

The Almanac

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

NOVEMBER 25, 2015 | VOL. 51 NO. 12



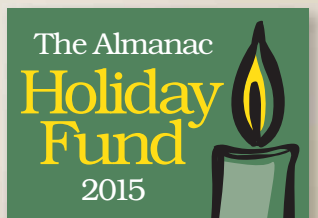
WWW.THEALMANACONLINE.COM



New health center serves more children and families

When you donate to
the Holiday Fund, you
help families in need

PAGE 12

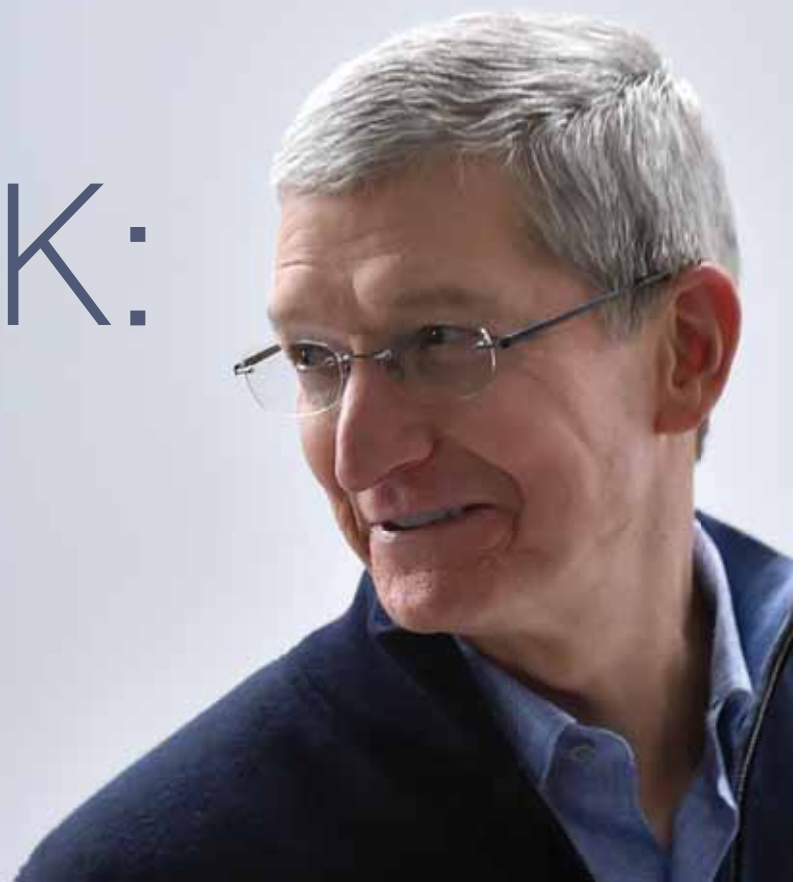


Inside this issue
Holiday Gift Guide



TIM COOK:

Will you help corporate America *think differently* about middle class jobs?



The utility Pacific Power — owned by Berkshire Hathaway Energy — provides power for Apple's major data center in Prineville, Oregon. But the company is now treating its workers so poorly that many are leaving for competitors — jeopardizing the reliability of Apple's data service. That's bad for Apple, but it's also bad for the middle class.

When companies as profitable as Berkshire Hathaway try to squeeze skilled workers out of the middle class, we should all speak up. And when these giant corporations put their profits before the service and reliability their customers depend on, we think they have a right to know.

Apple can't thrive without reliable power. America can't thrive without a vibrant middle class. Pacific Power can't service the Prineville center without the highly-trained workers who are now leaving their jobs.

MR. COOK:

Let Pacific Power president Stefan Bird know that reliable power is important and so are the skilled workers who ensure it.

Paid for by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.



The family arrives in Woodside for Thanksgiving (circa 1919).

Thanksgivings present and past

By Marie Krenz

WOODSIDE MEMORIES

This year we are all looking forward to Thanksgiving with special anticipation. It looks as though almost all the family will be together, including the distant Maryland branch.

This is important to me, because I am the only family survivor of my generation to enjoy the property Grandfather bought almost one hundred years ago.

My two sisters-in-law and I leave our week day homes to spend every weekend in Woodside. We enjoy being together and preparing the Sunday dinner for ourselves and for any of our children and grandchildren who come to enliven our day.

Sometimes it's difficult to know how many (or if any) of the younger generation will come, but somehow we always seem to have enough for everyone.

My childhood was filled with weekends and summers spent in our Woodside house. On those Sundays there were always nine of the family at the table, plus

three regulars, and any drop-ins who ventured south from faraway San Francisco.

Because our Sundays are quieter now, Thanksgiving is a joyful reminder of the past as sons and daughters, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends drive through the gate.

Everyone does what he likes best. Some go walking in the woods, some play ping-pong, some sit and chat, and one dear nephew wants to repair what-

ever needs help. Little people run around outside or ride their tricycles.

As for the dinner, each family contributes something. I'm happy to do the vegetables, including creamed onions, which some adore and others detest. Of course, there's turkey, salad, dessert, and other good things. So far it hasn't happened, but we always worry that we'll end up with no salad and too many desserts. Someone picks a few rusty hydrangeas for the table, and we are ready.

Everything is peaceful these days, but we had a few difficult times with guests in years past. Aunt Grace who finally grabbed Uncle Edward after a courtship of 20 years, was usually the source of contention. Grandmother, who was probably the one who delayed the nuptials, didn't particularly like Grace, and Grace returned the favor.

One family member, Lawrence, was a good person, but he had a knack for always saying the wrong thing, particularly



Aunt Grace and Uncle Edward.

See **THANKSGIVINGS** page 7

CALLING ON THE ALMANAC

Newsroom: **223-6525**
 Newsroom fax: **223-7525**
 Advertising: **854-2626**
 Advertising fax: **223-7570**
 Classified ads: **854-0858**

■ E-mail news, information, obituaries and photos (with captions) to: editor@AlmanacNews.com
 ■ E-mail letters to the editor to: letters@AlmanacNews.com

THE ALMANAC (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Wednesday by Embarcadero Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County, The Almanac is delivered free to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. Subscriptions for \$60 per year or \$100 per 2 years are welcome. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Copyright ©2014 by Embarcadero Media, All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

To request free delivery, or stop delivery, of The Almanac in zip code 94025, 94027, 94028 and the Woodside portion of 94062, call **854-2626**.

Stanford
Property & Finance

As heard on:



CAN YOU SELL YOUR RENTAL, DOUBLE YOUR INCOME, AND NOT PAY TAXES? YES! CALL DR. CHUCK!



Dr. Chuck Fuery
 Toll Free: **1-888-NO-TAXES**
www.stanfordpf.com
"Using his strategy, I saved over \$800,000 in taxes" - Bob B., Palo Alto
Stanford Property & Finance is a local real estate company serving clients for over 25 years and is not affiliated with Stanford University.

Come by and see us some time... we have the open door policy!

CHARLIE PORTER
650-327-1313

Serving the community for over 26 years!

Charlie Porter Farmers® Agency
 License # 0773991
 671-A Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park
cporter2@farmersagent.com



Our 43rd Year!

Menlo Park Kiwanis Club
Christmas Tree

Beautiful Noble Fir Trees delivered Weekly – FRESH from Oregon
We carry wreaths

Located: On the Stanford Campus next to the Football Stadium on El Camino Real near Embarcadero Road in Palo Alto
Opens: Friday, Nov. 27 2014
Hours: Weekdays - 1 PM-8 PM
Weekends - 9 AM-8 PM
Closed Game Days

Delivery Available

Proceeds from your tree purchase goes to support many local organizations:
 ♦ Scholarships for Menlo Atherton Graduates
 ♦ Saint Anthony's Dining Room ♦ Local Adopt-a-Teacher



BULLY DOCUMENTARY WITH LEE HIRSCH

Creating a **safe** community

Wednesday, December 2, 2015
7:00-9:00 pm
Hillview Middle School
Performing Arts Center
1100 Elder Ave.



Over 13 million American kids endure bullying each year, making it the most common form of violence experienced by young people.

BULLY is a beautifully cinematic, character-driven documentary which brings human scale to this startling statistic, offering an intimate, unflinching look at how bullying has touched five kids and their families. It captures a growing movement among parents and youths to change how bullying is handled in schools, in communities and in society as a whole.

JOIN US FOR

- FREE Screening
- Q&A with the award-winning author and director

ABOUT THE FILM

- Running time: 98 minutes
- Rated R. Movie may not be suitable for all audiences. Parental discretion is advised

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit menlopark.org/bullyproject
- Call 650-330-2220

Event partners:



Because **Living
at Home** is the
Best Way to Live

**Call one of our Clients Care Managers today
for your free consultation!**



650-462-6900
148 Hawthorne Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
www.HomeCareAssistance.com

Help your senior loved one live safely and independently at home with premier care from Home Care Assistance.

24/7 Live-In Care Specialists. We offer the highest quality around-the-clock care for the most competitive price - guaranteed.

The Trusted Choice for Caregivers. Each has at least 2 years of experience and receives extensive training through our Home Care Assistance University. All applicants are thoroughly screened, including DOJ background checks, and a proprietary psychological exam designed to assess honesty and conscientiousness.

Experienced with Advanced Care Needs. Our caregivers are experienced with caring for clients with special conditions such as Alzheimer's, stroke and Parkinson's. We also develop more customized care plans and training for these clients.

Brain Health Experts. We are the only home care agency that offers Cognitive Therapeutics, a research-backed activities program that promotes brain health and vitality in our clients.

Serving happy clients in Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton!

Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Costs soar for plans to build new high schools

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Price inflation has exacted a toll on Sequoia Union High School District plans to build two new small high schools to address 2013-14 projections of a 22 percent surge in district enrollment by 2020, including up to 25 percent more students at Menlo-Atherton High School.

The district planned to build two new 400-student schools — one in the M-2 industrial district on the east side of Menlo Park and the other in San Carlos — using \$64 million of the \$265 million bond money authorized by voters in June 2014.

But instead of spending \$10 million to buy land for the two schools, the district spent \$13 million, Chief Facilities Officer Matthew Zito said. And now, a Nov. 18 report by Mr.

Zito shows the cost impact on the remaining \$54.4 million meant to build the two schools: The cost for the Menlo Park school alone — assuming a 44,000-square-foot building at a cost of \$825 per square foot — will be \$36.3 million, a jump of 33 percent over the original allocation, Mr. Zito said.

The Menlo Park school would not be a simple classroom building, and its size will be important. Scheduled to open in the fall of 2018 with a focus on science, technology, math and engineering, the school would include innovations such as “learning studios” (classrooms 25 percent larger than usual), “learning commons” (1,000 square-foot areas around classroom clusters), a student union, and labs for engineering and maker spaces large enough for equipment, safety zones and collaborative learning, Mr. Zito said.

New Menlo Park school ‘will truly be the district’s most innovative,’ says Chief Facilities Officer Matthew Zito.

“This building will truly be the district’s most innovative,” he said.

Current plans do not include facilities for physical education, Mr. Zito said. Instead, students may be offered facilities at Canada Community College. A partnership between the Sequoia district and Canada College has long been included in district plans.

Superintendent Jim Lianides reminded the board of the necessity of deciding on the size of the Menlo Park school in January if it is to open on sched-

ule. As for the cost, splitting the \$54.4 million evenly between the two schools won’t do, he said. And there are no unallocated funds from Measure A to offset the inflationary effects, he added.

“Once we do this,” board President Allen Weiner said to the rest of the board, “it’s a little tough to unwind it. Clearly, this price will go beyond 50 percent of the funds set aside for small school construction.”

One option: A \$9 billion statewide school construction bond measure, which would need approval of a simple majority of voters to pass, is eligible for the statewide ballot in November 2016. The Sequoia district could request up to \$18 million if it’s approved, Mr. Zito said.

Enrollment

Data from the Sequoia district shows that as of October 2015, enrollment has declined in the

past year by about 2 percent at Carlmont and Woodside high schools, and has increased by 1 percent at Sequoia High, and by 6 percent at Menlo-Atherton High.

With respect to the “slight” decline at Woodside High, Superintendent Lianides noted that while the cost of living may be driving families out of parts of Redwood City that are gentrifying, the offsetting effect of apartments now under construction in Redwood City is unknown.

The data shows that at Woodside and M-A, enrollment in the ninth, 10th and 11th grades is well above that of the current senior classes.

“We certainly need to be very keenly observant of enrollment as we build out our schools,” Mr. Lianides said. “We’re in a time of a lot of change. ... I think the tide (of enrollment increases) is still coming.” ■

Menlo Park searches to define, prioritize ‘public benefits’

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

During its review of the El Camino Real/downtown specific plan Nov. 17, the City Council decided the city needs to prioritize the “public benefit” projects it wants done, and determine how to pay for them.

City guidelines in the specific plan decree that new developments greater than a certain size or height have to pay extra fees or give something back to the community in the form of a “public benefit.”

The problem, though, according to John Onken, chair of the city’s Planning Commission, is that the language in the specific plan on what exactly a public benefit is or should be — and by extension, what developers should be prepared to give to the city — is nebulous at best.

A public benefit can be an architecturally engaging building that draws people downtown; an outdoor plaza accessible to the public; or sometimes, he said, “a large brown envelope full of cash” developers give to

the city. (This metaphor drew a visible grimace from Mayor Catherine Carlton.)

With more clarity about what the city wants, Mr. Onken said, the Planning Commission could have greater authority to say, “We don’t want your ice sculpture; we want your money instead.”

Wish list

To clarify what the city wants and to make the process clearer for developers, Councilman Ray Mueller suggested that the city create a “wish list” to prioritize public benefit projects. Each item would come with a price tag or cost estimate.

Several projects in greatest demand by the community are expensive infrastructure changes, he said. Could there be a better way to fund those projects than with public benefit fees, which only enter the city’s coffers if and when developers want to build more than what the city’s current zoning allows downtown? Why not increase fees all developers are required



File photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Golden Shears barbershop owner Louie Arenas works on first-time client Max Weigl on May 9, 2013.

Golden Shears barbershop up for sale

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

A change in ownership may be ahead for the Golden Shears barbershop in downtown Menlo Park.

After more than five decades cutting hair at 814 Santa Cruz Ave., owner and barber Louis Arenas said his business is for sale, effective in December, and that he will be easing him-

self out and looking for a buyer.

“I’ve been here for 53 years. I’m getting a little bit slower. I’m already hitting 80,” he said. “I’m not tired of cutting hair or anything like that. I just want to do something a little bit different.”

The shop’s lease is up for renewal in May 2016, Mr. Arenas said. Ideally, he will find a new owner before the lease expires, he said. To smooth the

transition, he said he might stay involved with the shop until that new owner is established.

The plan, he said, is to minimize loose ends and leave the barbers at least “99 percent” satisfied with the change. “I’m not that weary,” he said. “I don’t walk out on anything. ... I’m looking for somebody

See **GOLDEN SHEARS** page 9

See **BENEFITS**, page 5



Cooler weather is coming, and so is a cool chance to win.

Thank you, Bear Gulch customers, for reducing your water use by **28.2%** in October compared with October 2013, and by **34.4%** since June. Please, keep up the good work so we can achieve the State mandate of **36%** every month through February 2016.

As the seasons change and the need to water outdoors eases, saving water indoors becomes even more important. California Water Service (Cal Water) has multiple tools, programs, and rebates to help you save and meet the State mandate. To learn more, visit calwater.com/conservation.

And, Cal Water is offering an additional incentive: From December through February, we will give \$50 gift cards to 25 lucky customers in the district whose names will be drawn from those customers who each month stayed at or below their water budget the previous month. Visit calwater.com/reward.

Menlo Park Fire District director joins board of county harbor district

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park resident Virginia Chang Kiraly, about to begin her second four-year term on the board of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District, has joined the board of the San Mateo County Harbor District.

Ms. Chang Kiraly, a former investment adviser and stock market trader, was appointed to the five-member harbor district board on Nov. 16 for one year of the three years remaining in the term for that seat. The vote was 3-1, with board member Sabrina Brennan dissenting, Ms. Chang Kiraly said.

Harbor District is in disarray.”

The report goes on to say that the district operates at significant yearly losses, that board meetings sometimes require police presence, that district financial reporting is “anything but transparent,” that records may be being destroyed, that seating arrangements at board meetings can be contentious, and that video recording of meetings are sometimes suspended.

“It is clear to the Grand Jury that the District commissioners are lacking in professional decorum and fiscal oversight, and that a lack of fiscal transparency makes it impossible

to determine exactly how taxpayers’ money is being used,” the report says.

A board that represents the entire county should be well-versed in proper

governance procedures, she said. “I have always been a good governance advocate and I think I can help,” she said.

Virginia Chang Kiraly says officials told her holding the two offices does not involve conflicting duties.



When the November 2016 election rolls around, Ms. Chang Kiraly will have had one year in office and will be eligible to run either for the remaining two years of her seat’s term, or for a four-year term for one of the other three seats be up for re-election, she said.

The harbor district board meets twice a month: the first Wednesday of the month in Half Moon Bay and the third Wednesday in South San Francisco, one day after the monthly meeting of the fire district board in Menlo Park.

Ms. Chang Kiraly’s goals, she said, are to bring financial acumen to the board and to move the board in the direction of “good governance.”

The board’s problems were outlined in a 2013-14 grand jury report. “There is no way to sugar coat the issue,” the report begins. “The commission governing the San Mateo County

Two offices

Ms. Chang Kiraly is holding two elected offices at the same time. State law prohibits such situations “if the offices have overlapping and conflicting public duties,” according to the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Ms. Chang Kiraly said she talked with officials in the San Mateo County Elections Office and was told that her situation does not embody such a conflict. The harbor district’s general manager and legal counsel concurred, she said.

When asked by the Almanac, the fire district’s counsel chose not to offer an opinion, and a spokeswoman for the state Attorney General’s Office said the Attorney General had no opinion. ▣

a few of your
favorite things

- **120+ GREAT STORES**
countless selection and gift ideas
- **HILLSDALE SHOPPING CENTER GIFT CARDS**
available online and at our Concierge
- **CONVENIENT COVERED PARKING**
hassle free shopping
- **EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS & GIFT WRAP SERVICE**
fit your busy schedule
- **PHOTOS WITH SANTA**
capture that joyous moment

FRIDAY, NOV. 27 HOURS: 8AM-10PM
VISIT HILLSDALE.COM FOR SELECTED HOURS ON THANKSGIVING DAY.

HILLSDALE
SHOPPING CENTER

NORDSTROM, MACY’S, FOREVER 21 AND SEARS |
OFF HWY. 101 AT HILLSDALE BLVD., SAN MATEO |
650 345-8222 | GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT OUR CONCIERGE |
VISIT HILLSDALE.COM FOR HOLIDAY HOURS AND SANTA’S HOURS.



expressTM

Fresh news delivered daily

Sign up today at AlmanacNews.com



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Mark Sweyer, co-owner of the Woodside Bakery & Cafe at 3052 Woodside Road, in a 2013 file photo.

Woodside Bakery owners told to close by Jan. 15

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

Woodside residents Mark Sweyer and his sister Jan Sweyer, since 2006 the co-owners of the popular Woodside Bakery & Cafe at 3052 Woodside Road, said they have been told to close up shop and vacate the premises by Jan. 15.

Mr. Sweyer said that on Nov. 3, George Roberts, owner of the commercial site at the northwest corner of Woodside and Canada roads, asked Mr. Sweyer to come to his second-floor office across the road in Roberts Market and handed him a one-sentence letter informing him that the bakery and cafe had to go.

The Sweyers say they plan to ask Mr. Roberts for an extension until May to make the transition smoother and avoid bankruptcy.

Reached by phone on Nov. 23, Mr. Roberts' daughter, Christine Roberts, said she and her father had no comment for this story.

The Sweyers bought the business in 2006 with a 33-month lease and have been renting the property month-to-month for the last seven years, Mr. Sweyer said. He said they had always wanted a lease, but it never came to pass.

This turn of events was completely unexpected, Mr. Sweyer said. "I was going to give (the restaurant) to my son," he said. "Now we've got to switch gears and start all over again."

Plans for one part of that restart include a wholesale bakery in the M2 industrial zone of

Menlo Park, the Sweyers said.

"Our wholesaling will be our only means of survival," Ms. Sweyer said in an email. "This will also provide places for our customers to go to purchase the Woodside Bakery baked goods they've enjoyed over the past 30 years."

The restaurant and bakery now employ 65 people "that we have to lay off for Christmas," Ms. Sweyer said. "They cried. It was very emotional."

"We understand that we have to go," Ms. Sweyer said. "We are devastated by it. This is our home. ... As we go forward, we understand that we have no recourse. We have to go. What we really hope and ask for is that (Mr. Roberts is) compassionate enough to give us time to gather enough money to get back on our feet."

Meeting all the obligations within a few weeks is impossible, Mr. Sweyer said. Without a postponement, ideally until May, they will have to file for bankruptcy, Mr. Sweyer said. "We may leave earlier if we can get on our feet," he said.

"You have no time to put a financial exit package together ... and a schedule on how everyone will be paid," Ms. Sweyer said. "The tidal wave comes over your head and you're dead. ... We need to get as much as we can so we can pay our bills and survive."

"This is about being so sad that we cannot continue going forward in the community that we grew up in and we have to leave," Ms. Sweyer said. "I would hope that the community would come to our aid and support us." ■

THANKSGIVINGS

continued from page 3

to Grace. On one Thanksgiving, Grace brought a delicious cake from a special bakery, and she pointed out that it was pure butter and cream. Trying to be gracious, Lawrence said it looked like it was all blown up with a bicycle pump. Grace shrieked, grabbed Uncle Edward and headed for their car. After that, we learned never to seat Lawrence near Grace.

That poor lady was always

good to us children, but somehow she couldn't get along with adults.

One friend and a regular at Thanksgiving always arrived with a long face and a sour disposition, which caused my brother to say, "Well there goes the happy hour."

Those days are long gone, and although I'll always miss my forebears, I find the Thanksgivings of today are far more restful.

Marie Wagner Krenz is a freelance writer from Orinda who spends weekends in Woodside at the old family home.

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.

Call us anytime
you need
an extra hand!



(650) 328-1001
www.careindeed.com
890 Santa Cruz Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025



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

**PLANNING COMMISSION
December 2, 2015
6:00 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3. Craig Adams and Anne Myong
623 Southdale Way | VARI2015-0005; VARI2015-0006
Planner: Sage Schaan, Principal Planner |
|--|---|

Review and approval/denial of Variances to setback and height requirements, to permit additions to the main residence which encroach into the east side and the rear (north) setbacks.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4. WMC Chapter 151, Site Development,
Including New Development Standards for Basements | ZOAM2015-0003
Planner: Jackie Young, Planning Director |
|--|---|

Continued (Fourth Review – Full Chapter 151): Review and recommend approval, conditional approval, or denial to the Town Council of an ordinance to amend and update Woodside Municipal Code Chapter 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; 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.

**SUPPORT LOCAL
JOURNALISM**

Support
The Almanac's print
and online coverage
of our community.

Join today: SupportLocalJournalism.org/Almanac

Changes council wants in downtown plan

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

What can the city of Menlo Park do to improve its downtown?

After the city spent five years, from 2007 to 2012, trying to answer that question, it came up with the El Camino Real/downtown specific plan. On Nov. 17, the City Council began its first biennial review of the plan.

Council members gave direction to the city staff on a list of recommended changes. No votes were taken, but the council appeared to generally concur on a number of changes.

Public benefits fund

Creating a fund separate from the city's general fund would allow the city to earmark fee and public benefit payments from developers to be used specifically for downtown improvements. At present, all developer fees go into the city's general fund and may be spent elsewhere in Menlo Park's budget.

The idea was put forward by the Planning Commission in its last meeting, and was generally supported by council members. Councilman Peter Ohtaki asked if city revenue generated by its 12 percent hotel tax downtown would also be included in those earmarked funds.

Council members agreed that funds should be earmarked for public benefit projects.

Parking

The council wants staff to propose new parking standards for buildings in and around the Caltrain station area, as well as for hotels and "personal improvement services," such as fitness studios.

Parking requirements, council members said, should create enough spots to prevent "spillover" — the term for when parking is so limited that drivers park in residential neighborhoods — yet not create so much parking that it reduces incentives to bicycle or other alternative modes of transport.

The parking rate emerged as a problem in the eyes of several planning commissioners recently when developers of a planned three-story office building at 1020 Alma St. were required under the specific plan to install 75 parking spaces in an expensive two-story underground lot, even though the

site is across the street from the Caltrain station, and many potential workers there would be able to ride the train.

Councilman Rich Cline asked transportation manager Nikki Nagaya point-blank if the city's current parking requirements were too high. Her response? A simple "yes."

Alternative transportation

Council members agreed with staff that setting procedures for "transportation demand management" — basically attempting to reduce single-occupancy car trips — was important.

Menlo Park has already agreed to a county framework to measure how many trips new development might add, but it has yet to create standards for exactly what level of added trips would be permissible.

To promote the use of fuel-efficient vehicles, the staff recommended that new office developments be required to install electric vehicle charging stations.

Setbacks and sidewalks

The staff proposed changes to clarify rules for setbacks (how much a building is set back from its property line) and to allow variances in the maximum front and side setbacks. This would allow developers to customize their plans to better protect heritage trees, for example.

A sidewalk width would be set for streets currently without sidewalks.

In addition, the maximum signage area, which is capped at 100 square feet, could be expanded for bigger developments. The change was proposed by Steve Pierce of Greenheart Land Co., which is planning to build an office-housing complex on 6.4 acres at 1300 El Camino Real. He said that with a development this size, with multiple retail sites, the allowed space for signs "just doesn't cut it."

At the council's Dec. 15 meeting, the staff plans to check back with the council to make sure the guidance was clear, and then move forward with analyzing the impact of those changes and drafting language for council approval. ■



Photo by Jennah Delp-Somers

Members of the Merlot Notes are, in front, from left, Alisa Mallari Tu of Redwood City, Karen Gilhuly of Woodside and Marion Robertson of Los Altos Hills; and in back, from left, Charlene Mattos of Menlo Park, Barbara Fies Brady, Alyson Illich and Deborah Romani of Portola Valley, Kathy Hovsmith of Woodside, and Maren Stever Park and Julie Ann Min of Menlo Park.

Singers give holiday performances

By Kate Daly
Special to the Almanac

A local group of 10 women will be singing their hearts out this holiday season, starting with caroling on Nov. 30 at some local assisted living facilities before fanning out to make public appearances.

The Merlot Notes formed last year out of a mutual love for singing and performing. All of the women are in their 40s and 50s and take time out of their busy family lives to meet every week and sing a

cappella over a glass of wine. As member Karen Gilhuly of Woodside puts it, "Singing is a lifelong pursuit and doing it in groups brings you happiness at any age."

The Merlot Notes will perform at Filoli's Holiday Traditions event on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m., and at Allied Arts Guild on Saturday, Dec. 5, from noon to 1 p.m.

The group is putting on a free holiday concert at Valley Presbyterian Church in Portola Valley at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13.

Donations will be collected at the door to support the local girls' choir program, iSing. The Merlot Notes' musical director Jennah Delp-Somers helped start the program and has invited some of the girls to join in the holiday concert.

The members are Karen Gilhuly and Kathy Hovsmith of Woodside; Barbara Fies Brady, Alyson Illich and Deborah Romani of Portola Valley; Maren Stever Park, Charlene Mattos and Julie Ann Min of Menlo Park; Alisa Mallari Tu of Redwood City; and Marion Robertson of Los Altos Hills. ■

City searches to define 'public benefits'

BENEFITS

continued from page 5

to pay, such as transportation impact fees and below-market-rate housing in-lieu fees, to leverage greater funding on the city's behalf?

If an analysis were to show that the only way to attain money for those projects was through public benefit funding, then, Mr. Mueller said, the city could think about lowering the project size at which developers are required to give public benefits. Doing so might increase the amount of funding available for the city's projects, but it might also drive developers elsewhere, he said, and in that case the city wouldn't get any funding.

"I'm concerned that the public benefits process, which is an ad hoc political process, is not the best way to be funding infrastructure," he said.

'Is the plan accomplishing what you want it to?'

PATTI FRY, FORMER PLANNING COMMISSIONER

Mixed use

"Is the (specific) plan accomplishing what you want it to?" asked Patti Fry, former planning commissioner and a Menlo Park resident, who urged the council during a public comment period to reflect on the impact the plan has had in its three years of implementation. She said that developments currently proposed to the city have skewed toward new office construction rather than retail or restaurants.

Councilman Rich Cline asked how the city can make sure it's getting a balance of residential, retail, restaurant and office

uses in the development proposals it sees.

"That's a really good question," Senior Planner Thomas Rogers replied.

Ms. Carlton said that she'd like to see some way to "incentivize the kind of businesses we want," such as restaurants. Mr. Mueller said he'd also like to see improved family-friendly entertainment downtown. Councilwoman Kirsten Keith said a public benefits list should give priority to projects like affordable housing, traffic reduction and bike infrastructure.

Creating priorities is a learning process, said Mayor Carlton. "Every time we have a new business come, we're learning. And every time we do a public benefit, we're learning," she said. "We may not come up with the perfect list, but that doesn't mean we can't try." ■

Boutique hotel may create \$600K in taxes in first year

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

‘Public benefits’ was a refrain at the Nov. 16 Menlo Park Planning Commission meeting, this time with regard to Pollock Financial Group’s proposal to build a four-story “boutique” hotel on a half-acre site at 1400 El Camino Real.

The issue: Should the city’s 12 percent hotel tax

Is that enough to meet Menlo Park’s ‘public benefit’ requirements?

count as the development’s primary public benefit, which is given in exchange for allowing the developer to exceed the city’s “baseline” building limit for the site?

In 2012, Menlo Park raised its hotel tax, known as a transient occupancy tax, to 12 percent from 10 percent in a ballot measure approved by 74 percent of the voters.

The measure stated that the tax would partially fill a \$1.2 million revenue gap created when the state dissolved Menlo Park’s redevelopment agency. That funds would be used “to maintain current City service levels for police, library, streets, sidewalks, storm drains, and parks and recreation facilities and programs,” the measure said.

Jeff Pollock, vice president of Pollock Financial Group, said the hotel is expected to generate \$8.5 million in transit occupancy tax revenue over 10 years, and approximately \$600,000 in its first year.

Other public benefits include the developer’s plan to pay for the installation of a dedicated right-turn lane from Glenwood Avenue onto El Camino Real. The hotel also would be

LEED Silver certified, although, according Planning Commissioner Katie Ferrick, that level of sustainability is not much higher than California’s current building standards.

New curbs, gutters and landscaping would be installed. Once in operation, Mr. Pollock said, the hotel would support local businesses, such as serving Beltramo’s wine to guests.

Planning Commissioner Drew Combs noted that if the primary benefit were to be city income from the hotel tax, it might set a precedent for retail developers to think sales tax could count toward the public benefit requirement. Ms. Ferrick replied that the transit occupancy tax is “orders of magnitude” greater than other tax incomes for the city and constitutes a separate category that should count toward the development’s public benefit requirement. “It’s not a slippery slope,” she said.

Even though the hotel’s proposed architecture complies with the specific plan, questions were raised about whether it is too corporate or bland. Planning Commissioner John Onken encouraged the developers to go back to their architects, “crack the whip, and tell them we want it to really sing,” referring to the building’s design.

“Don’t be afraid to go bold with this building and do something that’s a little bit different,” Planning Commissioner Larry Kahle said.

Mr. Pollock said he hopes to have redesigned hotel plans resubmitted by Thanksgiving. ▀

Mr. Arenas lives in Santa Clara and said he plans to stay there for the time being. He has a son in Arizona who has offered him a place to retire to, he added.

In the Almanac’s annual Readers’ Choice awards, readers named Golden Shears the “best barbershop” at least 12 times, Mr. Arenas said.

He attributes the shop’s popularity to its full-service offerings, including facials and shaves, and to the way he designed the interior. The waiting area is set apart, with comfortable seating.

“I wanted something different than waiting in front of the chairs,” he said. “It took off right away.” ▀

GOLDEN SHEARS

continued from page 5

who’s really interested in running a barbershop.”

Mr. Arenas said he will be keeping the property owner, Wilbur Properties, apprised of the transition.

Three of the shop’s barbers departed in late October to set up a new shop in West Menlo Park. Asked if that had anything to do with his decision, Mr. Arenas noted that barbers “come and go all the time. Somebody leaves, I don’t panic.” He said he plans to hire new barbers to rebuild the staff beyond the four barbers still working there.

BevMo!

DISCOVER THE NEW MENLO PARK

WINE EXPERIENCE

RAISE A GLASS — AND YOUR EXPECTATIONS



THE BEVMO! YOU LOVE JUST GOT BETTER. OUR EXCITING NEW WINE EXPERIENCE FEATURES A COMPLETELY REDESIGNED WINE AREA UNLIKE ANYTHING YOU’VE SEEN BEFORE. THIS IS A WHOLE NEW BEVMO! YOU WON’T BELIEVE YOUR EYES — OR TASTEBUDS



\$10 OFF
when you spend \$50 or more

BevMo!
COUPON

Coupon valid for in-store redemption only. No duplicate or copied coupons accepted. One-time use only and must surrender coupon upon redemption. \$50 spend requirement does not include sales tax, Washington state spirits tax (WA), CRV (CA), deposits, or shipping costs. Not valid with other offers, online purchases or on the purchase of gift cards. Valid through 12/6/2015.



COUPON EXPIRES: SUNDAY, 12/6/15

Coupon SKU: 111950

Galway, Ireland, to become 'Sister City'

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Bo Crane, a former Menlo Park resident, held up his phone to the microphone at the podium of the Menlo Park City Council Chambers. From its tiny speakers, a traditional Irish drinking song, called "Galway Bay," echoed plaintively.

"Thanks for your indulgence and go Galway!" he said as he returned to his seat.

His comments and musical presentation were in support of a resolution the Menlo Park City Council approved during its Nov. 17 meeting to enter a Sister Cities agreement with Galway, Ireland. The resolution also created a seven-member "Friendship and Sister City Committee" and authorized the city to join Sister Cities International, which helps member cities connect with dip-

■ MENLO PARK

lomats and volunteers across the country and world.

Council also approves 'Friendship & Sister City' Committee and becomes member of Sister Cities International.

Mayor Catherine Carlton proposed changing the title from "Sister City Committee" to "Friendship and Sister City Committee" to reflect the committee's goals to promote friendship agreements and partnerships with other locales around the world. She also recommended the committee be expanded to seven members instead of

five. The council approved the amendments unanimously.

During public comments, Jim Lewis expressed enthusiastic support for the proposal. He is a co-chair of "Two Menlos," a committee of the Menlo Park Historical Association that supports the friendship agreement between Menlo Park and Galway City, Ireland. He offered the council a "trip down memory lane" by describing Menlo Park's historical ties to Menlough, a town near Galway, Ireland, and Menlo Park's namesake.

Eagerness to show solidarity with the city's new Galwegian friends across the pond did not end there. Ms. Carlton said she has been speaking with owners of the Refuge restaurant in Menlo Park restaurant about having a St. Patrick's Day party there, to which she would invite Galway's mayor. ■

Service for R. Hollis Elliott, retired Menlo Park attorney

A celebration of the life of R. Hollis Elliott will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Harry's Hofbrau, 1909 El Camino Real, in Redwood City. Mr. Elliott, a longtime Menlo Park resident, died Nov. 1 of a massive heart attack at his home in Santa Rosa.

Mr. Elliott was born in Bozeman, Montana, and graduated from Gallatin County High School.

He spent a short time at the University of Montana before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corp. From 1954 to 1956, he spent much of his active duty aboard the USS Wasp.

In 1958 he moved his family to Menlo Park and attended Stanford University. He went on to graduate from Stanford

Law School in 1962.

After graduating from law school, he worked for the state of California.

In 1966 he went to Jackson, Mississippi, to volunteer with the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee of the ACLU. He represented African-Americans who had been charged with crimes and found it difficult to obtain representation in the segregated South.

He returned to Menlo Park and in 1968 joined the law firm of Jorgenson, Cosgrove, Flickinger, et al. In 1971 he began his work as a "small town lawyer" with partners Tom Nolan, Chan Flickinger and Brenda Cash, say family members. For the next 43 years the office at 841 Menlo Ave. was his second home, they say.

For years, he was a board member of the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce.

He retired in 2014 and moved, with his wife Debbie Devoto, to Oakmont in the Sonoma wine country. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Debbie; children Sherri-Ann Elliott and Roscoe Elliott; and brothers Pat and Corbin.



R. Hollis Elliott

**WARNING:
MAY INDUCE JOY**

Smuin Ballet Presents:

THE CHRISTMAS BALLET

DEC 9-11 • 8PM

DEC 12 • 2PM & 8PM

DEC 13 • 2PM

Mountain View Center

for the Performing Arts



Weston Krukow • Photo by Lois Greenfield

"THE
FRESHEST
SHOW IN
TOWN"
SAN FRANCISCO
CHRONICLE

Advisers sought

SamTrans is seeking public members to apply for the SamTrans Citizens Advisory Committee. The 15-member committee meets monthly and offers feedback on the needs of transit users and informs residents of transit programs on the Peninsula.

The committee meets at 6:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month at district headquarters, 1250 San Carlos Ave. in San Carlos.

For an application, call (650) 508-6279.

Tickets selling fast!

ORDER NOW FOR THE BEST SEATS

smuinballet.org • 650-200-2744

SMUIN
BALLET
CELIA FUSHILLE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The **Almanac**
AlmanacNews.com

LET'S DISCUSS:

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

Officials check out Atherton's drainage system

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

With a wet winter predicted and more than \$40 million in improvements said to be needed in Atherton's storm drain system, Atherton's City Council members attended a special meeting on Nov. 16 in hard hats, waterproof boots and safety vests for a first-hand look at some of the system.

The safety equipment came in handy as the council members started the tour by descending ladders into the Atherton Channel along Marsh Road near Bay Road at the town's border.

A recently updated master plan for the town's drainage system shows the Atherton Channel needs more than \$4 million in work just so it won't flood handling the type of storm expected at least once every 10 years. Very little of that work will be done by this winter, partially because the state is delaying giving the town permits to do the work.

The drainage report, an update of a 2001 report, says that the channel currently can handle only a seven-year storm without the water overtopping its banks. Both reports were by San Jose engineering consultants NV5. To handle even a 10-year storm, the town would need to build detention basins to hold overflow water, which would be released gradually at a storm's end.

The report shows three possible locations for the detention basins, described as excavated areas that are filled with drain rock or have underground storage and are then covered over, often with turf. The locations are the playing fields at Las Lomas School and Holbrook-Palmer Park and the polo fields at the Circus Club.

The town can't handle larger storms without regional cooperation, the report says, because

much of the flooding danger is due to factors beyond the town's borders, including the size of the drainage channel the Atherton Channel feeds into.

Another problem, the report says, is that 49 percent of the water that drains through Atherton comes from outside — Woodside, Stanford University land, Menlo Park, Redwood City and San Mateo County.

No one in the town seemed to know exactly when the Atherton Channel was built. The consultant's report says the town's drainage system was cobbled together in pieces starting when the first big estates were developed in the late 1800s.

The part of the Atherton Channel along Marsh Road has a concrete bottom with mortared stone side walls, some of them 9-feet high.

Even though the town cleaned the channel and made spot repairs

along Marsh Road in recent months, some stones have fallen since then and many ornamental garden plants are growing from cracks in the mortar.

The town will repair the channel walls from Middlefield Road to Fair Oaks Avenue in Redwood City once it gets permits from the state.

Council, town staff and a couple of intrepid members of the public, including an Almanac reporter, hiked the channel from the town borders to Middlefield Road, where it becomes a large tunnel. A varied array of graffiti showed that others had been there before.

They continued in the tunnel under Middlefield Road to Watkins Avenue, where the channel returns above ground and is made of sprayed-on concrete.

The group climbed out past the railroad tracks on Watkins Avenue and continued to view some of the drainage projects completed since the 2001 version



Photo by Barbara Wood /The Almanac

Council members are dwarfed by a huge water pipe that crosses the Atherton drainage channel.

of the drainage plan, as well as to some of the system's current trouble spots.

The town has completed 26 of the 55 projects identified in the 2001 study, including improvements the council viewed in the Barry Lane and Elena Avenue area.

Other areas viewed included a spot near Las Lomas School on Alameda de las Pulgas — where in 2012 the channel was overtopped and the school flooded — and the spot where the Atherton Channel begins near the western end of Walsh Road.

The drainage study prioritizes the work, with the first priority nearly \$6.14 million in projects that it says are "life and safety issues." Those projects include relining the San Francisco water line and Reservoir Channel in the Walsh Road area west of Alameda de las Pulgas, upgrading the existing channel at Alameda de las Pulgas and Camino al Lago, and re-lining the Atherton Channel west of Alameda de las Pulgas.

Next are projects needed to "avoid damage to private property," estimated at \$8.6 million. The third priority, public improvements not affected by the downstream drainage outside the town, would cost \$3.2 million.

Atherton has \$910,000 budgeted for drainage improvement projects this fiscal year, and \$3.625 million budgeted over the next five years. The town is also working with the Las Lomas school district to possibly build a detention basin at Las Lomas School.

Public improvements that are affected by the downstream drainage are the biggest cost — \$23.6 million. The lowest priority are projects recommended in the 2001 study that don't seem to have current issues, estimated at \$3.6 million.

Atherton has \$910,000 budgeted for drainage improvement projects this fiscal year, and \$3.625 million budgeted over the next five years. The town is also working with the Las Lomas School

District to possibly build a detention basin at Las Lomas School.

To prepare for the predicted winter storms, city employees have walked the entire Atherton Channel and made sure all town storm drains and drainage ditches are not blocked. There are 2,500 sandbags and the sand to fill them in the town's corporation yard, near the railroad tracks south of the Caltrain station.

The council members visited several problem areas the town will be keeping an eye on this winter, including the Bellbrook Culvert in the Walsh Road area west of Alameda de las Pulgas, another place the town is waiting for a permit to repair. They also walked along the ditch running behind back yards on Parker and Euclid avenues, which town crews recently cleaned and the town will be monitoring.

The town also plans to monitor problem areas along Laburnum Road and Magnolia Drive in Lindenwood. ■

Laura Pool Huber, community volunteer

Laura Pool Huber of Menlo Park died peacefully at her home Nov. 10 of complications from advanced cancer. She was 47.

Laura Spruance Pool was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She attended Shady Side Academy, where she was salutatorian of her class, and made her society debut at the Cinderella Ball, the oldest charity event in Pittsburgh.

She graduated cum laude

■ OBITUARY

from Colgate College in 1990 with a degree in English literature. After college, she moved to San Francisco to pursue a career in graphic design. She worked at Miller Freeman as a designer and art director of several magazines.

In 2000, she married Jeff Huber, an executive at

Google. The couple moved to Menlo Park, where they had two children. As the children grew up, she was a volunteer in her children's schools. At Oak Knoll she chaired many volunteer committees and organized the after-school sports program.

Her work in the community included the University Club of Palo Alto's scholarship program and she was a volunteer coordinator for the

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Circle of Friends ambassadors.

A gifted artist and talented chef, she was an avid tennis player competing in the Women's USTA League at the University Club in Palo Alto.

She is survived by her husband, Jeff Huber of Menlo Park; son Max, 14; daughter Grace, 12; parents Linda and Henry Pool of Pittsburgh; sister Heather Pool; and brother Russell Pool.



Laura Pool Huber

Holiday Fund 2015

New health center serves thousands more

Story by Jason Wurtz, Ravenswood Family Health Center.

HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Almanac's Holiday Fund benefit the Ravenswood Family Health Center.

On May 5, Ravenswood Family Health Center began seeing low-income patients at our new state-of-the-art medical facility in East Palo Alto. The two-story, 38,300-square-foot center will enable us to nearly double the number of patients we serve to 22,000 each year and provide optometry, mammography and X-ray services for the first time.

Our new optometry service has already made a meaningful impact in the lives of patients such as Geneveva, a single mother working night shifts at a convenience store to support her three children. She recently had a painfully swollen eye and dropped by our new health center for treatment.

Geneveva was able to see Dr. Sonia Menchavez, an optometrist, without an appointment and began treatment right away. Prior to the opening of our new health center, patients often waited four to six months to get eye care through San Mateo County.

Our staff scheduled a check-up for Geneveva because it had been eight years since she had last seen a doctor. At her appointment, Dr. Raymond Perez screened Geneveva for diabetes, which is prevalent



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Newborn Diego gets checked out by Dr. Justin Wu at the Ravenswood Family Health Center.

among Ravenswood patients.

During a follow up visit, Dr. Perez diagnosed Geneveva with Type 2 diabetes. Health coach Elva Gonzalez stepped in to help Geneveva manage her diabetes medications and make dietary changes that fit with her Mexican culture.

Geneveva is not about to let her diabetes spin out of control. Her children rely on her to earn a living and to cheer them on during their soccer and vol-

leyball games.

Fortunately, she can see her doctor, buy fresh produce at a weekly farmers' market, and pick up her medications all at our new health center. (Collective Roots, a local nonprofit, operates a farmers' market every Wednesday right in front of the clinic's main entrance.)

Diabetes is a leading cause of blindness, kidney failure and amputations. If Geneveva had not received eye care at

Ravenswood's new facility, she may have gone undiagnosed for years and possibly suffered serious consequences.

Thanks to supporters like you, Ravenswood can help Geneveva stay healthy for her family.

Ravenswood Family Health Center provides comprehensive medical, dental and mental health care services to low-income residents of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Nearly 75 percent of our patients live in poverty, many raising a family of four on \$24,000 a year. Ravenswood is on track to serve more than 15,000 patients by Dec. 31.

Go to ravenswoodfhc.org or email Jason Wurtz at jwurtz@ravenswoodfhc.org for more information on the Ravenswood Family Health Center, located at 1885 Bay Road in East Palo Alto.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

After a checkup, Dr. Justin Wu hands newborn Diego to his mom Elsa.



Photo by Federica Armstrong

Health coach Elva Gonzalez, right, with patient, Geneveva.

Give to The Almanac Holiday Fund

Your gift helps local children
and families in need



Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed \$172,000 for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched, to the extent possible, by generous community corporations, foundations and individuals, including the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

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

Boys & Girls Clubs

Provides after-school and academic support and activities for 1,750 at-risk K-12 youth at nine locations in Menlo Park and the North Fair Oaks neighborhood of Redwood City. Members attend at least twice a week during the academic year and receive essential tutoring, mentoring, and academic support.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

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

Project Read

Provides free literacy services to adults in the Menlo Park area. Trained volunteers work one-on-one to help adults improve their basic reading, writing and English language skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, at work and in the community. Volunteers also help students acquire basic keyboard and computer skills.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

Provides primary medical and preventive health care for all ages at its clinic in East Palo Alto. Of the more than 17,000 registered patients, most are low-income and uninsured and live in the ethnically diverse East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

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

Second Harvest Food Bank

The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributed 52 million pounds of food last year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to more than 250,000 people each month through more than 770 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

InnVision Shelter Network

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

StarVista

Serves more than 32,000 people throughout San Mateo County, including children, young people, families with counseling, prevention, early intervention, education, and residential programs. StarVista also provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services including a 24-hour suicide crisis hotline, an alcohol and drug helpline, and a parent support hotline.

Fair Oaks Community Center

This multi-service facility, serving the broader Redwood City community, provides assistance with child care, senior programs, citizenship and immigration, housing and employment, and crisis intervention. Programs are available in Spanish and English.

Health Connected

Serves over 5,000 students and their families each year through comprehensive sexual health education programs. Students learn to have on-going communication with parents and to make informed decisions which will apply to their lives, now and in the future.

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



www.siliconvalleycf.org



The William and Flora
Hewlett Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard
Foundation

The Almanac will make every effort to publish donor names for donations unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.

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

Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Credit Card (MC, VISA, or AMEX)

Expires ____/____/____

Signature _____

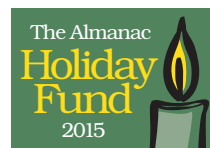
I wish to designate my contribution as follows: (select one)

In my name as shown above

In the name of business above

OR: In honor of: In memory of: As a gift for:

(Name of person)



The Almanac

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

I wish to contribute anonymously.

Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Please make checks payable to:
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Send coupon and check, if applicable, to:

The Almanac Holiday Fund
c/o Silicon Valley Community Foundation
2440 West El Camino Real, Suite 300
Mountain View, CA 94040

The Almanac Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization.

A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.



Genevieve and her son Adrian.

Meet Genevieve, a courageous single mother

Story by Carolyn Hooper, InnVision Shelter Network.

HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Holiday Fund benefit InnVision Shelter Network.

Genevieve and her young son, Adrian, became homeless when a sudden and significant rent increase made it impossible for her to afford her apartment.

At the critical turning point, Genevieve found the courage within herself to ask for help. Fortunately, she was referred to InnVision Shelter Network, where she and her son worked hard to get back on their feet.

Her case manager, Karin, both inspired and guided her family every step of the way. Genevieve continued to go to school to obtain her A.S. degree in automotive technology from Skyline Col-

lege while saving money. She learned how to improve her interview skills, and how to network within her community to find stable housing that she could afford.

Her son needed extra support for ADHD. InnVision Shelter Network provided intensive and specific support for Genevieve and her son, connecting them to resources and providing therapeutic children's services that allowed Adrian to thrive in preschool.

With her son in good hands, Genevieve was able to focus on setting and reaching her own goals in order to become self-sufficient. She worked tirelessly, and it paid off.

Genevieve recently accepted a second, higher paying, position as an administrative assistant at Granada Community Services

District. Adrian successfully started first grade this fall.

Best of all, she and Adrian moved into a one-bedroom apartment in Daly City where they are thriving!

InnVision Shelter Network is committed to ending the cycle of homelessness for families and individuals in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Our mission is to provide interim housing and supportive services that create opportunities for homeless families and individuals to rapidly return to stable housing and long-term self-sufficiency.

Go to ivsn.org or call (650) 685-5880 for more information about InnVision Shelter Network, which is based at 181 Constitution Drive in Menlo Park.

Food or rent? Nobody should have to choose

Story by Kathy Jackson, CEO, Second Harvest Food Bank.

HOLIDAY FUND

Gifts to the Holiday Fund benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank.

You may have seen Second Harvest Food Bank's barrels around town featuring a captivating photo of a mother and her son. They are Delfina and Mauricio, our neighbors.

Delfina's husband works full time, but doesn't earn enough to pay the rent and feed their three kids. Like so many others, they must choose between putting food on the table or paying rent. That's the untenable situation too many local families are facing this holiday season.

It's hard to believe that in this center of innovation and wealth, there is so much hunger. The skyrocketing cost of housing is making it difficult for the people we serve. The average rent for a one-bedroom apartment in San Mateo

County is \$2,500 a month, a 50-percent increase over the last four years.

Second Harvest provides food to nearly a quarter of a million people each month. The high rent leaves little money left over for food if you don't earn a high wage. It takes more than \$82,000 per year for a family of four to pay their bills and put food on the table.

Second Harvest is working to ensure that anyone who needs a healthy meal can get one — during the holidays and all year long.

Delfina told us she remembers the first time she brought food from Second Harvest home for her family. They were amazed by the variety of fruits and vegetables, and her children loved the chicken, yogurt, cheese, milk, tuna and eggs. She and her husband "could finally breathe because this was the kind of healthy food they need."



Photo by Dan Becker

Mauricio and Delfina, featured on food barrel, and Second Harvest CEO Kathy Jackson.

Last year, Second Harvest distributed more than 62 million pounds of food — that's the equivalent of nearly 142,500 meals a day. We get food out into the community through a network of nearly 330 nonprofit partners at more than 700 sites up and down the Peninsula. That includes pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, churches, schools and community centers.

Second Harvest needs to raise \$15 million this holiday season. It's a critical campaign because the Food Bank raises nearly half our revenues during the holidays.

You can help children, seniors, and families get the healthy food they need by giving to Second Harvest Food Bank. Every dollar you donate provides the equivalent of two nutritious meals.

Visit SHFB.org or call (866) 234-3663 for more information. You can drop off a donation at Second Harvest's Bing Center at 1051 Bing St. in San Carlos.

On the cover: Dr. Justin Wu, associate medical director at the Ravenswood Family Health Center, checks on newborn Diego. (Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac.)

Female entrepreneurs aim to take on Silicon Valley

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

“Three percent of startups succeed. But why can’t we be part of that 3 percent?” Ari Horie, founder and CEO of Women’s Startup Lab, asked a group of eight entrepreneurs gathered for a recent two-week accelerator program for female startup founders.

Women’s Startup Lab has completed its seventh program cycle, each providing eight female entrepreneurs with training intended to help them take on Silicon Valley’s startup scene. Since its launch in 2013, 70 graduates of the program have raised a combined \$12 million in seed funding and one has been selected for Y-Combinator, the highly selective seed accelerator program, said Ms. Horie.

A resident of Menlo Park, she said that she founded the accelerator program with the purpose of helping female startup founders gain access to the historically male-dominated Silicon Valley tech world. The business now has a core team of three employees alongside interns and consultants, said David Walling, partnerships and strategic adviser at Women’s Startup Lab.

According to its website, women secure less than 5 percent of all venture capital funding.

Ms. Horie, who has experience in tech marketing and startup work, said Silicon Valley is much like the proverbial Wild West. It operates on what she calls the “Cowboy model,” which favors the unattached man’s capacity to drop everything else he might have in his life, “giddy up” and work around the clock to build out his startup as rapidly as possible.

For people who have family responsibilities and other factors in their lives to juggle, this all-encompassing work environment can be a barrier to entering the field, she explained.

“People who can’t fit that model fail out,” she said. “It’s not that they’re not talented.”

She said one of her goals is to help the participants in her program see success in new ways.

“You don’t have to be killing yourself and destroying (your) family,” Ms. Horie said. “If it takes double the time to be successful, it’s still successful.”

Women’s Startup Lab, she said, helps female founders foster networks and gain skills that will accelerate the development of their businesses. Instructors and advisers include Phil Libin, co-founder of Evernote; Fran Maier, co-founder of Match.com; and Bill Reichert, co-founder of Garage Technology Ventures.

The networking and training



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Catherine Brown, left, and **Machi Takahashi** discuss their experiences as female startup founders.

opportunities provided during the program, Ms. Horie said, could save founders up to a year and a half of hustling. Tuition for the two-week program is \$10,000. Need-based scholarships of up to 50 percent of the program’s cost are offered, Mr. Walling said.

The program’s emphasis on collaboration revolves around the concept of “hito,” which is the Japanese character for “human.” The character is shaped with two lines leaning inward, like two people holding each other up, Ms. Horie said. Over the duration of the program, she said, each participant becomes familiar with the businesses of the others so that by the time they leave, they are prepared to collectively serve as business management teams for each other.

The female entrepreneurs Ms. Horie has worked with often pursue businesses with a socially driven purpose. She says her program encourages entrepreneurs to navigate the process of securing funding without compromising the mission behind their businesses.

A “disease of Silicon Valley,” she said, is the notion that successful entrepreneurs need to do whatever venture capitalists recommend to maximize profitability. Instead, she said, entrepreneurs should ask themselves, “How does this reflect against the customer?”

It’s hard to argue with customer satisfaction, she said.

In a clean, brightly lit waiting room with red couches, throw pillows declaring “believe in yourself,” and portraits of the nearly 50 women who have completed the program, two recent graduates of Women’s Startup Lab talked about the future of their startups

and what they learned from the program.

Machi’s story

Machi Takahashi is a founder of a Japanese travel guide app and map platform that incorporates hand-drawn maps and content from community members. The app, she said, is for city or tourism organizations. She and eight employees have made 50 app series so far, and have 400,000 iOS and Android downloads. The service is currently in its alpha version. The beta version will be released in December.

Being at Women’s Startup Lab helped her gain confidence and see new strengths in herself, she said.

“In Japan, being a female founder in a tech field is really rare,” she said.

Ms. Takahashi said that Women’s Startup Lab helped her see that what may at first appear to be disadvantages in the tech industry — being female and not a programmer, for instance — actually gives her a competitive edge. She said her gender has helped her engage with community contributors who tend to be more distrustful of men, and her gaps in tech knowledge have shifted her priorities to focus on user experience.

After completing Women’s Startup Lab, she said, “I feel more confident in doing what I’m doing.”

Catherine’s story

Catherine Brown is the founder and CEO of Entourage Managers, which is, in her words, “a marketplace for busy executives to connect with the most compatible executive assistants and optimize productivity.”

Entourage Managers, she said, completed its alpha app and will begin beta testing soon, with plans to start seeking angel funding in the next two months. Self-funded for the first 15 months, she now has a tech team, a vice president of software and a vice president of operations.

Ms. Brown, a survivor of ovarian cancer, was a career executive assistant before she founded Entourage Managers. She said that the emphasis Women’s Startup Lab placed on helping founders define themselves on their own terms was important.

In a startup’s early days especially, she explained, “you are your company.” In other words, the

founder’s personal story becomes a key component of the business and its vision. She said that Women’s Startup Lab helped her connect the seemingly disparate pieces of her identity — ovarian cancer survivor, yoga instructor, executive assistant and now CEO — into a cohesive founder story for her business.

“Support, nurture, love,” she said. “This is why I do this every day.”

She said she knew her confidence was on the rise when, instead of thinking as she had as an executive assistant, anticipating the voice of her boss in her head telling her what to do, she finally heard her own voice as the boss in her head. ■



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Ari Horie, founder and CEO of Women’s Startup Lab, an accelerator program for female startup founders.



The team at DeLeon Realty is celebrating our 4th birthday!
We thank our dedicated clients for another year of success,
and here's to many, many more!



650.488.7325 | info@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com | CalBRE #01903224



List with DeLeon Realty
before December 15, 2015 for the
Spring 2016 market and you will receive:

- a \$1,000 gift card to The Home Depot.
- 25 hours of handyman time.
- a special pre-marketing plan* for your home, including:
 - exposure on DeLeon Realty's *Spring Showcase* website.
 - inclusion in DeLeon Realty's newsletter (65,000 copies).
 - inclusion in newspaper inserts (64,500 copies).
- our industry-leading marketing plan, including:
 - full-page newspaper ads.
 - Google & Facebook ads.
 - Chinese newspaper & radio ads.
 - 12 or 28-page custom brochures.
 - a professional-quality video.
 - a 3-D tour.

This is in addition to the complimentary services we provide to all our sellers, including:
free property inspection | free pest inspection | free staging**

*Pre-marketing for Spring Showcase will roll out the first week of January 2016.
**Includes all fees associated with design, delivery, set-up, de-staging, and the first month of furniture rental.

Disclaimer: This offer applies to listings with a signed listing agreement between Nov. 1, 2015 through Dec. 15, 2015. This is a limited-time offer for homes which will be listed to the MLS by May 1, 2016. Past listings and transactions are excluded from this offer.

650.488.7325 | www.deleonrealty.com | CalBRE #01903224

Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Art Galleries

'Chasing Light and Reflection' Portola Art Gallery exhibits collection of oil and acrylic paintings by Alice Weil entitled "Chasing Light and Reflection," which captures the artist's passion for rolling hills and majestic oaks. Show benefits Ronald McDonald House. Monday-Saturday, Dec. 1-22, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. Call 650-321-0220. www.portolaartgallery.com

'Splendid Peacocks' Newest work of local artist Flo de Bretagne. Nov. 23-Jan. 10, regular cafe hours. Free. Cafe Borrone, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 650-473-1317. www.florencedebretagne.com

Portola Valley artists open studio Portola Valley ceramic artists Jan Schachter and Nina Else — as well as guest artists Margaret Reali-ca (clay), Peggy Forman (clay, paper drawings) and Lois Anderson (paper, textiles) — share their work with visitors to Jan Schachter's studio. Dec. 5-6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Private studio, 190 Golden Hills Drive, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-3754. www.janschachter.com

Benefits/Fundraisers

Gingerbread House Decorating Fund-raiser Seventh annual event provides pre-assembled gingerbread houses and candy, sweets and tools with which to decorate them. Children welcome; refreshments will be served. Proceeds support Bethany Youth Group. Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-noon. \$60. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-854-5897. www.bethany-mp.org/gingerbrea

Holiday Traditions at Filoli Filoli estate transformed into holiday showcase, offering decorations and merchandise. Entertainment by choral and performing groups. See website for details. Nov. 27-Dec. 5. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. Call (650) 364-8300 ext. 508. www.filoli.org

Nativity School Christmas Tree Lot Held since 1998, this holiday fundraiser benefits Nativity School. Delivery and flameproofing available. See website for lot hours. Tuesday-Sunday, Nov. 27-Dec. 12. Nativity School, 210 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-275-3750. www.nativitytrees.com

Classes/Workshops

Caregiver Workshop teaches participants activities to keep young ones interested. Children welcome. Nov. 30, 11:30 a.m.-noon. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 650-851-0560.

Write Your Life Story memoir class taught by local author and writer Phyllis Butler. Pre-registration requested. Dec. 3 and 10 and Jan. 7 and 14, noon-1 p.m. \$50 series of four classes; \$15 drop-in. Deborah's Palm Women's Center, 555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto. butler-phyllis@att.net

Community Events

Christmas Market at Allied Arts Guild. Shop for handcrafted pieces ranging from jewelry to hand-knitted scarves, wearable art, candy, pillows and more. There will also be a Festival of Trees silent auction, drawings for gift items, and visits from Santa and the Merlot Notes choral group. Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Allied Arts Guild, Sunset Room, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. alliedartsguild.org

Deborah's Palm Holiday Bazaar offers live music, wreath-making, coffee cart and refreshments, and juried arts, crafts, gifts and jewelry made by volunteers and local artisans. Attendees are asked to bring a canned food item to support the Ecumenical Hunger Program. Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Deborah's Palm Holiday Bazaar, 555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-473-0664. www.deborahspalm.com

La Honda Volunteer Fire Brigade Holiday Arts and Crafts Faire offers handmade items from 25 local vendors. Raffle of handmade teddy bear by Denis Shaw to benefit fire brigade. Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. La Honda Fire Station, 8945 La Honda Road, La Honda. Call 650-288-7523.

Peninsula School Craft Fair offers hand-crafted toys, clothing, pottery, jewelry, bath products and gift items — as well as music, kids activities, homemade food. Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Peninsula School, 920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park. peninsula.school.org/phone/craft-fair.html

Sacred Heart Preparatory's Holiday

Boutique offers selection of holiday gifts, home decor, artisan foods, and handmade wreaths and greenery. Parking available on campus. Dec. 2 and 3, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Sacred Heart Schools, Main Building, 150 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. Call 650-473-4089. www.shschools.org/holiday-boutique

Concerts

'An Evening of Song' Woodside Arts & Culture Committee's December First Friday event — called "An Evening of Song" — features music by Jennifer Mitchell (soprano), Nathaniel Rothrock (tenor) and Elizabeth Neff (piano). Three musicians perform opera pieces, musical theater solos and duets, and some holiday music. Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside. woodsidetown.org/artsandculture/arts-culture-committee-events

Holiday Concert with the Menlo-Atherton Choir Under direction of Patrick Maier, Menlo-Atherton Choir performs holiday classics and contemporary favorites. Dec. 2, 2-3 p.m. Free. Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-326-2025 ext. 242. www.penvol.org/littlehouse

Schola Seraphica Christmas Concert Conducted by Margaret Sullivan Durando, Schola Seraphica offers a Christmas concert honoring St. Nicholas with liturgical classical music. Pieces performed by students of St. Francis High School and adults. Dec. 6, 2:30-4:30 p.m. \$20 general; \$15 senior, student. St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. Call 650-323-8328.

The Gryphon Carolers Holiday Concert Bay Area musicians Ed Johnson and Carol McComb join Gryphon Carolers to perform eclectic selection of tunes, ranging from sublime to zany, and originating from places from Ireland to Brazil. Dec. 12, 7-9:30 p.m. In advance: \$25 adult, student, \$15 senior, child; at the door: \$30 adult, student, \$20 senior, child. Cañada College, Main Theater, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Woodside. Call 650-996-7220. gryphoncarollers.com

Kids & Families

'Bully' screening and Q&A with Lee Hirsch Screening of 2012 documentary film "Bully" — which examines how bullying has affected five children and their families — and a Q&A session with the author and director, Lee Hirsch. Dec. 2, 7-9 p.m. Free. Hillview Middle School Performing Arts Center, 1100 Elder Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-575-4523. www.menlopark.org

Ballet America's 'Nutcracker' Dec. 4, 7 p.m.; Dec. 6, 1 and 4 p.m. \$22-\$39. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. balletamerica.org

Children's Holiday Tea Friends of Holbrook-Palmer Park offer annual Children's Holiday Tea event, with visit from Santa, holiday-themed marionettes show and craft activities. Holiday treats, tea sandwiches, beverages, and a prize drawing for children and adults. Families are asked to bring a new youth sweatshirt, which will be donated to Selby Lane School students. Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$40 parent and child; \$380 table with 10 seats; free for children ages 2 and under. Holbrook-Palmer Park, Jennings Pavilion, 150 Watkins Ave., Atherton. www.athertondames.org/event/childrens-holiday-tea-at-hpp/

December Free First Friday At 11 a.m., preschool-age children can learn about Filipino folk art, and at 2 p.m. there will be tours for adults. Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104. historysmc.org

Paws for Tales On the fourth Saturday of the month, children can visit the Atherton Library for an opportunity to practice their reading skills by reading to a trained therapy dog. Those interested are encouraged to sign up in advance by phone. Nov. 28, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org/en/content/paws-tales-1

Tree Treasures Holiday program with children's craft activities, including making old-fashioned Christmas tree ornaments, and visit from Santa. At 1 p.m., San Francisco State University Handbell Choir performs. Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 650-299-0104-0104. www.historysmc.org

Submitting items for the Calendar

Submit information online. Go to **TheAlmanacOnline.com** and click on **"Calendar"** under the **A&E menu**. Click the grey button "Submit Calendar Listing" and then fill out the form to enter your information. If the event is of interest to a large number of people, also e-mail a press release to **Editor@AlmanacNews.com**.

Menlo Park celebrates the holidays

A myriad of events will be held in Menlo Park from Dec. 4 through 6 to celebrate the holidays, including a tree-light ceremony, breakfast with Santa, a model railroad display and the full-sized Caltrain Holiday Train.

Tree lighting

The tree-lighting event will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at Fremont Park on Santa Cruz Avenue at University Drive in downtown Menlo Park.

In addition to the tree-lighting with the mayor, there will be hot chocolate and cookies, a visit from Santa, holiday music and a screening of the movie, "Mickey's Christmas Carol."

Breakfast with Santa

The city will hold its annual Breakfast with Santa from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center at 700 Alma St. in the Menlo Park Civic Center.

The Menlo Park Rotary Club and the Menlo Fire Protection District are teaming up to serve a pancake breakfast at \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. Bring an unwrapped toy for the firefighters' toy drive and receive \$1 off the ticket price.

Other activities include letter writing to Santa, a visit with Santa, and holiday crafts. Bring cameras for photos with Santa. Call (650) 330-2223 for reservations.

Model train show

The West Bay Model Railroad Association will hold its annual holiday open house with its new layout on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 9 p.m.

The Sunday open house will coincide with the

7:45 p.m. arrival of the Holiday Train at Menlo Park train station.

Work on the two-level-model train layout has taken place over two years, says club spokesman Lauren Mercer, and the top level is nearing completion. Work on the lower level will begin after the holidays.

Admission to the open house is free, however, donations are appreciated, says Mr. Mercer. The Model Railroad building is at 1090 Merrill St., south of the Menlo Park train station.

Holiday train

Decorated with thousands of lights, the Caltrain Holiday Train will visit Menlo Park at 7:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6. The 20-minute visit will be one of nine stops during the weekend as the glittering show train makes its way from San Francisco to San Jose.

At each stop there will be singing by onboard carolers, music from the Salvation Army Brass Band, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. They and their extended family, including Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, will get off the train to greet kids and pose for photos.

Prior to the arrival of the train, there will be free entertainment and food trucks onsite in Menlo Park. Representatives from the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots programs will be at each station collecting toys.

Since the inception of the Holiday Train 13 years ago, residents of the Bay Area have brought more than 50,000 new unwrapped toys to CalTrain stations, organizers say.

The annual Holiday Train is presented by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

meaningful. Complimentary refreshments will be served. Dec. 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Dec. 3, 9:15-10:15 a.m. Free. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-854-5897. facebook.com/LTCMenloPark

Food & Drink

Portola Valley Farmers' Market (Nov. 25) The week of Thanksgiving the Portola Valley Farmers' Market will be held on Wednesday instead of Thursday, offering regular items as well as ingredients for Thanksgiving dinners. Shoppers can order pies and farm-raised turkeys in advance for pick up. Nov. 25, 2-5 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Farmers' Market, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. pvfarmersmarket.com

Taste of the Mountains Wine Walk showcases wineries of the Santa Cruz Mountains in downtown Menlo Park businesses. Proceeds support the Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation. Those interested should register online, as space is limited. Dec. 5, 2-5 p.m. \$45 online; \$55 at the door. Various downtown businesses, Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park. scmwa.com/event/taste-of-the-mountains-menlo/

On Stage

'Emma' For its holiday production, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley will stage a musical romance, Jane Austen's "Emma" — with music, lyrics and book by Paul Gordon. See the website for specific dates and times. Dec. 2-Jan. 2. \$54 adult; \$45 senior, educator; \$25 age 30 and under. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-1960. www.theatreworks.org

Religion/Spirituality

Lifetree Cafe: 'Prayer: Could a Conversation With God Change Your Life?' Lifetree Cafe in Menlo Park will host two hourlong conversations discussing effective prayer. They will feature a filmed interview with former golf professional Wally Armstrong, who found an unusual way to make his prayers more

Support Groups

Stanford Autism Parent Support Group Meeting This support group organized by Stanford Child Psychiatry will connect the parents of children with autism so that they can share experiences and provide each other support. Second Thursday of the month, Nov. 12-June 9, 7-9 p.m. Free. Stanford Child Psychiatry, 401 Quarry Road, Stanford. Call 650-721-6327. med.stanford.edu/childpsychiatry/community/asdparenteducation.html

Lectures & Talks

'Downton Abbey: The Music & the Era' Music historian Dulais Rhys will give an interactive, audiovisual presentation that will interest fans of the TV show "Downton Abbey" and students of Edwardian England. Dec. 1, 7-8 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2501. menlopark.org/library

'The Relationship Economy: Life, Business, and the Pursuit of Growth' This Churchill Club event will feature Keith Ferrazzi, CEO and founder of Ferrazzi Greenlight, and Rishi Dave, CMO of Dun & Bradstreet, discussing perspectives on business relationships. Nov. 30, 6-9 p.m. \$69 Churchill Club member; \$93 nonmember. Rosewood Sand Hill, 2825 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Call 408-265-0130. transition.churchillclub.org/eventDetail.jsp?EVT_ID=1056

Asian Art Museum docent lecture on 'Looking East' The Atherton Library will present a docent lecture based on the Asian Art Museum exhibit "Looking East: How Japan

Inspired Monet, Van Gogh, and Other Western Artists." Accompanied by a slideshow, the talk will explore Western styles and themes influenced by Japanese art. Dec. 5, 2-3 p.m. Free. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 650-328-2422. www.smcl.org/en/content/looking-east-how-japan-inspired-monet-van-gogh-and-other-western-artists-docent-lecture-3

Author Janet McGovern on 'Images of America: Menlo Park' Janet McGovern will share a book she co-authored, the recently published "Images of America: Menlo Park," and talk about her experience searching for photographs and studying Menlo Park's history. Dec. 6, 2 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. www.keplers.com/event/janet-mcgovern

Former ambassador Richard Williams talk (Part two) Former U.S. ambassador Richard Williams will continue his discussion of his experience in the U.S. State Department, recalling adventures and pivotal moments of working as an American diplomat in China on the brink of the country's transformation. Dec. 3, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free. Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 650-326-2025 ext. 242. www.penvol.org/littlehouse

Et Alia

English Conversation Club Community members practice English conversation skills with other language learners and volunteer facilitators. Wednesdays, Dec. 2-16, 5-6 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, Downstairs Meeting Room, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. Call 650-330-2525. www.projectreadmenlopark.org

Monday Night Pub Quiz Teams and individuals test their knowledge of fun and challenging trivia. Arrive early to guarantee a seat. Mondays through Dec. 28, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$3. Freewheel Brewing Company, 3736 Florence St., Redwood City. Call 650-365-2337. freewheelbrewing.com

POLICE CALLS

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

ATHERTON

Auto burglaries:

- A child's bathrobe and two sets of headphones were stolen from a vehicle parked on Maple Drive. Estimated loss: \$250. Nov. 14.
- Someone stole a purse from a vehicle parked at Menlo-Atherton High School at 555 Middlefield Road. No estimate on losses. Nov. 14.

MENLO PARK

Residential burglary: Two apartments on Coleman Avenue were found with bent screens associated with locked windows. There were no reported entries into the apartments. Nov. 19.

Auto burglary: Someone broke a window on a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Woodland Avenue and stole a purse containing a wallet and iPad mini. Estimated loss: \$870. Nov. 21.

Thefts:

- A product-scanning device was stolen from a shopping cart at the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real. Estimated loss: \$2,000. Nov. 17.
- Someone stole a purse containing a wallet and \$400 in cash from a shopping cart in the Safeway supermarket at 325 Sharon Park Drive. A credit card from the purse was used to make an unauthorized purchase of \$497 at the supermarket. Estimated loss: \$1,900. Nov. 16.
- A thief made off with a bicycle that had been locked to a bike rack on Alma Street near the Caltrain station. Estimated loss: \$1,500. Nov. 17.
- Housekeeping supplies were believed stolen from the Best Western Riviera hotel at 15 El Camino Real. Estimated loss: \$1,000. Nov. 22.

■ A patio table was stolen from the Traditionally Derby furniture store at 850 Santa Cruz Ave. Estimated loss: \$839. Nov. 17.

■ Police arrested two men from the North Bay on suspicion of theft and possession of stolen property from the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real. They were leaving with \$780 in unpaid-for merchandise, but the wheels locked on the grocery cart and the goods were not stolen. A container of stolen instant coffee was allegedly found in the vehicle the men were using. Nov. 17.

■ Police arrested and released on his own recognizance a San Bruno man on suspicion of shoplifting and secreting stolen goods within his clothing at the CVS pharmacy at 700 El Camino Real. Nov. 18.

■ License plates and their frames were stolen from three vehicles parked on Royal Oak Court. Nov. 11.

Fraud: Someone at Togos Sandwiches at 885 Hamilton Ave. alleges that an employee's check for \$101.42 was changed to read 401.42 and cashed. Police are investigating. Nov. 17.

Illegal dumping: Someone placed a dresser near the dumpster used by Iberia Restaurant at 1026 Alma St., but later retrieved the dresser. Nov. 17.

Vehicle accidents:

- A person on a motorized bicycle applied the brakes to avoid a collision at El Camino Real and Middle Avenue, but the brakes locked and the moped ended up sliding on its side and colliding with a vehicle. Nov. 17.
- A cyclist entering Middle Avenue from the parking lot of the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real collided with a vehicle in the westbound lane. Medics took the cyclist to Stanford Hospital with a non-life threatening injury. Nov. 17.

Schools receive grants

Three local schools, La Entrada, Oak Knoll and Woodside Elementary, have each received \$1,000 grants from Wells Fargo Bank.

"These grants support organizations that promote academic achievement for students who qualify as low or moderate income as well as organizations that provide training for teachers who work with these student populations," a statement from Wells Fargo said.

Beth Polito, superintendent of the Woodside Elementary School District, said the district supports students who live in the Ravenswood School District and come to Woodside through the Tinsley transfer program "with outreach services that support their full participation in the Woodside school program," including scholarships that cover extra-curricular activities including overnight field trips and special events.

Wells Fargo gave grants to 30 schools, which can use the money as they see fit.

BRIEFS

App competition

High school students are invited to create apps for mobile, tablet or desktop computer and submit them for the second annual Congressional App Challenge, sponsored by the U.S. Congress.

Students exhibit their apps via Youtube or Vimeo, and the winning app in each district will be displayed in the U. S. Capitol building, said Rep. Ann Eshoo, D-Menlo Park. The competition runs through Jan. 15.

Over the next decade, the need for graduates in STEM careers in the U.S. is expected to outstrip supply by around 1 million students, Ms. Eshoo said. "The Congressional App Challenge seeks to address this disparity by encouraging students to create their own apps and pursue an education in STEM fields," she said.

Go to CongressionalAppChallenge.us for more information.

Family sues city, Caltrain in train fatality

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

The family of Jahyun Jennifer Koo, who was killed when a train struck her car Feb. 23 at the Ravenswood Avenue rail crossing in Menlo Park, filed a lawsuit Nov. 19 against several agencies, including the city of Menlo Park and Caltrain.

Ms. Koo, a 35-year-old resident of Palo Alto, was driving

a silver Acura SUV westbound on Ravenswood Avenue when she apparently became stuck on the tracks after the crossing arms came down, fire officials said. A southbound train struck the SUV, sending it flying 40 feet, they said. The train was likely traveling about 50 mph, Caltrain officials said.

In the suit, her husband, Byung Joon Jeon, claims that Caltrain, the city of Menlo Park and San Mateo County

knew conditions there were dangerous and did not create sufficient warnings or communication to prevent vehicles from becoming stopped on the train tracks.

He seeks compensation for medical and funeral expenses and for the loss of a wife and mother of a daughter, who was 1 year old at the time of her death. He is represented by Casey Kaufman with the Brandi Law Firm in San Francisco. ■

Atherton drops fees for solar panels

By Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton's City Council made two moves toward becoming a more environmentally friendly town on Nov. 18 when it eliminated the fees for installing solar panels and agreed to spend more money to look at the ramifications of a proposed climate action plan.

The vote was unanimous to eliminate the existing \$526 fee for solar installation permits. Council members said they hope to increase the number of permits from the current average of only 27 a year.

"I think it's a step in the right direction," said council member Bill Widmer, noting that the town has so many trees it can be hard to make a solar system work in Atherton.

The town had considered, and rejected, making solar a requirement for new construction.

The council also voted unanimously to spend about \$15,000 researching the ramifications of the Environmental Program Committee's proposed plan to reduce Atherton's greenhouse

gas emissions by 30 percent by 2020 and by 50 percent by 2030.

The town will look at the greenhouse gas savings for each component of the suggested plan, including the effects of making actions mandatory or voluntary. In addition to a "zero

net energy" requirement for new residential and commercial buildings, including the civic center now under design, the plan calls for electric vehicle charging spaces, recapturing rain water, and composting yard waste and other organics. ■



Happy Thanksgiving
from Alys Grace

Starting this Wednesday get

20% OFF

your regularly priced purchase!

Great selection of sweaters, denim, outerwear, & gifts.
Offer expires Sunday, Nov. 29. Online shoppers
use promo code BLACKFRIDAY20.

ALYSGRACE.COM

STORE HOURS: MON - SAT 10 - 6; SUN 11 - 5

899B SANTA CRUZ AVENUE
MENLO PARK
650.322.5524

208 MAIN STREET
LOS ALTOS
650.941.2597



Holiday highlights

Local organizations, artists host a bounty of seasonal entertainment

by Brenna Malmberg

Before or after your stroll down the streets to gaze at Christmas lights, the Midpeninsula has more holiday events and traditions to offer. For locals who enjoy ballet, there are multiple renditions of "The Nutcracker" being performed by youth and professional dancers. If holiday arts and crafts feel like a better fit, the area offers hands-on activities and a number of local artisan sales. The holiday event genres don't stop there. Theater goes, Lego builders and comedy enthusiasts will also find an event for their taste this season. Happy holiday events!

A Pacific Ballet 'Nutcracker' tradition

The Pacific Ballet Academy celebrates its 25th year of the "Nutcracker" with performances through the Thanksgiving weekend. Guests will be greeted by the dancers as they take their seats to see the holiday classic come to life.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Friday, Nov. 27, and Saturday, Nov. 28, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 30, at 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$26-\$30
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Ernie's train keeps on chuggin'

From Thanksgiving to Christmas Day, Ernie's son John Bianco will continue the holiday tradition of running Ernie's model trains. Each year, around 100 visitors come every night, which more than 300 coming out on Christmas Eve, to view the train show.

- **Where:** 2387 Adele Ave., Mountain View
- **When:** Thanksgiving to Christmas Day, 6:30-9 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** mv-voice.com/news/2010/12/21/model-trains-mesmerize-a-neighborhood

Holiday Traditions at Filoli

Locals can start the season with Holiday Traditions at Filoli, which will offer shopping boutiques, lunch buffets and more throughout the season. But hurry, events are selling out.

- **Where:** Filoli, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside
- **When:** Friday, Nov. 27, through Saturday, Dec. 5
- **Cost:** \$35-\$85
- **Info:** filoli.org/holiday-traditions or 650-364-8300, ext. 508

Romance takes the stage

TheatreWorks' brings back Jane Austen's "Emma" for the holidays.

The musical hit features a cast of characters obsessed with romance and a score from Paul Gordon, the Tony Award-nominated composer of "Jane Eyre" and "Daddy Long Legs."

- **Where:** Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
- **When:** Dec. 2 through Jan. 2, 2016
- **Cost:** \$25-\$74
- **Info:** theatreworks.org or 650-463-1960

Saint Francis High School celebration, fundraiser

To raise funds, the Saint Francis High School will have its 27th annual home tour fundraiser in December while also celebrating its 60th anniversary. This year's theme is "I'll be home for Christmas," and features homes in Portola Valley and Woodside. In addition to home tours, there will be a Christmas party and holiday boutique in Mountain View, a winter luncheon in Los Altos Hills, a happy hour in Los Altos Hills, and another Christmas boutique in Los Altos Hills.

- **Where:** Home tours leave from 12889 Viscaino Place, Los Altos
- **When:** Friday, Dec. 4, and Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$50 per person, \$45



Keith Sutter

Smuin Ballet dancers Jonathan Powell and Terez Dean perform in Nicole Haskins' "Fantasia," as part of "The Christmas Ballet."

person for groups of 10 or more

- **Info:** sfhs.com/page.cfm?p=1650 or 650-954-7720

Tree lighting in Palo Alto

The City of Palo Alto kicks off the holiday season with its fifth annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Besides a dazzling tree, the event includes live music, face painting, snacks, hot drinks and more.

- **Where:** Lytton Plaza, 202 University Ave., Palo Alto
- **When:** Friday, Dec. 4, 4-7 p.m. with tree lighting at 6 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** cityofpaloalto.org or 650-329-2100

Western Ballet's 'The Nutcracker'

The Western Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" under the

direction of Alexi Zubiria again this holiday season. Audience members will join Clara, Fritz and friends as they go on a magical trip to the Kingdom of Sweets.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Friday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 5, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$25-\$30
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Dance Connection's 'Nutcracker'

The Dance Connection Palo Alto presents its 17th annual production of the "Nutcracker." The whole family is sure to enjoy this holiday classic.

- **Where:** Spangenberg Theatre, Gunn High School, 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto

- **When:** Friday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 3 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$15-\$27
- **Info:** danceconnection-paloalto.com or 650-322-7032

Deborah's Palm Holiday Bazaar

At the Holiday Bazaar by Deborah's Palm, visitors can enjoy refreshments, live music, wreath-making and a host of goods made by local artisans. Guests are asked to bring a canned-food item to support the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto.

- **Where:** Deborah's Palm, 555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free, but guests are

See HIGHLIGHTS, page 22



Invites for all

Stationery, invite experts share tips and tricks for holiday party invitations

by Brenna Malmberg

The holiday season begins early — really early — for Julianne Michelle, a Menlo Park resident who creates custom stationery, including holiday invites and cards. These days, holiday greetings and photographs of smiling faces flutter around her kitchen table that also serves as her workspace. Because her clients need to send their cards and invites up to a month before festivities, her busy season is right now.

Amongst the holiday buzz, Michelle pauses and focuses on each client's project, especially on holiday invites. She wants to ensure that her invite will suit their party needs.

"The invitation sets the tone for the party," she said. "For a fun cocktail party, I might pick a playful script, which is different from what I would use for a formal affair. I think you can say a lot about the event through the design."

On her computer screen, Michelle plays with type and color, but remembers the details make an invite. She guides



Brenna Malmberg

Julianne Michelle, a resident of Menlo Park, makes stationery and more for clients through her business J. Michelle Studio. Each year, Julianne Michelle creates new holiday designs. She has been in business for four years.

people on what to include on the invite besides the basics of who, what, when and where. The extra facts help the guest feel comfortable when they arrive, she said.

"People appreciate knowing what they should wear or if they can pop in and out of a party," she said. "It's a busy time, and people appreciate that."

Beyond dress code and timing, Michelle also recommends making it clear if there will be a gift exchange or if they are expected to bring a present. And last, but definitely not least, the RSVP. These four letters can help the hostess immensely, she said, and she tells people to have RSVPs sent in at least a week before the event.


Once the logistics are figured

out, Michelle works with clients on a custom design or one from her Etsy shop, etsy.com/shop/JMichelleStudio. Since she started her business four years ago, she has created new designs and options, such as foil printing and die-cut shapes.





Then comes the mailing part of invites. With prepped cards in hand, Michelle recommends sending formal party invites about a month in advance, while a holiday mixer between friends could require a shorter window of delivery.



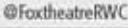
But before invites hit the bottom of the blue mailbox, Wendy Qiu, who grew up in Palo Alto and now attends the University of California, Davis, likes

See **INVITES**, page 25



FOX THEATRE
PRESENTS

	Tim Flannery & The Lunatic Fringe NOVEMBER 28, 8 PM
	From the Late Night Show: Comedian Craig Ferguson DECEMBER 9, 8 PM
	Big Bad Voodoo Daddy DECEMBER 10, 8 PM
	Chris Isaak DECEMBER 9, 8 PM

2215 Broadway St., Redwood City  Like us on Facebook
650.FOX.7770  Follow us on Twitter
 Tickets are On Sale Today  @FoxtheatreRWC
www.FoxRwc.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



If it's holiday ...it's here! *Bring this coupon in for*
20% OFF
Entire Purchase!*

Art Supplies, Frames, Gifts, Canvas & Paints, Toys & More!



Create Your Holiday at UArt!

University Art

UArt Redwood City 2550 El Camino Real 650-328-3500
Also in San Jose and Sacramento UniversityArt.com

*Does not apply to Custom Framing, Custom Framing LITE, or already discounted items. Cannot be combined with other offers. One coupon per customer. Expires 12/4/2015.

HIGHLIGHTS

continued from page 20

asked to donate canned goods

- **Info:** deborahspalm.org or 650-473-0664

Nativities from around the world

The 28th annual Christmas Crèche Exhibit features more than 350 nativities from around the world. The event also includes hands-on activities, speakers, live music and more.

- **Where:** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 5, through Wednesday, Dec. 9, from noon to 9 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** christmascreche.org or 650-800-3865

Winter glass sale

The Palo Alto Fiery Arts Winter Glass Sale features glass decor, cookies and hot apple cider. The benefits from the event support the Fiery Arts program at Palo Alto High School.

- **Where:** Palo Alto High School, Tower Building, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto.



David Allen

Ragazzi Boys Chorus presents a holiday concert series, "I Dream A World," playing Dec. 5 in Palo Alto.

- **When:** Friday, Dec. 5, 3-6:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 6, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** tinyurl.com/PaloAltoHighGlass or 650-303-1290

A French Christmas

The California Bach Society, under artistic director Paul Flight, presents "Joyeux Noël!" this holiday season. The program takes audience members to France to travel from medieval periods to the 20th century.

- **Where:** All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 5, at 8 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$10-\$28
- **Info:** calbach.org or 650-485-1097

Family crafting

For ages 5 and up, the Palo Alto Art Center offers an opportunity to create holiday goodies and decor out of everyday objects during Holiday Family Day. The family-fun activities include design-your-own wrapping paper and cards, handmade brooches and pins, and personalized garland. The day ends with a performance by the Firebird Youth Chinese Orchestra.

- **Where:** 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto
- **When:** Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-4:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** bit.ly/HolidayFamilyDay or 650-329-2366

Kepler's Holiday Party

Literary Circle Members and those who would like to be members can celebrate at Kepler's Books at the annual Holiday Party. Booksellers will help find the perfect gift for everyone on your list, and volunteers will wrap up purchases while shoppers sip champagne and enjoy chocolate. Plus, at 2 p.m., local

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Creating a sense of **community**

Friday, December 4, 2015
 5:30-7:00 pm
 Fremont Park
 Downtown Menlo Park
 Santa Cruz Avenue
 at University Drive

JOIN US FOR

- Visit from Santa
- Hot cocoa and cookies
- Festive holiday music
- Special holiday movie screening of Mickey's Christmas Carol
- Tree lighting ceremony with the Mayor

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit menlopark.org/holidaytreelighting
- Call 650-330-2220
- Follow facebook.com/menloparkevents



author Janet McGovern will present "Images in America: Menlo Park." Guests need to RSVP for the event.

- **Where:** Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
- **When:** Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-5 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free for Literary Circle Members
- **Info:** keplers.com or 650-324-4321

'Rejoice! Rejoice!'

During Schola Cantorum's annual holiday family concert, "Rejoice! Rejoice!" will feature familiar Christmas favorites from the Robert Shaw/Alice Parker collection.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Sunday, Dec. 6, at 3 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$20-\$30
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

'The Christmas Ballet'

During their two-act performance, Smuin Ballet dancers will perform holiday favorites, including Michael Smuin's "The Gloucestershire Wassail" and "Ave Maria," and modern mash-ups of "White Christmas," "Baby, It's Cold Outside," and "Santa Baby." This holiday celebration also includes tap, swing, ballet and other worldwide genres to celebrate the season. Plus, Smuin Ballet dancer Nicole Haskins will debut her new work set to "Joy to the World," and choreographer-in-residence Amy Seiwert will present a new piece set to the "Home for the Holidays."

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Wednesday, Dec. 9, Thursday, Dec. 10, and Friday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 13, at 2 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$23-\$71
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Christmas story told by Grammy winners

The voices of Chanticleer will fill the halls of Memorial Church this year with its "A Chanticleer Christmas." The Grammy-winning, all male chorus will celebrate the Christmas season by telling a story through Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, carols and African American spirituals.

- **Where:** Memorial Church, 50 Serra Mall, Stanford

- **When:** Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$60 for general admission
- **Info:** live.stanford.edu or 650-724-2464

Hershel tries to save Hanukkah

Based on a book by Eric A. Kimmel, the Peninsula Youth Theatre presents "Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins." In this tale, goblins come down and ruin Hanukkah each year, but Hershel has an idea that might change that.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Friday, Dec. 11 at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 12, at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$8-\$12
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Builders unite at "Living LEGO-CY" show

The Museum of American Heritage, the Bay Area LEGO User Group and the Bay Area

LEGO Train Club bring builders together again for its annual holiday Lego extravaganza, "Living LEGO-CY." Visitors can enjoy creations made by club members, including Bay Area landmarks, castles and portraits.

- **Where:** Museum of American History, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto
- **When:** Dec. 11 to Jan. 16 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$2, free for Museum of American Heritage and Bay Area LEGO User

- **Info:** moah.org or 650-321-1004

Holiday concert from Ragazzi Continuo

Ragazzi Continuo, alumni of the Ragazzi Boys Chorus, invites locals to its holiday concert, "Carols Ancient and New." This program features a blend of Christmas classics from around the world and throughout time.

- **Where:** All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley

Continued on next page

The Ladera Country Shopper Merchant's Holiday Fair

Saturday, December 5th • 11 am-12:30 pm

Konditorei: Photos with Santa

~Plus~

- Ladera Garden & Gifts:** Bulb Planting
- Bianchini's Market:** Matt's Famous Eggnog
- Rusty's Roadside Grill:** The Balloon Lady
- Amigos Grill:** Piñatas
- UPS Store:** Holiday Cards
- Portola Kitchen:** The Madrigal Singers
- Alpine Optometry:** Snow Globe Ornaments
- Ladera Cleaners and Diane's Beauty:** Holiday Candy
- Chase Bank:** Cookies, Drinks, and Gifts
- Lobster Shack:** Live Music
- Ladera Community Church:** Ornament Making

Continued from previous page

St., Palo Alto; and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 178 Clinton St., Redwood City

- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. in Palo Alto; and Saturday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. in Redwood City
- **Cost:** \$15-\$18
- **Info:** ragazzicontinuo.org

'A Winter Prelude'

In its 49th season, the Peninsula Women's Chorus offers a concert that reflects the ever-changing facets of winter. In "A Winter Prelude," audience members will experience joy, uncertainty and exaltation as the chorus moves through songs and stories of the season.

- **Where:** Saint Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, 2:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$10-\$35
- **Info:** pwchorus.org or 650-327-3095

Singers, from small to tall, perform 'I Dream a World'

The Ragazzi Boys Chorus presents "I Dream a World," which features music inspired by



the Langston Hughes poem with the same title. The performance celebrates the crosscultural power of love and music, traits that all humans have in common. The concert will conclude with a sing-along of holiday classics, such as "Deck the Halls," "Joy to the World" and "O Come All Ye Faithful."

- **Where:** First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, at 5 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$16-\$28
- **Info:** ragazzi.org or 650-342-8785

The Gryphon Carolers holiday concert

The Gryphon Carolers have performed for audiences for more than 30 years, and this year, they bring the sounds of holiday favorites and original compositions by Ed Johnson and Carol McComb.

- **Where:** Cañada College Theater, Building 3, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$15-\$25
- **Info:** gryphoncarollers.com or 408-692-4484

Instrumental 'Winter Solstice'

Three instrumentalists come together to perform original music and seasonal classes for "A Windham Hill Winter Solstice." The performance features Grammy Award-nominated singer, fiddler, pianist and songwriter Barbara Higbie; Windham Hill founder and Grammy-winning guitarist Will Ackerman, and Grammy-nominated guitarist and composer Alex de Grassi.

- **Where:** Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$15-\$78
- **Info:** live.stanford.edu or 650-724-2464

It's a Wonderful Nutcracker'

Menlowe Ballet presents "It's a Wonderful Nutcracker" under artistic director Michael Lowe. This performance was inspired by Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life," and is set in the 1940s. Lowe collaborated with Julie Lowe and Sarah-Jame Measor to make the ballet's narrative. The story, with its twists and turns, offers a heartfelt message to the audience about what makes the holidays wonderful.

- **Where:** Menlo Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 12, through Sunday, Dec. 20
- **Cost:** \$28-\$55
- **Info:** menloweballet.org or 650-231-2025

Orchestra holiday extravaganza

Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra's third annual holiday extravaganza delivers again, with excerpts from excerpts from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet," the iSing Girlchoir, an appearance by soloist Michel Taddei and the SuperStrings Orchestra ensemble.

- **Where:** Cubberley Theatre at the Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
- **When:** Sunday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Info:** pacomusic.org or 650-856-3848

Wintersongs with Kitka

This winter holiday program by Kitka showcases seasonal music from a variety of Eastern European ethnic and spiritual traditions.

- **Where:** St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park
- **When:** Sunday, Dec. 13, at 4 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$10-\$35



Lois Greenfield

Smuin Ballet dancer Weston Krukow gets in the holiday spirit in Smuin's "The Christmas Ballet."

- **Info:** kitka.org or 510-444-0323

Audience sing-along

Under the baton of Maestro Gregory Wait, Schola Cantorum presents Handel's Messiah, which includes an audience sing-along.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Monday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$18-\$22
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Youth ballet's 'Snow Queen'

The Bayer Ballet Co.'s "Snow Queen" will take the audience through the story of a love and friendship that overcomes evil. The youth ballet performance will include beautiful scenery, costumes, music and special effects.

- **Where:** Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 19, and Sunday, Dec. 20, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$40-\$50
- **Info:** mvcpa.com or 650-903-6000

Choral, orchestra celebration

"Winter's Gifts: Celebration" features The Choral Project and

the San José Chamber Orchestra during an evening of live holiday music. Conductors Barbara Day Turner and Daniel Hughes come together to make this combination concert happen.

- **Where:** First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St. Palo Alto
- **When:** Saturday, Dec. 19, at 8 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$10-\$32, children under 10 are free
- **Info:** choralproject.org/concerts or 408-279-0161


Chopshticks

Comedian Wayne Federman will bring the laughs while guests enjoy Chinese food at the annual holiday laughfest. Federman was the head monologue writer for NBC's "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" in its first season, and has had roles in "Legally Blonde," "Curb Your Enthusiasm," and more.

- **Where:** Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto
- **When:** Thursday, Dec. 24, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$55-\$60
- **Info:** paloaltojcc.org/Events/chopshticks or 650-223-8791

Associate Editor Brenna Malmberg can be emailed at bmalmberg@paweekly.com.

Redwood City's
2015 Silicon Valley Ball




Featuring
Chris Isaak

The Holiday Party of the Year! Four venues offering a night of unparalleled entertainment!

Fox Theatre - Chris Isaak and Top Shelf
Club Fox - Pat Travers and Daniel Castro
Courthouse Square - delicious desserts and dancing under the tent with DJ Dinero
San Mateo County History Museum - Casino night with prizes

December 12th · 8pm to midnight
SiliconValleyBall.com · 650.369.7770

Sponsored by





Courtesy of Punkpost

Punkpost offers a variety of holiday cards from different artists.

INVITES

continued from page 21

to dress up the envelopes. And she promises that anyone can add a little flair to their holiday invites.

Inspired by #snailmail posts on social media, Qiu stocks up on washi tape, stickers and stamps, all of which can be found at local craft stores, she said. Each strip of decorative tape, which she runs horizontally across the envelope, makes her mail stand out from the crowd.

“For the holidays, I go with vibrant colors,” she said. “Chevron and stripes are really popular right now, and, oh, polka dots, too.”

She also likes to send a personal touch by making her own cards, which has turned into a little business for her as well in the past year. She had always made cards for friends, and thought, “I should sell these.” So, today, while studying and prepping for finals, she runs a little Etsy shop, etsy.com/shop/BellyFlopDesigns. The “Meowy Christmas” card is one of her favorites, she said.

But for some, the time and energy it takes to actually send a physical card is daunting, said Alexis Monson, co-founder of Punkpost. This app-based, card-sending service allows users to send snail mail as easily as a text. Through the app, senders pick out a card, add features such as photos and confetti, type a message, input an address, and then someone on the other end writes out the message in a letterpress card and sends it.

“We know people are busy,” Monson said, “and this fits with a modern-day lifestyle.”



Courtesy of Wendy Qiu

Wendy Qiu, a Gunn High School graduate and current University of California, Davis student, uses holiday-colored washi tape to decorate her envelopes.

Allie Safran, who works in Menlo Park, uses the app because it is so convenient. She lives in an apartment, and sometimes can't find a nearby mail box or doesn't have a stamp. Punkpost solves those problems for her.

“I've sent 17 since, well in the past two months,” she said. “I can still get hand-written cards without having to worry about the logistics.”

Safran, who has sent a range of card types, said she would consider sending her invites with Punkpost, and will definitely be including confetti when she does.

And as if there weren't enough options on the market, party hosts can also send electronic invites via platforms such as Facebook. Lily Jolly, events product manager for Facebook in Menlo Park, said Facebook Events can now send

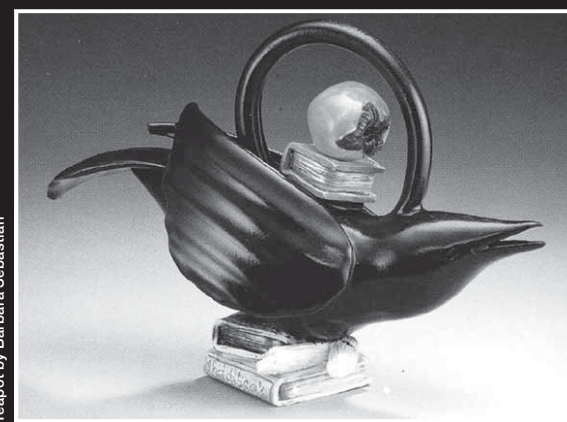
messages to not only Facebook friends but also to anyone else via email. Beside the ease of distribution, Facebook Events also lets guests connect beforehand, post photos and coordinate food, and the host can send reminders and track who will attend.

“Make sure your event has a cover art photo that is representative of the event, so your friends know what the event will be like,” Jolly said. In Facebook Events, party hosts can set the tone with art options or upload their own photos, including ones from the previous year's event.

And best of all, from her perspective, is the option to post photos on the wall after the event, continuing the holiday fun. 📸

Associate Editor Brenna Malmberg can be emailed at bmalmberg@paweekly.com.

the artfactory COOPERATIVE



Teapot by Barbara Sebastian

Fine Crafts ♦ HOLIDAY FAIR ♦ Local Artists

December 4, 5, 6, 2015

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-5

Hoover House (aka “The Girl Scout House”)

1120 Hopkins, Palo Alto

for information:

650-625-1736

TheArtfactory@aol.com | artfactoryholidayfair.com

TACORI



CECI WONG

611 Santa Cruz Avenue

650.322.2811 | worldofceciwong.com

We'll pay the taxes on your purchases during the holidays* when you bring in this ad.

*Through December 24, 2015.

NEWSROOM

Editor

Richard Hine (223-6525)

Associate Editor

Renee Batti (223-6528)

Staff Writers

Dave Boyce (223-6527),
Kate Bradshaw (223-6588)
Barbara Wood (223-6533)

Contributors Jane Knoerle,
Marjorie Mader, Kate Daly

Special Sections Editor

Brenna Malmberg (223-6511)

Photographer Michelle Le (223-6530)

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Marketing and Creative Director

Shannon Corey (223-6560)

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

Designers Linda Atilano, Diane Haas,
Rosanna Leung, Paul Llewellyn,
Nick Schweich, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahralis (223-6570)

Display Advertising Sales

Janice Hoogner (223-6576)

Real Estate Manager

Neal Fine (223-6583)

Legal Advertising

Alicia Santillan (223-6578)

ADVERTISING SERVICES

Advertising Services Lead

Blanca Yoc (223-6596)

Sales & Production Coordinators

Diane Martin (223-6584), Kevin Legarda
(223-6597)

Published every Wednesday at
**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
Menlo Park, CA 94025**

Newsroom: (650) 223-6525
Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

Advertising: (650) 854-2626
Advertising Fax: (650) 223-7570

Email news and photos with captions to:
Editor@AlmanacNews.com

Email letters to:
letters@AlmanacNews.com

The Almanac, established in October 1965, is delivered each week to residents of Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside and adjacent unincorporated areas of southern San Mateo County. The Almanac is qualified by decree of the Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish public notices of a governmental and legal nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued December 21, 1969. ©2015 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved.

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year and \$100 for two years. Go to AlmanacNews.com/circulation.



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.

Town Square forum

Post your views on the
Town Square forum at
AlmanacNews.com

Email your views to:
letters@almanacnews.com
and note this it is a letter to
the editor in the subject line.

Mail or deliver to:
Editor, The Almanac
3525 Alameda de las Pulgas
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Call the Viewpoint desk at
223-6528.

Holiday Fund: A means to help our neighbors in need

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Many living in southern San Mateo County approach the end of 2015 on firm and comfortable economic ground, thanks to the continuing good health of the Bay Area economy. But the dazzling economy has also left far too many others on increasingly shaky ground. Soaring housing costs devour ever-larger portions of low- and fixed-income residents' budgets, and are pushing many of them out of their homes completely, sometimes with nowhere to go but homeless shelters or the street.

The harsh dues of poverty and living on the edge also often lead to mental and physical health problems and fractured families. And of course, to hunger and unmet needs for clothing and other life essentials as well.

Almanac readers have for 22 years risen to the challenge of helping neighbors in need during the holiday season, and we trust that this year will be no exception. The Almanac's Holiday Fund this season will support 10 nonprofits that help the impoverished, the hungry, those in need of medical care, kids from disadvantaged families or in need of mental health services, and many others who need a helping hand to get through difficulties in their lives.

As in past years, the Holiday Fund donations will be matched thanks to the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The donations will be handled by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which doesn't charge for its administration of the program. That means your donations go straight to the nonprofits, which equally share the money raised.

Last year, the Almanac's Holiday Fund program raised about \$156,000. Please consider making a donation to this year's program by using the coupon on Page 13 of this newspaper or going online at siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund.

This year's Holiday Fund beneficiaries are:

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

With locations in Menlo Park and the North Fair Oaks neighborhood in Redwood City, this organization provides academic and after-school support and activities for 1,750 at-risk K-12 kids. Participants attend programs at least twice a week during the school year and receive tutoring, mentoring, and academic support.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

This program provides emergency food, clothing and household essentials support, and sometimes financial assistance, to families, regardless of religious background. At Thanksgiving and Christmas time, the program provides baskets to more than 2,000 households.

Project Read-Menlo Park

Project Read offers free literacy services to adults in the Menlo Park area. It trains volunteers to work one-on-one

with students wishing to improve their basic reading, writing and English language skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, at work, and in the community.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

The center provides primary medical and preventive health care at a new facility in East Palo Alto. Most of the 17,000 registered patients are low-income and uninsured, and live in the Belle Haven, East Palo Alto, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

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

Second Harvest Food Bank

Second Harvest is the largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, distributing about 52 million pounds of food last year. Thanks to donations from individuals and businesses, it distributes food to more than 250,000 people each month through more than 770 agencies and sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

InnVision Shelter Network

This nonprofit serves thousands of homeless families and individuals every year as they work toward self-sufficiency and seek permanent housing. It provides temporary housing and a range of support services, with 18 sites in Silicon Valley and on the Peninsula.

StarVista

StarVista serves more than 32,000 people in San Mateo County with counseling, prevention, early intervention, education and residential programs. It also provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services, including a 24-hour suicide crisis hotline.

Fair Oaks Community Center

The center's reach into a community in need is extensive. It provides senior programs, child care, assistance with citizenship and immigration matters, and housing and employment services. It offers crisis intervention, and hosts Dignity on Wheels, a mobile shower and laundry trailer for the homeless.

Health Connected

Serves more than 5,000 students and their families annually through sexual health and education programs. Professionals work with students, who learn how to communicate with parents about health and sexual-ity issues, and to make informed decisions. ■

Bay Area Collection

Menlo Park. Palo Alto. Burlingame 650.314.7200 | pacificunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

APPOINTMENT ONLY



1 Faxon Road, Atherton

\$20,700,000
5+ BD / 5+ BA

Custom gated estate in premier Menlo Circus Club location on 1.7+ acres with solar-heated pool, golf practice hole. 1faxon.com

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

APPOINTMENT ONLY



85 Greenoaks, Atherton

\$12,950,000
6 BD / 5+ BA

Superb new construction by Laurel Homes and Adcon Builders. Premier location in Lindenwood. Pool spa, 1BD/1BA guest house.

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

APPOINTMENT ONLY



280 Ridgeway Road, Woodside

\$5,888,000
4 BD / 4 BA

Iconic Cape Cod Moderne! 2-story grand salon, all remodeled baths & kitchen, huge walk-in master closet, resort grounds & pool.

Geoffrey Nelson, 650.455.3735
geoffrey@geoffreynelson.com

APPOINTMENT ONLY



180 Greenoaks, Atherton

\$5,300,000
3 BD / 2.5 BA

Main house plus 1BD/1BA guest house. Fully enclosed pool cabana. Updated and spacious ranch home in desirable Lindenwood.

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

REDUCED PRICE



3665 Woodside Road, Woodside

\$4,200,000
3 BD / 2.5 BA / 2,120 SF

Sunny at lot in Woodside. 3.3 acres. Western Hill views.

Cashin Group, 650.625.7201
david@kcashinggroup.com

AVAILABLE



191 Meadowood, Portola Valley

\$3,495,000
2+ acres

Gracious lot. Views of Windy Hill. 7k sf allowable* Imagine the possibilities!

Jennifer Pollock, 650.867.0609
Deanna Tarr, 415.999.1232

OLD PALO ALTO



580 Washington Ave, Palo Alto

\$3,188,000
3 BD / 3 BA

Exquisitely remodeled 2 story home in the heart of Old Palo Alto. Beautiful home with many distinctive architectural features.

Doyle Rundell, 650.722.1385
doyle@pacunion.com

GREAT LOCATION



1715 Altschul Avenue, Menlo Park

\$2,699,000
4 BD / 2.5 BA

Vaulted ceiling, with new paint throughout the home. Recent update includes new appliances, electric car charging station.

Cashin Group, 650.625.7201
david@kcashinggroup.com

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY



415 Olive Street, Menlo Park

\$2,495,000
7 BD / 3 BA

Prime west Menlo Park. Move in today, remodel, or build new, lot size of approximately .27 acre (12,100 square feet)

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

APPOINTMENT ONLY



4 Chateau Dr, Menlo Park

\$2,195,000
3 BD / 3 BA

Remodeled townhome in downtown Menlo Park, 2 blocks to Santa Cruz Avenue.

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

AMAZING VIEW



101 Alma Street #1103, Palo Alto

\$2,100,000
3 BD / 3 BA

Bright and light Living Room with open space, updated kitchen. 24hr Security and doorman, on-site management, gym, pool.

Amy Sung, 650.468.4834
amy@amysung.com

RENTAL IN LINDENWOOD



82 Linden Avenue, Atherton

\$25,000 / month
7 BD / 5+ BA

Contemporary, light filled home with rooms opening to the patio & pool on almost 1 acre. Pool and guest house.

Tom LeMieux, 650.465.7459
tom@tomlemieux.com

“Your publications allow our listings to be seen throughout Silicon Valley.”

– DeLeon Realty

“We have become the #1 real estate team in the United States thanks, in part, to our aggressive marketing of listings. By advertising in your fine publications like the Palo Alto Weekly, the Mountain View Voice, and the Menlo Park Almanac, we have optimized our ability to capture the attention of potential buyers. We would not be able to consistently achieve such high sales prices without our partnership with Embarcadero Media. Thank you!”



Ken DeLeon
CalBRE #01342140



Michael Repka
CalBRE #01854880

(650) 488-7325

info@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com



TheAlmanacOnline.com

MountainViewOnline.com

PaloAltoOnline.com



We will work to help your business grow!

For Advertising information, please call Neal Fine at (650) 223-6583

We cover Midpeninsula real estate like nobody else.



We offer the one online destination that lets you fully explore:

- Interactive maps
- Homes for sale
- Open house dates and times
- Virtual tours and photos
- Prior sales info
- Neighborhood guides
- Area real estate links
- and so much more.

Our comprehensive online guide to the Midpeninsula real estate market has all the resources a home buyer, agent or local resident could ever want and it's all in one easy-to-use, local site!

Agents:

You'll want to explore our unique online advertising opportunities. Contact your sales representative or call 650-326-8210 today to find out more.

Explore area real estate through your favorite local website:

TheAlmanacOnline.com
MountainViewOnline.com
PaloAltoOnline.com

And click on “real estate” in the navigation bar.



TheAlmanacOnline.com



MountainViewOnline.com



PaloAltoOnline.com

HOME + GARDEN DESIGN WINTER ISSUE COMING SOON



Home+Garden DESIGN

Features to look for in the Winter issue

- Creating a simple to spectacular koi pond
- Wintertime flower finder featuring the Lupine
- The do's and don'ts of hanging pictures
- First step impressions: the welcome mat just for you

Reaching the homes of Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside, Portola Valley, Palo Alto, Mountain View and other surrounding communities.

Now's the time to reserve advertise space in the next issue of Home+Garden Design

Contact your Ad Rep or call 650.326.8210 to learn more or reserve space

Fresh look, larger size
— great content



LOS ALTOS HILLS RETREAT
PALO ALTO SCHOOLS

14700 Manuella Road, Los Altos Hills
 14700Manuella.com

PRICE REDUCED TO \$3,998,000

MAIN HOUSE
 Beds 3 | Baths 2.5
 Home ±3,285 sf | Lot ±22,880 sf

GUEST HOUSE
 Studio | Bath 1 | Kitchen

Workshop: ±835 sf
 Wine Room: ±170 sf
 2-car Garage: ±580 sf



Michael Dreyfus, Broker
 650.485.3476
 michael.dreyfus@dreyfussir.com
 License No. 01121795



Summer Brill, Sales Associate
 650.468.2989
 summer.brill@dreyfussir.com
 License No. 01891857



Noelle Queen, Sales Associate
 650.427.9211
 noelle.queen@dreyfussir.com
 License No. 01917593

Dreyfus

Sotheby's
 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Downtown Palo Alto
 728 Emerson St., Palo Alto
 650.644.3474

Downtown Menlo Park
 640 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park
 650.847.1141

dreyfussir.com
 Each Office is Independently Owned
 and Operated.

Local Knowledge • National Exposure • Global Reach

PLACE AN AD

ONLINE
fogster.com

E-MAIL
ads@fogster.com

PHONE
650.326.8216

Now you can log on to **fogster.com**, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free and include a one-line free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home Services and Mind & Body Services require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 150,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!!

INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD
100-199
- FOR SALE
200-299
- KIDS STUFF
330-399
- MIND & BODY
400-499
- JOBS
500-599
- BUSINESS SERVICES
600-699
- HOME SERVICES
700-799
- FOR RENT/
FOR SALE
REAL ESTATE
800-899
- PUBLIC/LEGAL
NOTICES
995-997

The publisher waives any and all claims or consequential damages due to errors. Embarcadero Media cannot assume responsibility for the claims or performance of its advertisers. Embarcadero Media has the right to refuse, edit or reclassify any ad solely at its discretion without prior notice.

fogster.com is a unique website offering **FREE** postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and the Mountain View Voice.

Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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

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

"Is Christianity a Science?"
ASST SECTION MGRS FOR FOPAL
Come See Treasure Island
Deborah's Palm Holiday Bazaar
Does dementia stress your family
HUGE USED BOOK SALE/FREE BOOKS



Silicon Valley: How to succeed
through relentless failure. Startups, the real story.
Please see <http://SlumsOfPaloAlto.com/> for more details

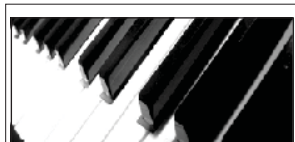
130 Classes & Instruction

Airline Careers
begin here - Get started by training as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 800-725-1563 (AAN CAN)

133 Music Lessons

Christina Conti Private Piano Instruction
Lessons in your home. Bachelor of Music. 650/493-6950

Hope Street Music Studios
Now on Old Middlefield Way, MV. Most instruments, voice. All ages and levels 650-961-2192 www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com



Piano Lessons
Quality Piano Lessons in Menlo Park. Call (650)838-9772 Alita Lake

135 Group Activities

Does dementia stress your family

145 Non-Profits Needs

DONATE BOOKS TO SUPPORT LIBRARY
WISH LIST FRIENDS OF PA LIBRARY

150 Volunteers

Does dementia stress your family
Fosterers Needed for Cats
FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY
JOIN OUR ONLINE STOREFRONT TEAM

It's easy to Place your ad via the internet. just go to — www.TheAlmanacOnline.com

152 Research Study Volunteers

Balance Study Research Volunteers. Up to \$225
Stanford University and the Palo Alto VA are seeking participants, ages 55-85, with balance problems for a research study investigating the use of special lights to improve balance while walking at night during two separate overnight stays at the VA Sleep Lab. Participants must be healthy, non-smokers, without sleep problems, between 55-85. Compensation up to \$225. For more information contact: yvonne.quevedo@va.gov 1-650-849-1971

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

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

Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat
to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

I Buy Old Porsches
911, 356. 1948-1973 only. Any condition. Top \$\$ paid. Finders Fee. Call 707-965-9546 or email porscheclasics@yahoo.com (Cal-SCAN)

Older Car, Boat, RV?
Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-800-743-1482 (Cal-SCAN)

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Palo Alto, 50 Embarcadero, Dec. 12, 9-3

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Rare Pokemon cards for sale - \$15-35

235 Wanted to Buy

Cash for Diabetic Test Strips!
Up to \$35/Box! Sealed and Unexpired. Payment Made SAME DAY. Highest Prices Paid!! Call Juley Today! 800-413-3479. www.CashForYourTestStrips.com (Cal-SCAN)

240 Furnishings/ Household items

Video/Cabinet Shelf

245 Miscellaneous

AT&T U-Verse Internet
starting at \$15/month or TV & Internet starting at \$49/month for 12 months with 1-year agreement. Call 1-800-453-0516 to learn more. (Cal-SCAN)

DirectTV
DIRECTV Starting at \$19.99/mo. FREE Installation. FREE 3 months of HBO SHOWTIME CINEMAX, STARZ. FREE HD/DVR Upgrade! 2015 NFL Sunday Ticket Included (Select Packages) New Customers Only. CALL 1-800-385-9017 (CalSCAN)

Dish Network
Get MORE for LESS! Starting \$19.99/month (for 12 months) PLUS Bundle & SAVE (Fast Internet for \$15 more/month.) CALL Now 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

DISH TV
Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) SAVE! Regular Price \$34.99 Ask About FREE SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 888-992-1957 (AAN CAN)

Kill Bed Bugs!
Buy Harris Bed Bug Killers/ KIT. Available: Hardware Stores, The Home Depot, homedepot.com (AAN CAN)

Kid's Stuff

345 Tutoring/ Lessons

Math Tutoring One to One

355 Items for Sale

6-12 Months cooler weather outfit
Snow bibb size 7 Black \$14
Sweet Lion Costume 12-24month \$20

Mind & Body

417 Groups

Did You Know
7 IN 10 Americans or 158 million U.S. Adults read content from newspaper media each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6019 or email elizabeth@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

425 Health Services

CPAP/BIPAP Supplies
at little or no cost from Allied Medical Supply Network! Fresh supplies delivered right to your door. Insurance may cover all costs. 800-421-4309. (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate Cellulite
and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 844-244-7149 (M-F 9am-8pm central) (AAN CAN)

Knee Pain? Back Pain?
Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace - little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 1-800-796-5091 (Cal-SCAN)

Life Alert 24/7
One press of a button sends help FAST! Medical, Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach a phone! FREE Brochure. CALL 800-714-1609. (Cal-SCAN)

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

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Drivers: Great Money
Respect You Deserve! Home For Christmas! \$500 Holiday Bonus. BCBS + 401K + Pet & Rider. CDL-A Req - (877) 258-8782. www.drive4melton.com (Cal-SCAN)

Account & Office Assistant

Accountant (Mid-Level)/ Office Manager
for charitable trusts and pvt. foundation dntr. PA. (Parking in building garage.) Requires high intelligence, capability to work independently in two-person Trustee's office. Flex schedule, P/T, 25 hours/wk. Compensation commensurate with experience. Send resume and your hand-written letter to Mail Box 105, 555 Byron St., PA, 94301.

Delivery drivers needed
Awesome opportunity! Fast paced MMJ Delivery service for the peninsula and San Jose looking for motivated, responsible individuals for delivery driver position. Must have good communication skills and speak english. Drivers must be able to appear clean cut and professional looking and have a reliable car. Business casual attire. Must live locally. must have CA driver's license. And lastly, must have interest/knowledge in the subject of MMJ. Please email a picture of your license and a letter stating why you want to work for us and/or your resume to Info@bayshoremeds.com. Serious inquiries only. Thank you.

DISHWASHER
Restaurant and Catering company looking for an enthusiastic and RELIABLE person to help in our kitchen... hours will vary, but mostly Monday-Friday late morning thru afternoon; some weekends needed. English a plus but not required... please respond with any previous experience and the best way to contact you.

Dry Cleaners
Experience spotter/presser needed for Dry Cleaners. Will train exp needed. Full time Mon-Fri. Call (650) 329-0998.

Engineering
SurveyMonkey Inc. has a **Software Engineer (Job Code: SEHSV-CA)** position available in Palo Alto, CA. Developing/ maintaining our website with our framework. Submit resume by mail to: SurveyMonkey Inc., ATTN: Human Resources, 101 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301. Must reference job title and job code SEHSV-CA.

Engineering
Pure Storage, Inc. has the following job opps. in Mountain View, CA:

Sr. Software Engineer (Req. FFK27). Prfrm full cycle app dvlpmt for systems-level storage SW.
Member of Technical Staff (Software Engineer) (Req. #CHH48). Dsgn and dvlp SW for cloud srvc to manage and monitor storage sys.

Mail resumes refrnc'g Req. # to: H. Thibeault, 401 Castro St, 3rd Flr, Mountain View, CA 94041.

Medical Billing
30 hrs/wk, 8:30am-2:30pm, M-F. No experience required. Need good math & EXCELLENT typing skills. Begins @ \$12/hr. Room to advance. Office in Menlo Park, CA. Send CV to dbs@facinc.org with subject heading "HR Dept"

fogster.com
**Think Globally,
Post Locally.**

Newspaper Delivery Routes Immediate Opening:

Routes available to deliver the **Palo Alto Weekly**, an award-winning community newspaper, to homes in Palo Alto on Fridays. From approx. 430 to 1,390 papers, 8.25 cents per paper (plus bonus for extra-large editions). Additional bonus following successful 13 week introductory period. Must be at least 18 y/o. Valid CDL, reliable vehicle and current auto insurance req'd. Please email your experience and qualifications to jon3silver@yahoo.com with "Newspaper Delivery Routes" in the subject line. Or (best) call Jon Silver, 650-868-4310

Recruit
SlingShot Connections is NOW HIRING: Work for a company located within a world-renowned university in Palo Alto, CA.
Cashiers, Order Pullers, Merchandisers. Cashier and Customer Service experience a plus! Contact us for more info! Email resumes: jobs@slingshotconnections.com Or call us at **408-247-8233**

560 Employment Information

Paid in Advance!
Make \$1000 A Week Mailing Brochures From Home! No Experience Required. Helping home workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity. Start Immediately! www.TheIncomeHub.com (AAN CAN)

Business Services

604 Adult Care Offered

A Place for Mom
The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/ no obligation. CALL 1-800-550-4822. (Cal-SCAN)

619 Consultants

Every Business Has a Story
to tell! Get your message out with California's PRMedia Release - the only Press Release Service operated by the press to get press! For more info contact Elizabeth @ 916-288-6019 or <http://prmediarelease.com/california> (Cal-SCAN)

624 Financial

Attention Business Owners
Get up to \$250K of working capital in as little as 24 Hours. (No Startups) - Call 1-800-426-1901 (AAN CAN)

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

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

Structured Settlement?
Sell your structured settlement or annuity payments for CASH NOW. You don't have to wait for your future payments any longer! Call 1-800-673-5926 (Cal-SCAN)

FOGSTER.COM

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

GO TO FOGSTER.COM TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS

636 Insurance

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

640 Legal Services

Blood Thinner Xarelto
If you or a loved one took the blood thinner Xarelto and had complications due to internal bleeding after January 2012 you MAY be due financial compensation. Call Injuryfone 1-800-425-4701. (Cal-SCAN)

Did You Know?

Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's hostile business climate? Gain the edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the FREE One-Month Trial Smart Search Feature. For more information call Elizabeth @ (916) 288-6019 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

Home Services

715 Cleaning Services

Cleaning by Maria
Specializing in homes. 20 years exp., excel. refs. 650/207-4609

Eco1 Dry Cleaners
4546 El Camino Real (Los Altos)
www.eco1drycleaners.com

Mary's Housecleaning
7 days/week. 10+ years exp. Good refs. Serving MV area. 650/630-9348

Orkopina Housecleaning
Celebrating 30 years cleaning homes in your area. 650/962-1536

748 Gardening/Landscaping

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

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

R.G. Landscape
Drought tolerant native landscapes and succulent gardens. Demos, installations, maint. Free est. 650/468-8859

751 General Contracting

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

754 Gutter Cleaning

Roofs, Gutters, Downspouts
cleaning. Work guar. 30 years exp. Insured. Veteran Owned. Jim Thomas Maintenance, 408/595-2759.

757 Handyman/Repairs

AAA HANDYMAN & MORE
Since 1985
Repairs • Maintenance • Painting
Carpentry • Plumbing • Electrical
All Work Guaranteed Lic. #468963
(650) 453-3002

Handyman Services
Lic. 249558. Plumb, elect., masonry, carpentry, landscape. 40+ years exp. Pete Rumore, 650/823-0736; 650/851-3078

759 Hauling

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

771 Painting/Wallpaper

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

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

775 Asphalt/Concrete

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

781 Pest Control



Attic Clean-Up & Rodent Removal
Are you in the Bay Area? Do you have squeaky little terrors living in your attic or crawlspace? What you are looking for is right here! Call Attic Star now to learn about our rodent removal services and cleaning options. You can also get us to take out your old, defunct insulation and install newer, better products.

Call (866) 391-3308 now and get your work done in no time!

Real Estate

805 Homes for Rent

Los Altos - \$4500
Menlo Park, Allied Arts, 2 BR/1 BA - \$4695
Mountain View, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$3990.—
Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$4350/mo
Palo Alto, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$9000

Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA
Nice Family Home near Midtown on quiet cul-de-sac. Large backyard, 2-car garage, laundry, fireplace, hardwood floors, sliding glass doors leading to redwood deck. One-year lease required. Tenant pays utilities, and garden service included.

Redwood City (emerald Hills) - \$5500
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$4,800

809 Shared Housing/Rooms

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

PA: Room
w/sep. BA in Midtown home. Avail. now. \$1,200, incl. internet access. Off street parking. 408/489-1994

820 Home Exchanges

Did You Know
144 million U.S. Adults read a Newspaper print copy each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6019 or email elizabeth@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

845 Out of Area

SHASTA COUNTY
2 acres on paved road w/cute, tiny cabin. Pine trees. All usable land. 2 minutes from sandy beach on Sacramento River. \$6,900 down. \$440.44/mo. (\$46,900 cash price.) ALSO 5 acres. OWNER, 530/605-8857.

850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

Montana Land
Northwest Montana: Live water, large acreages, National Forest access. Recreational and remote. Mature trees, mountain views and end of road privacy. Tungstenholdings.com (406) 293-3714 (Cal-SCAN)

855 Real Estate Services

Did You Know
Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's highly competitive market? Gain an edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the Smart Search Feature. For more information call Elizabeth @ (916) 288-6019 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

EcoLuxe
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 267098
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
EcoLuxe, located at 3130 Alpine Rd., #288, #126, Portola Valley, CA 94028, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
YEVGENIA MALAMUD
787 La Playa St. #3
S.F. CA 94121
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 26, 2015.
(ALM Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 2, 2015)

SPOT ON VIDEO PRODUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 267137
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Spot On Video Production, located at 325 Sharon Park Dr., #721, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
CLEVERTENNIS, INC.
325 Sharon Park Dr., #721
Menlo Park, CA 94025
California
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 29, 2015.
(ALM Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 2015)

SAGE LIVING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-267298
The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Sage Living, located at 431 Laurel Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
STEPHANIE SAGE KERST
431 Laurel Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/16/2015.

LEHUA GREENMAN
"T'is the Season of Thanks-Giving. Be generous with both."
Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday!
245-1845
COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 17, 2015.
(ALM Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 2015)

GAMEPLAY PRODUCTIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 267187
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Gameplay Productions, located at 1255 Woodside Rd., Apt. 9, Redwood City, CA 94061, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
CHEYENNE DECKER
1255 Woodside Rd. Apt. 9
Redwood City, CA 94061
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 4, 2015.
(ALM Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 2015)

997 All Other Legals

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
PROBATE DIVISION
In re the Matter of the:
NELSON TRUST,
dated February 13, 2007.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF JAMES L. NELSON, DECEASED
[Probate Code 19003, 19040]
Case No. 126294

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the creditors and contingent creditors of the above-named decedent, that all persons having claims against the decedent are required to file them with the Superior Court at 400 County Center, Redwood City, California 94063, and mail a copy to Michael Nelson, Trustee of the Nelson Trust dated February 13, 2007, of which the decedent was the settlor, in care of Kenneth H. Prochnow, Chiles and Prochnow, LLP, 2600 El Camino Real, Suite 412, Palo Alto, California 94306, within the later of four months after Wednesday, November 18, 2015, (the date of first publication of notice to creditors) or, if notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, 30 days after the date this notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, or you must petition to file a late claim as provided in Probate Code Section 19103. A claim form may be obtained from the court clerk. For your protection, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.

(ALM Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 2015)

AMENDED
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: CIV535748
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: JING YI ZHUO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
a.) JING YI ZHUO TO JINGYI LU
b.) JINGYI LU
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: January 5, 2016, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, Room: 2D of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
THE ALMANAC
Date: November 12, 2015
s/ Mark R. Forcum
Acting Presiding Judge
(ALM Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 2015)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MATTHEW J. SHANKS
Case No.: 126278
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MATTHEW J. SHANKS. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: PENNY J. SHANKS in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO. The Petition for Probate requests that: PENNY J. SHANKS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court

approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on December 14, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 28 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Robert W. Armstrong, State Bar No. 81483
Demler Armstrong & Rowland, LLP
201 Spear Street, Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415)757-3488
(ALM Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 2015)

To assist you with your legal advertising needs
Call Alicia Santillan
(650) 223-6578
or e-mail her at:
asantillan@pawebly.com

We handle all your legal publishing needs

- Public Hearing Notices
- Resolutions
- Bid Notices
- Notices of Petition to Administer Estate
- Lien Sale
- Trustee's Sale

PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

If it has been 5 years since you filed your Fictitious Business Name Statement (your D.B.A.), you must file again to protect your legal rights. Check your records now to see if your D.B.A. expires this year. Then call the Almanac, 223-6578, for assistance in refiling.

It's inexpensive and easy.

The Almanac (650) 223-6578

A variety of home financing solutions to meet your needs

Let's get started today.



Vicki Svendsgaard
Mortgage Loan Officer, SVP
NMLS ID: 633619
650-400-6668 Mobile
vicki.svendsgaard@bankofamerica.com
mortgage.bankofamerica.com/vickisvendsgaard

Mortgages available from:



Bank of America, N.A. and the other business/organization mentioned in this advertisement are not affiliated; each company is independently responsible for the products and services it offers. Bank of America may compensate select real estate companies and builders for marketing its home loan products and services. Bank of America, N.A. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. ©2014 Bank of America Corporation. Credit and collateral are subject to approval. Terms and conditions apply. This is not a commitment to lend. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. ARK69DJ5 HL-113-AD 09-2014

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

November 25, 2015 ■ TheAlmanacOnline.com ■ **The Almanac** ■ 31

OLD WORLD WOODSIDE ESTATE

6+ ACRES • OFFERED AT \$5,700,000

- 7 bedrooms and 8.5 bathrooms
- 1 bedroom guest house
- ~12,921 square feet of living space
- Pool, spa, and tennis court
- 5-stall barn, 2-stall barn, and riding ring
- Excellent Las Lomitas schools



389 MOORE ROAD
Woodside, California
Offered at \$5,700,000

Coldwell Banker
#1 Individual Agent, Woodside/Portola Valley Offices, 2013 & 2014
#1 Agent SF Peninsula, 2013
#3 Agent out of 85,000 Internationally, 2012
www.scottdancer.com



Scott Dancer
650.888.8199
scott@scottdancer.com
CalBRE# 00868362

