

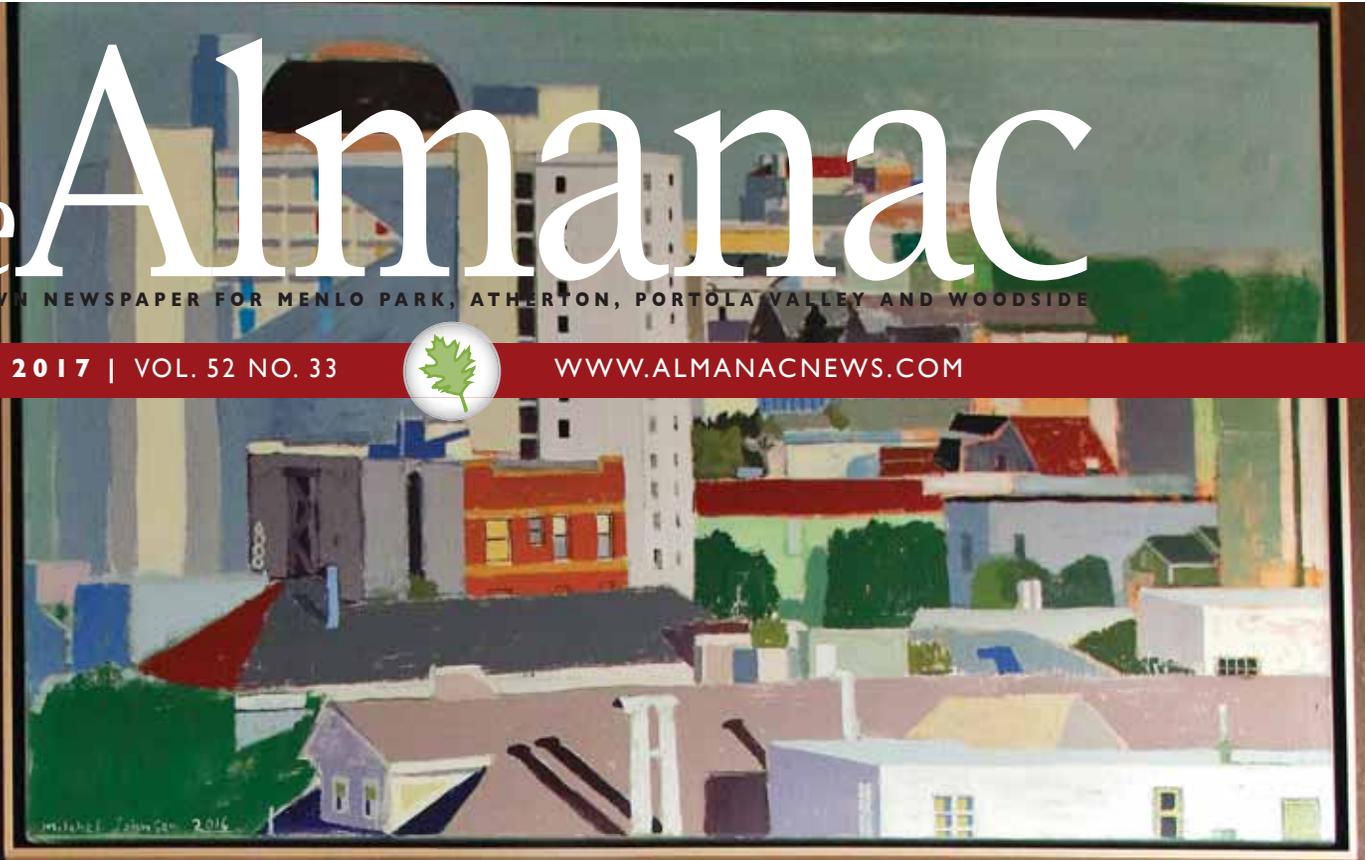
The Almanac

TOWN NEWSPAPER FOR MENLO PARK, AHERTON, PORTOLA VALLEY AND WOODSIDE

APRIL 19, 2017 | VOL. 52 NO. 33



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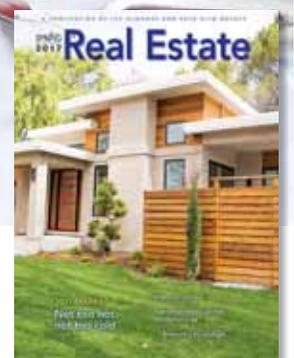
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on farm-to-table, social justice and
the future of her longtime restaurant**

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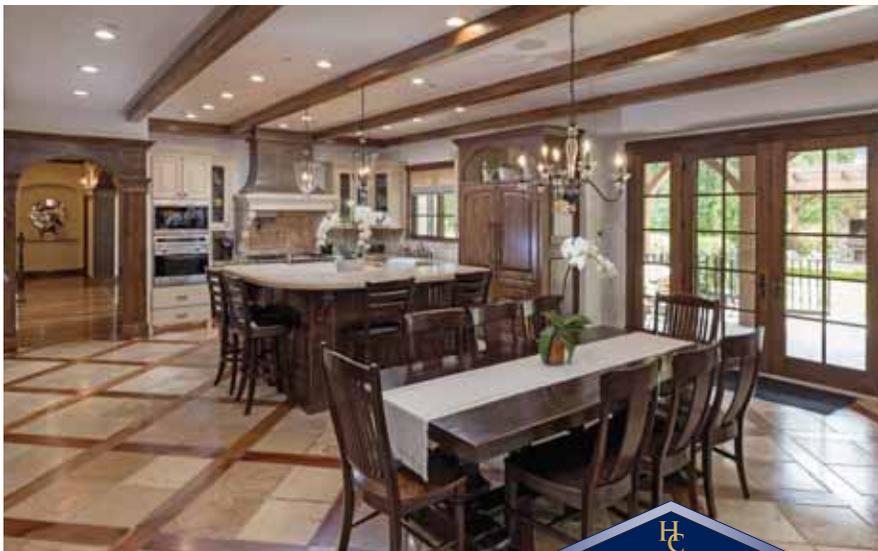

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Oct 27	24	7329	So. America	\$5,895	\$6,395	\$5,695	\$6,195
Nov 20	7	7330	Caribbean	\$1,995	\$2,495	\$1,795	\$2,295
Nov 22	17	7224	Indian Ocean	\$3,995	\$4,595	\$3,795	\$4,395
Nov 27	9	7331	Caribbean	\$2,595	\$3,295	\$2,395	\$3,095
Dec 6	14	7332	Caribbean	\$3,695	\$4,295	\$3,495	\$4,095
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Local News

MENLO PARK | A THERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Top 2016 pay in fire district: \$387,799

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

A recently released report from the Menlo Park Fire Protection district shows 12 people, including its chief, had total compensation of more than \$300,000 in 2016.

A battalion chiefs' \$387,799 in total compensation made him the top earner, with an engineer/paramedic not far behind at \$368,745.

In past years, the fire district has had the highest average pay of any government agency in California. The 2016 comparisons are not yet available, but the 2016 report-

ed pay appears to be higher than it was in 2015, when the state controller's office showed average pay in the fire district of \$146,075 and the highest total compensation to be \$359,939.

That year the only state agency with a higher average pay was the Industrial Development Financing Advisory Commission, which has only one employee, who made \$202,445 that year.

The compensation report was one of eight "Information Only" items on the agenda for the fire district's April 18 governing board meeting.

At is.gd/MPFPD_16 the entire report is posted online.

Chuck Bernstein, a fire board member who serves on the district's Finance Committee with

board President Peter Carpenter, said he applauds the district's staff for making the state-required report public at the same time it was submitted to the state. Disclosing the information "has shown good faith with the taxpayers," he said.

However, he said, the compensation and benefits are "excessively high" and "do not fit with our communities' norms."

He said he was speaking as an individual, and not for the fire board.

"As the leader of a child care and educational organization," he said, "I am distressed that the average compensation of teachers is

roughly one-fourth or one-fifth that of firefighters, with teachers often working more hours and possessing higher levels of education and training."

Chief Harold Schapelhouman said it is not fair to compare firefighters to other public workers. "Outside of law enforcements there isn't that same high expectation of performance and response," as when someone calls 911, he said.

"I expect our personnel to live by a code of personal conduct and behavior that in many cases goes against societal norms today. We still believe in honor, personal integrity, a career of service, duty, sacrifice, compassion and courage where you put the well-being of others and the critical function of

Chief Schapelhouman was No. 8 in total compensation.

Job Title	Total Regular Pay	Overtime Pay	Total Payroll Earnings	Total Compensation
Battalion Chief	\$198,367	\$156	\$325,790	\$387,799.29
Engineer-Paramedic	\$137,194	\$151,516	\$332,328	\$368,745.28
Engineer-Paramedic	\$137,466	\$158,457	\$329,202	\$364,118.14
Captain-Paramedic	\$159,788	\$100,069	\$308,335	\$346,745.45
Deputy Fire Chief	\$243,445	-	\$281,582	\$338,861.56
Battalion Chief	\$198,367	-	\$279,066	\$337,346.88
Division Chief Operations	\$210,347	-	\$283,957	\$334,896.23
Fire Chief	\$245,120	-	\$264,645	\$325,975.77
Battalion Chief	\$189,358	-	\$275,480	\$324,689.12
Captain-Paramedic	\$158,852	\$86,271	\$284,349	\$321,742.58
Division Chief Facilities	\$210,347	-	\$266,807	\$317,745.42
Captain-Paramedic	\$150,892	\$85,991	\$265,082	\$301,024.29

Source: Menlo Park Fire Protection District

This table shows 2016 compensation for the top-earning positions in the Menlo Park Fire Protection District. "Total Payroll Earnings" is made up of regular and overtime pay, payouts for unused leave and comp time, plus "other pay" for such situations as living near the district or having a bachelor's degree. "Total Compensation" is Total Payroll Earnings plus benefits, such as for health care and retirement.

a team, before yourself," he said.

"If something occurs, we expect (firefighters) to quickly, efficiently and effectively resolve any emergencies that threaten individuals or the greater good, regardless of the risk or long-term effects it will have on them because they swore an oath to protect and serve," he said.

Chief Schapelhouman said the district pays "our personnel very fairly, given the high cost of local housing, the schedule they work and for the type of difficult and dangerous work that they often do."

"We also have high expectations for their individual performance and problem-solving under, at times, extremely difficult and dangerous circumstances. Given the potential long-term effects this can have on their family lives and their own health and psychological well-being, (the pay) probably isn't enough," he said.

Mr. Bernstein said he sees several reasons for the excessive compensation, starting with a "flawed contract-negotiation process." The current contracts, which expire in 2018, were negotiated by senior district officials whom

he called "self-interested parties" because their own compensation and benefits would be affected by the negotiations' outcome.

He said board members did not negotiate "because, apparently, incompetent board members' involvement in the past led to unsatisfactory results," but he hopes at least one board member will be on future negotiating teams.

President Carpenter said he believes the current contract "was, after almost 6 years without either

See **FIRE DISTRICT**, page 6

Woodside seeks residents help to re-examine ethics code

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

The Woodside Town Council is looking for residents interested in participating in a series of facilitated group discussions to consider the town's ethics code and whether changes are needed.

Mayor Tom Livermore proposed the idea for an ad hoc committee to the council in March, following up on his February pledge to amend the ethics code during his tenure as mayor. The council had just decided to take no action after a months-long investigation of an ethics complaint filed against a member of the Architectural and Site Review Board.

That investigation raised a number of questions about the inflexibility of the ethics code, and whether this extensive investigation was warranted.

The code requires the mayor to investigate all complaints and present a report of findings to the council at a public meeting, where the council must accept testimony and determine whether a violation of the code has occurred.

In this case, the council decided to ignore that part of the code and not make any determination.

These parts of the code are among the matters that the new ethics committee may examine.

Mayor Livermore said he envisions a committee of seven to 10 people — or more, depending on the level of interest — meeting

Months-long ethics investigation raises questions about the code.

up to three times, in public, for discussions facilitated by a consultant from the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University.

The facilitator's role is to educate committee members on ethical concepts used in local government, and best practices in creating and implementing ethics codes. The Markkula Center would help prepare recommendations for the council, Mr. Livermore said in his proposal.

"Because this is an important topic, I recommend that we solicit participation from all of the Town's residents," Mr. Livermore said.

Go to tinyurl.com/GsffK for more information.

Investigation

In investigating the complaint against a member of the Architectural and Site Review Board, a 41-page report was prepared by an outside attorney at a cost to the town of \$27,465.

The report recommended that the council sustain five of nine allegations, but the council voted 4-0 to follow Mayor Livermore's recommendation and take "no further action," despite the code's instruction to determine whether

a violation had occurred.

Go to is.gd/ethics24 for more information on the investigation.

Under the ethics code, the council may impose sanctions on elected or appointed officials if it determines that a violation has occurred.

In response to a question at the time by Councilman Daniel Yost about whether dropping the matter without making a determination would violate the code, Town Attorney Jean Savaree said the council had the authority to proceed as the code dictates, but that since the review-board member was no longer on the board — she had allowed her membership to lapse and did not apply for reappointment — the council had no authority to impose sanctions. ▣



NOTICE REQUESTING BIDS

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION - NEW METAL STORAGE BUILDING

Sealed proposals for the Design and Construction - New Metal Storage Building project will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 3, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "Design and Construction - New Metal Storage Building."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials, tools, equipment, services, facilities, and other appurtenances for the Design and Construction of a New Metal Storage Building in the City of Menlo Park. The work includes, but is not limited to design and construction of new metal storage building and foundation, installation of skylight panels, roof ventilators, overhead doors, personnel entry doors, and other appurtenances; and excavation, grading, and construction of new improvements.

The contract documents may be inspected at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District; San Francisco Builders Exchange, Attn: Deanna Johnson, 850 So. Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94110; Peninsula Builders Exchange, Attn: Andrea Nettles, 737A Industrial Road, San Carlos, California 94070; Santa Clara Builders Exchange, Attn: Kanani Fonseca, 400 Reed Street, Santa Clara, California 95050; Builders Exchange of Alameda, Attn: Richard Owen, 3055 Alvarado Street, San Leandro, California 94577; Construction Bidboard Incorporated, Attn: Plan Room, 11622 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92130; and, Contra Costa Builders Exchange, Attn: April Hamilton, 2440 Stanwell Drive, Suite B, Concord, California 94520.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District upon payment of a check or money order in the amount of \$50.00 for each set. The check or money order must be issued to the West Bay Sanitary District. All payments are nonrefundable.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at **11:00 am on Wednesday, April 12, 2017** at the West Bay Sanitary District Flow Equalization Facilities located at 1700 Marsh Road in Menlo Park, California.

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

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

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

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

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

In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code Section 3300, the District has determined that the Contractor shall possess a valid Class B License or a combination of Class C-39 "Roofing Contractor", C-43 "Sheet Metal Contractor" and C-54 "Structural Steel Contractor" licenses at the time this contract is awarded. Failure to possess the specified license(s) shall render the bid as non-responsive and shall act as a bar to award of the contract to any bidder not possessing said license(s) at the time of award.

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

/s/ Phil Scott
District Manager

Dated: March 28, 2017

Firefighters respond to car crash, RV fire

Firefighters with the Menlo Park Fire Protection District responded to two major incidents on Easter Sunday.

In one incident, a man in his 20s was severely injured early Sunday morning after the vehicle he was driving slammed into a tree in the 2400 block of Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park and caught fire.

Firefighters responded at 4:30 a.m., extinguished the fire and used the "Jaws of Life" cutters and spreaders to extricate the driver, according to Menlo Park Fire Protection District Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

The man was taken to Stanford Hospital. His status and identification was not available at press time.

RV fire

A 52-year-old man died early Sunday morning after his

recreational vehicle caught fire in the North Fair Oaks area, fire officials said.

Chief Schapelhouman said Menlo Park and Redwood City firefighters responded to 3190 Park Road just before 6 a.m. and found found smoke coming from the RV. Firefighters extinguished the fire, and found in the back of the RV an unconscious man in full cardiac arrest.

A large hole was cut in the side of the RV to extricate the man, and medical personnel performed CPR and life-saving techniques. He was taken to Stanford Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. His name was not released by press time.

Fire investigators determined that a "severely pinched" extension cord that was run for power through the driver's side door likely caused the fire.

FIRE DISTRICT

continued from page 5

a labor agreement or any salary increases, the result of a fair negotiation between the district and the firefighters."

Chief Schapelhouman said that at the same time the district was negotiating the contract it was also working to resolve two unfair labor practice suits and an overtime related federal lawsuit.

The fire board eventually "collectively found a path to full resolution of a very dark chapter in labor/management/board relations," he said.

The compensation report shows Chief Schapelhouman at number eight in total compensation at \$325,976. Deputy Chief Donald Long Jr. was number five with \$338,862. Two engineer/paramedics, a captain/paramedic, a battalion chief and a division chief also had more total compensation than the chief.

Three of the top four earners had considerable overtime pay. Two engineer/paramedics had \$158,457 and \$151,516 in overtime, with their overtime earnings surpassing their regular pay. A captain/paramedic had \$100,069 in overtime.

Excluding benefits, 15 district employees earned \$250,000 or more in total wages in 2016, compared to nine who made that much in 2015.

In January, the district told the Almanac that its 2015 compensation figures were an anomaly, because they included six months of retroactive pay raises from 2014, as well as lump sum settlements from two labor relations cases the district lost.

The 2016 report includes as regular pay: base salary, compensation for emergency medical technician or paramedic credentials (all the district's firefighters are one or the other), holidays, other leave, comp time and jury duty. Also included in total payroll earnings are all types of overtime pay, lump sum payments for annual leave and comp time cash-outs, plus "other pay" for items including being bilingual, having a bachelor's degree or living close to the fire district.

Mr. Bernstein said he thinks the district's past reporting of proposed wage and benefit packages has been "incomplete" and left both the public and board members unable to see total proposed compensation. The "other pay" items are "difficult to quantify because they vary greatly from individual to individual," he said.

Almost every district employee received "other pay" ranging from a low of \$1,643 for an employee who appears to have been hired near the end of the year, to a high of \$108,408.

Some of the district employees' compensation is paid by outside agencies, usually when district firefighters are deployed to other areas after a disaster, such as a wildfire or winter storm. The state and federal agencies sometimes also pay the district's overtime costs attributed to the absence of deployed employees.

The district hired 20 new firefighters in the past two years and plans to hire 10 more this year. The documents show in 2016, the minimum annual salary for the lowest paid firefighter/EMT was \$90,473, before adding in any extra, overtime or lump sum pay. ■



Menlo Park Fire Protection District

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District received its maximum of 300 applications to become a firefighter/emergency medical technician for the district in just over two hours. On April 1, applicants took a written exam for the job.

Menlo Park fire district may hire 10 more entry-level firefighters

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District has announced plans to hire over the next year up to 10 entry-level firefighters who are also emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

Chief Harold Schapelhouman said that the district took applications for 300 emergency medical technician/firefighter positions, reaching that maximum in just over two hours. The district also allowed up to 300 applications for paramedic/firefighter positions, but received only 234 applications over 11 days.

On April 1, 332 of those applicants took a written exam

for the job. Chief Schapelhouman said some did not show up for the exams and others were disqualified because their applications showed they did not meet the department's minimum requirements.

The chief said that of the 332 applicants who took the written exams, 309 were male, 11 were female and 12 did not declare. The ethnic breakdown of the applicants was: four American Indian, 22 Asian, 11 African American, 62 Latino, eight Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 19 two or more races, 194 white, and 12 did not declare.

The next step in the process is to interview top candidates. Candidates must also complete and pass a medical, physiological

and background screening.

The new firefighters will join the 20 new firefighter/EMTs or firefighter/paramedics the district has hired in the past year.

Chief Schapelhouman said the hiring is due both to retirements of district firefighters and an expansion of the workforce because of development within the district. He said the district's goal is to have 93 emergency first responders at its seven fire stations, available to operate nine emergency response vehicles 24 hours a day.

The fire district covers Atherton, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and nearly unincorporated areas, as well as the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on contract. ■

Atherton council set to sign contract for Menlo Park fire district review

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

A \$49,500 contract to examine the Menlo Park Fire Protection District's finances, and look at other ways Atherton might get fire services for its residents, is on the Atherton City Council agenda for Wednesday, April 19.

A proposal from the Matrix Consulting Group suggests the consultants look at two fundamental questions:

■ What are the costs, locally generated revenues, and benefits of service from the Menlo Park Fire Protection District?

■ What is the financial and service feasibility of the town creating a municipal fire department?

To answer the first question, the consultants propose looking at what taxes and fees from Atherton residents go to the fire district, how much it costs the fire district to provide services to the town, and if the revenues exceed the costs.

To answer the second question, the consultants propose looking at a number of options for providing fire service to the town, including a municipal fire department, contracting with another fire service or creating

a joint powers agreement with other regional agencies.

The proposal shows the study taking 14 weeks to complete.

Also on the agenda is final adoption of changes in rules for accessory dwelling units, a look at the budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year, and a contract for pedestrian and bicyclist improvements at Middlefield Road and Oak Grove Avenue and bike lanes along Oak Grove.

The council meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the town's council chambers at 94 Ashfield Road. The fire district fiscal review contract is near the end of the agenda. ■

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Do Restrictions on Renting My Condo Help or Hurt Its Value?

Dear Monica: I live in a very nice condo complex that includes in the HOA rules a restriction on renting one's unit. I am going to sell my condo this year and am wondering if such a restriction is a good or bad thing from a marketing standpoint. What do you think? Joan D.

Dear Joan: Whether a rental restriction is a good or bad thing depends on the owner/buyer. Some owners love the fact that all residents are owners because they feel that owners have a vested interest in the complex and that it is harder to enforce condo rules on a renter than on an owner. Even if the lease stipulates that the tenant must adhere to the

rules, some HOA owners don't think this is enough to maintain control if rules are broken.

From a marketing standpoint, rental restrictions can be a negative selling point. Buyers don't necessarily want to buy a home that they can never rent if, for example, they are relocated and want to keep their condo. There are also buyers who want to rent for a while until they move in but can't do this with rental restrictions. Thus it narrows the market considerably and potentially affects the value of the home. You will still be able to sell your condo even with this restriction but fewer buyers will be interested in the property.

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

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Photo by Barbara Wood/The Almanac

One more building permit for a property on this one-lane road would trigger a requirement to make it wide enough to allow vehicles, including fire trucks, to get past one another.

New residential complex may force widening of Mountain Wood Lane

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

WOODSIDE

The town of Woodside has a longstanding claim on the importance of “rural character,” though it’s a phrase with a meaning open to interpretation.

A project typical of today’s Woodside — a residential complex that includes a 6,000-square-foot main house — could threaten, perhaps, one aspect of the rural character of one neighborhood.

If the town issues one more

building permit to develop an undeveloped parcel on Mountain Wood Lane — a private road that provides access for about 10 homes — the fire code will require a widening of what is essentially a half-mile-long one-lane shared driveway, according to Planning Director Jackie Young.

There’s room for just one vehicle; encounters require someone to back up — a situation that becomes untenable to

firefighters after a certain level of residential development, according to Fire Marshal Denise Enea of the Woodside Fire Protection District.

“There’s not a lot of room to spare when there are two vehicles and one of them is a fire truck,” she said. “Ingress and egress is one of the most important aspects of the fire code.”

The town’s Architectural and Site Review Board recently reviewed two proposals: a design for a 6,000-square-foot home at 205 Mountain Wood

Lane, and a proposal to subdivide the 8.6-acre parcel at 201.

Width options

Ms. Enea said the fire district is aware of the town’s priorities regarding rural character. While the code requires roads to be at least 20 feet wide, the Woodside district has lowered that standard to 18 feet in deference to rural character, she said.

Not only that, but the entire width need not be paved. A road with 14-foot-wide paved surface and two-foot shoulders is acceptable, provided the shoulders are of an all-weather surface, she said.

In the interest of flexibility, Ms. Enea said she has engaged with developers, architects and property owners in trying to

meet the fire code, including going “inch by inch” over a driveway. “We look at every single option they present to us,” she said. “It really becomes a case-by-case situation.”

Retired venture capitalist and Mountain Wood Lane resident Reid Dennis spoke at the review board meeting in defense of the rarity and beauty of the hedges that line the road. They would be lost if the lane is widened. The lane’s narrowness, he added, may discourage strangers from visiting the neighborhood. “We’d like to keep that,” he said.

More trees to go

The project at 205 Mountain Wood Lane involves building a one-story residence of almost 6,000 square feet, two guest houses, a music/fitness building, a mechanical building, a pool and a spa, according to a staff report.

The plans propose the felling of 57 trees. (This is the same property on which 22 significant trees were felled without a permit sometime between July 2015 and June 2016. The Town Council issued a fine of \$212,500 to Rudolph Koppl, the property owner at the time the trees were felled. Mr. Koppl appealed the fine, but to no avail.)

Ms. Young, the planning director, commented on the positive aspects of the project — a low-profile house, an indoor/

Mountain Wood Lane resident Reid Dennis spoke in defense of the rarity and beauty of the hedges that line the road.

outdoor design, and overhangs to limit the escape of light — and recommended areas for further consideration ahead of bringing the project back for a formal design review.

Among those, Ms. Young included talking with neighbors about the plans, softening the formality in several areas, considering what will be visible from the road, the use of stone or brick rather than board-form concrete for some retaining walls, and a site plan that takes into consideration the locations of structures on neighboring properties. ■

Facebook plans five festivals

Facebook plans to hold five festivals at its Menlo Park headquarters from May through October that will be free and open to the public.

The festivals are a different iteration of the company-sponsored farmers’ markets it hosted last year. In 2016, the company hosted 25 farmers’ markets that had various festival themes and raised \$45,000 for local nonprofits, according to a Facebook spokesperson.

This year, the farmers’ markets will be brought back in the summer, “with a twist to better serve Belle Haven and East Palo Alto,” noted the spokesperson.

The 2017 festival dates and themes are:

■ Saturday, May 13, noon to 5 p.m. “Chili, Cars & Everyday Stars” is a chili cook-off competition and car and truck show. Proceeds will benefit local organizations including Habitat for Humanity, Pets In Need, the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, Warrior Canine Connection and

the American Red Cross.

■ Saturday, June 24, noon to 5 p.m. The “Summer Foodfest” will celebrate food, summer and outdoor activities. Proceeds will benefit local environmental and sustainability organizations.

■ Saturday, Aug. 26, noon to 5 p.m. The “Facebook County Fair” will feature carnival rides, animals, entertainment and games. Proceeds will benefit local youth, schools and mentoring programs.

■ Saturday, Sept. 16, noon to 5 p.m. Facebook’s “Bacon, Blues & Brews” festival will feature bacon-inspired dishes, blues, jazz and craft beer. Proceeds will benefit local music and art programs.

■ Saturday, Oct. 28, noon to 5 p.m. A Dia de los Muertos and Halloween festival will feature a pumpkin patch, trick-or-treating and costume party. Proceeds will benefit local organizations to feed the hungry.

All events will be held at Facebook headquarters at 1 Hacker Way in Menlo Park (go to parking lot 15.) ■



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Born in Menlo Park, Raised in Atherton, Lives in Woodside.



Robert W. Taylor was awarded in 1999 the National Medal of Technology and in 2004, the Charles Stark Draper Prize, the highest award of the National Academy of Engineering.

Robert Taylor, pioneer in computing, dies at 85

Robert W. Taylor, 85, a Woodside resident for 34 years and a visionary in the development of computer networks and modern personal computing, died

Thursday, April 13, of complications of Parkinson's disease, his son Kurt told the New York Times.

Mr. Taylor was instrumental in the formation of a computer network at the famed Advanced Research Projects Agency for the Department of Defense in the 1960s, and during the 1970s led a computer lab at the equally famous center of innovation, the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC).

As head of a new research center in Palo Alto for Digital Equipment Corp., Mr. Taylor was involved in the development of technologies that led to digital books, modern workstations, and the Java programming language.

In recognition of his achievements, Mr. Taylor was awarded in 1999 the National Medal of Technology and in 2004, the Charles Stark Draper Prize, the highest award of the National Academy of Engineering.

In 2013, he was inducted into the Computer History Museum Hall of Fellows.

Go to is.gd/Taylor22 to see an online version of this story with links to much more information, including a major story about Mr. Taylor, written by Almanac staff writer Marion Softky. ▣

Volunteers needed

Friday, April 28, is the deadline to apply for open positions on Atherton town committees.

Positions are open on these committees: Audit and Finance Committee, two vacancies; Environmental Programs Committee, two vacancies; Park & Recreation Committee, one vacancy; Planning Commission, one vacancy; and Rail Committee, one vacancy.

At is.gd/TOA_Ap find the application or contact Judi Herren at (650) 752-0585 or jherren@ci.atherton.ca.us.



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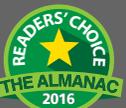
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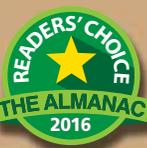
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Atherton names police chief

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Steven D. McCulley, who retired in June 2016 from serving concurrently as police chief in Washington state's Snoqualmie and North Bend communities, is Atherton's new police chief, the town announced April 14. He is expected to start by mid-May.

Former Atherton Police Chief Ed Flint retired in October, after more than six months of medical

leave. Commander Joe Wade has served as acting chief for more than a year.

A native of Washington state, Chief McCulley was a Washington State Patrol trooper for 27 years, starting at age 21. His jobs included criminal investigations detective, criminal information and technology section commander, statewide bomb squad commander, and rapid deployment force commander.

Atherton's announcement says that during his six years as chief in

Snoqualmie and North Bend, he "improved transparency, accountability, and risk management within the police department and with both communities, ensuring community policing was at the forefront of all police operations."

Chief McCulley did create some controversy during his tenure in Snoqualmie when he hired a police officer who had earlier been fired from a police department in Tukwila, Washington, for using excessive force.

Atherton City Manager George

Rodericks said Chief McCulley was questioned about the incident during the interview process. Mr. McCulley said the allegations about the rogue officer "did not arise during background (checks) of the candidate," Mr. Rodericks said. "Later the issues came out. The officer was, of course, let go from Snoqualmie (for a host of reasons). It was one of his regrets," Mr. Rodericks said.

Chief McCulley has bachelors' degrees in criminal justice and sociology from Washington State University. He also attended the Northwestern University's School of Executive Police Staff and Command, the University of Arkansas' Rural Executive Management Institute, and the University of North Florida's Institute of Police Technology and Management.



Steven McCulley

He will be paid \$193,915 annually.

In a statement, Chief McCulley said he was "strongly drawn to the town of Atherton because of the professionalism of the town management team and the police department's true dedication to a very strong community oriented policing philosophy."

"I have always found great success in my career by aspiring to the motto of 'No Call Too Small.' I look forward to meeting and serving the residents of the town of Atherton," he said.

Chief McCulley, 55, was selected by the city manager out of 30 applicants. He was interviewed by four community panels, a peer panel and the city manager, mayor and vice mayor.

Chief McCulley and his wife Lynn have been married for 27 years. Daughters Megan and Peyton are both due to graduate from universities in Washington this summer. ▀

Suspect charged in online hacking case

A 34-year-old San Francisco man was arraigned April 11 in federal District Court on charges in connection with the Sept. 17, 2015, hacking of AlmanacNews.com and other websites operated by Embarcadero Media, the Palo Alto-based publisher of community newspapers, including the Almanac.

Ross M. Colby was charged by a federal grand jury in a sealed five-count indictment on Thursday, April 6, following an 18-month investigation by the FBI's Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property unit in San Jose. The indictment was unsealed on April 11.

At the arraignment, Mr. Colby entered a plea of not guilty, posted a \$50,000 bond and was released. He was represented by Palo Alto criminal defense attorney Vicki Young and will appear before U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose for a status conference on May 24.

Mr. Colby is charged with one felony for intentional damage to a protected computer, another for attempted damage to a protected computer and three misdemeanors for obtaining information from a protected computer.

The two felonies carry maximum sentences of 10 years in prison and \$250,000 in fines.

The indictment alleges that Mr. Colby gained access to the corporate Google email account of an Embarcadero Media employee in July 2015 and then used information to cancel four domain names and change the company's email exchange records to redirect email.

The charges contained in the indictment are accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

On the evening of Sept. 17, 2015, all of the websites operated by Embarcadero Media were taken over and all content removed. The home pages were replaced with an image of Guy Fawkes and a message stating the sites had been hacked because Embarcadero had "failed to remove content that has been harmful to the wellbeing and safety of others." The message had this threat: "Failure to honor all requests to remove content will lead to the permanent shutdown of all Embarcadero Media Group Websites."

The URL header on each website stated: "Unbalanced journalism for profit at the cost of human right. Brought to you by the Almanac."

The Almanac, serving Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton, is one of Embarcadero Media's four newspapers. The company also publishes the Palo Alto Weekly, Mountain View Voice and Pleasanton Weekly and websites in each community.

The company's IT staff was able to regain control of the sites and shut them down within an hour of the hack so they were no longer accessible to the public, but it took almost a full day to restore the content from backups and bring the sites back up.

The Palo Alto Police Department conducted a precautionary search of the Embarcadero offices

See **HACKING**, page 14

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Should officials disclose meetings?

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Mandatory public memos listing all city-related meetings and phone calls conducted each week would become a requirement for City Manager Alex McIntyre and all members of the Menlo Park City Council and Planning Commission, under a proposal by Councilman Ray Mueller.

The memos would list the name, title and affiliated organization of people the city officials interact with for city-related appointments, meetings and phone calls, public events and speaking engagements.

City-related travel information would also be reported, include the destination, organizations related to the travel, and a statement about the purpose of the travel.

The concept, Mr. Mueller said,

is to increase transparency with the public and the press. "It's becoming increasingly evident that people aren't aware of what we're working on," he said.

Mr. Mueller has asked that the item be put on the agenda of an upcoming City Council meeting, possibly on May 2 but perhaps on April 18, he said.

San Jose adopted a similar policy in 2007 and Santa Clara County did so in 2013.

Planning commissioners would be included in the policy because they have the power to make land-use decisions without the council's approval, he said.

Under the proposed policy, each council member, planning commissioner and the city manager would have to submit a calendar each Wednesday by 5 p.m. covering the previous Monday through Sunday.

This would include meetings

with constituents, developers, non-residential and multi-family residential property owners, consultants, union representatives, nonprofit or non-governmental organization representatives and lobbyists.

Some exceptions include instances where attorney privilege exists and publicly advertised events of more than 15 attendees.

"At the end of the day, we work for the public," he said. "There's nothing wrong with putting together a process so the public knows exactly what we're working on.

Mr. Mueller said he will start "walking the walk" before the matter comes to the council. "My first calendar memo will be provided to the City Clerk, Wednesday, April 26th for publishing," he said in an email. "They are adding the capability to my Council web page." ■

Deputies seek suspects in residential burglaries

■ PORTOLA VALLEY

San Mateo County sheriff's deputies are investigating two recent burglaries in Portola Valley, one on April 10 on Golden Oak Drive and another on April 15 on Brookside Drive.

Three suspects are at large following a break-in and theft in the 100 block of Golden Oak Drive.

The resident was out of town but his security system and smart phone alerted him to people on his property. Deputies responded and found a rear window broken, and that some of the resident's belongings were taken, Detective Salvador Zuno said.

In the Brookside Drive incident, a resident returned from an overnight trip to find personal property missing from his

home, Detective Zuno said.

Investigators said they learned that the burglar or burglars probably entered through an unlocked rear door, sometime between 6 p.m. Friday, April 14, and 6 a.m. Saturday, April 15.

The Sheriff's Office reminds residents to secure their homes, lock their doors and report suspicious activity.

Anyone with information about these incident is asked to call (650) 363-4911 or the Sheriff's Office anonymous tip line at (800) 547-2700.

HACKING

continued from page 12

at 2 a.m. on the night of the hacking, and the FBI began an immediate investigation and secured company computer records and logs later that day.

According to Embarcadero Media President Bill Johnson, the damage went far beyond the unauthorized access to and seizure of the websites. Many internal company computer records, including all employee user accounts and client account information and billing records, were erased, Mr. Johnson said. Fortunately, the company's backup systems made it possible to restore all the information over the following week.

The indictment offers no clues as to Mr. Colby's motivation or connection to the Almanac or Embarcadero Media.

Mr. Colby attended Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts, his father John Colby, confirmed April 12. He was raised in Athol, Massachusetts, a small town of about 11,300 people in northwestern Massachusetts.

According to his LinkedIn page, Mr. Colby claims to be a software researcher and developer at EMC2, now a subsidiary of Dell Technologies.

Dell EMC has offices throughout the Bay Area, including in the Stanford Research Park, according to its website.

Company spokeswoman Lauren Lee said that Dell does not employ anyone by Mr. Colby's name.

Mr. Colby could not be reached for comment. His father said on April 12 that he did not know anything about the indictment or his son's arrest.

Ms. Young, Mr. Colby's attorney, did not respond to a request for comment.

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www.summer.harker.org **408.553.5737**

iD Tech Camps **Stanford, Bay Area**
Students ages 7-17 can learn to code apps, design video games, mod Minecraft, engineer robots, model 3D characters, design for VR, explore cyber security, and more. Students explore campus, learn foundational STEM skills, and gain self-confidence.
www.iDTech.com/Connection **1.844.788.1858**

Mid-Peninsula High School **Menlo Park**
Mid-Pen's Summer Session offers an innovative series of one-week courses that give students the opportunity to customize their own summer program. These courses go beyond traditional curriculum, giving students the opportunity to enhance their skills while seeking either enrichment or credit repair.
www.mid-pen.com **650.321.1991**

STANFORD EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on Biomedical Research **Stanford**
EXPLORE biomedical science at Stanford! Stanford EXPLORE offers high school students the unique opportunity to learn from Stanford professors and graduate students about diverse topics in biomedical science, including bioengineering, neurobiology, immunology and many others.
explore.stanford.edu explore-series@stanford.edu

Write Now! Summer Writing Camps **Palo Alto Pleasanton**
Improve your student's writing skills this summer at Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton. Courses this year are Expository Writing, Creative Writing and Presentation Techniques. Visit our website for more information.
www.headsup.org **Emerson: 650.424.1267**
Hacienda: 925.485.5750

ATHLETICS

City of Mountain View Recreation **Mountain View**
Come have a blast with us this summer! We have something for everyone - Recreation Camps, Specialty Camps, Sports Camps, Swim Lessons and more! Programs begin June 5th - register early!
www.mountainview.gov/register **650.903.6331**

ATHLETICS

Hi Five Sports Summer Camp **Sacred Heart Schools Atherton**
We are the Premier youth sports summer camp. We bring the fun to camp and with over 25 years of experience we make sure your child has an experience of a lifetime!!!!
www.hifivesports.com **650.362.4975**

Kim Grant Tennis Academy Summer Camps **Palo Alto Monterey***
Fun and specialized junior camps for Mini (3-5), Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, High Performance and Elite levels. Weekly programs designed by Kim Grant to improve player technique, fitness, agility, mental toughness and all around game. Weekly camps in Palo Alto and sleep away camps at Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis*.
www.KimGrantTennis.com **650.752.8061**

Nike Tennis Camps **Stanford University**
Junior Overnight and Day Camps for boys & girls, ages 9-18 offered throughout June, July and August. Adult Weekend Clinics (June & Aug). Camps directed by Head Men's Coach, Paul Goldstein, Head Women's Coach, Lele Forood, and Associate Men's and Women's Coaches, Brandon Coupe and Frankie Brennan. Come join the fun and get better this summer!
www.USSportsCamps.com **1.800.NIKE.CAMP**
(1.800.645.3226)

Run for Fun Adventure Day Camp **Palo Alto**
Camp High Five Overnight Camp **La Honda, Pinecrest**
Our Camp offers the ultimate combination of sports, adventure and creativity! Coaches bring lots of positive energy and enthusiasm every day. Each week of day camp features two to three adventures with all other days held at Juana Briones Elementary. Adventure highlights include climbing tower, archery, dodgeball on the beach, kayaking, Great America and more. Overnight Camp includes kayaking, horseback riding, archery, campfires, sports, crafts and more. Ages 6-14. Financial aid available.
www.runforfuncamps.com **650.823.5167**

Spartans Sports Camp **Mountain View**
Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 2-7, sport-specific sessions for grades 2-9, color guard camp for grades 3-9, and cheerleading camp for grades pre-K - 8. We also offer a hip hop dance camp for grades 1-7. Camp dates are June 12 through July 28 at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available.
www.SpartansSportsCamp.com **650.479.5906**

Stanford Water Polo **Stanford**
Ages 7 and up. New to sport or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half day or fully day option for boys and girls. All the camps offer fundamental skill work, scrimmages and games.
www.stanfordwaterpolocamps.com **650.725.9016**

YMCA Summer Camps **Silicon Valley**
At the Y, children and teens of all abilities acquire new skills, make friends, and feel that they belong. With hundreds of Summer Day Camps at 30+ locations plus Overnight Camps, you will find a camp that's right for your family. Financial assistance is available.
www.ymcasv.org/summer **408.351.6410**



OPEN HOUSE

Saturday & Sunday, 1 - 5pm
Complimentary Refreshments



WOODLAND RETREAT WITH GLORIOUS VIEWS

70 Stadler Drive, Woodside

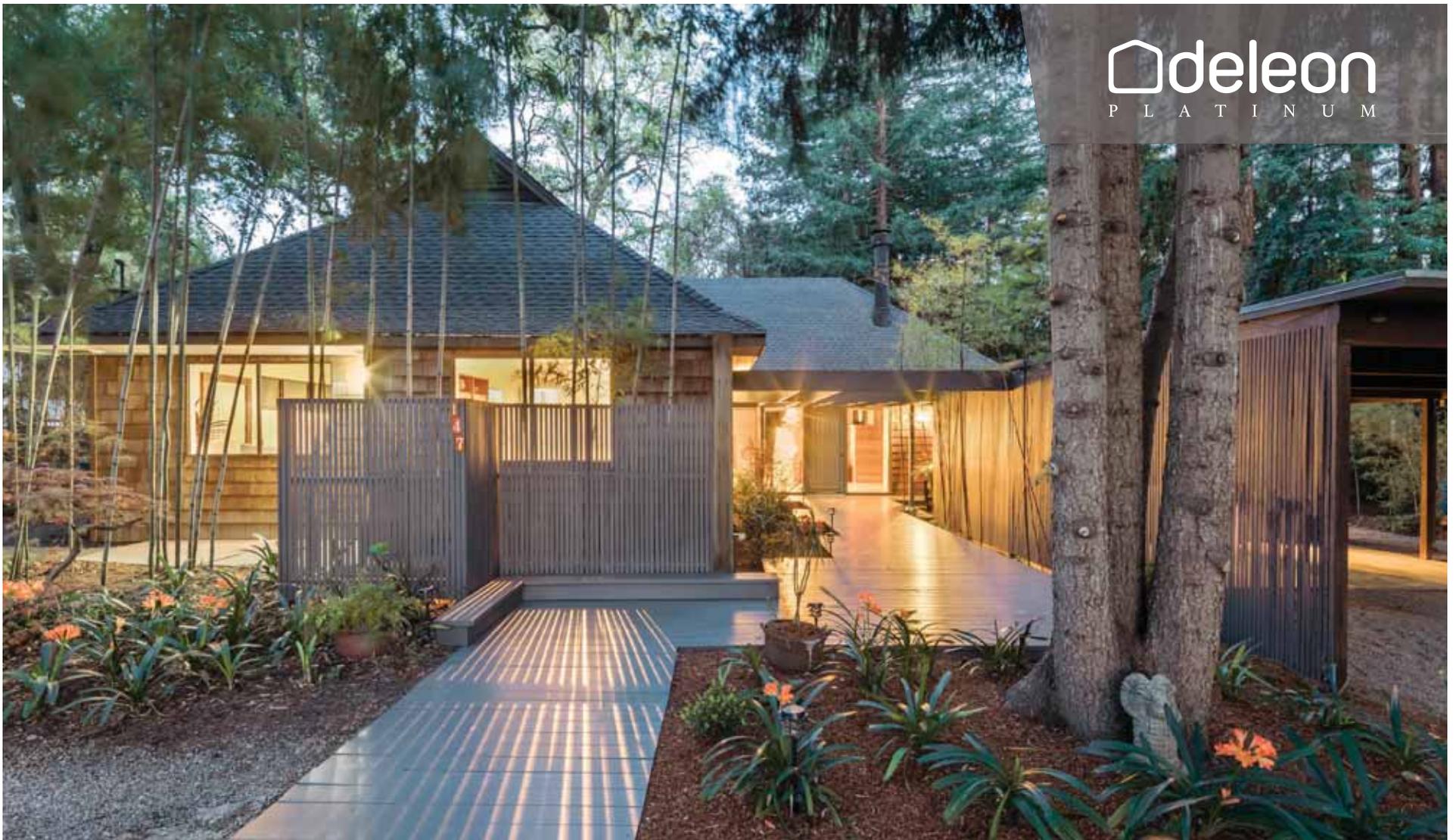
Tucked away on a quiet, hilltop property of 1.1 acres (per county), this gorgeous, solar-equipped 4 bedroom, 4 bath home of over 4,000 sq. ft. (per plans) offers an additional garage of 750 sq. ft. (per plans) and showcases outdoor living, dazzling bay views, and contemporary upgrades. Natural light cascades throughout the interior, and the rooms are flexibly designed to fit a variety of uses. Featuring a hot tub, a counter-current pool, and private access to the trail system of Wunderlich Park, this home is every athlete's dream, and the grounds are even zoned for equestrian use. Enjoy access to exceptional schools like Ormondale Elementary (API 923), Corte Madera Middle (API 937), and Woodside High (buyer to verify eligibility).

Offered at \$2,988,000



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147 Almedral Avenue, Atherton

Unparalleled Opportunity in West Atherton

Towering redwoods surround this jewel of a property, creating a woodland sanctuary of nearly one acre (per county) within this highly exclusive address. The spacious premises reveal an enchanting 4 bedroom, 3 bath home of approx. 2,500 sq. ft. (per county) that emanates custom Mid-Century Modern style, the byproduct of an architect influenced by the timeless designs of Charles Eames and Herman Miller. Boasting a stunning pyramid ceiling, updated amenities, and a versatile layout, the home can easily accommodate remodeling and even expansion. Tucked inside one of the most distinguished neighborhoods in Silicon Valley, this setting is within mere moments of the celebrated Menlo Circus Club, alluring downtown Menlo Park, and illustrious private schools.

For video tour & more photos, please visit:

www.147Almedral.com

Offered at \$6,988,000

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday & Sunday

1:00-5:00

Gourmet Snacks,

Lattes, & Jazz



Photo by Veronica Weber
Jesse Ziff Cool
 at her West Menlo Park restaurant, Flea St. Cafe, which she has operated for 36 years. (Cover photo also by Veronica Weber.)

The Cool philosophy

**Chef-owner Jesse Ziff Cool
 on farm-to-table, social justice and the future
 of her longtime restaurant**

By Elena Kadvanj

At Flea St. Cafe in Menlo Park, the customer always comes last. It sounds counterintuitive — even unappealing — but when longtime owner Jesse Ziff Cool explains it, it makes sense. Since she opened Flea St. Cafe more than 30 years ago, her first allegiance has been to the people serving the customers and by extension, the people growing and raising the food on their plates.

“If you take care of the soil and the environment and the water and the way the farmers, the fishermen and the ranchers are treated, and then you take care of the dishwashers and you take care of all the people all the way through, then the customer will get taken care of,” she said in a recent interview at the restaurant.

The philosophy embodies what Ms. Cool has always been about: high-quality

food made from clean (chemical-free), organic ingredients, with a touch of political activism and social justice on the side. The longtime local chef and restaurant owner was championing farm-to-table cuisine and the slow-food movement on the Peninsula before those terms even existed.

Arguably, it’s in her blood. She grew up in a small coal-mining town in Western Pennsylvania, where her father, an Orthodox Jew, owned a grocery store. He used local ingredients in many situations: at a bakery he opened, to make ice cream from scratch, and to cook for the family (as well as his staff). Her uncle owned a local meat-processing plant, which she said exposed her to whole-animal eating — cutting down on food waste by using every part of an animal.

Food carried her through raising her

child as a single mother on welfare (in exchange for her son’s tuition at a private Quaker preschool in Pennsylvania, she cooked natural food for the school’s lunch). And when she arrived in Palo Alto in the 1970s in a Volkswagen bus she painted with rainbows, she became one of the first waitresses at the health-conscious Good Earth restaurant on University Avenue.

In 1976, when she opened Late for the Train restaurant in Menlo Park with her then-husband Bob Cool, the premise was “food that had no artificial anything in it that was made by hand and (with) love,” she said. The restaurant became a community fixture until its closure in 2003.

She went on to open four more restaurants under the same belief: Flea St. Cafe (on Alameda de las Pulgas, which translate to Avenue of the Fleas) in 1980, the now-shuttered jZ Cool in downtown Menlo Park in 1999, Cool Cafe at Stanford University’s Cantor Art Center in 2000 and a second cafe at the Menlo Business Park on O’Brien Drive in Menlo Park seven years ago.

At Flea St., the kitchen staff draw inspiration from local farms, ranchers, fisherman, Ms. Cool’s own gardens, and a row of unlikely planting beds in the restaurant’s back parking lot, brimming this spring with herbs such as Thai basil, cilantro and peppermint celery. The restaurant follows a menu but is constantly adjusting dishes based on what produce, meats or seafood are available.

“We don’t look for the perfect beauty; we look for the perfect taste and the way it’s grown,” Ms. Cool said. “We keep food simple.”

Over the years, she has worked to spread her dogma beyond the kitchen. For 11 years, she has taught a cooking curriculum class for the Stanford Teaching Education Program, and nine years ago spearheaded an effort to revamp the food Stanford Hospital serves its employees (goodbye, mystery meat; hello grass-fed burgers and steamed local beets).

She’s taught young children at the Boys & Girls Club in East Palo Alto how to make her signature biscuits and hosted local farms for special dinners at the restaurant. She’s been a prolific writer, with newspaper columns, magazines articles and seven cookbooks — including one solely about tomatoes — under her belt.

Today, she is still unapologetically political, with a penchant for social justice. She recently designated Flea St. Cafe as a sanctuary restaurant in support of her immigrant employees. A sign posted outside the restaurant’s front door, next to the menu of the day, reads: “We welcome everyone at our tables and in our kitchen.” She’s also taking a newly hired young female chef to a conference this year, demonstrating how seriously she takes her role as a female mentor in a male-dominated industry.

Flea St. is entering a new chapter, with a new executive chef heading the kitchen: Charlie Parker, a 30-something Menlo Park native who grew up blocks from the restaurant, often dining there with his parents. He went on to cook at esteemed restaurants like Manresa in Los Gatos, the Village Pub in Woodside, the now-closed Ubuntu in Napa and famed Noma in Copenhagen before ending up at Flea St. six months ago. ▣

A Q&A with Jesse Cool

How novel was the concept of clean, organic food when you opened Late for the Train?

"It was so not trendy. It was so not heard of. People called us 'lunatic fringe.' People still smoked in restaurants then. I was 27 years old, a hippie in a long dress with hair to here, embroidering all the chefs' hats.

"The vendors would come in and say, 'Can I talk to the owner?' ... I would sit these guys down (and) say, 'I need to know the ingredients in your food.' They would just stare at me. I'd say, 'It's OK; go find out and come back.'

"I was cooking seasonally because I knew that food that wasn't seasonal had preservatives and chemicals in it. It was the opposite of trendy. I couldn't even put organic on the menu. We would be ridiculed."

Was that concept something you had to educate diners about?

"Because the food was good, people came. Because Palo Alto has always been, in my opinion, a think tank, a place of thoughtfulness, of resilience and resource and energy, a lot of people got it. They started liking it because it was alternative and real and genuine.

"But we were the opposite of mainstream. Everyone else was going in another direction; I was following the farmers. Because that's what I was taught.

"When I realized I was going to start using food as a medium to survive, to make a living, for me, the respectful, responsible thing to do was what I was taught, which was no artificial anything."

Now it's pretty normal for restaurants to source many of their ingredients from local farms. How hard was it to do it at that time?

"There was nothing. People thought we were vegetarian, too, because I wouldn't serve meat because I couldn't find it without hormones until Niman

Ranch started producing 15 years into it. I wouldn't buy fish unless I knew it wasn't treated with lye or unless we knew that people in Vietnam or other parts of the world were not being hurt by producing our food big and cheap.

"I would go to the farmers' market. I've been going to the (downtown) Palo Alto farmers market since it was open. ... They are my teachers. Chefs have never been my teachers. Gardeners and farmers have taught me everything."

What has it been like to watch the evolution of the farm-to-table and slow-food movements — from when you were called "lunatic fringe" to now, when it's expected and even trendy?

"There were no words like that. There was the word organic but ... there wasn't even the word sustainable. I find it really exciting and respectful that this next generation of cooks for quite a while now — at the beginning, it was really hard. They would say they understood it when they came to our kitchens but they didn't. Now, these kids are light years ahead. They get it. The new definition of food is genuinely connected to where it comes from. I'm glad I'm still alive to see it."

Can you tell me about your relationship with Stanford University?

"I have two. I've worked at Stanford Hospital for nine years and Stanford University for 11 years. (The Stanford Teaching Education Program class) — it's curriculum from the garden to the kitchen with 10 ingredients, no recipes. Four times a year, masters of education from the STEP program come to my house. They learn gardening and how to grow food and the connection of food to math, history, science, culture and well-being ... and then we harvest whatever's out there. Plus, we will make lunch. They come into the kitchen with me with

whatever we can harvest and we use olive oil — fat; vinegar — acid; salt, pepper, sugar, herbs and spices. That's it.

"They build curriculum for math, science, history, culture and well-being for elementary school kids. The only thing we buy at the store is cheese, onions — if they're not growing — and pasta. They bring everything in from the garden and they make one raw dish and one cooked dish with seven ingredients and no recipe."

And your work at the hospital?

"It was ahead of its time — connecting food and hospital food to well-being in 2008, 2009, it wasn't happening. It only started about four years ago, when they realized beds are always going to be full ... a lot of people in those beds are (there because of) food-related illnesses.

"It's the same philosophy — at the hospital, it's the patient comes last, which of course sends any CEO's face white. If you take care of the staff and they know that you care about them and they know they're getting a grass-fed burger or they're beginning to cook again, they're going to take care of people who aren't healthy. And it worked. We cut the waste, we started buying better ingredients, decreasing the amount of meat ... food costs went down 10 percent."

Recently you declared Flea St. Cafe a sanctuary restaurant. Why did you want to do that?

"I think we've always stood for human rights. You don't poison people with food. That means, how dare we want cheap, big food ... and possibly have people breathing or touching or around something that hurts them so that we can have big, inexpensive plates of food? It's wrong.

"When the sanctuary restaurant came up, it was — these people are my family. They were scared. ... I just wanted them to know that this is a place that respected them and honored them, paid them better than anywhere else would. I need them and they need me. We talked about, what if some people didn't want to eat here anymore? I said, 'It's OK.'"

One doesn't typically think of a chef or restaurant owner as an activist. What role should a restaurant play in the realms of politics, activism, social justice?

"I think any human being in business who doesn't stand up for what they think is right is not really — this makes me want to cry, quite truthfully — honoring their place in the community. ... I know that if people don't speak their truth when they think there's injustice, then that's not OK. If it's that I'm not willing to do that because of money, it's just not who I am."

What has your experience been as a female chef in what is still a very male-dominated industry?

"Being a woman was really hard. I was not respected. But a woman using organic food with no classic training ... (there was) a lot of disrespect. I had to learn how to be strong and not just a sweet little hippie chick. I had to learn how to be in charge and trust my values. It took me, I'd say, 35 years to do that. It's just settling in that it's OK, as a woman I can say 'my way, not your way.'"

"As far as being a mother, now that my children are grown and they're awesome, I feel like I did it, but most of my career I did not feel like I was a good enough restaurant owner-chef or a good enough mother. ... Those of us who are like Joyce Goldstein (Bay Area chef and founder of the California Street Cooking School in San Francisco), Odessa Piper (founder of farm-to-table restaurant L'Etoile in Madison, Wisconsin) — there are some wonderful women who have come up through the ranks. I think all of us would say that because we were loving, good, strong people, we were able to do it."

What is your regular cooking routine at home?

"I eat a lot of soup. I eat here (at Flea St.) one or two nights a week. I will do a lot of fresh vegetable soups with a little bit of meat. I have chickens, so I love having egg sandwiches or a piece of really good toast with a little bit of meat on it and an egg and avocado. ... I indulge. I'm somebody who loves chips. What are my downfalls? I love salt."

What's your guilty pleasure?

"I love cheese. I call cheese my other boyfriend. ... I'm not an ice cream person. I'll take a piece of fresh ricotta, olallieberry jam from Pescadero and finishing salt on toast. To me, that's way better than ice cream."

Tell me about Flea St.'s new executive chef, Charlie Parker. Is he your successor?

"I hope so. He's the right person. I say he started 20 years ago going on six months. He says, 'I remember your spinach salad.' He is one of the finest chefs, one of the best palates. He teaches me; he pushes my limits. He brings new but respects the old. He has a deep connection to where food comes from and he's a tough chef, but fabulously funny in the kitchen. He respects me and what's gone on here. That is a project, to figure out how to take a 36-year-old restaurant and keep it going."



Photo by Veronica Weber

Charlie Parker, a 30-something Menlo Park native who grew up blocks from Flea St. Cafe, is the new executive chef there. He cooked at esteemed restaurants such as Manresa in Los Gatos, the Village Pub in Woodside, and the famed Noma in Copenhagen before ending up at Flea St. six months ago.

Lightning round:

- **Butter or olive oil?**
Olive oil.
- **Wine or cocktails?**
Cocktails.
- **Spring, summer, fall or winter?**
Fall.
- **Hard or soft boiled egg?**
Soft.
- **Coffee or tea?**
Coffee.
- **Julia Child or Alice Waters?**
Julia Child.
- **Windy Hill or the Dish?**
Windy Hill.
- **Describe your cooking philosophy in one word.**
Real.

Lee Stout Stipic

1927 – 2017

What though the radiance
which was once so bright.

Be now for ever taken from my
sight, Though nothing can bring
back the hour of splendour in the
grass, of glory in the flower;

We will grieve not, rather find
strength in what remains behind;

Dear Mom, We thank you for the gift of life, for life gave
us the gift of you.



PAID OBITUARY

Marie Kiyoe Kitajima

Resident of Palo Alto

Marie Kiyoe Kitajima, a long-time resident of Palo Alto, passed away April 7 at Webster House.

Born in 1931, Marie received her Bachelor of Education at San Jose State University. Marie was a beloved teacher in the Atherton and Menlo Park schools. She taught for over 40 years at Laurel Elementary School and helped set up the Math and Science Lab at Oak Knoll Elementary.

Marie was a talented artist and loved knitting and sewing. She loved dogs. She volunteered during her retirement at local senior centers with her therapy dog, Molly, her border terrier. She also volunteered through the CCIS at Stanford University to work with the families of foreign students. In the process, Marie made many international friends through her friendly nature and conversation.

She is survived by her niece, Holly Yoon, and nephew, Kevin Kitajima, and her six grandnieces and grandnephews.

A memorial service will be held in the mausoleum chapel at Alta Mesa Memorial Park on Saturday, April 29th at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to your local SPCA.



PAID OBITUARY

Beverly Camille Rowen

December 26, 1924 – April 3, 2017

Beverly, a proud fourth generation Californian, died April 3 in Palo Alto. Beverly was born to Mildred and Monte Griffiths in Beverly Hills, CA in 1924. She attended the University of Southern California where she graduated first in her class in Chemistry. She married Henry S. Rowen in 1951. Their life together took them to live in England, Washington, DC, Boston, Los Angeles and Stanford and to travel for study and vacation in exotic places, especially in Europe and Asia. She worked at North American Aviation, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Port Authority of Redwood City. She is survived by her six children, Hilary, Michael, Chris, Sheila, Diana and Nick, their spouses and her nine grandchildren. Countless guests, from foreign dignitaries to graduate students, enjoyed her hospitality and cooking and she was universally loved for her lively conversation, wisdom and warmth.

A funeral service will be held at the Church of the Nativity 210 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park, CA at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 27, 2017. There will be a reception immediately following the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Elizabeth Seton School, 1095 Channing Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301.



PAID OBITUARY

Woodside: Food-to-go service proposed for Alice's restaurant

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

It's not uncommon for customers of Alice's Restaurant in Woodside to plan a quick stop for a quick meal on their way to the beach, only to be waylaid by a 45-minute wait for a table and a 20-minute wait to be served. To address this very real concern, the restaurant's owners are asking the town for permission to offer quicker service on weekends.

A proposal for a food-to-go kitchen and counter in a building behind the restaurant and open only on Saturdays and Sundays comes before the town's Planning Commission on Wednesday, April 19.

Restaurant owners Jamie and Andy Kerr say they would convert a 423-square-foot former office

space into something akin to a short-order grill, with nowhere to eat but in the vehicles in which the customers arrived — or later, at the beach.

The Planning Commission meets at 6 p.m. in Independence Hall at 2955 Woodside Road in Woodside. The restaurant proposal is the third item on the agenda.

Parking is another problem that a to-go service might alleviate, Andy Kerr told the Almanac. The parking lots at Alice's and across the street at the Skywood Trading Post are typically jammed on weekends. The intersection of state highways 84 and 35, surrounded by forests, has long been a scene for cyclists, motorcyclists and owners of exotic cars, as well as a way point for weekend travelers.

Mr. Kerr said he wouldn't expect the to-go service to increase business, but it could work in the interests of customers who are on their way to somewhere else and stopping for a quick bite. They may complain about long waits and trouble of finding parking, but they also end up staying, he said — and accepting a change in their plans. The same problems affect restaurants in Half Moon Bay and Pescadero, not to mention Bucks of Woodside, Mr. Kerr said.

The to-go concept at Alice's, he said, would be to say: "We'd love to serve you. Here's another option." The menu would include burgers and sandwiches, salads, breakfast foods and cold drinks. If it's ordered over the phone or the net, "by the time they get there, they can grab it and go," Mr. Kerr said. ■

Briefs: Flight training scholars

BRIEFS

Portola Valley resident Alexandra Strehlow, a junior at Sequoia High School, and Menlo Park resident Giles Beebe, a junior

at Menlo-Atherton High, were among four Peninsula teens awarded flight training scholarships by the San Carlos-based nonprofit Upwind Foundation.

Their award, the Upwind

Summer Scholarship, begins with ground school in April followed by flight training in the summer.

Giles, the son of Barbara and Blair Beebe, has been into aviation since he was 2 years old and has designed, built and flown more than 100 remote control aircraft. He's thinking of a career in aerospace engineering.

Alexandra, the daughter of Susan and Robert Strehlow, is also interested in a career in aerospace engineering. She has been engaged in an aviation maintenance program at the San Carlos Airport, helping to restore a Cessna 152 single-engine plane.

"I am passionate about helping our environment and being a part of the future of aviation," Alexandra says, noting her interest in aircraft powered by electricity and hydrogen.

Herb Patten, the Upwind foundation's executive director, commenting on the scholarships, says that "for general aviation to continue, we have to welcome in the next generation of pilots."

Problem-solvers advance to state

A team of three sixth-graders from Woodland School in Ladera is advancing to the Global Issues Problem Solving state competition April 22-23 at the Nueva School in Hillsborough.

The team will compete against 18 other teams on the theme of "identity theft."

Teams research topics and explore their social, political, economic, and technological implications. The teams then identify a key problem, and develop a range of potential solutions that can be put into an action plan.

Helen Howard Harmon

March 3, 1940 – March 8, 2017

Helen Howard Harmon, devoted mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother, died March 8 of complications from breast cancer. She was born in 1940 to Maria and Hartley Howard of Washington, D.C. The family moved to Hastings-on-Hudson, NY in 1945.

Helen was a graduate of Hastings High School ('57), attended Swarthmore College, and received a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Syracuse University.

After graduation, Helen moved to Manhattan to take a job with Citibank. There, she met her future husband, Gary Harmon. Gary persuaded her that his home state — the "Wild West" of California — deserved a chance, so in 1965 Helen and Gary married and moved to Silicon Valley.

Helen worked as a computer programmer for a subsidiary of IBM before becoming a volunteer, homemaker, and mother.

Helen was an active member of Alpha Phi, AAUW, and the Century Club. She enjoyed spending time with family, taking classes, and going to theater, opera, and the symphony.

She and her late husband traveled to many countries. Highlights include the pyramids of Egypt, the majesty of Persepolis, the wildlife of Kenya, a close encounter with blue-footed boobies in the Galapagos, and being able to email from Easter Island.

She is survived by her daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter, Heather, John, and Arya Cochran; and her sisters-in-law Jane Howard and Gayle "Sunny" Harmon Mills and their families. Her husband of 50 years, Gary Harmon, and her brother, Mike Howard, predeceased her.

Friends are invited to a celebration of her life Saturday, April 29 at 2:00 PM at the Century Club, 1355 Franklin Street, San Francisco CA 94109.

In lieu of flowers, people wishing to make a donation are encouraged to consider The Century Club of California, the Club's non-profit organization (The 1888 Foundation), or a charity of the donor's choice.



PAID OBITUARY

■ CALENDAR

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

Community Events

Sidewalk Arts Festival About 70 artists are expected to exhibit their work at the 35th Menlo Park Sidewalk Fine Arts Festival on downtown Santa Cruz Avenue on Friday and Saturday, April 21 and 22, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Sunday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artists will show paintings, jewelry, photography, ceramics, woodwork and other media. The event is free and sponsored by the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce. Go to is.gd/arts546 for more information.

Theater

'Narnia: The Musical' Guests will follow the four Pevensie children through the wardrobe into a magical land where animals talk, winter is eternal and an evil White Witch holds the kingdom in her grip. The Bay Area Educational Theater Company brings the magic of C. S. Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" to life with this production starring child performers. April 20, 21, 27 and 28, at 7:30 p.m.; April 23, 29 and 30, at 2 p.m. \$0-\$20. Canada College Main Theatre, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Woodside.

Concerts

Greg Zelek Organ Recital Greg Zelek, a Juilliard graduate, plays Christ Church's Visser-Rowland pipe organ. He has played with numerous orchestras and the Metropolitan Opera in New York. April 21, 7 p.m. \$10, suggested donation. Christ Church, 815 Portola Road, Portola Valley. ccpvw.org

Music

Public Talk: Composing the American West Music scholar Beth Levy (U.C. Davis) explores how the American West has animated the works of iconic American composers such as Aaron Copland, Roy Harris and Virgil Thompson. Part of Stanford Live's Imagining the West series. April 19, 6 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Rockin' Out with Mister Q! This event is for the very young (8 and under) and the young at heart. Fun and interactive program with finger plays, classic nursery rhyme songs, stories, and instrument play. April 19, 11:15 a.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Earth Day

Celebrating Sustainability Festival Annual Earth Day celebration showcases those working to advance sustainability at Stanford. Sustainable food, entertainment, interactive art, and an awards ceremony. April 20, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. RSVP on the event website. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Earth Day Celebration features Bookmobile and Imagination Playground, 3D printing, and free books, snacks and music. April 22, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Earth Day Celebration, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton.

Woodside/Portola Valley Earth Fair All invited for day of fun and information on how to design landscaping for dry and wet seasons. Tickets, which include a lunch voucher, are required and are available at Woodside or Portola Valley town halls or online at woodsidgetown.org. April 22, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$15. Runnymede Farm, Woodside, 980 Runnymede Road, Woodside. woodsidgetown.org

Talks & Authors

Donia Bijan In this follow-up to her hugely successful cookbook, "Maman's Homesick Pie," chef and author Donia Bijan presents an Iran few in the West ever see. "The Last Days of Cafe Leila" is a novel set in a country balancing uncertainly between grace and brutality and holds, at its center, the relationship between a mother and a daughter as they search for each other from across generational and cultural divides. April 20, 7:30-9 p.m. Free, RSVPs appreciated. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

A Company of Authors Stanford writers discuss their recently published books. April 22, 1 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

ACLU's Jay Laefer: Protecting Our Neighbors The League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County sponsors discussion by Jay Laefer on the latest efforts by the American Civil Liberties Union to defend everyone's rights. April 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Road United Methodist

Church, 2000 Woodside Road, Redwood City. lvssmc.org/calendar.html

Breaking Free of Cultural Branding and Identity Politics Author Bahiyeh Nakhjavani discusses her latest work, "Us & Them," a satire about the Iranian diaspora all over the world. April 20, 6:30 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Docent Lecture on painter Stuart Davis, who created bold, vibrant paintings that combine American street culture, the rhythms of jazz, European modernism, and the unbridled optimism of the American Dream. This lecture, for adults, relates to the de Young Museum's exhibit, which features 70 of Davis's paintings from the 1920s to the 1960s. April 22, 2 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Dr. Elisabeth Rosenthal with Angie Coiro Elisabeth Rosenthal has spent her career dissecting today's healthcare system, and her report is grim. This discussion will explore how to decode medical doublespeak, avoid the pitfalls of the pharmaceuticals racket, and get the care one deserves. April 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Drew Daywalt, author of "The Day the Crayons Quit," debuts his new, laugh-out-loud picture book, "The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors," about the classic game. April 19, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Making Media Work: Music, Books and Journalism in the Digital Age Nancy Baym of Microsoft Research, Rasmus Nielson of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, and Christine Larson, Rebele First Amendment Fellow at Stanford, discuss the impact of digital media. April 20, 4 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 120-101B, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Family

Bubblemania This afternoon activity is for kids of all ages and features an educational program with bubbles. April 24, 4-4:30 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Library, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley.

Rock Painting with Rachel Community invited to celebrate Dia de los Ninos (Day of the Children) with Rachel Palacios, who uses her talents to inspire the child and artist in everyone. April 26, 3:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Zoo Animals Visit the Library This event, best for children 18 months to 5 years of age, is a chance for kids to meet live animals from the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, like hedgehogs, snakes, lizards, rabbits, birds, ferrets, rats or insects. April 24, 11:45 a.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Museums & Exhibits

Dialogues in Art This is an afternoon of focused gallery talks by Stanford students at the Anderson Collection. Guests welcome to attend one or all talks. They begin at 2 p.m. in the galleries and continue until 4 p.m. April 22, 2 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Dance

Western Ballet hosts its Gala Celebration, featuring several new pieces by renowned choreographers Vicente Nebrada, Michel Fokine and its very own artistic director, Alexi Zubiria. April 22, 7 p.m. Adults, \$30-\$45; \$20, students/children (under 18). Menlo-Atherton Center for Performing Arts, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. westernballet.org/performances

Western Ballet premieres its new full length story ballet, "Puss in Boots," for families with kids of all ages. April 22 and 23, 1 p.m. \$20-\$25. Menlo-Atherton Center for Performing Arts, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. westernballet.org/performances

Health & Wellness

Memory Workshop at Little House Developed by UCLA psychiatrist Dr. Gary Small and published by the National Institutes of Health and American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, Jumbo Memory Training can help people conquer the most common memory challenges. It's proven effective in up to 95 percent of participants for up to five years \$99-\$115. Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. pervol.org/littlehouse

Seniors: SIT and get a full-body workout Sit and get a full-body workout with an experienced instructor, using weights, Therabands and other equipment. Tuesdays, ongoing, 9:40-10:25 a.m. \$5 per class. Menlo Park Masonic Lodge, 651 Roble Ave., Menlo Park. skylondaworks.com/aerobics



Photo by Kate Daly

Getting ready to rock

Showbiz Kidz rehearses at a home in Woodside to get ready for a classic rock gig at the town's Pioneer Saloon on April 22, from 8 p.m. to midnight. From left, the members are Chris Inglis, vocals and keyboards; Jack Foster, vocals and guitar; Mark Mangiola, drums; and Woodsiders Deepak Kamra and Ray McNaughton, vocals, bass and guitar.

Teens

Money 101 During this class, participants will learn about the basics of banking, budgeting and saving with San Mateo Credit Union. Snacks will be provided. April 26, 3:30-5 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Teen Birthday Party Once a month, there will be a party in the Teen Corner with special treats and presents for grades 6 to 12. April 25, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Business

The Origins of Silicon Valley: Why and How It Happened Here Paul Wesling, an IEEE Life Fellow and distinguished lecturer will explore what makes Silicon Valley unique and why it came into being. As he explores the history of device technology development and innovation from 1909 through 1960, attendants will "meet" some of the colorful characters. April 19, 5 p.m. Free, but RSVP required. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Religion & Spirituality

Amazing Grace The program, titled "Amazing Grace," features an interview with Terri Roberts, who was embraced by the Amish community following a tragedy. During the program, Lifetree Café participants will have the opportunity to discuss times they've felt shame in their own lives and consider ways they can heal from it. April 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Bethany, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. vimeo.com/206161411

Community Groups

Design Contest In honor of the library's one-year anniversary, there will be a design contest to draw one's favorite part of the remodeled library. There will be two categories — youth and adult — and winning designs will be printed on tote bags and t-shirts at the anniversary celebration April 29. April 1-22. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

LEGO Club All ages are welcome to this club. The library provides the LEGOs,

the visitors bring their imagination. Duplo building blocks are available for the youngest builders. April 22, 12:30-2 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Menlo Park Kiwanis Club The Menlo Park Kiwanis Club — which through fundraising supports many local programs and organizations — holds meetings each Tuesday at the Allied Arts Center. Visitors are invited to attend and should contact the Kiwanis Club. Tuesdays, ongoing, noon-1:30 p.m. Free. Allied Arts Center, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. menloparkkiwanisclub.org/meetings-programs-2/

Wunderlich Arena Ribbon Cutting & Membership Drive This event celebrates the new Footing at the Wunderlich Park Arena, a true equestrian community treasure, available to all through yearly memberships. The event features a ribbon cutting and refreshments with the horse community. Arena membership information will be available. April 23, 2-4 p.m. Free. Wunderlich Park, 4040 Woodside Road, Woodside.



'Open Spaces and Quiet Places'

"Point Lobos, Sunset" is one of the featured landscape paintings in Mary K. Stahl's exhibit, "Open Spaces and Quiet Places," on display through April 30 at the Portola Art Gallery in Menlo Park. A reception will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at the gallery, located at the Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road. The gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Go to marystahl.com for more information.

Public info workshop on airport noise study

A public information workshop on a federal study to evaluate noise at the San Carlos Airport will be held Thursday, April 20, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hiller Aviation Museum, 601 Skyway Road in San Carlos, near the airport.

The county's website says the study, funded by the Federal Aviation Administration, will measure the "current and projected annualized aircraft noise levels at San Carlos Airport" and identify impacts to "noise-sensitive land uses in the airport environs." The study will be done with FAA software.

The study will also look at ways to reduce the impacts of noise above certain levels "through changes in aircraft operations or airport facilities." At sancarlosnoise.airportstudy.com, the materials presented at the meeting should be available by April 20.

Committee pays fine

The committee that backed the passage of the Menlo Park City

BRIEFS

School District's recent parcel tax has agreed to pay a \$678 fine for failing to disclose occupation and employer information for some campaign donors.

The matter is on the agenda of the California Fair Political Practices Commission in Sacramento on April 20. According to FPPC Communications Director Jay Wierenga, the Measure X committee has already stipulated it did violate the reporting requirements, and has paid the fine.

Campaign chair Stacey Wueste said the committee has corrected its reports.

USGS talk on groundwater

A federal scientist says that in some parts of the U.S., corrosive groundwater can leach lead and other metals from pipes into drinking water.

Kenneth Belitz, chief of groundwater assessment for the National Water Quality Assessment Program, will give a free



Photo by Dave Boyce/The Almanac

Road hazard

A shoulder along La Honda Road a couple of miles east of Skyline Boulevard collapsed on April 12, probably due to storm-related erosion under the road. In response, crews paved the opposite shoulder on April 14, put up a temporary guard rail and restored two-way traffic. Go to is.gd/road222 for more information.

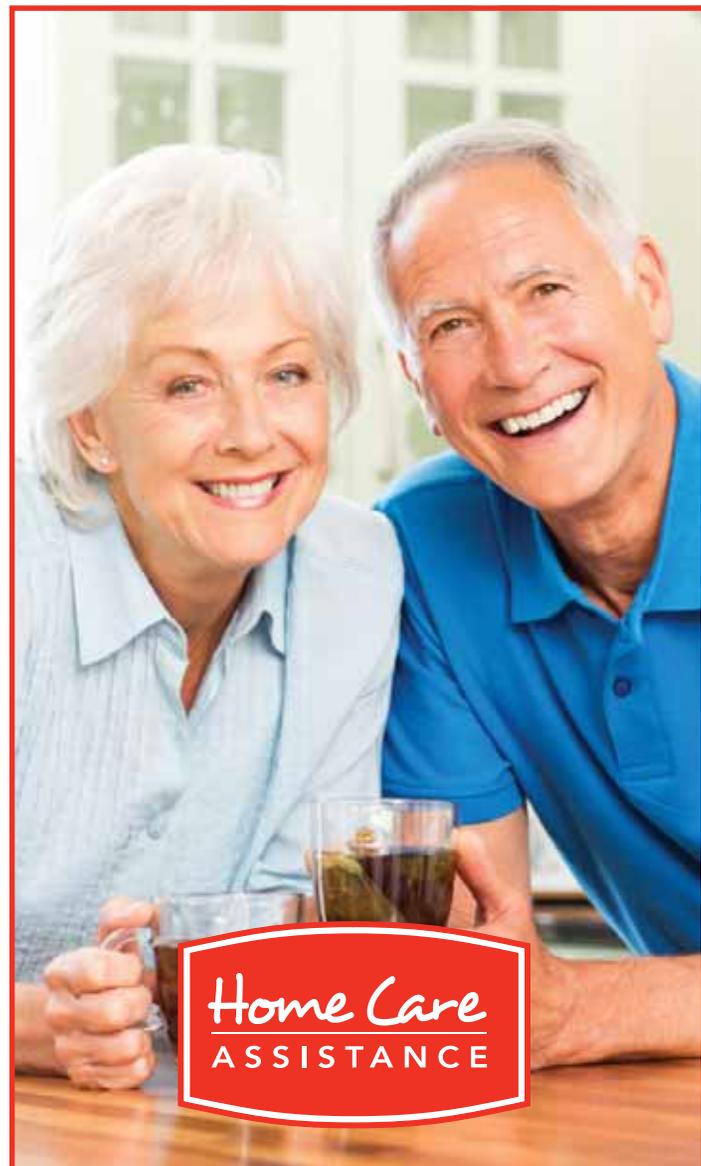
public talk Thursday, April 27, in Menlo Park on "Potential Corrosivity of Untreated Groundwater in the United States."

The program starts at 7 p.m.

in the U.S. Geological Survey's Rambo Auditorium/Bldg. 3 at 345 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park.

The talk will include maps showing potentially corrosive

groundwater in the U.S., where 44 million people depend on domestic wells for drinking water. California is mapped as an area of moderate hazard for corrosive groundwater.



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Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

It's time to ax the M-A Senior Fashion Show

By Jessica Taylor

I'm excited to send my daughter to Menlo-Atherton High School next year. At the Open House a few weeks ago, I was moved to see the way our community comes together to educate its children. The highlight of my evening was when a baseball player flew into the ceramics classroom still in his uniform, described his recent game to his teacher, and sat down at the pottery wheel. At the end of the evening, I joked with my daughter, "Your high school has a swimming pool! My high school had a smoking section."

So when I saw the M-A Senior Fashion Show advertised on the Middlefield Road video board, I thought it would be a fun way to spend a Saturday afternoon with her. I anticipated it would give us one more reason to celebrate what was on the horizon. I imagined we'd get to see the students' fashion creations and their vision for the future. Even as M-A's principal opened the event and gushed that it was the show's 30th year, I was optimistic. The \$30 ticket price was steep, but the proceeds were going to support public education, a cause I support wholeheartedly.

Sadly, I can't un-see the M-A Fashion Show. Turns out it's not a fashion show at all, but a pageant advertising local clothing boutiques, gender stereotypes, and a hollow consumerist lifestyle. I squirmed in my seat, my daughter to my right, sophomore boys to my left, through a show that portrayed senior girls in various states of cute, pretty, and sexy. Their

male counterparts compensated for the show's awkwardness with silly dance moves, hats, and shades.

But the most recognizable look the teenagers sported was discomfort. These children no doubt had countless academic and athletic achievements. That afternoon we subjected them to our collective gaze.

The spectacle was exaggerated by the arrival of parents on stage — fathers in tuxedos "gave away" girls in formal dresses. Boys in tuxedos were admired by mothers sporting sexy dresses and sunglasses. I breathed a sigh of relief that the segment sponsored by the Palo Alto boutique "Nouvelle Bride" did not include child brides next to their geriatric fathers.

It's a confusing event. The mood is celebratory with pop music pumping. These young women and men are in the prime of their beauty. The parents' pride in their children is unmistakable. But M-A's diverse student body was hardly represented, and the students' creativity was nowhere in sight. The Thrift Store segment was the only glimmer of what the show might have been. The outfits and choreography in that brief interlude were designed by the models themselves, highlighting the students' authenticity and creativity.

M-A's seniors served as props to

represent a particular lifestyle: golf trips to Palm Springs, ski trips in Tahoe, spinning classes at Soul Cycle, season tickets to the Giants, and countless galas. The message to our girls is clear — a life of beauty and leisure is what we value.

If you look good in yoga pants, you can marry rich, vacation non-stop, raise children, and choreograph a fashion show like this! The message to our boys is also discouragingly stereotypical — goof off, until you inherit the prosperity you

rightly deserve, and then you can take your family on cool ski vacations and sporting events, marry a younger wife, rinse and repeat.

Where was the message that we've been promoting to our children since elementary school that they can be whatever they can dream? What about the documentaries that Hillview shows parents year after year about the ways the media warps our children's expectations of girls and boys?

Sadly, nothing demonstrated our community's true ambitions for its children better than a full-page advertisement by a local Realtor that showed her in all the poses from the show: skiing in Tahoe, wearing exercise clothes, and finally, sprawled backwards in a sexy position across her horse. The ad featured a quote by Henry David Thoreau, a man who built

a one-room house on Walden Pond. The irony of using Thoreau to sell mansions in Atherton was obviously lost on her.

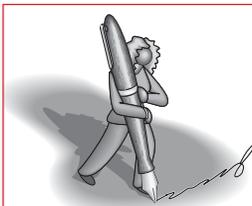
It's a confusing time. Our country's first lady is a former model who lied about having a college degree and was exposed as a plagiarist at the Republican National Convention. A top White House adviser hawks "looks" for a brand that she inherited from her daddy (who also secured every job she ever had).

This is not the future that I want for my daughter. I want her to live a life that reflects her intentions. I want her to have equality in all things. I want her to have economic independence. Most importantly, I want her to be able to have a family and a career; and I'd like her experience to be easier than mine has been. I don't give a damn if she ever goes on a ski vacation or attends a spinning class.

It shouldn't come as a surprise that not a single outfit appropriate for a working woman in tech was modeled at the M-A Senior Fashion Show. The lifestyle portrayed is hardly representative of the life I lead as a tech professional and the challenges our kids face, most especially our young women.

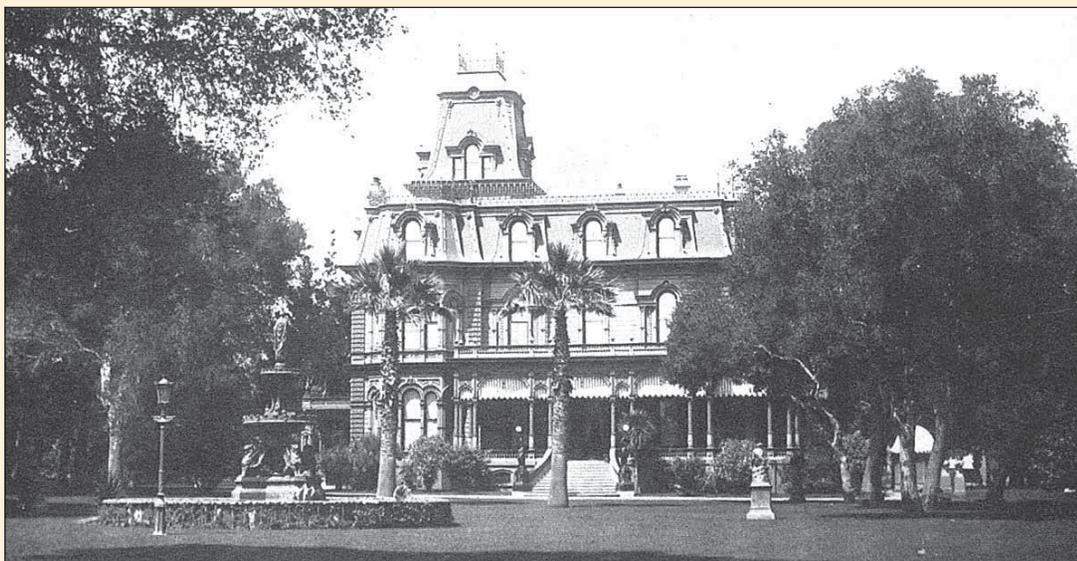
Later that night, I described the event to a Sacred Heart teacher. She confessed that the fashion show tradition began at her school, but that the school was finally doing away with it this year.

In this singular case, I hope that our public school will follow Sacred Heart's lead. I have seen my last M-A fashion show. I hope our community, and most especially the young women and men in our community, have too.



Menlo Park resident Jessica Taylor is director of marketing at Keepsafe Software and a mother of three.

GUEST OPINION



Menlo Park Historical Association

Looking back

This 50-room Menlo Park mansion was built by banker Milton S. Latham in the 1870s and named Thurlow Lodge, according to "Beyond the Gate," a Menlo Park history book by Michael Svanevik and Shirley Burgett. After Mr. Latham fell upon hard times, the estate was auctioned off. In 1888, it was given as a Christmas gift by Mary Hopkins, widow of railroad builder Mark Hopkins, to her adopted son, Timothy, and his wife, the widow's niece. The couple, who also had a home in San Francisco, renamed the mansion Sherwood Hall and established a nursery on the estate, growing some 250 varieties of chrysanthemums and 10,000 plots of roses, according to the book.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Put people's interests ahead of economic growth

Editor:

I read in the March 29 issue of the Almanac that the Menlo Park Fire Protection District had plans to expand the fire station on Chilco Street, meeting the needs of the constantly growing development ("Community outcry torpedoes fire station plan," by Barbara Wood). In doing so, a next-door neighbor would be displaced.

Why not build a new fire station in the industrial part of Menlo Park where "massive" increases of development are planned and approved? Why force people out of their homes so big businesses can move in and provide the city with more money? This is just another example of a city destroying itself.

Most of the Peninsula's

environmental, financial, and health problems stem from too many people living in one place. Local businesses and hiring, and nonprofit organizations that help educate kids and adults about why population explosion is detrimental to the whole planet — and how to prevent it — need to be supported.

Every action an individual takes affects the health and well-being of others, both mentally and physically, which can be seen and felt on our planet. There is more to life than just economic growth.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick
Walnut Avenue, Atherton

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Location: 460 Thompson Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94043
Bid Date: April 27, 2017 @ 2:00pm
Estimated Budget: 3.1M
Schedule- May 7,2017- September 19,2017

Project-Phase 2 Monta Loma Elementary School Classroom Modernization
Location: 460 Thompson Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94043
Bid Date: April 27, 2017 @ 2:00pm
Estimated Budget: 5.6M
Schedule- June 7,2017- August 11,2017

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Bystander Intervention Class
IMPACT Bay Area's Bystander Intervention training teaches effective strategies to safely intervene on behalf of others Learn and practice strategies that keep yourself and others safe. April 29, 2017 12 - 1:30pm Sports Basement Sunnyvale

To sign up or for more information:
http://impactbayarea.org/bystander_intervention

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FORD 2004 F150
2004 Ford F150 4WD LARIAT, 142K miles, gasoline, 5.4L V8, automatic, beige interior, \$2900, very clean. Call me 4242186720

202 Vehicles Wanted

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

LA: 461 Orange Ave., 5/5, 9-4; 5/6, 9-2

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Fine clothing, hsehold, treasures, sports. (Off Lincoln Park)

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

PA: City Wide Garage Sale
Saturday, June 3, 8-2
Helping the environment and making money has never been so easy. Reusing - whether you donate, buy, or sell - is one of the best ways to reduce waste and keep usable stuff out of the landfill.

Join us for the Palo Alto Citywide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 3. Last day to sign up to host a yard sale is May 5.

Details will be posted on www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale/

The map and listings will be uploaded to this page and be printed in the June 2 Palo Alto Weekly.

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Vintage "Sea Wolf" Arcade Game - \$2,750

235 Wanted to Buy

FREON 12
WE PICK UP and pay CASH for R12. Cylinders or case of cans. EPA certified (312) 291-9169 sell@refrigerantfinders.com (Cal-SCAN)

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560 Employment Information

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604 Adult Care Offered

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Apartments and homes. Excellent references. Great rates. 650/670-7287 or 650/771-8281

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730 Electrical

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751 General Contracting

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1637 Mariposa Ave Available June. Walking distance Cal Ave, Caltrain, Stanford University. Call 360-521-4211

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Friday by Noon for Copy.

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Open SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4, Desirable Selby Lane Acres Family Home, Gorgeous Inside!

This home is located between Stockbridge and West Selby, close to Atherton, Stanford, and Menlo Park. Easy access to 280 and 101.

Quiet and private OASIS feels like you are on a tropical vacation. This 3 bed, 2.5 bath with large 2 car garage plus extra parking has lots of bright light, skylight and open floor plan. Newly painted in and out with a beautiful remodeled kitchen that opens into the backyard with an inviting pool that is perfect for entertaining and parties. Home Sq Ft is approx 1905+/- in the home and approx 495 +/- in the garage.

Please see the tour at www.452BeresfordAve.com

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LEHUA GREENMAN



"Look deep into Nature and then you will understand everything better."

650.245.1845 

995 Fictitious Name Statement

SEAPORT REFINING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272774

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

Seaport Refining, located at 208 E. Branch Street, Arroyo Grande, California 93420, San Luis Obispo County.

Registered owner(s): SEAPORT REFINING & ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC

208 E. Branch Street

Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

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 March 15, 2017.

(ALM Mar. 29; Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2017)

yourownmaps.com

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272884

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

yourownmaps.com, located at 200 Todo El Mundo, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): PHYB, LLC

200 Todo El Mundo

Woodside, CA 94062

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 March 23, 2017.

(ALM Mar. 29; Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2017)

ESTILO BEAUTY SALON

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272562

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

Estilo Beauty Salon, located at 377 Grand Ave., So. San Francisco, CA 94080, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): OMAR GONZALO LOPEZ RANGEL

1716 Bermuda Way

Antioch, CA 94509

CARLOS SAAVEDRA CASTILLO

1270 Yuba Ave.

San Pablo, CA 94806

This business is conducted by: A General Partnership.

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 February 27, 2017.

(ALM Mar. 29; Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2017)

PACMK

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272693

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

pacmk, located at 80 Atherton Court, Redwood City, CA 94061, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): PIERRE MELOTY-KAPPELLA

80 Atherton Court

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 3/9/17.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 9, 2017.

(ALM Mar. 29; Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2017)

FILING YOUR FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT? We Offer Professional Help.

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RIDE UP LIMO SWIFT CAB

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272911

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

1.) Ride Up Limo, 2.) Swift Cab, located at 1362 Kingfisher Way #9, Sunnyvale, CA 94087, Santa Clara County.

Registered owner(s): RAJESH KUMAR

1362 Kingfisher Way #9

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03-27-2017.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 27, 2017.

(ALM Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2017)

GoldenHearts

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272921

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

GoldenHearts, located at 70 Serrano Drive, Atherton, CA 94027, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): FRAUKE JANSSEN

70 Serrano Drive

Atherton, CA 94027

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 March 27, 2017.

(ALM Apr. 12, 19, 26; May 3, 2017)

LITTEST ANGELS PRESCHOOL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 272924

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

Littlest Angels Preschool, located at 1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF

MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA

1095 Cloud Avenue

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 June 17, 1996.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 27, 2017.

(ALM Apr. 12, 19, 26; May 3, 2017)

S. SILVERMAN STUDIO

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 273084

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

S. Silverman Studio, located at 8 Robert S Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s): SUSAN H. SILVERMAN

8 Robert S Drive

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 April 10, 2017.

(ALM Apr. 19, 26; May 3, 10, 2017)

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 17CIV01246

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: JENNIFER VELA, JOSEPH VELA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JOSEPH MAXIMUS VELA JR to MAXIMUS JOSEPH VELA.

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: Thr. May 11, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, 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: March 24, 2017

/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Apr. 12, 19, 26; May 3, 2017)

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Woodside **\$25,495,000**
140 Winding Way Country estate built in 2012 to LEED Silver standards. Aprx 3+ stunning ac in Central WDS. 5 BR/5 BA + 1 half BA
Erika Demma
CalBRE #01230766 650.851.2666



Atherton **\$11,995,000**
53 James Ave Custom built in 2007 by renowned architect & builder Pacific Peninsula Group. 5 BR/7 BA
Hugh Cornish
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Atherton **\$6,725,000**
24 Edge Rd Impressive colonial-style residence & spacious pool house on 1+ acre in Lindenwood area. 5 BR/3 BA + 1 half BA
Janet Dore/John Spiller
CalBRE #70010018 650.324.4456



Atherton **\$5,880,000**
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Jackie & Richard Schoelerman
CalBRE #01092400 650.324.4456



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2368 Santa Ana St Brand new home in North PA. Everything you need for comfortable living! 4 BR/4 BA + 1 half BA
Judy Shen
CalBRE #01272874 650.325.6161



Portola Valley **\$3,828,000**
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Ginny Kavanaugh
CalBRE #00884747 650.851.1961



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Judy Shen
CalBRE #01272874 650.325.6161



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Ginny Kavanaugh
CalBRE #00884747 650.851.1961



Menlo Park **\$2,275,000**
1290 Trinity Dr. Light & bright end-unit townhome with office/bonus room, 3BD/2.5BA, 2,865 sq. ft. 3 BR/2 BA + 1 half BA
Hugh Cornish
CalBRE #00912143 650.324.4456



San Carlos **\$899,000**
929 Holly St Beautifully remodeled with granite countertops and a bonus home office 2 BR/2 BA
Gordon Ferguson
CalBRE #01038260 650.325.6161



Menlo Park **\$895,000**
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CalBRE #00857515 650.325.6161



San Carlos **\$849,000**
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Terri Thompson
CalBRE #01831807 650.324.4456



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