

# The Almanac

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

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 | VOL. 53 NO. 2



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## Facing the unthinkable

*The Nye family helped scientists discover a new disease. Now they're on a mission to find a treatment.*

Page 16



Inside this issue  
**Info Menlo community  
resource guide**



# THE ADDRESS IS THE PENINSULA

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2042 (2017)

### RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

Lands of TJB Investments, LLC

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
- X All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or
- Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

**IT IS RESOLVED** by the District Board as follows:

- It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
- In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: October 11, 2017  
 Time: 7:00 PM  
 Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices  
 500 Laurel Street  
 Menlo Park, CA 94025

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

- This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i.).
- A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
- The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

#### Exhibit A

##### LEGAL DESCRIPTION

##### ANNEXATION TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT LANDS OF BOCHNOWSKI/185 MEADOWOOD DRIVE AND A PORTION OF MEADOWOOD DRIVE CITY OF PORTOLA CITY, CALIFORNIA

All that real property situated in the City of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, being that parcel described in that certain Grant Deed recorded on April 30, 2015 as Instrument No. 2015-043955 of Official Records, in the Office of the Recorder of the County of San Mateo, State of California and a portion of Meadowood Drive, as said parcel and street are shown on that certain map entitled "TRACT NO. 774 - ARROWHEAD MEADOWS UNIT NO. 4, BEING A PORTION OF THE RANCHO EL CORTE MADERA" recorded on March 17, 1959 in Book 50 of Maps at Pages 45 through 48, inclusive, in the Office of the Recorder of said County and being more particularly described as follows:

**BEGINNING** at the southerly corner of said parcel; thence, proceeding clockwise the following courses and distances:

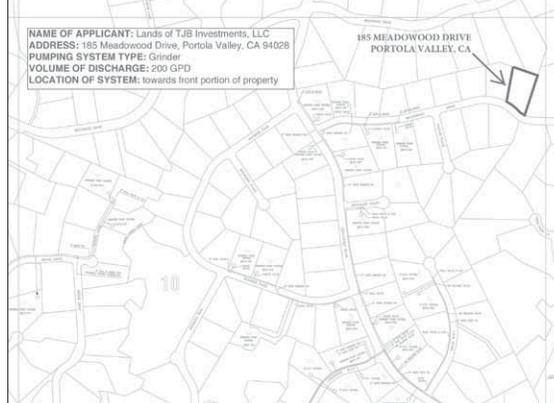
- North 53°33'33" West, 276.07 feet along the southwesterly line of said parcel to the westerly corner of said parcel; thence,
- North 45°43'00 East, 180.00 feet along the northwesterly line to the northerly corner of said parcel; thence,
- South 44°17'00" East, 327.45 feet along the northeasterly line of said parcel and the southeasterly prolongation of said northeasterly line to the southeasterly line of Meadowood Drive; thence,
- along said southeasterly line South 29°11'18" West, 8.90 feet to a curve concave northwesterly having a radius of 125.00 feet; thence,
- along said curve southwesterly 54.39 feet through a central angle of 24°55'48"; thence,
- South 54°07'06" West, 81.32 feet continuing along said southeasterly line; thence,
- Leaving said southeasterly line, North 35°52'54" West, 50.00 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

Containing 51,043 square feet (1.17 acres) more or less.

For assessment purposes only. This description of land is not a legal property description as defined in the Subdivision Map Act and may not be used as the basis for an offer for sale of the land described.

April 17, 2017

#### Exhibit B



"There's no place like home."



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# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## Improving traffic flow in Dumbarton corridor

By Kate Bradshaw  
Almanac Staff Writer

In light of findings from a \$1 million study paid for by Facebook, SamTrans is recommending a phased revamp of the Dumbarton transportation corridor with changes to the highway bridge, a rehabilitation of the old rail bridge that runs parallel to it, and a reconfiguring of arteries that feed the bridge, including Bayfront Expressway, Marsh Road and Willow Road on the Peninsula.

SamTrans plans to discuss the study on Monday, Sept. 25, in the Menlo Park Senior Center at 100 Terminal Ave. The program starts at 6:30 p.m.

In the study, SamTrans also recommends, by 2020, to expand transbay bus routes that would run from the Union City BART station to Menlo Park and Redwood City or south to Mountain View and Sunnyvale.

Changes to ease congestion on either side of the bridge — for

people seeking to connect to U.S. 101 on the Peninsula, and for people seeking to connect to I-880 in the East Bay — are also recommended.

Systems to expedite bus traffic are recommended for Bayfront Expressway and Willow Road. “Traffic signal priority” devices would enable buses to hold a green light longer. Roads might also be reconfigured to give buses priority over cars, according to SamTrans spokesperson Dan Lieberman.

Improvements to the toll plaza and the addition of park and ride facilities are also recommended for further consideration.

SamTrans recommends rebuilding, by 2030, the abandoned rail bridge (which runs parallel to the highway bridge, but is in a state of disrepair) and activating a rail shuttle across the Bay to connect Redwood City to Newark. By 2035, it recommends extending the shuttle to the Union City BART station.

Another action proposed to

### SamTrans plans to discuss the Dumbarton corridor study on Sept. 25 in Menlo Park.

ease congestion would be to build a one-lane, bus-only overpass at Bayfront Expressway and Willow Road. The overpass would be for public and private buses.

The bus-only overpass would be at the Dumbarton Rail right-of-way (where the abandoned rail lines are now) over Willow Road and would accommodate buses destined for Redwood City and other points north, or potentially U.S. 101 if a connection were to be built, according to the report.

In Facebook’s recently released master plan for its Willow Campus, there is a space designated for a potential Willow Road transit center where buses and trains could connect more easily with roads and rails.

Several options were proposed for configuring such a design, depending on whether express lanes would be added on Willow Road to link to U.S. 101.

Because of major logistical problems to do this, including having to tunnel or trench roadways or acquire private land, adding express lanes on Willow Road appears unlikely, according to the report.

A more likely path forward would be to add express lanes on Bayfront Expressway that would link up with U.S. 101 at Marsh Road, according to SamTrans Principal Planner Melissa Reggiardo.

At a public meeting held Aug. 16 in East Palo Alto, locals expressed worries about the proposed bus overpass, also known as a “fly-over,” and wondered why plans previously discussed to install a bicycle and pedestrian path along the abandoned Dumbarton rail corridor between Redwood City and East Palo Alto was not

recommended for further study. Ms. Reggiardo said it was because the right-of-way is not wide enough to accommodate a revitalized two-track train line and a 12 to 16-foot-wide bike and pedestrian path, with a 25-foot recommended buffer zone.

Following through on SamTrans’ recommended projects would require the cooperation of a number of agencies: Caltrain, Union Pacific, the Alameda County Transportation Commission, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Caltrans, the State Transportation Board, and the cities the routes would pass through, according to SamTrans Principal Planner Melissa Reggiardo. In all, it could cost more than \$2 billion.

Proposed funding strategies include dedicating all funding currently available to the project and seeking state, regional, local, private and federal funding,

See **DUMBARTON**, page 6

## Parents mobilize for safe routes to school

Jen Wolosin, founder and chair of Menlo Park-based Parents for Safe Routes, will speak about “Between Home and School: Why Safe Routes Matter and How to Make Them Happen” in the first talk of the school year in the Menlo Park City School District’s Parent Education Speaker Series.

The event is on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Hillview Middle School Performing Arts Center at 1100 Elder Ave. in Menlo Park.

Following Ms. Wolosin’s presentation, a panel that includes Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith and Menlo Park Complete Streets Chair Bianca Walser will answer questions from the audience.

According to the group, Parents for Safe Routes, in 1969, half of all students nationwide walked or biked to school, but by 2009, just 13 percent did.

Ms. Wolosin will talk about how parents are advocating for children in the community to be able to walk and bike to school safely. She will look at efforts in other places to allow more children to experience the benefits

of walking and biking to school, which include healthier bodies and minds, increased independence and confidence, and more connections with neighbors.

Having Safe Routes to School not only makes the roads safer for kids, but it also improves the quality of life for everyone by reducing

traffic congestion and creating friendlier neighborhoods. Parents4SafeRoutes.org has more information and a newsletter.

The organization is working with schools, municipal leaders and community members to build a Safe Routes to School partnership and drive change with the stated goal of helping “every kid have the option of biking, walking, or taking an active form of transportation to school. We also support carpooling and busing to reduce the number of cars on the road.”

Other program in the speaker series:

■ Tuesday, Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m., “The Future of Education: Menlo Park and Beyond,” with

**Parents4SafeRoutes.org** has more information and a newsletter.

See **SAFE ROUTES**, page 6



Image: AECOM/city of Menlo Park

A rendering of what Ravenswood Avenue might look like with the triple-rail separation at Ravenswood, Oak Grove and Glenwood avenues.

## Grade separation issues heads to council

By Kate Bradshaw  
Almanac Staff Writer

The city of Menlo Park is getting closer to making a decision on its preferred option for separating roadways from rail lines to improve traffic flow and safety at Caltrain crossings in Menlo Park.

The matter was on the Planning Commission agenda Sept. 11, after the Almanac went to press, and is scheduled to go to the Complete Streets Commission on Wednesday, Sept. 13, and to the City Council on

Tuesday, Oct. 10, for a decision.

The Planning Commission was asked to recommend to the City Council a preferred option among these two choices:

■ Build one grade separation at Ravenswood Avenue, with the roadway tunneling about 22 feet beneath the tracks.

■ Build three grade separations — at Ravenswood, Oak Grove and Glenwood avenues — that would involve a combination of lowering the roads and raising the tracks. The Caltrain tracks would be raised about 10 feet at Ravenswood and

Oak Grove Avenues and about 5 feet at Glenwood Avenue. Ravenswood Avenue would be lowered approximately 12 feet, Oak Grove Avenue about 11 feet and Glenwood Avenue about 15 feet at the railroad tracks.

Go to [AlmanacNews.com](http://AlmanacNews.com) for updates.

According to a staff report, during community meetings on grade separations, 85 percent of about 55 attendees favored the triple-separation option.

Those who favored the

See **CROSSINGS**, page 6

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\*Steve Gray's Zillow Rating



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sgray@cbnorcal.com



Steve was born in Menlo Park, raised in Atherton, and is a Woodside resident.

## Driver 'at fault' in collision with cyclists

By **Dave Boyce**  
Almanac Staff Writer

The driver of an SUV involved in an Aug. 5 collision with a group of bicyclists near Portola Valley Town Center at 765 Portola Road has been found “at fault” in the accident, according to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

Six cyclists were injured, including three who were taken to the hospital — and since released, Detective Salvador Zuno said in Sept. 6 email. Medics on the scene reported that one cyclist was seriously enough injured to require immediate transportation by ambulance.

County investigators found no criminal intent on the part of the driver, a Portola Valley man in his 70s who was driving a 1989 silver Toyota Land

Cruiser, Mr. Zuno said.

“The incident has been documented and closed,” he said. Since the driver is not being charged, his name will not be made public, Mr. Zuno said.

The Saturday morning collision, reported to dispatchers at about 10:43 a.m., involved an SUV headed north on Portola Road and cyclists headed south, Battalion Chief Steve Slaughter of the Woodside Fire Protection District told the Almanac at the time.

The SUV had been turning left in the vicinity of the northern entrance to the Town Center. “It was kind of a head-on collision,” Mr. Slaughter said, adding that the SUV had minor damage. The driver, “an older gentleman,” was alone in the vehicle, he said.

“There were a lot of cyclists there,” he added. ▀

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### DUMBARTON

continued from page 5

development fees, fares and tolls, and federal and state financing.

SamTrans led the study, but consultants from firms CDM Smith, WSP, Fehr & Peers, Arup and HDR also worked on the project.

Go to [is.gd/study305](http://is.gd/study305) to see the 267-page study, and go to [is.gd/more497](http://is.gd/more497) to see the appendices. Diagrams of options to reconfigure Willow Road and the Willow Road/Bayfront Expressway

intersection can be found in Appendix F.

People can comment on the study's recommendations by phone at (650) 508-6283; by email to [reggiardom@samtrans.com](mailto:reggiardom@samtrans.com); or by mail to: Melissa Reggiardo, San Mateo County Transit District, P.O. Box 3006, 1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070. The deadline to submit comments is Friday, Sept. 29.

SamTrans officials presented the study's findings to the Menlo Park City Council on Aug. 22. ▀

### SAFE ROUTES

continued from page 5

Superintendent Erik Burmeister and district principals Willy Haug, Sharon Burns, Linda Creighton, and Kristin Gracia.

■ Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m., “Anxiety & Depression in Teenagers” with Jacob Towery, M.D., a Stanford professor and author of “The Anti-Depressant Book: A Practical Guide for Teens and Young Adults to Overcome Depression and Stay Healthy.”

■ Wednesday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m., “Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy” with Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer of Facebook.

■ Wednesday, Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m., “The Minds of Boys and Girls” with Michael

Gurian, author, consultant and philosopher.

■ Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m., “Parenting in the Digital Age” with Gloria Moskowitz-Sweet and Erica Pelavin, co-founders of My Digital TAT2.

■ Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 p.m., “Get Connected: Talking with your Adolescent about Sexual Health,” with Vanessa Kellam, parent engagement coordinator, Health Connected.

■ Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., “Managing PreTeen and Teen Transitions,” with Erik Burmeister, superintendent, Menlo Park City School District.

[MPCSDspeakerseries.com](http://MPCSDspeakerseries.com) has more information. All events are free and open to the public, with free onsite child care for children who are potty-trained and older. — Barbara Wood

### CROSSINGS

continued from page 5

Ravenswood Avenue-only option said it is a lower cost way to reduce traffic congestion and improve safety at the crossing with the

most vehicular traffic.

Preliminary cost estimates for the Ravenswood-only option are \$160 million to \$200 million; for the triple-crossing option, the estimates are \$310 million to \$390 million. ▀

# Hardware store changes hands

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

Darkness had settled in on Oct. 17, 1989, by the time Portola Valley resident Mark Parris pulled up to his hardware store at the corner of Alpine and Portola roads in Portola Valley. The power was out — a consequence of the Loma Prieta earthquake — and a crowd had gathered, waiting to buy batteries, flashlights and other essentials for which hardware stores are known.

“People were lined up out the door,” Mr. Parris recalled, in discussing his recent sale of the store. After the quake, the store had a bit of cash on hand, he said, but many customers did not, so they dealt in IOUs.

The Loma Prieta quake was his most memorable challenge over his 25 years of ownership — there was no power for a week, he said — and his most memorable success. “People got what they needed,” he said. “We were fulfilling our obligation of giving customer service to the town.”

“We always have the best customers in the world here,” he said. “They made the store what it is.”

And if Portola Valley Hardware is anything, it is a mainstay of customer service and problem-solving, Mr. Parris said.

That tradition of service and problem-solving will continue, he said. Continuity “is very important” to the new owners, Mr. Parris said. “That was part of the deal. I wanted to try to find somebody to carry that on, and I believe these people will.”

The new owners, as of Sept. 1, are Stig Nybo, a retirement-plan strategist who lives in unincorporated Los Trancos

Woods in the hills above Portola Valley, and Richard Crevelt, a real estate developer who lives in the Woodside Highlands neighborhood in Portola Valley.

Mr. Crevelt is also the founder and executive director of a foundation aimed at preserving the Hawthorns Historic Complex, a 79-acre estate across the road from the hardware store and owned by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.

## New shelves

The store last changed hands in 1985, when Mr. Parris bought it — and did not change its name.

The store opened in the 1950s



Photo by Michelle Le

**Mark Parris** says Portola Valley Hardware’s tradition of customer service and problem-solving will continue.

as Oscar’s, became Simpsons of the Valley, then Jim’s Hardware, then H & H Hardware before arriving at its current name in the late 1970s.

An early change under Mr. Parris’ ownership: taller shelves. “You could stand at one side and see the other side,” he said. He also started renting equipment such as wood splitters. When the nearby pharmacy closed in 2001, he picked up parts of its business, including sales of toys and balloons.

He also expanded the inventory, a result of listening to customers. “What do they want? What do we have? If you don’t have it, you can’t sell it,” he said. “People need it now, even more so today because you’re competing online.”

Someone else will now have those concerns. Giving up the store has been “a bit difficult,” he said. “I’m going to miss the customers, mostly. I’m going to miss that part of it for sure. But I’ve had a long run. I’m ready to move on.”

He is 67. There is deferred maintenance at home to take care of, he said, and he plans to

travel with his wife and perhaps join her in her nonprofit work. “I’ll try to figure out the rest as I go along,” he said.

## ‘A mentor’

There were weeks when resident Danna Breen saw Mr. Parris several times. “I saw Mark more than I saw some of my best friends,” she said. “He really was a mentor for 25 years.”

“The thing I appreciated the most was his guidance,” she said. “He taught me how to fix things myself. I was never humiliated by that. I’m a really good plumber now. I’m a really good electrician. That speaks volumes about what I’ve learned.”

“He always had what I needed,” she said. “Of course, they’re more expensive, but you support your local business. What I got from Mark was invaluable. He made Portola Valley a more sustainable place.”

Erin Sanders, a resident of Portola Valley for three years, recalled the help she got when her husband was traveling and her second-grader needed a miniature wooden car for a Cub Scout pinewood derby. “They took care to saw the car to exact 8-year-old measurements,” Ms. Sanders said. “We left with a car ready for sanding and paint, and a happy boy.”

## MONTHLY REAL ESTATE UPDATE WITH MANDY MONTOYA

August 2017



Again, inventory is down compared to last year in Atherton, Portola Valley and Menlo Park. In August Menlo Park had about as many closed sales as new listings, indicating homes are selling quickly in Menlo. The price point in Menlo Park is attracting a different buyer — including first time home buyers — as the homes in Menlo Park averaged \$2.2M in August vs. \$2.5M in Portola Valley, \$4.9M in Woodside and \$4.2M in Atherton. Contact me for more information.

	August 2016		August 2017	
	# of Active Homes for Sale	# of Closed Sales	# of Active Homes for Sale	# of Closed Sales
Atherton	35	7	23	8
Woodside	30	5	35	8
Portola Valley	17	8	13	4
Menlo Park	48	33	26	31

MLS Data through 8/31/17

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# Mark Rich remembrance: Engineer, pilot, father, friend

By **Barbara Wood**

Almanac Staff Writer

Friends, family and colleagues came from all over the country, and even from France, to celebrate the life of Mark Rich of Menlo Park on Aug. 26 in a way that his wife, Laura Rich, said Mr. Rich would have appreciated.

They hiked on the Stanford Dish trail and then gathered at the beer garden named the Alpine Inn, but known by all as Rossotti's or Zott's.

"He loved hiking the Dish," said Laura Rich. "He loved Zott's."

"It was perfect. He was a very casual person and he would have appreciated that we were true to who he was; that we raised a beer in his honor."

Many of those who came that day — a week after the Aug. 19 afternoon when Mr. Rich died when his plane crashed just outside of Madras, Oregon, as he headed to watch the total solar eclipse — were former colleagues.

Some of them had worked for multiple employers with Mr. Rich, whose workplaces included Bell Labs, SRI International, Google, DARPA (the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) and

most recently, Airbus.

## Loyal to friends, colleagues

"He was intensely loyal to the people he worked with," Laura Rich said. "If he thought you were good and knew your stuff, he did not forget you" and often convinced a new employer to hire former colleagues, she said.

"He was intensely personable and fun. He made friends and kept them forever," she said. "Lots of childhood friends flew out."

## Mark Rich died in a plane crash on his way to view total solar eclipse.

Mark Rich was born in Denver, Colorado, on Dec. 19, 1958, to Al and LaVone Rich, but lived there only a few months. The family moved several times, spending the most time in Neenah and Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

In high school, Mark worked at the Fawn Restaurant in Sturgeon Bay one summer as a line cook, from midnight to 6 a.m., Ms. Rich said.

"It was really quiet until the bars got out, and he was bored," she said, so he pulled out his father's college calculus textbook "and

worked through it, for fun."

When high school started back up, Mark took the final calculus exam, getting every answer right. It allowed him to get an undergraduate electrical engineering degree from Michigan Tech and a Stanford master's degree in electrical engineering without ever having taken a calculus class, Ms. Rich said.

"Mark truly was one of the great minds of our time," Ms. Rich said. "He was truly, unbelievably, brilliant."

## Change the world?

In Mr. Rich's first year at DARPA, during which he got four projects off the ground, his boss told him "clearly you understand the type of things we're looking for" and offered him a challenge: "What I want you to do is change the world," his boss said.

"I have some ideas," Mr. Rich told his wife. He took on "a project he could barely tell me about. But he said it had the potential to change the world," she said.

"Not only was he brilliant, but he was really creative."

At SRI International, where he worked for 15 years, he became director of the special communications lab, and was "one of the leading authorities in the world

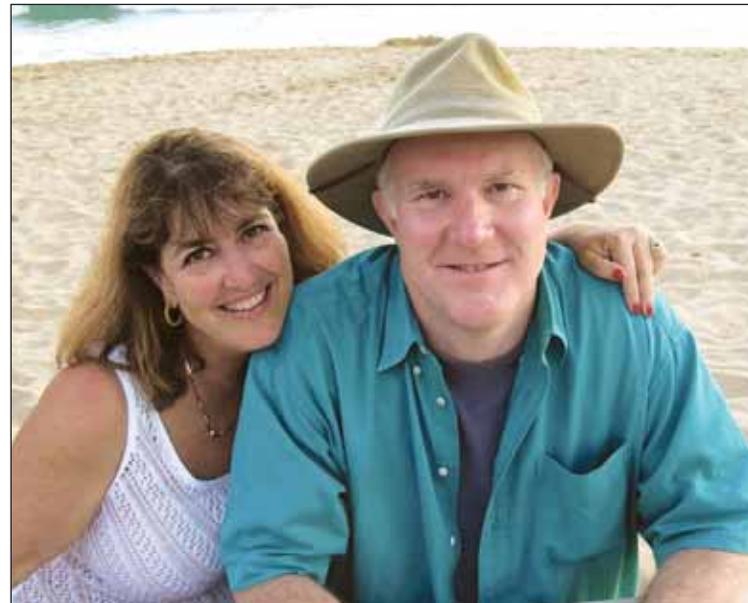


Photo courtesy Laura Rich

**Laura and Mark Rich** on a beach in Southern California.

on meteor burst communications," studying in depth how to bounce communications off the dust surrounding meteors, Ms. Rich said.

Mr. Rich was 58 and would have turned 59 in December. "We were starting to plan his 60th," Ms. Rich said. "My daughter wanted to helicopter onto a glacier" with her dad, and then to kayak on the glacier with him. He would have loved it, Ms. Rich said.

## Building the plane

Mr. Rich, "just intellectually and physically craved the edge," Ms. Rich said. "It wasn't enough for him to get a pilot's license. He wanted to build the plane."

The plane he built — and was flying when it crashed and burned near the top of a canyon about a mile from the Madras, Oregon, airport — a single engine Wheeler Express, was "his pride and joy," Ms. Rich said.

He first saw the plane at a flight show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 29 years ago, deciding "it was absolutely beautiful and he wanted to build it," she said. She told him he first had to get his pilot's license "because we weren't going through that if he didn't like to fly."

He did like to fly, and the kit for the plane was delivered when their daughter, now 27, was a month old. "He built it in the garage," she said, then shipped the completed wings and fuselage to the factory, where he did the final assembly.

"He loved that plane. He spent two years painting it," she said. "He'd come home from a trip and he'd say hi to me, and say hi to the dog, and go play with the plane in a hangar."

"We flew all over," she said. "We'd get up in the morning and fly to the Sierras and fly back" after brunch, she said.

This year, Mark Rich planned to fly his plane to the Oshkosh

show in which he'd first seen it, so he could show it off. But work got in the way, and he didn't find the time, Ms. Rich said.

She said the National Transportation Safety Board investigator told her they may never know why the accident occurred. Most of the evidence was destroyed by the fire. "There were a lot of witnesses, but there were a lot of conflicting stories," she said.

"He was extremely healthy," she said and "could have designed the equipment" running the plane. "He was not a man who panicked. He was always in control and he had had acrobatic training" and was up to date on all his certifications, she said.

## Jumping in full bore

His other avocations including scuba diving (which he learned to do in Lake Michigan in the winter), skiing, target shooting and wood working.

"He loved fine wine, fine food, fine whiskey; he loved bourbon," Ms. Rich said. "If he got interested in something, he embraced it and jumped in full bore."

"We loved collecting wines and learning about them," she said, perhaps because it's a subject that can never really be mastered. "The minute you thought you got your hands around something, there's a new terroir, a new year," she said.

"He loved that; he loved being challenged by trying to understand the underlying foundation of something, and how does it change and adjust over time."

When Mark Rich was in Washington, D.C., while working for DARPA, he was surrounded by American history "and got intrigued and decided he was going to read the biography of every president," she said. "He made it to Gerald Ford. He didn't quite finish, but he lived the

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## PUBLIC HEARING

1. Woodside Developers, LLC ASRB2016-0016; CUSE2016-0003  
Lawler Ranch Road Right-of-Way (Sand Hill Estates) Planner: Sage Schaan, Principal Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal requiring Design Review to install a new private road vehicular gate, pylons, and adjacent fencing. The private road gate is required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under a Habitat Management Plan for the private road and 5 vacant parcels known as "Sand Hill Estates". The Planning Commission will consider the recommendation from the ASRB, and a proposed Conditional Use Permit required for vehicle gates on private roads (CUSE2016-0003).

2. Accessory Dwelling Units  
Town-wide Planner: Jackie Young, Planning Director

Continued policy discussion concerning the provision of adequate ingress/egress for Accessory Dwelling Units established in converted structures. This item was continued from September 6, 2017.

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.

See **MARK RICH**, page 10

Looking for  
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A 24-year Schwab veteran, Tracy moved to the U.S. from China with three economics degrees and a desire to make a difference. Today, when she's not helping her clients at the Menlo Park branch, you can find her hosting pro bono financial planning sessions at various local libraries or teaching money skills to kids. She believes that being engaged and accountable is the cornerstone of a good relationship. How could values like Tracy's make a difference in managing your wealth? Stop by the Menlo Park branch or give Tracy a call to find out.



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# City seeks lobbyist, communications consultant

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

## ■ MENLO PARK

The city of Menlo Park is searching for two consultants: one to represent the city interests in Washington, D.C., as a lobbyist and another to analyze the city's communications efforts and recommend how to improve them.

Requests for proposals for both positions closed Sept. 8.

### Lobbyist

The preferred term is "legislative advocate," rather than lobbyist, said Peter Ibrahim, a management analyst for the city of Menlo Park who authored the requests for proposals.

But the purpose is the same: to establish relationships in the nation's capital so that when the city needs something, whether

it's to set up a meeting with federal officials or to make a grant application or funding request, it has better connections with those in power.

Having more influence on legislation and acquiring funds available to local governments are two priorities for the city, Mr. Ibrahim said.

Hiring a lobbyist would also jump-start a process to establish just what the city's federal agenda might be.

The selected firm would help the city develop strategies to get funding for big transportation and infrastructure projects;

schedule meetings between city officials and members of Congress or federal administrators; and coordinate an agenda with other organizations, cities and companies with similar legislative goals.

The firm would draft letters and talking points on legislation, testify on behalf of the city at hearings before legislative committees, and give at least annual briefings to the mayor and city staff.

### Communications

The city is also seeking a consultant to audit the city's

communications strategies and to recommend improvements.

The city uses a number of platforms for spreading information: its website, weekly digests, NextDoor, Facebook, Nixle, Instagram, SMCAAlert, Twitter, the city YouTube channel, live-streamed public meetings and special meetings.

Despite that, Mr. Ibrahim said, residents say they don't know about something going on until it's too late.

The city's last approved "community engagement" and social media policies were drafted in 2010. ■

## George Phillip Knapp

June 19, 1927 – September 1, 2017

George Phillip Knapp, a long time resident of Menlo Park, died on Friday, Sept. 1, surrounded by his family at his daughter's home in Kauai, Hawaii.

George was born in San Francisco to Phillip and Helena Knapp on June 19, 1927. He moved to Burlingame with his family in 1940. He attended Burlingame High School and was active in the Sea Scouts.

He enlisted in the Navy as soon as he was able, near the end of World War II. After the war, he became a journeyman electrician until his retirement.

Although he was an electrician by trade, George was known and admired as a creative and talented craftsman. He completely remodeled two homes as well as doing numerous upgrades to the family home. George's mark can still be found in many of the homes of his family and friends.

George was an active member of St. Denis church where he ushered for many years. It was also where he met Valerie, who became the love of his life. It was probably the bravest thing he ever did when in 1970 he married Valerie, who was widowed with four pre-teens.

With quiet patience George helped raise the four kids and in his way became a loving father to them. In their later years, George and Valerie enjoyed traveling with their square dancing group on cruises and casino trips as well as visits to friends and relatives.

George was preceded in death by his wife Valerie Knapp, parents Phillip and Helena Knapp, son Brian Skala, sister Elizabeth (Van) Sutton, and his niece Cynthia Sutton.

He is survived by his children, sons Paul (Yvonne) Sassone, Steve (Lea) Sassone, Mark (Yukiko) Sassone and daughter Maria (Robert "Joe") LaMadrid. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, Chris (Aurora) Sassone, and Brandon Sassone, Elizabeth, Alex, Michele, and Noah LaMadrid, and Siena Sassone, and one great grandchild Brycen Sassone. Nephew Scott (Ollie) Sutton, Grand-Niece Elizabeth Sutton, and Great-Grand Nephew Ezekiel Sutton. Nephew Michael (Ruby) Sutton and Grand-Nephews Alexander & Jonathan Sutton.

His daughter Maria lovingly cared for him for the last 2 1/2 years of his life with the exceptional help of her three brothers and their families.

The family would also like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all of those who gave outstanding care, attention and love to George, and his family.

A celebration and remembrance of George's life along with his wife Valerie will be held in Menlo Park at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to the family C/O Maria LaMadrid, 5918 Uilani Place, Kapaa, HI. 96746.



### MARK RICH

continued from page 8

others."

Mr. Rich's current job, at Airbus, brought together planes, creativity and communication, "everything he loved," she said. He had been recruited by a co-worker from DARPA and Google, and assigned to look forward 10 years "reimagining all communications for planes."

"It was an opportunity that was so exciting, and he just loved brainstorming and imagining," she said.

### 33 years in Menlo Park

Laura and Mark Rich met at Stanford University, when she was 19 and he was 23. They married two weeks after her graduation, and moved to a home they had bought in Menlo Park, where they have lived for 33 years.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Rich is survived by son Tyler and daughter-in-law Kathryn Rich of Austin, Texas; daughter Michelle Rich of New York City; parents Al and LaVone Rich of Arnold, Missouri; brother Tim Rich of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and sister Janel Rich Grillo of Virginia

Beach, Virginia.

Laura Rich said their daughter tells a story she feels sort of encapsulates Mark. "She's an adventurer, big time," like her father, Ms. Rich said. Once Michelle couldn't decide if she should go on a trip or not.

"Finally, he said, 'Michelle, just buy the damn ticket,'" Laura Rich said.

"It became sort of the family motto — if you're on the fence you do something. You jump in, you embrace it, you just buy the damn ticket."

"That's what he was doing in Oregon. He was just buying the damn ticket." ■

## Mayor hosts conversation on education

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith will host a community conversation Monday, Sept. 18, about options the city might have to deal with the problem of education inequality in Menlo Park. The program will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Menlo Park Senior Center at 100 Terminal Ave.

California 2016 test results show a stark difference in performance between school districts on the west side of Menlo Park — Las Lomas and Menlo Park City — and the east side — Ravenswood.

In the Las Lomas and Menlo Park City school districts, the proportion of students in grades 3-8 who did not meet standards for English language arts and math was at 10 percent or less.

In Ravenswood City School District, the proportion of students who did not meet these standards typically ranged from 50 to 60 percent.

See **KIRSTEN KEITH**, page 20

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PAID OBITUARY

# Town moves ahead with flood, pollution control

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton is moving forward with a plan to build in Holbrook-Palmer Park an underground storm-water processing facility that will help control pollution and flooding.

The City Council voted unanimously Sept. 6 to sign an amended agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and to begin the process of finding a design contractor.

Caltrans has offered Atherton a \$13.6 million grant to design and build the facility that will capture storm water and other runoff, filter out pollutants, and control flooding by slowly releasing the water to the Bay.

The government is requiring communities and agencies to clean up storm water before releasing it. The project will give Caltrans credit for treating runoff from Interstate 280 and from El Camino Real (Highway 84). Atherton will also get credits for cleaning up

town water.

The original plan was to build the facility at Las Lomitas School as part of a school construction project, but the town's negotiations with the school reached an impasse this summer.

The major sticking point appeared to be that Atherton officials want to be able to drop the project once the design is done if it appears that the costs of maintaining the facility — which Atherton will be responsible for — are too high.

Caltrans has agreed that Atherton could back out at that point, at no cost; the school district wouldn't agree to that because it would already have changed some of its construction plans to accommodate the facility.

City Engineer Marty Hanneman said that if the council approves the design of the project, construction will probably start in late 2018 and be completed in 2020. Right now, the exact location of the underground facility has not been determined. ■

# Mueller named to state housing committee

Menlo Park Councilman Ray Mueller has been appointed to represent California cities on a state committee that administers federal and state tax-credit programs for low-income housing.



Ray Mueller

The seven-member California Tax Credit Allocation Committee includes among its members the state controller, the state treasurer, and the governor's director of finance.

The tax-credit programs encourage private investment in affordable housing for lower-income households. The committee ensures developers meet certain requirements and that the developments are affordable and habitable, according to an announcement by the city of Menlo Park.

Mr. Mueller, who applied for the position, was appointed by California State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon. He will attend meetings once a month in Sacramento.

The state, Mr. Mueller said, is "definitely facing a crisis" with

## BRIEFS

regard to affordable housing in job-creation centers. The question, he said, is "how do we deal with that in a way that continues to spur the economy but makes sure its benefits are spread."

## Allowing dogs in parks

San Mateo County prohibits dogs in its parks, with certain exceptions. For nearly a year, a 10-member committee has been examining that policy and now invites the public to comment on its proposed guidelines.

Go to [is.gd/dogs947](http://is.gd/dogs947) to fill out a survey on the topic. The survey closes at noon Friday, Sept. 15.

Public comment may also be made at a community meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at San Pedro Valley Park, 600 Oddstad Blvd., in Pacifica.

According to a county website, exceptions to the dog prohibition are made on some trails and on park properties acquired from agencies that had permitted on-leash dogs.

Leashed dogs are allowed at Pillar Point Bluff, Quarry and Wicklow parks, and the Loma

Mar addition to Memorial Park. They are also allowed on the Coastal Trail, Devil's Slide Trail and Bay Trail.

## Parking permits

The votes are in: 87 percent of voting residents who live on Marcussen Drive in Menlo Park favor a residential parking permit program that bans parking for nonresidents between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., except on holidays and weekends.

Currently, parking is not allowed there from 7 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. on different parts of the road.

Marcussen Drive runs between Oak Grove Avenue and Ravenswood Avenue west of Middlefield Road near Menlo-Atherton High School.

The program will give each residence the chance to buy three parking permits from the Police Department. Permits will have to be displayed on parked vehicles.

The city invited residents on Pine Street to participate in a similar election, but the majority did not favor making changes to the parking.

The City Council on Aug. 29 unanimously approved the Marcussen Drive program. ■



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# Community

STORIES ABOUT PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY



Photo by Barbara Wood /The Almanac

Margaret MacNiven (left) and Sue Flint of the Friends of the Woodside Library get ready for one of the group's annual book sales.

## Woodside holds book sale

Books donated to the Friends of the Woodside Library for the past year will be for sale on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside.

The selection includes encyclopedic sports books, horse books, large format art and gift books, and boxes of World War II history books. There will be cookbooks for vegans, carnivores and

dieters; current and classic novels; CDs, DVDs and books on CD; and a large selection of books for children and young adults.

Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Woodside Library, which supports the library's children's programs, adult programs such as Friday Tai Chi, and augments the library's collection of books, e-books, CDs and DVDs. ▀

## Family-friendly Fun Run on Sunday

By Kate Daly  
Special to the Almanac

The Valpo Fun Run is back for the fourth year in a row, offering an easy 5k (3.16 mile) flat course for walkers, runners and strollers in the Atherton neighborhood surrounding its hosts, Menlo School and Sacred Heart Schools.

The Sunday, Sept. 17, fundraiser is for Peninsula Bridge, a program that offers academic training and support to low-income students on the Peninsula from middle school through college. Peninsula Bridge's Middle

School Academy summer program takes place at both Menlo and Sacred Heart schools as well as other campuses in the area.

The race is scheduled for 9 a.m. at the Menlo Loop of Menlo School, 50 Valparaiso Road. More than 400 participants are expected.

"It really is a special day of community building. And it's fast! Done in an hour," says organizer Mary Pinkus of Woodside.

First-place prizes will be given in age categories ranging from the stroller set to senior citizen, with a new award going to the fastest alumni.

Sponsors include Cardinal Education, Alys Grace, Project Juice, The Village Doctor, Kids Against Poverty, McNair Group, Elevate Fitness, Gould-Jackson Dermatology, Studio Rincon, and families on behalf of Friends of Coach (Bill) Campbell.

Go to [is.gd/valpo77](http://is.gd/valpo77) to register.

Entry fees start at zero for teachers, \$15 for students and alumni, \$20 for adults, and go up to \$50 or more, depending on the size of the family. After Sept. 12, the prices will increase.

Registration will also be available on site before the race begins. ▀

## Fiona: Preparing for new school year

Fiona Lempres, a third-grader at Sacred Heart Schools Lower School in Atherton, interviewed Sarah Coogan, Sacred Heart Schools' director of strategic initiatives, on Aug. 7.

**Question:** What do you and the teachers do to get ready for the start of school?

**Answer:** One of our big jobs is to get new teachers up to speed. We teach them about Sacred Heart and what they need to be doing the first couple weeks of school. When all the teachers come back, they set up their classrooms and meet with

### Q & A

each other to plan lessons and field trips and all the other fun things they are going to do for the kids.

**Q:** What kind of projects are you planning for the Creativity Hub?

**A:** We are planning some really cool interdisciplinary projects. It might be a project that involves math and history and music. For example, we have a project in fifth grade where students are looking at

different problems we have here on campus and engineering solutions to them, but also studying inventors and key inventions and how those played out in history.

**Q:** Is there anything that is going to be different this year?

**A:** One thing that will be different is that the administrators are hoping to be in the classrooms more. We are in our offices usually and we would like to be with the kids more this year.

**Q:** Did you take an interesting trip this summer?

**A:** Yes! I went to Kauai. One of my snorkeling adventures, I got to see five huge sea turtles swimming right underneath me.

**Q:** How many books have you read this summer?

**A:** So far, I've read about five or six, and I started a new one last night. I check a lot of books out from the library.

**Q:** What is the best thing about school starting?

**A:** All the kids coming back! It feels a little bit funny to be at school when there are no children. It is so quiet on campus. We do a program called Jump Start for kids in sixth grade to help them get ready for middle school and today was the first day they came and we were all commenting on how it feels more normal when there is kid noise on campus.

**Fiona:** Thank you for your time, Ms. Coogan.

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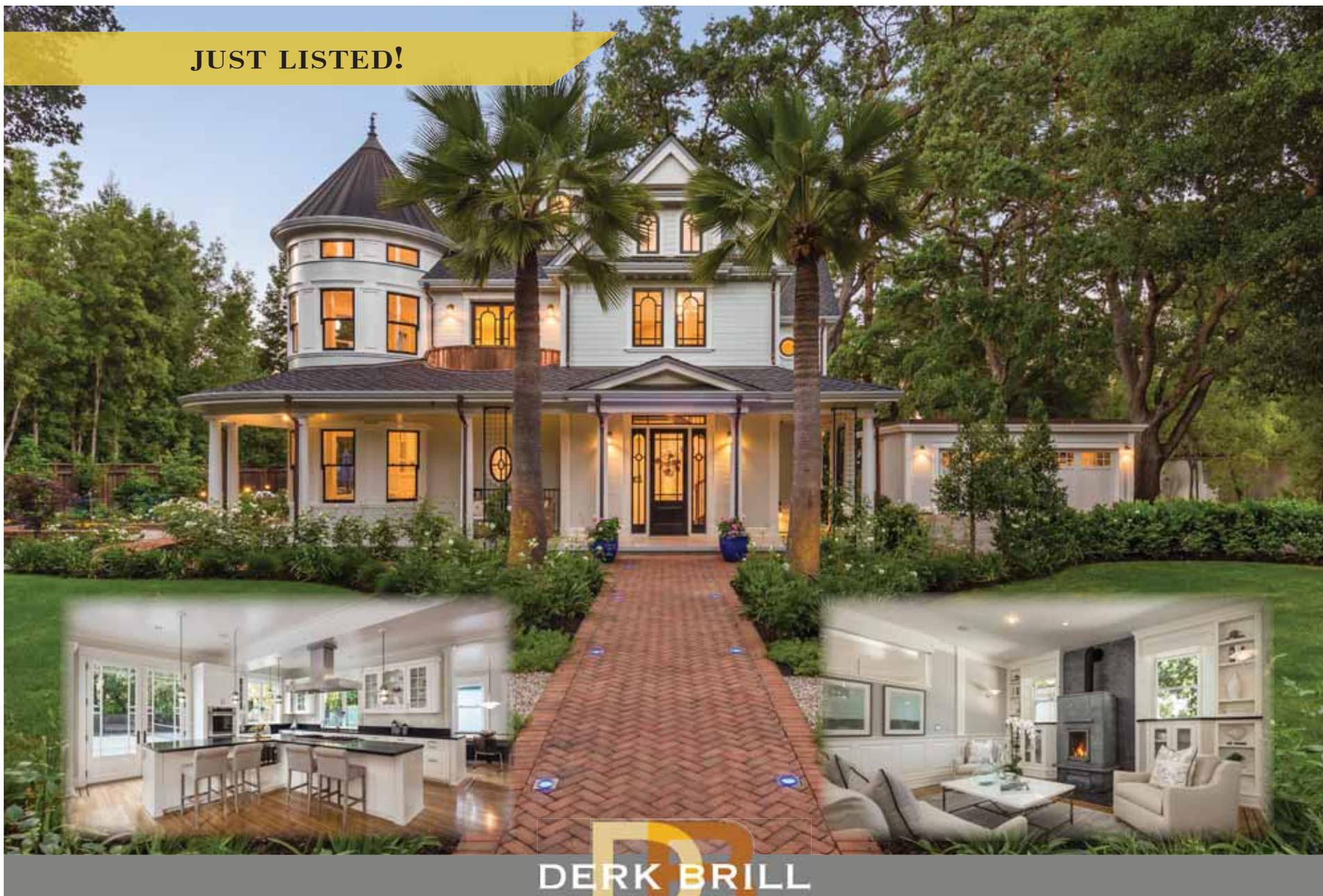
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# Facing the unthinkable

*The Nye family helped scientists discover a new disease. Now they're on a mission to find a treatment.*

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

**K**im and Zach Nye had the storybook Peninsula life.

She grew up in Portola Valley attending Ormondale and Corte Madera, he in Menlo Park, where he attended Oak Knoll and Hillview Middle School. They met in high school at Menlo School, where they took Latin together, but didn't start dating until they were both undergraduates at Princeton.

After college they got married and moved to England, where Zach studied finance at the London Business School and Kim studied law, literature and history in Greek and Latin at Oxford.

While pursuing their graduate studies, the Nyes had their first daughter, Tessa.

Within hours after she was born, their lives took a sudden turn.

Tessa began having hundreds of seizures a day.

From that point, the family began a journey that would lead them to help discover a new genetic disorder and create a foundation to research a treatment.

## Looking for answers

It was "heartbreaking to have this child who kept trying to die on us for no apparent reason," Ms. Nye said. In her first two years, the young family

took dozens of ambulance trips to the hospital and consulted with about two dozen of the world's top neurologists, searching to understand what might be wrong, she said.

Tessa's condition stumped all the doctors, but each told the Nyes that the condition was not inherited.

So the family decided they would have other children. They felt it would help Tessa to have a strong family network, Ms. Nye said. Daughters two and three, Lily and Maggie, were born, and both developed without complication.

Within hours of the birth of their fourth child, a boy named Colton, however, the Nyes again knew something was wrong.

The dreams for their child that parents typically have — planning for future sports games and college tours, for instance — were dashed when they recognized the same symptoms in Colton they'd seen in Tessa. That knowledge came with an acceptance that, in Ms. Nye's words, "our son would probably never talk or live independently."

"The prognosis was not good, despite initial appearances," she said. "It was just beyond devastating to me and my husband."

By then, the Nyes had returned to the Peninsula — after England, they lived for several years in southern California while Mr. Nye pursued



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**In their Menlo Park backyard** with their mother, Kim Nye, are, from left, Lily, 10, Maggie, 7, Tessa, 13, and Colton, 4. **On the cover:** Ms. Nye helps Colton into his shoes.

a Ph.D. in finance — and Tessa had begun to work with pediatric neurologist Dr. Brenda Porter at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

Capitalizing on the knowledge developed from learning what medications helped to stabilize Tessa's seizures, Dr. Porter quickly put the newborn Colton on a medication regimen that seems to have given him more stability and fewer seizures in his first few years than his older sister.

Now that the family knew there was a strong chance

the condition was inherited, they again sought the help of researchers to pinpoint what might be causing the seizures and neurological problems.

Having two kids in the family with the disorder made hunting through the genome to find the problem easier. Working with Dr. Matthew Bainbridge at Baylor University, they ultimately tracked down the problem to a mutation in a gene called SLC13A5. Parallel research in France with other subjects matched Dr. Bainbridge's findings.

They found that the disease occurs only if a child inherits two copies of the defective gene. Both Kim and Zach had one defective copy of the gene, and it turns out that Tessa and Colton inherited both deficient copies.

SLC13A5 is a gene that typically codes for a protein that forms what's called a sodium citrate co-transporter. When operating properly, the transporter regulates the levels of citrate — a key molecule needed for cells to make energy — that can enter a cell. The



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Kim Nye feeds** Colton his medicine while Lily talks about her day at school.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Maggie and Tessa** dress Tessa's "Bitty Baby" doll for an excursion outside. Tessa's doll is her constant companion at her many doctor visits.

deficient copies of the gene that Tessa and Colton inherited make it so that very little citrate enters their cells. It's still not known why this causes seizures and other neurological problems, and whether the problem has to do with too little citrate inside, or too much citrate outside the cells, said Dr. Porter.

Other symptoms associated with SLC13A5 deficiency are delays in expressive language skills, low muscle tone or a lack of muscle control, episodes of body stiffening or weakness, weak tooth enamel, mildly elevated citrate levels in the blood, and a brain MRI that appears normal or has subtle changes in white matter.

### Seeking a treatment

After completing an unsuccessful clinical trial across the country in search of an effective treatment, the Nyes decided to help create a more formal hub to centralize the growing community of people who had been identified with citrate transporter disorder.

They gathered a board of researchers, doctors and family and created the TESS Research Foundation, which stands for Treatments for Epilepsy and Symptoms of SLC13A5. The name's resemblance to their daughter's is kismet, Ms. Nye said. The foundation was approved formally in April 2015 as a nonprofit, has since

completed its first cycle of awarding research grants. So far, a total of \$300,000 has been awarded to three research projects, and more research proposals were received than could be funded. Much of the funding raised for the first round of research came from donation requests solicited from people on their Christmas card list, Ms. Nye said.

According to Dr. Porter, who works with many families who have children with epilepsy, "This is one of the few situations where I've had a family go ahead and (decide) they were going to be the ones to figure out how to help their own kids."

She credits Ms. Nye for helping to expand the foundation rapidly. "It has gone amazingly fast compared to the other foundations I work with," she said.

The foundation has helped create strong research results from a shoestring budget but, Dr. Porter noted, for research to continue toward something like a clinical trial, major partnerships and funding will be needed, perhaps with the NIH, or biotech or pharmaceutical firms.

It's also not known yet how many people have this condition. The foundation has so far helped to identify almost 50 cases around the world. One priority of the foundation that Ms. Nye has been focused on



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Kim Nye carries Colton to a walker he uses to play in the backyard.**

has been to encourage genetic testing agencies to include tests for SLC13A5 abnormalities with other tests that screen for epilepsy. While this particular genetic disorder is rare, Dr. Porter said, the hope is that studying it "may fundamentally tell us something about how seizures occur with abnormalities in citrates."

### Moving forward

While the Nyes work with the foundation to raise funds to do research for their kids, they've also got to deal with the day-to-day effort of raising four children, two of whom require a lot of extra help. Mr. Nye works as a vice president and financial economist at Stanford Consulting Group and Ms. Nye works at home and with the foundation.

The area provides lots of supportive resources for her family, she said. Sure, when they walk as a family to the grocery store, she said, they tend to draw lingering stares. But that generally results in people being extra nice to them. Her only complaint is when other moms, during hectic school drop-offs, nab handicapped parking spots they don't need.

Special education programs work on speech and occupational therapy and help Tessa and Colton make progress. Colton goes to equine therapy that helps with some of his mobility problems. Inclusive spaces, like the Magical Bridge Playground in Palo Alto, also are good for her family.

"It doesn't have to all look different," to accommodate kids who have disabilities, she said. Schools help by providing opportunities for groups of kids with mixed abilities to play together, and allowing



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Anti-seizure medicine** is combined with applesauce for the Nye family's two children who experience severe epilepsy.



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

**Teachers and aides** keep track of Tessa's condition throughout her school day, including how many seizures she has.

Tessa's younger sisters to visit her during recess.

Ms. Nye runs a mixed-age, mixed-ability Girl Scouts troop that the sisters participate in together.

Extended family in the area also provides support. Cousins, aunts and siblings living in nearby towns "always show up and guarantee a good time," she said.

Now, Tessa, 13, Lily, 10,

Maggie, 7, and Colton, 4, can all go play outside in the backyard together, although not without effort.

"It ends up being a simpler life," Ms. Nye said. "Complicated, but simpler." ■

For more information, go to [tessresearch.org](http://tessresearch.org) or contact Ms. Nye at [kim@tessfoundation.org](mailto:kim@tessfoundation.org).



Photo by Adriana Klas

**When Kim and Zach Nye** started their family, "neither one of us could have seen what it would look like," Ms. Nye said. "We're just really resilient people who really love each other."

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# Should Portola Valley ban gas-powered leaf blowers?

The Portola Valley Town Council, acting on the request of “a resident,” has scheduled a study session for Wednesday, Sept. 13, on the use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers in town, specifically whether they can be used at all.

The council meets at 7 p.m. in the Historic Schoolhouse at 765 Portola Road. Also on the agenda: review of an ordinance that would expedite granting of permits for electric-vehicle charging systems.

The town already regulates leaf-blower noise and when

leaf blowers can and cannot be used. Among the questions for the council: Should regulations allow electricity-powered blowers only? Should there be incentives to switch to electricity? Should there be penalties for noise ordinance violations?

The cities of Belvedere, Berkeley, Beverly Hills, Los Altos, Menlo Park and Santa Barbara, have long had bans on the use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers, according to a staff report from Town Manager Jeremy Dennis.

Go to [is.gd/blower45](http://is.gd/blower45) and turn to Page 56 for the staff report.

## Remembering September 11

Menlo School students Bella Stuart and Charlotte Acra coordinated and executed the planting of 1,000 flags around the school campus on Monday in memory of 9/11. They had the help of Alex Herrod in planting the flags. Each flag represented about three people who were killed in the attacks. Their project inspired a moment of silence at the school. “We can learn from what happened at 9/11,” Charlotte said. “Hopefully our generation will be the one to show unity.”



Photo courtesy Bella Stuart

## More online

Check AlmanacNews.com for more news, including:

■ **What the Woodside Town Council did about a complaint that a council member’s online remark violated the town’s ethics code.** The meeting was held Tuesday night, Sept. 12, after the Almanac went to press. Also on the agenda: recreational use of marijuana and whether to extend the town’s moratorium on commercial activities and outdoor cultivation.

### KRISTEN KEITH

*continued from page 10*

Ms. Keith will host the discussion with Suzanne Carrig, a committee consultant at the Santa Clara County Office of Education, and Joe Ross, president of the San Mateo County Board of Education.

Ms. Keith said in an interview that the talk will be a preliminary effort to gather feedback and start looking into what might be done to address

what she called an “egregious situation.”

She explained, “I think all children in Menlo Park deserve a great public education. ... That’s the goal, and that’s not what’s happening right now. So let’s have a conversation and start talking openly.”

“This is purely up to community members to tell us what they want,” she said. “Everyone is welcome to attend and bring their ideas and questions and concerns.”

### ■ POLICE CALLS

*These reports are from the Atherton Police Department and the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office. Under the law, people charged with offenses are considered innocent unless convicted. Police received the reports on the dates shown.*

#### ATHERTON

**Theft:** A thief or thieves stole nine handbags, possibly during a party at a home on Catalpa Drive. The bags were manufactured by Chanel, Hermes and Louis Vuitton, police said. Estimated loss: \$37,560. Aug. 11.

#### WOODSIDE

**Residential burglary:** Someone broke into

a home in the 100 block of Upenuf Road and stole electronics, a backpack, clothing and a wallet. A charge of \$213 was later made to a credit card from the stolen wallet. Estimated loss: \$4,030. Aug. 26-28.

**Auto burglary:** A backpack containing electronic devices, cash and credit cards was stolen from a vehicle parked at Canada and Edgewood roads. Estimated loss: \$1,193. Sept. 6.

**Suspicious circumstance:** Someone cut a wire to a security camera at a home on Greenways Road. Sept. 6.

#### WEST MENLO PARK

**Auto burglary:** Someone stole a bag containing a purse and a wallet from a vehicle found with a smashed window and at Alpine Road and Piers Lane. Estimated loss: \$500. Aug. 29.

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# Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

## Commissions function just fine with clear recusal process

By Drew Combs

When I first got involved in local issues some years ago, I quickly learned that Menlo Park residents aren't shy about telling you where they stand on an issue. A trip to the farmers' market or even a morning run can easily result in an impromptu chat about a local issue. While these chats can at times morph into something that resembles a lecture more than a chat (with me on the receiving end), I nonetheless value the chance to hear people's perspectives, whether they validate or challenge my own.

A somewhat recurring topic of these chats has been the issue of recusals. It's a subject that has also made its way into comments on this newspaper's website. Specifically, the concern surrounds local commissioners being recused from voting on a matter because there's a conflict of interest. An example might be a planning commissioner being unable to vote on a development project involving his or her employer.

Some argue that the very presence on commissions of residents who have

to recuse themselves represents a sort of breakdown in our system of local governance. I disagree. When there's a recusal, the commission doesn't really miss a beat and simply takes up the item sans the commissioner who has the conflict. The process isn't compromised in any way; in fact, I would argue that it's strengthened by having a clear strategy for dealing with these issues.

Also, the argument that residents with possible conflicts shouldn't serve on city commissions disregards the chilling and self-defeating effect of shutting out many members of our community from being on commissions. One of Menlo Park's greatest assets is the knowledge and talent capital of its residents. We should be doing all we can to encourage as many residents as possible to participate in

our local government. This is especially the case given that our system of city commissions is dependent on residents volunteering their time and knowledge.

Obviously, the best scenario is when all commission members are able to vote on an item. But more important

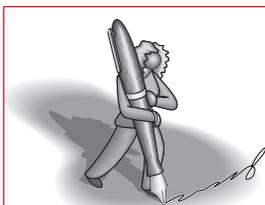
is the integrity of a commission's decisions. What I've seen during my tenures on the Planning Commission and the former Bicycle Commission is a willingness by my fellow commissioners to adhere to the most strin-

gent interpretation of a conflict and to err on the side that ensures the legitimacy of commission decisions. This norm isn't present in every community, and sadly, at the federal level we see a corroding of customary practices involving government officials and conflicts. We should see recusals, especially

in situations where there's gray area, as a testament to the integrity of those in our community who serve on local commissions.

The occasional recusal is to be expected from a volunteer body. I would argue that the focus on this issue misses the point that our commissions aren't exclusively about a few appointed community members pontificating and then voting. Commission hearings are also about providing additional opportunities for the public to learn about and comment on the matters impacting the city.

During my time on city commissions, I've found that public comments are among the most important part of meetings. It's in those public comments that the impact evolves from stats and projections on a paper to real people. When it comes to the issues facing this community, the issue isn't whether a commissioner is recused but that residents have multiple avenues to express their opinions. And I'm fine if one of those avenues takes the form of a lecture at the farmers' market.



Drew Combs is chair of the Menlo Park Planning Commission.

### GUEST OPINION

## LETTERS

Our readers write

### Menlo library marvels

Editor:

There was a marvelous happening outside the library this morning. "Story time" was on the green patch between the library and Hopkins House. It was packed with seated children, caregivers, plus a line of strollers. What was joyful was a person chasing away about a dozen ducks that wanted to be part of the activity.

Bill Russ

Cotton Street, Menlo Park

### Republicans in Congress, defend your party

Editor:

Trump is losing the country and, more and more, the Republicans. Therefore, he is, predictably, doubling down on the extreme fringe elements of our populace who are his core supporters. That is likely to continue and will drag down the responsible elements of the Republican Party.

When will the Republicans in Congress see what is happening and act to defend their party and the United States by impeaching Trump? Otherwise this can only get worse.

Don Barnby

Spruce Avenue, Menlo Park

### Why not boost hours of existing library?

Editor:

I wonder if the people who decided to spend 20 million dollars for a Menlo Park replacement library have ever actually used the library? I have, and find it quite attractive and functional.

From the library patron's perspective, a bigger library by itself is counterproductive because more staff has to be added, but if you're not going to increase the money for staff, you have to cut down on the number of hours, and the Menlo Park library is already closed four evenings a week.

Wouldn't it make more sense to use the money to increase the staff hours at the library, and start a shuttle system so the Belle Haven and Palo Alto downtown (communities) could be brought to (central) Menlo Park? Of course, if you were looking for a way to spend money, you could increase the hours at the neighboring libraries also, but I haven't heard any clamor for projects to spend money on.

The idea of selling property is insane, because every scrap of property will be needed to squeeze in affordable housing when the state finally notices our development imbalance.

One might also ask why Menlo Park needs to spend 20 million dollars on another monument

to Mr. Arrillaga, when there's a perfectly satisfactory monument, the family fitness center, on the other side of the parking lot from the library, and a whole gaggle of buildings bearing his name at Stanford.

Stephanie Munoz  
Palo Alto

## What's on your mind?

From City Hall politics and the schools to transportation and other pressing issues, the Almanac aims to keep readers informed about their community. But we also want to hear from you.

Tell us what's on your mind by sending your letters to [letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com). Or snail-mail them to: The Almanac, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

You can also submit a longer piece of 450 to 600 words for consideration to publish as a guest opinion column.

Questions? Email Renee Batti at [rbatti@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:rbatti@AlmanacNews.com), or call 650-223-6528.



Courtesy Lyn Needham-Hauser

## Looking back

Just before and during World War II, women's opportunities opened up beyond the stifling restrictions of tradition. Lyn Needham-Hauser of Menlo Park, for example, "was chosen in 1940 as one of five women at Stanford University to receive flying lessons in preparation for the war," according to the Atherton history book, "Under the Oaks," by Pamela Gullard and Nancy Lund. Ms. Needham-Hauser, who earned a pilot's license during that time, is shown here holding her flight goggles and helmet, which she wore flying open-cockpit biplanes while training with the Army cadets, the authors write.



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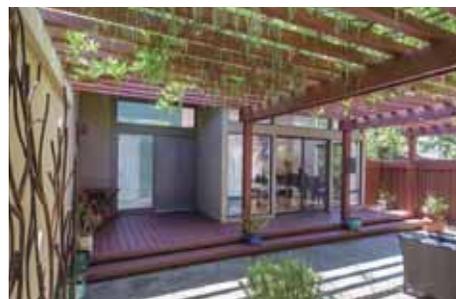
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**Julie Lau**  
 CalBRE #01052924 650.325.6161



**WOODSIDE \$998,000**

112 Comstock Rd Fixer on a beautiful lot. Mature landscaping & a potential view of gorgeous sunsets. 3 BR/2 BA  
**Valerie Trenter**  
 CalBRE #01367578 650.324.4456



**MENLO PARK \$749,000**

2140 Santa Cruz Ave A207 Sought after 1 bedroom in Menlo Commons-overlooks pool-Close to Stanford. 1 BR/1 BA  
**Beth Leathers**  
 CalBRE #01131116 650.324.4456



**SAN CARLOS PRICE UPON REQUEST**

2139 Greenwood Ave Unique Showcase home a family dreams of. Top rated public schools and parks. 4 BR/3 BA  
**Sam Anagnostou**  
 CalBRE #00798217 650.851.2666



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Saturday

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Tucked among stunning mountainside vistas is this distinguished 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome of over 2,600 sq. ft. (per county). Elegantly trimmed in detailed crown molding, sun-lit gathering areas showcase luxurious living with dual-zoned climate control and plantation shutters, while a spacious rear deck offers prime space for entertaining amidst a garden-like setting. Recreation is only a few steps away since the community pool and tennis courts are just across the street. Amenities like Sharon Park, Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club, and convenient commuting routes are also easily accessible, while award-winning Las Lomas schools are located nearby (buyer to verify eligibility).

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\*Includes: Design, Installation, 1 Month of Furniture Rental and Removal

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1101 HAMILTON AVENUE, PALO ALTO  
\$5,295,000 · 1101hamilton.com



215 JOSSELYN LANE, WOODSIDE  
\$11,998,000 · 215josselyn.com



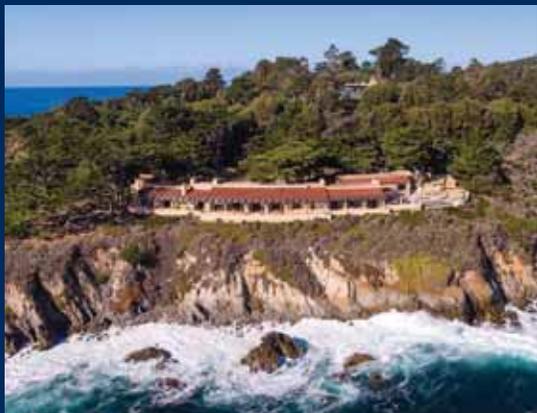
308 OLIVE HILL LANE, WOODSIDE  
\$7,995,000 · 308olivehill.com



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CalBRE 01121795



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650.427.9211  
n.queen@ggsir.com  
CalBRE 01917593



**Lisa Keith**  
650.703.8644  
lisa@lisakeith.com  
CalBRE 00882247



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

## INDEX

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

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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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

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CALL DIRECTV. Bundle & Save! Over 145 Channels PLUS Genie HD-DVR. \$50/month for 2 Years (with AT&T Wireless.) Call for Other Great Offers! 1-888-463-8308 (Cal-SCAN)

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Peanut Allergy Clinical Trial

SAN ANTONIO HOBBY SHOP

#### Singers needed

Join the Peninsula Clef Hangers, a women's choral group that sings for seniors. No auditions needed, Rehearsals begin on Thursday, Sept.21st in Palo Alto. Please visit http://www.pensinulaclefhangers.org For location please call Susan (380-4082) after 7:00p.m. or Debi (854-3354)

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Type 2 diabetes research

Walk'n'Run to Remember!

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Private piano lessons for all levels, all ages. In your home or mine. Bachelor of Music, 20+ years exp. 650/493-6950

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### 140 Lost & Found

lost phone on bike trail

### 145 Non-Profits Needs

#### DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT

TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 1-800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

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ASSIST IN FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

ASST SECTION MGRS FOR FOPAL

FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY

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### 202 Vehicles Wanted

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-965-9546 (Cal-SCAN)

### 210 Garage/Estate Sales

Los Altos, St. Simon Catholic Church - 1860 Grant Rd., Sept. 15 10am-4pm, Sept. 16 9am-2pm

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

### 215 Collectibles & Antiques

Lost Mountain View Spots

Mountain View High School Wear

NASA Pioneer 1st Day Cover Mugs

### 245 Miscellaneous

#### SAWMILLS

from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

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and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 1-844-703-9774. (Cal-SCAN)

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## Jobs

### 500 Help Wanted

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MagStone Law, LLP in Santa Clara, CA seeks an associate attorney to practice in corporate transactional law. Must possess a J.D. degree from a top 50 law school as ranked by US News and World Report. Must display academic excellence as defined by a law school minimum 3.3 GPA. Education must include completion of a minimum of 4 transactional law courses (such as Mergers and Acquisition, Securities Laws, Secured Transactions, etc.). Must be admitted to the CA State Bar. Mail Resume to MagStone Law, LLP, Attn: HR Job #AA, 4633 Old Ironsides Dr Ste 160, Santa Clara, CA 95054.

#### Bookkeeper

!!! Bookkeeper Needed urgently. For more info kindly contact this email below: justin.smith3433@gmail.com !!!

#### Fund Accountant

Fund Accountant sought by SCHF Management, L.P. in Menlo Park, CA. Req Bachelor's or foreign equiv degr in Acct, Fin or rel field & 3yrs exp in pos offered or rel acct pos w/ acct cnsltng firm. Exp must incl. apply GAAP, IFRS, risk & control frameworks to prep acct reports; prep risk anal; utilize sampling, V Lookups & IF with adv. Excel. Send resume to recruiting@sequoiaheritage.com.

#### MobileIron/Sftw Autom Engr

Sftw Autom Engr (Code: SAE-KM) in Mt View, CA: Dvlp deep exp on Prod feats & dvlp AT cases using Java/Cloud & Bash scripting for MI Core & Cloud prod's RESTful web srvc's. MS degree. Mail resume to MobileIron, Attn: Piper Galt, 401 E. Middlefield Rd, Mt. View, CA 94043. Must ref title & code.

### 550 Business Opportunities

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DOLLAR PLUS, BIG BOX, MAIL/ PACK/SHIP, OR PARTY STORE. 100% FINANCING. OAC FROM \$65,900. 100% TURNKEY. Call 1-800-518-3064 or www.dollarstoreservices.com/start www.partystoredevelopers.com/start www.mailboxdevelopers.com/start Cal-SCAN

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Surfeasy Inc currently has a full time/part time position for skilled/unskilled Account Clerk. Please send your application CV to surfeasyforusaonline@gmail.com, feel free to call 858-256-5724 for enquiry

### 560 Employment Information

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

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

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#### Roe General Engineering

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## Real Estate

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### 810 Cottages for Rent

Redwood City - \$2900

### 845 Out of Area

**NORTHERN AZ WILDERNESS RANCH** \$197 MONTH - Quiet secluded 37 acre off grid ranch set amid scenic mountains and valleys at clear 6,200'. Near historic pioneer town & large fishing lake. No urban noise & dark sky nights amid pure air & AZ's best year-round climate. Evergreen trees/meadowland blend with sweeping views across uninhabited wilderness mountains and valleys. Self-sufficiency quality garden loam soil, abundant groundwater & maintained road access. Camping & RV's ok. No homeowner's Assoc. or deed restrictions. \$22,900, \$2,290 dn. Free brochure with additional property descriptions, photos/terrain map/ weather chart/area info: 1st United Realty 800.966.6690. (Cal-SCAN)

#### LEHUA GREENMAN



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650.245.1845 ALAIN PINEL

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# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

NUAD BORAN THERAPEUTIC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 274644

The following Person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Nuad Boran Therapeutic, located at 3536 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Woodside, CA 94025, San Mateo County. Mailing Address: PO Box 620212, Woodside, CA 94062.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):

PROUD THAI MASSAGE, LLC  
PO Box 620212  
Woodside, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 15, 2017.  
(ALM Aug. 23, 30; Sept. 6, 13, 2017)

RAISING FLOORS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 274686

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

Raising Floors, located at 1215 Norton St., San Mateo CA 94401, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

Luis Rivas Diaz  
1215 Norton St.  
San Mateo, CA 94401

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 17, 2017.  
(ALM Aug. 23, 30; Sept. 6, 13, 2017)

CARLA DIEZ-CANSECO HUMAN RESOURCES CONSULTING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 274742

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Carla Diez-Canseco Human Resources Consulting, located at 2199 Cedar Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Is (Are) hereby registered by the following owner(s):

CARLA DIEZ-CANSECO  
2199 Cedar Avenue

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 08/01/2017.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 23, 2017.  
(ALM Aug. 30; Sept. 6, 13, 20, 2017)

HEALTHCARE COLLECTION CONSULTANS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 274849

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

Healthcare Collection Consultants, located at 1860 El Camino Real Ste. 321, Burlingame, CA 94010, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

AL & AL ENTERPRISES CORP.  
1860 El Camino Real #321  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
California

This business is conducted by: A Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 31, 2017.  
(ALM Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2017)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. 255847

The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s).

FRANCA ASCHENBRENNER  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):

FIORI DI MIELE  
16 Loma Road  
Redwood City, CA 94062

FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON:  
05/13/2013

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S)/ENTITY(IES):  
FRANCA ASCHENBRENNER

16 Loma Road  
Redwood City, CA 94062

THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY:  
Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on August 29, 2017.  
(ALM Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2017)

HECTOR TREE SERVICE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 274834

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

Hector Tree Service, located at 15 Arrowhead Ln., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):  
HECTOR RODRIGUEZ C.  
15 Arrowhead Ln.  
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 01/01/17.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 30, 2017.  
(ALM Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 2017)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION

In the Matter of the  
KINTNER FAMILY TRUST dated  
February 27, 1979, as restated and amended.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the duly appointed and qualified Trustee of the KINTNER FAMILY TRUST created by a Trust Agreement dated February 27, 1979, as restated and amended. SALLY J. KINTNER, the Grantor of that Trust, died on May 21, 2017. A creditor having a claim against SALLY J. KINTNER, her estate or the trust estate must file a claim with the undersigned at the address given below within ninety (90) days after the first publication of this notice.

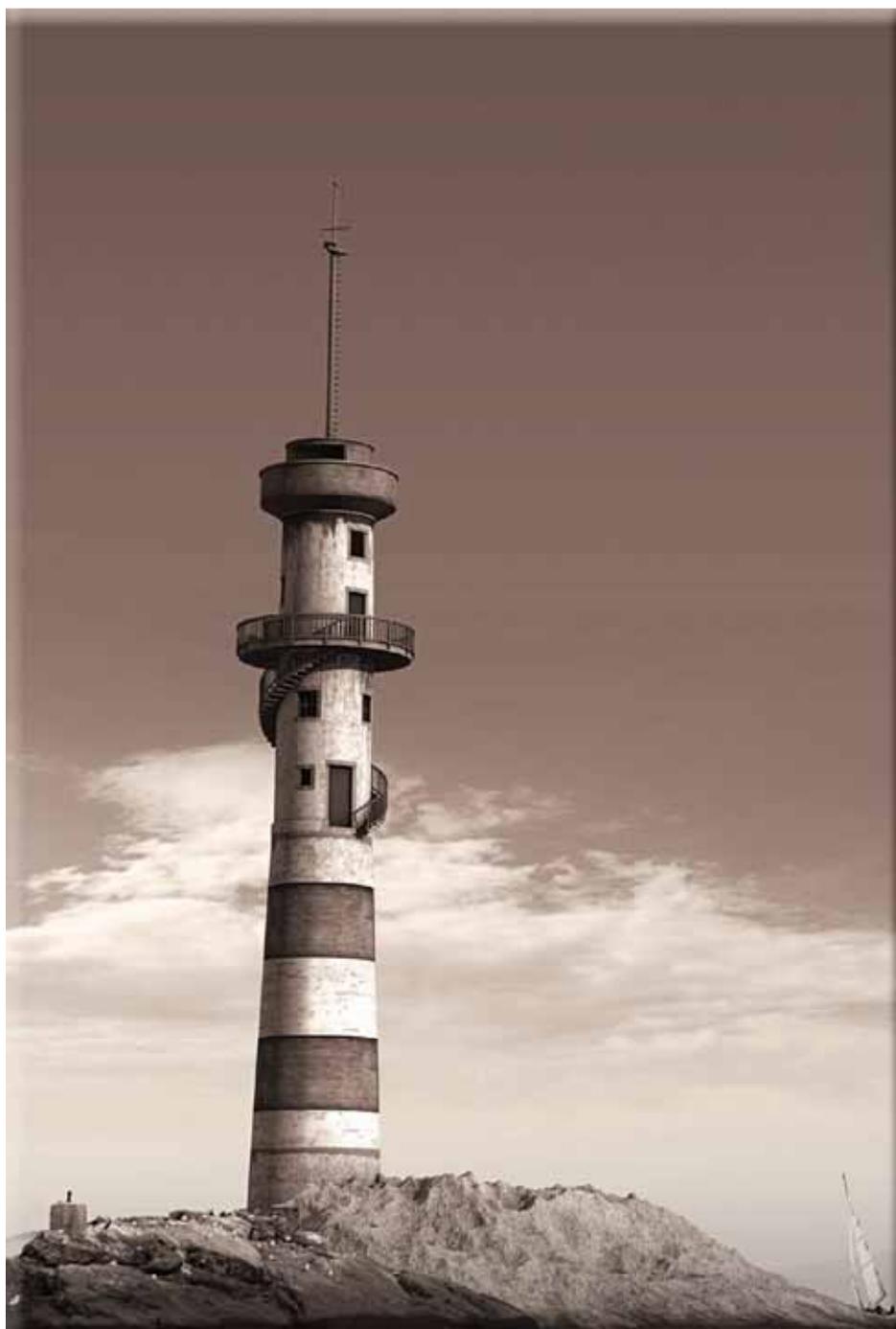
Dated: August 10, 2017.

/s/

Gordon R. Muir,  
Attorney for Comerica  
Bank & Trust, Trustee  
Hawkins, Folsom & Muir  
679 Sierra Rose Drive,  
Suite A  
P.O. Box 750  
Reno, Nevada 89504

(ALM Sept. 13, 20, 27, 2017)

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- 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.

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



The Almanac  
**223-6578**



ATHERTON



**David Kelsey**  
650-388-2086  
david@davidkelsey.com  
CaIBRE #01242399

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jisaacson@cbtnorcal.com  
CaIBRE #00542342

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