

The Almanac

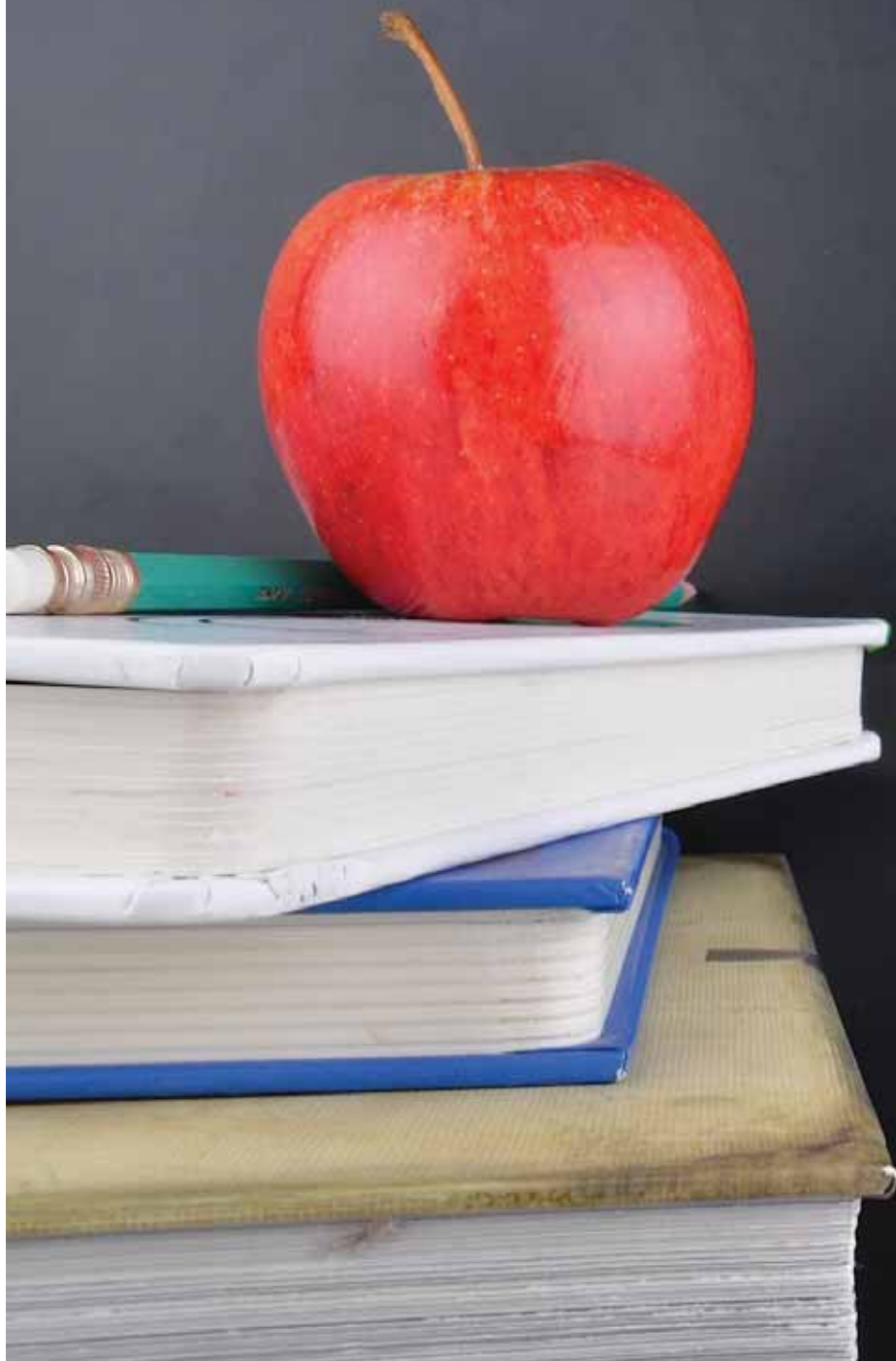
THE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR MENLO PARK, AHERTON, PORTOLA VALLEY AND WOODSIDE

OCTOBER 14, 2015 | VOL. 51 NO. 6



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VOTER GUIDE 2015



Voters will
decide makeup
of three local
school boards

>> Page 5

Inside this issue
Fall Real Estate



FIND YOUR PLACE



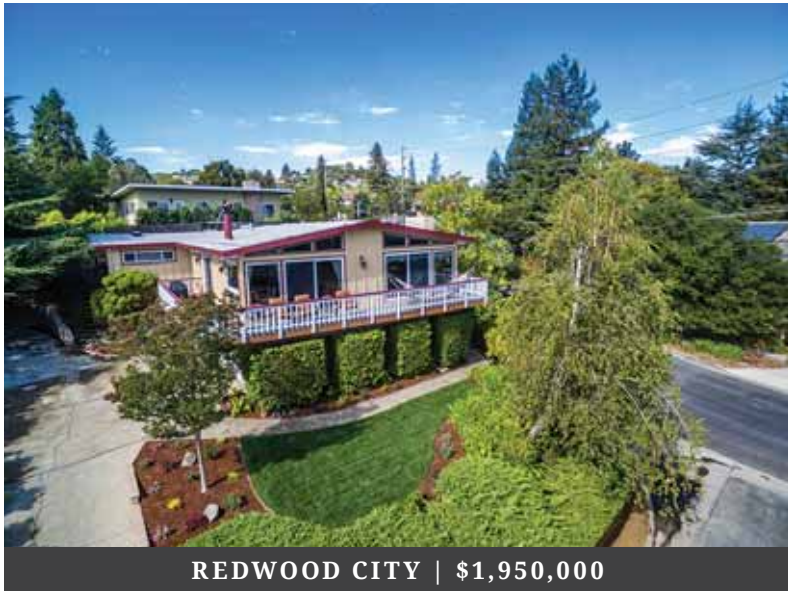
ATHERTON | \$22,800,000

8 Faxon Forest | 4bd/5.5ba
Mary Gullixon | 650462-1111



PALO ALTO | \$9,672,000

811 Hamilton Avenue | 5bd/4.5ba
Judy Citron | 650462-1111



REDWOOD CITY | \$1,950,000

849 Mohican Way | 3bd/3ba
Evelyn Fisher | 650.529.1111



SAN GREGORIO | \$1,898,000

7365 Stage Road | 2bd/1ba
K. Bird/S. Hayes | 650.529.1111

Coldwell Banker

#1 IN CALIFORNIA

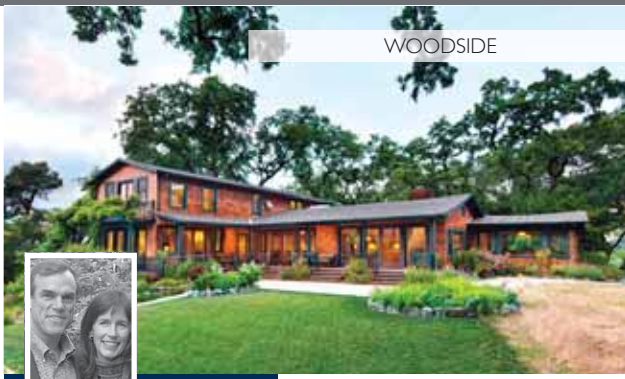


LOS ALTOS HILLS



ELAINE WHITE
650.566.5323
ewhite@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #01182467

14123 TRACY CT \$9,888,000
Stunning 7BD/6BA state of the art contemporary home on 1.3 ac, top custom details, pool, backs to greenbelt, au-pair unit, PA. Schls. 14123TracyCt.com



WOODSIDE



HELEN & BRAD MILLER
650.400.1317
helenhuntermiller@gmail.com
CalBRE #01142061/00917768

280 FAMILY FARM RD. \$9,695,000
Charming home on over 6 ac with surrounding views of the Western Hills & Jasper Ridge Preserve. Incl. 2 guesthouses & pool; land is fee owned.



CENTRAL PORTOLA VALLEY



GINNY KAVANAUGH
650.400.8076
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

2 SIERRA LN \$5,500,000
Expansive 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac w/ incomparable views of the western coastal mountains including Windy Hill. 2SierraLane.com



WOODSIDE



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

12424 SKYLINE BLVD. \$4,549,000
Estate home on 5 acs, gorgeous ocean views, sep studio, 7 car garage, chef's kitch opens to FR, mstr ste, tennis ct & spacious decks w/ amazing views.



MENLO PARK



BILLY MCNAIR
650.324.4456
billy@mcnairgroup.com
CalBRE #01343603

855 MENLO OAKS \$3,595,000
3 bd/3 ba mid-century Eichler | Stunning 0.55 acre lot | Sep FR | Walls of glass for great natural light | Pool | MP schools | Close to PA & Facebook.



MENLO PARK



BILLY MCNAIR
650.324.4456
billy@mcnairgroup.com
CalBRE #01343603

235 GLORIA CIR \$3,495,000
Turn-key 4/3.5 in Vintage Oaks | Kitchen/ great rm opens to backyard | 1 bed down + 3 up | Pool/spa | MP schools | Close to dwntn PA, Facebook & 101.



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



HOSSEIN JALALI
650.740.2233
hdjalali@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #01215831

865 MIDDLE AVE \$3,275,000
Beautifully designed and built, this sun drenched home features quality craftsmanship inside and out with exquisite architectural design details.

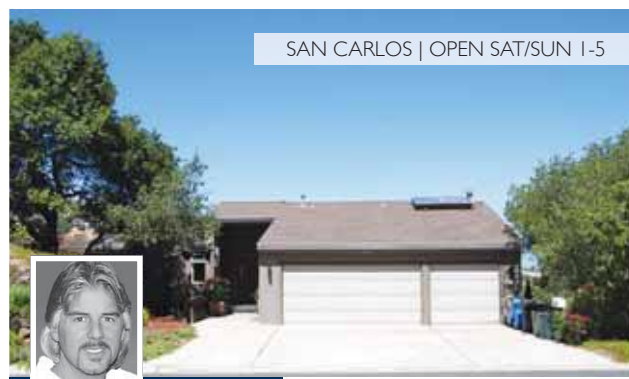


PORTOLA VALLEY



GINNY KAVANAUGH
650.400.8076
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

177 FAVONIO RD \$3,250,000
The approx. 2.5 acres property in the coveted Westridge neighborhood of PV. offers a wonderful opportunity to remodel or build new. 177Favonio.com



SAN CARLOS | OPEN SAT/SUN 1-5



SAM ANAGNOSTOU
650.888.0707
samanagnostou@yahoo.com
CalBRE #00798217

1149 GREENBRIER RD. \$2,695,000
Stunning 4,000 sq. ft. contemporary custom home w/ stunning views of the Bay, soaring high ceilings, open floor plan & walls of glass. Move in ready.



PALO ALTO | OPEN SAT/SUN



NANCY GOLDCAMP
650.400.5800
nancy@nancygoldcamp.com
CalBre #00787851

3527 ARBUTUS AVENUE \$2,250,000
Eichler home with natural wood walls, open beam ceiling, refinished oak floors, fireplace, 2-car garage on large lot near parks, etc.



MENLO PARK



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

204 RAVENSWOOD AVE \$1,650,000
Well located home near Menlo Park & Palo Alto. Blocks to the train. Very private. Large rooms, high ceilings, excellent floor plans & community pool.



SUNNYVALE



SUE CRAWFORD
650.324.4456
scrawford@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #00587710

827 SHOOTING STAR TERRACE \$819,000
2 bedroom 2 and half bath, with den this two story town home with garage is tucked down a lane in a small 14 unit complex.



CaliforniaMoves.com

californiahome.me

fb/cbcalifornia

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pin/cbcalifornia

YouTube/coldwellbanker

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THE BICENTENNIAL TOUR
SUN, OCT 18**

Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

County tests 'all-mail' voting method

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

This year's elections in San Mateo County will not only determine the composition of governing boards and whether ballot measures pass. It will also be the testing ground for running an "all-mail" election.

As part of a pilot program to boost voter participation and decrease costs, each of the more than 340,000 registered voters in San Mateo County will receive a ballot in their mail this year, complete with pre-paid postage.

From now until Election Day (Nov. 3), voters have three options to cast their vote.

First, and perhaps most simply, they can place their ballots in the mail.

Second, voters can turn in their ballots in person at one of 20 city hall locations throughout the county during regular business hours up until 8 p.m. on Nov. 3. Check your voter information pamphlet for the nearest dropoff location.

Third, voters can cast their votes via electronic voting machine or paper ballot from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at two voting centers: 40

You can still vote in person

Although it's being called an all-mail election, you can still vote at a polling place. Thirty-two universal polling places will be open from 7 a.m. on Election Day (Tuesday, Nov. 3). At any of these polling places, any San Mateo County registered voter can vote in person, request a replacement ballot, or drop off his or her mail-in ballot. Here are the four universal polling places in Almanac towns:

■ Atherton: Menlo College, Fireside Room, Student Union Building, 1000 El Camino Real.

■ Menlo Park: Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, Juniper Room, 700 Alma St.

■ Portola Valley: Historic School House, Town Chambers, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley.

■ Woodside: Town of Woodside Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road.

Tower Road in San Mateo; and 555 County Center, 1st Floor, in Redwood City.

The latter two options come with the bonus of an "I voted" sticker.

Voters who do not receive their ballots by Oct. 17 should contact the county elections office by phone at (650) 312-5222

VOTER'S GUIDE
SAN MATEO COUNTY 2015

Register by October 19
www.shapethefuture.org/register tovote/

Get your mail-in ballot
Vote before November 3

In Person **Drop off** **By Mail**

- 555 County Center, 1st Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
- 40 Tower Road
San Mateo, CA 94402

20 City Halls
www.shapethefuture.org/elections/2015/nov_mailedballot/dropoff/

Or on November 3
32 polling places open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Locations: www.shapethefuture.org/elections/2015/nov_mailedballot/upp/

Image by Kate Bradshaw

There will be 32 "universal" polling places instead of 209 local polling places.

or email at registrar@smcare.org. Oct. 19 is the final deadline to register to vote.

Election Day

On Election Day (Tuesday, Nov. 3), voters have the option to go to one of 32 universal polling places in the county that will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

At any of these polling places, any San Mateo County registered voter can vote in person, request a replacement ballot, or drop off his or her mail-in ballot. For example, someone who lives in Woodside can go to a polling place in Menlo Park and vote in the Woodside elections.

Go to tinyurl.com/ballot113

to see a list of the polling place locations.

Mailed ballots must be post-marked by Nov. 3.

Pilot program

San Mateo County and Yolo County are the only counties in California authorized by state law to participate in this pilot program. The state Legislature's intention is to test this election method to see if it should be adopted statewide.

The counties were selected to test the method in different areas: Yolo County is larger and less populous than the more urban San Mateo County.

San Mateo County plans to conduct three all-mail elections between now and 2018. However, this method will be used only in local and county-wide contests, not for state or federal elections.

For many in San Mateo County, using a mail-in ballot will not be new. In the November 2014 general election, 67 percent of the county's voters used mail-in ballots.

The election method San Mateo County is testing follows Colorado's "hybrid model" in

See **COUNTY VOTING**, page 18

Candidates vie for seats on Woodside Elementary School board

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

The three candidates for two seats on the board of the Woodside Elementary School District have a lot in common. Incumbents Silvia Edwards and Kevin Johnson and challenger Joel Hornstein each have three children, each has a law degree, and each is in her or his 40s. But each candidate has unique skills that would benefit the school, they all assert.

Silvia Edwards

Ms. Edwards was appointed to the board in May after board member Rudy Driscoll announced he would resign at the end of the school year. Mr. Driscoll died soon after he left office in June.

Ms. Edwards was one of seven candidates for the position. She was nominated by Mr. Driscoll because, he said at the time, her construction experience would be valuable during the district's

✓ VOTER GUIDE 2015

current \$18 million construction project. Her appointment was unanimous.

After graduating from law school, Ms. Edwards said, she worked in Washoe County, Nevada, building single-family homes and managing construction, from property purchase to hiring architects and contractors, and selling the homes. Since joining the board she has served on its construction and facilities committee.

Ms. Edwards also serves on the district's collective bargaining committee. Several years of trial work as a special assistant U.S. attorney in the eastern district of Virginia prepared her for this assignment, she said.

Ms. Edwards is a member of the town of Woodside's Circulation Committee, which advises the council on safe ways to travel about town, whether by vehicle, bike, horseback or foot. She said

Kevin Johnson

■ **Experience:** One-term incumbent. Attorney with Quinn Emanuel in Redwood Shores.

■ **Age:** 49

■ **Education:** Degrees from Cornell University School of Electrical Engineering and Hofstra University School of Law.

■ **Other:** Has lived in Woodside 10 years. Has three children, a fourth-grader and eighth grader at Woodside Elementary, and a graduate of Woodside Elementary who is a junior at Sacred Heart Prep.

■ **Endorsements:** Woodside resident Wendy Roth, Woodside School parents Marc Tarpenning and Claire Pollioni; Woodside Fire Chief Dan Ghiorso, San Mateo County Sheriff Greg Munks, Woodside School parents Emmalyn Shaw, Nicole Sheehan, Matt Bonner, Kelly Sallin, Meghan Clark and Gina Baldwin; former PTA presidents Cindy Goldberg and Kerri Stenson; Woodside business owners Tim Stannard, Bill Butler and Erika Demma; Woodside Elementary teachers Tracy Reilly, Ellen Bertine and Carrie Zaracotas.

that experience helps her serve as a liaison between the school and town.



Joel Hornstein

■ **Experience:** Entrepreneur and investor with background in finance. Serves on the district's Site Council and technology committee.

■ **Age:** 45.

■ **Education:** Degrees from Harvard College and Yale Law School.

■ **Other:** Has lived in Woodside four years; has three children: a first-, third- and fifth-grader at Woodside Elementary.

■ **Endorsements:** This candidate sent the Almanac a list of eight endorsers; but later told us he is "suspending" his campaign and asked not to have the endorsements listed.

Campaign suspended

After this Voter Guide story was prepared, the Almanac learned that candidate Joel Hornstein had announced he was "suspending" his campaign. See story on **Page 11**.

She said she is accessible as a board member because she walks her three children to



Silvia Edwards

■ **Experience:** Appointed incumbent. Experience in construction management. Serves on town of Woodside's Circulation Committee.

■ **Age:** 43

■ **Education:** Degrees from Stanford University and the University of Virginia School of Law.

■ **Other:** Has lived in Woodside 10 years; has three children in Woodside Elementary: twin kindergartners and a second-grader.

■ **Endorsements:** Woodside resident Wendy Roth, Woodside School parents Marc Tarpenning and Claire Pollioni; Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee members Sandie Pugh and George Offen; Woodside Town Council members Peter Mason and David Burow, and council candidate Daniel Yost; Woodside business owners LeeAnn Gilbert and Judy Sieber; San Mateo County Sheriff Greg Munks; Woodside Fire Chief Dan Ghiorso; and former Woodside Elementary School District board member Betsy Hobson, Woodside Village Church pastor, Ama Zenya.

school every day and spends a lot of time on the campus.

See **WOODSIDE** page 6

Not long ago, people who needed assistance with activities of daily living faced only two options. One was to depend on (or move in with) a family member. The other was to go into a nursing home. Times have changed and now there's a better way: seniors can live in the comfort of their own homes--with assistance from an hourly or 24-hour professional caregiver who will deliver personalized care that is tailored to their needs.

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**TOWN OF WOODSIDE
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD
WOODSIDE, CA 94062**

**PLANNING COMMISSION
October 21, 2015
6:00 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Richard and Cynthia Livermore
15 Neuman Lane | ASRB2015-0043, NCOU2015-0001
Planner: Sean Mullin, Associate Planner |
|----|---|---|

The Planning Commission will determine if the owner may convert an existing, nonconforming portion of a residence from a living area to a garage. The structure is nonconforming as it is partially located within the required front yard setback. The project includes an addition to the rear of the residence, exterior and interior improvements, and landscape and site improvements.

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2. | Ord Elliott
485 Old La Honda Road | ASRB2015-0055, NCOU2015-0002
Planner: Corinne Jones, Assistant Planner |
|----|--------------------------------------|---|

Review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal to permit an unpermitted conversion of an existing, non-conforming barn to an ALQ; remove an existing carport; and replace existing non-compliant exterior light fixtures with compliant fixtures.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 3. | WMC Chapter 151, Site Development, Including New Development Standards
for Basements | ZOAM2015-0003
Planner: Jackie Young, Planning Director |
|----|---|---|

Continued (Third Review): Review and recommend approval, conditional approval, or denial to the Town Council of an ordinance to amend and update Woodside Municipal Code Chapter 151 in its entirety, to address: development standards for basements; items included in grading calculations; the findings necessary for a Second Driveway Exception; spelling/sentence structure corrections; updates to referenced documents, State law, and responsible agencies; review of definitions for outdated, erroneous, or missing terms; obsolete practices; reorganization of the submittal material section to be more user-friendly; and cross-checks for consistency with the current regulations of outside agencies, such as County Health and the Woodside Fire Protection District.

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

Woodside school board: Three run for two seats

continued from page 5

Joel Hornstein

"I want to be accountable, and I want to be present and I want to be available," she said.

The most important issues facing the district, Ms. Edwards said, include continuing the transition to Common Core, which she said is helping to make sure all students are prepared for college and beyond. Retaining and keeping "our teachers happy" is another important issue, she said. The district has small class sizes, "extremely competitive salaries and benefits," and offers support for continuing education of teachers, she said.

Kevin Johnson

Mr. Johnson is completing his first four-year term on the school board. He said that oversight and fiscal planning are very important to him, but that his legal experience as an attorney with Quinn Emanuel in Redwood Shores has been "more important than I thought it would be" because "every board meeting we've had ... there have been a number of legal issues we've faced."

Mr. Johnson said he thinks that as a Spanish speaker he has "represented the underserved and more silent" families in the district. He serves on the district's English learners' advisory committee. He also speaks French.

Mr. Johnson is the only candidate with experience as a parent of a Woodside Elementary middle-schooler. His daughter attended the middle school for all three years, and he has a son who is currently a middle school eighth-grader. "We lose kids in the sixth grade," he said, noting that the school needs to work to let parents know more about the advantages of staying in Woodside through eighth grade.

Mr. Johnson said that improving science education, particularly in the middle school, is a work in progress. He said he likes the new design lab and "getting kids to use their hands to do things again," but "I think there's more work to be done in improving the science curriculum."

Mr. Johnson said there is also "more work to be done in the whole idea of differentiated learning," in which teachers give each student work at his or her own level. "I think we've been doing a better job on that," he said.

The district also continues "to face legal issues and personnel issues," he said. "We are only as good as our teachers are."

Mr. Hornstein said he would bring to the board a special expertise in finance, "a skill set lacking on the current board." After graduating from law school, he worked at Goldman Sachs and for Citigroup in private equity.

"I really do think that finance is critical to the oversight of the district," he said.

As an involved school volunteer, Mr. Hornstein said, he has been on the school's site council for two years, where he has learned about Gifted and Talented Education, which Woodside rolls into its regular curriculum through differentiated instruction. "My passion is strengthening our work on differentiated instruction," he said.

He is also on the school's technology committee and said he thinks the school could do more to use technology to relieve teachers of rote tasks.

Mr. Hornstein said he has served on the boards of other organizations, both for-profit and nonprofit, and "I understand what it means to be an effective board member."

Mr. Hornstein said an issue facing the district is a need for better financial information. "We have significant challenges with how we forecast and budget," he said. The district also needs to "think about how we manage our expense base," he said.

Mr. Hornstein said he also sees as a major issue board members being "available to the community." "I plan to plan my schedule around the board and make it a top priority," he said.

An attendance problem?

At a League of Women Voters' forum on Oct. 1, Mr. Hornstein accused Mr. Johnson of missing "just about one in three board meetings over the entire term" and "just over 50 percent this year." Mr. Johnson was actually absent from nine meetings over four years and two meetings out of 10 in 2015, but Mr. Hornstein said he counted "missing a meeting" not just as being absent, but also as participating over the phone or leaving a meeting before it ended.

Mr. Johnson said he does not believe that missing meetings equates to not being an effective board member. "A lot of the things that I help with as a board member occur outside of the board meetings," he said. "I'm incredibly dedicated to this

See **WOODSIDE**, page 7

High schools: Candidates vie for three board seats

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

✓ VOTER GUIDE 2015

Of the four active candidates running for the three open seats on the governing board of the Sequoia Union High School District, none gave any hint of the district having any time to rest on any laurels any time soon. (There is a fifth candidate, Noria Zasslow, but she did not provide information or participate in a voter forum.)

The first set of scores on the state's new Common Core English and math tests for 11th graders show large achievement gaps that closely track family income levels. The problem is not new. What is new is information about the severe depth of some of these gaps. What is to be done?

Over the next five years or so, Sequoia district campuses must prepare for an anticipated enrollment surge of some 25 percent, with the surge expected to concentrate at Menlo-Atherton High School in Atherton and Carlmont High School in Belmont. In November 2014, voters approved a measure allowing the district to borrow up to \$388 million in the bond market to finance the building of classrooms and other facilities.

The district is planning to build two 400-student high schools, one in Menlo Park and one in San Carlos. These will be magnet schools with a focus on a particular curriculum — science, technology, engineering and math, maybe, or programs for students not prepared for high school work.

In ballot order, the candidates are challenger Georgia Jack, incumbent Carrie Du Bois, appointed incumbent Laura Martinez, incumbent Allen Weiner, and challenger Noria Zasslow.

Georgia Jack

Ms. Jack, a Redwood City resident and a manager in the Office of Development at Stanford University, ran for a seat on the Sequoia board in 2013 and came within a percentage point of unseating an incumbent. She is running again because her backers urged her to, she said. "I feel like we need someone who understands (the effects) when policies are implemented, when the rubber meets the road," she said.

A top concern for Ms. Jack is student stress, a "very huge" issue that includes homework, homework deadlines and pressure to enroll in advanced placement classes, she said. It's an opportunity for the district to engage with students and parents, the people most affected by the problem. Focus groups and matrices that chart the causes of stress would be "very eye-opening," she said.

Retaining and hiring teachers and staff as baby boomers retire is another potentially major issue, she said. The local economy is roaring, which depresses interest in teaching careers, and the high cost of living undermines the appeal of education careers. Those costs have also led some families with children at Woodside High, where she is active, to move to the Central Valley, she said.

Ms. Jack endorses "community schools," a component of Redwood City's 2020 initiative that enlists the community at large to care about each student's well-being. "Do I think that community schools are going to solve the problem? No," she said. "But it's definitely a big step."

Too many children are living "in trauma" in terms of housing, food and overly busy parents, she said. Somebody in the state Legislature needs to take this on, and the board needs to "get in there and advocate. We need to continue to push on people about what it takes to educate this particular group of kids," she said.

Carrie Du Bois

Ms. Du Bois, a real estate agent from San Carlos and a school board veteran, is familiar with trauma-informed instruction. It prepares teachers for kids who "really need a lot of support," she said.

"The achievement gap makes me want to fight," she said. Preschool is critical, noting that her children went to an "amazing" preschool and when kindergarten started, "they were ready to go." There's been too much focus on testing. "For me, it's more social and emotional, strengthening that." Student health is a three-legged stool, she said.

At Redwood (Continuation) High School, where attendance is very low, the program should be a full day and include linked learning — a proven program in career technical education that is academically rigorous, technically demanding, personalized and related to the real world. "That's what I'd like to see," she said.

Of her first-term accomplishments, Ms. Du Bois said she brought about the end of putting student expulsion decisions on the board's consent agenda, meaning they usually took effect without discussion. "I knew instantly that that was wrong," she said. "I'm very, very passionate about restorative practices. Something is going on that causes them to misbehave. ..."

See **HIGH SCHOOL**, page 18

WOODSIDE

continued from page 6

position," he said. "I really feel like I make an impact," especially, he said, as "a voice for people that I feel are underserved."

Expecting a board member to attend every board meeting, with almost all meetings being held during the work day, "would mean anybody with a job couldn't serve as a board member," he said. "We all have commitments."

Fellow board member Marc Tarpinning said he agrees Mr. Johnson's "absences have not diminished his work or his

effectiveness on the board." Much of the work of a board member, Mr. Tarpinning said, takes place "outside of the public school board meeting itself in the form of committee assignments, other public events in and around school, and meeting directly with parents and other members of the community over their individual concerns."

At the same candidates' forum, Mr. Hornstein also accused Mr. Johnson of sending "his elder two children to private school for sixth grade," which turned out to be incorrect.

Mr. Johnson said that his oldest child attended Woodside

Elementary from the third grade, when the family moved to Woodside, through eighth grade. His middle child had stayed at Nueva School when the family moved from San Mateo, but this year he chose to attend Woodside for eighth grade, where he thought he would be better prepared for high school, Mr. Johnson said.

Mr. Hornstein has since publicly apologized for the false statements about Mr. Johnson's children, telling the Almanac, "I made an error in judgment." In an email to school parents, he said: "I apologized to Kevin by telephone and regret my remarks and tone on that topic." ■

Dancers Repertory Theatre Presents

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2015

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Amelia Threatt
2015 'Twas Dancer



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Additionally, Cal Water has multiple tools, programs, and rebates to help you meet the State mandate. To find out more, please visit calwater.com/drought.



Quality. Service. Value.

Community college district: Seven vie for three seats

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Three seats are open on the governing board of the San Mateo County Community College District in the Nov. 3 election. Seven candidates are competing for the opportunity to oversee operations of the county's three public community colleges.

In the 2014-15 school year, the colleges — Canada College in Woodside, Skyline College in San Bruno, and the College of San Mateo in San Mateo — enrolled about 25,000 students, according to state Department of Education records. Almost three-quarters of the students were younger than 30; the same percentage were high-school graduates without a college degree.

In the previous year, about 64 percent had income levels that qualified to have their fees waived.

White and Asian students each made up one quarter of the district's student population, and about a third were Hispanic, state data shows. About one third were the first generation in their families to go to college, and about 70 percent completed their 2014-15 coursework with grades of C or better.

A five-member board governs the higher education of these students, including the physical and intellectual environments where that education takes place.

In ballot order, the candidates are Mark J. De Paula, a retired businessman; Ramiro Maldonado, a nonprofit director; incumbent Dave Mandelkern, a philanthropist and entrepreneur; Alan Talansky, a business executive; Anthony "Fel" Amistad, a professor at a for-profit college; Maurice D. Goodman, a nonprofit director; and incumbent Karen Schwarz, a retired businesswoman.

What are the issues, as the candidates see them?

Access, finances, focus

Several candidates noted the difficulty many students have in getting to the college campuses, and said alternatives must be considered. All three colleges are located atop the foothills that form the spine of the Peninsula. Getting there is easy enough with a car, but maybe not so easy if the student's car is unreliable or a gas guzzler, or if the student has no car.

Bus routes connect to the campuses from downtown locations in Redwood City, Daly City and San Mateo. But what about residents in East Palo Alto, Belle Haven in Menlo Park,



San Bruno, San Carlos, Pacifica or Half Moon Bay? Getting to those transit stations can mean a bus transfer, and a significantly longer trip.

Traveling by bicycle is physically demanding, including hill climbs to each campus of at least 600 vertical feet.

As for finances, several candidates said they would keep a close watch on them. The 2008-09 recession is over and the deep cuts to the college district's operating budget are now a memory. With property tax revenues up, a few years ago the district advanced to "community-funded" status: property tax revenues are high enough for the district to no longer rely on supplemental aid from the state to reach the minimum per-student funding levels — and the district can keep tax revenues that exceed that minimum.

The voters in November 2014 approved a \$388 million bond measure for capital improvements. Several candidates said they considered a focus on capital improvements as secondary to the other needs of students.

Candidates also noted the importance of improving student achievement.

Mark J. De Paula

Both San Francisco and Santa Clara counties have schools in the California State University system. San Mateo County should convert one of its community colleges into a CSU, Mr. De Paula said. And funds used to provide district employees with subsidized housing would be better spent on financial aid for students, he said. "I'm sorry that it's an expensive county to live in," he said. "Let the market decide. We're not a socialistic country."

Experience: He retired from Akzo-Nobel Corp. in the chemical coatings division after working in telecommunications for Nortel Networks on PBX systems.

Education: He has attended all three San Mateo County community colleges and has more than 100 units of credit.

Profession: Certified building inspector.

Age: 60.

Family: Married with two sons, one of whom attends the College of San Mateo

Ramiro Maldonado

Alternative transportation to campus is key for Mr. Maldona-



Mark J. De Paula



Ramiro Maldonado



Dave Mandelkern



Alan Talansky



Anthony "Fel" Amistad



Maurice D. Goodman



Karen Schwarz

do, who said he has an 18-year-old son who takes the bus. The daily trip can take more than an hour one way; on weekends, the bus runs are four hours apart. He would advocate for more routes, specifically for residents who take two buses.

He defines fiscal stewardship as a focus on students. Board members big on capital improvements — new buildings and "purchasing plots of land and things like that" — have it wrong, he said.

Experience: 10 years in nonprofit fundraising, marketing, and public policy. Positions on nonprofit boards in San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

Education: Bachelor's degree in political science from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas; master's degree in public administration from the University of Texas Pan American.

Profession: Director of development for a nonprofit.

Age: 35

Family: One daughter and one son

Dave Mandelkern

In his third term on the board, Mr. Mandelkern said he was "still passionate about the challenges facing our students and our District and still have goals that I want to accomplish."

His ideas include transit shuttles to cover the "last mile" problem in getting to the campuses, and more partnerships with high school districts.

A lack of data is inhibiting personalized education plans for all students, he said. Closing that gap would inform the board more precisely on students outcomes.

Experience: Three terms on the college district board. High-tech entrepreneur who created two publicly held software companies. Nonprofit leadership.

Education: Bachelor's degree, with distinction, and master's degree, both in electrical engineering from Stanford University.

Profession: Educator, philanthropist, entrepreneur

Age: 56

Family: Married, no children

Alan Talansky

Transportation to college is

a problem for regional traffic-congestion agencies, Mr. Talansky said. He is an advocate for free shuttles from transportation hubs, emphasis on carpooling and dedicated parking for shared-car services.

He chairs the citizen's committee that oversees the district's capital expenditures, and said that costs have gone "well above" estimates. With no appreciable increase in costs for materials, labor or project management, "We need to seriously ask why," he said. "We must get more competitive bids."

Experience: Adviser on real estate development and financing; planner for large-scale projects, including reuse of a military base and urban-infill redevelopment.

Education: Attended Ohio Wesleyan University.

Profession: Real estate development executive.

Age: 70.

Family: A son who placed 11th in the 2015 Tour de France.

Anthony "Fel" Amistad

Students without their own transportation should not be experiencing major problems getting to and from campus, Mr. Amistad said. Shuttle buses are a solution and would include environmental benefits on congestion and air pollution problems, he said.

Capital improvements are less important than having high-demand courses online to increase student access, he said. "The need to expand the campuses will have to be reviewed," he said. "Costs are out of line."

Experience: Professor of business administration at International Technological University in San Jose; part-time online professor at California Pacific University in Pinole.

Education: Bachelor's degree in human biology from Stanford University, master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix, and juris doctorate from California Pacific University.

Profession: College professor.

Age: 55.

Family: One daughter studying dentistry.

Maurice D. Goodman

Mr. Goodman said he is famil-

iar with governing with fiscal prudence — as a board member of the South San Francisco Unified School District during tough economic times.

"We were able to work with labor to tighten our belts by making cuts across the board, and even two volunteer furlough days," he said. As a district graduate with children now attending, he said he sees himself as representing continuity of experience and leadership. "I believe I would need little to no learning curve. I would be ready to serve and on day 1," he said.

Experience: Consistently deep involvement in education as former president of many education-oriented panels, including the South San Francisco Unified School District Board and student associations. Former chief executive of a "small clothing company."

Education: Associate's degrees in administration of justice and paralegal studies from Skyline College; bachelor's degree in criminal justice from California State University, East Bay.

Profession: Substitute teacher and youth development.

Age: 42.

Family: Married with seven children, including two at Skyline College.

Karen Schwarz

The challenge to the college district's currently healthy fiscal situation, Ms. Schwarz said, is figuring out how to best disburse the funds. "I think we're doing a fine job," she said.

The board is now working on a strategic plan that includes an initiative to reach a broader swath of the community with a greater selection of enrichment courses, she said.

Experience: Five terms on college district board, former president of San Mateo County Board of Education, leadership on PTA for South San Francisco Unified School District.

Education: Graduate of Northwestern School of Commerce in Portland, Oregon.

Profession: Retired owner of a painting contracting business.

Age: Not provided.

Family: Married with two children, a daughter in special-education administration and a son who is an attorney. ▀



Drawing by WRNS Studio/courtesy town of Atherton

This rendering gives a bird's eye view of Atherton's proposed civic center looking toward Fair Oaks Avenue to the north.

Atherton council approves civic center conceptual plan

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton City Council members said they are concerned about not knowing how much money will be available to pay for a new civic center, but nonetheless unanimously approved a conceptual design for the town's new facilities, expressing hope that some "pretty pictures" from the architects could boost fundraising.

At an Oct. 7 special council meeting, council members said they do not like not knowing how much money has been raised by Atherton Now, the nonprofit raising money for the project. A 2012 ballot measure approved by Atherton voters says the civic center must be mostly paid for with donations.

The only exceptions are public funds that have been set aside to pay for a new library and for building department offices.

Even the council members who are Atherton Now committee members seemed not to know the fundraising totals. "I don't know exact numbers," said Councilwoman Elizabeth Lewis. "There is funding and pledges that essentially take us through the architectural phase."

But most important, she said, is getting the architects to make more detailed drawings to show to the public. "I think that once we can move it to the next phase," she said, the committee can "take it to the public, tell the story and get the excitement going."

"What we really need (are) some pretty pictures," she said.

Ms. Lewis and Mayor Rick DeGolia serve on the Atherton Now committee and also as council liaisons to the Civic Cen-

'The concept of spending blind is a little disturbing to me. When you don't know the budget, how can you drive the design?'

COUNCILMAN CARY WIEST

ter Advisory Committee, which has been discussing the conceptual plans for months. But other council members were seeing the plans in detail for the first time and had concerns.

"I don't know what the budget is and I don't know how much funding we've actually raised," said Councilman Bill Widmer. That uncertainty makes it hard to approve certain design features, such as equipping the buildings to run off solar panels and geothermal energy and to recycle all the water used onsite, he said.

"I kind of feel the same way," said Councilman Cary Wiest. "The concept of spending blind is a little disturbing to me. When you don't know the budget, how can you drive the design?"

Council member Mike Lempres said that the council needs to figure out how to "marry up the dollars that are coming in, with the options" for things such as green roofs or water recycling. He said the council needs a timeline just in case sufficient donations do not come in.

"If there is really ever any reason to go back to the voters, when would that be?" he asked. "I'm not anticipating any problems," but, he added, the council needs to be prepared just in case.

Mayor DeGolia said that while he agrees "it's important for us to

know what the funding is," it has been hard for the Atherton Now committee to raise money without "images that they can use to excite people's imaginations." With a more refined design the public will be able to see civic center features "that people can really get excited about," he said.

Council members agreed they will ask Atherton Now to present monthly fundraising reports, and that the civic center advisory group would also give the council regular updates.

The concept approved by the council shows a new two-story, 27,000-square-foot building for police, administration and council chambers. The two wings are joined by a common lobby located near Fair Oaks Lane. New council chambers would be at the end of the police wing, away from the lobby.

A new one-story library of slightly less than 10,000 square feet would be close to where the existing library is. The historic council chambers building would be renovated and become an extension of the library.

Mack5, the consultant hired by the city to manage the civic center project, reported the project detailed in the specific design will cost \$42.9 million, but can be reduced to \$38.4 million by taking out some features. The estimate shows close to \$27.2 million in donations would be needed — about \$2.2 million over the amount the advisory committee had said it would be comfortable with as a fundraising goal.

For comparison, Portola Valley raised \$17 million in donations for its \$20 million Town Center in 2008.

See **CIVIC CENTER**, page 11

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Superintendent abruptly departs

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

It's been less than two months since Portola Valley Town Manager Nick Pegueros' abrupt "involuntary resignation" was announced. On Friday, Oct. 9, Portola Valley learned it was losing another administrator when the Portola Valley School District announced its superintendent, Lisa Gonzales, was leaving, effective that day.

The resignation of Superintendent Gonzales, who was hired by the two-school Portola Valley School District in August 2013, was announced by the district's board of trustees in a press release sent out shortly after noon Oct. 9.

The press release said Eric Hartwig, former Las Lomitas Elementary School District superintendent and former principal of Menlo-Atherton High School, is expected to begin as interim superintendent of the district on Oct. 15. The school board will consider his contract at its Oct. 14 meeting, the press release said.

What the release did not say,

however, is that the district paid Superintendent Gonzales a severance package worth more than \$100,000.

A copy of the "Mutual Separation Agreement," signed by Ms. Ambler and Ms. Gonzales, and given to the Almanac after it was request-

ed under the California Public Records Act, says that Ms. Gonzales will be paid six months of her base salary, or \$91,500, plus the cash equivalent of nine months of health insurance for her family, which the district estimates at \$12,000. She will also be paid for accrued vacation, which the district estimates at \$8,000.

The public may never know, however, why the district asked her to resign. The agreement says neither side will communicate in any way in which "one of the parties disparages the other or has the effect of damaging in any way the reputation of ... the other party."



Photo courtesy Lisa Gonzales
Lisa Gonzales

It also says that if Ms. Gonzales directs "future employers to the District" only Ms. Ambler will be allowed "to answer any questions relating to Ms. Gonzales' employment" with the district. It contains the wording that can be used: her departure will be referred to as "a mutual separation for Ms. Gonzales to take on a greater leadership role" with the Association of California School Administrators.

That exact wording was used in the press release sent out by the district. The press release did not note Ms. Gonzales has served as an officer for the group since before she was hired by the district.

The board has been spending a great deal of time recently discussing the superintendent's performance. The board held closed sessions on June 3 and June 11 with the topic of "superintendent's evaluation." On Aug. 19, Sept. 16 and Sept. 23, the board held more closed sessions on the topic of "superintendent performance review."

On Sept. 29, the board met in closed session on the topic of "public employee dismissal, dis-

cipline, release," the last meeting noted on the district's website before the Oct. 9 announcement of Superintendent Gonzales' departure. The agenda did not say which employee was the subject of the Sept. 29 meeting.

In the written statement, the board expressed "gratitude to Dr. Gonzales for the many contributions to our school community under her leadership, including successfully guiding the implementation of the strategic plan, recruiting talented administrators and staff, increasing the frequency and effectiveness of communication, and bringing visibility and recognition to the district in very positive ways including the Gold Ribbon Award" for Corte Madera School.

The Portola Valley board had renewed Superintendent Gonzales' contract on Sept. 10, 2014, to run through June 30, 2017. The contract did not include an increase in the \$183,000 base salary she was given for her first full year at the district.

The contract says it may be terminated "by written mutual consent," "unilaterally" by the superintendent with 90 days' notice, by the board "for cause" or by the board "without cause" with 45 days written notice. However, the contract specifies there will be severance pay only in the latter case, when the board terminates the contract without cause.

The contract calls for the dis-

trict to pay severance pay up to the end of the contract term, but not more than nine months of base salary. That means the six months of severance pay is three months less than the maximum called for in the contract.

When contacted on Oct. 9, Ms. Gonzales said she is going to become president-elect of the Association of California School Administrators next week. She said she has "served for four years as the point person for legislative work at the state and federal level" for the organiza-

"As I move into the president-elect role next week, the opportunity to be the advocate that our California students most need is one I couldn't pass up," she said.

Mr. Hartwig was an English teacher in middle and high schools before becoming assistant principal at Capuchino High School, and then principal at Menlo-Atherton, a job he held for nine years. He then served for four years as director of curriculum and instruction for the Sequoia Union High School District before becoming superintendent of the Las Lomitas district, where he worked for five years before retiring.

The formal recruitment of a permanent superintendent to take over at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year will begin in January, according to the press release. ▀

Go to tinyurl.com/PV-SUP to see the Almanac's online story with links to the contract and other documents.

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Council starts review of city's specific plan

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

By the time the clock struck 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 6, the Menlo Park City Council had not yet broached its second major discussion on the agenda: a review of proposed updates to the city's specific plan, a 365-page document adopted in 2012 to guide development in downtown Menlo Park for decades to come.

The 2015 review is the plan's first biennial review, after an initial review in 2013.

This review came directly after a lengthy discussion and 20 comments from community members about proposed updates to Menlo Park's general plan. Council members rubbed their eyes but forged ahead.

Thomas Rogers, senior planner for the city of Menlo Park, presented the changes to the specific plan proposed by city staff, including setting standards for sidewalks on streets where they do not yet exist, clarifying rear setback rules, allowing flexibility for side and front setbacks, and setting parking requirements for hotels and personal improvement services, such as dance or yoga studios, fine arts, or driving schools.

Mr. Rogers said several changes to the specific plan had also been proposed by the Pollock Financial Group in order for the company to more comfortably build a boutique hotel on a half-acre plot of land located at 1400 El Camino Real at Glenwood Avenue, the former Shell gas station.

By now, the clock was on the verge of striking midnight, and so the council members decided that they would discuss the Pollock Financial Group's proposed changes that night, and hold the rest of the specific plan discussion to their next meeting on Oct. 20.

Presented by John Spanier and Jeff Pollock, the Pollock Financial Group's proposed changes included allowing "back of

house" or storage and employee-only areas to not count toward the total square-foot area, and allowing flexibility regarding the building's front design.

The proposal launched a discussion among council members on whether changing the rules would set a precedent for other exceptions, a concern voiced by council members Rich Cline and Kirsten Keith; or whether sticking to the rules in the specific plan would make the new structure less interesting, articulated by Mayor Catherine Carlton.

Council members recommended that the Pollock Financial Group work with city staff to research how more space could be utilized in the existing hotel plans and how additional space would affect the potential occupancy of the hotel and its adjoining restaurant.

Four public comments were made regarding broader changes to the specific plan.

Patti Fry, a former Menlo Park planning commissioner, said she wanted to see the city's jobs-housing balance improved. Retail opportunities, she said, are at risk of being overtaken by office space.

Maya Perkins, a resident of Menlo Park, said council members should build affordable housing near transit lines in the downtown area.

Adina Levin, a member of the city's Transportation Commission, urged council members to examine development proposals to make sure that affordable housing is considered.

Diane Bailey, executive director of Menlo Spark, a nonprofit working to implement climate neutral practices and policies in Menlo Park, said creating demand-based parking fees downtown would promote alternative transportation and offer convenient parking to those who need it. ■

months behind the original July 2015 date projected in the civic center master plan. The delay has added \$2.8 million to the cost because of higher construction expenses.

Other costs that exceed those estimated for the project in the master plan include \$1.3 million for increasing the size of the administration and police building, \$2 million for solar energy systems, and \$800,000 for increasing the contingency fund from 10 percent to 12 percent. ■

CIVIC CENTER

continued from page 9

The cost of building a new library, which will be funded with public funds that can be spent only on the library, would be \$13.5 million, including the cost of renovating the historic council chambers building. Town building fee revenue set aside for new building department offices totals \$2.2 million.

The consultants say the project is due to start at least 18



NOTICE REQUESTING BID

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT SAUSAL VISTA PUMP STATION PROJECT – PHASE II

Sealed proposals for the Sausal Vista Pump Station Project – Phase II will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, October 28, 2015** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for SAUSAL VISTA PUMP STATION PROJECT – PHASE II."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment, and other appurtenances for the reconstruction of the existing sanitary sewer pump station. The pump station renovation will include concrete construction, wet well construction, replacement of emergency generator and fuel tank, and replacement of existing pumps and pump control panels.

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

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

A pre-bid meeting will be held at **10:00 am on Wednesday, October 14, 2015** at the West Bay Sanitary District Office in Menlo Park, California.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ Phil Scott
District Manager

Dated: September 15, 2015

Menlo library reopens after bedbug scare

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Curly, an Australian shepherd cattle dog mix, set to work sniffing out the Menlo Park Library in the Civic Center on Thursday morning, Oct. 8. Curly wasn't searching for stashed drugs or on a rescue mission. This specially trained dog was sniffing for bedbugs, and fortunately for the library, did not find any. The library reopened that day after being shut down Tuesday evening, Oct. 6, when a bedbug was found on a chair. The bedbug and the chair were removed, and the library was closed all day

Wednesday, Oct. 7, to "allow pest control to inspect, treat and clean the library for any possible remaining bedbugs," City Manager Alex McIntyre said.

The facility was treated with carbon dioxide and ventilated for 24 hours, and the library staff received "bedbug awareness and identification training," he said.

This is the third local library where bedbugs have been found recently. Bed bugs were found on chairs in the Rinconada and Mitchell Park libraries in Palo Alto last week.

"We're happy to be open again," said Menlo Park Library Director Susan Holmer. ■

Deal gives 3% hike to city employees

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Thirty-six supervisory and management employees of the city of Menlo Park would receive a 3 percent increase in base salaries under a tentative agreement with the city on a new two-year labor contract, the city announced Oct. 5. The employees are represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

This tentative agreement, reached Sept. 29, three months after expiration of the former contract on June 30, also contains a one-time \$1,000 bonus and a 3 percent increase in the city's contribution to "cafeteria" benefits accounts, used by most employees for medical insurance. Reimbursements previ-

City would increase contribution to employee benefit accounts by 3 percent.

ously given for childcare and recreation would be added to these accounts.

Further, the city would pay for vision insurance coverage, pending approval by all other employees represented by a union.

The agreement will go before the City Council for possible ratification Oct. 20.

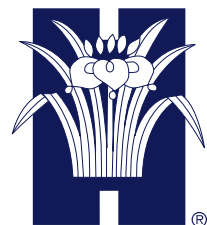
Dave Bertini, the city's interim human resources director, said the city has hired the consultant Koff and Associates to study the city's job classifications and compensation to determine if pay is aligned with

market rates. The consultant has surveyed employees and is now in the process of interviewing employees one-on-one. The process is expected to be completed in early 2016.

From March 1 to June 1, 2016, salary negotiations will be allowed to take place again. If agreement is not reached on changes to job classifications and compensation, all employees will receive an additional 2 percent raise.

Mr. Bertini said that the demand for well-qualified employees in Menlo Park is significant, and that it can be a challenge for the city to retain employees long-term with such a strong local job market.

"We're continuing to try to bring our employees a salary and benefits package that will be competitive," he said. ■



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Robert M. Huff

February 19, 1921 - October 2, 2015

Robert Milton Huff died peacefully October 2 at the age of 94. Born February 19, 1921, in Sioux City, Iowa, to Thomas B. Huff and Cecil Drinkard Huff, Robert attended Stanford University.

He was a successful contractor, building many custom houses in Atherton that were known as "Huff Houses." He had a long working relationship with Jack Stafford and Thomas Church, renowned landscape architects.

Robert sold real estate with his wife Beverly for many years after his building career.

He and Beverly loved to travel, and they spent every Christmas in Hawaii and made many trips to the family avocado ranch in Carpinteria, CA.

They lived and traveled for a year in France and Spain.

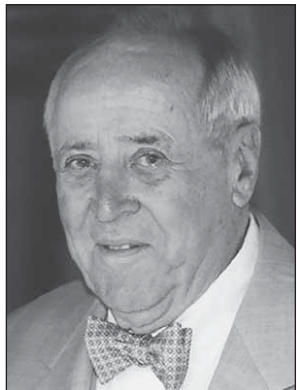
Robert was a member of the Menlo Circus Club and The Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club where he played golf and tennis. Robert was a passionate fan of the local sports scene, following Stanford, the 49ers, and the Giants.

Robert is survived by his son, Phillip Huff, daughters Martha Smiland and Melissa Tereshchuk, two granddaughters, Lisa Sailor and Kelly Huff, and three great grandchildren. He is also survived by three stepchildren, Emery Rogers, Meredith Callahan, Anne Wager, and their families.

In keeping with his wishes, the family will not be holding a memorial service.

Remembrances in the form of donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America <http://www.alzfdn.org/ContributetoAFA/makeadonation.html>.

PAID OBITUARY



Paul Olin Bancroft

Reno, NV. - Paul Olin Bancroft, 92, died peacefully on Friday, October 2, 2015.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 69 years Jean (Rinear) Bancroft. He leaves his daughter Judy Congdon and her husband Clarke of Menlo Park, CA.; his daughter Janet Burttram and her husband George of McCormick, SC.; his son Paul (Buz) Bancroft and his wife Joyce of Tahoe City, CA.; 6 grandsons and 7 great grandchildren.

Although born in Brooklyn, NY, he was proud to call himself a Vermonter where he lived throughout his childhood and early adult life. Mr. Bancroft was a WWII veteran in which he served as a paratrooper, first lieutenant in the 17th Airborne. He graduated with the class of 1944, from Norwich University, in Northfield, VT.

Mr. Bancroft had a career in marketing, working for General Electric and Warner Lambert. In 1962 he became VP of Marketing for Syntex Laboratories and moved his family to Portola Valley, Ca. He and his wife eventually moved to Rancho Santa Fe, CA. after retiring and became a real estate sales agent for Coldwell Banker.

He was an avid golfer and skier and enjoyed writing, dancing and being with his family and friends.

His family would like to thank his caregivers at Park Place, an assisted living facility in Reno and Summit View Hospice for their kind and caring personnel.

There will be a private family celebration of his life.

Donations can be made to Summit View Hospice in Reno, NV.



PAID OBITUARY

Candidate 'suspends' campaign

By Barbara Wood

■ WOODSIDE SCHOOL

Woodside Elementary School District board candidate Joel Hornstein said on Sunday, Oct. 11, that he is suspending his campaign after many members of the current school board and the Woodside School Foundation board endorsed one or both of his opponents, incumbents Silvia Edwards and Kevin Johnson, in the race for two board seats.

While it is much too late to remove his name from the ballot, and he has not taken down his campaign signs, Mr. Hornstein asked the Almanac not to publish a list of eight endorsers he had earlier submitted.

"I have decided to suspend my campaign for WESD Board," Mr. Hornstein said in a written statement to the Almanac, "in light

of the current board members' decision to break with historical practice and endorse in this race."

Three current board members — Wendy Warren Roth, Marc Tarpenning and Claire Pollioni — have endorsed the two board incumbents on the ballot. Mr. Johnson was also endorsed by a number of members of the Woodside School Foundation, although in both cases all the endorsers said they were endorsing the candidates as school parents or Woodside residents and not as board members.

Mr. Hornstein said in his statement that "there was concern that my criticisms (of incumbent Kevin Johnson) suggested I could not work collaboratively with other board

members if elected." He said that his nearly 20 years of service on other boards, including serving as an officer, belie this belief.

"I would have brought much to the WESD Board, and regret that they felt it necessary to close ranks behind Mr. Johnson so as to keep accountability and criticism out of their Board meetings," he said.

Mr. Hornstein voiced some of those criticisms at a recent candidate forum, where he presented disputed statistics about Mr. Johnson's board meeting attendance record, and made statements about the school enrollment of two of Mr. Johnson's children that were not accurate.

Mr. Hornstein had originally said he was withdrawing from the race, but later changed that statement to say he was suspending his campaign. "I'll remain on the ballot, of course, and do expect I'll get a significant share of the vote," he said. "If elected, I'll gladly serve."

He said that he did not feel that it is "fair to those whose support I value" to ask them "to keep sticking their necks out for me." ■

Allen R. Holubar

September 21, 1927 - September 26, 2015

Al Holubar passed away at his home in Sarasota, FL, with his partner of 11 years, Pauline Thoms, at his side. Al had been suffering from Parkinson's disease.

A second-generation San Franciscan, Al attended Lowell High School in the city. The first of his family to attend college, he graduated from Stanford University in 1949 with a degree in civil engineering. Originally recruited for his basketball skills, he ran on the Stanford track team and became a record-setting half-miler. He continued to compete on the track after graduation, representing the San Francisco Olympic Club. He remained an ardent supporter of Stanford athletics for the rest of his life.

He married fellow Stanford alum E. Bernice Hartley in 1951. After Army service in the Korean War, Al bought a vacant lot in Menlo Park, CA, built an Eichler-style home, raised a family, and began a career with San Mateo-based general contractor Arthur Bros that would last until his retirement in 1989.

Al was an energetic family- and community-minded man; he helped coach Menlo Park Little League teams, participated in local Boy Scout Troop 109 overnights, and helped organize San Mateo Lions Club activities. In professional life, his career with Arthur Bros coincided with the booming growth of the Bay Area. He retired as General Manager having been instrumental in developing key relationships with Safeway stores, United Airlines, Wells Fargo and Bank of America. Many of the local stores and branch offices of these companies in the Bay Area were built by Arthur Bros under his management.

Al loved Hawaii and relished swimming at the beaches of Honolulu. He built a cabin with his family in the Sierras at Tamarack, CA, near Bear Valley. It became his family's favorite retreat. Besides following sports, Al enjoyed playing bridge, at which he achieved Life Master status, and reading spy thrillers.

He is survived and mourned by his children and their families, Michael Holubar and Karen Inaba, Kent and Patty Holubar, Carey Holubar and Mark Dietz, and Jay Holubar and Brandy Falcon; and by his grandchildren, Hana Holubar, Taylor Holubar and Ed Berchick, Grayden Holubar, Andrew Dietz, Noah Dietz, and Shea Holubar.

Memorial arrangements are pending.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research: www.michaeljfox.org.



PAID OBITUARY

Menlo Park walk to fight hunger

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Walkers covered up to five miles, local bands performed, and a silent auction was held during a fundraiser to combat hunger at Burgess Park in Menlo Park on Sunday, Oct. 4.

Lesia Preston-Stevens, executive director of the Ecumenical Hunger Program, said she was happy to "see people uniting as a village" to address hunger.

Event organizer Lynne Courts said 25 percent of the funds raised were split between the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto and CALL Primrose food assistance in Burlingame.

The rest of the funds were donated internationally, to support projects such as "sand dams," which collect and filter water in areas where monsoon and drought seasons alternate, Ms. Courts said.

Ecumenical Hunger serves from 45 to 65 low-income families a day, providing food, household items, and clothing, said Lakesha Roberts-Evans, donation and food coordinator for the organization.

Event planner Marty Dreher Miller, who noted that annual hunger walks were a recurring part of her childhood, said she appreciated that the event was "very grassroots" and focused on the local community. ■

Patisserie now open in Menlo

By Elena Kadvaný

Downtown Menlo Park now has a piece of Paris with the opening of Mademoiselle Colette, a French patisserie serving pastries, lunch, brunch and wine.

Mademoiselle Colette opened last week at 816 Santa Cruz Ave., the former home of Sugar Shack.

Mademoiselle Colette owner Debora Ferrand, an Atherton resident who was born in Brazil but raised in France, had been searching for a place to open a pastry shop since moving to the area about a year ago. She moved to Atherton after living for several years in Texas, where she attended Le Cordon Bleu with an emphasis on baking and pastries. She also studied at the School of Alain Ducasse in France.

Ms. Ferrand also brought on board a young French pastry chef, Orphee Fouano, who most recently worked at Hotel Plaza Athenee, a top Paris hotel.

Mademoiselle Colette serves traditional French pastries — croissants, eclairs, macarons, tartlettes, madeleines — as well as salads, soups and brunch items.

For lunch, there's a Nicoise salad; a "Colette Parisien" salad with jam, gruyere, tomato, asparagus and artichoke; and a buratta salad, among other items. There are also savory tarts, quiche of the day, croque monsieur (\$10.50) and croque madame sandwiches.

The brunch menu includes dishes like eggs Benedict and eggs Florentine. Treat yourself with the "Royal Brunch" — foie gras and truffle eggs with a "Viennoiseries" basket of select pastries; your choice of tea, coffee or chocolate; and orange juice — for \$25.

Mademoiselle Colette serves a few French wines by the glass and by the bottle. Head over for happy hour and nibble on a cheese plate, charcuterie plate or foie gras plate.

The patisserie is open Tuesday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **A**

Go to AlmanacNews.com to see Elena Kadvaný's Peninsula Foodist blog.



Resolution No. 1956 (2015) RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
 - X All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or

Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

- 1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
- 2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: November 4, 2015
Time: 5:30 PM
Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices
500 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

- 3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i).
- 4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
- 5. The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

EXHIBIT "A"

All that certain real property, situate in Unincorporated Area of Santa Clara County, State of California, being all of the Lands of Wong and Toh as described in that certain Grant Deed recorded July 23, 2009 as Document No. 20349352 and Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC as described in that certain Grant Deed recorded Dec. 17, 2013 as Document No. 22473459, Santa Clara County Records and Being a Portion of the Rancho El Corte De Madera more particularly described as followed:

Beginning at a point lying on the Southerly line of said Lands of Wong and Toh, said point being North 71°59'40" West 97.23 feet from the southernmost corner of the said Lands of Wong and Toh, also being a point on the existing West Bay Sanitary District Boundary as established by "2002 Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation";

Thence (1) along the Southerly line of last said lands and continuing along the existing West Bay Sanitary District Boundary North 71°59'40" West, 167.00 feet;

Thence (2) continuing along the Southerly line of last said lands and leaving the existing West Bay Sanitary District Boundary North 71°59'40" West, 167.00 feet;

Thence (3) North 57°41'14" West, 65.29 feet to the centerline of Los Trancos Creek and to a point on the existing West Bay Sanitary District Sphere of Influence (S.O.I.) Boundary;

Thence (4) along said centerline and West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary, North 28°31'16" East, 14.71;

Thence (5) North; 41°33'46" East, 117.20 feet;

Thence (6) 46°17'05" East, 108.43 feet to the most Northern corner of said lands of Wong and Toh;

Thence (7) leaving said centerline of Los Trancos Creek and the West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary along the Northerly line of said lands of Wong and Toh, South 57°41'14" East, 109.85 feet;

Thence (8) South 82°13'14" East, 107.69 feet;

Thence (9) South 33°33'11" East, 86.91 feet to a point on said Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC;

Thence (10) leaving the boundary of said Lands of Wong and Toh and continuing along the Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC, North 25°30'46" East, 139.23 feet;

Thence (11) North 10°32'46" East, 24.07 feet;

Thence (12) North 57°41'14" West, 282.54 feet to the centerline of Los Trancos Creek and to a point on the existing West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary;

Thence (13) along said centerline and West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary, North 12°19'16" East, 57.44 feet;

Thence (14) North 29°56'56" West, 95.96 feet;

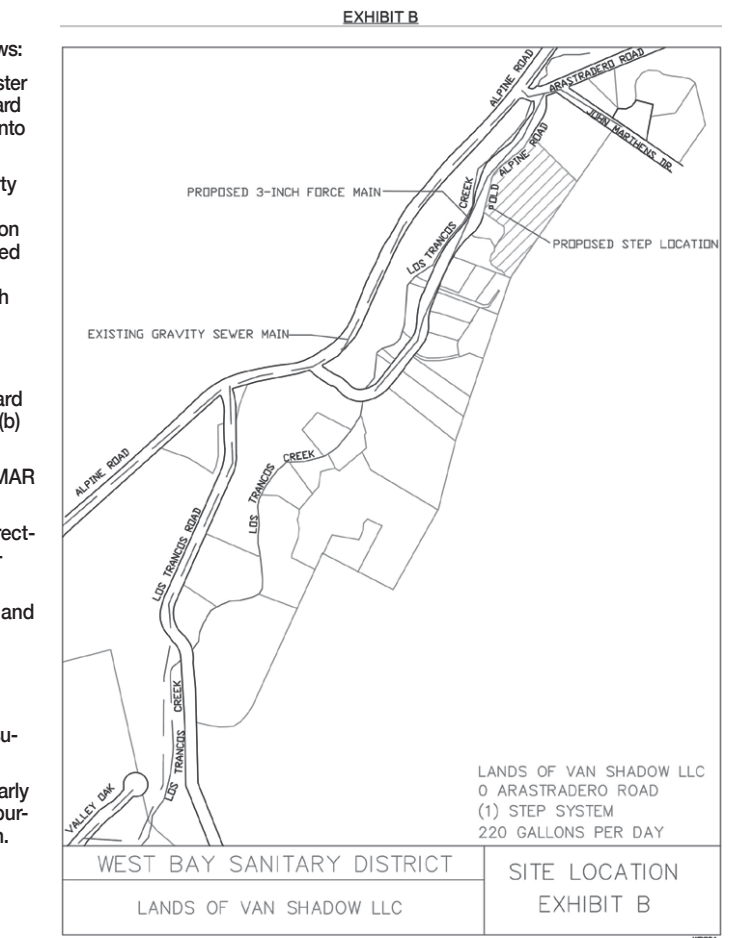
Thence (15) North 17°04'16" East, 118.88 feet;

Thence (16) North 45°08'16" East, 158.59 feet;

Thence (17) North 47°08'06" East, 198.52 feet;

Thence (18) North 32°00'00" East, 100.00 feet to the most Northern corner of said lands of Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC;

Thence (19) leaving said centerline of Los Trancos Creek and the West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary and continuing along the Northeastly line of last said Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC, South 48°00'27" East, 576.28 feet to a point on the existing West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary;



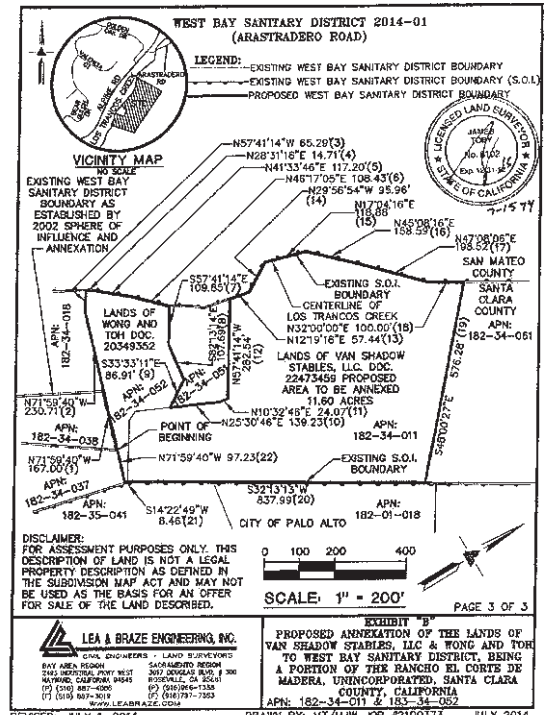
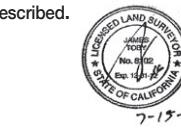
REVISIONS: JULY 1, 2014

Thence (20) South 32°13'13" West, 837.99 feet along the existing West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary to a point in common with said Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC and of said Lands of Wong and Toh;

Thence (21) leaving the boundary of said Lands of Van Shadow Stables, LLC, and continuing along the Lands of Wong and Toh South 14°22'49" West, 8.46 feet;

Thence (22) leaving the West Bay Sanitary District S.O.I. Boundary North 71°59'40" West, 97.23 feet to the Point of Beginning and containing 11.60 acres of land more or less.

For assessment purposes only. This description of land is not a legal property description as defined in the Subdivision Map Act and may not be used as the basis for an offer for sale of the land described.





330 Jane Drive, Woodside Offered at \$4,488,000

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Nestled within the gated community of Meadow Vista, this extensively remodeled home offers 7,930 sq. ft. (per county), 6 bedrooms, 6 full and 2 half baths, luxurious amenities, and a leafy lot of just over 3 acres (per county). You will have countless entertaining options thanks to the home's well-appointed design and flexible spaces, like a loft with a kitchenette, a suite with a wet bar, and a wine room suited for over 1,500 bottles. Spacious rooms include a home office, a dining room with a butler's pantry, an open, gourmet kitchen, and a two-story great room, and all bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms, including the two opulent master suites. The rear courtyard provides a lawn and views of the mountains, while the attached four-car garage offers a rear ATV exit. In spite of this home's exclusive woodland setting, you actually will be just minutes from Roberts Market, popular dining venues, and Menlo Country Club. Excellent nearby schools include Woodside Elementary (API 965) and Woodside High (buyer to verify eligibility).

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CalBRE #01342140



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Picturesque Equestrian Property

Dotted with mature oak trees, this gated equestrian property provides a 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom home of 2,890 sq. ft. (per county) and offers a total of 0.9 acres (per county). Built in 1914, the home has been thoughtfully updated yet retains authentic charms, including red oak hardwood floors and original lighting fixtures. Fine spaces include sun-lit living and dining areas, a remodeled kitchen, and a master suite with vaulted ceilings. The walk-out lower level provides a family room, several flexible spaces, and a private bedroom ideal for au pair quarters. Other highlights include two fireplaces, a cellar, and abundant storage spaces. Boasting several outdoor living areas, this park-like property also presents a converted garage with a studio, a barn with fenced yards, a large shed, and a staggering variety of flowers and fruit trees. Just moments from parks and local shopping and dining, this home is also steps away from bus service. Clifford Elementary is within walking distance, and Woodside High is easily accessible (buyer to verify eligibility). For video tour & more photos, please visit:

www.1633Edgewood.com



Ken DeLeon
CalBRE #01342140



Michael Repka
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High school district: Candidates vie for three seats

continued from page 7

This is what I want to continue to do, making sure that kids are adequately served.”

In the interest of transparency, she said, the board should use Agenda Online, a state school board association service for publishing agendas and all related documents in one place.

As for the new magnet schools, Ms. Du Bois said the board should examine the Roses in Concrete K-8 school — an urban community school in Oakland dedicated to the long-term well-being of students who have the odds of success in life stacked against them.

At M-A, a school with a reputation for segregation at lunchtime and two tracks, Ms. Du Bois recommended a summer community theater, starting with “Bring It On,” a musical about cheer-leading, hip hop and gymnastics around a story of a white kid enrolling in a school of black kids.

“Do we want to transform a school?” she asked. “or do we want to leave it like it is?”

Laura Martinez

A native and former mayor of East Palo Alto, Ms. Martinez is the after-school director for Aspire Public Schools. She was the first in her family to graduate from college.

She is running, in part, to continue as a member of the committee designing the new magnet school in Menlo Park. “I’d love to see a school,” she said, “that resembles the d.school

Georgia Jack

■ Experience: Active volunteer in elementary and high school districts. Two years as president of Redwood City Education Foundation, five years on the Woodside High School Shared Decision Making Committee/Site Council, and in second year on Woodside High’s foundation board.

■ Education: Bachelor’s degree in fine arts from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

■ Profession: Manager in the Office of Development at Stanford University.

■ Age: 51

■ Family: One Woodside High School graduate and a current senior.



Carrie Du Bois

■ Experience: One term on Sequoia Union High School District board, two terms on San Carlos Elementary School District board, president of San Mateo County School Boards Association, elected delegate to California School Boards Association assembly.

■ Education: Bachelor’s degree in the humanities from California State University at Sacramento.

■ Profession: Real estate agent.

■ Age: 57.

■ Family: Married with three children.



Laura Martinez

■ Experience: Twice mayor of East Palo Alto, delegate to City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, named to Silicon Valley Business Journal “40 Under 40” for 2015, guest lecturer on “Women & Management” at Notre Dame de Namur University.

■ Education: Bachelor’s degree in sociology from Whittier College.

■ Profession: After-school director for Aspire Public Schools.

■ Age: 31.



Allen Weiner

■ Experience: One term on Sequoia Union High School District board, director of the Program on International and Comparative Law at Stanford Law School, author/co-author of numerous books, articles, op-eds and amicus briefs. Former U.S. State Department attorney.

■ Education: Bachelor’s degree magna cum laude in social studies from Harvard College; law degree (with honors) from Stanford University Law School

■ Profession: Law school senior lecturer.

■ Age: 52.

■ Family: Married with three children.



at Stanford” (the Institute of Design, which focuses on creative problem solving). Workplaces have whiteboards and flexible work spaces, she said. “Let’s see it in the classroom.”

Her top concern is the prudent spending of the \$265 million in capital improvement funds voters approved in June 2014. Next up, preparing teachers to implement the Common Core curriculum, followed by student health and wellness, particularly around homework and other stresses. “I want to continue to have an open dialogue with parents,” Ms. Martinez said.

Closing the achievement gap requires collaboration, she said. “As a high school district, we need to work with the elementary school districts. We have to. There’s no other way.”

The transition of East Palo Alto students to M-A as their

home school “is something that I’m going to be watching very closely,” she said. Attendance has gone up, and parents may be more involved now that they’re closer to the school. It was a good decision and should have been done a long time ago, she said.

The students who really need the support tend to be really hard to reach, she said, but the Sequoia district has to make that effort. “Things are changing. I hope that the culture of the school will welcome all students,” she said.

Allen Weiner

Mr. Weiner is a senior lecturer at Stanford University law school and a resident of Menlo Park. He said he’d like a second term on the Sequoia board to “preserve continuity” in policies, practices and culture.

All East Palo Alto students now

have M-A as their home school, a change he helped bring about. The district adopted a policy of aligning communities with schools, he said. “I’m very proud of that change,” he said. “That’s a way to begin aligning the cultures. ... It’s the kids from those (elementary school) districts — some of them — who tend to come to us with the lowest level of achievement. What can we do, given that we’re not a unified school district, to begin coordination (with those districts)?”

Closing achievement gaps is a matter of “working day by day on enhancing, sharpening, advancing our education priorities,” he said. Identifying the kids most at risk and gathering accurate data will be critical, he said.

In the Sequoia district, 38 percent of the Hispanic students met or exceeded the English

language standard on the Common Core tests, compared to 80 percent of white students and 90 percent of Asian students. “Thirty-eight percent is not a bad place to begin,” Mr. Weiner said. Over the past four years, the board hasn’t closed the gap, he said. “(But) we’ve moved the needle a little on a couple indicators,” he said. There are 300 Hispanic students who are ready for college. “I’m very proud of that,” he said.

As for the new magnet school, “I want to hit a home run on the design,” he said. “I want to make sure we’ve got a great idea. ... I’m really excited about the possibility to do something incredibly innovative. ... We are trying to develop a center of excellence. ... Students would really go deep and kind of develop an expertise in the STEM and design area.” ▣

Raising fire district’s spending limit

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Measure Y on ballots in the Menlo Park Fire Protection District will ask voters to raise the district’s annual appropriation limit to \$50 million a year, from the current \$40 million. The new limit would run for four years starting July 1, 2016.

The district encompasses Atherton, East Palo Alto and unincorporated areas, in addition to Menlo Park.

Raising the limit would not increase taxes. If the measure doesn’t pass, the limit would drop to \$28 million because the \$40 million limit expires June 30, 2016. The district currently spends \$36 million a year, fire board chair Virginia Chang Kiraly said.

The \$28 million limit, she said, was set in 1978 in the wake

■ VOTER GUIDE 2015

of Proposition 13 and “does not take into account inflation or cost of living increases.”

Budget projections show district spending will reach or surpass \$40 million in about two years, she said.

She pointed to rising challenges and costs for continuing and enhancing emergency services. For instance, in September, the fire board committed to splitting with the town of Atherton the \$330,000 cost to install a stoplight at on El Camino Real at Almedral Avenue. The light would be activated by pedestrians or emergency vehicles.

Higher costs may also be associated with handling emergency response on increasingly traffic-clogged street, said Fire Chief Harold Schpelhouman.

In September, the fire board adopted time-based performance measures for emergency response. The gridlock that characterizes rush hour in Menlo Park, particularly along Willow Road, is causing emergency responders to cut through Palo Alto’s streets or drive on the opposite side of the road to meet their goals, he said.

To deal with the challenges, he said, the district may increase spending to build new fire stations, expand and renovate old ones, and increase equipment and personnel.

Linda Craig, former chief administrative officer for Portola Valley, had expressed concern that the proposed increase in the appropriations limit seemed premature, but said, “If they are in fact close to the limit, then I won’t quibble with that.” ▣

COUNTY VOTING

continued from page 5

which all registered voters receive mail-in ballots but can opt to vote in person on Election Day. Oregon and Washington operate all-mail elections exclusively.

Mark Church, San Mateo County’s chief elections officer, said voter turnout may increase by about 10 percent as the result of this election method.

In addition, he said, an all-mail voting system could nearly halve the costs of elections. San Mateo County’s past elections have relied on training 1,700 poll workers to operate 1,300 voting machines at 209 polling places. In this election, the county will have four to five poll workers at each of only 32 universal polling places on Election Day.

In local elections, where voters tend to turn out in rela-

tively slim numbers, making voting as easy as possible is important, said David Pine, a member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

Elections for local leaders and measures have a “great bearing on people’s quality of life,” he said. “A democracy without robust voting is not a democracy that we want.”

Voter registration

A new state law signed by Gov. Jerry Brown on Oct. 10 will automatically register to vote every eligible California citizen who goes to a Department of Motor Vehicles office to get or renew a driver’s license. The law, which will go into effect Jan. 1, would allow the person to opt of registering to vote. ▣

SmartVoter.org provides information from the League of Women Voters about local election contests.



20 Oak Hollow Way, Menlo Park Offered at \$3,488,000

Lavish Remodel in Exclusive Enclave

Set in the affluent Oak Hollow enclave, this resplendent 4 bedroom, 4.5 bathroom home of 3,310 sq. ft. (per county) offers a lot of 11,900 sq. ft. (per county) and a complete remodel that boasts engineered French white oak floors, LED lighting, a central vacuum system, designer carpets, and Nest dual-zone technology. Soaring ceilings cover the great room and the stylish dining room, while the family room flows into a jaw-dropping island kitchen. An opulent guest suite on the main level may be used as an office, while the breathtaking master retreat enjoys a limestone-lined bathroom and a balcony. In the private backyard, an immense deck with a barbecue joins the newly landscaped lawn. Other excellent features include extensive custom woodwork, three fireplaces, and an attached three-car garage. From this home's exclusive setting, you will be near Stanford University, Sand Hill Road, and local dining venues. Excellent nearby schools include Las Lomas Elementary (API 943), La Entrada Middle (API 963), and Menlo-Atherton High (buyer to verify eligibility).

For video tour & more photos, please visit:

www.20OakHollowWay.com



Ken DeLeon
CalBRE #01342140



Michael Repka
CalBRE #01854880



OPEN HOUSE

Sunday
1:30 - 4:30 pm



Belle Haven residents don't like 'Bayfront' label

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Some residents of Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood say they don't like the fact that the industrial district around them, long known as the M-2 zone, is now being relabeled the Bayfront. Some said they fear the new label will keep the improvements being planned for the industrial zone from improving their neighborhood as well.

A little more than halfway through a two-year process, Menlo Park's City Council took a look Oct. 6 at the work underway to revise the city's general plan. The plan is a state-mandated document serving as the city's "constitution" for development and land use.

The city's general plan update focuses on the M-2 industrial area, roughly located between the Bay and U.S. 101, and on the city's "circulation" systems of streets, paths and trails.

Several speakers told the council they feel the relabeling of the M-2 area as the Bayfront, an area separate from the Belle Haven residential neighborhood, may hurt Belle Haven and leave the perception that any improvements that are being made are in the Bayfront, and not in Belle Haven.

"By separating and creating this new neighborhood, it's kind of like you're cutting us off in the Belle Haven area," said Toni Marie Ali, a Belle Haven resident. Instead, she said, the entire city should be looked at "as one functioning unit."

"We're not separate, we're one community," she said.

Resident Pamela Jones said the labeling of the area being studied as the Bayfront, or M-2 Bayfront, may have left some Belle Haven residents not understanding that their neighborhood would be affected by the changes.

"I didn't know that M-2 Bayfront was Belle Haven," she said.

Vicky Robledo, a Belle Haven resident, said changing the name of the industrial area changes one neighborhood into two. "The Bayfront has always been part of Belle Haven," she said. Giving the industrial area its own name "creates a barrier — you create a wall," she said.

"I'm a little heartbroken that the area is being renamed," said resident Maya Perkins. She said Belle Haven residents also want their neighborhood to reflect the "live, work, play," slogan of the plan, which refers to the fact that new developments will be asked to provide not only work places, but also residences and amenities such as shopping or restaurants.

"Why is this distinction being made?" she asked. "It feels like (Belle Haven) is being cut off."

Some council members

appeared to agree that the Bayfront label should be reconsidered. Councilman Rich Cline

ability or environmental change element of the general plan.

Housing costs

Jeanne Merino, a 25-year-resident of Menlo Park and a housing attorney for Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto, said the general plan review is "a good opportunity for the City Council to address what has become a really critical and urgent problem in Menlo Park, and that is the lack of affordable housing, skyrocketing rents and high housing costs."

Every week, Ms. Merino said, she sees people from Menlo Park and other parts of the Peninsula "who are being displaced from their housing." Last week, she said, she had a family of six whose landlord had told them: "I'm evicting you because I want to rent to Facebook people," she said. "That's not an unusual circumstance. Folks all over Menlo Park are being impacted by this."

"What we really need here are real mechanisms for affordability," she said. "Not just in Belle Haven, but across the city." She suggested zoning changes that encourage affordable housing as well as "an affordable housing fee that could be used to develop affordable housing in other areas of Menlo Park." She also suggested some regulations of rents and eviction controls.

Next up for the general plan review are draft changes to zoning and design standards for the M-2 area to go to Planning Commission and City Council in October and November. A meeting of the General Plan Advisory Committee is set in January, and the draft environmental report and a fiscal analysis of the changes is due in February. The plan is still on schedule for adoption by the end of next summer, Mr. Knox said. ■

Menlo Park attorney Jeanne Merino said every week she sees people 'being displaced from their housing.'

said that the project was meant to improve the industrial area, "not to change anything about Belle Haven."

"My bias is always, it's Menlo Park," he said. "This is one community."

Councilwoman Kirsten Keith agreed. "I think this calling it the Bayfront is not the way to go," she said. "I think it's important to keep Belle Haven as the name for this."

Charlie Knox, who heads up the consultants revising the plan, said he would work on the issue. "We are looking for a name for the non-residential portions" of the area, he said. "There's no intent here to talk about changing the name of the Belle Haven neighborhood."

Sustainability

The council heard about other aspects of the plan as well.

Andrew Barnes, a member of the city's Environmental Quality Commission, said commission members "are a little bit underwhelmed" at their ability to embed sustainability elements into the plan. "This is a once in a generation opportunity for the city of Menlo Park to get out in front of the ball here," he said, asking that features such as rain capture, gray water systems and net-zero energy requirements, which call for a development to create as much energy as it uses, be put into a separate sustain-

Allen Holubar, Arthur Bros. general manager

OBITUARY

Obituaries are based on information provided by the family.

Allen Holubar, a longtime Menlo Park resident, died Sept. 26 at his home in Sarasota, Florida. His partner, Pauline Thorns, was at his side. Mr. Holubar suffered from Parkinson's disease.

Mr. Holubar attended Lowell High School and Stanford University, where he graduated with a degree in civil engineering. He ran on the Stanford track team and became a record setting half-miler. He continued to compete after graduation, representing the San Francisco Olympic Club.

He married fellow Stanford alumni E. Bernice Hartley in 1951. After Army service in the

his management.

Mr. Holubar built a cabin in the Sierras at Tamarack that became his family's favorite retreat. He also loved Hawaii. He helped coach Menlo Park Little League teams, participated in local Boy Scout Troop 109 overnights, and helped organize the San Mateo Lions Club. He achieved a Life Master status in playing bridge.

Mr. Holubar is survived by his children, Michael Holubar, Kent Holubar, Carey Holubar and Brandy Falcon and their spouses, and seven grandchildren. Memorial arrangements are pending.

3rd Quarter 2015

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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

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

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water sample results for the third quarter monitoring in 2015 have manganese levels of 49 ppb in well #1 and 160 ppb in well #2 (ppb=parts per billion). This is above the secondary drinking water standard, or secondary maximum contaminant level of 50 ppb. Manganese concentrations above the standard may have an effect on taste and tend to leave black deposits in some plumbing systems.

What should I do?

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

What happened? What is being done?

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

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

For further information, contact:
Ana Pedreiro, Secretary-Treasurer
Telephone 650-321-2723
Email: oconnorwater@gmail.com

O'Connor Tract Co-Operative Water Co., System 4110019
P.O. Box 1375, Palo Alto, California 94302-1375

Day of the horse

Woodside celebrated its 11th annual Day of the Horse on Saturday, Oct. 10, with the theme of “Fiesta de Caballo,” saluting Spanish horse culture. Sponsored by the Woodside-area Horse Owners Association, the event included trail rides, fun stuff for kids, Wells Fargo Stagecoach rides and information about local riding programs and lessons.



Photos by Magali Gauthier

Clockwise from top left: Julia Birdwell gives Captin a break at a checkpoint during the Progressive Trail Ride. Cisco Jim rides Silverado on his way to the Mounted Patrol Grounds in Woodside, where he will perform live music. Riders in costume celebrate this year’s Woodside Day of the Horse theme, Spanish horse culture.



Mimosas and atheism: Richard Dawkins comes to Kepler’s Books

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

More than 100 audience members gave a standing ovation at a recent reading by world-renowned scientist and stalwart atheist Richard Dawkins at Kepler’s Books in Menlo Park.

While people sipped mimosas provided by Kepler’s, Mr. Dawkins read from his book, “A Brief Candle in the Dark,” the second volume of his memoirs, and answered questions.

The sold-out event on Oct. 4 was moderated by David Cowan of Bessemer Venture Partners in Menlo Park. Mr. Cowan described the impact Mr. Dawkins’ earlier works had on him when he was younger and more religious, an experience shared by a number of those in attendance.

Gina Figliozzi from Sunnyvale, who had studied Mr. Dawkins’ work in college, said, “You should be free to ask any

questions that you want.” Mr. Dawkins, she said, “represents doing that in a scientific way.”

Mr. Dawkins said that the book’s title was an amalgamation of two quotes: the first from Carl Sagan, who used the phrase “Science as a Candle in the Dark” as a subtitle in one of his books; and the second, from Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” — “Out, out, brief candle! Life’s but a walking shadow”

He read several humorous excerpts from his memoir, telling stories of adventures at Oxford and a whimsical search for props in advance of giving the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures.

During the Q&A, he answered questions on a range of topics, including his perspectives on the future of artificial intelligence, how he responds to criticism, and his hopes for the next generation.

On artificial intelligence: “It’s highly plausible to me that we’re underestimating the power of

computers in the future.”

On responding to criticism: “Ignorance is no crime,” he said. “It’s the business of a scientist and educator to challenge it.”

On the next generation: “I want to break the cycle of superstition and religion, and I think the real problem is the power of childhood indoctrination,” he said, citing the tradition of children being labeled and raised with the same religion as their parents. “How dare you presume to label a child with an opinion it’s far too young to understand,” he said.

Marie Bertrand of Los Altos Hills said she came to the event because Richard Dawkins represents a “good anchor” for other atheists who may face rejection from society.

Kristen Carnohan and Torin Herndon also attended. Mr. Herndon introduced Ms. Carnohan to Richard Dawkins more than two years ago, when she was Catholic. He said Mr. Dawkins was a useful resource

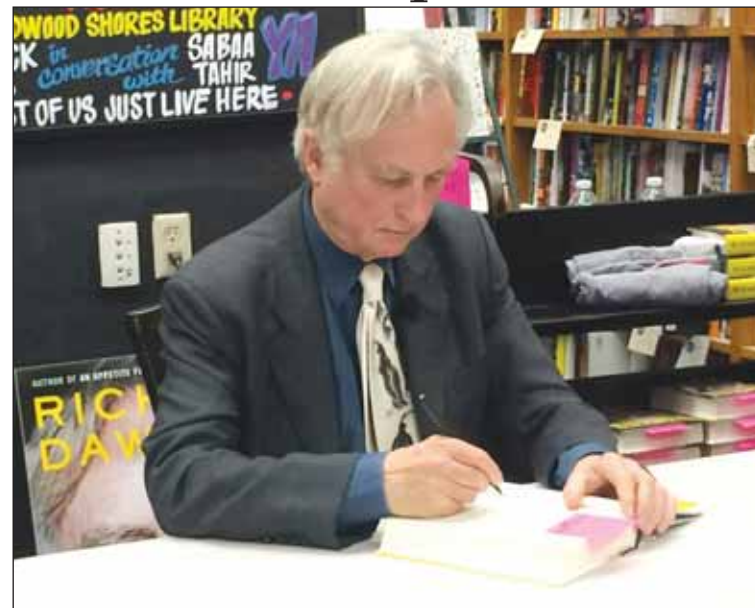


Photo by Kate Bradshaw/The Almanac

Richard Dawkins signs copies of his new book, “A Brief Candle in the Dark,” at Kepler’s Books on Oct. 4.

in explaining his atheism to her, and played a transformative role in her becoming an atheist too.

He added that it was exciting

to see a public intellectual figure “fill out all these seats.”

“You could hear the passion in the audience,” he said. ■

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WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All letters must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.TheAlmanacOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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Call the Viewpoint desk at
223-6528.

Endorsements: Local school board races

Sequoia Union High School District

With plans to build two new high schools in the works, the continuing roll-out of the Common Core curriculum, and the pressing need for solutions to the district's achievement gap, particularly evident at Menlo-Atherton High School, members of the Sequoia Union High School District board have important work ahead during the next four years.

There are four strong candidates for the three positions — three incumbents and one challenger, Georgia Jack. The Almanac is endorsing incumbents Laura Martinez, Carrie Du Bois and Allen Weiner, who each adds something distinctive to the board and deserves another term.

Laura Martinez is the newest person on the five-member board, having been appointed in March to serve out Olivia Martinez's term. A former East Palo Alto council member who grew up in that city, she works for the charter school organization Aspire Public Schools and has worked as a tutor and mentor of middle school girls. The first in her family to go to college, Ms. Martinez is committed to supporting children of underprivileged backgrounds, including continuing the district's push toward working with the low-income Ravenswood Elementary School District to better prepare children in its schools for high school.

Ms. Martinez is also on the committee designing the new magnet high school in Menlo Park, expected to open in 2018. She should be allowed to continue her work collaborating on this and other important projects during the next four years as a board member.

Carrie Du Bois has an enthusiasm for exploring innovative ideas, and a passion for finding ways to provide social and emotional support for at-risk kids. After 10 years of board service, she is not only knowledgeable about district programs and the possibilities for improving those that need it, she also has looked outside the district to learn about other successful approaches to educate and support local students.

Ms. Du Bois, a real estate agent and San Carlos resident, has also been active in regional and state school board associations, and is hoping to continue that valuable work as she serves another term on the Sequoia board. She deserves that opportunity, and the chance to continue her leadership role locally.

Allen Weiner, a senior lecturer at Stanford law school and a Menlo Park resident, has been a dynamic force during his four years on the board. He is serving his second consecutive term as board chairman, and wants to continue working toward closing the achievement gap and moving the district leadership toward evaluating existing and future programs through strategic, data-

driven assessment to achieve the best possible results.

The child of immigrants and product of a working-class family, Mr. Weiner says that "the opportunity for success that I had was directly linked to public schools." That appreciation led him to volunteer as an English teacher for immigrant kids at M-A, and motivates him to contribute to the schools as a board member. We believe he deserves another term.

Woodside Elementary School District

There are three names on the ballot for the Woodside Elementary School District board, but in a late development, challenger Joel Hornstein has announced he is suspending his campaign after three board members not up for re-election threw their support behind his opponents. District residents shouldn't be concerned that they are left without good choices. Incumbents Kevin Johnson, elected to the board four years ago, and Silvia Edwards, appointed last spring to replace Rudy Driscoll after he resigned, are two deeply committed board members asking voters for another term, and the Almanac endorses them.

Mr. Hornstein said in a statement over the weekend that he would still be willing to serve if voters decided to support him despite his decision to suspend the campaign. But we believe the district would be better served by the incumbents, and would give Mr. Hornstein a "C" on his report card for the way he conducted his campaign. During a public forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters, he challenged Mr. Johnson's school board attendance record — a legitimate topic. The problem wasn't the challenge, but the methodology used to calculate Mr. Johnson's absences, which produced inflated absenteeism figures.

Even more troubling, Mr. Hornstein made erroneous statements about the enrollment of two of Mr. Johnson's children at the school. He told the Almanac that he gleaned the information from a third-party source, and didn't check it out before publicly declaring it as fact.

In his statement last weekend, Mr. Hornstein implicitly criticized the three school board members who endorsed the incumbents, saying that he regrets "that they felt it necessary to close ranks behind Mr. Johnson so as to keep accountability and criticism out of their board meetings." There is no evidence for this conclusion, and Mr. Hornstein should acknowledge the possibility that the board members' endorsements may have had more to do with concerns over his poor judgment as he conducted his campaign rather than fear of "accountability and criticism." ▣

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Looking back

The current Atherton council chambers, shown in this undated photo, was not only used for council meetings beginning in March 1929, but also housed the town's police department and city clerk's office, according to the Atherton history book "Under the Oaks" by Pamela Gullard and Nancy Lund. The building, in the town's civic center, was constructed with revenue from a \$35,000 bond issued in 1927, the historians write. Under a conceptual design for a new civic center approved last week by the City Council, the historic building would be renovated to serve as an extension of a new \$13.5 million library.



Atherton Heritage Association

Is the county for corporations or for citizens?

By Margy Kahn

Three years ago Warren Slocum was elected to represent District Four on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. Before being elected he talked about how much he cared about the quality of life in the neighborhoods of North Fair Oaks (NFO). For a while after he was elected, he regularly held open houses for people to come and tell him what needed to be fixed after years of neglect and high-handed policies by the previous incumbent.

Citizens stepped forward with issues that had been plaguing them for years. One issue that was raised was about an obnoxious, loud, low-frequency rumbling noise that was keeping people awake at night. I had heard this noise too, but after calling the county and being told I was imagining things, I had managed to tune it out, or so I thought.

Other neighbors pursued this problem. They found out where the noise was coming from — a data connectivity center that had probably been forced to move out of Menlo Park proper because of noise complaints there. Moving into NFO has been the answer for many businesses that want to evade any oversight. But newly elected Supervisor Slocum took the complaint seriously. He ordered a noise study done and met with officials at the company. The people at the

plant refused to cooperate. They even denied that they had been causing the noise, and the county took no action.

Another case of business interests taking precedence over the rights of citizens arose several years ago. Neighbors complained after a county planner allowed a catering business with a fleet of trucks and a 24/7 kitchen to operate on a tiny lot surrounded by residences. When nearby neighbors complained about stench, noise, and traffic all hours of the day and night,

county officials wrung their hands and said they were powerless to change anything. Finally, the business was shut down. But not because of its numerous documented violations of county codes, but because someone finally checked the records and found they had not paid their taxes for several years in a row!

Now we have Surf Air and the county's dereliction of its duty toward tax-paying citizens seems to have risen to new heights. Apologists for Surf Air fill the online blogs with their rants about what whiney babies the rest of us are. Don't we realize that this is the price of progress? What's a little noise?

Other people talk about how the noise needs to be studied more. Teachers in the neighborhood have reported little children running to them in fear when Surf Air flights come in for landing. Do we really need a study when neighbors have to stop their conversations

while Surf Air planes are overhead? And does San Mateo County truly have no power to regulate the number of flights landing at a county-maintained airport? Is the sky the limit when it comes to elite "charter" flights bearing a few passengers who don't want to be bothered with the security procedures that apply to the rest of us?

Kudos to the members of the Atherton City Council. They have no problem standing up for their residents when their rights are being trampled on. They held a community meeting over a year ago to let neighbors speak to the issue. In addition they wrote a strongly worded letter letting county officials know what we want from them.

Now is time for supervisors Don Horsley and Slocum to step to the fore and show true leadership. Not to convene costly and lengthy "study committees" to obfuscate the issues. They need to tell us the powers they have and how they will use them to help us.

I especially call on Supervisor Slocum to come forward. After all, he ran specifically on the issue of improving the quality of life for the residents of North Fair Oaks. It is time to put the interests of citizens ahead of corporate power. Contact Warren Slocum at 650-363-4570 and wslocum@smcgov.org and Don Horsley at 650-363-4569 and dhorsley@smcgov.org with your views about Surf Air.

Margy Kahn has lived in North Fair Oaks for over 34 years.



GUEST OPINION

out in front of him, on the carpet, that he was ignorant of the adults working their way around him. In time he stacked them, rose, and moved toward an adult.

Perhaps this childhood pleasure will cause this young fellow to continue to turn book pages, as he ages, in this fast-accelerating digital world.

*Bill Russ
Cotton Street, Menlo Park*

What's on your mind?

From City Hall politics and the schools to transportation and other pressing issues, the Almanac aims to keep readers informed about their community. But we also want to hear from you.

Tell us what's on your mind by sending your letters to letters@AlmanacNews.com. Or snail-mail them to: The Almanac, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Delightful vignette at the local library

Editor:

Walking into the library I was delighted with a boy plopped right in the middle of the lobby. He was concentrating so hard on three picture books spread

Gallop

Ventures

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Gallop Ventures - Where self discovery and personal growth happens naturally — utilizing equine therapy, art therapy and the power of mother nature!

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TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSIONERS NEEDED

The Portola Valley Town Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the Planning Commission (2 vacancies) through January 2020. The Planning Commission consists of five members appointed by the Town Council, and meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

The Planning Commission is responsible for addressing policy matters related to general land use and development in Town. The commission provides recommendations to the Town Council on legislative actions such as amendments to the Zoning Code and the General Plan. In addition, the commission reviews and acts on certain types of applications, such as conditional use permits, subdivisions and variances as well as reviewing appeals of ASCC and administrative staff decisions.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council by 5pm on Wednesday, November 4, 2015. The Town Council will conduct interviews at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 11, 2015. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Planning Director Debbie Pedro at dpedro@portolavalley.net or (650) 851-1700 x218.



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
ARCHITECTURAL AND SITE CONTROL
COMMISSIONERS NEEDED**

The Portola Valley Town Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the Town's Architectural and Site Control Commission (2 vacancies) through January 2020. The ASCC consists of five members appointed by the Town Council, and meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

The ASCC is charged with the review and approval of design review applications and site development permits, including applications for new homes, second units, larger additions, second story additions, and commercial buildings. In addition, the ASCC provides comments on conditional use permits, subdivisions, variances and other matters referred by the Town Council, the Planning Commission, or Town Staff.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council by 5pm on Wednesday, November 4, 2015. The Town Council will conduct interviews at a regular meeting on November 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Planning Director Debbie Pedro at dpedro@portolavalley.net or (650) 851-1700 x218.

■ POLICE CALLS

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

WEST MENLO PARK

Thefts:

- Two rings were stolen from the center console of a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of Sand Hill Road. Damage has been done to the plastic trim around a latch on the rear hatch. Estimated loss: \$2,500. Sept. 24.
- Someone entered an unlocked vehicle parked on Alpine Road and Piers Lane and stole personal property. Estimated loss: \$2,053. Sept. 21.

WOODSIDE

Auto burglary: Someone broke the left rear passenger window of a locked vehicle parked at Lawler Ranch and Sand Hill roads and stole a computer case containing a computer and a wallet. No estimate on losses. Sept. 29.

Thefts:

- Two bicycles left unlocked and unattended in front of Buck's restaurant were stolen by someone reported to have driven away in a red Jeep Cherokee. Estimated loss: \$6,000. Sept. 26.

■ A stranger from Redwood City was found to be in possession of mail belonging to a resident of Kings Mountain Road. Sept. 25.

Traffic accident: A person driving west on an uphill portion of state Highway 84 was taken to Stanford Hospital with major injuries after the vehicle left the road and struck a large tree. Sept. 26.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Traffic accident: A woman driving north on Portola Road may have fallen asleep at the wheel before crashing into a power pole and suffering a laceration to her upper lip. She was taken to Stanford Hospital with a complaint of head pain. Sept. 23.

MENLO PARK

Residential burglaries:

- A thief entered a house on Terminal Avenue and stole \$1,100 in cash. Oct. 9.
- Someone entered an unlocked garage on O'Connor Street and stole a reciprocating saw, two electrical cords and a pair of landscaping shears. Estimated loss: \$150. Sept. 29.

Auto burglaries:

- A car stereo and battery were stolen from a locked vehicle parked in the 900 block of Willow Road. It's unclear how the thief got into the vehicle. Estimated loss: \$400. Oct. 6.

■ A vehicle parked in the 1200 block of El Camino Real was found with a rear window smashed and a suitcase containing clothing and a GPS device stolen. Estimated loss: \$325. Oct. 6.

Thefts:

- A bicycle was stolen from under a stairwell of an apartment on Laurel Street. Estimated loss: \$3,000. Sept. 30.
- Locked bikes were stolen from two bike racks at apartment complexes — one on Sharon Park Drive and another on Sharon Road. Estimated losses: \$1,400 and \$800. Oct. 7.
- Several watches were reported stolen from a home on Rose Avenue. Oct. 9.
- A man left his cellphone on the counter at Tri-E-Z Foods & Liquor in the 1800 block of El Camino Real, but it was gone when he came back to retrieve it. Estimated loss: \$600. Oct. 2.
- A thief stole a woman's purse from an unlocked office inside an office building on Menlo Avenue. Estimated loss: \$374. Sept. 28.
- Someone stole a laptop computer from an unlocked vehicle parked near Menlo Avenue and Curtis Street. Estimated loss: \$300. Sept. 25.

■ A package was stolen from the porch of a home on Hollyburne Avenue. Estimated loss: \$220. Oct. 7.

■ A glass terrarium was stolen from in front of an apartment on Noel Drive. Estimated loss: \$70. Sept. 30.

■ Someone stole an unattended stroller from the vicinity of the corner of Monte Rosa and Sharon Park drives. Estimated loss: \$50. Sept. 30.

Fraud:

■ A woman cashed what employees at the Wells Fargo bank of Santa Cruz Avenue discovered the next day to be a bad check for \$1,630. Sept. 28.

■ A woman entered the Wells Fargo bank on Santa Cruz Avenue and tried, unsuccessfully, to cash a fraudulent check. Sept. 25.

■ A man unwittingly handed over a counterfeit \$50 bill when trying to pay for services at the Chevron gas station on Willow Road. The clerk saw the bill for what it was. Police were called and an investigation is underway. Sept. 29.

Throwing substance at vehicle: Police arrested a Menlo Park man on suspicion of having thrown a bath towel from the side of the road that hit a passing motorcyclist in the face. There were no injuries, and the rider narrowly avoided crashing. Oct. 2.



**TOWN OF ATHERTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Atherton Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider adopting an Ordinance amending Atherton Municipal Code Chapter 6.04, modifying the fowl regulations.

Summary changes to the ordinance:

- Amend the code to allow up to twelve fowl on properties less than two acres.
- Require fowl be maintained within a fenced area on the property with setback requirements.
- Require chicken coops comply with setback requirements.
- Require chicken coop maintenance.
- Continue to allow 40 fowl on properties greater than two acres.

The code amendment is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15305, minor alternation in land use limitation.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that said item is set for hearing by the Planning Commission at its regular meeting on October 28, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Town Hall of the Town of Atherton, at which time and place all persons interested may appear and show cause, if they have any, why the code amendment should or should not be adopted.

IF YOU CHALLENGE the code amendment in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Any attendee who wishes accommodation for a disability should contact the City Clerk at (650) 752-0529 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. For additional information please contact Lisa Costa Sanders, Town Planner at 650-333-0248 or lcostasanders@ci.atherton.ca.us.

Last Two Weeks!

Autumn in Woodside

**Oct. 17 & 18
Saturday|Sunday**

Woodside Pumpkin Festival • Continues

Only 2 minutes from downtown Woodside. Why drive for 2 hours to Half Moon Bay? A portion of the proceeds benefits schools and equestrian causes in the area. Mounted Patrol Grounds. 9 am to 5 pm. Free admission.
www.Woodsidepumpkinfestival.com

**Oct. 24 & 25
Saturday|Sunday**

Woodside Pumpkin Festival • Final weekend

Final days of the festival. Enjoy quality family time while searching for the pumpkin that is perfect for you. Help support local schools and equestrian activities in the area. Mounted Patrol Grounds. 9 am to 5 pm. Free admission.
www.Woodsidepumpkinfestival.com

Events are held at the Mounted Patrol Grounds, 521 Kings Mountain Road, Woodside.
See map at <http://www.mpsmc.org>
The Mounted Patrol Foundation, a 501c3 supports all of the events above, and is assisting in the advertising of events.

Tutors sought

Project Read-Menlo Park will hold orientation sessions for volunteer tutors who help adults learn to read and write.

A session will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 17, in the downstairs meeting room at the Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St. in Menlo Park. There will be a follow up session from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 14, in the conference room at the Arrillaga Family Gymnasium, 600 Alma St. in the Civic Center.

No experience is necessary for volunteers, hours are flexible, and Project Read supplies all materials. Visit projectreadmenlo-park.org or call (650) 330-2525 for more information.

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Woodside **\$4,650,000**
 Downtown location with country equestrian appeal. Studio guest cottage with full kitchen. 4 BR/4 BA
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Menlo Park **\$3,495,000**
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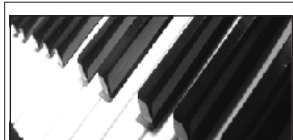
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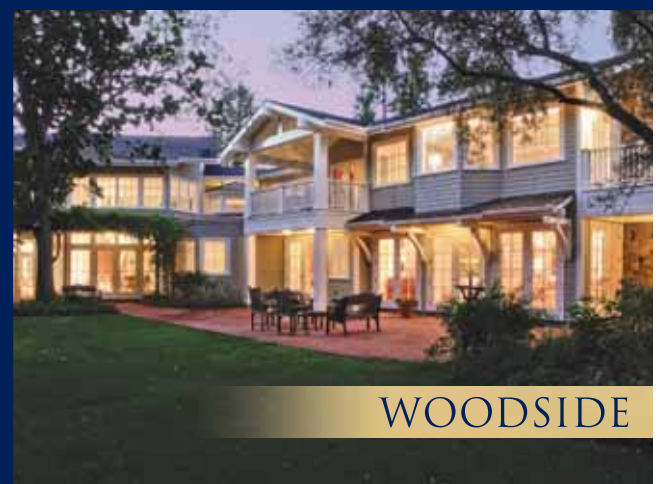
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