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Dated: June 15, 2017 Sharon Hanlon Portola Valley Town Clerk

Local News

Many prefer three grade separations

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

f about 55 people polled at a recent Menlo Park community meeting, most appeared to prefer a project to separate Caltrain tracks from city roads in three locations, instead of only one.

The June 7 meeting was part of the city's evaluation of gradeseparation options to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion around railroad crossings in Menlo Park.

Building tunnels or bridges at three crossings could take almost five years and cost up to \$390

million, according to AECOM, the transportation consulting firm hired to analyze the options.

Those attending the meeting were given information about two options

to separate Menlo Park roads from Caltrain tracks. One option would tunnel Ravenswood Avenue under Caltrain, a project estimated to take 44 months and cost \$150 million to \$200 million. The other option would separate Ravenswood, Oak Grove and Glenwood avenues from Caltrain by raising the tracks and lowering the roads, a project estimated to take 58 months and cost \$310 million to \$390 million.

Another alternative - to separate just Ravenswood and

MENLO PARK

Oak Grove avenues from the tracks — was eliminated by the City Council at a meeting earlier this year.

Separating the road from the rails would ease traffic flow and improve safety, since drivers, cyclists and pedestrians wouldn't have to cross the tracks.

The Ravenswood Avenue undercrossing option would eliminate access to Alma Street, Merrill Street and Alma Lane, and could increase traffic on Laurel Street and divert traffic from Oak Grove and Glenwood avenues, consul-

tants said. The triplecrossing separation would allow full access to be maintained to those streets. It would add traffic signals along

Glenwood avenue at Laurel Street and Middlefield Road. Overall, however, the triple-crossing separation would create more disruption, including impacts on driveways.

Those who attended the community meeting responded to several questions related to the project's construction. They also had the chance to visualize what a completed project might look like through virtual-reality goggles and 3-dimensional video renderings.

Photo by Kate Bradshaw/The Almanad

Virtual reality goggles help attendees at a Menlo Park community meeting visualize what a new rail crossing at Ravenswood, and perhaps Oak Grove and Glenwood avenues, might look like.

They generally agreed that road closures should be limited and that construction should not be done at night, with perhaps extended daytime hours for construction allowed during the summer.

"It's like childbirth," said Cedy Fisher, a Menlo Park resident since 1974, said during a discussion with other attendees. "These projects take a long time, but in the grand scheme of things, it's a short period."

According to Angela Obeso, an associate engineer in the city's Transportation Division, a bestcase scenario is that the project would be completed eight to 10 years from now.

Funding the project would be a challenge, but might come from San Mateo County transportation funds or federal funding, among other sources, Ms. Obeso said. Having a preferred alternative does make it easier to apply for government funding, she noted.

Over the summer and early fall, consultants will gather more feedback by meeting with city commissions and those who would be affected by the projects. The plan is to present a report to the council so it can decide on an option in the fall.

After a preferred option is picked, the next phase of the project will be to complete an environmental analysis and design the grade separations, Ms. Obeso said.

Lorelei Manor hailed as Nextdoor's first neighborhood

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

orelei Manor, a Menlo Park neighborhood that claims it has the longestrunning homeowner association in California, can now take pride in another neighborhood title: America's first Nextdoor neighborhood.

The neighborhood is made up of about 90 households, with a 92 percent homeownership rate. Together with Suburban Park and Flood Triangle, Lorelei Manor is in the area bounded by Marsh Road, Bay Road and Ú.S. 101.

Today, there are 140,000 neighborhoods enrolled in Nextdoor, or about 75 percent

of all of the neighborhoods in the U.S., according to Nextdoor co-founder Sarah Leary.

But it all started with Lorelei Manor, where, in the summer of 2010, the fledgling startup piloted the social network for neighbors.

The anniversary was commemorated on May 20 with an ice cream social for residents.

Nextdoor co-founder Prakash Janakiram said in an interview that the founders were looking to start something after other social networks were considered mainstream. Around the same time, they came across a study claiming that 28 percent of Americans didn't know a single neighbor by name, he said.

"How odd was it that you had

In 2010, Nextdoor piloted the social network for neighbors in Menlo Park's Lorelei Manor.

Facebook connecting people all over the world, and Twitter connecting people that didn't even know one another, on the basis of shared interests, but you didn't know the people on the other side of your fence? That seemed really strange to us," he said.

The co-founders, he said, began to think, "maybe we could do something a little unorthodox by building a technology

platform that reconnected people in their own communities."

Mr. Janakiram said he often used to visit his friends Salim and Farah Shaikh, residents of Lorelei Manor. Their neighborhood, he said, struck him as a strong candidate for a pilot for Nextdoor: it was relatively small, enclosed, and already highly connected, both on- and offline. The neighborhood had an active Yahoo email group and a tradition of promoting gatherings, such as its annual Halloween parade.

According to Mr. Janakiram, Mr. Shaikh was open to the idea, but said that the website would have to be vetted by the homeowner association first.

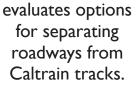
Ms. Leary pitched the idea at

the association's board meeting, where board members sat in oversized loungers, she recalled, and the topic was last on the agenda. The board did approve the pilot.

In the first month of the pilot, she said, users adopted the site for a lot of the purposes it's been used for ever since organizing events like the Halloween parade, posting photos, tracking down a lost package, and asking for music teacher recommendations.

"I wouldn't know what else is going on without communication via Nextdoor," said Lisa Duke, one of the few renters in the neighborhood.

See LORELEI MANOR, page 6



Community





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Locals gather at a neighborhood ice cream social hosted by Nextdoor in Menlo Park's Lorelei Manor neighborhood.

It started in Menlo Park

continued from page 5

Nextdoor CEO Nirav Tolia, with kids in tow, told the residents that, compared to other neighborhoods, theirs is an outlier for the high-frequency use of such words as "party," "cookies," and "ice cream truck."

At the May 20 anniversary event, City Councilman Peter Ohtaki read a proclamation recognizing the neighborhood, and the event concluded with the unveiling of a Nextdoorsponsored sign declaring Lorelei Manor to be "America's First Nextdoor Neighborhood," located at the intersection of Bay Road and Christopher Way.

At its San Francisco headquarters, the company, which now numbers about 150 employees, has paid homage to the neighborhood by naming the largest conference room "Lorelei," Ms. Leary told attendees. "All of you have understood community for a long time."

Next for Nextdoor

In an interview, Mr. Janakiram said that Nextdoor, which, in a sense, gives every neighbor a megaphone, has resulted in some "unexpected" uses — for better and worse.

On the positive side, he told about how neighbors on Nextdoor recently banded together to help a wheelchair-bound woman build a ramp to her home. (Internally, the company reports positive stories about Nextdoor at its weekly allhands meetings, he said.)

On the negative side, he said, people have said things that are insensitive or abusive, and the website has struggled with incidents of racial profiling. Last August, the company changed its algorithm to prompt people to be more clear about what they're observing when they want to report suspicious behavior. The added prompts, he said, create "friction" or additional steps a person must go through before they make a post that includes information about a person's race. When reporting to the site's crime and safety page, for instance, Nextdoor users are met with a pop-up that directs them to focus on describing a suspicious person's behavior, and not only his or her race.

Since those changes were made, "we've seen that there's been a nearly 75 percent reduction in the types of posts that would classify as racial profiling," he said. "We think we can do better.'

As Nextdoor continues to expand, he said, the company will face the challenge of trying to organize the "chatter" and match relevant information to users' interests.

At Nextdoor's last funding round in March 2015, the company was valued at \$1.1 billion, according to the Wall Street Journal. In January 2017, the company announced it had begun to incorporate sponsored posts on the site. Before then, it was entirely funded by venture capital, including from some firms in the Almanac's coverage area: in Menlo Park, Redpoint Ventures, Greylock Partners and Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, and in Woodside, Benchmark Capital.

Sheeper beats ultra triathlon across Hawaii

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

Swim 2.4 miles. Cycle 112 miles. Then run a marathon. Now quintuple that over five days on five Hawaiian islands, and you have an idea of what the Epic 5 Challenge is.

That's what Menlo Park resident Tim Sheeper, 54, completed from May 5 to 9 as one of 10 elite participants.

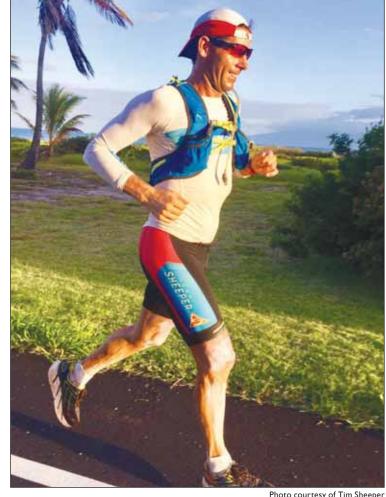
Mr. Sheeper runs Menlo Swim & Sport, which operates swim programs at city-owned pool facilities in the Menlo Park Civic Center.

The challenge pitted 10 athletes and their three-person support crews on a journey that, to most, sounds nearly impossible: to complete five Ironman competitions in five days on five Hawaiian islands.

The event is called a challenge for a reason. It's not a race. Event coordinators don't even publish times, according to Mr. Sheeper. Instead, they try to cultivate a mindset akin to that of someone seeking to summit Mount Everest. The more important goal is to get to the top, not to get to the top first, he said.

^aThe Epic 5 Challenge was started in 2010 by two guys, and very few people have done it since," Mr. Sheeper said in an interview. He said he'd heard about the challenge a few years ago, but after he met one of the founders of the event who challenged him to do it, he felt compelled to accept the challenge.

He said he likes to mindfully consider potential endurance events to see if it is "something that really comes from my



Tim Sheeper, 54, runs on a Hawaiian island during the "Epic 5 Challenge," when athletes complete five Ironman triathlons in five days.

of challenge."

strenuous.

Segments of the challenge

On the swimming portions, he

said, there were moments when

he reveled in the beauty of mov-

ing through Hanalei Bay, looking

at fish and the reef. Other times

varied from the sublime to the

heart. ... I wait for the inspiration and then I go after it."

A 'traveling circus'

The challenge, which hops from Kauai to Oahu to Molokai to Maui to Kona, was comparable to a "traveling circus," in Mr. Sheeper's words. Each competitor's crew team followed him or her from island to island.

During the event, he said, "Your body is always in a state

The challenge: Complete five Ironman competitions in five days on five Hawaiian islands.

in the water, he had to fight against swell and wind chop.

While cycling, the path took him through neighborhoods, up volcanoes and along highways, he said. Cycling across lava rock got uncomfortably hot, he said.

The runs, he said, varied in time of day, so some were in the heat, while others were late at night. His final marathon, he said, finished after midnight in Kona, in the middle of a quiet, dark mist. On that last stretch, he said, he was having so much fun he could have done another marathon.

"When your brain knows it's the end, it finds some reserves that you didn't know you had," he said.

He credits his crew for providing crucial support and motivation during the challenge.

Having a crew that knows its athlete's capabilities is very important because an athlete can get to a point of exhaustion when he or she may not be capable of making good decisions, he said. Crew members help with things like passing out water and nutrition, keeping the athlete's body cool with ice packs and boosting morale.

"It's kind of enticing to be held accountable by team members," he said. "You try to do a good job to pay them back for working super hard for you."

For Mr. Sheeper, ultra-endurance

events are "a time to get away and just focus on the purity of athletic movement and being efficient."

"It allows me to think clearer, to think through issues and just reflect on the path in life I'm on and if I want to change things," he said.

The Epic 5 Challenge is only one of a number of impressive endurance feats under his belt. Mr. Sheeper said he has also cycled across the country during the Race across America, completed a 24-hour triathlon, paddled 70 miles around Lake Tahoe, and paddled down the Sacramento River.

"It helps day to day to have these big (athletic) goals other than family or work goals," he said. "They kind of are my north star."

Mr. Sheeper said his personal approach toward athletics affects his coaching and teaching. "I try to inspire people to strive toward their personal growth through sport."

Whether it's a 5-year-old learning how to swim or an adult triathlete trying to swim farther or faster than ever before, he said, "I try to inspire them to have that personal confidence to try something that maybe they never have or never thought they could do. I'm always one to just have somebody try something and not be limited by what their perceptions of themselves (are)," he said.

Atherton ballot measure backers raise \$6,314

By Barbara Wood Almanac Staff Writer

Backers of an advisory measure regarding funding of Atherton's new civic center raised about \$6,300 and spent about \$6,000 on their campaign, the latest forms filed with the city clerk show.

No forms were filed by opponents of the measure, who said they did not spend any money campaigning.

The measure was approved by about 61 percent of those voting. About 39 percent of registered voters cast ballots.

Donors included: the exempt from filing reports.

campaign account of Elizabeth Lewis, \$1,367; John Worthing, \$2,500; Eric Lane, \$1,000; William Schroeder, \$500; Sandra Ferrando, \$200; James McLaughlin, \$250; Diane Fisher, \$100; Kim Young, \$100 and Sandy Levinson, \$99. All are Atherton residents.

When the report was filed on May 23, a total of \$5,872 had been spent on stamps, overnight delivery, food, lawn signs, printing and envelopes, and \$150 to rent a venue from the town of Atherton.

A final report is due July 31. Campaigns receiving less than \$2,000 in contributions are



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Lucas finds fame, if not yet fortune, in Hollywood

By Barbara Wood Almanac Staff Writer

hat does it take to be "discovered" by Hollywood? For Lucas Yancey, 31, it seems to have been his plastic-faced impression of Jim Carrey in "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective," which led Mr. Yancey to a spot on "The Bachelorette," which led to him trending on Twitter, appearances on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "Good Morning America," which may lead to ... who knows what?

Mr. Yancey says he started his acting career with his Woodside Elementary

School eighthgrade operetta, 'Bugsy Malone." There, he says, the director decided to incorporate Lucas' juggling skill into his character as a

gang leader's sidekick, changing his name from "Knuckles" to "Juggles."

"I would say that was the beginning of my lust for being onstage and entertaining and acting," Mr. Yancey says.

While he says he didn't do drama at Woodside High School because "I was probably more focused on playing five different sports," as well as being homecoming king and student body vice president, he was always seen as a funny guy.

"I was voted the 'next Jim Carrey' in eighth grade," he says, and "class clown" in high school. "I've always loved to entertain and make people laugh and smile.'

That love of Jim Carrey, whom he says he's been imitating since fourth grade, helped Mr. Yancey out when he was called in to audition for "The Bachelorette." When the casting directors asked him if he had "any special skills," Mr. Yancey says he told them he

could juggle, do Russian dance and a Jim Carrey as Ace Ventura impression.

"It's true, I can pull off quite the Ace Ventura Impression, possibly one of the best," he says, adding with a laugh that he hopes Mr. Carrey reads this story.

Post-"Bachelorette," Mr. Yancey repeated the impression on "Jimmy Kimmel Live," a performance that garnered more than 175,000 views on YouTube.

While the Ace Ventura imitation may have nabbed him the spot on "The Bachelorette," it

was his wild and crazy catch phrase "whaboom," and its intense, drawn-

out delivery that brought Mr. Yancey fame, and became one of the most talked about

catchphrases on the internet.

"My entrance out of the limo on the Bachelorette could have just been cool, calm and collected," he says, with "some sort of cheesy pickup line" when he was introduced to bachelorette Rachel Lindsay.

Instead, he says, he decided, "I'm just going to go in there, full-blown and show Rachel my fun, comedic and energetic side," while wearing a T-Shirt with his whaboom catchphrase and his cartoon image on the front. "I decided, I'm going to go in guns blazing and give her my all."

While he was sent on his way after the second show, Mr. Yancey says he picked up thousands of fans. Hundreds of them, including lots of kids and young teens as well as older people, entered his "whaboom impression challenge" and he's in the process of making a mix video of the results.

He will also be releasing a "WhaaaBoooom" song, and



Lucas Yancey says that after his appearance on two segments of the "The Bachelorette" he's sold more than 1,000 of these Whaboom T-shirts. He said he is giving the proceeds to help a Cal rugby player recently paralyzed in a rugby match.

while he can't reveal details, "there's a big company that's behind it, it should be a big hit," he savs.

"People love the whaboom," he says. "They love the positive energy I brought to it.'

He says he has sold more than a thousand of his whaboom T-shirts and says he is donating all the proceeds to the fund set up to help Cal rugby player Robert Paylor, who on May 6 suffered a paralyzing injury in the collegiate national championship rugby match.

Mr. Yancey graduated from UC Berkeley, where he played rugby with his twin brother Nick on a team that won four national championships. While studying legal studies and business, he also took a few improv classes.

But acting held the greatest pull, much more so than law. ("I thought about being a lawyer for about 2.3 seconds," he says, even though his father and uncle are lawyers.)

Angeles, where he has been

investing in real estate and studying acting while learning about the business working for production companies.

What did he do while working his way up? "Get coffee, spill coffee, clean-up the coffee, get more coffee," he says.

And then there was the gig working as a production assistant for "Master Chef," full-time for a week, at \$150 an hour.

"My job was to watch a fridge," he says. "I had the night shift. It was from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.," he says. If the temperature of the refrigerator, filled with more than \$50,000 of ingredients for the show, rose or dropped below set levels, he had to call for "immediate help."

He says his family, including his 97-year-old grandmother Elzene Yancey who lives in Mountain View, and his twin brother and his sister, Jessica, plus mom Lena and dad Mike, who all live in San Francisco, have all been cheering him on, along with other family and friends around the world.

"I really want to continue acting," Mr. Yancey says. "I might just be the next Jim Carrey."

"I think I can be a serious actor or a dramatic actor," he says. "I think I could play James Bond, if called upon. Shaken not stirred."

In the meantime, fans can learn more about Mr. Yancey on his LucasYancey.com website, on Instagram (@ Lucas.Yancey), and on his IMDb.com page. Also, people can follow him on Twitter (@LucasYancey) or on his Facebook fan page (Facebook.com/YKnotWorld/).

About the author: Reporter Barbara Wood has known Lucas Yancey since he was in kindergarten, and the fact that he claims he wouldn't have graduated from high school, let alone Berkeley, without tutoring from her daughter Caitlin, has nothing to do with this article A

So Mr. Yancey went to Los

Pig-scramble protesters now have place to demonstrate

By Dave Boyce Almanac Staff Writer

eople wanting to protest the pig scramble in Woodside, in which kids chase and capture small pigs at the annual July Fourth Junior Rodeo, now have a place to demonstrate without fear of arrest: in the public right of way between the edge of Kings Mountain Road and a fence on the private grounds of the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County, the rodeo and pig scramble's host.

The issue came up in light of the 2016 protest, which may have encroached on the Patrol's property. This year, the Patrol had an attorney write a letter of warning to would-be protesters: They could be subject to criminal trespass charges for protesting while on Patrol grounds at 521 Kings Mountain Road.

Town Manager Kevin Bryant met Monday, June 19, with Sheriff"s Office representatives and a group of Woodside residents who consider the pig scramble cruel - the Committee for

a Humane Woodside - and determined the location of the right of way. That information was shared with the Mounted Patrol, Mr. Bryant told the Almanac.

The letter by Attorney James M. Wagstaffe of the San Francisco firm Kerr & Wagstaffe to Oakland resident Eric Mills of Action for Animals on June 6, represented a turnabout for the Mounted Patrol. During 2016 protest, the arena the manager brought bottled water out to the protesters and stayed to talk, Menlo Park resident Susan Wyle told the Almanac last year. "He was open to discussing alternatives to the pig scramble," she said.

Mr. Wagstaffe says in his letter that the Mounted Patrol does not seek to limit protected free speech, but is asserting that a protest on Patrol grounds is not protected speech under either the California or federal constitutions.

'Should the protestors wish to find a permissible location for protestors to gather, the Mounted Patrol is more than willing to cooperate in discussions to determine a suitable location and time for the protest," Mr. Wagstaffe says.

"The main concern of the Town and Sheriff's Department is that protesters be provided the space needed to conduct a peaceful protest, while ensuring the safety of the protesters, attendees of the rodeo, and others who happen to be in the area," Mr. Bryant said in an email exchanges with the Committee and forwarded to the Almanac.

'I was voted the 'next lim Carrey' in eighth grade.' LUCAS YANCEY



Protesters draw attention to their frustration with the excessive noise and increased frequency of Surf Air flights by holding signs along Skyway Road in front of the San Carlos Airport on June 17.

Protesters at San Carlos Airport complain of Surf Air noise

By Barbara Wood Almanac Staff Writer

Surf Air customers at the San Carlos Airport on Saturday morning, June 17, were greeted by a crowd of protesters waving picket signs and passionately shouting, "No more Surf Air," and other slogans.

When one of the blue-andwhite turboprop PC-12s used by the subscription-based commuter airline arrived, the protesters numbering more than 50 at times — moved to confront five passengers who disembarked from behind a chain-link fence.

"No more Surf Air," the group chanted in unison. "You disturb our lives," and "we've had it," protesters yelled.

Picket signs ranged from professionally printed "No Fair — No More Surf Air" signs to hand-drawn placards proclaiming "Like a Bad Neighbor, Surf Air is There," and "Surf Less, Sleep More." One said simply: "Surf Err."

"There are humans underneath these airplanes who are suffering so a few people can have a convenient service," said North Fair Oaks resident Heather Brinkerhoff, who was there with her 23-month-old son, who she said is often awoken by the planes.

Ms. Brinkerhoff said her family previously lived near Menlo Park's train tracks. But unlike train noise, which she said her family got used to, the noise from Surf Air's turboprop PC-12s is grating and impossible to ignore, she said. One of Surf Air's customers had a suggestion for the protestors. "You guys ought to move," he said, exiting the terminal.

Winn Siegman, who has lived in North Fair Oaks for 29 years, said he'd never noticed the San Carlos Airport until Surf Air began using it.

Surf Air recently announced it would add 48 weekly flights at the San Carlos Airport this summer.

Because Surf Air's Pilatus PC-12s carry fewer than nine passengers, under FAA regulations they may operate out of the San Carlos Airport even though it is a general aviation, not commercial, airport. The airport is a "reliever airport," keeping small planes out of busy international airports such as San Jose, San Francisco and Oakland.

"The airport is not at all the issue. The pilots are not the issue," said Tom Holt of Atherton, who lives under the flight path used most often by Surf Air. The issue, he said, is "just Surf Air and the noise they make."

Anna Traver and husband Michael Pagano came with many of their neighbors from North Fair Oaks, an unincorporated neighborhood between Atherton and Redwood City, and also under Surf Air's flight path.

Ms. Traver said planes sometimes wake her up at 5:45 a.m. and again at 11:30 p.m. "They're growing," she said of Surf Air, which recently announced it would add 48 weekly flights at the San Carlos Airport this summer.

More than 30 protesters came from Sunnyvale and Cupertino, where Tony Guan said 200 flights headed to different airports go over his house daily. Although the Surf Air flights are at a much higher altitude there than they are closer to the airport, the noise from the turboprop planes is impossible to ignore, he said.

His main concern is attempts by San Mateo County and Surf Air to shift flights away from the communities near the airport by sending planes over the Bay, sending more flights his way. "It's a shifting of airplane noise," Mr. Guan said.

Surf Air director of communications Angela Vargo said the company, founded to "give busy professionals an alternative to commercial travel" has grown as have the number of flights. However, she said, in San Carlos, "Surf Air flights only account for 12 percent of the total traffic."

"We hear and understand the concerns of the residents and have been working diligently with government officials to reach a solution that is considerate of all residents living under the flight path from San Carlos to Sunnyvale," she said.

Protest organizers estimate 120 people came and went between 9 a.m. and noon.

Participants said they are organizing another protest for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors' offices in Redwood City.



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Woodside's town ethics code review on hold

By Dave Boyce

pause is in effect on an initiative, begun in March, to form a committee of Woodside residents to review and make recommendations about changing the town government's ethics code. The matter is "on hold," Mayor Tom Livermore said after the June 13 Town Council meeting.

Town Manager Kevin Bryant elaborated in an email: "At this time, the Town has decided to postpone its review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct. As such, the committee has not been formed. This is being done at the recommendation of legal counsel."

Neither the town manager nor Mayor Livermore would respond to questions about when the decision was made, who made it, and why.

The town's ethics code is central to a May 6 complaint, in a form suitable for a federal lawsuit, filed against the mayor and his predecessor by former longtime volunteer Nancy Reyering, who served seven years on the town's

Architectural and Site Review Board.

Ms. Reyering alleges that Mayor Livermore and the 2016 mayor, Councilwoman Deborah Gordon, violated her (Ms. Reyering's) constitutional rights to free speech by the way the town handled an allegation that she had violated the town's ethics code.

The alleged violations concerned a May 2016 email Ms. Reyering sent to the planning director and members of the architectural review board concerning a residential design project coming before the board. She noted that the project's architect was Peter Mason, a member of the Town Council, and said the applicant should refrain from the common practice of asking for exceptions to regulations and design guidelines in light of Mr. Mason's role on the council in forming those regulations and guidelines.

Ms. Reyering's email led former mayor Dave Burow to, eventually, file an ethics complaint against her, leading to a months-long investigation by an outside attorney at a cost to the town of at least \$33,384, according to one of Ms. Reyering's attorneys, Jodie Smith of Moscone Emblidge & Otis in San Francisco.

Of the nine allegations against Ms. Revering, the outside attorney recommended that five be sustained: unequal treatment of Mr. Mason, personally attacking Mr. Mason, reaching a conclusion

Town manager says review has been postponed 'at the recommendation of legal counsel.'

about a project before hearing testimony and before a public meeting had been held, and failing to maintain "a positive and constructive working environment," as the code requires.

The code requires the mayor to investigate all ethics complaints and present a report of findings to the council at a public meeting, where the council must accept testimony and determine whether a violation of the code has occurred. Despite the code's requirement to investigate and report to the council, Scott Emblidge, another of Ms. Reyering's attorneys, asserts that mayors Livermore and Gordon "unlawfully" enforced a code that "violated clearly established constitutional free speech rights of which a reasonable person would have known."

"While the town's emphasis on civility may be admirable," Mr. Emblidge adds, "(it) is the wrong means to the end because it infringes on a speaker's right to engage in uninhibited, robust debate on public issues, including negative criticism — and even very sharp attacks — of public officials."

Improving the code

In resolving the matter, Mayor Livermore recommended in February that the Town Council not determine whether a violation had occurred, but instead take no action, which the council agreed to on a 4-0 vote. The council had no authority to issue sanctions, Town Attorney Jean Savaree said, since Ms. Reyering's term on the board had expired and she had decided not to seek reappointment.

Mayor Livermore also recommended that the council revisit the ethics code "to explore ways in which we can improve it should complaints be filed in the future." In March, he proposed — and council members did not object to — forming an ad hoc committee of residents, led by a facilitator from the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University, to review the ethics code and make recommendations to the council.

Twelve people had expressed interest in joining the committee by April 25, but four had yet to formally apply, the mayor said in extending the application deadline. The goal was to complete the ethics code review before July, he said.

Three committee applicants contacted recently by the Almanac — Mr. Burow, Thalia Lubin and Virginia Dare — said they did not know what was going on with the ethics review. Applicant George Offen said he understood that legal issues were delaying the selection of applicants.

Menlo Park City School District still has budget woes

By Barbara Wood Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park City School District's governing board has adopted a budget that shows the district will have to dip into its reserves starting this year, despite spending cuts and the approval of an additional parcel tax.

While the exact budget figures aren't firm because the district hasn't yet formally adopted contracts with its employees, projections that include raises show the district operating at a modest deficit of \$12,824 in the 2017-18 fiscal year. The deficit increases each year to \$980,210 four years out, in the 2020-21 fiscal year.

By the 2021-22 fiscal year, the deficit is projected to be \$1.69 million, eating into reserves so they dip below the board's policy of holding at least 15 percent of total annual spending in reserves. Reserves are projected to drop from 22.5 percent in the 2017-18 fiscal year to 12.5

percent in 2021-22.

The district doesn't want to say exactly how much it has projected for raises each year because that would put it at a disadvantage in contract negotiations, but the chief business officer, Ahmad Sheikholeslami, said the amount projected over the next two fiscal years is similar to the raises proposed in upcoming contracts that have been agreed to by unions and district negotiators.

The school board was scheduled to vote on two-year contracts with the teachers' union on June 20 and with the union representing most non-teachers in the district on June 27. Both contracts propose 2 percent increases in salary schedules effective July 1, 2017, and 3 percent increases on July 1, 2018.

The adopted budget includes \$800,000 in cuts in current and projected spending for the 2017-18 fiscal year and an additional \$400,000 in cuts for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Revenues of \$1.2 million a year are expected from the

Multi Year Projection and Reserve Levels

Fiscal Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Net Operating (Deficit)/ Surplus, Less contingency for negotiations	(\$12,824)	(\$147,927)	(\$237,705)	(\$980,210)	(\$1,690,720)
Total Reserves, General Fund 01 and Fund 17 (Parcel Tax)	\$10,679,417	\$10,408,990	\$10,040,185	\$8,927,275	\$7,104,155
Reserves as % of Total Expenditure (Fund 01 and 17)	22.5%	21.0%	19.4%	16.4%	12.5%

This table shows operating deficits projected by the Menlo Park City School District over the next five years and the corresponding reductions in its reserves.

parcel tax approved by voters in March.

The budget cuts come from a slight increase in class sizes, which Mr. Sheikholeslami said should average 24 students in grades 6 through 8 and 23 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. The district is also cutting some non-teacher staffing in the district office, educational services and business services. Mr. Sheikholeslami said the district ended the school year with 3,004 students, five below the number that had been projected in November 2015. The projected enrollment for 2017-18 is 3,052. He said that while the coming year's enrollment numbers won't be known until September, "I do think there is a slight slowdown."

The budget projects an annual increase in property-tax revenues

prosecutors said.

In May 2015, police said, his home was searched under a warrant and police found about 20 grams of cocaine base. Mr. Dinwiddie said he used cocaine but denied selling or knowing about large concentrations of 6.1 percent until 2019-20 and then at a lower rate after that.

Source: Menlo Park City School District

Mr. Sheikholeslami warned that the area is in "one of the longest growth periods in history right now," a situation he and other local officials have warned could change at any time.

The budget was unanimously adopted by the school board at its June 13 meeting, with board member Caroline Lucas absent.

of cocaine base, according to prosecutors.

While on bail, in October 2015, police said he was found at Bedwell Bayfront Park in Menlo Park with malt liquor, about \$600 in cash and 8 grams of cocaine base.

Man gets five-year sentence on cocaine possession, theft

A 61-year-old East Palo Alto man, who in January pleaded no contest to grand theft and possessing narcotics for sale, received a five-year sentence May 19. Kenneth Ray Dinwiddie, 61, who has a previous drug sales conviction, will serve 30 months in the county jail and 30 months of mandatory supervision, prosecutors said. While he was on bail facing charges of possessing cocaine for sale, Mr. Dinwiddie allegedly stole jewelry from a Kmart in Redwood City and appeared to again have cocaine for sale,



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here's the beef? For one company owned by a Woodside couple the answer is in a word: local. Pomponio Ranch cattle is pasture-raised on 2,800 acres of coastal hills in San Gregorio. The meat is served in a handful of restaurants on the Peninsula and is sold at farmers' markets and Roberts Market in Woodside.

Located about five miles inland, Pomponio Ranch has been used as a cattle ranch off and on since the late 1880s. When Intuit co-founder Scott Cook and his wife Signe Ostby bought the property in 2011 from Ann Bowers, the widow of Silicon Valley legend Bob Noyce, the land came with a Peninsula Open Space Trust conservation easement.

Mr. Cook and Ms. Ostby have since acquired the neighboring Cypress Ranch. They also share fences with a recently acquired POST property, Memorial County Park, and TomKat Ranch. The latter is owned by retired hedge fund businessman Tom Steyer and Kat Taylor, and raises grass-fed cattle sold under the label LeftCoast Grassfed. Another competitor, Markegard Family Grass-fed, raises cattle in various locations nearby.

Ms. Ostby says when they first took over the ranch there was a "rent-a-cow" herd of about 150, and the land was overgrazed. Now that they own twice that number of cattle, and feel the land is "in better shape," she believes they could support an even larger herd, in

Revitalizing a ranch



How Woodside couple transformed a cattle ranch with 'holistic grazing'

Story by Kate Daly | Photos by Michelle Le

addition to the Heritage pigs, Belgian Warmblood and quarter horses, sheep, and alpacas that also live on the ranch.

What has changed? "We practice holistic grazing," Ms. Ostby says, crediting South African Allan Savory with popularizing what he observed works in the wild.

At Pomponio Ranch, the herd is moved on an almost daily basis so the grass is trimmed, not decimated, and therefore has a chance to regrow.

She says one employee spends half a day setting up a week's worth of grazing. Using permanent fences, stakes and solar-powered electric fencing, he maps out a grid of contiguous 17-acre plots.

After a day of grazing, the cows simply amble into the next section when he takes a portion of the fence down to show them the exit/entrance. In 24 hours or so they will trample the land enough to churn their manure into the soil, naturally fertilizing and breaking the ground up, trapping moisture in place.

With a six- to nine-month break between grazings, each section usually grows back a fresh cover of native grasses.

An additional part of managing the land is seeding pastures with oats, orchard grass, timothy grass and barley, and later baling it as hay.

Stream runoff from the Pomponio Creek headlands feeds into the ranch's reservoir. With an additional gravityfed pump system used to fill water **Top:** Pomponio Ranch, owned by Woodside's Signe Ostby (above) and her husband, Scott Cook, and where cattle is pasture-raised on 2,800 acres of coastal hills in San Gregario. (The cover photo is also by Michelle Le.)

tanks, and about 25 natural springs on the property, the cattle always have a water source.

Ms. Ostby says the drought caused some cattle ranchers to sell off their herds, so Pomponio Ranch was able to "build (its) herd from top-quality bloodlines" of Angus, Angus cross, and Akaushi, a Japanese breed known for tasty meat marbled with fat.

"I just love how glossy their coats look, and they're well-rounded," she says, pointing to the cows lazily grazing in a temporarily fenced green pasture.



"Compared to feedlots, it's not very stressful," she says, (although) "this year we have lost seven calves to mountain lions."

Pomponio Ranch breeds for calves to be born in the spring and fall. Some are kept to replenish the herd. The others are headed to the meat market and toward the end are "finished off" in a separate pasture where they are fed a combination of oats grown from seed on the ranch and "spent grain" from Freewheel Brewing Company in Redwood City.

The brewer describes it as the byproduct after the barley malt is mashed — husks, protein and a small amount of sugar and or rolled or malted wheat, depending on the beer being made. The barley malt primarily comes from England.

All the animals on the ranch also eat barley fodder, which is made on the premises in a temperature-controlled container, outfitted with lights, that turns trays of watered barley seeds into sheets of nutritional sprouts in six days.

One reason Ms. Ostby likes the process is that it uses much less water than growing grain feed the conventional way.

The animals are treated with antibiotics only when they



are sick, and are never given growth hormones, she says.

"Fattening up, it can take a long time; that's what makes high-end beef so expensive," Ms. Ostby says. "We're not trying to get to market fastest."

Their cattle can take 24 to 36 months to be ready for the market; they are then taken to Marin Sun Farms in Petaluma, the last major slaughterhouse in the Bay Area.

The old abattoir at the ranch is used only during deer hunting season, she adds.

Pomponio Ranch tri-tip and flank steak are now available at Roberts Market for \$19.98 per pound and \$18.98 per pound, respectively. Meat manager Walt Seehorn says with most beef coming from the Midwest, these are the only local meats he's carrying, and he likes the idea of "smaller production, with more attention to details." For several years Viognier, the restaurant at Draeger's in San Mateo, has featured Pomponio Ranch meat on its menu. Executive chef Chris Aquino says he has built up Akaushi and Angus cattle graze at Table Top Field at Pomponio Ranch. When Signe Ostby and her husband took over the ranch, there was a herd of about 150, and the land was over-grazed. Now that they own twice that number, feel the land is in better shape, and believe it could support an even larger herd. Left: Ranch manager Chris Giannini outside the ranch office.

such a close relationship with the ranch that he can suggest they feed the animals differently to help tweak the flavor or consistency of the meat. The carpaccio on his menu is fresh from the butcher, but other cuts he prefers to serve after a period of dry aging.

As for Pomponio Ranch pigs, he's such a fan he uses the "whole pig, nose to tail" for everything from pork chops to pate.

Consumers can go to Pomponioranchmeat.com to buy boxes of meat and arrange for a delivery to a dropoff location in Belmont. The ranch is working on adding a dropoff in Half Moon Bay.

Distribution may be small, but Ms. Ostby says they are now out of "investment mode" and she's optimistic that the business will break even this year.



A rendering of the proposed Stanford-owned office building at 2131 Sand Hill Road. Stanford plans to provide 159 parking spaces for the new building, which would be designed to look in many ways like the Hewlett Foundation's headquarters building on the site.

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City would annex 16 acres for project

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

Imost 16 acres of land at 2131 Sand Hill Road near Sharon Park Drive would be annexed to the city of Menlo Park under a proposal by Stanford University to build a two-story, 40,000-square-foot office building there.

A public hearing on the proposal was held by the Menlo Park Planning Commission on June 19, after the Almanac went to press.

Check AlmanacNews.com for updates.

Stanford owns the 15.8-acre site in an unincorporated county area on the eastern side of Sand Hill Road.

On the property now is an

8,125-square-foot house, built in 1920, where the Stanford provost lives, and a 50,676-square-foot two-story office building where the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation is headquartered. Those structures would remain.

As part of the proposal, Stanford is asking the city to zone 12 acres as "C-1-C," a category that allows professional, administrative or research buildings, according to a staff report. The parcel would include the Hewlett Foundation office building, and the vacant site where the university proposes to build a new office building. The other four acres, where the provost residence is, would be zoned as residential.

Stanford's plan is to provide 159 parking spaces for the new office building, which would be designed to look in many ways like the Hewlett Foundation's headquarters building.

Stanford spokesperson Jean McCown said that Stanford intends to lease the building to "companies typically located on Sand Hill Road." Since the building would not be used for academic purposes, the university expects to pay property taxes to the city.

Stanford proposes to remove six heritage trees, while the Menlo Park city arborist has suggested two of them be kept or transplanted. The university would plant an estimated 91 trees, according to a staff report.

Two crosswalks would be added at the Sand Hill Road and Sharon Park Drive intersection.

In keeping with the city's below-market-rate housing policy, the housing commission approved a suggestion that Stanford provide two below-marketrate housing units, not on this property, but at the university's proposed office-housing complex at 500 El Camino Real in Menlo Park that's currently undergoing city review. Stanford proposes to build 215 apartments there.

According to an environmental analysis of Stanford's Sand Hill Road project, it is expected to generate an estimated 302 daily trips, with 47 trips added during the peak morning hour and 36 added during the peak evening hour.

The city has received four emails commenting on the project, including from local resident Janet Davis and the Sand Hill Home Owners Association. Concerns raised include worries about privacy, noise levels during construction, increased traffic, and the cumulative impacts of Stanford projects on the Peninsula, according to a staff report.

Affordable housing complex for seniors now open

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

grand opening was held June 15 to celebrate the completion of 90 apartments for seniors at a development called Sequoia Belle Haven, located at 1221 Willow Road in Menlo Park.

"Our county's population of seniors is growing at an unprecedented rate," San Mateo County Supervi-

sor Warren Slocum said in a press release. "Providing high quality housing that they can afford is critical."

Pauline Sibley, 70, is a retired woman who lived in the former Gateway apartments at the Willow Road site and now lives in a new Sequoia Belle Haven apartment. She has lived in Menlo Park for the past 40 years, and for most of her adult life, has worked in a variety of jobs, working as a janitor, on an assembly line, at a laundromat and as a caregiver.

"Even while working full time," she said, "most of my jobs didn't pay enough to provide stable housing, and finding adequate housing was always a struggle."

When she moved into the Gateway apartments "quite a few years ago," she said, she came to appreciate the sense of community she found there.

More seniors in need

For every story like Ms. Sibley's, there are others of seniors who struggle to find affordable, comfortable housing. MidPen Hosuing received 1,474 applications over a two-week application period for 53 available units, according to a Beth Fraker, spokesperson for the new apartments' developer and property manager, MidPen Housing Corp. The remaining units were claimed by returning tenants from the former apartments. Tenants were selected via lottery.

In the months leading up to the application period, more than 1,700 people had added their names to the interest list, Ms. Fraker said.

During the selection process, at least eight people sent letters

to the Menlo Park City Council and Housing Commission saying that they felt they had not been properly notified about the process to apply for the available affordable units.

One of those letters came from Mitchell Foreman, 64, and homeless, who, during an interview in April, told the Almanac he often resides in a van in a backyard in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood. He lives most of the time in Menlo Park, he said, but often journeys to neighboring cities that have more robust food-

service programs. He is currently on the Sequoia Belle Haven waitlist, and has been referred to other MidPen Housing units he

Fraker said.

is eligible for, Ms.

PAULINE SIBLEY

full time ... finding

adequate housing

was a struggle.'

MidPen Housing did extensive outreach for the program, she said.

The apartments

The new apartments are the first half of a plan to rebuild and expand housing at the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Willow Road.

The apartments were built in 1960 and acquired by MidPen Housing in 1987. In 2013, the city of Menlo Park rezoned the area to allow more affordable apartments.

The newly completed Sequoia Belle Haven has a fitness center, computer lab, a community room with a kitchen, and outdoor gathering spaces and courtyards. The building has solar panels, high-efficiency windows and drought-tolerant landscaping.

The \$43 million project was financed by the city of Menlo Park, the County of San Mateo Department of Housing, the Housing Authority of the County of San Mateo, the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco and Wells Fargo Bank, according to Ms. Fraker.

The second half of the project, to rebuild and expand the 1300 block of Willow Road for family apartments, was scheduled for discussion by the Menlo Park City Council during a study session on Tuesday, June 20. Even under the smallest configuration of 118 affordable units proposed, it would be the biggest affordable housing project ever built in Menlo Park, according to Meghan Revolinsky, Menlo Park management analyst.



The interior of a 90-unit affordable apartment complex for seniors.



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'Wines of Woodside' raises funds for Village Church

By Dave Boyce Almanac Staff Writer

The Woodside Village Church has rotting beams and a deteriorating bench on the patio. A new window is needed in the sacristy — the room used to store vestments and church furnishings. Steps should be taken to preserve some of the adobe bricks in the sanctuary, and maybe the church needs a new roof.

To raise funds to pay for this kind of maintenance — long deferred, according to the Friends of the Village Church — a silent auction and wine-tasting event, including samplings of prepared food from local restaurants, is being held Saturday, June 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. at

WOODSIDE

the church at 3154 Woodside Road in Woodside.

The Friends and the Woodside Community Foundation are sponsoring the event, called Wines of Woodside. Tickets are \$50 online (at eventbrite.com) or \$60 at the door.

The wine, food and auction items are all donated. Nine is a theme of the event.

There are nine wineries participating, according to Friends spokeswoman Karen Peterson. They are: Clos de la Tech, Dreyer Wines, Great Blue Heron, Kings Mountain Vineyard, Martella Wines, Montelena, Olive Hill Lane Press, Portola Vineyards and Woodside Vineyards.

(Added to that list will be a

bottle from the Novitsky cellar decorated with a hand-made Woodside Village Church label, church Pastor Ama Zenya said.)

Of the nine restaurants to be there with food samplings, three are from Woodside: Buck's of Woodside, The Firehouse Bistro and the Mountain House. Two restaurants are from from Palo Alto: Nola's and St. Michael's Alley. Two are from Menlo Park: Draeger's supermarket and Lutticken's. Rounding out the list are John Bentley's Restaurant in Redwood City and Town restaurant in San Carlos. The nine items up for auction include cases of wine; a print of a Cabernet grape leaf by noted nature photographer Robert Buelteman; a barbecue that includes a history tour with Mitch Postel, president of the San Mateo County Historical Association; a scavenger hunt; and several tours.

Uninvited 'guest' makes herself at home

left in an unknow direction by

The Atherton Police Department is looking for a woman with no shoes who is suspected of breaking a large window to enter a home on Bellbrook Lane in Atherton, where an employee of the family who lives there found her asleep on a couch.

When the employee left to phone the police, "the female

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Coverage of Local Government

"Resident fights aircraft noise" by Barbara Wood

Coverage of Education

"Narrowing the education equity gap" by Barbara Wood

Online Photo Essay

"Praise amid tragedy" by Michelle Le

News Photo

"Former homeless veteran finding a home" by Michelle Le

"Fighting Parkinson's disease" by Michelle Le

Inside Page Layout & Design



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an unknown means" a police department statement says. "It appears that the female subject was at the residence long enough to prepare food that she brought with her, wash the dishes she had used and had time to put a load of laundry in the washing machine."

In addition to leaving behind her shoes, the woman also left her keys and cigarettes, a load of laundry and a martini glass.

The incident took place on Monday, June 12. The day earlier, residents of the 100 block of Atherton Avenue, who had been gone for several days, also reported a window smashed, at the rear of their

home, and jewelry missing.

In that case, also, personal items, including clothing and personal-care items, were left behind.

Police say the woman with no shoes is possibly Polynesian, about 40 years old with dark brown shoulder length hair and wearing a blue flower top and blue jeans.

While police aren't sure if the two cases are connected, Police Chief Steven McCulley said: "It wouldn't surprise us if they are."

The chief said the incidents are a good reminder to residents to make sure that if they are going to be away, to have their property regularly checked on.

– Barbara Wood

Two terms is it for Anne Campbell, county superintendent of schools

Anne Campbell, now in her second term as superintendent of public schools in San Mateo County, will not be seeking reelection in November 2018.

Within hours of Ms. Campbell's June 15 announcement, her deputy, Gary Waddell, declared his candidacy for the post. Among his priorities, he said, are addressing the academic achievement gap, the lack of affordable housing in the county, and fears of deportation.

Ms. Campbell, a former superintendent of the Portola Valley School District, moved to the position of overseeing education in the county in 2010.

During her tenure, the Office of Education implemented a locally oriented school finance and accountability system and new Common Core state academic standards that include English language and math, the announcement says.

The Big Lift, a county program to improve the reading proficiency of third-graders, was launched with the help of the Office of Education under Ms. Campbell. The education office was also behind the launch of the county's STEM Center, a resource for teachers needing support and professional development in the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The STEM Center has become "a hub of innovation, especially in environmental education, projectbased learning and maker education," the Office of Education statement says.

The Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities, created in coordination with law enforcement agencies in the county, took shape under Ms. Campbell's watch, as did the Big Five, an "Immediate Action Protocol" to be used at school in case of emergencies.

Ms. Campbell said she "so appreciated" working with her staff and with teachers and education partners throughout the county. "It has been a true honor to serve as county superintendent over the past seven years," she said. "We share a strong and devoted commitment to the educational success of all our county's children and youth."

COMMUNITY

Memorial service June 21 for Zamora, 9

A memorial for Zamora Moon Martinez-Lusinchi, a 9-year-old who on June 18 lost a nearly twoyear battle with brain cancer, will be held Wednesday, June 21, in Pescadero.

Check AlmanacNews.com for details.

The family asks that children not attend and that in lieu of flowers donations be made online at GoFundMe. com/zkx7fb39s.

Zamora, who played the violin, loved art, and enjoyed pretending to be a fairy with her younger sister and friends, died early Sunday morning at her home in the Kings Mountain neighborhood of Woodside, surrounded by her family, friends and her chihuahua Lupita.

On July 15, 2015, Zamora was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor, diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma tumor, or DIPG.

Doctors gave her a maximum of nine months to live, but her family fought the rare cancer aggressively, raising funds and traveling around the world to take advantage of the latest medical treatments.

She is survived by her mother, Marisa Martinez; her father, Marc Lusinchi; and her sister, Xavia

See AlmanacNews.com or Facebook.com/ZamoraMoon for updates.

After a housekeeper, arriving at a house

on Evelyn Street, reported seeing a woman she didn't know run from the house, the

resident reported that four trophies, a speaker system and sterling silver pieces of a tea set had been stolen. Estimated loss:

Someone entered an unlocked house

on Hollyburne Avenue and stole an Apple

watch, duffel bag, computer and clothing. Estimated loss: \$2,710. June 6.

June 13.

\$2,800. June 7.

Residential burglaries:



Zamora Martinez-Lusinchi was 7 when this photo was taken soon after she was diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer. She is comforted by her mother, Marisa Martinez, in her hospital room at Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara Medical Center on Aug. 6, 2015.

POLICE CALLS

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

MENLO PARK

Commercial burglary: Someone used a concrete sewer cap to smash the glass front door of Techworld Trading Inc. on Santa Cruz Avenue then steal electronic

650.464.3896

BRE 01223247

equipment. Estimated loss: about \$10,000. Thefts:

ces of

- Police are on the lookout for two people who left the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real in a silver Pontiac with bags of infant formula they hadn't paid for. Estimated loss: \$2,400. June 12.
- A jewelry bag containing a watch, ear-rings and other jewelry was stolen from a site in the 2800 block of Sand Hill Road. Estimated loss: \$2,250. June 5.

A man was seen leaving the Safeway supermarket at 525 El Camino Real with a basket of alcoholic beverages he had not paid for, then fleeing the scene in a vehicle No estimate on losses. June 5. Someone stole two finishing-nail guns and a miter saw from a locked area of a construction site on Woodland Avenue. Estimated loss: \$800. June 6.

A table saw was stolen from a construction site on Woodland Avenue. Estimated loss: \$700. June 6.

A woman told police that someone had stolen her purse from her unlocked vehicle parked at Fremont Street and Santa Cruz Avenue. Inside the purse were sunglasses a driver's license, credit cards, gift cards and \$30 in cash. Estimated loss: \$519 June 6.

Someone stole three bags of clothing

and emergency food and water supplies from a locked vehicle parked on Sharon Park Drive. Estimated loss: \$400, June 13.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Theft: Someone stole a wallet from a vehi-cle parked in the 2700 block of Alpine Road, then made purchases using a credit card belonging to the wallet's owner. June 8.

WEST MENLO PARK

A thief stole a tablet computer from a loca-tion in the 1200 block of Altschul Avenue. June 5.





We're on the way to meet emission-reduction goal

By Chris DeCardy and Mitch Slomiak

Five years ago, our city's leaders — who are all still City Council members today — adopted an ambitious but realistic goal of reducing Menlo Park's climate-change pollution in 2020 by more than a quarter from 2005 levels. As Environmental

Quality Commission members at the time, we applauded the commitment and pledged to help make it happen by pulling together community leaders, with generous support from the

Hewlett Foundation, to form Menlo Spark.

As our city's deadline now draws nearer, we all should be pleased with the city's progress toward our 2020 goal, and there is much more to be done. As longtime Menlo Park residents, we wanted to help catalyze the commitment and innovation across our community to address climate change while preserving our city's unique heritage and mitigating the pressures that come with growth. Two years ago, we worked

with leaders from across the region to launch Menlo Spark, with a mission to reach zero carbon emissions in Menlo Park by 2025. In two short years, we have collabo-

rated with city and county leaders, and many other dedicated people to establish truly transformative clean energy and carbon reduction programs. We've

Chris DeCardy and

Mitch Slomiak are,

Spark, a nonprofit

founded two years

become a climate-

neutral city by 2025.

GUEST OPINION

respectively, the chair

and vice chair of Menlo

ago to help Menlo Park

helped ensure a successful beginning for Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE), a Community Choice Energy program, which is providing cleaner, cheaper power throughout San Mateo e years PCE plans

County. Within five years PCE plans to provide carbon-free grid power to everyone at no additional cost. We also pressed for new developments along the Bayfront to be 100 percent carbon-free, thanks to the zoning updates adopted by the city of Menlo Park last December.

We have come a long way down the path to a zero-carbon city, with the ambitious 2020 Climate Action Plan goal that our City Council boldly adopted now within reach. The PCE clean energy program and new building standards together will by 2025 reduce citywide carbon by 20 percent. If we help the city continue its commitment to sustainability, we can achieve the 2020 climate goal and so much more.

How do we do that? Here are a few key priorities we should all embrace:

■ Support electric cars (EVs) through increases in public charging infrastructure and EV-friendly policies.

■ Improve alternatives to driving, focusing on such things as safe bike routes and high-quality public transit.

■ Expand 100 percent renewable energy standards for new developments (now required in the Bayfront area) citywide.

■ Improve community resilience by combining new solar panels — for example, on the roofs of carports over parking lots — with energy storage batteries and EV charging.

■ Increase energy assistance programs for low-income families to improve social equity.

As progress on clean energy and climate policy stalls at the federal level and rollbacks to bedrock environmental policy are at risk, the leadership of cities is more important now than ever before. Cities like San Francisco and New York have already played a critical role in advancing clean-economy jobs and prosperity through smart climate policies. And yet, alone they are not enough without participation from smaller cities and suburbs. Twice as many Americans live in smaller cities of 10,000 to 100,000 people as those in large cities with half a million or more people. Those small cities also account for more than four times the carbon emissions of large cities.

We're fortunate that our mayor, Kirsten Keith, took a stand recently to support the Paris Climate Accord, underscoring the leadership role that Menlo Park has taken. Our city, with sustainable business leaders like Facebook and academic-heavyweight neighbors like Stanford, is uniquely well-suited to establish a model pathway to a zero-carbon future. With our partners, we will reimagine what smart mobility could look like, and transition to a clean economy.

The recent shift in federal climate policy stands in sharp contrast to polls that show so much concern over climate change and strong support for clean energy; it is clear that people in Menlo Park and far beyond are looking for solutions. The city of Menlo Park is doing an outstanding job developing smart policies that can boost economic development and job growth while reducing climate pollution. We are well-positioned to do even more. This is the leadership we need, now more than ever.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Important qualities for our elected officials to possess

According to the May 17 issue of the Almanac, an organization developed after the last presidential election, called Indivisible PV — one of some 5,000 chapters of Indivisible USA — that is trying to get more Democrats elected into our governmental system, both locally and in Washington, D.C. ("In wake of Trump locals take leadership role in campaigns to elect Democrats").

I think it is neat how people want to get actively involved in political and non-patrician issues. It is saying we care about our environment and the people who live in it.

As I read the article a question came to mind: What difference does it make if a person elected is a Democrat or a Republican? The most important thing is that the people who are elected express spiritual qualities: humility, meekness, wisdom, intelligence, alertness, honesty, purity, uprightness, inspiration, calmness, gentleness, and kindness, to name a few.

As we look for, and strive to express, these qualities in our own lives, we will see these qualities expressed more in our elected officials.

> Jackie Leonard-Dimmick Walnut Avenue, Atherton

Plan would leave millions without health care

Editor

Think about it: How can Republicans believe they can get away with removing millions of people from health care, and escape the wrath of the voters unscathed? Apparently, they do believe they can get away with it, because that's what they did, and they knew it would be reported far and wide.

The only way to believe they can get away with that is to also feel that they have achieved so much power by way of their wealth (lobbying), gerrymandering, voter restrictions, fearmongering, industry subsidies, and Citizens United that they can continue to steal elections with certainty.

Throughout history, it has ever been thus. Recommendation: Read "Dark Money," the chilling account of the Koch brothers, by Jane Mayer. That tells how.

Don Barnby Spruce Avenue, Menlo Park

'Safe City' advocacy is support for 'lawlessness'?

Editor:

I am *appalled* at the editorial that appeared in the May 31 issue of the Almanac. You are in a presumed position of some authority in our community, but with great piety and sanctimony you are advocating lawlessness.

What makes you and my fellow citizens who support this bogus "Safe City" ordinance the arbiters of the federal laws that are fit to follow? Why are federal immigration statutes, dutifully enacted by Congress, beneath contempt in your view and able to be flouted at will?

Perhaps I view federal tax rules as "unworthy" of my adherence. Should I be given equal opportunity to "resist" all those federal laws, rules, decrees, standards (yes, the glorious federal government issues these by the basketful) with which I disagree? Can I claim some higher and nobler purpose to my "resistance," as you advocate for immigration statutes? And why is protecting the borders of our country such an unseemly activity? Why do we need to provide "sanctuary" to people who are in this country illegally, sucking up resources for which I pay as a taxpayer?

Your pompous statement that we need to support "neighbors, co-workers and friends who are here without documents" is nonsense. What you advocate is a call to "chaos"; chaos is not coming from the executive orders emanating from the current White House, which supports law enforcement.

Moreover, your support for an ordinance that would ban the use of city resources to provide federal agents with information such as religion, race, ethnicity and country of origin for Menlo Park residents is beyond comprehension in its blatant hypocrisy. "Progressives" such as yourselves have been only too happy to track precisely this information from every employer, college, university, school, country club, financial institution and insurance company in this country for decades, and then use these unending reams of data to crucify these organizations with allegations of discrimination, oftentimes (usually) without any evidence of intent, but merely on the premise of "disparate impact."

If in your high-and-mighty wisdom it is now unwise to collect all such classifications of individuals, I demand that you advocate the rescission of every rule, law, and statutory requirement for "diversity" statistics, "equal opportunity" statistics, and other such liberal blather from every organization who has been coerced into providing it. In fact, why not refund to every organization that has had to pay extorted monies in settlement of discrimination lawsuits using such offensive classification data? Does that sound "fair" to you?

If you judge that I am seething about the overreach of the Menlo Park City Council — and your illconceived support of their actions — you are correct.

> Mical Atz Brenzel Garland Drive, Menlo Park

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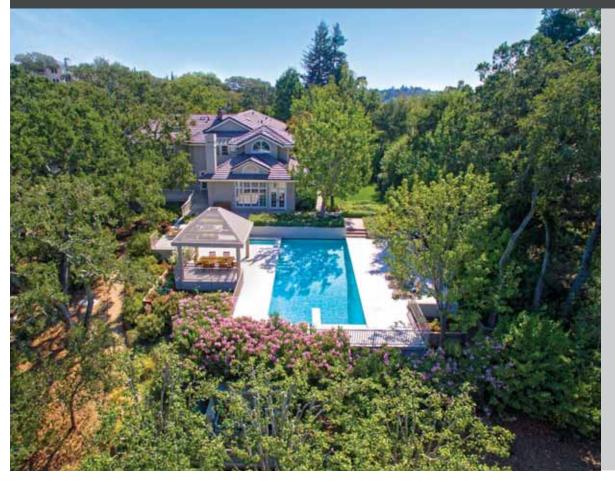
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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement SASSY B'S HANDBAGS & ACCESSORIES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 273592 File No.: 273592 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Sassy B's Handbags & Accessories, locat-ed at 255 Daphne Way, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): BRIDGET G. GRANT-FRASER 255 Daphne Way East Palo Alto, CA 94303 This business is conducted by: An This business is conducted by: An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business 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 16, 2017. (ALM May 31; June 7, 14, 21, 2017) HAIR DESIGNERS N SPA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 273590 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Hair Designers N Spa, located at 1064 Foster City Blvd., Foster City, CA 94404, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): OUANG NGUYEN QUANG NGUYEN 1150 McLaughlin Ave. #101 San Jose, CA 95122 PHUONGTHAO HUA 1150 McLaughlin Ave. #101 San Jose, CA 95122 This business is conducted by: Married Couple Couple The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 16, 2017. (ALM May 31; June 7, 14, 21, 2017) DISTRIBUIDORA LA NUEVA SAN SALVADOR SALVADOR FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 273780 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Distribuidora La Nueva San Salvador, Distribuidora La Nueva San Salvador, located at 1903 E Bayshore Rd., #16, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): VICTOR MANUEL MELARA MARTINEZ VICTOR MANUEL MELARA MARTINEZ 1903 E Bayshore Rd., #16 Redwood City, CA 94063 This business is conducted by: An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5-30-17. This statement was filed with the This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 31, 2017. (ALM June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2017)

UNITECM CHEMICALS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMEN File No.: 273802 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Unitecm Chemicals, located at 1371 Sevier Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): SONGYUAN XIE 1371 Sevier Ave.

1371 Sevier Ave. Menlo Park, CA 94025 This business is conducted by: An

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/24/2009. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 1, 2017. (ALM June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2017) E Y L CLEANING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 273677 The following pe doing business The No. 273077 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: E y L Cleaning, located at 216 S. Canal St. #B, Merced, CA 95341. Registered owner(s): LUZ M. VILLA 216 S. Canal St. #B Merced, CA 95341 This business is conducted by: An Individual.

Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5-22-17. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 22, 2017. (AI M. lune 21, 28, July 5, 12, 2017) (ALM June 21, 28, July 5, 12, 2017)

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Case No.: 17CIV02159 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: SO YONG YI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: SO YONG YI to KELLY SO YONG YI. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is sched-uled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: June 29, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Dept: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, of California, County of San Mateo. located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

City, CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC Date: May 22, 2017 (x/ Susan Irene Etezadi /s/ Susan Irene Etezadi JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (ALM May 31; June 7, 14, 21, 2017) NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER

ESTATE OF STANLEY BLUMENFELD STANLEY BLUMENFELD Case No.: 17PR000559 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of STANLEY BLUMENFELD. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: TERRY BLUMENFELD in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO

MATEO.

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investment property

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The Petition for Probate requests that: TERRY BLUMENFELD be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate The will and any codicils are

probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept available for examination in the file key by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions. however, the perimportant actions, however, the per

sonal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The indepen dent administration authority will be dent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on June 30, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 28, of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center. Redwood City. CA 94063.

County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. If you object to the granting of the peti-tion, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledge-able in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court of two are a person interested in You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Arthur S. Weil 671 Oak Grove Ave., Ste. K

671 Oak Grove Ave., Ste. K Menlo Park, CA 94025 (650)322-4244 (ALM June 7, 14, 21, 2017) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Case No. 127(2)/02265 Case No.: 17CIV02306 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: EDUARDO PELEGRI LLOPART

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TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS

Petitioner: EDUARDO PELEGRI LLOPART filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: EDUARDO PELEGRI LLOPART to EDUARDO PELEGRI-LLOPART. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection at least two reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is sched-uled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: July 11, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Dept: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. reasons for the objection at least two CA 94063.

CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC

ALMANAC Date: May 26, 2017 /s/ Jonathan E. Karesh JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (ALM June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2017)

APN: 055-342-520 TS No: CA08000247-17-1 TO No: 170028283 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(1). The Summary will Section 2923.3(d)(1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED December 17, 2003. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On July 25, 2017 at 01:00 A LAWYER. On July 25, 2017 at 01:00 PM, Marshall St. Entrance, San Mateo County Courthouse, Southern Branch Hall of Justice & Records, 400 County Hall of Justice & Records, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063, MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps, as the duly Appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded on December 30, 2003 as Instrument No. 2003-354932, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of San

Mateo County, California, executed by JOSE LUIS GUZMAN RIVAS, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor(s), in favor of WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, FA, A FEDERAL ASSOCIATION as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1326 CHILCO STREET, MENLO PARK, CA 94025 The under-signed Trustee disclams any liability for signed Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the Note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said Note(s), advances if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The any incorrectness of the street address and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$254,821.50 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued inter-est and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the

Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the prop-erty receiver, if applicable. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclu-sive remedy shall be the return of mon-ies paid to the Trustee and the success-ful bidder shall have no further recourse. ful bidder shall have no further recourse. Notice to Potential Bidders If you are considering bidding on this property

lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a Trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a Trustee auction does highest bid at a Trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for pay-ing off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by conthat may exist on this property by con tacting the county recorder's office or a tacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this informa-tion. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same Lender may hold more than one mortgage or Deed of Trust on the property. Notice to Property Owner The sale date shown on this Notice of Sale may be postponed one or more times by the Mortgagee, Beneficiary, Trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about Trustee requires that information about Trustee requires that information about Trustee Sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call Auction. com at 800.280.2832 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Web site address www.Auction. com formation regarding the sale com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA08000247-17-1. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: June 12, 2017 MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps TS No. CA08000247-17-1 17100 Gillette Ave Irvine, CA 92614 Phone:949-252-8300 TDD: 866-660-4288 Mvron Ravelo. Authorized Signatory Myron Ravelo, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ONLINE AT www.Auction.com FOR AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: Auction.com at 800.280.2832 Trustee Corps may be acting as a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained may be used for that purpose.ISL Number 32149, Pub Dates: 06/21/2017, 06/28/2017 THE AI MANAC 06/28/2017, 07/05/2017, THE ALMANAC





- NOTICES OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE
- PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES
- TRUSTEE'S SALE
- RESOLUTIONS
- BID NOTICES
- LIEN SALE

PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

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

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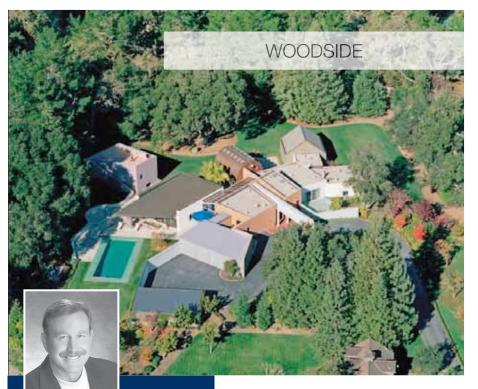
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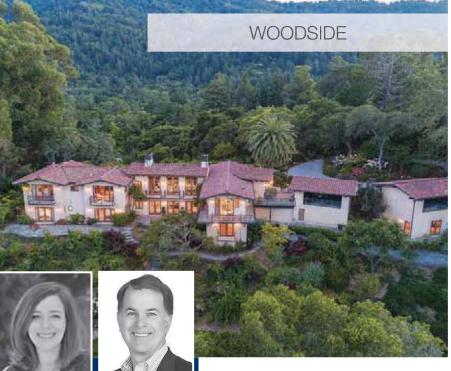
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