

The Almanac

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

SEPTEMBER 7, 2016 | VOL. 52 NO. 1



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Gentle tutelage

Woodside's Rebekah Witter trains miniature horses as 'therapy' animals

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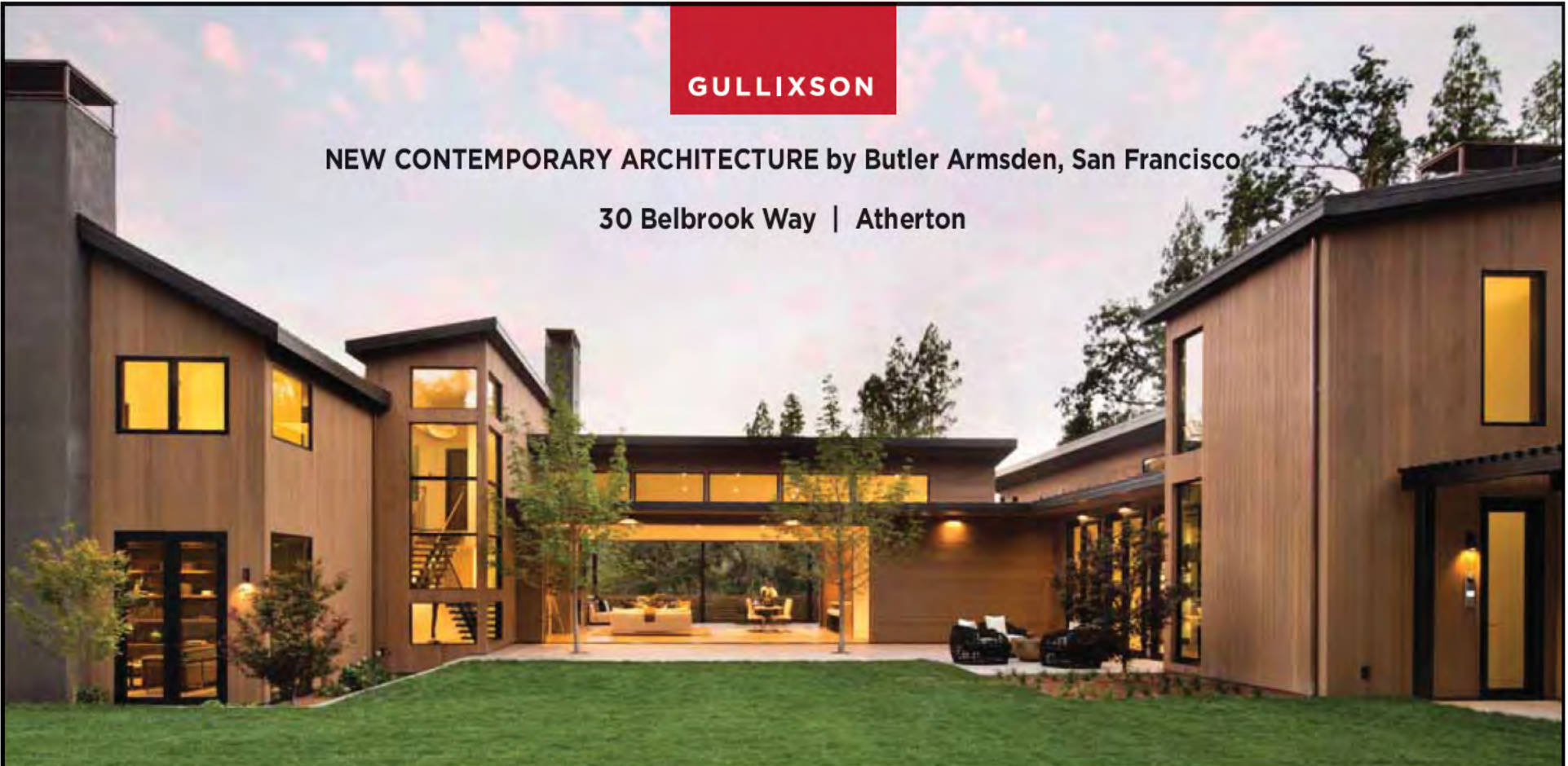

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Notice of Approved Ordinance Town of Atherton

At the April 20 & July 20, 2016, City Council meetings Council adopted the following ordinances:

Ordinance 619 & 620

619

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 6.04 OF THE ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE

620

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 12.24 OF THE ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE

The ordinances were approved unanimously.

For a complete copy of Ordinances 619 & 620 please contact Theresa DellaSanta at tdellasanta@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-752-0529.

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Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Could Atherton withdraw from fire district?

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

For years, Atherton officials have groused that it appears the Menlo Park Fire Protection District gets more property tax revenue from the town's property owners than Atherton does. Now, the town is considering doing something about it, with options including withdrawing from the fire district.

Atherton's City Council will hold a study session on the funding of the fire district at its Wednesday, Sept. 7, meeting, which starts at 3 p.m. in the town's council chambers at 94 Ashfield Road.

The staff report from City Manager George Rodericks says that in the 2015-16 fiscal year, based on the assessed valuation of properties in Atherton, the fire district received \$4.5 million more in property taxes from Atherton landowners than the town did: \$13.8 million for the fire district versus \$9.3 million for the town.

The report says that, accord-

ing to the county assessor's office, of every property tax dollar paid by Atherton landowners, the fire district receives slightly less than 16 cents while the town receives slightly less than 11 cents. Atherton property owners also pay an additional parcel tax for town services.

Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman says that a report done for the fire district comes up with different numbers. It says Atherton provided \$10.8 million to the district in the 2015-16 fiscal year, a figure that is also more than the \$9.3 million the town received from property tax.

The fire district provides fire, emergency response and emergency medical services to Atherton, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and some adjacent unincorporated areas. Atherton provides services that include police, planning and building, park and public works, including drainage and street work, to its residents.

The funding levels are a legacy of Proposition 13, passed by California voters in 1978. The following year the state Legisla-

Atherton wants to investigate whether its property owners are overpaying for fire district services.

ture set the property tax allocations for various government entities at the percentage they had received the year before.

The staff report suggests an independent consulting firm investigate how much it costs the fire district to provide its services to Atherton, and then use that information as a negotiating point.

If the consultants find the cost to provide fire services to the town is considerably less than the amount of property tax revenue collected by the fire district, the town could "discuss alternative fire service models which could include, but not be limited to, detachment from the Fire District," Mr. Rodericks' report says.

It suggests the town could

ask the district to share tax revenue or offer additional services or more "fire-related infrastructure."

Because the discussion is a study item, the council will not take any official action at the meeting, but it could direct staff to come back with more information.

The staff report says the estimated cost of the study is \$35,000 to \$50,000 and estimates it could be done by summer 2017.

"The Fire District would be involved at all phases of the analysis and any ultimate decisions made by the Council," the report says.

Fire board director and Atherton resident Peter Carpenter, the fire district's liaison with the town, called the town's efforts "deeply misguided." He said the town "lacks both the authority and the expertise to deal with this issue." It is the fire district's board that is elected to represent residents' "interests on this matter," not the City Council, he said.

"There is no way that the town

of Atherton can compel the fire district to make a contribution to the town," he said, adding that if the town did find a way to reduce the fire district's revenues, those property taxes would go back to the county for redistribution.

"Atherton property owners would receive practically none of the reduction," he said.

"We have a town that cannot survive without an ongoing parcel tax and cannot even fund a replacement for a decrepit police station, so it is desperate to find money from anyone but its taxpayers," he said. "Sadly it is looking at a well-managed fire district to solve its poor fiscal management problems."

Chief Schapelhouman said he worries that even talking about possibly breaking up the fire district could cause problems with hiring and employee morale.

"This is a conversation they can have. But is it a necessary conversation?" he asked. "It almost feels like a little bit of a setup and a shakedown." ■

Woodside Bakery is back, but now in Sharon Heights

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

For the first time since March, devotees of baked goods from the Woodside Bakery & Cafe will not have to visit a supermarket to buy them. The bakery part of the business opened on Sept. 1, but at a new location: in the Sharon Heights Shopping Center at 325 Sharon Park Drive in Menlo Park.

After remodeling the interior of the Sharon Heights shop, there are plans to open the cafe around the start of the new year, said Mark Sweyer, who co-owns the business with his sister Jan Sweyer. The cafe will be open for breakfast and lunch seven days a week, Mr. Sweyer said.

The menu will include past favorites such as Penne Sylvia and some of the salads and soups, he said. There will be

outside seating on a patio in front. The site has three times the parking of the old place, he added.

At the farewell party in Woodside in March, more than 1,000 people asked to be notified when the business reopened, Mr. Sweyer said. He said he is looking forward to recapturing the patronage of Sand Hill Road venture capitalists at a closer and more convenient location, as well as bicyclists traveling the Loop that includes Sand Hill Road.

The Sweyers bought the Martha's Pastries business in the shopping center from Martha Merz, who said she is retiring after 28 years. The Sweyers say, and Ms. Merz has confirmed, that Ms. Merz will be spending a month informing the pastry chef on her methods for making some of her most popular



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Woodside Bakery & Cafe co-owner Jan Sweyer, right, catches up with Maria Barsotti, a former employee, at the closing night farewell party at the Woodside location in March.

items, including challah, cinnamon bread, tarts, cookies and Palmier puff pastry.

Ms. Merz said she was "very happy" that the Sweyers are so interested and excited about carrying on her baking legacy. Pastry Chef Jesus Mendoza,

a 22-year veteran, will continue making Bakery standbys, including croissants, Danish pastries, cakes, pies and Parisian macarons, Ms. Sweyer said.

Since the Woodside location closed, Mr. Mendoza and the crew from the original bakery

have been working out of a temporary location in Redwood City, the Sweyers said. In a month or so, the Sweyers will be moving all their baking operations to their own wholesale

See **WOODSIDE BAKERY** page 7

Deputy found not guilty of brandishing gun

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

After a three-day trial, a jury on Aug. 29 returned a verdict of not guilty in the case of San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Deputy Andy Mar, who had been accused of pointing a gun at a custodian in a Redwood City courtroom in April 2016.

The jury deliberated for less than three hours before acquitting Mr. Mar of the misdemeanor charge of brandishing a firearm.

"The jury was not convinced that his use of the gun crossed the line into criminal behavior," Assistant District Attorney Al Serrato said. "We disagreed but we respect (the jury's) decision."

Cases involving peace officer defendants are "always challenging," Mr. Serrato said. "There's a common understanding (among prosecutors) that a jury will give the benefit of the doubt maybe more often than if it wasn't a peace officer."

The incident

Mr. Mar, who was 50 at the

time of the alleged incident, was working as a temporary bailiff in a seventh-floor courtroom on April 13, according to prosecutors.

Also in the courtroom that day were a custodian, a court clerk and a court reporter, Mr. Wagstaffe said. The court was not in session at the time of the alleged incident and the custodian and the clerk were talking at the clerk's desk, prosecutors said.

Mr. Mar told investigators that he did have his gun out of its holster, but that he was checking the gunsight. He denied pointing the gun at or near the custodian.

It was a new gun, District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe told the Almanac. All the deputies had been issued new guns at the time, he said.

A person convicted of brandishing a weapon can be fined up to \$1,000 and sentenced to up to a year in jail, Mr. Wagstaffe said. Police officers who brandish a gun while not in the lawful performance of their duties can be charged, he said. ■

County hosts second meeting on airport noise

A second public meeting to help San Mateo County gauge the public's feelings about noise connected with the San Carlos Airport will be held in Redwood City on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fair Oaks Community Center, 2600 Middlefield Road.

Supervisor Warren Slocum will host the meeting, which is part of a study the Board of Supervisors approved in March. An earlier meeting was held in Atherton in August.

The study was prompted by a barrage of public complaints about airport-related noise that began soon after Surf Air started using the airport in June 2013. The airline offers unlimited flights for a monthly fee and currently has as many as 44 scheduled flights a day using the airport.



Justin M. Duren/Courtesy Woodland School

Marja Brandon, Woodland School's new head of school, greets a student on the first day of classes.

New head of school at Woodland

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

The governing board of Woodland School in Ladera has hired Marja Brandon, former head of school for the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and founding head of the Seattle Girls' School, as its new head of school.

Woodland is a private school with approximately 285 students in preschool through eighth grade.

Ms. Brandon has 30 years of private and public school experience as a teacher and administrator. She speaks and writes frequently on education topics including system improvement, reform and innovation.

She has a master of education degree in counseling and consulting psychology from Harvard University and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and studio art from Wellesley College. She was a Klingenstein research fellow at Columbia University's Teachers College.

Awards and honors given to Ms. Brandon include: the 2006 U.S. Senators Hillary Clinton and Maria Cantwell Women of Valor Award, the 2004 Stanley O. McNaughton Golden Apple Educator of the Year Award, the 2010 Brotherton Community Champion Award, the 2007 Soroptimist Making a Difference Award and the 2006 Puget Sound Business Journal

Woman of Influence Award.

Michelle Morcos Smith, chair of Woodland's governing board, said the board's unanimous decision to appoint Ms. Brandon "was based on the enthusiastic endorsements of the search committee and members of the Woodland community."

Ms. Brandon said she is "thrilled to join the Woodland community."

"The students are so poised, articulate, and engaged," she said. "The teachers and staff are dedicated, caring, and clearly skilled. The school is in wonderful shape and I look forward to learning more in-depth about the school and its community." ■

Valpo Fun Run raises money for Peninsula Bridge

By Kate Daly
Special to the Almanac

The community is invited to join hundreds of students, parents and teachers for the fourth annual Valpo Fun Run, the 5k race hosted by Sacred Heart Schools and Menlo School in Atherton to raise money for the Peninsula Bridge program, which helps students from underserved families.

The event on Sunday, Sept. 18, will also honor the late Bill Campbell, a volunteer football coach who died last year.

"He was a generous supporter of both schools, as well as Peninsula Bridge and our Fun Run," said Menlo School parent organizer Mary Pinkus of Woodside.

The race will begin at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at Sacred Heart

Schools' football field at 150 Valparaiso Ave. The flat course goes along Emilie, Alejandra, Isabella, Elena, and Valparaiso avenues.

Racers are encouraged to register online at active.com (search for Valpo Fun Run) before Sept. 12. After that, the entry fees go up. Racers may also register the morning of the event, but may not receive a T-shirt.

Teacher families and Peninsula Bridge students run for free. This year buses are bringing in participants and plans are to buddy up Bridge runners with Sacred Heart Schools and Menlo School students.

Prizes will awarded in various categories.

All proceeds go to Peninsula Bridge's programs, which provide academic and emotional support for hundreds of under-

served low-income students from middle school through college. Middle school students attend summer enrichment classes at Sacred Heart Schools, Menlo School and other campuses on the Peninsula.

Sacred Heart Schools and Menlo School also raise funds for Peninsula Bridge when the schools' teams play football against each other in the Valpo Bowl. That match is scheduled for Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at Woodside High School.

Sponsors of the Valpo Fun Run are Sugar Shack, The Fruit-Guys, Health Logic, Dr. Scott Kaloust, barre3 Menlo Park, Bianchini's Market, Studio Rincon, Llumier Wellness, Kids Against Poverty, The Village Doctor, Alys Grace, Cardinal Education and Fans of Coach Campbell. ■

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Celebrating 101st birthday at Facebook

Longtime Menlo Park resident Willie Mae Jones celebrated her 101st birthday recently by spending a day at Facebook's campus with her great-granddaughter, Keyanna Adger, who recently started working at Facebook.

Ms. Jones, who has lived in Menlo Park since 1950, received a campus tour, was sung "Happy Birthday" by Facebook employees, ate lunch, experienced an Oculus virtual reality demonstration and met Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer.

The visit was on Aug. 30, six days after her 101st birthday.

There were five generations of women in Ms. Jones' family present at Facebook that day, according to a Facebook post by Ms. Sandberg. She said that when she asked Ms. Jones for tips on living to be over 100, Ms. Jones said that she exercises daily, gardens and surrounds herself with family.



Photo by Stacy Koo/Facebook

Facebook employees flank longtime Menlo Park resident Willie Mae Jones (seated) in celebration of her 101st birthday.



Photo by Stacy Koo/Facebook

Visiting with Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg (right) are Willie Mae Jones, who recently turned 101, and her great-granddaughter Keyanna Adger.

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Should I Ask Seller To Do Termite Repairs?

Dear Monica: I am in contract to buy a property and there is an estimate of \$3,000 to fumigate the structure for dry wood termites. Should I expect the seller to be responsible for this?
Deborah G.

not obligated to do this but since the termite damage is new information, it would be prudent for the seller to agree to do it. This would be negotiated between you and the seller.

Dear Deborah: If you agreed to buy the property in its present "AS-IS" condition, the seller is not responsible to do any repairs to the property and this includes termite repairs. If the termite damage was not known or disclosed at the time your contract was accepted, you can ask the seller for either a credit to do the work or to complete the repairs before close of escrow. The seller is

Most buyers in the current market don't ask sellers to do termite work or any repairs because the repair costs represent such a small percentage of the overall price of the property. If there is a lender involved, sometimes a buyer will be required to do termite repairs to satisfy the lender, but this is not typical. Do what you think is appropriate in your situation. If you made an "As-Is" offer and it was accepted, you should assume that you will be responsible for the fumigation.

For answers to any questions you may have on real estate, you may e-mail me at mcorman@apr.com or call 462-1111, Alain Pinel Realtors. I also offer a free market analysis of your property. www.MonicaCorman.com

Woodside Bakery is back, but now in Sharon Heights

continued from page 5

bakery on Constitution Drive in the M-2 light industrial zone of Menlo Park east of U.S. 101.

As for the Sharon Heights location, "how really excited we are to have found a place so close

to home," Ms. Sweyer said. Customers from the old place have been "so supportive" during the search for a new location, she said. "We found a place where we can all be together again. Yay!"

The layout of the cafe has yet to be planned, but if it works

out, one priority will be seating at a counter, Mark Sweyer said. Counters embody a "Cheers" kind of ambiance, he said, referring to the hit 1980s TV sitcom set in a Boston bar. "That's what we're going to try to incorporate," he said. "Bringing 'Cheers"

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2016 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Las Lomas Elementary School District	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	All
Exceeded or met standard – English Language Arts/Literacy	91%	84%	81%	83%	81%	89%	85%
Exceeded or met standard – Math	91%	79%	69%	72%	84%	85%	80%

Menlo Park City School District	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	All
Exceeded or met standard – English Language Arts/Literacy	78%	80%	85%	81%	81%	88%	82%
Exceeded or met standard – Math	84%	82%	82%	79%	78%	83%	81%

Portola Valley School District	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	All
Exceeded or met standard – English Language Arts/Literacy	82%	84%	86%	87%	89%	76%	85%
Exceeded or met standard – Math	88%	84%	83%	72%	88%	87%	83%

Woodside Elementary School District	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	All
Exceeded or met standard – English Language Arts/Literacy	83%	76%	91%	77%	94%	91%	86%
Exceeded or met standard – Math	90%	76%	85%	74%	94%	78%	83%

Ravenswood City School District	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	All
Exceeded or met standard – English Language Arts/Literacy	14%	18%	17%	25%	15%	26%	19%
Exceeded or met standard – Math	17%	9%	9%	10%	9%	15%	12%

Menlo-Atherton High School	11th grade English	11th grade Math
Exceeded or met standard	61%	49%

Woodside High School	11th grade English	11th grade Math
Exceeded or met standard	57%	34%

From <http://caaspp.cde.ca.gov>. Some numbers do not add up to 100 percent due to rounding

The California Department of Education recently released 2016 results of the new standardized assessments that test whether students are meeting the standards of the Common Core curriculum the state's public schools have been adopting. Above are the results for schools in the Almanac area.

Facebook gives \$250K to nonprofits

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

This year Facebook surpassed by \$150,000 the amount it has agreed to give to local nonprofit organizations in exchange for permission from the city of Menlo Park to expand the company's operations.

In 2012, one condition of the agreement Facebook reached with the city was that the company would set up a "Local Community Fund" that would give at least \$600,000 to nonprofits that serve Belle Haven, East Palo Alto or both.

In 2016, Facebook gave \$250,000 to local nonprofits, up from \$100,000 last year. The total since 2012 is now \$750,000.

"By upping the funding this year, we were able to award 57 grants and an adequate amount to have impact for each of those organizations," said Lauren Swezey, community outreach

manager at Facebook.

Though Facebook did not disclose how much it gave to each organization, the maximum amount each could receive was \$15,000.

Funds were given to 14 nonprofit organizations serving Belle Haven only and 35 serving both East Palo Alto and Belle Haven, a Facebook spokesperson said.

Among organizations receiving Facebook grants are Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, the California Family Foundation (which funds Beechwood School in Belle Haven), Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto, the Fit Kids Foundation, LifeMoves and the Peninsula College Fund.

Charles Schmuck of the Peninsula College Fund said the money will go to the organization's mentor program and for scholarships to local students of color who may be financially strained or the first in their

families to attend college.

"The bottom line is that there are a lot of organizations that talk a good game as far as community service," he said. "Facebook really from day one has stood by its commitment to the local community."

The board that decides how funds are given is made up of five people: three Facebook employees, and one city council representative each from Menlo Park and East Palo Alto. The grants are administered by the Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, a grantmaking agency based in Oakland.

Facebook does fund other community projects. In particular, Ms. Swezey said, Facebook gives to sustainability and STEM education projects.

Facebook has funded solar-panel systems that have been installed on 10 Belle Haven homes, and recently committed to funding 15 more. ■

History museum seeks artifacts, information for WWII exhibit

San Mateo County History Museum is gathering information and artifacts for a World War II exhibit that will open on Pearl Harbor day, Dec. 7, 2016.

Those who were living on the Peninsula when the war began and took part in the war effort, either in the armed forces or as civilians, are encouraged to call museum curator Dana Neitzel (650-299-0104, ext. 230) if they have materials that will enhance the displays. The show will end in February 2019.

Photographs, letters and artifacts are all needed, along with memorabilia reminiscent of the war years. All those participating will be invited to a reception honoring members of the "Greatest Generation" on the evening of Dec. 7, 2016.

The San Mateo County History Museum is located at 2200 Broadway in the Old Courthouse in Redwood City. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day, except Monday.



Today's local news & hot picks

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Three sentenced for residential burglaries

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Three 20-year-old men — Juan Baca Jr. and Alexander Shelton Ledwell of Redwood City and Salvador Reyes-Aguilar of East Palo Alto — pleaded no contest Aug. 22 to multiple residential burglaries and were sentenced to prison terms ranging from three to five years.

The three were arrested in March 2015 in connection with a burglary on Bay Laurel Drive in Menlo Park and following a police pursuit.

Mr. Baca and Mr. Reyes-Aguilar pleaded no contest to four counts of residential burglary. Mr. Baca was sentenced to four years and eight months and Mr. Reyes-Aguilar to five years and four months in prison.

Mr. Ledwell pleaded no contest to two counts of residential burglary and one count of possession of stolen property. He was sentenced to three years and four months in state prison.

All received 600 days of credit for time served and will have to

pay fines and fees.

The three were arrested after a local resident informed police that a car was cruising suspiciously along Bay Laurel Drive in Menlo Park. The car, the caller said, matched one described on the neighborhood website Nextdoor in connection to other burglaries.

Police investigated and found Mr. Baca in the car with items that had been reported stolen.

The two other men had just burglarized a home in the 1500 block of Bay Laurel Drive and were on their way back to the car at the time, prosecutors said. When they saw the police, they fled, dropping bags of stolen property as they ran, police said.

One man was apprehended quickly, while the other leapt fences and was tracked to a backyard on Olive Street by the county's canine unit, before being subdued by a Palo Alto officer's Taser, police said.

Among the stolen items recovered were jewelry, clothing, cash, electronics (computers and iPads), rifles, Airsoft weapons and a U.S. Army sword. ▣

Drought: New law mandates fines for big water wasters

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Big water wasters will be subject to big fines or surcharges during drought conditions under a new state law authored by state Sen. Jerry Hill, D-San Mateo, and signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown on Aug. 29.

The law, which was suggested by a constituent as part of Sen. Hill's annual "Oughta be a law" contest, goes into effect Jan. 1.

The law says all urban retail water suppliers must set rules for identifying and cracking down on households that consume enormous amounts of water during declared droughts in the state.

"This legislation ensures that every urban retail water supplier has a tool to curb excessive water use by customers," Sen. Hill said. "Households that guzzle water — while their neighbors and most other Californians abide by mandatory reductions — will no longer be able to hide and persist in their excess."

'Households that guzzle water will no longer be able to hide and persist in their excess.'

STATE SEN. JERRY HILL

Sen. Hill's office says the law was proposed by a San Mateo resident who was outraged over news reports that hundreds of household in the state used a million gallons or more of water a year — with one household consuming an astounding 12 million gallons — despite restrictions in place at the time. The constituent who proposed the law asked to remain anonymous.

Water providers will have to either build surcharges for excessive water use into their rate structures or establish their own excessive water use ordinance, including ways to identify and address excessive water use by residential customers. Warnings or on-site audits are allowed before fines

are assessed, and an appeals process and method for collecting fines that aren't paid are required.

The ordinance must include a fine of up to \$500 for each 100 cubic feet — 748 gallons — above the excessive-use definition.

The new law does not define what excessive water use is, so the definition will be up to the water providers.

California is entering its fifth year of historic drought. Although the State Water Resources Control Board has lifted its mandatory 25 percent water use reduction order after the water supply improved, almost 60 percent of the state continues to be in a severe drought and more than 42 percent of the state is still in an extreme drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, Sen. Hill's office says.

According to the State Water Resources Control Board, Californians reduced their water use by a cumulative 24.2 percent between June 2015 and June 2016. ▣



Ken DeLeon is the only Silicon Valley real estate agent ever ranked #1 in the country, and the DeLeon Team is currently the #1 real estate team in the country. Ken oversees the Buyer side of DeLeon Realty, where he uses his undergraduate training in math & economic and his law degree from Berkeley to inform and protect his buyers.



Michael Repka oversees the Listing side of DeLeon Realty and personally handles all DeLeon Realty listings. As a former real estate attorney, with a second law degree (an LL.M. from NYU School of Law) in taxation, Michael brings unique vision and capacity to the DeLeon team, which also includes interior designers, contractors and various marketing professionals.

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Anastasia Koroleva is a buyer consultant specializing in the Menlo Park area. She is a licensed real estate agent and Menlo Park resident with backgrounds in finance and property management, she ensures her clients get all the support they need during and after the purchase of a home or investment property. With a background in Silicon Valley property management Anastasia is experienced in market analysis and problem solving as well as identifying financial opportunity related to real estate. Upon joining DeLeon Realty in 2014, Anastasia got a unique opportunity to work alongside Ken DeLeon and the best team of buyer agents in the real estate industry.



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City, school district reach consensus on Oak Court gate

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

Tensions between residents of Oak Court and parents of the soon-to-open Laurel School, Upper Campus, located at 275 Elliott Drive, have been escalating in past weeks, with emails flying and hackles raised on both fronts.

Some Oak Court residents have expressed worry that when the new school opens on Oct. 17, the school district will not sufficiently restrict access to an automated gate it has installed that opens onto their street and connects to the school's parking lot on Elliott Drive. Residents of the street, many of whom are parents too, say it is often used by pedestrians and kids on bikes, and can be dangerous for drivers to safely navigate with kids around. They don't want too many buses clogging up the road.

Ultimately, however, a rough consensus was reached at the Menlo Park City Council's Aug. 30 meeting: Get the Menlo Park City School District to sign a legally binding agreement that on Oak Court no cars will be

allowed through the gate, and that access through the gate is limited to service and emergency vehicles and student shuttles and buses.

Meanwhile, neighborhood parents say they don't want to have to drive their kids to school, but that they don't feel entirely safe letting them walk or bike because of all the traffic. So they want the option to bus their kids.

Valerie Frederickson, who said she was speaking on behalf of at least 10 other families, said in a public comment that kids' safety should be prioritized over "convenience for the neighbors."

"We would like our kids to be able to walk, scoot, bike, skip, hop and ride buses to school whenever possible. We sure don't want to be driving them," she said, describing the traffic. "It's hellacious."

According to a presentation given by the city's transportation manager, Nikki Nagaya, the school district plans to use the gate only as necessary, for large vehicles that won't be able

to turn around using the main entrance: service and emergency vehicles and shuttle and school buses. The number of school buses the district proposes to use has not been clear, however.

Initially the district said it planned to operate just one bus in the morning and one in the afternoon to accommodate students who have transferred into the district from the Ravenswood City School District via the Tinsley program, plus occasional field trip buses, with the possibility of a shuttle bus between the upper and lower Laurel School campuses.

However, that shuttle is already scheduled to run, and parent demand for further bus service has been indicated. The district may also need a disabled-access bus, which would run according to individual student needs.

The City Council supported the terms of a draft agreement that would require the automated gate to be closed and locked except when letting permitted large vehicles through. The number of permitted buses could be flexible.

City Councilman Ray Mueller



Google Earth

A gate connecting Oak Court to the new Laurel School, Upper Campus on Elliott Drive will be opened for buses and service and emergency vehicles only, the Menlo Park City School District says.

said, "Residents have adapted so that busing can go ahead and happen," but added that he had concerns with how the district had presented a less-frequent use of the gate to Oak Court residents.

City Councilwoman Kirst-

en Keith lives on Oak Court and recused herself from the discussion.

The final language of the agreement will be determined by City Attorney Bill McClure and the school district attorney Tim Fox. ■



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Menlo police sergeants get 3 percent raise

■ BRIEFS

Menlo Park's eight police sergeants will get a 3 percent raise starting Sept. 4 in a new contract approved by the Menlo Park City Council on Aug. 30.

The council voted 4-0 vote for the contract, with Councilman Ray Mueller absent.

The contract increases by \$42 a month the city's payments to each sergeant's flexible health benefits plan. The cost of vision insurance will be fully covered by the city.

In all, the changes are expected to cost the city \$50,600 between now and June 30, 2017, when the agreement ends.

The sergeants' salary range will be increased to \$111,391 to \$135,396, up from \$108,147 to \$131,453.

According to Lenka Diaz, human resources manager, sergeants will continue to pay 12 percent of their salaries into their pension plans.

Library hosts Gatsby, literary-themed party

The colorful worlds of five literary realms will be lifted off the page by the Menlo Park Library

when it hosts its "Centennial Extravaganza" on Saturday, Sept. 10. The event will run from 1 to 5 p.m. outdoors between the library and the gatehouse.

The party will have five areas representing different stories, in keeping with the library's centennial theme of "A Century of Stories." There will be performers in costume, music, crafts, library giveaways and light refreshments, according to Library Circulation Supervisor Nick Szegda.

The areas are: Dr. Seuss, Alice in Wonderland, The Great Gatsby, Pirates, and A Thousand and One Nights.

The Dr. Seuss area will be more kid-oriented, Mr. Szegda said, with face painting and crafts. There will be a "Mad Hatter's Tea Party" at the Alice in Wonderland area, and a garden party, jazz band and classic 1920s car in the Great Gatsby area. The event is for all ages.

— Kate Bradshaw

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Gentle Tutelage

Woodside's Rebekah Witter trains miniature horses as 'therapy' animals

Story by Dave Boyce
Photos by Natalia Nazarova

They whinny, they eat hay, they each have four legs and a mane and a long face every day. Lovey and Shiloh, for those are their names, are horses, of course, and live, for the time being, with others of their kind at the Woodside home of equestrian Rebekah Witter, a noted trainer of horses.

But Lovey and Shiloh, both 16 months old, will go on to lives that are markedly different from those of their pals in Ms. Witter's barn. They're miniature horses and they're learning from Ms. Witter how to adapt to life indoors, not all the time and not exclusively in barns, but when visiting schools, hospitals, retirement communities and other places where people benefit from the presence in the room of benevolent animals of manageable size.

Attitude is very important for would-be "therapy animals," Ms. Witter says. These two horses have had no bad experiences with humans and present themselves with the desirable qualities of confidence, obedience and quiet temperaments, she says. "Very, very little seems to bother them," she says.

One thing does bother Shiloh. During a visit to Ms. Witter's home by this reporter, Shiloh walked up a set of four or five steps to a large patio, but he really, really did not want to walk back down the steps.

After five minutes of gentle but unsuccessful persuasion, and in the interest of not introducing him to the idea of being defensive, Ms. Witter left him to his own devices, whereupon he located another set of steps, walked up them and found himself further marooned and on a smaller and higher patio. He'll come down eventually, she said at the time.

It's easier to train horses to go up stairs, she says. "He slipped once," she says of Shiloh. "Footing is everything to horses. It's their lifeline."

Ms. Witter trains horses using body language, something that horses understand since they use it among themselves, she says. The practice is known by two names: natural horsemanship and, less commonly, horse whispering.

It's easier to train miniature horses than their larger counterparts, she says. "They're so much less work, so much less intimidating," she says. It's important to have more than one mini horse, as they are social animals, she says.

Mini horses have held many positions over time. Their earliest mention is as inmates of Louis XIV's



Top: Horse trainer Rebekah Witter of Woodside pauses at home with two miniature horses — Lovey, in the foreground, and Shiloh. Ms. Witter is training the horses to be a comforting presence when visiting institutions such as hospitals and schools. **Above:** Mini horse Lovey spends a few moments with Chrome in a barn at the home of Rebekah Witter.

On the cover: Her full name is Lovey Dovey and she is a silver dapple, a rarity among miniature horses. Woodside resident Rebekah Witter is training her to be a therapy animal for people in need of comfort. (Photo by Natalia Nazarova/The Almanac)

zoo, according to a history at the The Guide Horse Foundation website. They've been used in racing and to pull milk carts, Ms. Witter says.

Their use as service (guide) animals is "very, very

new," she says.

It's not hard to find photos of mini horses flying commercially as passengers, possibly as emotional support animals — a category different from a guide animal. ■

Chamber names Golden Acorn winners

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

■ BRIEFS

Fran Dehn, president and CEO of the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce, announced during the Menlo Park City Council's Aug. 30 meeting the winners of the 2016 Golden Acorn Awards.

The winners are:

- Public Service: Menlo Park Police Chief Robert Jonsen.
- Business Excellence: Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers.
- Community Service: Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation.
- Innovation & Technology: Women's Startup Lab.

A reception will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the Stanford Park Hotel. The event will be emceed by Menlo Park Mayor Rich Cline with a keynote address by Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer. Tickets are \$125.

Go to tinyurl.com/acorn894 for more information.

USGS maps

Beginning Sept. 6, Menlo Park's U.S. Geological Survey

(USGS) offices will be closing the on-site map sales office to walk-in visitors. The change is being made for security reasons, said Richard Adrianowicz of USGS.

USGS is a federal site and is one of the last to become subject to heightened security measures, he explained. The store sells topographic maps of California, national parks and other geologic reports and maps.

Prices vary but are typically \$8 or \$9, he said. People can still order maps by telephone, mail and fax.

Go to tinyurl.com/maps259 for more information.

Storytelling Fest

On Sunday, Sept. 18, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. in its downstairs program room, the Menlo Park Library will host its first storytelling festival. The event, intended for all ages, will feature a variety of storytellers and storytelling styles.

"It's something we've never tried before," said Nick Sze-

gda, library circulation supervisor. "I think it'll be cool."

Moving

The League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County will move its offices from downtown Menlo Park at 713 Santa Cruz Ave. to 3723 Haven Ave. in Menlo Park, according to Joanne Bruggemann, the league's voter registration and fundraising officer.

High speed rail

The California High Speed Rail Authority has a goal to have 30 percent of the value of its contracts go to small businesses, especially those that are considered disadvantaged or run by disabled veterans, according to a workshop held in Menlo Park on Aug. 22.

It is currently seeking small businesses for contract work as construction is initiated on the first stretch of the statewide high-speed rail project. The authority says it expects the first segment, between Silicon Valley and the Central Valley, to be operational by 2025.

Go to tinyurl.com/rail348 for more information. ■



Photo by Andrea Gemmet

Ride and read

New bike racks have been installed in front of the Menlo Park Library with funds the city set aside for landscape improvements around the library, according to Public Works Director Justin Murphy. The new location is intended to make the racks more accessible, but since they're in the line of sight from the library, improved bike security could result, he said. There have been problems with thefts from older bike racks, which were located off to the side of the library and not in the line of sight. Those racks will be removed.



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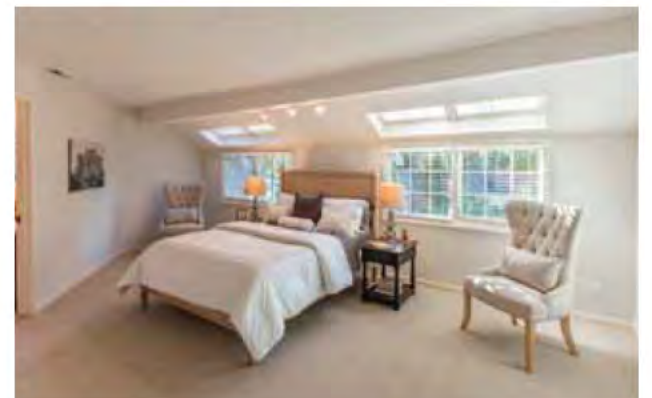
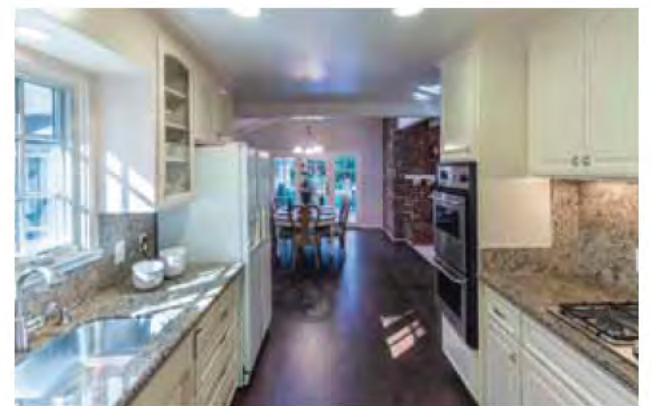
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Commission recommends approval of plans to cut down 99 heritage trees

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park Environmental Quality Commission recommended Aug. 31 that requests to cut down 99 heritage trees on three sites in the city be approved.

In Menlo Park, a heritage tree is generally defined as one with a trunk diameter of 15 or more inches, or for native California oaks, 10 or more inches.

The trees in question included 59 heritage trees at 1300 El Camino Real, where a 420,000 square-foot mixed-use development by Greenheart Land Co. has been proposed; 39 trees at the Sharon Green Apartments at 350 Sharon Park Drive; and one tree on San Mateo Drive.

Four members of the commission, with three members absent or abstaining, recommended the City Council approve the plan to cut down 59 heritage trees at the Greenheart site and plant 120 new trees, according to a staff report. In all, the developer plans to cut down 138 trees on the site.

The commission also recommended that the council ask the developer to preserve or relocate nine native trees on the back of the property, and use California native plants in landscaping, according to Heather Abrams, environmental programs manager.

The recommendation to remove 39 heritage trees on the 15.6-acre Sharon Green Apartments site was also approved by four members, with three members absent or abstaining.

The property owner, Maxi-

mus Real Estate, plans to replace the 39 heritage trees and cut down an additional 22 non-heritage ones. The commissioners said the council should ask the property owner to replace the trees at a greater than 1:1 ratio, stagger tree removals, consider preserving trees approaching heritage tree size, and set a quota for the number of heritage trees that must remain on the property, Ms. Abrams said.

Maximus Real Estate has submitted plans to renovate the exteriors of the Sharon Green buildings and redo the landscaping. Those plans are scheduled to go before the Planning Commission on Sept. 12, according to Kaitlin Meador, associate planner. The tree removals would clear the way for the proposed new "children's adventure park" playground, courtyard, turf area and bocce ball court to be installed.

The Environmental Quality Commission voted 3-2, with two members absent or abstaining, to deny an appeal of a tree removal permit at 1080 San Mateo Drive. The tree, a coast redwood, had been recommended for removal by a forester and an engineer who said it was causing damage to a garage slab and encroaching on the neighbor's fence and pool.

The removal permit was approved by the city arborist in April, but then appealed in June by nearby residents Sally Cole and Horace and Betsy Nash. With the appeal denied, the property owner now has permission to remove the tree. ▀

■ POLICE CALLS

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

WEST MENLO PARK

Theft: A thief entered an unlocked office at Lulu's Mexican restaurant at 3539 Alameda de las Pulgas and stole \$950 from an unlocked safe. Aug. 15.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Fraud: A collection agency called a resident of Russell Avenue to inform him of litigation being undertaken for an unpaid debt of \$3,000. The resident discovered that an unauthorized loan for \$2,200 had been taken out in his name. Aug. 18.

Mountain lion sighting: A resident in the 1000 block of Westridge Drive reported a mountain lion seen running across her driveway and toward her neighbor's house. The animal appeared to be healthy and not aggressive. Aug. 15.

WOODSIDE

Selling without a license: A deputy cited and released a man on Stockbridge Avenue after learning that the man had been going door to door trying to sell magazines. The deputy informed the man that San Mateo County regulations require such solicitation be done only after having first obtained a permit. Aug. 15.

Mountain lion sighting: A woman delivering newspapers told deputies she saw a mountain lion running on a road shoulder in the vicinity of Kings Mountain Road and Manuella Avenue. The lion appeared neither sick nor aggressive. Aug. 15.

Continued on next page



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Two suspects arrested, thanks to resident's tip

Menlo Park police arrested two teens from East Palo Alto on Sept. 1 after receiving a tip from a resident of Oakland Avenue in Menlo Park about suspicious people in the neighborhood shortly before 1 p.m. that day.

The teens had been going from house to house and knocking on doors, according to police. At one of the houses, the resident reported, a dog barked and the teens, described by the resident as male, "quickly" left the scene, police said.

The teens got into a black Chevrolet Tahoe SUV and left, but the resident was able to provide police with a partial reading of the license plate. Police also obtained a security camera photo of one of the teens.

Police located the vehicle parked on Del Norte Avenue, but it was unoccupied. They

set up a perimeter, and at about 2:10 p.m., spotted and detained two people leaving the rear yard of a house on Tehama Avenue and answering to the descriptions given by the resident.

After a search of the area, officers located a home on Del Norte that had been burglarized, and found a "large amount of stolen property" in a nearby yard, police said. All of the property has been returned to the owners, police said.

Police booked the teens into the Hillcrest juvenile detention facility. The teens are also considered suspects in a number of earlier burglaries from the past few weeks.

Police are asking anyone with information related to the Del Norte Avenue burglary to call 650-330-6300 or the tip line at 650-330-6395.

Continued from previous page

MENLO PARK

Auto burglary: Someone smashed a window on a vehicle parked at Bedwell-Bayfront Park on Marsh Road and stole two purses. Inside the purses were diamond jewelry, \$1,500 in cash, driver's license and credit cards. Estimated loss: \$14,334. Aug. 24.

Residential burglaries:

■ A thief broke into a locked storage trailer on Sharon Park Drive and stole a leaf blower, a tree trimmer and a generator. Estimated loss: \$2,500. Aug. 27.

■ Someone entered a home on Hobart Street through the unlocked back door, but took nothing, according to the homeowner. Aug. 19.

Thefts:

■ After a party with friends, a resident of Madera Avenue told police that belts and jewelry were missing. Estimated loss: \$3,500. Aug. 26.

■ A man walked into the CVS pharmacy at 700 El Camino Real, piled up some merchandise in an aisle, put that merchandise into a large plastic garbage bag he had pulled out of his pocket, then walked out of the store without paying for it. Police described the man as of unknown race and average build, wearing a dark brown or black long-sleeved shirt with lettering on it. He was also wearing a dark-colored hat with an orange bill or brim. Estimated loss: \$1,800. Aug. 22.

■ Someone stole a bank-deposit bag from a safe at Peet's Coffee & Tea at Santa Cruz Avenue and University Drive. Estimated loss: \$1,000. Aug. 23.

■ A San Francisco man walked into the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real, put some merchandise into an

empty bag and walked out without having paid for it. Store employees stopped the man. The goods, valued at about \$700, were recovered. Police cited the man for theft and booked him into jail. Aug. 23.

■ Someone stole a wallet from "a bike storage pack" located at the bike rack outside Burgess Pool while the wallet's owner was swimming. In the wallet were an ID, credit and debit cards and \$60 in cash. Estimated loss: \$178. Aug. 24.

■ Someone stole a package of pool cleaning chemicals from the porch of a home on Ringwood Avenue. Estimated loss: \$76. Aug. 22.

■ Police arrested, cited and released a Hayward man on suspicion of having stolen a bottle of an alcoholic beverage from Bev Mo at 700 El Camino Real. Aug. 25.

Trespassing:

■ Police arrested and booked into jail a San Mateo man on suspicion of trespassing after the property manager of an apartment on Mills Street found the man inside a vacant apartment without permission. Aug. 21.

■ Police cited and released a transient man who had been told to keep away from Safeway property at 525 El Camino Real. Employees told police that the man had refused to leave when asked to by the store manager. Aug. 23.

Accident report: Medics took a bicyclist to the hospital with complaints of pain in her hip and leg — non-life-threatening injuries, police said — after colliding with a 2015 gray Acura MDX SUV at the corner of Van Buren Road and Menlo Oaks Drive. The cyclist had been traveling north in the southbound lane when the driver of the Acura made a right turn into the southbound lane of Van Buren, police said.



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It's time to say yes to a more vibrant Menlo Park

By Bob McGrew

I love living in Menlo Park. But I can't help but imagine ways in which Menlo Park could be even better — more livable, more affordable, and more fun.

Fortunately, I'm not alone. In the last five years, residents have put forth compelling visions for both a more vibrant downtown and a complete transformation of the office and industrial district near Belle Haven.

The Downtown Specific Plan, approved in 2012, would enliven downtown with housing and offices on the east side of El Camino Real and apartments above retail on the west side of El Camino along Santa Cruz Avenue. The new general plan update looks to transform the office parks along the Bayfront in Belle Haven into a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood where people can live, work, and play in one place.

It's time for Menlo Park to make these visions a reality.

Menlo Park has spent the last 20 years saying no to development. Many residents feared that new developments would leave us with traffic jams and unaffordable housing. Instead of attractive buildings,



Bob McGrew is a co-founder and steering committee member of ImagineMenlo, an organization that promotes a more vibrant, inclusive, and exciting Menlo Park. He lives with his wife and two young children in Vintage Oaks.

GUEST OPINION

we ended up with weed-filled vacant lots — and we still have traffic jams and a housing crisis.

We can do better than weeds.

On the east side of El Camino Real, two developers — Stanford and Greenheart — have proposed attractive projects that balance housing, office, and retail and fit within the guidelines of the Downtown Specific Plan. Both projects propose public plazas along with new places to eat and shop. The Stanford project includes a major contribution to a bicycle and pedestrian path under the Caltrain tracks, while the Greenheart project would include a new bike path to connect Encinal to the down-

town. By approving these projects, we have the opportunity to make Menlo Park a better place to live.

Unfortunately, the Santa Cruz Avenue area has not been so lucky. Although the specific plan envisioned apartments above shops along the downtown streets, barriers such as a lack of parking have made it incredibly expensive to build. Few projects have even been proposed and none has been built. While it's gratifying to see the City Council begin to address these barriers, this is an opportunity to do more to create new, naturally affordable apartments to bring young people and vibrancy into our downtown.

On the other side of town, in the Bayfront industrial district adjacent to Belle Haven, the city has worked with Facebook and other large landowners to design a downtown-style neighborhood with offices and housing, restaurants and shops, tied together by a reactivated Dumbarton rail corridor. The buildings in this neighborhood will set the new gold standard for environmental sustainability in the Bay Area, and many will be designed by internationally recognized architects.

Facebook in particular has offered to build 3,500 much-needed homes, including 15 percent that would be dedicated affordable housing for low-income residents. Including other opportunities, the plan envisions enough additional affordable units to house one-quarter of the population of the rapidly gentrifying Belle Haven neighborhood.

This is a strong, positive vision for the future of Menlo Park. The plan creates the kind of neighborhood where our children will want to live in 15 years. The planning process included two years of community meetings and community input, with multiple pauses to allow additional time for comment from residents. Now that it has been completed, it's time for the City Council to approve this vision and the much-needed benefits it will bring to all residents of Menlo Park.

Menlo Park should be a vibrant, beautiful city where people of all ages can come together and enjoy shops and open spaces, and where people of all incomes can afford to live near their jobs. Let's make these two great visions for our city a reality.

It's time to say yes to a more vibrant Menlo Park.



Atherton Heritage Association

Looking back

The baby in this 1930s-era photo, published in the Atherton history book "Under the Oaks" by Pamela Gullard and Nancy Lund, is Nanette Frank. She's with her parents Arthur and Etta on Park Lane in Atherton. Most local residents of present times knew Nanette as Nan Chapman, Atherton's first female City Council member and mayor. Ms. Chapman died last March at the age of 80.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Courtroom gun incident 'a disturbing case'

Editor:

"Jury finds deputy not guilty of brandishing gun in court." (Almanac, Aug. 30)

This is not a surprising decision. What seems to be ignored is why Deputy Sheriff Mar was alleged to have been brandishing the gun. Mar is alleged to have asked a custodian in the courtroom if he wanted "... some South Carolina justice ..." — not exactly collegial, and now a racially sensitive national mantra. It is very shallow for the Mar defense to claim he was merely checking the sights on a new gun in a court room, and not a more appropriate time and venue.

It would have been of value to learn if the witnesses to the alleged event were questioned, and what they had to say. It would have been of value to learn if the two deputies who went to the courtroom to "address the situation," and to whom Mar is

alleged to have told that he "did it" (Almanac, March 15, 2016), were questioned.

This is a disturbing case, considering the national concern about abuses within law enforcement agencies. Hopefully, this warranted grand jury inquiry. And, hopefully, the custodian will find some measure of justice in his civil suit.

Henry Organ
Euclid Avenue, Menlo Park

Idea for solving the Willow Road gridlock

I read with interest the article "Willow Road gridlock gets another look," in the Aug. 31 edition of the Almanac.

As I have written before, the EIR for the proposed new interchange at Willow/101 is laughable and borders on fraudulent, because the study area cuts off just feet south of Chester Avenue, before Willow goes from two lanes to one. This loss of 50 percent of traffic capacity is the cause of Willow Road gridlock, not the current interchange configuration.

If the EIR were honest about this, which it is not, it would

find that the new interchange would have virtually zero impact on traffic. Construction will disrupt the entire city for years, for nothing.

Even the city of Menlo Park seems to understand this; I noted with interest in the article that one idea was to remove the bulb-outs on Willow. That is a great idea that would cost virtually nothing. Restripe Willow as a four-lane road, which can be done with minimal cost, and the Willow gridlock will decrease 50 percent as a matter of simple math. Certainly that's worth trying before spending eight figures on a new 101 interchange that does absolutely nothing to solve any traffic problems. Mayor Rich Cline rightly said, "Let's create some easy short-term solutions while we dig into the long term," and it doesn't get any easier than restriping.

Detailed stories like this about important local issues are why I subscribe to the Almanac. Thanks for the quality journalism.

Brian Schar
Laurel Avenue, Menlo Park

Donald Trump comes to town for fundraiser

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Helicopters noisily occupied some airspace above central Woodside on Aug. 29 with the arrival, via ground transportation, of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. Mr. Trump visited the Winding Way home of Saul Fox, chief executive of the private equity firm Fox Paine and Company for a fundraiser.

Tickets were going for \$25,000 apiece and about 40 guests attended, news reports said. Accompanying Mr. Trump was former New York City mayor Rudolph Giuliani, according to ABC7 News.

Mr. Fox is a regular donor to Republican candidates, according to the OpenSecrets.org website, part of the Center for Responsive Politics. Recipients include Republican political action committees and the campaigns of Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, campaign-finance-reform activist and professor Lawrence Lessig, and 2012 presidential candi-

date Mitt Romney.

Local fundraising for Mr. Trump in the 2016 campaign is noteworthy for the paucity of contributors. Of the contributions made, most are small by comparison to Mr. Romney's campaign.

Among donors to Mr. Trump, Mr. Fox stands out. Twelve donors listing Woodside addresses have given him 22 contributions that, as of July 2016, added up to just \$12,000, according to OpenSecrets. Most of those donations are for around \$250. Only Mr. Fox gave Mr. Trump the maximum of \$5,400 — \$2,700 each for the primary and general elections.

Mitt Romney's 2012 campaign, by contrast, shows 292 donations listing the Woodside ZIP code, including 94 who gave the maximum at the time of \$2,500, OpenSecrets data shows.

Mr. Fox is also nearly alone in his level of support for Mr. Trump within the Almanac's circulation area, where he is joined in making a \$2,700 donation only by Teresa Bettinger, who listed a Menlo Park



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Decking the hall

There is new wood on the exterior deck at Town Hall in Woodside. The deck is being rebuilt at a cost of about \$75,000. The work began in the first week of August and is expected to be complete by the middle of September, Town Manager Kevin Bryant said.

address. Ms. Bettinger's record shows just one such donation.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is outpacing Mr. Trump by a huge margin with respect to local

fundraising. OpenSecrets lists 531 donations of \$2,700 from addresses listed in Woodside, Atherton, Menlo Park and Portola Valley.

Of the 2,800 local donations

Ms. Clinton received overall, Menlo Park and Atherton lead in maximum donations with around 150 each, with Portola Valley and Woodside each at about 120. ▣

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The backyard is wonderfully screened by tall and mature trees, with 3 separate patios, a pool, a barbeque area and so much more.

This will not be on the MLS—Don't miss it—call your agent or one of us soon!

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APPOINTMENT ONLY



15 Cottonwood Court, Hillsborough
\$2,550,000
3 BD / 2 BA

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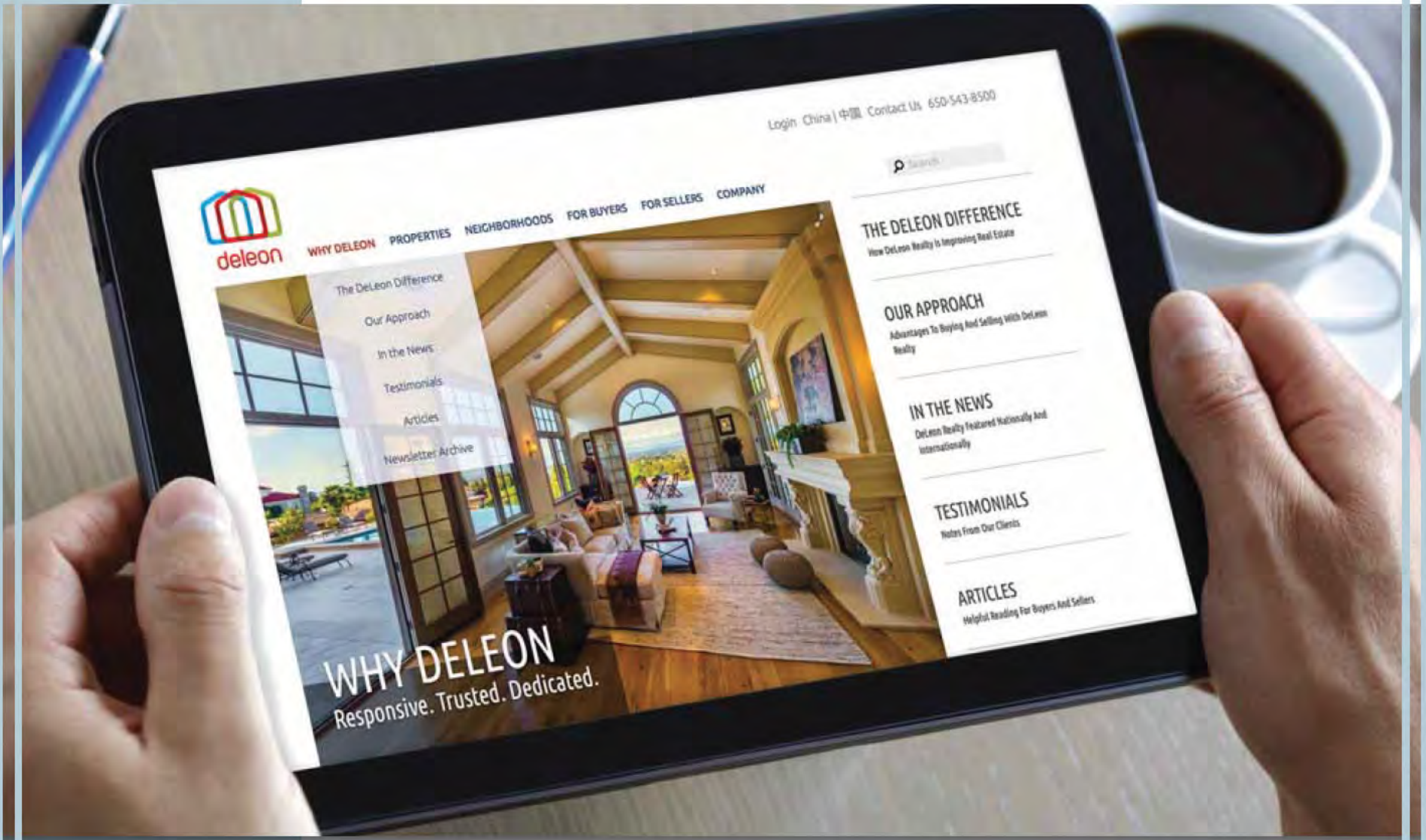


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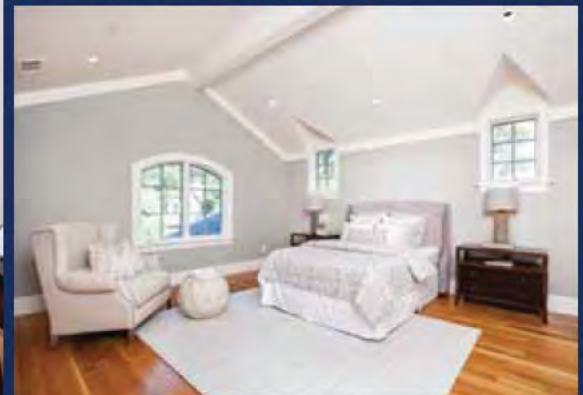


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Computer Systems Associate
Embarcadero Media is looking for an **Information Technology professional** to join our IT team to support and manage our Windows and Mac Infrastructure.

We are looking for a person who can work as part of a support team, troubleshooting hardware and software, while providing Windows server administration and network management. You would provide computer support for both of our Bay Area locations (Palo Alto and Pleasanton) based in our main Palo Alto office.

This is an entry-level position, but an ideal candidate would have helpdesk and troubleshooting experience. We want that special someone who is technically savvy with excellent people skills. Windows server administration would be a huge plus.

Your own transportation is a necessity. Mileage is reimbursed. This is a full-time, benefited position.

Please email your resume and cover letter to Frank Bravo, Director of Information Technology, with "Computer Systems Associate" in the subject line.

Embarcadero Media is an independent, award-winning news organization, with more than 35-years publishing.

http://www.EmbarcaderoMediaGroup.com/employment/computer-systems-associate

Engineer
Sr Performance Engr (Code: SPE-RB) in Mt. View, CA: Identify issues that would cause the prdct to not work as described & subseqly help resolve those issues. MS+2 yr rtd exp/BS+5 yr prgr rtd exp. Mail resume to MobileIron, Attn: Piper Galt, 415 E. Middlefield Rd, Mt. View, CA 94043. Must ref title & code.

Engineers
Coursera, Inc. has the following positions open in Mountain View, CA:

Software Engineer: Develop core services and frameworks that power the Coursera platform.

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To apply, please mail resumes to B. Tsan, Coursera Inc. 381 E. Evelyn Avenue, Mountain View, California, 94041

Marketing
HP Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of **Marketing Analytics/Operations Specialist** in Palo Alto, CA (Ref. #HPPALRAST1). Participate in marketing analytics and technical innovation by working with cross-functional teams to develop appropriate and analytical models and identify incremental revenue margin/ productivity opportunities. Mail resume to HP Inc., c/o Andrew Bergoine, 11445

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TECHNICAL
Qubole seeks a Member of Technical Staff for its Mountain View, CA office. Design, develop and debug complex sw systems. MS+1 yr exp. Mail resume to Qubole, Attn: A. Shankar, 480 San Antonio Rd #150, Mountain View, CA 94040. Must Ref 2016V5.

500 Help Wanted

Computer Systems Associate
Embarcadero Media is looking for an **Information Technology professional** to join our IT team to support and manage our Windows and Mac Infrastructure.

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Your own transportation is a necessity. Mileage is reimbursed. This is a full-time, benefited position.

Please email your resume and cover letter to Frank Bravo, Director of Information Technology, with "Computer Systems Associate" in the subject line.

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http://www.EmbarcaderoMediaGroup.com/employment/computer-systems-associate

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Sunnyvale 408-691-2179, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2500

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Downtownwebster 408-691-2179, 2 BR/1 BA - \$5300/M

Menlo Park - \$5,750.00

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$6,000.00

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$5,750.00

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Public Notices

**995 Fictitious Name
Statement**

InsourceTalent.com
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270251
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
InsourceTalent.com, located at 61 Cove Lane, Redwood City, CA 94065, San Mateo County; Mailing address: P.O. Box 20381, Stanford, CA 94305.
Registered owner(s):
VINCENT SMITH
61 Cove Lane
Redwood City, CA 94065
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 August 04, 2016. (ALM Aug. 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 2016)

SIMPSON'S FAMILY BARBER SHOP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270278
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Simpson's Family Barber Shop, located at 1181 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
LAURA PHUNG SPILMAN
1039 Fremont St. #4
Menlo Park, CA 94025
MICHAEL CHARLES SPILMAN
1039 Fremont St. #4
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: Married Couple.

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 August 8, 2016. (ALM Aug. 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 2016)

MODIFIED HABITAT HANDYMAN SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270328
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Modified Habitat Handyman Services, located at 1358 Hollyburne Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JUAN CORNELIO CHAVEZ
1358 Hollyburne 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 N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 11, 2016. (ALM Aug. 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 2016)

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

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Signature of Registrant:

Joseph Landenwich
Print name of person signing. If corporation, also print corporate title of officer: Joseph Landenwich
General Counsel & Corporate Secretary
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN MATEO COUNTY on August 15, 2016.
Notice - In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk. Except, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Original
MARK CHURCH, COUNTY CLERK
SAN MATEO COUNTY
BY: GLENN S. CHANGTIN,
Deputy Clerk
CN927982 10109166 SO Aug 24, 31, Sep 7, 14, 2016
ALM

LIVE OAK STUDIO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270451
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Live Oak Studio, located at 227 Old La Honda Rd., Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
TRACY A. COX
227 Old La Honda Rd.
Woodside, CA 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 22, 2016. (ALM Aug. 31; Sept. 7, 14, 21, 2016)

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

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Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
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Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

LABS ON CALL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270559
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Labs on Call, located at 401 Burgess Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
PHELAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATES
401 Burgess Dr.
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 August 29, 2016. (ALM Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016)

MACRINA'S HOUSE CLEANING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270556
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Macrina's House Cleaning, located at 1928 Cooley Ave., #59, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MACRINA LASCAREZ
1928 Cooley Ave. #59
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3-05-16. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 29, 2016. (ALM Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016)

GALATA BISTRO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270574
The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Galata Bistro, located at 827 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):
MACU LLC
827 Santa Cruz Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025-9402
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.

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 August 30, 2016. (ALM Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016)

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Kindred at Home, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite 110, Daly City, CA 94015, County of San Mateo
Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
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Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

File No. 270368
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
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Registered Owner(s): Professional Healthcare at Home, LLC, 680 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202, California
This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signature of Registrant:

BURI BURI PLUMBING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 270564
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Buri Buri Plumbing, located at 494 Alhambra Rd., South San Francisco, CA 94080, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
RICHARD R. CAMPOS
494 Alhambra Rd.
South San Francisco, CA 94080
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 August 29, 2016. (ALM Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016)

997 All Other Legals
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Menlo-Atherton Storage ("MAS") intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

MAS will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on Thursday, September 15, 2016, at 9:30 AM on the premises where said property has been stored and is located at 3757 Haven Avenue, Menlo Park, San Mateo County, State of California, as follows: the property includes general household goods, tools, furniture, and musical instruments.
Otis Sheet Metal, Inc; Holmgren, John P; Weisman, Stuart

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is where is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sales tax is applied to items sold. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between MAS and obligated party. Auctioneer Paul D. Tyson, Phone 650.366.3757, Surety Bond #251541C. (ALM Aug. 31; Sept. 7, 2016)

WE HANDLE ALL YOUR LEGAL PUBLISHING NEEDS • Public Hearing Notice • Resolutions • Bid Notices • Notices of Petition to Administer Estate • Lien Sale • Trustee's Sale. THE ALMANAC. CALL 223 6578

We handle all your
LEGAL
publishing needs

- Notices of Petition to Administer Estate
- Public Hearing Notices
- Trustee's Sale
- Resolutions
- Bid Notices
- Lien 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 Alicia at 223-6578, for assistance in re-filing. It's inexpensive and easy.



The Almanac
223-6578



ATHERTON



Hugh Cornish
650.619.6461
hughcornish.com
hcornish@cbnorcal.com
CalBRE #00912143

50 Tallwood Ct \$6,850,000
Town and country living on a beautiful garden lot featuring a timeless 5 bed/4.5 bath home with library and separate family room. Las Lomitas Schools.



CENTRAL PORTOLA VALLEY



Ginny Kavanaugh
650.400.8076
gkavanaugh@cbnorcal.com
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

20 Cordova Ct \$4,895,000
Spacious 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with breathtaking views and amazing pool and deck area on 1+ acre quiet cul-de-sac. 20CORDOVA.COM



PORTOLA VALLEY



Ginny Kavanaugh
650.400.8076
gkavanaugh@cbnorcal.com
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

225 Old Spanish Trl \$4,150,000
Discover this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home and separate guesthouse beyond a canopy of majestic oaks and surrounded by tranquil terraces and stone paths.



PORTOLA VALLEY



Ginny Kavanaugh
650.400.8076
gkavanaugh@cbnorcal.com
KavanaughGroup.com
CalBRE #00884747

244 Canyon Dr \$2,450,000
A modern interpretation of the classic Craftsman, this 2 bed 2 bath home enjoys tranquil gardens, tree top views and outdoor spaces. 244Canyon.com



THIS IS HOME

This is where silly moments, crazy laughter and unforgettable memories can be found.

This is where awesomeness happens.

Coldwell Banker. Where home begins.

#HomelsAwesomeness