

The Almanac

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

MAY 10, 2017 | VOL. 52 NO. 36



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Voters to decide

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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

High tea parties in Menlo, Woodside

By Kate Daly

Special to the Almanac

A pot of tea can actually be a tea of pot if you get an invitation to share a cup at certain high tea parties in the area.

Kikoko, a Bay Area company that makes four kinds of organic herbal tea infused with low-dose medical marijuana, launched its products in April at a high tea party for a group of 60 or so people (mostly women) in Menlo Park, and has another event coming up in Woodside on May 11.

Medical marijuana is legal in California and sales for recreational use will be legal starting in 2018. New businesses are cropping up around the state in anticipation of the law changing.

The high tea events are not your typical GNO (Girls Night Out) parties although most of the guests did arrive at Gloria Webster's house driving late model SUVs and wearing dresses and hats.

A few men (including an attorney, journalist and breast cancer widower) were there.

The dining room was filled with platters of bite-sized sandwiches, sushi and sweets, but the real action was in the backyard tent where tables and chairs were set up around a tea buffet and display.

People lined up, curious to try the tea, talking to an employee about their past experiences with pot, and then making a selection. Some had never tried cannabis; others hadn't partaken for 25 years. With so many guests taking sips, talking and laughing about the novelty of attending a high tea party on a Saturday night, the noise level increased over time.

Co-founder Amanda Jones of Emerald Hills described Jen Chapin of Sausalito and herself as "sort of the least likely people" to get involved in the business.

Ms. Jones studied neurophysiology in her native New Zealand, worked for Vogue magazine and was a travel writer. After graduating from Berkeley, Ms. Chapin worked in tech, games and food industries and is a life coach.

Friends for decades, they are both in their 50s and co-founded Cynthia's Sisters to raise

Company launches herbal tea products infused with low-dose medical marijuana at Menlo Park event.

money to put girls through law school in the Democratic Republic of Congo. When their friend Jan Parker was diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer and was using medical marijuana to find relief from her symptoms, she grew frustrated with not knowing what she was getting. She saw the need for professionally packaged products with proper labeling so she could be informed about the ingredients and dosages.



Photo by Kathleen Harrison

Amanda Jones, left, and Jen Chapin are co-founders of a new medical marijuana tea company.

After Ms. Parker died in 2015, Ms. Jones and Ms. Chapin continued her work to develop a line of tasty, healthful organic teas made whenever possible from fresh herbs, which alone have "a lot of healing benefits," Ms. Jones said.

The marijuana is grown by women in Mendocino and processed in "cannabis-legal" Point Richmond where "we start with clear (cannabis) oil and then ... we have a dehydration technique" to blend in herbs. The tea is bagged in compostable sachets made in Japan out of cornstarch.

The company has a team of

scientists. "We test everything about five times in the process," Ms. Jones explained when she gave a slide presentation that was part history, part chemistry lesson, and part pitch "to educate a market and destigmatize" cannabis so people "realize it's a medicine and alternative (to pain, sleeping pills, etc.)."

She started with Positivi-Tea. Containing caffeinated lemon-grass mint green tea, "it's the perfect tea if you want to lie around and laugh," said Ms. Jones.

She cautioned against drinking it and then attending a teacher-parent night like one

woman did and regretted. One sachet contains 10mg of THC and 5mg of CBD. THC is the chemical compound found in cannabis that makes you high, whereas CBD or cannabidiol is not psychoactive and may help counteract inflammation.

Tranquili-Tea is caffeine-free with chamomile, lemon myrtle and 5mg of CBN or cannabitol, another non-psychoactive compound found in cannabis that can have a sedative effect.

Sensuali-Tea is caffeine-free with hibiscus cardamom rose flavors and 7mg THC per

See **TEA PARTIES** page 6

Facebook-funded police unit has Menlo council supporters

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Though they haven't yet taken a vote, members of the Menlo Park City Council spoke favorably May 2 about a Facebook proposal to pay \$11.2 million for a new police unit to cover a large area of Menlo Park by the Bayfront, including all of the Facebook campus. (The area does not include the Belle Haven neighborhood and the industrial area west of the abandoned Dumbarton rail line.

Facebook proposes to fund the new unit of five officers and a sergeant over five years, with the possibility of a two-year extension should the expected increase in city revenues from development in the area fall short. A previous cost estimate of the five-year funding plan was \$9.1 million, but with a recent increase in pension costs and a closer analysis of new equipment costs, the estimate is now \$11.2 million for the five-year plan, said Police Commander Dave Bertini.

Councilman Ray Mueller,

who at previous council meetings said he opposed the idea, said he could support it if the city's development agreement with Facebook were changed, so that the funding accepted from Facebook would be considered a voluntary "in-lieu sales tax" instead of a gift or donation to the city. Doing so, he said, would funnel those dollars through the city's general fund first, and then could be put toward the new police unit with a separate council vote.

Councilman Peter Ohtaki said that he supported Mr.

Mueller's idea "so it doesn't have the perception of 'pay for play.'" (All developers in the city, Councilman Rich Cline later noted, "pay to play," via development agreements and the provision of community benefits.)

In public comments, Kyra Brown, who works at Youth United for Community Action, an East Palo Alto youth advocacy nonprofit, and JT Faraji, an East Palo Alto activist, asked the council members to reconsider their support for the Facebook-funded police unit.

"I would ask that you consider the political implications of this decision, given the high number of racial profiling (incidents involving) East Palo Alto and Belle Haven residents by the Menlo Park Police Department," Ms. Brown said.

Mr. Faraji expressed similar concerns. "When you have that many more police patrolling the area and no increase in crime, there is a tendency for over-policing and that can sometimes result in racial profiling,"

See **FACEBOOK**, page 6

Facebook-funded police unit has supporters on council

continued from page 5

he said. He said he was also “concerned about a private corporation that is going to be funding public officials. ... Instead of being beholden to the public, public servants will be beholden to a private company.”

Menlo Park Police Chief Robert Jonsen said in earlier discussions of this issue that Facebook already funds the Belle Haven neighborhood service center and a full-time community services officer who works with youth, and the company has not asked for preferential treatment.

In the police department’s proposal, Commander William

Dixon wrote that the department needs to increase its staffing in that area because that is where most growth is occurring.

The department seeks to maintain a ratio of one police officer for every 1,000 people in the “service population” (calculated as all residents and one-third of workers). Given

the rapid growth occurring and anticipated in that area, the department doesn’t want to wait for increased tax revenues before training new officers, he said. It typically takes about two years to prepare a fledgling officer to patrol his or her beat, according to Cmdr. Dixon’s report.

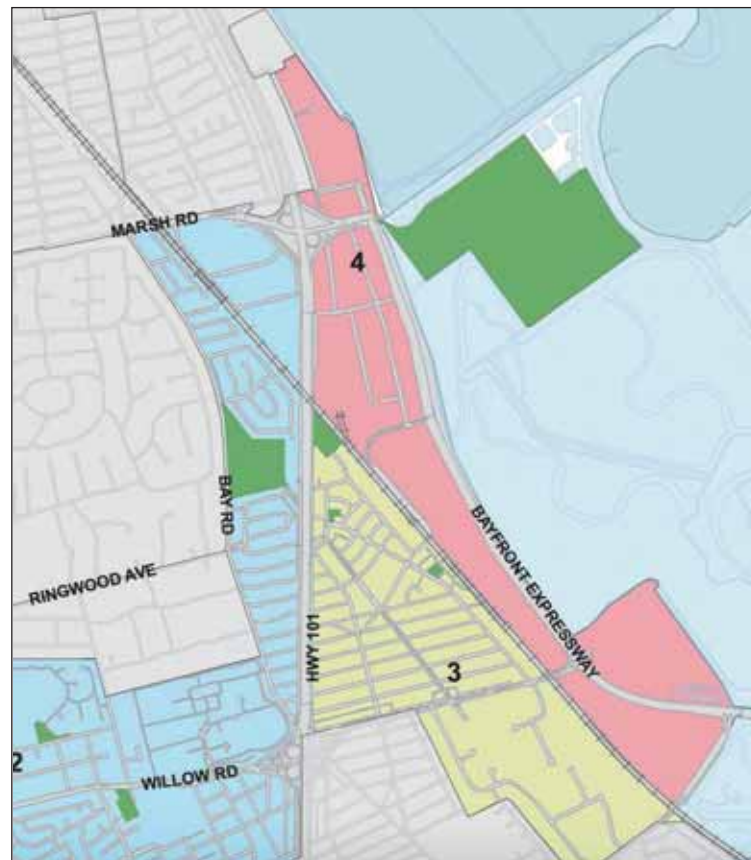
Population growth

Population growth in Menlo Park is already happening, and quickly, according to a May 1 report by the California Department of Finance.

From 2016 to 2017, the report says, Menlo Park had the highest percentage of population growth among all cities of 30,000 or more in the Bay Area, due to multi-family housing development. The city’s population grew to 35,670 from 33,807, an increase of 5.5 percent.

By comparison, other cities in San Mateo County during the same period had a population increase of less than 1 percent, or a decrease, as in Belmont and Pacifica, according to the report.

The Facebook-funded police unit item is expected to be brought to the council for a vote at a future meeting. ▣



Map courtesy city of Menlo Park

Facebook has offered to fund the first five years of a new police unit in Menlo Park, estimated to cost \$11.2 million. The unit would cover the area shown in pink.

TEA PARTIES

continued from page 5

sachet. Ms. Jones joked, “You just get hornier and find your tea spot.”

Sympa-Tea is caffeine-free with ingredients such as ginger and orange and 20mg CBD and 3mg THC in each sachet.

“I like it for the calm and use it instead of the wine,” Ms. Jones said.

Tara (last name withheld) of Palo Alto, a guest at the party,

said she is excited about having her own high tea party. “I’ve tried all of the teas and they’re all great,” she said, pointing out: “People drink too much (alcohol). I think it’s a much better option to drink the tea. You don’t feel hung over and you are much more patient with your kids.”

Ms. Webster said she co-hosted the party because “I’m a supporter of the cooperative. I have a startup that helps cancer patients and I was interested in this.”

She said she likes the products for “quality of life reasons: having less pain, getting sleep at night ... help with sex and mood.”

Another guest, Kathleen Avery of Menlo Park, recalled her teenage self and sampled a couple of bags, and like many others was planning to leave as a buyer.

The tea is sold for anywhere from \$5 per sachet to \$42 for a tin of 10, with these printed guidelines: “Potency will not

increase after one minute of immersion. Steep for flavor 2-4 minutes. Feel the effects in 30-90 minutes.”

“Start low, go slow,” Ms. Jones advised guests, adding that one possible side effect is “it can affect short-term memory.”

She also made it clear the company does not sell to teenagers or out of state.

Ms. Jones said the tea parties are “a safe, fun environment where people can try it. ... It’s legal to give away; we only sell to people with a medical license.”

Sales are primarily made online at kikoko.com where there’s a link to a medical card vendor for prospective clients.

Starting this week the teas will be available at The

Apothecarium and Harvest dispensaries in San Francisco. Home deliveries are also on the horizon.

According to Ms. Jones the closest competitors are Zen Potion in San Francisco and House of Jane in San Jose, but they make stronger teas.

Operating under the holding company Stinson Brands, Kikoko has raised over \$1.2 million in seed money from friends and family. Ms. Chapin admitted there’s been so much interest they’ve had to turn investors away.

When they make a profit, Ms. Jones said, the plan is to give 5 percent of it to organizations that supply cannabis medicine to children with seizure disorders. ▣

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Portola Valley man accused of exposing himself to children

Los Altos police said May 1 that a man was arrested recently on suspicion of exposing himself to two children and annoying five more.

Christian Itule, 25, of Portola Valley, was arrested April 26 following a report of suspicious activity at about 5 p.m. near Morton Court and Jardin Drive in Los Altos. He was booked into Santa Clara County jail.

Police said they found Mr. Itule, who matched the description of the suspect. He was in a vehicle and allegedly exposed himself to a child riding a bicycle at about 3:40 p.m. on April 21 near South Gordon Way and

Hawthorne Avenue, police said.

A second suspicious incident occurred the same day at 4:16 p.m. in front of a home in the 400 block of Valencia Drive near Los Altos High School, according to police. A man allegedly drove up next to two children and talked to them. The children became scared and ran home, police said.

The victims are all between 11 and 16 years old.

Detectives ask anyone who was contacted by Mr. Itule or has more information to call the police department’s investigative services division at (650) 947-2770 or leave a message on a tip line at (650) 947-2774.



Image courtesy city of Menlo Park

A rendering of the proposed exterior of the flood pump station near Chrysler Drive in eastern Menlo Park that the Bohannon Development Corp. would design and pay for at a cost of \$500,000.

Flood protection: City budgets \$6.2M to upgrade pump station

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

Given concerns about sea level rise and flooding in a major storm, the city is budgeting \$6.2 million to improve Menlo Park's only pump station, which is located at 1221 Chrysler Drive in eastern Menlo Park on the site of the Menlo Gateway development by Bohannon Development Corp.

The station was built in 1958 to provide flood protection to the area bounded by Marsh Road, Bohannon Drive, Chilco Street and Bayfront Expressway.

The plan is to place the pump 24 inches above the base elevation that water might reach in case of a flood, which would

provide protection even during sea level rise. The pump would also be moved farther in from the street on Chrysler Drive.

On May 2, the City Council approved the budget for the project on a 4-0 vote, with Kirsten Keith absent.

In an agreement approved by the council, Bohannon Development Corp. will pay \$500,000 to design and build the exterior of the pump station. The rest of the money will come from city funds.

The capacity that the pump station would have to protect against flooding is still being decided. The area it's protecting

is located in a "100-year" flood plain, which means it has a 1 percent chance of flooding during a given year.

The current pump has the capacity to protect against a 10-year flood, or one that has a 10 percent chance of happening in a given year.

To protect against a 100-year flood will cost about \$900,000 beyond the project's current budget. Council members suggested the city pursue emergency grant funds to fill that funding gap.

The expected timeline is to complete designs by the fall, put out bids and hire a contractor in early 2018, and complete construction a year later, according to city staff. ■

Teens arrested in home on suspicion of burglary

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Two teenage boys were confronted on May 3 by police inside a home on the 100 block of Ringwood Avenue in Menlo Park and arrested on suspicion of attempting to steal money and jewelry, police said.

The residents were not at home.

At around 10:20 a.m., a nearby resident called police to report seeing the teens, who were wearing backpacks, pass through a neighbor's gate and enter the

house.

Police arrived about four minutes after the neighbor called, and saw the boys inside the house, according to police spokesperson Nicole Acker. Police entered the home through an open back door and confronted the teens.

The teens attempted to steal foreign currency valued at \$130 and several watches, Ms. Acker said. All property was recovered.

The teens, both from East Palo Alto, are 16 and 17 years old and have been booked at Hillcrest Juvenile Hall in San Mateo. ■



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MONTHLY REAL ESTATE UPDATE WITH MANDY MONTOYA

April 2017



April can be summed up as "Inventory, a Tale of Two Cities". The cities of Atherton and Woodside saw increases in inventory vs. last year while Portola Valley and Menlo Park had significantly less inventory vs. 2016. The decreases in inventory in Portola Valley and Menlo Park also lead to increases in home prices. The median sales prices for those two cities look like this:

Menlo Park	Portola Valley
April 2016 \$1,988,888	April 2016 \$2,867,000
April 2017 \$2,450,000	April 2017 \$3,272,500
Increase 23%	Increase 14%

Next month we will see if some of the inventory in Atherton and Woodside is absorbed as we head down the homestretch of the Spring home buying season. In towns with available inventory it's a great time to be a buyer; and it's great time to be a seller in the towns with low inventory. It would be my pleasure to represent you in buying or selling a home.

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NOTICE OF APPROVED ORDINANCE

TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

At the April 19, 2017, City Council meeting Council adopted the following ordinance:

Ordinance 625

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING THE RATES SET FORTH IN ORDINANCE 621 TO DECREASE THE RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE RATES

The ordinance was approved 5-0.

For a complete copy of Ordinance 625 please contact Theresa DellaSanta at tdellasanta@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-752-0529.



NOTICE OF APPROVED ORDINANCE TOWN OF ATHERTON

At the April 19, 2017, City Council meeting Council adopted the following ordinance:

Ordinance 626

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 15.22.010 IN ORDER TO MODIFY AND RATIFY AN ORDINANCE OF THE MENLO PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING THE 2015 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE WITH THE 2016 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND LOCAL AMENDMENTS.

The ordinance was approved 5-0.

For a complete copy of Ordinance 626 please contact Theresa DellaSanta at tdellasanta@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-752-0529.

Woodside celebrates 95th May Day

STORY BY KATE DALY
PHOTOS BY CRAIG ADAMS

This is about as Norman Rockwell as it gets,” observed Randy Schwabacher of Woodside when he stopped filming his granddaughter Sydney Schwabacher perform in the traditional May pole dance at the 95th anniversary Woodside May Day celebration on Saturday.

Her dad, Tyler Schwabacher, sat a few rows back in the outdoor amphitheater at Woodside Elementary, taking pictures, too, and remembering when he and his twin brother graced that same stage on May Day 24 years ago.

Multi-generations of locals turned out for the day’s festivities, which started with the Woodside Recreation Committee’s May Day Fun Run and the Rotary Club of Woodside/Portola Valley pancake breakfast, and then continued with the parade, dance, barbecue and carnival sponsored by Woodside School’s Parent Teacher Association.

At 10 a.m the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office led



Barbara and Dick Tagg, grand marshals of the 2017 May Day parade.

the parade on Woodside Road followed by Woodsider Steve Daheb’s sleek black 1969 Camaro convertible carrying grand marshals Barbara and Dick Tagg.

Residents of the town for more than 50 years, the Taggs have three children who went to Woodside School, where she taught special education for 27 years, served on the school board, coached, and ran the



The May Day royalty, chosen at random each year from Woodside Elementary’s kindergarten class, rode in the Woodside Fire Protection District’s classic 1942 fire truck during Woodside’s 95th May Day parade, held each year on the first Saturday in May.

parade before becoming head of Woodside High’s parent-teacher group.

Mr. Tagg has been an active volunteer at Woodside Village Church’s rummage sale and served on the town’s History Committee for years. He was also chair of Woodside’s Planning Commission for many years.

Right behind them, Woodside Mayor Tom Livermore drove a 1979 VW bug convertible, with other council members among the passengers.

Deputy Fire Marshal Don Bullard of the Woodside Fire Protection District blasted the siren to signal the arrival of the Kindergarten Royal Court, sitting in the back of a 1942 fire truck. The district’s new rescue utility vehicle and more

modern Engine 7 joined the lineup.

This year a lot of horsepower arrived the old-fashioned way.

Mike Martin of Woodside, who brought his 3-year-old granddaughter, Skylar Ballard, to watch the parade, said: “We used to come all the time with our kids, and the one thing that impressed me today is all the horses here.”

The National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy, the Woodside-Area Horse Owner’s Association, the Heather Hill Riding Center at the Horse Park at Woodside, the San Mateo County Horsemen’s Association and the San Mateo County Mounted Patrol’s color guard all participated on hoof with some members on foot.

And six donkeys walked in the parade, including two minis owned by Ann Kirby of Woodside.

A handful of dogs participated, the most noticeable being great Danes Blue and Moses owned by Steve Brown and Jamis MacNiven respectively.

Once again the Los Trancos Woods Marching Band and Woodside High School



Sushma Pati is this year’s PTA Citizen of the Year.

Marching Band provided musical entertainment. So did Woodside School eighth-graders when they previewed some numbers from their operetta, “Shrek The Musical Jr.,” coming to Sellman Pavilion from May 31 to June 3.

Woodside School Foundation’s float with an inflated green alien balloon carried the theme of the parade, “Out of This World,” which is the name of the foundation’s Grand Auction fundraiser on May 20.

See **MAY DAY**, page 9



Woodside Elementary School third-graders take part in the annual May pole dance in the Woodside Elementary School’s outdoor amphitheater, a traditional part of the town’s annual May Day celebration.



Students in Woodside Elementary’s eighth-grade class gave a preview of “Shrek,” this year’s operetta.

Bike lane may improve safety for Woodside High students

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

When school starts at Woodside High School in August, students on bikes and other bike commuters may have the town of Woodside to thank for relieving the hazards of traveling from the north: the Town Council has approved a bike lane on Alameda de las Pulgas over the last fifth of a mile leading up to Woodside Road from Redwood City.

The council voted 7-0 on April 25, approving a pilot project to create a pocket bike lane — a bike lane with vehicle traffic on either side of it — on the Alameda between Fernside Street and Woodside Road.

For cyclists heading south, this project will end the competition with fast-moving vehicles

headed in the same direction as they merge onto the Alameda from Fernside. That merge lane will close, requiring vehicles to continue on Fernside at the Alameda and stop before heading either north or south.

During the first year, the town will evaluate effects, including on traffic queuing, driver and cyclist behavior, collisions and traffic safety when school is and is not in session, Town Engineer Sean Rose told the council.

If the changes are made permanent in the summer of 2018, the town would make slight modifications such as using thermoplastic paint on the pavement instead of simple white paint, Mr. Rose said.

The pilot project includes painting the new bike lane green; adding a “pedestrian refuge” for people to pause while

crossing the Alameda; adding a crosswalk across Fernside; adding pedestrian and disabled access to a median; resurfacing sections of the Alameda and Fernside; and adding white pavement markings, including warnings to watch for pedestrians, according to plans provided to the Almanac.

Funding includes \$275,000 from a half-cent sales tax dedicated to transportation and \$70,000 in matching funds from the town, according to a staff report.

Reaction

“Not only is this a great boon for all the commute cyclists that use (the Alameda), but it’s also the only way to make it safe for a Woodside resident’s child to ride a bike to Woodside High School,” Woodside resident

‘... it’s the only way to make it safe for a Woodside resident’s child to ride a bike to Woodside High School.’

WOODSIDE RESIDENT MILLO FENZI

Millo Fenzi told the council. “For that reason, among many others, I strongly recommend and request that you support this thing.”

Mr. Fenzi, who said he was speaking as a private citizen, is also a member of the town’s Circulation Committee, which reviewed this project as it made its way to the council. He said he would not allow his son to take Woodside Road to school, given the unsafe behavior of student-drivers turning into the campus at Churchill Avenue.

Bob Page, a cycling advocate and former Woodside resident now living in Redwood City, recalled setting up a table near the site on a Bike-to-Work day five years ago, and gathering 30 signatures for a petition for a bike lane.

Bike commuters from Redwood City and points north use this route to Santa Clara County destinations, he said. “It isn’t in the middle of (Woodside), but the town really needs to own up to its regional responsibility, I think, and to go forward with this project,” he said.

Councilwoman Deborah Gordon commended Mr. Page. “His persistence and his dogged attention to detail has been fabulous,” she said.

“It’s a great project,” said Councilman Dave Tanner, “and I know Bob you’ve been working on it a long time. ... You’re finally getting it.”

“It’s about time,” said Councilman Peter Mason.

“I’m absolutely thrilled that we’re at this point today,” said Councilwoman Anne Kasten. ■

Menlo resident competes on ‘Jeopardy!’

By Sophie Pollock

For as long as he can remember, watching “Jeopardy!” has been a habit for Graham Toben, a Menlo Park resident who was born and raised in Portola Valley.

The Castilleja School teacher used to sit at the foot of his grandparents’ sofa with his dinner in hand, ready to tune in to “Jeopardy!”

“I always thought to myself, at around 8 or 9 years old, that it’d be really cool to be on there,” Mr. Toben said.

That hope has come to fruition: He recently got to be a contestant on the Teachers Tournament of Jeopardy, which is being broadcast starting on Monday, May 8.

Mr. Toben teaches middle school English at Castilleja in Palo Alto, following in the footsteps of his mother who taught social and emotional learning.

“When I was really young, I

noticed how empowering, exciting and exhilarating teaching is. It’s kind of always been in my blood,” said Mr. Toben, who received his master’s degree in teaching from Stanford University in 2014. “I didn’t exactly know what I wanted to do, but having

A fan since childhood, Graham Toben has tried five times to get on the show.

taught some academic-based summer programs, I realized I was hit with the teaching bug.”

He attributes his curiosity and love for facts to his elementary school’s “emphasis on the importance of intrinsic motivation and intrinsic learning,” adding he tries to motivate his students the same way by sharing his interests in not just English but in math, science, music, history and more.

“I’ve been relatively curious

about things, about the world and about life in general, and I’ve picked up a lot of random facts here and there,” he said.

He took his first official “Jeopardy!” online test at age 18 but didn’t qualify for the show. After another try, he took a hiatus until recently, when he took the test three more times. In January 2016, the fifth time was the charm. He was then asked to come in for an in-person audition in April 2016.

Eight months after the audition, which he called “stressful,” he found out he would be a contestant on the Teachers Tournament, a two-week event during which educators from across the country face off for \$100,000 and a spot in the next Tournament of Champions.

All of the teachers received a \$2,500 grant for their classrooms. He plans to purchase supplies for a yearly picture-book project. The project involves students analyzing the



Photo courtesy Jeopardy Productions Inc.

Graham Toben of Menlo Park and Jeopardy host Alex Trebek on the set of the TV show during a recent filming. Mr. Toben teaches middle school English at Castilleja School and was raised in Portola Valley.

art, sentence construction and style of picture books and then sharing an original picture book with their kindergarten buddies. The grant will allow him to continue this program in the coming years.

Funding for the grants comes from the Farmers Insurance group’s Thank America’s Teachers program.

In the Bay Area, “Jeopardy!” is broadcast on KGO-TV at 7 p.m. weeknights. ■

MAY DAY

continued from page 8

The PTA board float went with a Star Wars theme with Claire Pollioni, the school board president, behind the wheel, a clear promotion from last year when she followed the equestrians with a wheelbarrow and shovel.

Woodside Village Church interpreted the theme differently with a truckload of children dressed as angels.

Many of the participants tossed out candy to the crowd, and kids came prepared with bags, baskets, and fast feet.

Lorna Basso of Woodside brought her 2-year-old granddaughter, Bailey Basso, to watch for the first time, and found themselves in the middle of the road competing for candy with the older kids.

Binnie Gates of Woodside showed up saying it was either her 59th or 60th parade. She

recalled more dog entries and ribbons awarded in the past, and wondered if the event had gotten smaller.

PTA President Kari Daheb said there was about the same number of entries this year as last, around 25. This is her third time running the parade, and she figures she’ll do it for five more years until the 100th anniversary when her current third-grader graduates.

After the parade Ms. Daheb

welcomed everyone to the amphitheater and announced the Citizen of the Year Award given in recognition of “the school’s most active supporters.”

Eighth-grade parent Sushma Pati won the honor for being a “tireless” volunteer in the school garden, for the Grand Auction, as a room parent, field trip driver, class helper, and current operetta producer.

After that the May pole

dancers skipped in to do a sword dance and circle around the May pole. Bob Sherman, back working at the school as interim principal of the lower grades after a hiatus, declared it “the best May pole dance I have ever seen.”

The community then spread out around the campus to enjoy the barbecue supplied by Alice’s Restaurant and games provided by Sophie’s World and Fun Services. ■

School district to reconsider actions on school board vacancy

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

The Woodside Elementary School District has agreed to reconsider actions taken at a May 1 special board meeting after receiving a letter from Embarcadero Media, the Almanac's parent company, alleging the actions violated the Brown Act, the state's open meeting law.

The school board voted unanimously at the May 1 meeting to fill a board vacancy by appointing a new member, rather than holding an election, with the previously set deadline for applications four days later, on Friday, May 5. However, the matter of whether to make an appointment or hold an election was not on the agenda for the meeting.

The meeting agenda included three items as "discussion, action items," none of which was voted on at the meeting: setting a deadline for submitting board member applications, appointing a subcommittee to review the applications, and setting a date for interviewing candidates.

One of the district's five board

members, Wendy Warren Roth, submitted her resignation April 6, a day after the school district announced it would be appointing a new board member. The district already had a website page up to accept board applications with a deadline and schedule for interviews and the appointment.

Ms. Warren Roth and the district have refused to say why she resigned 18 months before her term ended.

The May 2 letter from Bill Johnson, Embarcadero Media's president, asked Superintendent Beth Polito and board President Claire Pollioni to correct the

in an elective office, and gives the appointed board member the advantage of running as an incumbent in her or his first election.

This will be the second time in two years that a board member has resigned before ending a term, allowing a board member to be appointed. Current board member Silvia Edwards was appointed in May 2015, and was elected in a three-person race for two seats, in which she ran as an incumbent, six months later.

Mr. Nibbelin's letter says that until the Woodside board meets again on May 16, "no action will be taken on applications for provisional appointment."

At WoodsideSchool.us, the district's website, registered voters in the school district may apply for the open board position.

Under the California Education Code, when school board members resign before their term is up, the board must either set an election or appoint an interim board member within 60 days.

If the board decides to appoint a board member, voters can ask for an election instead by filing a petition signed by 1.5 percent of the district's registered voters within 30 days of the appointment.

The district had 2,365 registered voters as of April 4, so valid signatures of just 35 voters would be required to hold a special election.

The Brown Act

The Brown Act, adopted in 1953, is intended to assure the business of the public is conducted in public.

The introduction to the law says: "In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the public commissions, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly. ... The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

At tinyurl.com/ALM-WES, the Almanac has links to the Embarcadero Media and county counsel's letters in its online story as well as links to the text of the Brown Act and the state laws governing school board resignations. ■

Attorney: Until school board meets again, no action will be taken on board appointment.

apparent Brown Act violation by rescinding the action taken at the May 1 meeting, and holding a properly noticed board meeting to reconsider that item and the three not voted on.

The Embarcadero Media letter suggests the school district may have further violated the Brown Act by soliciting applications for the open board position before the board discussed the matter in public. "Your solicitation of candidates for appointment to the Board well prior to your May 1 meeting indicates that either the Board had earlier violated the Brown Act by making its decision outside of a public meeting or that (the superintendent or school board president) had prejudged the outcome of its May 1 meeting."

The school district's attorney, San Mateo County Chief Deputy County Counsel John Nibbelin, in a written response denied the May 1 meeting action violated the Brown Act, although his letter did not address the allegation that a matter not on the agenda was discussed and voted on.

Mr. Nibbelin's letter, written on behalf of County Counsel John Beiers, said the district's advertising of the opening before discussing how it would be filled was "District staff's reasoned consideration of the circumstances and conclusion that the Board of Trustees would most likely support a provisional appointment to fill the Board vacancy."

Appointing a board member to fill an uncompleted term allows the school board rather than the voters to choose who will serve

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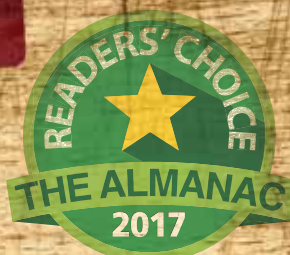
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Judge orders ex-dry cleaner to repay \$361,927

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

E. Gary Smith, the owner of the now-closed Menalto Cleaners on Menalto Avenue in Menlo Park, was ordered by a San Mateo County judge on May 5 to pay \$361,927 in restitution to customers whose credit card numbers he used to make unauthorized charges, according to the District Attorney's Office.

Mr. Smith, 66, was sentenced to six years in state prison in March after pleading no contest in July 2016 to one count of fraudulent use of an access card for grand theft and seven counts of identity theft, all felonies.

The court on Friday also ordered Mr. Smith to be

transported to prison to start serving his sentence, prosecutors said.

Repayments are due to institutions as well as individuals. Judge Barbara J. Mallach ordered Mr. Smith to pay \$103,305.79 to Chase Bank USA, \$56,357 to American Express, \$27,685.30 to TransFirst Merchant, and an



E. Gary Smith

amount yet to be determined to CitiBank, prosecutors said.

He owes \$38,822 to the Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club, though he contested a \$17,300 charge from August 2013, saying that he had no memory of it, prosecutors said. The court rejected Mr. Smith's defense that the absence of a memory excluded restitution.

Mr. Smith owes a total of \$135,579 to six individuals and amounts still to be determined

to 14 other people, prosecutors said.

Attorney Michael Armstrong of Redwood City, who represented Mr. Smith, said he had no comment on the results of the restitution hearing.

At Menalto Cleaners, Mr. Smith kept his customers' credit card numbers on file for monthly billing for dry cleaning services, but used the cards to make unauthorized charges, prosecutors said. After two customers came forward,

police investigated and heard from 19 alleged victims who, together, claimed to have lost over \$350,000.

During the sentencing hearing, prosecutors asked that Mr. Smith be sent to prison for eight years. At the hearing, Mr. Smith read a statement in which he asked for mercy, saying that he was aware of the trust he had betrayed and that he had a plan for repayment when he got out of prison. ■

Teachers may apply for subsidized rent

Teachers interested in living at the new apartment complex at 777 Hamilton Ave. in eastern Menlo Park at a subsidized rate can apply for one of

22 designated apartments by the deadline of Tuesday, May 16. Fifteen are one-bedroom apartments and seven are two-bedroom apartments.

Go to tinyurl.com/housing658 to access the application.

Mail the application to Hello Housing, P.O. Box 8179, Foster City, CA 94404, or drop it off at the open house, which will be held Wednesday, May 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. at 777 Hamilton Ave.

Emailed applications are not accepted. Individuals cannot be included in more than one

application.

The program will be available for up to five years.

Monthly rent is \$1,250 for a household earning up to \$50,000 a year, and \$2,500 for a household earning up to \$100,000 a year.

First preference is for teachers who teach in the Ravenswood City School District or a school within the boundaries of that school district. Second preference is for teachers in the Menlo Park City School District, Las Lomas School District or at

Menlo-Atherton High School.

One unit at each of the following schools has been reserved: Aspire East Palo Alto Charter, Aspire East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy, Beechwood School, Belle Haven Elementary, Brentwood Academy, Cesar Chavez Elementary, Costano Elementary, East Palo Alto Academy, Eastside College Preparatory School, Green Oaks Academy, Los Robles Magnet Academy, Mid-Peninsula High School, Ravenswood Child Development Center, Ronald McNair Academy, San Francisco 49ers Academy, and Willow Oaks Elementary.

Facebook is paying \$430,000 per year for five years to subsidize the apartments as part of a development agreement the company negotiated with the city of Menlo Park for permission to expand its headquarters by nearly a million square feet on the city's eastern side.

— By Kate Bradshaw

David Gilsdorf

April 11, 1931 – April 21, 2017

David Gilsdorf, a long time resident of Menlo Park, passed away on April 21, 2017 of complications from melanoma. Born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin in 1931, David was the oldest of five children to George and Theresa Gilsdorf.



David was a graduate of St. Mary's Springs Academy in Fond du Lac and attended University of Notre Dame in Indiana and received a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering in 1954. Following his undergraduate years at Notre Dame, David joined the US Army as part of the Core of Engineers and served at Fort Riley, Kansas. Later he received his Masters of Industrial Engineering from Montana State University and his Masters of Business Administration from Santa Clara University.

David worked as a business consultant for several firms including Westinghouse, AT Kearney, Raymond Corporation, Signetics, and SRI International. He met his wife, Maria, while consulting in Puerto Rico. David and Maria were married in 1966 and shortly after moved from Pittsburgh to Menlo Park. They were married for 51 years.

He loved going on long walks, talking to neighbors, and keeping people on their toes with his dry wit. He was a loving husband, father, son, and brother. David was a devoted member of Nativity Church and also enjoyed reading and gardening.

David is survived by his wife, Maria; daughter and son-in-law, Lucy Gilsdorf-String and Donald String; daughter and son-in-law, Maritere and Charles Preuss; sister, Helen Gilsdorf; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Ken Fenske; sister, Mary Gilsdorf; brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Dao Gilsdorf; and his four grandchildren.

Friends are invited to memorial services on May 12th at Nativity Church at 210 Oak Grove in Menlo Park. There will be a rosary at 1 PM, mass at 1:30 PM followed by a reception at the Nativity O'Hare Center (behind the church) – please join any or all of these.

In lieu of flowers, people wishing to make a donation are encouraged to consider the Melanoma Research Foundation (www.melanoma.org or (800) 673-1290).

PAID OBITUARY

Marilyn Rhoades Hoffman

February 5, 1933 – April 26, 2017

Marilyn Rhoades Hoffman left this world peacefully at the end of April. Daughter of Donald and Dorothy Rhoades, Marilyn grew up in Palo Alto, California, on Washington Ave.

She attended Castilleja School, followed by U.C. Berkeley, where she was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. Marilyn (or 'Mouse' as her fellow Cal buddies referred to her), often shared the many special memories about her days at Berkeley.

In 1955 she married Ralph Hoffman Jr. and they settled in Menlo Park, California.

Marilyn dedicated her life to raising her three daughters: Nancy (of Inverness, CA.), Karen Gilhuly (husband Ned, of Woodside, Ca.) and Sheila Lee (husband Mark, of Cary, N.C.)

She is also survived by her twin brother, Donald "Dusty" Rhoades (of Placerville, CA.). She was deeply proud of her six grandchildren, Lauren, Claire, John and Kate Gilhuly and Will and Grace Lee.

She was an avid reader, appraiser and dealer of rare books. Marilyn also had a green thumb and enjoyed seeing her garden evolve over the 50 years she lived in her home in Menlo Park.

Many of Marilyn's happiest memories were made at Lake Tahoe, where she spent her summers with family and friends.

Marilyn will be remembered by her dear friends from the many chapters of her journey for her GOP loyalty, quick wit, California Bear pride and inner beauty.

In keeping with Marilyn's wishes, a private service will be held.

Throughout Marilyn's life there had always been a canine companion at her side. In honor of her love of dogs, donations can be made to Monterey Bay Labrador Retriever Rescue, PO Box 269, Pebble Beach, CA 93953.



PAID OBITUARY

Church joins war on hunger

The Valley Presbyterian Church in Portola Valley hosted a day of work — before, during and after services — on Sunday, May 7, to package dehydrated meals for the hungry, part of the worldwide program Rise Against Hunger (formerly known as Stop Hunger Now).

The meals include rice, soy, vegetables and 23 essential minerals and vitamins. Worldwide, one in nine people go to bed hungry and one in three suffer from malnutrition, according to the World Food Programme.

Rise Against Hunger in 2016 engaged more than 353,000 volunteers from corporations, churches, schools and civic organizations, the church says.

Valley Presbyterian is in its third year of participation.

For more information, contact Cathy Paniagua at (650) 851-2848 or cathyp@valleypreschurch.org.

Atherton plans to spend \$13.6M on capital improvements

By **Barbara Wood**
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton's City Council on May 3 took a first look at a proposed \$13.6 million budget for spending on capital improvement projects in the 2017-18 fiscal year.

The budget includes spending \$5.85 million to start building a new library, \$2.9 million to start on a new civic center, plus more than \$1 million

each on bicycle and pedestrian improvements, drainage and road maintenance.

The plan may change after a June 6 election on whether the town can spend more taxpayer money on the civic center project. The proposed \$2.9 million in civic center spending includes only projects funded by donations and money set aside to pay for new building and planning offices.

For the five years through the

2020-21 fiscal year, the budget for capital improvements is \$59.4 million. The council plans spending five years out, but only allocates money for specific projects for one fiscal year at a time.

The five-year plan includes as a funding source the renewal of the town's parcel tax, which brings in close to \$1.9 million each year, with about 80 percent of that used for capital improvements in recent years.

The parcel tax expires in 2018, and would need to be approved by two-thirds of voters to be renewed.

The proposed projects for 2017-18 include: \$1.4 million for bicycle and pedestrian safety programs; \$1.5 million for drainage improvement projects; \$1 million for street maintenance; \$580,000 for Holbrook-Palmer Park improvements; \$225,000 for safety improvements on El

Camino Real; \$225,000 for inspecting the town's not-yet inspected culverts; \$100,000 to design quad gates for the Watkins Avenue rail crossing; and \$50,000 to purchase a trailer and two fixed solar-powered indicators that would use radar to tell motorists how fast they are driving.

The council had a few minor tweaks in the projects, but made no major changes in priorities. ■

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City of Menlo Park.

The current Stanford Inn, left, located at 115 El Camino Real in Menlo Park. At right is a drawing of a proposed new commercial-residential development at the site.

New building proposed to replace Stanford Inn in Menlo Park

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

A proposal to demolish the Stanford Inn at 115 El Camino Real in Menlo Park and replace it with a 10,274

square-foot, three-story commercial and residential development was on the May 8 agenda of the Menlo Park Planning Commission. Go to AlmanacNews.com for updates. The meeting was held after the Almanac went to press.

The inn sits at the corner of El Camino and Harvard Avenue near the Allied Arts neighborhood and across from the Stanford Park Hotel. The proposed building would have commercial space on the

ground floor — likely for offices, but potentially for retail, if parking requirements can be met. On the upper floors, there would be four apartments installed, with private balconies on the top floor. There would

be 16 parking spots. Sidewalks along El Camino Real and Harvard Avenue would be widened. The proposal generally meets development requirements in the El Camino Real/downtown specific plan area, city staff say. ■

Historical association leads tour of cemetery

For the fourth year, the Menlo Park Historical Association is sponsoring a tour of Menlo Park's only cemetery, Holy

Cross, which dates back to the early 1860s. The tour will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 13.

Cost of the tour, led by Michael Svanevik, is \$20 per person. The tour is limited to the first 25 who register, and is not

recommended for children.

At tinyurl.com/MPHA-Tour you can register online, or send a check payable to Menlo Park Historical Association for \$20 per person with name, address,

email and telephone number to: MPHA, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park, CA 94025. At tinyurl.com/HC-ALM see an Almanac story on a previous year's tour.



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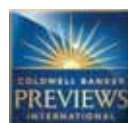


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City plans to weed out herbicides from parks

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

■ MENLO PARK

It took a lot of work, manually pulling more than 56 cubic yards of weeds — or about five dump-truck loads — and covering swaths of parkland with wood chips. But after a one-year trial that ended in March, maintenance contractors in Menlo Park say that beating back unwanted weed growth at four city parks without herbicides can be done.

Now, all city parks are slated to get the same treatment in coming years. In a unanimous vote May 2, the Menlo Park City Council, with Mayor Kirsten Keith absent, decided to eliminate herbicide use from all city parks.

The trial

During the one-year trial, staff said, the park maintenance

contractors pulled the 56.5 cubic yards of weeds at the city's Willow Oaks, Stanford Hills and Fremont parks. A contracted mower and city staff also maintained Bedwell Bayfront Park without using herbicides.

The areas were then covered with mulch. While there still is some unwanted weed growth, the mulch has slowed the growth, staff say, and that will lower costs moving forward.

Overall, going herbicide-free was received positively by the

public and has resulted in less Roundup being sprayed that could enter the water and possibly the Bay, staff said.

For all four parks, the trial cost \$128,550 during the first year, or 54 cents per square foot. In the second year and following years, the expected cost to maintain herbicide-free weed control in those parks is \$60,000, or about 24 cents per square foot. The high upfront cost is due to the cost of the mulch and labor for the first, heaviest round of manual weed removal, according to staff.

The council agreed to let staff and the Parks & Recreation Commission develop a phased approach to eliminate herbicides at all 16 of the city's parks, thereby spreading the expected first-year cost of \$1.5 million over several years. After all parks go herbicide-free, staff say, annual costs are estimated to be \$700,000.

Councilman Ray Mueller said he thought the cost was worth it.

Councilman Rich Cline asked that the Parks & Recreation commission also look into starting an "Adopt-A-Park" program, in which local businesses could do some parks maintenance work on a voluntary basis.

Roundup danger?

In recent months, legal battles have been raging as to

whether the primary ingredient in Roundup, called glyphosate, is a carcinogen.

The chemical is considered to have "low toxicity" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, but has been labeled as a "probable human carcinogen," by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a branch of the U.N. World Health Organization.

The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in September 2015 moved to require Monsanto,

the producer of Roundup, to label Roundup as a possible cancer threat.

Monsanto sued the state, and in March, a California state judge threw out the suit.

Roundup is one of the most widely used — if not the most widely used — herbicides in the world.

The initial concerns that led to the city considering an herbicide-free pilot came from efforts by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board and San Mateo County to develop a plan to clean up the Bay's water by reducing herbicide and pesticide use, according to a staff report.

Glyphosate is one of many pollutants that have been found in the San Francisco Bay, because after it is sprayed on plants, it can enter stormwater and flow into the Bay. ■

'How much are you willing to pay to not poison your children?'

COUNCILWOMAN
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Marilyn Rhoades Hoffman, Menlo Park rare book dealer

Rare book dealer, gardener, mother of three and friend to dogs, Menlo Park resident Marilyn Rhoades Hoffman, 84, died peacefully on April 26.

Ms. Hoffman was born Feb. 5, 1933, and grew up in Palo Alto, where she attended Castilleja School before attending U.C. Berkeley. At Cal, she was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and was nicknamed "Mouse."

In 1955, she married Ralph Hoffman Jr. and they settled in Menlo Park. They had three daughters: Nancy, Karen and Sheila; and six grandchildren.

She was an avid reader,



Marilyn Hoffman

OBITUARIES

Obituaries are based on information provided by the family.

appraiser and dealer of rare books who enjoyed gardening.

She spent summers with family and friends at Lake Tahoe. Friends will likely recall her GOP loyalty, quick wit, California Bear pride and inner beauty, according to her family.

She is survived by her twin brother, Donald "Dusty" Rhoades.

A private service will be held. In honor of Ms. Hoffman's love of dogs, the family asks that donations be sent to: Monterey Bay Labrador Retriever Rescue, P.O. Box 259, Pebble Beach, CA 93953.

— By Kate Bradshaw

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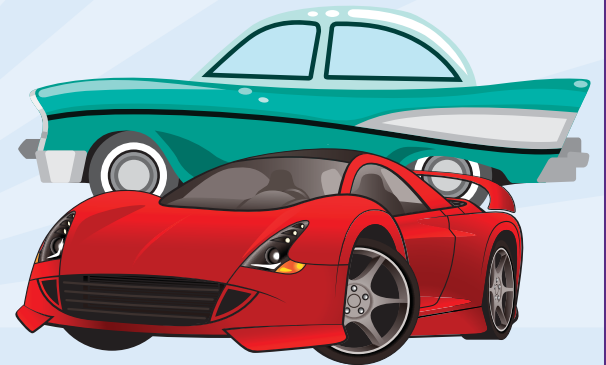
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Union-backed bill to cut contract work draws ire

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

A California Assembly bill, backed by government unions, that would set limits on how cities contract for services has drawn vehement opposition, and some support, from Menlo Park residents who emailed the City Council in recent days.

Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith, who was absent from the May 2 council meeting, said she planned to add the matter to the council's May 23 agenda.

The bill, AB 1250, was introduced by Assemblyman Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer Sr., D-Los Angeles, on Feb. 17.

Backed by union organizations — the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, and the California State Council of the Service Employees International Union — the bill would require cities and counties to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of using city employees to do a job versus hiring a contractor.

Government agencies would have to show that no city workers would be displaced, demoted or given fewer hours because of the contract. Also, the contractor would have to reimburse the city for the cost of the analysis.

'This bill would essentially eliminate all contracted services.'

FORMER COUNCILWOMAN LEE DUBOC

Opponents to the bill include the California Chamber of Commerce, the California State Association of Counties, the League of California Cities, and 54 cities. Supporters are state, county and special district unions and employee associations.

In a statement, the League of California Cities claims the bill "is a multifaceted attack on local discretion and places substantial burdens on local agencies by adding onerous, over prescriptive and unnecessary requirements that have significant

impacts on local governance."

Many cities, the league says, are already "near breaking point" when it comes to paying for unfunded pension liabilities and actual pension costs. Cities should not add more pensioned city workers when contractors can do the same job without requiring pension contributions — at least until the state adjusts from a recent policy change by CalPERS, the state public employee pension system, to lower its expected rate of return to 7 percent from 7.5 percent. That will significantly increase cities' pension obligations, according to the statement.

The extra work the bill creates for cities to contract for services will add significant staff time costs, it reports.

Menlo Park's Mayor Keith sits on the league's board of directors.

Local opinions

Former Menlo Park councilwoman Lee Duboc sent an email to residents asking them to urge council members to actively oppose the bill. "This bill would essentially eliminate

all contracted services, increase the number of unionized public employees, increase costs and pension liabilities and further burden cities with a plethora of new regulations," Ms. Duboc said.

Most of those who emailed the council expressed opposition to the bill.

"As a longtime Menlo Park resident, I urge you to find ways to reduce the payroll and pension expenses that taxpayers are facing," Sanj Goyle wrote. "We all want good services from the Town but would hope that you're exploring the most efficient ways to obtain them."

Karinne Collinsworth called it "too expensive," and Frank Tucker said that the bill would "impose onerous and costly constraints

on cities' ability to use contractors when needed to provide city services."

A small number of supporters emailed the council, such as Menlo Park resident Tom Buch, who wrote: "I realized that the unions in this country are, and have been for some time, under assault from the business community without regard to the benefits the unions provide to millions of workers, both private and public. ... I hope the Council does NOT take up the agenda of the assault on workers rights."

Meredith Ozbil wrote that she supports the bill because it is harder to maintain quality with contractors and staff time must still be spent to provide oversight of contractors, among other reasons. ▀

Briefs: Time to register for AYSO

Signups for AYSO fall 2017 soccer in Menlo Park and Atherton will be held on two Saturdays — May 13 and 20 — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hillview Middle School library, 1100 Elder Ave. in Menlo Park.

All may participate, regardless of skill level. There are no tryouts. Cost is \$100 for kindergarten, and \$150 for all others.

First-time players must

register in person, but returning players can register online at www.mpsoccer.org.

Spring fair

The city of Menlo Park will hold a spring fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at 410 Ivy Drive in Belle Haven. There will be music, samples from food trucks and caterers, a free raffle and kid-friendly activities.

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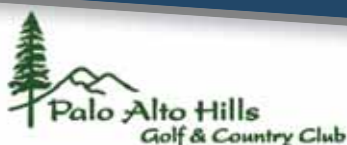
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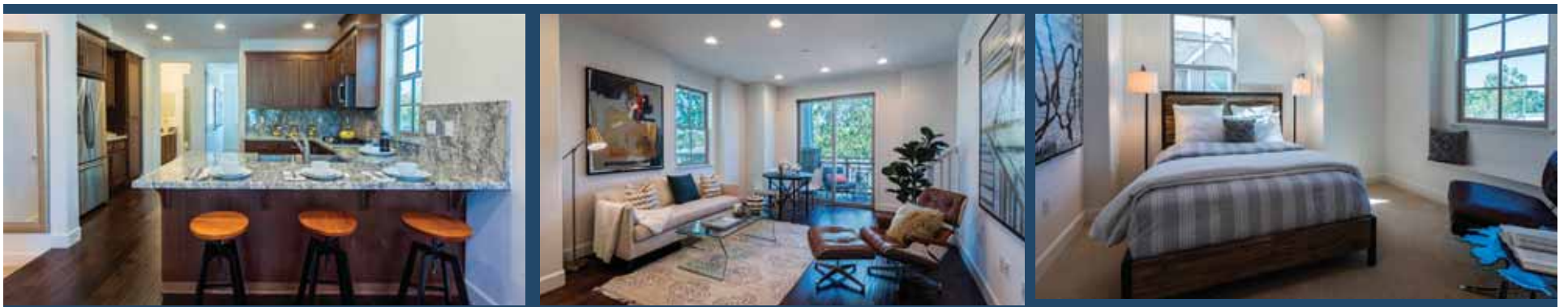


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Rendering by WRNS Studio

A rendering of the proposed Atherton civic center as seen from the current council chambers building looking toward Fair Oaks Lane. This rendering shows an interior courtyard and, from left, the rear of the administration, planning and building office wing; the police office wing; and the council chamber/emergency operations center.

Voters to decide

Can Atherton use more public funds to build new civic center?

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Even the opponents of Atherton's Measure A, an advisory measure asking voters to allow the town to spend more taxpayer money on a new civic center, admit the town needs to do something about its aged and deteriorating offices.

The town's building and planning departments are in leaking portables that don't meet current building codes. The police

department uses a garage as a gym and books suspects in a re-purposed shed. The council chambers were built in 1928 as the town hall, and the "new" administration and police offices were built in 1965.

"Clearly the town needs some new structures," said Kathy McKeithen, a former Atherton City Council member and one of the signers of the ballot argument against Measure A. "We don't dispute that," she said.

What is disputed, however, is

what to replace them with, and how to pay for it.

What's on the ballot?

Atherton's registered voters should start receiving ballots in the mail this week containing one question: "Should the Town of Atherton supplement private donations with available non-dedicated General Funds to meet the funding shortfall, where one exists, for construction of the new Town Center?"

Voters have until Tuesday,

June 6, to return the ballots. The ballot question is an advisory measure, so the vote will not have the force of law, but it will give the town a clear idea of what its residents want.

Why the vote?

The town says it has, or expects to have by the time construction would be completed, enough money to pay the remaining estimated costs for the new town center design the council approved in February. The town has also looked at how to borrow money short-term if needed.

Right now, though, even if the town has enough money to build the civic center, which opponents dispute, it can't spend it. A ballot measure approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2012 said the design and construction of a new town center should primarily be paid for with donations. Exceptions were included for the library, which has its own library-only tax funds, and for money set aside for new building and planning offices.

Atherton Now, formed in 2015 to raise the money for the civic center, had hoped for at least \$25 million in donations, but less than \$7 million has been given or pledged so far.

When it became apparent private funds wouldn't come close to covering the cost of the new complex, the City Council decided to ask voters to overturn the 2012 measure and allow the town to spend the money it already has (or expects to have). The council has unanimously endorsed Measure A and all council members signed the measure's ballot argument.

The opponents argue much of the money the town is counting on isn't certain, because it uses revenue projected out four years, through the 2020-2021 fiscal year. They also say they fear the cost of the civic center will balloon once plans go out for bids, which should happen in the fall.

But the town says it trusts its project manager, mack5, which has been providing cost estimates. The report on anticipated funds says the revenues "are projected conservatively."

The opponents also say the town will take money from needed capital improvement projects, such as roads, drainage, and Holbrook-Palmer Park and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

For the coming year, and in its ongoing five-year capital improvements budget, however, the town has allocated funding to all those projects. The budget



Rendering by WRNS Studio

A new library, left, roughly where the library is now, will have as an annex a renovated historic town hall (right), with a meeting space, town history archives and possibly a small cafe.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Atherton's existing administration and police offices are in this building, built in 1965. The police use a re-purposed shed to book prisoners and a garage for a gym.

for capital improvements does anticipate, however, that the town's parcel tax will be renewed in November and will continue to provide about \$1.5 million a year for capital improvements.

The plans

The approved design is for a "Santa Barbara Mission-style" two-story building with two wings sharing a central lobby.

Administration, building and planning, and a post office are in one wing, and the police department and a new council chamber that doubles as an emergency operations center are in the other.

A separate modern one-story library would have the renovated historic town hall building as an annex containing a public meeting space and room for a small cafe or catering facilities and the town's history archives.

Outdoor gathering spaces would connect the two buildings, including a large deck joining the library to the historic town hall and a central courtyard. There would be 40,646 square feet of buildings, including just under 11,700 square feet in the library and renovated historic town hall and just under 29,000 in the administration/police building.

Currently, the library has just over 5,000 square feet of floor space, and the town functions that would move into the other building are now using about 18,000 square feet in numerous disconnected buildings.

City Manager George Rodericks says the space in the new single building that will be used by the town's administration, police and planning and building functions is about equivalent to that in the existing buildings, with the additional space going

■ See Page 30 for pro and con arguments on Measure A.

to features such as stairwells, hallways, mechanical rooms, janitor closets, restrooms and elevators, plus a lobby and larger council chamber.

Opponents say the buildings are extravagant and a much less expensive facility could be built. The current project was designed to be built with donated funds, said resident Howard "Sandy" Crittenden, a former Park and Recreation Committee member who also signed the argument against the ballot measure. If donations can't be raised, the building should be redesigned much more frugally, he said.

"I believe it's too expensive. I believe there was minimal restraint in designing this," he said. He suggested "maybe a prefab building that doesn't look prefab," such as the one he recently built in another part of the state for only \$95 a square foot with all the amenities.

Opponents also say they believe more contributions can be raised with more outreach to Atherton residents, but proponents say many Atherton residents believe public money should pay for more of the new facilities.

In 2016, the town downsized an earlier plan by 3,200 square feet, which was projected to reduce the cost by at least \$2 million.

See **CIVIC CENTER**, page 24

Did 2012 measure bind town to follow voters wishes?

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Measure A, which asks Atherton's voters whether they are willing to spend more public money on a new town center, is clearly marked on the ballot as an "advisory measure."

That means voters will tell the City Council what they think, but their vote won't bind the council to do what is recommended.

What isn't so clear is whether the 2012 measure it seeks to overturn was also an advisory measure.

The town has, until now, treated the vote on 2012's Measure L as if it is binding. The measure, which received 73.5 percent "yes" votes, asked: "Should the Town of Atherton primarily use private donations to construct and design a new Town Center?" It said building fees or future grant money could be used, but not general fund or parcel tax money.

The town has followed those guidelines as it has designed the civic center, with library funds paying for all library design work, and donations and some building money being used for the design of other facilities.

But Atherton City Attorney Bill Conners recently opined that the 2012 measure was also an advisory measure, and an opinion from a Los Angeles attorney has backed him up.

Mr. Conners told the council in February that a 2016 California Supreme Court ruling says measures put on the ballot by a legislative body must either be in the form of an ordinance, or law, to be binding, or be nonbinding advisory measures, he said.

Since the 2012 measure wasn't an ordinance, it's not binding, he said.

Opponents of the current advisory measure say they think he's wrong, and that the court ruling he refers to did not apply to local elections.

In April, the town received a legal opinion from Los Angeles attorney Craig A. Steele, that backs up Mr. Conners' opinion, but for different reasons. "I believe ... the Measure is not legally binding because the voters do not have the authority to restrict the City Council's authority over fiscal matters," Mr. Steele wrote in an April 14 letter. He also said: "... the voters did not actually adopt a law for the City Council to follow, and the wording of the Measure was suggestive and not mandatory" because it used the word "should" instead of "must."

Mr. Steele suggested that the matter is not crystal clear, however, since the 2012 measure was not marked as an "advisory measure" as required for non-binding measures. He suggested the town "seek a clarifying vote of the people or, as an alternative, the opinion of the court in a validating action." ■



Drawing by WRNS Studio

The civic center site plan (with the train tracks at the top) shows how the town's 3.5-acre site would be used.

Plan to capture runoff water

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton's City Council voted unanimously on May 3 to move ahead with a \$13.6 million grant-funded project to capture runoff water on its way to the Bay to prevent flooding and remove pollutants, but warned the town could pull out if it appears the future maintenance and repair costs of the facility are too high.

The town had to move quickly to sign an agreement with the California Department of Transportation, which is managing the federal funding. The town will work with the Las Lomas School District, which would install the facility on the Las Lomas School site at 299 Alameda de las Pulgas in Atherton.

The grant does not require funding from the town, but does require it maintain and repair

ATHERTON

the facility once completed. The purpose of the grant funding is to combat water pollution, but the facility will also be designed to avert flooding.

Town engineer Marty Hanneman said the technology for the system is brand new, but several similar systems are about to be completed in Southern California. The "water capture facility" will be designed to send storm water and dry season runoff into underground chambers at the Las Lomas School after removing pollutants and trash that would otherwise flow into the Bay. The underground chambers are to hold up to 7-acre-feet of water — close to 2.3 million gallons — that can then be slowly released to percolate into the water table or head to the San Francisco Bay via the Atherton Channel.

City Councilman Rick DeGolia said recent news about pollutants killing fish living in the Bay shows the need for such facilities. He and other council members said they want to know more the technology involved, and what liability and costs the town will have once it's finished. However, he said, "I don't think we have to answer that today."

"It's an honor for Atherton to be able to participate in this," Mr. DeGolia said.

One of the issues the town will further investigate is whether the three other jurisdictions with runoff that ends up in the area — Menlo Park, Woodside, and Stanford University — will be willing to share in any ongoing costs.

The town hopes construction will begin in the spring of 2018 and be done by the summer of 2019. ▀

CIVIC CENTER

continued from page 23

The fine print

The full text of Measure A says the council has a plan for funding the construction that would not add any new "project-specific" taxes, use the town's reserves or change the current parcel tax (which expires in 2018).

An April 18, 2017, "Town Center Project Funding Plan" that is labeled "all inclusive" shows a total cost of the project at \$51.5 million, which includes the cost of design and construction, environmental studies, project management, furniture, fixtures, telephone and data systems, moving and staging, and contingencies. A total of \$3.4 million has been spent to date.

That "all-inclusive" cost does not include any of the components pulled out of the project for separate bids, such as any energy-saving "green" features beyond those required by the state.

The funding plan shows library funds available by the anticipated project completion date, in the 2020-21 fiscal year, are expected to exceed the estimated cost by more than \$1.6 million.

The plan shows costs of the

administration-police-council building about \$2 million less than the funds the town figures it will have by the end of construction.

The costs include contingencies of about 10 percent for construction and \$3.4 million for cost escalation by the time construction is expected to start in late 2017, but do not include contingencies for the "additional costs."

Mr. Rodericks said that he expects the town will need to borrow some money in the short term "for cash flow purposes," especially since it receives its primary revenue, property taxes, twice a year, in December and April.

He said the town might need to borrow between \$5 million and \$10 million, for no more than 10 years, and could pay it off earlier without a penalty. ▀

How to vote in election

Ballots will be mailed starting May 8 to Atherton's registered voters. If a ballot is not received by May 17, contact the county's Registration & Elections Division at (650) 312-5222 or through shapethefuture.org.

Register to vote by May 22 on the website, or by requesting registration materials by phone.

Voted ballots that are mailed back must be postmarked by June 6 and received by June 9.

Voted ballots may also be dropped off at the Atherton town offices, 91 Ashfield Road, during business hours, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m., or

at the county's Voting Center in the Registration & Elections Division at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo, on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On Election Day, June 6, the Voting Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Ballots may be dropped off at the town offices until 8 p.m. that day. No other polling places will be open on Election Day.

Voters may also vote in person at the Voting Center.

The "Track and Confirm" tool on shapethefuture.org can verify when ballot materials were mailed and when the Registration & Elections Division received voted ballots. ▀

Meetings on civic center construction

Two meetings about the impacts of construction of Atherton's new civic center will be held in Atherton in May.

The first meeting, for neighbors who live within 800 feet of the project, is on Thursday, May 11, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the town's council chambers, 94 Ashfield Road.

The second meeting, for all Atherton residents, is on Wednesday, May 17, at 5 p.m. in the council chambers.

The meeting notice says construction is expected to start in spring 2018 and last for two years. Residents can sign up to receive information about staging/phasing plans and provide feedback

before construction begins by contacting Deputy City Clerk Judi Herren at jherren@ci.atherton.ca.us or by calling (650) 752-0500.

Richard Smelser is the contact for questions about staging or phasing. His email is rsmelser@interwestgrp.com and phone, (408) 916-5092.

Ci.atherton.ca.us/civiccenter has more information on the project. ▀

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- Proceeds benefit Rotary charities

Free parking and shuttle at
Los Altos High School,
201 Almond Ave.

www.RotaryArtShow.com



Artists (top L-R): Gifted from Syracuse of Her Zeeb by Suzanne Elmore, CT-24 by Richard Sparks, Gifted from The Release of the Scissors by Paul Bode, The Use of Orange by Ellis Hanson. Bottom: A Boy, A Dog, and A Bear and Mendocino Square by Ann Klock. Poster design: Alexander Alkire Design, Inc.

Former teacher honored for helping establish Kenyan school for girls

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Margo McAuliffe, a Menlo Park resident and former trigonometry teacher at Menlo-Atherton High School, is being honored as one of six “local heroes” by the Midpen Media Center for her work establishing a school for girls in Kenya.

A screening of video interviews with Ms. McAuliffe and the other five honorees is part of a two-hour reception and award ceremony that begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the media center at 900 San Antonio Road in Palo Alto.

The other recipients are Nora Razon, an undocumented immigrant who endured abuse, alienation and secrecy on her way to a college degree and U.S. citizenship; Margaret Petros, an Iraqi refugee who offers aid to other refugees; Marlayna Tuia-sosopo, a Samoan woman now

working in the U.S. as an engineer and entrepreneur in teaching reading; Susan Lutter, who had a life-changing experience working with Koko, the sign-language-using gorilla residing in Woodside; and Chris Bischof, founder and principal of Eastside Preparatory Academy in East Palo Alto.

Midpen spokeswoman Louise Pencavel asks that those interested in attending RSVP via louise@midpenmedia.org or by calling (650) 494-8686, ext. 36.

Ms. McAuliffe’s interview will be shown on Cable Channel 30 at 9:30 p.m. on two Tuesdays: May 23 and 30. The full set of six interviews is set to air at 1 p.m. on two Sundays (May 28 and June 4) and at 8 p.m. on two Wednesdays

(May 31 and June 7).

‘I just kind of did it’

For Ms. McAuliffe, the trajectory that led her toward this honor began when she realized, after retiring from M-A, that she’d probably always wanted to teach girls in Africa.

Occasional contact with a Kenyan priest, Father Daniel Kiriti, when he visited the Palo Alto-based Thomas Merton Center for Catholic Spiritual Development, led to Ms. McAuliffe discussing with

him the idea of teaching math in Africa, she said.

At the time, Father Kiriti was in the process of separating a coed Kenyan high school into boys and girls schools and

‘I got on the airplane and they closed the door and I said, “My God, what have I done?”’

MARGO MCAULIFFE



Margo McAuliffe was a math teacher at M-A High for 20 years.

developing plans for a girls high school in Naivasha, a town of 350,000 located 65 miles north of the capital, Nairobi.

In September 2005, after making some preliminary arrangements, Ms. McAuliffe packed for Kenya’s equatorial climate and headed for the airport. “I just kind of did it,” she said. “I was 69 at the time. I got on the airplane and they closed the door and I said, ‘My God,

what have I done?”

She eventually realized, after encountering “very good” math teachers already on the job, that teaching math in Africa was not her destiny and that were she to take such a job, she would be taking it from a Kenyan teacher. She saw a greater need, she said: fundraising.

Go to is.gd/school72 to see a 2007 Almanac story on Ms. McAuliffe. ■

Jon Burke named coach of year

Sacred Heart Prep coach Jon Burke has been named the 2016-17 Northern California Girls Water Polo Coach of the Year by the California Coaches Association (CCA). He is nominated to be California state coach of the year.

Mr. Burke’s teams have been league champions in the Central Coast Section’s Division II for 10 years in a row.

Frank Rodriguez, SHP assistant principal-athletics, said the honor is “is incredibly well deserved.”

“I couldn’t be prouder that the CCA has acknowledged Jon and our SHP girls’ water polo program in this way,” he said.

Coaching at Sacred Heart Prep since 2006, Mr. Burke

has coached 15 NISCA/Speedo Girls’ Water Polo All-Americans, nine CCS Division II players of the year, five CCS players of the year and a CCS Scholar-Athlete of the Year. His 2016 team earned the CCS Girls’ Water Polo Scholastic Team Award.

He has had 20 student-athletes go on to play collegiate water polo, with four of their teams NCAA national champions. Five of his players were on the U.S. National Team at the senior, youth or cadet level, including Rio Olympic gold medalist KK Clark.

Burke, who was the 2015-16 CCS Girls’ Water Polo Honor Coach of the Year, will learn on June 17 if he has won the state award.

Koenig concludes Valley Pres spiritual series

Valley Presbyterian Church in Portola Valley is ending its year-long spiritual catalyst series with the Rev. Mark Koenig serving as guest pastor for two weeks in May.

The former director of the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations in New York is now the coordinator for Leader Development, Racial Justice and Network Support with the Presbyterian Mission Agency in

Louisville, Kentucky.

Earlier he and his wife, the Rev. Tricia Dykers, were co-pastors of Presbyterian churches in Iowa and Ohio for 20 years.

On three Sundays (May 14, 21 and 28) at 9:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room of the church, the Rev. Koenig will lead adult education classes focused on “Living the Gospel of Peace.”

His sermons on those same three Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in the

sanctuary are entitled: “What do you have?” “Love one another” and “This earth, this place, this time.”

In addition, he will lead two Thursday evening workshops in the Fireside Room from 7 to 8:30 p.m.: “Toward our racial biography” on May 18, and “Reflecting on privilege” on May 25.

The church is located at 945 Portola Road in Portola Valley.

— Kate Daly



NOTICE OF APPROVED ORDINANCE

TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

At the April 19, 2017, City Council meeting Council adopted the following ordinance:

Ordinance 624

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 17.52 OF THE ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE

The ordinance was approved 5-0.

For a complete copy of Ordinance 624 please contact Theresa DellaSanta at tdellasanta@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-752-0529.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION

May 17, 2017

6:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING

3. Town of Woodside
Town-wide

ZOAM2017-0004

Planner: Corinne Jones, Assistant Planner

Review and Approval/Denial of a Resolution of Intention and Recommendation to the Town Council to Amend Chapter 153 (Zoning) of the Woodside Municipal Code for the purpose of reorganizing the Chapter to increase user-friendliness.

4. Samuel Maslak
941 High Road

No File Number (Policy Decision)

Planner: Jackie Young, Planning Director

Planning Commission review of a property owner’s assertion that the Stream Corridor Designation at 941 High Road, as shown on General Plan Map CV1 (Watersheds and Streams), should be removed from this site. **This item was continued from the April 19, 2017, and May 3, 2017, meeting dates.**

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

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

ARTICLE 1 INVITATION TO BID

1.1 Notice Inviting Bids: Owner will receive sealed Bids at the **Town Hall**, located at 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, California 94062 until **2:00 P.M. on Thursday May 25th, 2017** for the following public work:

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE
ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS -
BIKE & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
WOODSIDE, CA 94062**

1.2 Project Description: The project includes modifications to the existing island at the intersection of Fernside Street and Alameda de las Pulgas, installing crosswalks, remove existing striping and installing buffered bike lane on Alameda de las Pulgas between Hwy 84 and Fernside Street and slurry seal. **The project is a 20 working day project. Work shall commence after June 11th, 2017 and be completed no later than August 4, 2017, so that the project can be completed during the Woodside High School summer recess.**

1.3 Procurement of Bidding Documents: Bidding Documents contain the full description of the Work. Bidders may examine a complete hard-copy set of the Bidding Documents at the Town's Public Works Department, located at **2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, California 94062. Bidding Documents are available on the Town's website at woodsidetown.org.**

Bidder is responsible for printing any and all of Bidding Documents.

1.4 Instructions: Bidders shall refer to Document 00 2115 (Instructions to Bidders) for required documents and items to be submitted in a sealed envelope for deposit into the Bid Box in the Town Clerk's Office, located at 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, California 94062 no later than the time and date set forth in Paragraph 1.01 above.

1.5 N/A

1.6 Bid Preparation Cost: Bidders are solely responsible for the cost of preparing their Bids.

1.7 Reservation of Rights: Owner specifically reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any or all Bids, to re-bid, or to waive inconsequential defects in bidding not involving time, price or quality of the work. Owner may reject any and all Bids and waive any minor irregularities in the Bids.

ARTICLE 2 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Required Contractor's License(s): A California "A" contractor's license is required to bid this contract. Joint ventures must secure a joint venture license prior to award of this Contract.

2.2 Required Contractor and Subcontractor Registration

A. Owner shall accept Bids only from Bidders that (along with all Subcontractors listed in Document 00 4330, Subcontractor List) are currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5.

B. Subject to Labor Code Sections 1771.1(c) and (d), any Bid not complying with paragraph ??above shall be returned and not considered; provided that if Bidder is a joint venture (Business & Professions Code Section 7029.1) or if federal funds are involved in the Contract (Labor Code Section 1771.1(a)), Owner may accept a non-complying Bid provided that Bidder and all listed Subcontractors are registered at the time of Contract award.

2.3 N/A

2.4 N/A

2.5 Substitution of Securities: Owner will permit the successful bidder to substitute securities for any retention monies withheld to ensure performance of the contract, in accordance with Public Contract Code Section 22300.

2.5 Prevailing Wage Laws: The successful Bidder must comply with all prevailing wage laws applicable to the Project, and related requirements contained in the Contract Documents. Copies of the general prevailing rates of per diem wages for each craft, classification, or type of worker needed to execute the Contract, as determined by Director of the State of California Department of Industrial Relations, are on file at the Town's Public Works Department, may be obtained from the California Department of Industrial Relations website [http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/DPreWageDetermination.htm] and are deemed included in the Bidding Documents. Upon request, Owner will make available copies to any interested party. Also, the successful Bidder shall post the applicable prevailing wage rates at the Site.

2.7 Prevailing Wage Monitoring: This Project is subject to prevailing wage compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

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

Community Events

East Palo Alto Tennis & Tutoring Fundraising Dinner EPATT's 25th Annual Dinner will feature emcee Dick Gould, the John L. Hinds director of tennis at Stanford University, sports broadcaster Ted Robinson, and guest speaker Stanford football coach David Shaw. Stories of EPATT students' resilience, determination and inspiration will be told. May 10, 6-9 p.m. \$300. Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane, Atherton. epatt.org/events

Sing Along: 'Mamma Mia!' The City of Menlo Park Community Services Department teams up with Guggenheim Entertainment to present an interactive fun-filled evening at the PAC. Sing-along events are presented with a pre-show introduction including explanation of the sing-along elements. Guests are encouraged to dress up as their favorite Mamma Mia! character and play along with the movie. May 12, 6-8 p.m. \$5. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. www.menlopark.org/mammamia

Comic Con at the Library, featuring live music, artists, vendors, film screenings, a family game zone, a free photo booth and much more, including visits from Star Wars characters. Admission is free. May 13, 3-7 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/comiccon

Theater

A Song to Sing, O! The Gilbert & Sullivan Story Conceived, written and directed by Artistic Director Emeritus Barbara Heroux, this Lamplighters Original will feature a salon orchestra conducted by Baker Peebles and a cast of familiar Lamplighter performers. May 14, 3 p.m. \$20-\$50. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. lamplighters.org/season/season.html

The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church This comedy finds the pastor's wife, a mother of nine, the local Yankee, a new-to-town Georgian and even a mysterious stranger meeting in the basement of their church to sort through the enormous pile of donated goods. May 14 and 28, 2 p.m.; May 25-27, 8 p.m. \$17.50-\$35. The Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway, Redwood City.

Music

Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra Program 4 This concerto will feature the first prize winner of the Master Sinfonia Concerto Competition, playing Brahms Symphony No. 2 in D major. May 13, 8-10 p.m. \$25. Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley.

Stanford Jazz Orchestra Fredrick Berry directs the Stanford Jazz Orchestra's program with special guests from the Department of Music's jazz faculty: John Worley, trumpet/flugelhorn; Charlie McCarthy, sax; Murray Low, piano; and David Rokeach, drums. May 10, 7:30 p.m. \$15-\$20. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Stanford Symphonic Chorus: Magnificat -- Choral Works from the Anglican Tradition Under the baton of Stephen M. Sano, the Stanford Symphonic Chorus presents a celebration of choral works from the Anglican tradition, featuring John Rutter's Magnificat. The program also showcases three works by the early 20th-century master Gerald Finzi: the motets Magnificat, God is gone up and Eclogue, featuring faculty Pianist Frederick Weldy. May 12 and 13, 8 p.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/

Talks & Lectures

Elizabeth Strout, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Olive Kitteridge," discusses her work and the lives of her all-too-real characters. May 11, 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$10-

\$40. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Fierce Reads Spring Tour Kepler's welcome three new young adult authors: Erin Beaty, Taran Matharu and Kristen Orlando. Erin Beaty is author of "The Traitor's Kiss," an action-packed debut that is Jane Austen with an espionage twist. Taran Matharu is author of "Summoner," a fast-paced fantasy with echoes of Tolkien, Pullman and Pokemon. Kristen Orlando is author of "You Don't Know My Name," the page-turner about spies and searching for oneself in the midst of heavy expectations. May 13, 2 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Tours of historic Barron-Latham-Hopkins Gatehouse, one of three buildings in Menlo Park listed in National Register of Historic Places. May 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$9. Latham-Hopkins Gatehouse, 555 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park.

Holy Cross Cemetery Tour Menlo Park's only cemetery began over 100 years ago. Many of the city's "who's who" are there and they come to life in the presentation by Michael Svanevik, leading authority on San Mateo County history. Tour limited to first 25 to sign up. May 13, 3-5 p.m. \$20. Holy Cross Cemetery, Santa Cruz Avenue at Avy Avenue, Menlo Park.

Love Your Body with Jessamyn Stanley, the woman who is changing the yoga world. Jessamyn Stanley and Virgie Tovar discuss loving one's body. May 10, 7:30-9 p.m. \$10, student; \$15, general admission; \$25, with book. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Misa Sugiura Kepler's Books celebrates the launch of Misa Sugiura's charming and bittersweet coming-of-age debut novel, "It's Not Like It's a Secret," which explores the culture of Silicon Valley as well as the diversity of families who live and work here. May 12, 7 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Paul Hawken: Comprehensive Plan to Reverse Global Warming Journalist, entrepreneur and author Paul Hawken discusses how we can help change the course of global warming. May 17, 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$10-\$40. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Rethinking the College Arms Race Panel of Silicon Valley professionals discusses what matters most (and what doesn't matter) in making decisions about who to hire. May 10, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton.

Family

Make It: Mother's Day Gifts This activity, for ages 7 and up, offers a chance for kids to create fizzy bath bombs and a lovely card for someone special -- a perfect gift for Mother's Day or for oneself. May 10, 3:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

Et Alia

Weekday Hike with the Friends This hike consists of a 5-mile loop to Alambique Flat and the Meadow with a stop for lunch. Docent Tom Davids leads the hike and talks about nature and history along the way. Those interested can meet at 10 a.m. at the stables and bring a sack lunch. The hike takes place rain or shine and participants are asked to RSVP at: hikeswithfriends.eventbrite.com. First and third Wednesday of the month. May 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Wunderlich County Park, 4040 Woodside Road, Woodside. huddartwunderlichfriends.org/events/

Knit Wits! Beginning Knitting Designed for first-time knitters. Needles and yarn are provided. Register by calling library at 650-851-0147 or by email at woodsidesmcl.org. May 13, 2-3 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

'Mormons: Christian? Cult? What do they really believe?' The program -- titled "Mormons: Christian? Cult? What do they really believe?" -- includes a filmed interview with someone who left the Mormon church and also someone who joined it. May 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Bethany, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park.

Camp Connection

For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at paloaltoonline.com/camp_connection

To advertise in this weekly directory, call: 650.326.8210

ARTS, CULTURE, OTHER CAMPS

Art and Soul Summer Camps **Palo Alto**
Art, cooking, tinkering, Yoga and mindfulness. We celebrate multiple perspectives and recognize the many ways for our children to interpret their world! Summer Unplugged! Ages 5-13 years. Walter Hays School
www.artandsoulpa.com **650.269.0423**

Athena Camps **Los Altos & San Jose**
Community building weekly day camps for girls K - 8th grade. A unique combination of sports, art projects and mentorship designed to build confidence. Sports: tennis, volleyball, yoga, fitness, and self-defense and more. Themes: Connect & Communicate, Love & Express Yourself, Unleash Your Happiness.
www.AthenaCamps.com **408.490.4972**

Community School of Mountain View Music and Arts (CSMA) **Mountain View**
50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, Summer Music Workshops, more! Two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.
www.arts4all.org **650.917.6800 ext. 0**

J-Camp at the OFJCC **Palo Alto**
With options for every age, schedule and interest, J-Camp has you covered. Traditional camps focus on variety and building friendships, while specialty camps include fantastic options like Robotics, Ceramics, Ocean Adventures, Food Truck Challenge, TV Studio Production and more. We're looking forward to our best summer ever and want your family to be part of the experience.
www.ofjcc-jcamp.com **650.223.8622**

Pacific Art League **Palo Alto**
Dive into creativity this summer! Sign up now to reserve a seat in our week-long half- and full-day camps for youth and teens ages 9-16. Topics include painting, printmaking, cartooning, anime, digital art, animation, photography, ceramics and more! Scholarships available!
www.pacificartleague.org/classes **650.321.3891**

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC) **Palo Alto**
PACCC summer camps offer campers, grades 1st to 6th, a wide variety of fun opportunities! We are excited to announce all of your returning favorites: Leaders in Training (L.I.T.), PACCC Special Interest Units (S.I.U.), F.A.M.E. (Fine Arts, Music and Entertainment), J.V. Sports and Operation: Chef! Periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACCC Summer Camps! Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto! Register online.
www.paccc.org **650.493.2361**

Summer at Athena Academy **Palo Alto**
Summer at Athena Academy offers specialized week-long camps for children to EXPLORE their passions, CREATE new memories, BUILD friendships and PLAY to their hearts' content. Camps include coding, sports & fitness, art, music and more.
www.AthenaAcademy.org/Summer **650.543.4560**

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley **Palo Alto Menlo Park**
Kids who love to act have fun, put on a show, and learn from pros at the acclaimed TheatreWorks Silicon Valley camps for budding theatre enthusiasts. Spring Break camps for K-6. Summer Camps for K-12, plus special teen programs.
www.theatreworks.org/learn/youth **650.463.7146**

ACADEMICS

Alexa Café **Stanford, Palo Alto High School**
Girls ages 10-15 discover technology in a unique environment that celebrates creativity, social activism, and entrepreneurship. Girls learn engineering principles, code games, design websites, explore cyber security, and much more.
www.iDTech.com/Connection **1.844.788.1858**

Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls **Palo Alto**
Casti Camp offers girls a range of age-appropriate activities including athletics, art, science, computers, writing, crafts, cooking, drama and music classes each day along with weekly field trips.
www.castilleja.org/summercamp **650.470.7833**

Harker Summer Programs **San Jose**
Harker summer programs for preschool - grade 12 children include opportunities for academics, arts, athletics and activities. Taught by exceptional, experienced faculty and staff, our programs offer something for everyone in a safe and supportive environment.
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)

Camp High Five Overnight Camp **La Honda, Pincrest**
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**



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- Individualized, self-paced, Montessori curriculum
- Emphasis on personal goal setting and time management
- Foreign languages, art, and music, included for all students
- Cultivation of thinking skills and personal values
- Year-round, full-day, program for grades 1-8

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www.EmersonPaloAlto.com



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SUMMER WRITING CAMPS

July 10 - July 28, 2017 **WRITE NOW!**

- Expository Writing
- Creative Writing
- Presentation Techniques



for Grades 2-8

For applications and information:
writenow@headsup.org www.headsup.org



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Child Development Centers



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- International curriculum (Chinese, Spanish)
- Cultivation of thinking skills & personal values
- Bilingual Chinese-English classroom option

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(650) 666-2426 (408) 658-8825 (925) 230-9876

www.headsup.org

Spring Down

EQUESTRIAN CENTER

★ 32 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG ★

A place where horses and humans can come together to learn and benefit from each other.

2017 Horsemanship Camp

Spring Camp:

Session 1: April 3rd-7th

Session 2: April 10th-14th

Intermediate Camp: Session 1: July 24th-27th

Session 2: August 7th-10th

Summer Camp: Session 1: June 12th-16th

Session 2: June 19th-30th

Session 3: July 10th-21st

Session 4: July 24th-August 4th

Session 5: August 7th-18th



725 Portola Rd., Portola Valley • (650) 851-1114 • www.springdown.com

SUMMER

ClassGuide

With summer right around the corner, the possibilities seem endless, just like the length of those long, long days. With seemingly more time, and quite possibly more energy, the time is ripe for trying your hand at something new and exciting or finessing a talent you never knew you had. Who knows? You might learn something new about yourself along the way — maybe you'll discover your inner dancer or learn that, actually, you can do a headstand in that yoga class. The skies (dances, yoga poses and other metaphorical horizons) are the limit, which of course means that there is no ceiling to your own personal growth. Indeed, this could be the start of something new for you!

The Class Guide is published quarterly by the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and the Mountain View Voice.

BUSINESS, WORK & TECHNOLOGY

REBOOT ACCELERATOR

585 Broadway, Redwood City, 650-387-3743, reboot@gsvlabs.com, rebootaccel.com
ReBoot Accelerator for Women keeps local women current, connected and confident about re-entering the workforce through workshops taught by instructors from LinkedIn, Google, Apple and Enjoy and social media experts. ReBoot offers 8-week and 5-day accelerator courses as well as a 2-day bootcamp and workshops to refine specific skills.

DANCE

DANCE EXPRESSIONS

701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, 650-450-3209, danceexpressions5678@yahoo.com, danceexpressions5678.com

Dance Expressions provides dance instruction for students beginning at age 3 and up through young adults, focusing on jazz technique at various experience and skill levels. During the summer, both weeklong camps and ongoing classes are offered.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

JAZZERCISE

Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park, 650-703-1263, meredithozbil@hotmail.com, jcls.jazzercise.com
Jazzercise blends dance, cardio, yoga, Pilates, resistance training and kickboxing movements into exercise routines set to new music. Classes offer varied moves and an accepting environment.

MENLO PILATES & MORE

959 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 408-480-8977, info@menlopilatesandyoga.com, menlopilatesandyoga.com
Menlo Pilates & More has a selection of yoga, Pilates, kettlebell and other fitness classes for various levels.

MENLO SWIM & SPORT

Burgess Pool, 501 Laurel St., Menlo Park, 650-328-7946, Belle Haven Pool, 100 Terminal Ave., Menlo Park, 650-330-2237, menloswim.com

Menlo Swim & Sport runs youth, adult and community programs at Burgess and Belle Haven pools, including swim lessons, youth swim teams, masters swimming, water polo and water exercise. It also offers cycling, running, fitness and tennis programs.

SPRING DOWN EQUESTRIAN CENTER

725 Portola Road, Portola Valley, 650-851-1114, sdecenter@aol.com, springdown.com
Spring Down Equestrian Center educates children (beginning at age 3) and adults on horses and horseback riding. Instruction in basic riding, jumping, dressage, western riding and horsemanship is offered. There are also clinics and camps in the spring, summer and winter.

ART & SOUL

DEBORAH'S PALM

555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto,

650-473-0664, info@deborahspalm.com, deborahspalm.com

Deborah's Palm is a nonprofit community organization that aims to provide a warm and supportive environment for all women. Its class offerings range from workshops on compassion and stress management to classes on cooking, dance, memoir writing and art.

HOMEMADE

2170 Avy Ave., Menlo Park (mailing address), 650-399-0505, 888-292-4624, member@homemade-cooking.com, homemade-cooking.com

Homemade's programs provide instruction in healthy cooking, wellness coaching and support from a caring community. Teaching kitchens are located at the Oshman Family JCC, the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center in Menlo Park and the Stanford University campus.

MUSIC TOGETHER MENLO PARK

75 Arbor Road, Suite N, Menlo Park, 650-799-1624, admin@mt-mp.com, mtmp.com
Music Together holds classes exploring music and movement for children from birth up to age 5 and their guardians at the Allied Arts Guild. The summer semester runs from July through September.

PACIFIC ART LEAGUE

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto, 650-321-3891, info@pacificartleague.org, pacificartleague.org

The classes and workshops at the Pacific Art League are taught by qualified, experienced instructors for children and adults with varying experience. Instructors teach many mediums, including drawing, painting, watercolor, printmaking, digital art and more.

PARENTING

CHILDREN'S HEALTH COUNCIL

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto, 650-326-5530, info@chconline.org, chconline.org
Children's Health Council holds a variety of classes touching on child-behavior issues, dyslexia, anxiety and depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism and other topics related to encouraging all children's success. Available from September to May, all classes are taught by the organization's experts.

EDUCATION

EMERSON SCHOOL

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, 650-424-1267, emersonschool@headsup.org, headsup.org/emerson-school/

Emerson School provides a full-day, year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Lessons draw from classical subjects and other areas, including art, music, foreign language, physical education, communication, life skills and more.

GERMAN-AMERICAN SCHOOL

GAIS Campus, 475 Pope St., Menlo Park, 650-520-3646, contact@gaspa-ca.org, gaspa-ca.org

Started in 1960, the German-American School of Palo Alto (GASPA), a Saturday school, teaches immersive German language classes, which also cover culture and traditions. Sessions are available for all skill levels and students ages 3 to 18. No prior knowledge of German is required.

HEADSUP! CHILD DEVELOPMENT

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, 650-424-1221, pacdc@headsup.org, headsup.org/headsup

HeadsUp! Child Development Center serves infants, toddlers and preschoolers (to age 6) with a full-day program, year-round. The Montessori curriculum focuses on building thinking skills and personal values. A bilingual Chinese-English preschool classroom is also available.

LYDIAN ACADEMY LLC

815 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, 650-321-0550, lydianacademy.com

Lydian Academy is a middle and high school offering individualized instruction prepares students for college. Lessons include a mix of one-on-one teaching and group sessions. It also tutoring, after-school and summer school programs.

PENINSULA SCHOOL

920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park, 650-325-1584, peninsulaschool.org

Peninsula School is a progressive institution teaching about 250 students from nursery through eighth grade, with an emphasis on choice and experience. Classes cover core subjects as well as instruction in music, physical education, drama, ceramics, woodshop and more.

FOR ADULTS

STANFORD CONTINUING STUDIES

Littlefield Center, 365 Lasuen St., Stanford, 650-725-2650, continuingstudies@stanford.edu, continuingstudies.stanford.edu
Stanford Continuing Studies organizes classes in liberal arts and sciences, creative writing and professional and personal development. Courses are held in the evenings or on Saturdays. Stanford Continuing Studies also presents lectures, performances, conferences and other events.

Class Guides are published quarterly in the Palo Alto Weekly, Mountain View Voice and the Almanac. Descriptions of classes offered in Palo Alto, Stanford, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Atherton, East Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Portola Valley and Woodside are provided. Listings are free and subject to editing. Due to space constraints, classes held in the above cities are given priority.

To inquire about submitting a listing for the next Class Guide, email Editorial Assistant Anna Medina at amedina@pawebly.com or call 650-223-6515. To place a paid advertisement in the Class Guide, call the display advertising department at 650-326-8210.

Roundup of approved building permits

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Here is a roundup of residential, commercial and public development projects that have been granted building permits by the city of Menlo Park in 2017.

The list includes the project's description, valuation and approval date. At locations where multiple permit applications were submitted, the valuations have been combined and the most recent permit approval date listed.

Go to data.menlopark.org and click on the "Building and Planning" option to see the city's online building permit data.

Many of the larger residential projects are knock-down-rebuild projects on existing residential lots. On the commercial side, there are a number of interior tenant improvements going on, many in the city's M-2 area east of U.S. 101.

Residential

951 College Ave. Build 1,989-square-foot, one-story, single-family home and new detached garage with storage and workshop. \$504,000. 4.10.17

777 Sharon Park Drive Build 6,317-square-foot single family residence and attached 3-car garage. \$2.3 million. 3.28.17.

MENLO PARK

828 Hamilton Ave. Add 1,600-square feet and remodel 450 square feet to a two-story, single-family house. \$160,000. 3.22.17.

590 Fremont St. Build 2,081-square foot, 2-story, single-family house, 461 square-foot attached garage. Demolish existing house and garage/cottage. \$760,000. 3.16.17.

920 Olive St. Build 1,760-square-foot, 1-story house with attached 440-square-foot garage. Demolish existing house, pool and detached garage. \$1.13 million. 2.22.17.

308 Santa Rita Ave. Demolish existing home. \$8,500. 2.22.17. Application to build new 5,575 square-foot, 2-story home with basement pending. \$1.5 million estimated.

24 Campbell Lane. Add 636 square feet for secondary dwelling unit. Expand and remodel garage. \$200,000. 1.30.17.

936 Hobart St. Build 2-story, single-family home and basement with attached 2-car garage. Demolish old house and garage. \$1.4 million. 1.25.17.

740 Hamilton Ave. Remodel exterior and interior. \$55,000. 1.18.17.

1177 Middle Ave. Build new 3,094-square-foot, 2-story, single-family home with 612-square-foot garage. Demolish existing home. \$800,000. 1.17.17.

Commercial

1380 Willow Road Renovate a two-story, 33,792-square-foot office building. Demolish existing interior. \$5.5 million. 3.9.17.

80 Willow Rd. Demolish existing interior. \$173,500. 3.8.17.

1 Hacker Way Interior demolitions and tenant improvements. \$8.6 million. 3.22.17.

937 Hamilton Ave. Demolish interior and add 9,831 square feet of tenant improvements. \$2.5 million. 3.22.17.

990 Hamilton Ave. Demolish existing commercial building. 22,073 square feet of tenant improvements. \$8 million. 3.1.17.

1 Facebook Way Underground utilities at 307, 308 and 309 Constitution Drive, add perimeter security fence, new guard shack at the entry and one at EVA lane and a temporary construction wall. \$312 million. 2.14.17.

889 Santa Cruz Ave. Demolish existing interior and add 2,551 square feet of tenant improvements including new bathroom, storage rooms, rooftop equipment, power and lighting. \$158,000. 2.2.17.

2750 Sand Hill Road Demolish interior and add 12,284 square feet of tenant improvements. \$4 million. 1.30.17.

162 Jefferson Drive Demolish existing slab, add 129,587 square feet of tenant improvements on four stories. Upgrade landscaping. \$15.3 million. 1.30.17.

1050 Hamilton Ave. Demolish interior and add 46,678 square feet of tenant improvements and new bus stop pads, ramp and crosswalks. \$3.4 million. 1.23.17.

1360 Willow Road Two-story tenant improvements for commercial building. \$4.5 million. 1.12.17.

2200 Sand Hill Road First and second floor tenant improvements. Application for exterior modifications to come. \$1.8 million. 1.9.17.

Public

Seminary Oaks Park Add new shade structures. \$17,600. 2.28.17.

express

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POLICE CALLS

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

ATHERTON

Thefts:

- A thief stole a laptop computer and charger from a home on Orchard Hills Street. Estimated loss: \$1,529. May 3.
- Someone stole a locked bicycle and helmet from the campus of Menlo-Atherton High School. The bike was later returned to the bike rack from which it had been stolen. May 1.

MENLO PARK

Auto burglaries:

- Someone smashed the rear driver's side window of a vehicle parked on Cloud Avenue and stole a backpack. Inside the backpack were a laptop computer, a wallet and three notebooks. Estimated loss: \$1,800. April 29.
- A thief broke the front passenger's side window of a vehicle parked on Ravenswood Avenue and stole a gym bag. Inside were gym clothes, sunglasses, a wallet and \$200 in cash. Estimated loss: \$551. April 28.

Thefts:

- Someone approached an unlocked vehicle parked on Heritage Place and stole a bike locked to the vehicle's bicycle rack as well as a music player, cellphone, Walkman, cycling clothes and shoes, messenger bag, canteen, and backpack containing bike tools, sunglasses and a bike pump. Estimated loss: \$8,054. May 1.
- Police are investigating a case in which three men allegedly entered the UPS store on Adams Court and picked up six packages with the same ship-to destination as packages of interest to a woman who

arrived at the store at the same time. After being confronted by a UPS employee, the men fled in a vehicle with the packages, though one package fell out of the vehicle. The woman said she'd been hired to pick up the packages, but "provided several fictitious documents such as IDs and authorization letters from different companies," police said. She was released on her own recognizance.

- Someone stole a bicycle from a storage shed on Callie Lane. Estimated loss: \$800. April 23.
 - A thief stole a locked bicycle from behind a home on Linfield Drive. Estimated loss: \$550. May 2.
 - Someone stole two packages of clothing from the front porch of a home on Harvard Avenue. Estimated loss: \$400. May 2.
 - A thief stole an unlocked bicycle from a bike rack on Elder Avenue. Estimated loss: \$360. May 2.
 - Packages were stolen from the front of a home on the first block of Willow Road. Inside the packages were earphones, gum, and nutrition tablets. Boxes were found empty and discarded. Estimated loss: \$35.22. May 2.
 - Police detained and cited a Colma woman walking north on El Camino Real on suspicion of having taken two sleeping bags from Big 5 Sporting Goods at 700 El Camino Real without paying for them. The sleeping bags were returned, police said. April 29.
 - A customer at a Chevron station on Willow Road left her cellphone on the counter and another woman grabbed it and fled in a vehicle. Estimated loss: \$100. May 3.
 - Residents of Santa Margarita and Gilbert avenues told police that they suspected theft of their mail based on having found their mailboxes open. Police have no information as to what mail was stolen. May 4.
- Suspicious activity:** Observers at the Boys & Girls Club on Pierce Road reported seeing three women attempting to remove vehicle registration stickers from vehicles. The women were gone by the time officers arrived. No losses. May 4.

1394 San Mateo Drive

MENLO PARK



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Pro and con on Atherton civic center Measure A

Measure A will allow Atherton to move ahead with civic center

By Rick DeGolia and Alex Keh

Atherton desperately needs a new Town Center and has needed one for more than 20 years.

Atherton's facilities are deplorable and have reached the end of their useful lives. They include a condemned structure and non-compliant police and emergency facilities. A new

Town Center is necessary to deliver essential services to our residents and enable Atherton to hire and retain top-quality staff.

Go to is.gd/Acenter for a resident-created video to see how bad our facilities are.

Atherton's focus has been to fund these new facilities primarily with private donations. A resident organization, Atherton Now, has raised approximately \$7 million from generous Atherton residents.

Throughout these fundraising efforts, many residents expressed their belief that public funds should pay for public buildings. Therefore, it is appropriate to use public funds to partner with our private donors.

Atherton's staff estimates that an additional \$18 million is needed to build the police and administration facility and complete the significant site work. Measure A will allow Atherton to prudently use non-dedicated, unrestricted and available public funds to supplement the private donations to this project.

For the first time in decades, Atherton has an extremely strong financial position. This should continue as our revenue is mostly based on the property taxes that Atherton residents pay.

The new Town Center has been designed responsibly and thoughtfully with input from hundreds of residents. Many alternatives were carefully evaluated throughout the process.

The new police and administration facility is highly efficient, better organized, code-compliant, and has approximately the same operational square footage as there is in current facilities.

Just think about our employees. They work in crowded, crumbling facilities and trailers that are in horrible condition. We need this project to insure that we can continue to hire and retain high quality staff.

The new Town Center is a one-time capital expense that will reduce our longterm costs. Retrofitting, renovating and maintaining these 30- to 90-year-old dilapidated structures to meet current codes would be far more costly than building the proposed facility.

Atherton's Town Council unanimously

approved a prudent funding plan for the Town Center that requires no new taxes, maintains all current reserves, retains all approved pension liability reductions and capital improvement projects in the pipeline, including important drainage, bike lane and park improvements.

None of these important projects are sacrificed by allocating funds to the Town Center. Any unexpected costs related to the project or otherwise will be openly vetted with the entire community.

Some may question why a new library is included in the Town Center project. The Atherton Library has historically been a part of Atherton's civic center. The library is a stand-alone project, fully funded with separate library funds.

Building the police and administration facility at the same time as the library maximizes construction efficiencies and reduces the town's portion of the shared site costs and impacts.

The Town Council has unanimously agreed that this Town Center project is the most important capital improvement project for our community.

This is why the City Council unanimously agreed to sign the argument in favor of Measure A on the June 6 ballot.

Yes on Measure A has been endorsed by hundreds of Atherton residents, including nine former mayors.

William Grindley, a former planning commissioner and an author of the 2012 Measure L (which required the Town Center to be built primarily with private funds), says: "A decade ago, I finished Atherton's space needs study to replace its inadequate facilities. The situation has worsened and costs have risen: both will continue. Council's proposal is a rational response that will result in a Town Center that Athertonians will be proud of."

This is the most important project Atherton has ever undertaken. It is long overdue. The design phase is now complete and has been paid for with private donations. Now we need to build it.

Please watch your mail for your Measure A ballot and return it by mail or drop it off in the Atherton post office ballot box no later than June 6.

The Yes on Measure A campaign is hosting a public meeting on May 17, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Event Garden at Holbrook Palmer Park. Come learn more about the new Town Center project.

Please vote yes on Measure A and together let's build this new Town Center with no new taxes.

Civic center plan is too costly for the town; vote no on A

By Smith McKeithen and John Rugeiro

The new Atherton Town Center was formulated and designed on the basis that it would be financed primarily by private donations. Seventy-four percent of Atherton's voters endorsed that concept in Measure L. With this assumption in mind, the proponents of the new Town Center, including the current City Council, green-lighted an extravagant complex, now projected to cost over \$50 million.

Unfortunately, Atherton Now raised

less than \$7 million of its \$25 million target. If you or I fell that far short in funding a house purchase or renovation, we'd scrap, delay or radically re-scope the project. But our town's administration and council are pushing full steam ahead to finish the project with no thought of cutting costs.

Recent documents show that this is being accom-

plished by shifting funds away from needed — and already identified (in professional studies commissioned by the town) — capital and operating projects, and making assumptions about refunds from the state that are not guaranteed.

At the same time the council is considering incurring millions in debt by using "certificates of participation," which are bonds by any other name, but are designed to avoid the necessity of getting two-thirds voter approval from us, the taxpayers.

Even though we are far away from a final estimate of the project's costs, and well before putting the project out to bid — which will no doubt come in above projections in today's super-heated construction environment — Measure A would give the town an open checkbook to pay for this project.

The town's latest funding plan reveals that it will finance the project from these sources:

- Current unallocated funds totaling \$12.5 million, including general funds in fiscal year 2018 of \$8.1 million and capital improvement funds of \$4.4 million.

- Expected future funds totaling \$14.17 million, including library "surplus" funds in fiscal years 2018-2022 of \$6.32 million; anticipated (but "not guaranteed" as noted by the city manager

at a recent budget session) ERAF refunds in fiscal years 2018-2021 of \$4.1 million; and redirected tax dollars from the general fund in fiscal years 2019-2021 of \$3.75 million.

The grand total is \$26.67 million.

It is important to note that since more than \$14 million of the above is not available now, the facts speak for themselves — the town will have to borrow the money (probably without seeking taxpayer approval) to finance the project on the current calendar, using the expectation of future funds to secure some sort of debt instrument.

Remember that all of these funds — call them "unallocated," "anticipated," "refunds" or "surplus" — originate with our property and parcel tax dollars. Also remember that spending these funds for the Town Center will come at the expense of already-identified but, likely purposefully, "not in the pipeline" drainage, street safety and other projects.

The Town Center project will hobble the town's ability to pay for basic services and upkeep for years to come, and/or force us to go into debt.

In 2008 Portola Valley opened its own new town center — including not only a new town hall but also a library, community hall, maintenance building, corporate yard and a variety of playing fields. Private donations financed approximately 85 percent of the \$20 million project, which the architects reported was completed roughly 7 percent under budget. Portola Valley did not raise taxes or take on any debt.

If Atherton's new Town Center project is to proceed, it is obvious that two things need to happen: the \$50 million design should be scaled back to a reasonable size and a reasonable cost; and a new, more community-inclusive fundraising campaign should be initiated that goes beyond the single mailer sent to Atherton residents last fall.

The town needs to readdress the design, which includes overly large spaces; excessive and costly "net zero" energy features that will not only increase construction costs, but also lifetime operational costs; and unnecessarily redesigned streets.

Before we mortgage our future and sacrifice implementing key infrastructure projects, we should step back and ask, "Is this the right approach?" Send a message that you think it is not. Vote no on A.

GUEST OPINION

John Rugeiro is a former vice chair of the Atherton Transportation Committee. Smith McKeithen is an Atherton resident and a retired Silicon Valley executive.

GUEST OPINION

Rick DeGolia is a member of the Atherton City Council. Alex Keh is a member of the Atherton Rail Committee who lives near the Town Center site.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

In a special, mail-only advisory election June 6, Atherton voters are asked whether the town of Atherton should supplement private donations with the town's available non-dedicated general funds to build a new civic center.

In 2012, Atherton voters approved Measure L, which said the town should pay for the new civic center with mostly private funds. For more information on Measure A, see Page 22. On this page are opposing views on the measure.



DELEON REALTY SEMINAR

Thursday, May 25, 2017
6:00 am - 8:00 pm

Buying a Home in Silicon Valley—An Insider's Perspective

Please join David Hall, DeLeon's buyer specialist and attorney, for an update on the 2017 Menlo Park real estate market, and learn effective "insider" strategies and methods for buying a home in Silicon Valley.

Speaker: Senior Buyer Specialist David Hall

To RSVP, please contact 650.543.8500 or
by email: rsvp@deleonrealty.com

VENUE:
Little House Activity Center
800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

*Light refreshments will be provided. Space is limited so please RSVP soon.
Convenient parking is available at Nealon Park or on Middle Avenue.*

Seminar is for prospective clients only, no outside real estate professionals permitted.



OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30–4:30 PM

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Offered at \$1,598,000 | 3 Beds | 2 Baths | Home ±1,565 sf | Lot ±5,225 sf

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Details, pictures, and videos at KINAAN.COM



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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 + 2 half BA
Erika Demma
 CalBRE #01230766 650.851.2666



Woodside **\$8,788,000**

17900 Skyline Blvd Large home on over 23 ac of privacy. Bright & open flrpln, lg formal LR, DR & gourmet kit. 6 BR/7 BA + 1 half BA
David Kelsey
 CalBRE #01242399 650.851.2666



Central Portola Valley **\$7,400,000**

157 Ramoso Rd Remarkable estate on 2.6+ acres with Windy Hill and western views - 157Ramoso.com 4 BR/5 BA + 1 half BA
Ginny Kavanaugh
 CalBRE #00884747 650.851.1961



Atherton **\$5,495,000**

30 Adam Way Expansive 5 bdrm, 3 bth on 1+ acre in prime West Atherton. Call for details. 5 BR/3 BA
Pat McDonnell/Kelly Griggs
 CalBRE #01926896/01812313 650.324.4456



Redwood City **\$3,995,000**

9 Colton Ct Private gated villa on 1/2 ac resort lot w/pool. Huge custom open flrpln. Sep in-law ste. 5 BR/4 BA + 1 half BA
Sam Anagnostou
 CalBRE #00798217 650.851.2666



Menlo Park **\$3,200,000**

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Celine Sanie
 CalBRE #01519887 650.324.4456



Woodside **\$2,998,000**

650 Woodside Dr SPACIOUS home w/ VIEWS & separate cottage! Great Woodside Hills location! 1.29 acres! 4 BR/3 BA
DiPali Shah
 CalBRE #01249165 650.851.2666



Menlo Park **\$2,958,000**

2165 Prospect St Updated 4/2 on a 13,000sf lot nestled at the end of quiet cul-de-sac. Las Lomitas Schools 4 BR/2 BA
Camille Eder
 CalBRE #01394600 650.324.4456



Atherton **\$1,998,000**

198 Selby Excellent Opportunity in West Atherton. Over 2800 square feet of living space. 3 BR/2 BA + 1 half BA
Tim Kerns
 CalBRE #01800770 650.324.4456



Menlo Park **\$1,900,000**

2332 Eastridge Ave Light & bright beautifully remodeled & expanded perfectly located Sharon Heights home. 3 BR/3 BA
Kristin Gray
 CalBRE #01930068 650.324.4456



Los Gatos **\$1,899,000**

138 Gemini Ct Single story home filled with natural light in highly desirable Los Gatos neighborhood. 3 BR/2 BA + 1 half BA
Djuna Woods
 CalBRE #01442831 650.324.4456



Alpine / Uplands (Los Trancos) **\$1,800,000**

266 Old Spanish Trl Classic mid-century home on private 1.48 acs/per county. Dramatic views. 266OldSpanish.com 3 BR/2 BA
Ginny Kavanaugh
 CalBRE #00884747 650.851.1961



Menlo Park **\$799,000**

25 Willow Rd 49 Single level, ground floor, remodeled condominium. Impeccable finishes throughout. 1 BR/1 BA
Billy McNair
 CalBRE #01343603 650.324.4456



Menlo Park **\$730,000**

2140 Santa Cruz Ave C304 Private & bright end unit. Rarely available penthouse-2 sunny balconies-tree views. 1 BR/1 BA
Beth Leathers
 CalBRE #01131116 650.324.4456

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mature trees, beautiful gardens, and a host of birdlife, this compound in the award-winning Portola Valley School District boasts an updated 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath main home, two 1-bedroom guest houses, pool, spa, and cabaña. Make coming home the best part of your day!

www.280FamilyFarmRoad.com

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HELEN & BRAD MILLER

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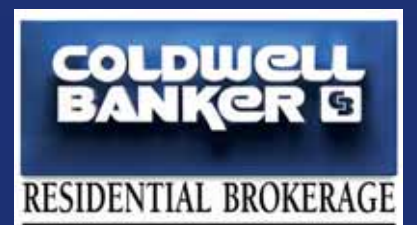
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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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130 Classes & Instruction



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140 Lost & Found

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145 Non-Profits Needs

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150 Volunteers

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

MV: Community Yard Sale, 5/20
 at Rengstorff Park, 201 S. Rengstorff. Join over 150 vendors in the park for hot food and bargains!

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.

245 Miscellaneous

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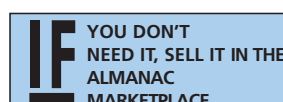
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Mail resume to HP Inc., c/o Andrew Bergoigne, 11445 Compaq Center Drive W, Houston, TX 77070. Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

Multiple Positions
 EVA Operations Corp. has following job opps. in Redwood City, CA:

Sr. Wireless QA Engineer [Req. #NGR57]. Define and drive QA processes for audio/visual device systems.

Sr. Wireless Engineer [Req. #ENG18]. Dsgn and implmnt a multi-radio WLAN stack for streaming video and audio content around the home.

Mail resumes refernc'g Req. # to: Attn: T. Gilfoil, 900 Middlefield Rd, 4th Flr, Redwood City, CA 94063.

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LANDA'S GARDENING & LANDSCAPING
 *Yard Maint. *New Lawns. *Clean Ups
 *Irrigation timer programming. 20 yrs exp. Ramon, 650/576-6242 landaramon@yahoo.com

751 General Contracting

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Public Notices

**995 Fictitious Name
Statement**

S. SILVERMAN STUDIO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273084
The following person (persons) 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)

S AND G PROPERTIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273223
The following person(s) is (are) doing
business as:
S and G Properties, located at 822
Bayview Way, Redwood City, CA 94062,
San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the follow-
ing owner(s):
GEORGE J. FONTI
822 Bayview Way
Redwood City, CA 94062-3913
SOPHIA H. FONTI
822 Bayview Way
Redwood City, CA 94062-3913
This business is conducted by: Married
Couple.
The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 2001.
This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on April 19, 2017.
(ALM Apr. 26; May 3, 10, 17, 2017)

UPS STORE 5639
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273248
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
UPS Store 5639, located at 3130 Alpine
Rd., Ste. 288, Portola Valley, CA 94028;
Mailing address: 2851 Cutler Ave.,
Fremont, CA 94536, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):

TIKJ INC.
2851 Cutler Ave.
Fremont, CA 94536
This business is conducted by: A
Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 09/05/2005.
This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on April 21, 2017.
(ALM Apr. 26; May 3, 10, 17, 2017)


LAS TIJERAS MAGICAS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273340
The following person(s) is (are) doing
business as:
Las Tijeras Magicas, located at 826
Newbridge Street, Menlo Park, CA
94025, San Mateo County.
Is (Are) hereby registered by the follow-
ing owner(s):
ANGELICA PORTILLO VAZQUEZ
2365 Menalto Ave.
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An
Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 05/01/2017.
This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on April 27, 2017.
(ALM May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2017)

KISS AND BE KISSED
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273254
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Kiss and Be Kissed, located at 1259
El Camino Real #126, Menlo Park, CA
94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
KISS AND BE KISSED LLC
1259 El Camino Real #126
Menlo Park CA 94025
This business is conducted by: A Limited
Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 3/1/17.
This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo
County on April 21, 2017.
(ALM May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2017)

TESLA ON CALL LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273375
The following person (persons) is (are)

doing business as:
Tesla On Call LLC, located at 2010 El
Camino Real #1006, Santa Clara CA
95050, Santa Clara County.
Registered owner(s):
SABET TRANSPORTATION LLC
2010 El Camino Real #1006
Santa Clara, CA 95050
California
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 May 1, 2017.
(ALM May 10, 17, 24, 31, 2017)

TENDER CARE SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 273389
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Tender Care Services, located at 102
37th Avenue, San Mateo CA 94403, San
Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MELESIMANI PALELEI
102 37th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
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 May 2, 2017.
(ALM May 10, 17, 24, 31, 2017)

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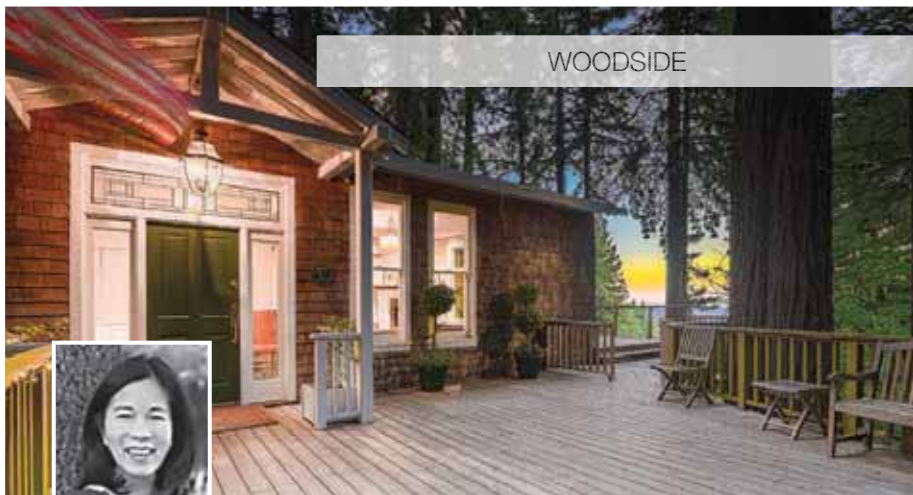


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