodriguez, Foreclosure Associate This
communication is an attempt to collect
a debt and any information obtained
will be used for that purpose. However,
if you have received a discharge of the
debt referenced herein in a bankruptcy
proceeding, this is not an attempt to
impose personal liability upon you for
payment of that debt. In the event you
have received a bankruptcy discharge,
any action to enforce the debt will
be taken against the property only.
A-4499472 12/10/2014, 12/17/2014,
12/24/2014
ALM

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. 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. NBS Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 800-766-7751 For Trustee Sale Information Log On To: www.servicelinkASAP.com or Call: (714)730-2727. NBS Default Services, LLC, Nicole Rodriguez, Foreclosure Associate This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. However, if you have received a discharge of the debt referenced herein in a bankruptcy proceeding, this is not an attempt to impose personal liability upon you for payment of that debt. In the event you have received a bankruptcy discharge, any action to enforce the debt will be taken against the property only. A-4499472 12/10/2014, 12/17/2014, 12/24/2014 ALM

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. 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. NBS Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 80



Warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season

From your friends at DeLeon Realty



deleon

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