

# The Almanac

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

JANUARY 31, 2018 | VOL. 53 NO. 22



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## SHERYL SANDBERG SHARES

Facebook executive  
speaks from  
her heart to  
her hometown  
community

page 14



**New life for the Guild?** | Page 5  
**Viewpoint** | Page 18

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**PLANNING COMMISSION  
February 7, 2018  
6:00 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING

3. California Water Service Company CUSE2016-0009, VARI2016-0008, VARI2016-0009  
Stadler Drive, Station #42 Planner: Corinne Jones, Assistant Planner

Review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal to remove two (2) 60,000 gallon water tanks and construct a 250,000 gallon steel water tank, pumps, piping, and associated equipment. The proposal also includes improvements to the existing driveway, which provides access from Stadler Drive.

A Conditional Use Permit (CUSE2016-0009) is required for public utility structures in an SCP zoning district; a Variance to height (VARI2016-0008) is required to permit the structure to exceed the 30-foot height limit; and, a Variance to setbacks (VARI2016-0009) is required to permit the structure within the 50-foot required setbacks.

This item was continued from September 6, 2017, October 4, 2017, November 15, 2017, and December 6, 2017, to allow the applicant additional time to gather the information requested from the Planning Commission on July 19, 2017, and to further explore the option of leasing an adjacent property from Caltrans.

4. Samuel Maslak CUSE2018-0001  
941 High Road Planner: Sage Schaan, Principal Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a Conditional Use Permit for a proposal to work within a Town designated Stream Corridor including creek bank stabilization and erosion control along approximately 300 linear feet of an unnamed tributary to Redwood Creek.

5. Jamis MacNiven ASRB2018-0001  
327 Hillside Drive Planner: Alex Byrd, Assistant Planner

Planning Commission policy determination regarding whether a Change of Use is required to convert a nonconforming main residence to another residential use (Woodside Municipal Code Section 153.235 (C)(3)).

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.

# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

## Nonprofit hopes to transform Guild into arts event venue

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Pay a visit to Menlo Park's Guild Theatre and it's easy to see why people are worried about its future. The paint is chipped, the marquee letters are faded and showtime crowds are rare.

But the founders of a new nonprofit propose to transfigure the has-been theater on El Camino Real in Menlo Park into a state-of-the-art entertainment venue. They planned to announce their new organization and its mission at the Menlo Park City Council goal-setting meeting on Jan. 29, after the Almanac went to press. Go to [almanacnews.com](http://almanacnews.com) for the latest updates.

According to one of the founders, Drew Dunlevie of Menlo Park, the organization, called the Peninsula Arts Guild, was founded with the goal of establishing and programming a community-driven events venue that can draw top-tier acts to the Peninsula.

He is joined in his effort by two colleagues, Pete Briger and Thomas Layton — “very successful people by Silicon Valley standards” who are also “very philanthropic,” Mr. Dunlevie said.

“Fewer people go to the movies, full stop,” he said. “Single-screen art house theaters have been hit the hardest.”

“Our goal is to construct or refurbish a top-flight, world-class, kick-ass multifaceted entertainment venue on the Peninsula.”

The venue could be used for events such as school plays, jazz shows, comedians, author talks, band or singer shows, speaker series, and movies, he said. “The venue will have a definite ‘by the community, for the community’ approach.”

He said the organization has cut an option agreement with the Guild Theatre's owner, Howard “Sandy” Crittenden of Atherton. “We have the right to buy the theater, should we want to,” he said.

But the project is not a done deal, he noted. The nonprofit is committed to getting a venue on the Peninsula and has chosen the Guild Theatre as its preferred location. If things don't work out in Menlo Park, though, the group is determined to bring the plan to fruition elsewhere on the Peninsula.

“We're not developers,” he said. “We don't have years and billions to spend to think about this.”

The project is likely to require Menlo Park city staff prioritization to get it through the entitlement process. From there, Mr. Dunlevie said, the construction work would likely take a year and a half to two years to complete.



Image courtesy CAW Architects/The Peninsula Arts Guild.

An early rendering of how a revamped Guild Theatre might be laid out for a movie screening.

One likely challenge the project would face is the Guild Theater's lack of a designated parking lot; any change in use would likely trigger the requirement to add parking.

Mr. Dunlevie expects the project to cost anywhere from \$10 million to \$20 million in capital costs, depending on the level of refurbishing or rebuilding required, which would be covered by the nonprofit.

The venue would be open to the community to schedule events, and he and his colleagues plan to book the site with “top-flight” talent

— for example, acts that come to Mountain View's Shoreline Amphitheater or San Francisco's Fillmore for big shows, or more regularly venues like Slim's or the Great American Music Hall, he said.

“We think we can punch above our weight class on venue size,” he said, adding that he hopes the quality of the new venue will draw top performers, and “get those guys paid what they need.”

But the venue could also be available to book for community events such as, for example, an Oak Knoll school

play or a garage band night, depending on what people want. Mr. Dunlevie said the plan has also been met with enthusiasm by Kepler's, which could host author events at the site.

Retaining the ability to show movies will be a priority at the venue, he said, but added that he wasn't sure the theater would be able to continue to offer first-run movies.

Judy Adams, a Menlo Park resident who in September 2016 launched a petition aimed

See **GUILD THEATRE**, page 6

## County floats sales tax hike for transportation projects

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

San Mateo County is considering asking voters to approve a half-cent sales tax to help fund transportation improvements, a measure that might reach the ballot by November.

The San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors have launched a public outreach program called “Get us Moving SMC” to try to gauge what transportation projects county residents might be interested in funding through a sales tax and to develop a spending plan.

A new state law approved last year and authored by state Assemblyman Kevin Mullin (D-San Mateo) grants SamTrans the authority to pursue a half-cent sales tax measure for transportation improvements in the county. It allows the county to exceed the standard 2 percent tax

limit, pending the development of a spending plan and voter approval of the measure.

San Mateo County is growing, state and federal grant funding is limited and competitive, and the need for transportation upgrades and improvements grows as the county's roadways are increasingly jammed, according to a presentation made to the Menlo Park City Council on Jan. 23 by county supervisors Warren Slocum and Don Horsley, joined by public outreach consultant (and Palo Alto councilman) Cory Wolbach.

By 2040, the population in San Mateo

County is expected to increase by 26 percent over 2010, and the population of people over 65 years of age is expected to grow by 137 percent, Mr. Wolbach said.

With the half-cent sales tax, the measure could generate \$80 million a year, or \$2.4 billion over 30 years, for transportation improvements.

But even a preliminary list of the estimated costs of possible projects indicates such funding would be devoured quickly, he said: \$400 million for Caltrain modernization, \$500 million for managed lanes on U.S. 101, anywhere between \$16 million and \$160 million to make improvements to U.S.

101 and state Route 92 interchange, plus annual costs of \$20 million for Caltrain and \$25 million for SamTrans to keep operations and equipment in a “state of good repair.”

All of that doesn't even include the behemoth infrastructure undertaking costing an estimated \$2 billion to implement the recommended changes SamTrans adopted in December to ease congestion along the Dumbarton corridor.

One question is how long such a measure would be in place -- whether it would be 10, 20 or 30 years, or even in perpetuity. Councilwoman Kirsten Keith cautioned against having a measure last “in perpetuity.”

“When you're having a tax, you need to come back to the people that you're taxing and let them know what you're doing, and when you do something

See **COUNTY TAX**, page 6

**The county is growing, state and federal grant funding is limited and competitive, and the need for transportation upgrades and improvements grows as roadways are increasingly jammed, according to county officials**

# Atherton is back atop the most expensive real estate lists

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

It must have been a statistical anomaly — after just one year of not being home to the country's most expensive residential real estate, Atherton is back on top of Forbes' annual list.

Atherton was first on the Forbes list of pricey real estate from 2013 through 2015, but at the end of 2016, Atherton fell to third place.

But the town is now back at the top of the Forbes list, released late in 2017, and is also atop a different list compiled by the PropertyShark website.

Forbes compiles its list each year by looking at the median (half higher, and half lower) listing price of homes on the market for a 90-day period near the end of the year. PropertyShark, which had Atherton second on its 2016 and 2017 lists, uses the median sales price for all residential transactions closed in a calendar year.

PropertyShark claims its list

is more accurate because listing prices often do not match selling prices.

At [is.gd/2017Forbes](http://is.gd/2017Forbes) see the full Forbes story.

At [is.gd/2017PShark](http://is.gd/2017PShark) see the full PropertyShark story.

## Forbes list

Midpeninsula cities on the Forbes list include:

- 1 - Atherton 94027, median listing price \$9.7 million
- 3 - Los Altos Hills 94022, \$7.8 million
- 4 - Palo Alto 94301, \$7.0 million
- 15 - Woodside 94062, \$5.3 million
- 32 - Portola Valley 94028, \$4.2 million
- 48 - Los Altos 94024, \$3.4 million
- 60 - Los Altos 94022, \$3.2 million
- 74 - Menlo Park 94025, \$2.9 million

See **EXPENSIVE**, page 8

## GUILD THEATRE

continued from page 5

at restoring the movie theater to its former glory, garnering about 4,000 hard-copy and online signatures, said in an email that "our petition's goals, and Drew's nonprofit, it seems to me, can be mutually beneficial and possible."

She said that she'd like to see the theater continue to offer first-run movies, and that films be offered as a key part of the theater's future.

"I realize that change is necessary, but I'm also for

preservation of the key element of the Guild's history. It has survived from its burlesque roots, silent films, talkies, and is struggling to continue to contribute to the community in the age of home theaters, streaming video and multiplex cinemas as are other historic - modest - moviehouses throughout the country," she said.

She's put out requests for petitioners to voice their support for the space's continued operation as a theater, and several people have already emailed the City Council expressing those wishes.

According to Menlo Park City

Councilman Ray Mueller, having a mix of entertainment options in downtown Menlo Park is "a vital component of quality of life that residents want."

"I think it's going to be a ton of fun," he said. "I couldn't be more excited about it."

Councilwoman Kirsten Keith said the project could be exciting. She expressed concern that the city already has a fairly lengthy work plan and limited staff, but noted the venue "would be great for businesses and restaurants as it will bring more customers downtown, especially in the evening." ■

## COUNTY TAX

continued from page 5

in perpetuity, I think that becomes a source of irritation for people," she said, citing the example of the Menlo Park City School District's proposed parcel tax that failed to pass in a May 2016 special election.

"I know when our school board tried to do that, it failed. And it never fails here in Menlo Park. But it failed and a lot of it had to do with that word," she said.

## Weigh in

People can fill out a basic survey, which asks respondents to rank by priority a series of broad areas for transportation improvement. The county plans to close the survey at the end of February.

Go to: [getusmovingsmc.com](http://getusmovingsmc.com) to take the survey.

The county and transit district will also host three more public outreach meetings in the coming weeks to gather more comments:

■ Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. in the auditorium of the Pacifica Community Center (540 Crespi

Drive, Pacifica).

■ Thursday, Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the Menlo Park Senior Center (110 Terminal Ave., Menlo Park).

■ Thursday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the Municipal Services Building (33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco).

According to Dan Lieberman, SamTrans spokesman, for a measure to make it to the ballot, it has to be approved by SamTrans and the county Board of Supervisors, and be submitted by a deadline 88 days before the scheduled vote. ■



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# Council scrutinizes new state laws on efficiency units

■ Is it reasonable to expect a tenant to avoid the ceiling in moving around her apartment?

By Dave Boyce  
Almanac Staff Writer

When it comes to setting up housekeeping in the Bay Area, people on low or moderate incomes often have to make do by staying with friends or relatives, sharing an apartment or simply forgoing it and enduring a grueling commute from a distant town.

For people in such circumstances, an apartment above a garage could feel heaven sent. In a 39-page memo issued in December 2016, the state includes publication of new rules meant to increase the supply of such homes throughout California. The new standards address simpler administrative processes, minimum floor areas and parking requirements.

Cities and towns responded in 2017 with ordinances incorporating these regulations, sometimes with local touches forbidding short-term rentals of these units, as was done in Woodside and Portola Valley.

But it's one thing to establish a floor-area limit and quite another to set limits on how high or low to make a ceiling. The state's memo did not address aesthetics and livability. Would-be renters desperate for secure housing might scoff at local governments raising

**'I truly believe that it's time for us to acknowledge that times are different and we need to address this issue.'**

COUNCILWOMAN ANNE KASTEN,  
ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS TOWN'S  
HOUSING NEEDS

questions as to what is and is not livable, but it is a concern for the Woodside Town Council.

A staff report prepared for a council meeting last month included sketches of a theoretical efficiency unit that meets the new standards and sits on top of a 400-square-foot two-car garage close to a property line. The sketches, prepared by the Planning Department, showed an exterior stairway up to the apartment, a sloped roof that peaked inside the apartment at 7 feet, 6 inches, and eaves above the side walls that were considerably lower, enough to accommodate an adult sitting but not standing.

The stairs up to the apartment end in the middle of a wall, right under the roof's peak, so as to accommodate a full-sized door.

Inside, adults of average height could stand and walk

without stooping in an imaginary hallway running the length of the room under the roof's peak, but headroom decreases toward the walls. The plan includes dormers that offer two additional areas with the headroom to allow standing.

"To create substandard housing units like this is an embarrassment," architect and Councilman Peter Mason said. "That is not a livable unit. Why would you build that bad of a unit that you're expecting people to live in? You're talking about a side wall that is 5-foot-6-inches high going up to 7 feet high (in the center). That is not a livable unit in Woodside ... and we shouldn't be building that."

"This doesn't work at all," said builder and Councilman Dave Tanner, noting the absence in the floor plan of a closet or anywhere else to store clothes.

## Heights and massing

Town regulations constrain the dimensions of accessory structures near property lines. The plate height — the height of a wall from the foundation to the edge of the roof — cannot exceed 11 feet, and the ridge line — the highest point of the roof — cannot exceed 17 feet. Such limits, town officials say, reduce massing along property lines, a concern in neighborhoods like Woodside Glens, where parcels are relatively small.

"We cannot prohibit people from building units that meet the code," Planning Director Jackie Young told the council. "So the question really becomes: What does the town want to allow for a plate height and an overall height for these units that are allowed within 5 feet of the property line?"

Playing devil's advocate, Mr. Mason imagined an applicant arguing that the height restrictions are unreasonable when the goal is to construct a second story. "I think the state is going to say that a second-floor unit is a full-height unit," he said. "It isn't something that is buried within a roof."

Anyone could argue for an 8-foot-high ceiling and the state could support it, Mr. Mason said, adding: "How would we say no?"

The building code does allow habitable space "within a sloped roof," and the floor plan under discussion did have input from a professional architect, Ms. Young said. "Although it is a very awkward unit, it does meet the building code," she said.

Council members, she said, sounded as if they were willing to entertain increased heights and changes in dormer configurations, possibly including sliding scales that take into account the distance of an accessory structure from a property line.

## 'A crying need'

Dormers could be allowed

to extend further along a roof. Such a change would help, but the impact bears thinking about, Mr. Mason said. "If we're going to end up with a bunch of mansard roofs because of this ... that's not acceptable," he said.

The town might not want to prohibit such interior configurations if they're meant for guests or children, Councilman Daniel Yost said.

The town of Woodside, Councilwoman Anne Kasten said, has "a crying need" to supply housing for adult children returning home, college students and people who work in town.

Referring to the floor plan under discussion, she said that in her opinion, it was not "thoroughly thought through" for townwide application. "I truly believe that it's time for us to acknowledge that times are different and we need to address this issue," she said. Restrictions on ridge lines were a reaction to "McMansions in other communities," she said.

Town Hall has the skills it needs to revise the regulations, she said. "To my mind, to really meet this issue, we really have to let the ridge (line) be higher, and I don't think that would be a travesty in this town. Three feet would make a huge difference."

The matter is scheduled to come back to the council for action on Feb. 13. ▀

## Districting committee goes to work

By Kate Bradshaw  
Almanac Staff Writer

Members of Menlo Park's new Districting Advisory Committee took the oath of office Jan. 22 and laid the ground rules for their upcoming work over the next month.

The committee is racing against the clock to fairly divide Menlo Park into electoral districts in response to a lawsuit threat the city received in August, alleging that its at-large voting system makes it harder for the city's minority residents to elect candidates they prefer. The city must switch to a district system by the next election or be at risk of a lawsuit.

Committee members are to come up with recommendations for district boundaries that would fairly divide the city's population into five or

### ■ MENLO BRIEFS

six electoral districts that will ultimately go before the City Council.

In addition to taking the oath of office on Jan. 22, committee members spoke with consultants from the National Demographics Corporation about their assignment and learned about the rules of transparency they will have to follow, including abiding by the Brown Act, disclosing their financial interests and informing acting City Clerk Clay Curtin about discussions on the topic they have outside of the group's meetings.

The committee's next meeting was scheduled for Monday, Jan. 29, after the Almanac went to press. Following that, the next

See **MENLO BRIEFS**, page 8

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# Tour highlights flaws in Portola Valley school facilities

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

As the board of the Portola Valley School District ponders whether to put a bond measure on the ballot in November, district leaders have begun showing the community some of the reasons they say the district needs to invest in upgrading and modernizing its campuses.

On Jan. 18, the school board and district officials joined about a dozen others on a tour of the district's two campuses — the transitional kindergarten through third-grade Ormondale and fourth- through eighth-grade Corte Madera.

## Ormondale

At Ormondale the school's multipurpose room, used as a gym, indoor lunchroom and performance space, is suffering from deferred maintenance. "It is an aging facility," said Ormondale Principal Lynette Hovland.

In addition to a leaking roof, bubbling areas on the floor, door hardware that's not working and cracked plexiglass windows, the room's tables can't be used because the mechanism used to unlock them so they can be taken out and then put away no longer functions.

Many of Ormondale's buildings are structurally sound, said architect Brent McClure from Cody Anderson Wasney Architects (known as CAW), the consultants the district has hired to help evaluate its facilities. But

most windows are single-glazed, the heating and ventilation systems are "reaching the end of their service life" and much of the school's lighting needs to be upgraded, he said.

"There are things quite literally falling apart on this campus," school board member Jeff Klugman said.

A report distributed at the meeting says the school has drainage and other flooding problems, including an interior downspout that has flooded a workroom and tree roots growing into drains. Some windows no longer open and the outdoor passages children use become slippery when wet.

A major problem at the school is the second- and third-grade wing, made up of what the architect calls "permanent portables" installed in 1976. At least two classrooms may have mold. The report says the rooms' roofs are also settling. "When the custodian goes up there to fix something, he feels them shifting," it says.

In addition to pressing needs, the district has also compiled a list of "like to haves," including a kitchen space in the multipurpose room big enough for an entire classroom of students, a much larger STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) lab, more storage, and a larger music classroom.

Outdoors, the school would like a better location for its school garden, an outdoor gathering space for the whole school, and an amphitheater.

The school's buildings were



Photo by Michelle Le/The Almanac

Ormondale School Principal Lynette Hovland points out an underused part of the campus on a recent tour to show what needs to be repaired or replaced on the campus.

built between 1961 and 2000.

## Corte Madera

At Corte Madera School, Principal Cyndi Maijala said, facilities recently had to undergo emergency repairs when mold was found in the walls of several classrooms and student bathrooms.

The culprit, she said, was the aged heating and air conditioning systems and drainage problems. "It looks like this beautiful, idyllic place," Ms. Maijala said of the school, but when they looked under the surface they found lots of damage.

Among the problems are restrooms that need renovating, including a staff restroom that doesn't always have hot water; lack of security cameras; no

blinds for some classroom windows (one is covered with paper; another with bulletin boards); a malfunctioning alarm system; poor exterior lighting; and malfunctioning equipment and lack of supplies for the science room.

There are many drainage problems, almost the entire school needs repainting, and the school's marquee falls over at times.

Corte Madera's multi-use room, which serves as a gym, an auditorium and a performance space, does not have regulation-sized basketball courts.

The building, Ms. Maijala said, "is neither fish nor fowl" in its current condition. "It would be great to have a space that could honor the creativity and talent of our students," she said.

One proposal is to replace the building called the Annex, which is not up to modern code so cannot be used by students, with a performing arts/gathering space.

"The dream would be, the community would come here and use that space," she said.

The district's list of "like to haves" for the school includes better drainage for the soccer field, a better STEM/maker space room, better lighting and access to the outdoors, improved play surfaces and student circulation, a refurbished amphitheater, a regulation-sized gym, replacements for some of the older classrooms and a bigger art room.

The Corte Madera buildings were built between 1958 and 2000. ■

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## MENLO BRIEFS

continued from page 7

is planned for Friday, Feb. 2, at 1 p.m., at City Hall, 701 Laurel St.

Others are tentatively scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5; Monday, Feb. 12; Thursday, Feb. 15; and Thursday, Feb. 22, time and location to be determined.

## World's largest ambrotype

In an event that claims to offer the world's largest ambrotype on display, Menlo Park's Art Ventures Gallery will host a

reception for acclaimed Los Angeles-based photographer Ian Ruhter on Thursday, Feb. 1, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Mr. Ruhter uses a 19th century photographic process for his art, which involves taking glass or aluminum plates, bathing them in silver nitrates and pouring iodides, bromides and a solution called collodion to make them light sensitive. Then they are exposed and developed.

An ambrotype is a positive photograph on glass made through a variant of this process.

To make the process work with large plates, he converted a delivery truck into a large mobile camera and traveling darkroom, which he has taken around the U.S., including to Yosemite, Tahoe, Vancouver, Monument Valley and New Mexico.

In a video he made explaining his work, he said, "I didn't just build a camera, I created a time machine."

The exhibit will run from Feb. 1 through March 14 at the gallery, located at 888 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park.

## EXPENSIVE

continued from page 6

92 - Palo Alto 94306, \$2.6 million  
108 - Redwood City 94062, \$2.4 million

## PropertyShark list

Midpeninsula cities on the PropertyShark list are:  
1 - Atherton 94027, \$4.95 million median sales price 2017

7 - Palo Alto 94301, \$3.3 million  
8 - Los Altos 94022, \$3.2 million  
13 - Portola Valley 94028, \$2.89 million  
14 - Los Altos 94024, \$2.87 million  
21 - Palo Alto 94303, \$2.6 million  
27 - Palo Alto 94306, \$2.45 million  
33 - Stanford 94305, \$2.2 million  
39 - Menlo Park 94025, \$2.06 million

53 - Sunnyvale 94087, \$1.75 million  
54 - Cupertino 95014, \$1.7 million  
55 - Mountain View 94041, \$1.73 million  
58 - Redwood City 94062, \$1.7 million  
60 - Mountain View 94040, \$1.66 million  
88 - Redwood City 94061, \$1.45 million

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# Supervisors deny Menlo Park's appeal of Stanford project

By Kate Bradshaw  
Almanac Staff Writer

Despite Menlo Park's protestations that a proposal by Stanford to build a new office building will worsen traffic in its territory, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors unanimously denied the city's appeal of the proposal — thereby clearing the path for the project to move forward.

Menlo Park Mayor Peter Ohtaki and Assistant Public Works Director Nikki Nagaya traveled to San Jose to plead the city's case before the supervisors on the morning of Jan. 23, asking the county to require Stanford to make some commitment to mitigate the traffic the project will create.

The planned building, a

four-story structure with three levels of underground parking at 453 Quarry Road, is to be the university's new "Center for Academic Medicine," intended to operate as an office and research building for Stanford medical faculty, administrators and staff. Stanford needed clearance from the county to shift 115,000 square feet of development it had been granted from one area of the campus — nearer to Palo Alto — to Quarry Road, an area nearer to Menlo Park and Sand Hill Road, though still in unincorporated Santa Clara County territory.

Stanford claims the transfer of square footage from one area to another is irrelevant because the main gauge of traffic impacts, the number of parking spots the new building will add — about

600 in this case — is still smaller than the 858 the university has already gotten approval to build in that area of the campus.

There was some discrepancy in the expected traffic impacts reported by Menlo Park and by county planners. Menlo Park's Nikki Nagaya argued that the traffic analysis didn't fully take into account current and cumulative future traffic conditions the city requested, and asked for further study. Santa Clara County planners replied that they had done the analysis that Menlo Park asked for, but the expected amount of new traffic didn't rise to the level of impact that would require the university to take steps to mitigate.

The county planners told the supervisors that in their evaluations, even with layering on the

university's current, planned and proposed developments, the expected traffic projections fall short of the maximum amount of traffic the university was permitted to generate in its 2000 General Use Permit.

Another point of tension that Menlo Park council members have expressed was that the project came as a surprise to them: The city didn't find out about the project until it was slated to appear before the Santa Clara County Planning Commission, the body that typically makes decisions on such matters — and that was only because Kristina Loquist, a staffer in Supervisor Joe Simitian's office, alerted Menlo Park Councilman Ray Mueller.

At the time, the council and staff requested and received a delay on the hearing, quickly

cobbled together some questions, and asked that further analysis be done to evaluate the impacts the new structure might have on Menlo Park traffic conditions, especially along Sand Hill Road and El Camino Real, two adjacent thoroughfares that commuters would be likely to traverse when getting to and from the new building.

After the county Planning Commission approved the project unanimously, the city of Menlo Park appealed the project to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Ohtaki and Ms. Nagaya's arguments pointed to deeper tensions with Stanford than just this single building. They argued that the cumulative traffic impacts of Stanford's projects

See **SUPERVISORS**, page 11

## TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Planning Commission of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Historic Schoolhouse, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California on the following:

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY ADDING CHAPTER 18.39 [CANNABIS LAND USES] TO TITLE 18 [ZONING] AND AMENDING SECTION 8.12.010 [DEFINITION OF NUISANCE] OF CHAPTER 8.12 [NUISANCE ABATEMENT] OF TITLE 8 [HEALTH & SAFETY] OF THE PORTOLA VALLEY MUNICIPAL CODE AND A FINDING THAT THE ACTION IS EXEMPT UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA).

(The proposed ordinance bans most commercial cannabis activity within the Town, including dispensaries and retail sales, but allows limited cultivation in certain areas, provided comprehensive safeguards and requirements are met.)

Information pertaining to the proposal may be viewed at Town Hall Building and Planning Department, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Planning Commission to be heard at the time and place mentioned above.

Public Hearings provide the general public and interested parties an opportunity to provide testimony on these items. If you challenge a proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at a Public Hearing(s) described above, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the Public Hearing(s).

Dated: January 18, 2018  
Arly Cassidy, Interim Planning Director

## New fire board president: District should look to 'the next 100 years'

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

Entering his fifth year on the Menlo Park Fire Protection District's board, Chuck Bernstein — who many times has been on the losing end of 4-1 board votes — was sworn in as board president on Jan. 16. He suggested that the board spend the year looking forward to its next century.

Four years ago, Mr. Bernstein ran for a seat on the district's board as part of a slate with Peter Carpenter and Rex Ianson. The three slate members were elected, but the coalition has been far from a voting bloc. Since his election, Mr. Bernstein has often proved to be the lone wolf on the fire board, finding himself on the losing end of many 4-1 votes.

Mr. Bernstein's relationship with fellow slate member Peter Carpenter has often been particularly contentious. At the December meeting in which Mr. Bernstein was elected board president, Mr. Carpenter early in the process nominated Rob Silano, who had just served as board president in 2016. The nomination received the support of only Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Silano, with Mr. Silano having to second his own nomination.

"I have not infrequently had opinions that differ from some of my colleagues," Mr. Bernstein said soon after he was sworn in on Jan. 16. "But I have pledged to do my best to be sure that does not interfere with any of the procedural things we do," he said.

Mr. Bernstein did suggest procedural changes in board

meetings, but said he'd make them only if he had his fellow board members' consensus.

He proposed that the board adopt as its 2018 theme, "The Next 100 Years." "Having just completed the celebration of our 100th anniversary, I think it is time to define our new horizon," he wrote in a report to the board.

It's a time of many firsts, he said. For the first time in a number of years, the majority of board members are not former fire service or public safety employees. The board now has representatives from all four communities it covers (Atherton, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and unincorporated San Mateo County), "and more gender and ethnic diversity than ever before in our history," he said.

"We have mobility and environmental challenges that we have never before faced," he said, and "potential technology tools" such as drones and robots that did not previously exist.

"Despite the name of our agency, the vast majority of our calls are medical, not fire-related," he wrote. He also advocated that the district "establish an effective first response involving volunteer residents and employees" that will be ready in a major disaster. "This will be the first year of establishing a new vision of our future capabilities," he said.

Board members assented to that and several other of Mr. Bernstein's proposals: sending more items to committees for discussion before the board considers them, a report from the district's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) at

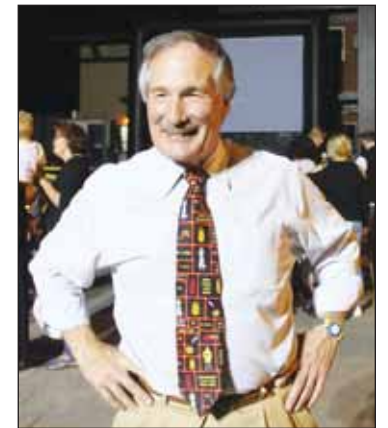


Photo by Barbara Wood/The Almanac

**Chuck Bernstein** often wears his favorite "fire tie" to official district events, such as this October "Night of Lights" celebration.

each meeting, and sending all spending and budget items to the Finance Committee before they reach the full board.

One objective Mr. Bernstein had for his first meeting, having board members vote on their priorities for the coming year, was shot down. Mr. Carpenter said the item wasn't specifically on the agenda, and board member Robert Jones said the board needed more time for such a discussion, maybe even a separate meeting.

At the meeting's end, Mr. Bernstein announced with a chuckle, "I realize I often play the part of Scrooge on this board" because of his votes against district spending, but he had played the Scrooge's nemesis, Santa, at a holiday toy giveaway at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Menlo Park.

"I sat in one place without moving for six and a half hours," he said. ▣

**SUPERVISORS**

*continued from page 10*

at 500 El Camino Real in Menlo Park, its satellite campus growing in Redwood City, two hospital projects, and ongoing expansion in the campus proper have created noticeable impacts on traffic in Menlo Park and are affecting residents' quality of life.

The revelation of the planned building's shifted location increased concerns over the cumulative effects of Stanford's planned growth, and was enough to change a swing

vote by Councilwoman Catherine Carlton to rescind council approval of another proposal by Stanford to build a new office building at 2131 Sand Hill Road and annex the territory into the city of Menlo Park. That proposal is now back under review.

Mr. Ohtaki argued that Menlo Park bears many of the burdens of Stanford's growing density without the same boons in sales and property tax revenue that flow to Santa Clara County and Palo Alto (though Menlo Park does claim tax revenue from Stanford properties in the city

used for non-academic purposes.)

"With great respect to Stanford, we'd like to ask your support to get them to engage in a collaborative discussion toward mitigating impacts in Menlo Park," Mr. Ohtaki said, addressing the supervisors. He characterized the university's previous responses as effectively saying, "Well, it was part of the (2000 General Use Permit). Too bad."

In response, Catherine Palter, Stanford associate vice president of land use, said that the 2000 plan's approval was conditional on not adding new vehicle trips

within its campus, and that the university has adhered to that commitment.

"I'm persuaded Stanford followed the rules," concluded Supervisor Cindy Chavez. "Having said that, I am troubled that we can have such a big move from one district to another and not properly engage the surrounding cities."

In voting to deny the appeal, county Supervisor Joe Simitian said he wanted Stanford to make it a policy that it will inform all of the jurisdictions that control or border its territory about land

use decisions. He also made it a condition that all contractors Stanford works with for the construction of the project be required to sign a form indicating they are aware of and will stick to using only the designated routes to enter and exit the campus to minimize the impacts of construction-related traffic.

"Progress has been made, incremental though it may be," Mr. Simitian summarized.

According to a Stanford website, the construction timeline is for fall 2017 through winter 2019. ■

## Kathryn Eluned Williams

February 25, 1913 – January 1, 2018

Kathryn Eluned Williams passed away surrounded by the love of her family on January 1, 2018 at the age of 104. She was active and interested in the lives and activities of her family and many friends until her passing.



Kathryn was born in Oak Hill, Ohio, the first daughter of Welsh immigrants, Reverend Robert Owen Williams and Kathryn Ellen Williams. She was the second of five children.

Her family moved from Ohio to Washington where her father became Minister of the Presbyterian Church in Walla Walla. Her family later moved to Oakland, California so that she could attend UC Berkeley where she earned her BA in Fine Art.

Kathryn married a fellow Welshman, CPA Ben Williams in 1934. She became a mother to John Byron in 1938 and Roberta Jean in 1942. Ben's work with the Department of Defense took their family to live in London, England, for two years and later to Hayama, Japan, where Kathryn pursued her interests in painting, Ikebana and antiquing. Kathryn was an elementary school teacher for 23 years, last teaching at Las Lomas school in Atherton, CA.

Kathryn loved people. She was a devout Christian, shining her light and giving her love and support to all she met. For many years, Kathryn was an active member of the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. She was a charter member of P.E.O. Chapter LL, founded in 1946, which focuses on providing educational scholarships for women.

Kathryn was preceded in death by her husband Ben in 1974, her brothers Owen Kerniew, Robert Willard, sister Margaret Butler and most recently her brother, Ambassador Haydn Williams. She is survived by her son, John Byron Williams of Saguache, CO, daughter Roberta Allee of Menlo Park, CA and nephew Michael Garl of San Carlos, CA along with six grandchildren, Greg Stevens (Lisa), Katie Evans (Neal), Geoffrey Williams (Erin), Brenin Williams (Sara), Morgan Williams (Sylvia) and Marshall Williams (Abby). Her nine great-grandchildren, who lovingly called her their "GG", are Kathryn Emma Evans, James Byron Stevens, Siena Stevens, Rowan Williams, Haydn Williams, Lindsey Williams, Kailey Williams, Margaret Williams and Bridget Williams.

The family is thankful to Kathryn's many dear friends who remained faithful with visits and calls to her in her later years. We are especially grateful to her doctor, Julie Wissink, MD, and her pastor, Frank Vanderzwan, for their amazing care and friendship.

We will forever miss her love, graciousness, strength and guidance, and will always hold her close in our hearts. Kathryn's Memorial Service will be held at Menlo Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park on Friday, February 9 at 11am.

PAID OBITUARY

## Linda Ann Harmon

February 14, 1955 – January 19, 2018

Linda Ann (Morrow) Harmon passed away on Friday, January 19, 2018, at Stanford Medical Center in Palo Alto, California, at the age of sixty-two. Linda will be forever in the hearts of her husband Grant, her son Justin, her stepdaughter Elizabeth, and all of her family and many friends.

Linda was born in Seattle, Washington, the daughter of James and Patricia Morrow. Her first home was near her grandparents' house on Lake Washington where her love of water and an active sports life began. Linda spent her formative years first in Vancouver, British Columbia from ages 3 to 8, then in Spokane, Washington until she was 10 years old, and then her remaining school years on Mercer Island near Seattle where she graduated from Mercer Island High School in 1973.

Linda was from the beginning a bright and kind girl. She loved to design and sew outfits for her dolls and cook meals from other countries. She earned a first-class award in the Girl Scouts and joined Candy Strippers and Young Life, which helped hone her instincts for caring for others. She excelled as a member of the Mercer Island Beach Club tennis and swim teams. Her introduction to snow skiing started in the mountains around Spokane at the age of 8 and peaked as she became a ski instructor for several years at Alpental in the Cascade Mountains east of Seattle. As a skier, she always had some of the prettiest form on the mountain.

After high school, she enrolled and graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in pharmacy. She then worked as a pharmacist in Bellingham, Washington, which suited her well as a person who enjoyed caring for others. In 1984, she moved to Sun Valley, Idaho where she managed to ski almost as many days of the week as she worked. She worked as a pharmacist at Chateau Drug in Ketchum, Idaho until 1995.

As fate worked out, Linda's mother and

Grant's mother arranged a skiing blind date for them in 1994 in Sun Valley. They fell in love and Linda moved to Grant's home in Menlo Park, California in 1995. They were married in 1996 at the Auberge du Soleil in Napa Valley and their son Justin was born in 1997.

In addition to her passion for outdoor sports, Linda and Grant loved to travel to Italy, Hawaii, South Carolina, Costa Rica and Mexico, to name a few of their great family vacations. Linda and Grant spent the over twenty years of their marriage enjoying golf, skiing, biking, being with their beloved Pembroke Welsh Corgi Hogan, and traveling the world together with many friends and family. Linda also enjoyed being one of the Team Moms for her son Justin's



many sports teams, including the 2014 and 2015 Sacred Heart Prep Atherton Varsity Football Teams.

Linda was a member of Menlo Church and Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club.

Linda was predeceased by her father James Robert Morrow in 1987. She is also survived by her mother Patricia Ann Morrow Moulton of Issaquah, Washington and her brother Mikel Morrow (his wife Heather) and his family of Sammamish, Washington.

Linda will be forever remembered by her family, close friends, colleagues, and people she touched through her love, enthusiasm, and kindness. She always tried to bring family and friends together for the creation of many great memories. Linda was thoughtful and generous to all. Above all else, Linda loved Grant and Justin. She reminded us all that love of family and friends is the most important thing on which to build a joyful life.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Menlo Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park

In remembrance of our beloved Linda, the family asks that in lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to Menlo Church, Young Life, Sacred Heart Prep Atherton or a charity of your choice.

PAID OBITUARY

# Remembering Mr. Clements

Reflections on the rich life of a beloved Menlo-Atherton drama, English teacher

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

There was the time before, and then there was the time after that day. Lee Clements would thereafter refer to it only as “the day they broke my head.”

In the time before, Lee Clements was a brilliant and beloved drama and English teacher at Menlo-Atherton High School. He shepherded two decades of students through his productions, many of whom were inspired to pursue careers in theater.

One such student was Dency Nelson, senior class president of the class of 1970. When he started high school, he said, he never thought he’d participate in musicals or theater. But he had Mr. Clements as an English teacher, who encouraged him to get involved with the drama department.

Mr. Nelson would later go on to be a theater arts major in college and spend a 40-year career as a decorated stage manager in Hollywood.

“None of that would have happened had I not met Lee Clements as a student,” he said.

Suzan Bateson was a drama student and close friend of Mr. Clements who worked with him as a student director. “He was smart, funny, and treated us like adults,” she said. With his directorial services (hired for \$1), she and Mr. Clements put together

a multi-media Shakespeare play during the summer of 1970.

Mr. Clements was the kind of teacher who supported his students’ artistic works, and even went to see their shows in other venues. According to Mr. Nelson, Lindsey Buckingham, in his pre-Fleetwood Mac days, was an English student of Mr. Clements and once said he heard Mr. Clements’ distinctive ho-ho-ho laugh echo from the audience at one of his early concerts. Mr. Buckingham and Stevie Nicks, who also attended M-A her senior year, would occasionally stop by Mr. Clements’ classroom, much to the excitement of his students.

Mr. Nelson recalled that Mr. Clements always concluded his English classes before the holidays by reading Truman Capote’s “A Christmas Memory” aloud to his students.

Ann Reinhart, class of 1979, had been familiar with Mr. Clements’ legacy even before she got to M-A: “I grew up going to the fall musicals at Menlo-Atherton and my goal in life was to be up on that stage,” she said.

“What set him apart from other high school drama programs was the professionalism he drilled into us. We rehearsed from after school until about 9 p.m., doing our homework between scenes. He sat at his table middle of the room as we awaited the dread shout ‘From the top!’ when we messed something up. Broke

character. Hit the curtain entering the stage. Now I realize it was his dramatic way of simply getting us to rehearse the material over and over.”

Born Buddy Lee Clements in Texarkana, on the border of Texas and Arkansas, he moved at age 8 to Seminole, Oklahoma. He attended the University of Oklahoma, where he received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in theater. In the early 1960s, he moved to California, living in San Luis Obispo before beginning his teaching career at Del Mar High School in San Jose. One day in 1962, he was invited to a colleague’s home for dinner, where he would meet his colleague’s wife, Barbara Williams.

The two struck up a friendship that would last until the end of his life. Mr. Clements was gay, “but never closeted,” Ms. Williams said. “He never hid things like many people did.”

In 1964, he began teaching at Menlo-Atherton High School. He would live in Palo Alto or Menlo Park for most of the rest of his life.

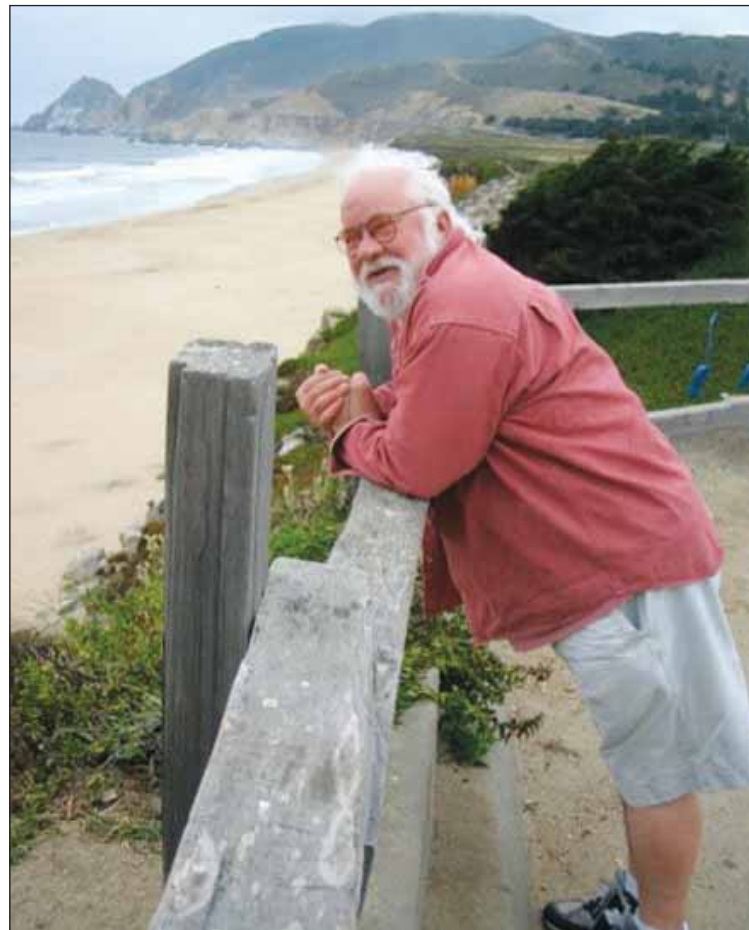
“In the early days, he was my mentor,” Ms. Williams said, noting that he encouraged her to pursue work as a drama and English teacher, which she would later do across the Bay in Newark. He gave her teaching pointers. One of his practices was calling his students by their last names until they became friends. The exception, he once told Ms. Williams, was a girl with the last name of Fluckinger. “I think I’m going to call her by her first name,” he laughed.

He picked challenging productions for his students: Pulitzer-winning plays and shows like “No Exit” by Jean-Paul Sartre, she said. He demanded a lot from them, and they adored him in return, she said.

“He was a lover of life,” Ms. Williams recalled. He would travel to New York in the summers to take dance classes, and he taught her and her son how to ski. He was constantly introducing her to new literary authors and plays.

Then, that day happened. In 1985, Mr. Clements was in San Diego visiting some friends. While out at the beach, he was brutally attacked in what Ms. Williams believes was a gay-bashing incident. The attackers were never caught.

“They broke practically every bone in his body,” including his skull in many places, she said. He was found near death the next day by people walking on the beach and given medical care, but as a result of the brain injuries he sustained, he was



**Lee Clements**, shown here at Montara beach, died Dec. 28. His teaching career ended in 1985, when he was brutally attacked and almost killed in a suspected gay-bashing assault on a Southern California beach.

never able to return to teaching.

Their friendship changed then, but Ms. Williams said she continued to help him with tasks such as ensuring he had his proper medications and balancing his checkbook. But it was painful for her to see him go from being such a vibrant person to “almost doddering” because of his brain injuries, she said.

They continued to enjoy movies and plays together, and during one personally significant production Ms. Williams oversaw — “The Laramie Project” by Moises Kaufman — she enlisted Mr. Clements’ help. She said that play, which tells the true story of a gay-related hate crime that resulted in the death of 22-year-old Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, holds many similarities to Mr. Clements’ life.

“For every one Matthew Shepard incident that makes news all over the country, there are hundreds that don’t make the news. Lee’s didn’t make the news,” she said.

Her students at the time were grappling with another local hate crime: the death of Newark teen Gwen Amber Rose Araujo, a transgender 17-year-old who was beaten, strangled, and buried in a shallow grave in October 2002. The discovery of her death occurred only weeks before the play’s opening day that November. Ms. Williams said the students she worked with on that production came to adore Mr. Clements too, as

his old students had.

Later, when Ms. Williams could no longer move Mr. Clements, he relocated to the Empress Care Center in San Jose, and their friendship transitioned again. Ms. Williams would wheel him across the street to Del Mar High School to see drama productions at the same school where he started his career.

Lee Clements died Dec. 28 of complications from a longtime heart condition. He is survived by his two stepsisters, Amelia Carol Little and Linda Lea Varvil of Norman, Oklahoma, his half-brother, Dale T. Gray of Oklahoma City, seven nieces and nephews and 15 grandnieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Mr. Clements will be held on what would have been his 80th birthday on Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. at Bay Area Mortuary Services Community Chapel, 1701 Little Orchard St. in San Jose.

At the service, Mr. Nelson plans to read from the book of Dylan Thomas poetry Mr. Clements gave him:

*“Do not go gentle into that good night.”*

*“Rage, rage against the dying of the light.”*

In lieu of flowers, family and friends ask that contributions be made in memory of Lee Clements to Not in Our Town, an anti-hate crime nonprofit, at [niot.org](http://niot.org).

Palo Alto Players is staging The Laramie Project through Feb. 4. ■

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# Sheryl Sandberg shares

Facebook executive speaks from her heart to her hometown community

By Barbara Wood | Photos by Michelle Le

**N**ot long after Sheryl Sandberg's husband, Dave Goldberg, died unexpectedly at the age of 47 in March 2015, a friend had to help Ms. Sandberg figure out how to help her child participate in a father-child event without a father.

"But I want Dave. I want option A," Ms. Sandberg wrote in a post on Facebook, where she is chief operating officer. The friend, she wrote, "put his arm around me and said, 'Option A is not available. So let's just kick the (\$#!+) out of option B.'"

Ms. Sandberg, who lives in Menlo Park, co-wrote a book that was published last year about some of the lessons she learned after her husband's premature death, "Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy." On Jan. 17, she shared some of those lessons with her hometown community as part of the Menlo Park City

School District's speaker series. "This is my community and my home and I'm glad to be with so many friends," she told the crowd, which filled every available seat in Hillview Middle School's Performing Arts Center.

"This community played such a big role in my recovery," she said.

"This book and this journey was trying to take what I learned and share it," she said.

### Sharing the pain

Ms. Sandberg was very public with her feelings after her husband's death, posting on Facebook only four days after she found him unresponsive on the floor in the gym of a Mexican resort, dead from a heart arrhythmia caused by coronary artery disease.

"If the day I walked down that aisle with Dave someone had told me that this would happen — that he would be taken



**Top** Facebook's Sheryl Sandberg shares the stage with Menlo Park City School District Superintendent Eric Burmeister on Jan. 17 as part of the district's parent education program.

**Bottom** Ms. Sandberg chats after her talk with a student volunteer who helped to run the Hillview Middle School's auditorium sound system. In the background are Oak Knoll principal Kristin Gracia, Hillview parent and program co-organizer Singari Seshadri and Rebecca Chalif from LeanIn.org.

**Cover:** Ms. Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer, spoke at Hillview on topics ranging from how to raise resilient children to the side effects of the "Me too" movement.

from us all in just 11 years — I would still have walked down that aisle," Ms. Sandberg wrote. "Because 11 years of being Dave Goldberg's wife, and 10 years of being a parent with him, is perhaps more luck and more happiness than I ever could have imagined. I am grateful for every minute we had," she wrote.

She told the audience at Hillview that her public posts actually made things easier for her. "It wasn't just the loss of Dave that was overwhelming," she said. "It was actually the basic silence that was everywhere," she said. "People were almost frozen. They didn't know what to say."

Another heartfelt post she made 30 days after Mr. Goldberg's death, she said, was meant for co-workers and friends. "It was kind of a plea: Start talking to me again. Ask me how I am today," she said.

"The post did not take away

*Continued on next page*

# Sandberg: How to help others

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

When Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer, recently spoke in Menlo Park, she said she wants her book, "Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy," to be in a category not currently found in bookstores.

"We want our book to be in the 'Help Others' section," she said, not on the "Self-Help" shelf.

She shared some of what she's learned about the best ways to help those dealing with a trauma:

■ Talk about it. Don't avoid mentioning what has happened for fear of bringing up the trauma, Ms. Sandberg said. "I know Dave died, you can't remind me," she said. "You can't remind the woman who you're sitting next to at work that she has cancer," she said. "She knows."

Just let a friend or co-worker know, "You may or may not

want to talk, but I'm here" if you do, she said.

■ Acknowledge that pain lasts. "Holidays are hard," Ms. Sandberg said. "It never occurred to me before Dave died, Fathers Day is for me, to this day, the worst day of year."

"My kids wake up knowing it's their dad's birthday," she said, and appreciate their friends who let them know they must be thinking about him.

"The power of acknowledging is so powerful," she said.

■ Don't say "everything will be fine." Ms. Sandberg says she used to say this to try to comfort others. But now she knows it's better to say: "I know you don't know if you're going to be OK, and I don't either, but I know you won't be alone."

"It's so much better," she said, "because you're acknowledging the pain."

Say, "this must be so hard. Just being honest, not sugar-coating" is best, she said.

■ Do something. "Rather than offering: 'Is there

anything I can do,' " Ms. Sandberg said, "just do something."

And know, she said, that it's not necessary to have a close personal relationship to offer support. "People don't have enough people from first grade to take care of them," she said.

"Show up, show up with food, show up with flowers, show up with a hug, but don't say 'Can I do anything?'" Ms. Sandberg said.

■ Give permission to be happy. After losing her husband, Ms. Sandberg said, she found herself feeling bad about being happy, until Mr. Goldberg's brother told her that Dave would have wanted her to be happy.

People need "permission both to cry and to grieve, but also to find joy," she said.

Our society tends to especially judge someone who has lost a spouse who begins dating, but they need that permission, Ms. Sandberg said. "Helping people to find joy" after a loss is important, she said. ■

# On girls, parenting and 'Me too'

By Barbara Wood  
Almanac Staff Writer

I would be remiss if I didn't talk a little bit about girls," Sheryl Sandberg told her audience in Menlo Park on Jan. 17. "It turns out the world is still being run by men. It's really not going well," she said to laughter and applause. "We need to do better."

One thing that needs to change is the expectation that only boys will be leaders, she said.

"Never say the word bossy," she said. "Your daughter's not bossy, she has executive leadership skills," she said to loud laughter.

That line, Ms. Sandberg said, has gotten laughs all over the world. But when she says it and substitutes "son" for "daughter," no one laughs.

"Humor is against expectations," she said, and none of us expects girls to lead.

"We really need our daughters to lead along with our sons," she said.

## Parenting

"One of the misinterpretations of me that I always really hate," Ms. Sandberg said, is that her book "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead" was "telling women that they need to work outside the home."

"I believe deeply that the work of raising kids is as important,

harder, than any other," she said. "I think it's so important that men should do it, too," she said.

"We'd be a better society if the percentage of parents working inside the home was not 4 percent men," she said, but instead if half the countries, half the companies and half the homes were run by men and half by women.

## 'Me too'

"We need systemic change, and that means institutional change," Ms. Sandberg said in response to a question about how the momentum of the "Me too" movement can be sustained.

"The thing I'm really worried about," she said, "is this is going to hurt mentoring for women," Ms. Sandberg said.

"If the backlash to this is men are afraid to talk with women alone, then the pretty abysmal promotion rate women now have" is going to go down even further, she said.

Instead, all managers need to follow the same guidelines for men and women. If women aren't taken on business trips, men shouldn't be either. If an executive is uncomfortable taking a junior woman to dinner, then take junior men and women to only breakfast or lunch, Ms. Sandberg said.

"Access needs to be equal," she said. ■

# How to get involved

Ms. Sandberg has formed two nonprofits, LeanIn.Org and OptionB.Org through the Sheryl Sandberg & Dave Goldberg Family Foundation, with the proceeds of her books going to the organizations.

The foundation's website says that Lean In "empowers women to achieve their ambitions." Its programs "counter gender stereotypes and advance opportunities for all women." In more than 150 countries 34,000 women have joined Lean In Circles, small groups that meet regularly "to learn and grow together."

OptionB.Org "helps people build resilience and find meaning in the face of adversity," the website says. It has 466,000 members, with groups for grief and loss; health, illness and injury; abuse and sexual assault; divorce and family challenges; discrimination; incarceration; raising resilient kids; and resilience.

Ms. Sandberg also suggested local ways to get involved, including helping food banks. "There's real hunger in our area," she said. Research suggests that a local family of four making less

than \$80,000 a year, or one in 10 people, has "food insecurity."

"Administrators and teachers at our schools are recipients at the food bank," she said. "Economic insecurity is a very real thing here. We're surrounded by it."

And while her own local community provided her with support when she needed it, some may not have that same community to fall back on, Ms. Sandberg said.

Ms. Sandberg's family foundation has started the Dave Goldberg Scholarship Program (kipp.org/goldiescholars) to provide 15 graduates of KIPP charter schools with the type of support most local students have built in: a stipend for non-tuition school expenses, a mentor to provide advice and ongoing support, and a network of professionals to help students secure summer internships and jobs.

She also suggested that local residents donate to districts such as Ravenswood City School District, which raise little in donations but have many disadvantaged students.

Continued from previous page

the loss, but it took away the isolation because everyone started talking to me." People all over the world began sharing their own stories of loss, she said.

## 'How are you today?'

Many people have no idea how to talk to someone who has suffered a personal trauma, she said, including herself before losing her husband. "If someone walks up to you and says, 'How are you?' ... there's just no answer to that question," she said.

"How are you, in our society, is not a real question," she said, or at least a question anyone expects an honest answer to.

But asking "How are you today?" lets the person know you realize he or she is struggling to get through the day, she said.

Another thing she learned after her loss, Ms. Sandberg said, is that resilience — the ability to recover from adversity — is not something innate. Resilience can be built up, like a muscle, she said.

In the early days after Ms. Sandberg lost her husband, Adam Grant, the co-author of her book, told Ms. Sandberg: "You build resilience ... by understanding what it is, and how we support each other."

## Post-traumatic growth

Ms. Sandberg said she learned that it is possible to grow from trauma, and the result is the opposite of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) — it is post-traumatic growth.

## 'Resilience is found by being grateful for what we have.'

SHERYL SANDBERG

"Early on, Adam said to me, you should think about what could be worse," Ms. Sandberg said. "My husband's dead. I walked into the gym and found him on the floor. What could be worse?" she recalled thinking. But Mr. Grant told her it would have been worse, for example, if Mr. Goldberg had suffered the cardiac emergency while driving their kids.

He was right, I could have lost all three of them," Ms. Sandberg said. "Resilience is found by being grateful for what we have."

One thing she's grateful for is just being alive. "I woke up the day I turned 48 with this overwhelming gratitude that I had made it. In the early days my kids didn't think I would," because their dad hadn't reached that birthday,

she said.

"I made it," she said. "It turns out there's only two options: We either grow old or we don't."

"Every day, every birthday, those are gifts that not everyone gets," she said.

While she has learned so much after losing her husband, "I would trade all the growth, for sure, to get Dave back," she said. "I can't have that, but what I do have is that resilience and that growth."

## Raising resilient kids

Answering a question on how to raise resilient kids, Ms. Sandberg said: "First is mattering. Kids need to know they matter to you." They need to know they have a voice, and they need independence, she said.

"I think our generation controls so much for our kids. Kids need to make more decisions on their own, and should be allowed to fail, she said.

Ms. Sandberg said she realized her son had built some of his own resilience when his middle school basketball team lost a championship game. Seeing all the other boys crying, she moved to comfort her son. "I said: 'Are you OK?' He said: 'Mom, this is sixth-grade basketball!' And then he looked at me, and he said: 'They don't know.'" ■

# Time to register kindergartners in local districts

Kindergarten registration for children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 will soon be underway in local school districts.

The Portola Valley and Woodside Elementary school districts also offer a two-year transitional kindergarten program for children who turn 5 between Sept. 2 and Dec. 1.

## Preschools

The Menlo Park City School District is opening a new fee-based preschool, the Early Learning Center, in fall 2018 for children 3 to 5 years old with full and part-time options.

Go to [district.mpcsd.org/earlylearning](http://district.mpcsd.org/earlylearning) for more information. Registration will begin in late February.

Woodside Elementary has a fee-based preschool for children 2 years, 7 months, with two-, three- or five-day morning options and afternoon care until 3 p.m. available. Registration begins Feb. 1.

Go to [woodsideschool.us/Preschool/index.html](http://woodsideschool.us/Preschool/index.html) for more information.

## Portola Valley School District

Ormondale School at 200 Shawnee Pass in Portola Valley has begun the registration process for children entering transitional

kindergarten (5th birthdays Sept. 2 to Dec. 1) and regular kindergarten (5th birthdays on or before Sept. 1).

Call 851-1777, ext. 2652, for more information.

## Las Lomitas Elementary School District

Las Lomitas district registration begins on Jan. 29.

Parents should bring the following information to the Las Lomitas Elementary School office, 299 Alameda de las Pulgas in Atherton, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays: an original birth certificate or passport, proof of residency (the originals of two utility bills or a utility bill and lease or mortgage contract) and immunization records. Cell phone bills do not qualify as proof of residence.

Families will then register online at [llesd-ca.schoolloop.com/reg](http://llesd-ca.schoolloop.com/reg) and bring a copy of the forms to the school to finalize the registration. Students will not be placed in a class until all immunizations are completed.

Adult-only school tours for parents of incoming kindergarten students are on Fridays, Feb. 2 and 23.

Tours are limited to 16 per tour and one tour per family. Call

650-854-5900, extension 0, to reserve a spot.

The Las Lomitas district does not offer transitional kindergarten.

## Menlo Park City School District

Kindergarten registration starts Feb. 1 in the Menlo Park City School District. Registration will be done fully online at [district.mpcsd.org/page/331](http://district.mpcsd.org/page/331) mpcsd.org starting Feb. 1.

For information on the attendance boundaries for district schools, contact the district's registrar at 650-321-7140, ext. 5600, or check the school locator map on the district's website.

Proof of residency such as a California driver's license or a current utility bill is necessary.

In the Menlo Park district a child registered to enter a district school for the first time who will be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1 will be enrolled in first grade.

The Menlo Park district does not offer transitional kindergarten.

An information session for new and prospective parents, both kindergarten and upper grades will be held at Encinal Elementary, Feb. 1, 6-7:30 p.m., 195 Encinal Ave., Atherton.

Parents interested in the

Spanish immersion program must attend one of the remaining information sessions: Feb. 12, 9-10 a.m. or Feb. 26, 7-8 p.m., District Office TERC Room, 181 Encinal Ave., Atherton.

Go to [district.mpcsd.org/page/331](http://district.mpcsd.org/page/331) mpcsd.org for more information, or call the registrar at 650-321-7140, ext. 5600, or email [registrar@mpcsd.org](mailto:registrar@mpcsd.org).

## Woodside Elementary School District

Parents of children entering the two-year transitional kindergarten (5th birthdays Sept. 2 to Dec. 1) or regular kindergarten (birthdays on or before Sept. 1) should go online to find registration packets.

Go to [woodsideschool.us](http://woodsideschool.us) to find the packets and more information. Registration begins March 1.

School tours for new parents are: Feb. 1, March 1, April 19 and May 24, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Reserve a spot by calling 650-851-1571.

A birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization records and a physician's report will be required before a child enters school in the fall.

For further information call 650-851-1571, ext. 4003, or visit the district's website, [woodsideschool.us](http://woodsideschool.us).

—Barbara Wood

# School district wants to hear from public

A special meeting to hear public comment on the Menlo Park City School District's long-term financial planning will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6, in the district's TERC room, 181 Encinal Ave. in Atherton.

An earlier meeting on the topic was held in October. District officials say they are looking for community input on priorities and other topics.

Those topics include: how the district should spend any property tax revenue increases that are more than had been budgeted; how the district should respond to local housing development and growth of Stanford University; how the district should respond to decreases in projected enrollment growth; and whether increasing salary and benefits of teachers and staff encourages their long-term employment.

At [is.gd/MPSInput](http://is.gd/MPSInput) find more information on the district's website, or send comments to [info@mpcsd.org](mailto:info@mpcsd.org).



The County of San Mateo's Sustainability Academy provides NO-COST educational opportunities to San Mateo County community members.

Register for our offerings at [www.smcsustainability.org/academy](http://www.smcsustainability.org/academy)

## Fixit Clinics

Bring your broken items and we'll provide a workspace, specialty tools and volunteer Fixit Coaches to help you disassemble and troubleshoot your items.

**February 24:** 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. San Bruno Library: 701 Angus Ave W., San Bruno

## Home Composting Workshop

Learn how easy and fun it is to recycle your fruit and vegetable scraps, leaves, and plant cuttings into compost. You don't need a backyard to compost!

**March 17:** 10-12 a.m. William E. Walker Recreation Center, 650 Shell Blvd., Foster City

**April 21:** 10-12 a.m. South SF Scavenger Company, 500 East Jamie Court, South San Francisco

**May 19:** 10-12 a.m. Belmont Public Library, 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas

## Exploring Sustainability Webinar Series

Deepen your understanding of sustainability topics and gain practical methods to reduce your environmental impact. Turn your lunch break into a learning experience on Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please see website for additional webinars.

Composting Made Easy: February 28

## POLICE CALLS

*These reports are from the Atherton and Menlo Park police departments 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.*

### PORTOLA VALLEY

Deputies arrested a Los Altos man alleged to have rung the doorbell of a home on Antonio Court, tried to enter the home, then left in a vehicle. Deputies stopped a vehicle matching the description and made the arrest. Jan. 11.

**Possession of pepper spray:** Deputies encountered a Sunnyvale man on Willowbrook Drive and arrested and booked him into jail, alleging that he was a convicted felon in possession of pepper spray. Jan. 12.

### WOODSIDE

**Auto burglary:** Someone threw a brick through the window of a vehicle parked in the 13000 block of Skyline Boulevard and stole two bags from inside the vehicle. Estimated loss: \$300. Jan. 22.

**Theft:** San Francisco police, in possession of a gun registered to an address on Tripp Road, asked sheriff's deputies to check with the resident for the presence of the registered gun there. They found no gun, deputies said, so San Francisco police recorded the gun as "recovered." Jan. 20.

**Shoplifting:** Employees of Roberts Market on Woodside Road detained a San Jose man who allegedly shoplifted an alcoholic beverage. Deputies arrested the man and booked him into jail. A second suspect escaped in a vehicle allegedly driven recklessly from the scene. Jan. 13.

**Suspicious circumstances:** Residents of Jane Road told deputies of their suspicions that someone broke into their home and took a shower, but took nothing. Jan. 13.

### MENLO PARK

**Residential burglary:** Someone pried open the back door of a home on Arbor

Road, but nothing appears to have been stolen. Jan. 24.

**Auto burglary:** A thief entered a locked vehicle parked in the 700 block of El Camino Real and stole a backpack. Inside were clothes, a laptop computer, a tablet computer in a rugged case, a pocket knife and several bottles of prescription medicine. Estimated loss: \$1,220. Jan. 22.

### Thefts:

■ In a case involving two unlocked vehicles parked on August Circle, a thief stole two backpacks. Inside were a laptop computer, swimming accessories, clothing and a sports watch. Estimated loss: \$2,470. Jan. 24.

■ Someone stole a locked bicycle from the 800 block of El Camino Real. Estimated loss: \$600. Jan. 25.

■ A patron of the Menlo Park public library on Alma Street reported the theft of an unattended cellphone. Estimated loss: \$600. Jan. 20.

■ Someone stole a locked bicycle from a bicycle rack on Santa Cruz Avenue. Estimated loss: \$500. Jan. 20.

■ A locked bike was stolen from the vicinity of Alma Street and Oak Grove Avenue. Estimated loss: \$350. Jan. 25.

■ A thief stole a package from the front porch of a home on Del Norte Avenue. Estimated loss: \$120. Jan. 25.

■ Employees at Draeger's Supermarket on University Drive chased a man alleged to have been carrying a basket of unpaid for alcoholic beverages that he subsequently ditched. The beverages were recovered, but the suspect escaped before police arrived.

■ In thefts from two unlocked vehicles parked on Hesketh Court, a thief stole a cellphone charger and a Bluetooth transmitter from one of the vehicles. Estimated loss: \$75. Jan. 24.

■ Police are looking for a thin white man between 18 and 30 years old and driving a dark gray Jaguar or Camaro in connection with theft of mail from a residential mailbox on Hallmark Circle. Jan. 21.

**Stolen vehicle:** A red 2013 Ford Mustang from a home on Terminal Avenue. Jan. 22.

# Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## Submitting items for the Calendar

Go to [AlmanacNews.com](http://AlmanacNews.com) and see the Community Calendar module at the top right side of the page. Click on "Add your event." If the event is of interest to a large number of people, also e-mail a press release to [Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com).

Visit [AlmanacNews.com/calendar](http://AlmanacNews.com/calendar) to see more calendar listings

## Theater

**An Acoustic Evening** Lyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen perform at the Fox Theatre. Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway St., Redwood City. [foxrwc.showware.com/](http://foxrwc.showware.com/)

**Dragon Late Nights** Dragon Theatre, a nonprofit live theater company in Redwood City, will present the band Claptrap at The Dragon Theater Feb. 2, 10:45 p.m.-12:15 a.m. Tickets \$17 in advance or \$20 at door. The Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway, Redwood City. Search [goldstar.com](http://goldstar.com) for more info.

**'The Laramie Project' at Palo Alto Players** The Palo Alto Players present "The Laramie Project," the story of a teenager who was brutally murdered in 1998. Jan. 19-Feb. 4, 8 p.m. \$22-\$46. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Search [facebook.com/events](http://facebook.com/events) for more info.

**Stew and the Negro Problem** The singer-songwriter Stew pays homage to the art and activism of James Baldwin in "Notes of a Native Song," an irreverent and spirited rock-and-roll songcycle. With his band The Negro Problem, Stew — known for his 2008 Tony winner "Passing Strange" developed on the Stanford campus — explores Baldwin's legacy with music, video, and spoken word. Feb. 2, 8-9 p.m. \$15-\$55; discount for students. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. [arts.stanford.edu/](http://arts.stanford.edu/)

**Theater: 'Insignificance'** The play "Insignificance" imagines a meeting between Albert Einstein, Marilyn Monroe, Senator Joe McCarthy and Joe DiMaggio in a New York hotel room in the 1950s. Feb. 1, 8 p.m. \$35 general admission, \$27 students and seniors. The Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway, Redwood City. Search [goldstar.com](http://goldstar.com) for more info.

**TheatreWorks Presents 'Our Great Tchaikovsky'** In "Our Great Tchaikovsky," written and performed by Hershey Felder, composer Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky springs to life in a tale that explores both current Russian politics and historical context. Jan. 10-Feb. 11. Show times vary. \$45-\$105, with discounts for educators, seniors, under 35. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [theatreworks.org/](http://theatreworks.org/)

## Concerts

**'Cedar & Friends' - Joshua Cedar** Guitarist Joshua Cedar, along with Dave Casini (vibraphone), John Wiitala (bass) and Jon Arkin (drums) will present contemporary jazz. Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. Free, with \$18 food/drink minimum. Angelica's, 863 Main St., Redwood City. [angelicasllc.com/](http://angelicasllc.com/)

**Concert: Renee Fleming** Renee Fleming, recipient of the National Medal of Arts in 2013, will be holding her debut recital at the Bing at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31. Fleming has not only performed at opera stages and concert halls worldwide, but was also the first classical artist to perform at the Super Bowl. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Search [facebook.com/events](http://facebook.com/events) for more info.

**Music: 'Skies of Paris'** Vocalist Jennifer Mahawi and Pianist Douglas McKeenan will perform as a duo at Angelica's Wednesday, Jan. 31. In order to get a free ticket to the event, the purchase must be made online in advance. 7 p.m. Angelica's, 863 Main St., Redwood City. [angelicasllc.com/](http://angelicasllc.com/)

## Music

**Cameron Carpenter** Cameron Carpenter, an organist, will be performing at Bing Concert Hall on the Stanford University campus. Feb. 3, 7:30-10 p.m. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Search [facebook.com/events](http://facebook.com/events) for more info.

**Chrome Deluxe** Bay Area band Chrome Deluxe, known for their R&B, Swing and Blues music, will perform at Club Fox. Jan. 31, 7 p.m. \$7. Club Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Search [ticketfly.com](http://ticketfly.com) for more info.

**Friends for Life** Keys to forming and maintaining lasting friendships will be explored at Lifetree Cafe. The program, "Friends for Life: 10 buddies. 38 years. 1 week a year," features the filmed story of a group of men who have remained friends 38 years after graduating from middle school. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the factors involved in making and keeping friends, as well as the benefits of longtime friendships. Jan. 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Bethany, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park. Search [facebook.com/events](http://facebook.com/events) for more info.

## Talks & Lectures

**Master Class: This is Your Year to Write Your Novel** Take this class to learn how

to make writing a priority and develop the self-confidence needed to write for a larger audience. Feb. 1, 7:30-9 p.m. \$50. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) for more information.

**Kelly Corrigan** Kelly Corrigan will speak about her new book, "Tell Me More." Feb. 5, 7:30-9 p.m. \$25. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) for more

**Derek Thompson with Alexis Madrigal** Derek Thompson, a senior editor at The Atlantic magazine, and Alexis Madrigal, a writer and journalist in Oakland, will be discussing the psychology behind popular culture. Feb. 7, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) for more

**Classics of Soviet Cinema, 1927-1938** The event will feature a film screening of The Fall of the Romanov Dynasty and hold a Q&A with the audience after the screening. Feb. 1, 6 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Search [events.stanford.edu/](http://events.stanford.edu/) for more info.

**Lecture in Religion and Society** The Roger W. Heyns Lecture in Religion and Society will take place on the Stanford University campus at Levinthal Hall Thursday, Feb. 1, 5-6 p.m. Free. Levinthal Hall, Humanities Center, 424 Santa Teresa St, Stanford. Search [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) for more info.

**Taste of Science** Freewheel Brewing Company will host speakers Dr. Sarah Eagleman and Megan Conlon to discuss the brain and the topic of cell death. Jan. 31, 7-9 p.m. \$5 online, \$7 at the door. Freewheel

Brewing Company, 3736 Florence St., Redwood City. [tasteofscience.org](http://tasteofscience.org)

## Family

**Exhibit: Noah's Ark: San Mateo's Historic Restaurant** The San Mateo County History Museum presents a new exhibit titled *Noah's Ark: San Mateo's Historic Restaurant* which will feature the art displayed by African American restaurateur Noah Williams in the 1920s. The exhibit will be on display from Feb. 1 through Feb. 28, 2018. Adults \$6, students \$4. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. [historysmc.org/](http://historysmc.org/)

**February Free First Friday** The San Mateo County History Museum will continue with its "Free First Fridays." The program will include a preschool craft program at 11 a.m. and an adult tour at 2 p.m. Feb. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. [historysmc.org/free-first-fridays](http://historysmc.org/free-first-fridays)

## Food & Drink

**First Friday** The Cantor Arts Center is open late for the first Friday of the month. This Friday, take a break for meditation, yoga, origami, and hot tea. Feb. 2, 8-10 p.m. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. Search [events.stanford.edu](http://events.stanford.edu) for more info.

## Lessons & Classes

**Origami Club** Kids can learn to make origami. Jan. 6, 1-5 p.m. Free. Downton Library, 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City. [redwoodcity.org](http://redwoodcity.org)

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## Should we impose limits on City Council terms?

By Brielle Johnck

As Menlo Park considers whether to change from a general law city to a charter city and switch from at-large City Council elections to district elections, there's another issue that deserves to be included: Term limits.

Menlo Park is a town where the residential turnover is experiencing a robust period. Every seven years, 50 percent of the town's population is made up of new residents. Neighborhoods are changing. New businesses creating thousands of new jobs bring us new neighbors.

We are a town that is in the midst of critical changes that need rigorous and thorough analysis. Term limits for council members work well in Palo Alto and would be a welcome rule here in Menlo Park. Our city commissions have term limits.

Our current council, which has led the town into a new economic and cultural transformation, is made up of members who have served a total of 36 years, with one council member having been first elected in 2006.

Ten years seems a lifetime if we consider Facebook's arrival in 2010. With the council's approval of our specific plan in 2012 and the updating of our general plan in 2016, there has been over 2 million square feet of office development built, and another 4 million is on the way. The growing daytime population of office workers in Menlo Park and Palo Alto has clogged our streets with commuters eager to reach highways and bridges. Once quiet neighborhoods are experiencing afternoon parades lasting three hours Monday through Friday.

So, is it time for a change in thinking on our City Council? Do we need term limits or is the opportunity to vote a council member out of office enough?

An argument for allowing council members to run for more than two

terms is that knowledge of civic history keeps a city manager in check. In Menlo Park, however, we have experienced a council and city manager sharing the same eagerness for office development, which brings thousands of office workers and commute traffic.

Business vitality and municipal prosperity come with a price and both are a template for an imbalanced jobs center. Office workers looking for a sandwich and a cocktail at a downtown rooftop restaurant is not the same as neighborhood identity and community spirit. Facebook, with its target of 20,000 employees, exists in a self-contained campus where the needs of employees — whether it be food, laundry or bicycle repair — are met within the company's walls. Most of these employees

are invisible to us unless we see them through the windows of their cars and corporate buses.

The question is: Can the same City Council that transformed our suburban Menlo Park to a jobs-center Menlo Park now address the impacts of that growth? Housing displacements, soaring rents, congested roadways, and the threat to our crowded schools are real problems today. We are now on the road to an urbanized Menlo Park, increasing our population from 34,000 to 50,000. There's no turning back.

Half of Menlo Park residents arrived in the last 10 years. These new residents are making sacrifices to live in Menlo Park by paying high rents or hefty property taxes. Fair representation on our council should include new voices. A council member serving more than eight years can be more the problem and less the solution.

The job of a council member is not to become a political fixture. We thank you for your service; now a clean-up crew is what the city needs.



## Raising questions about the death penalty

By Henry Organ

On Jan. 8, the District Attorney's (DA) Office of San Mateo County announced that it will seek the death penalty for an individual charged with the murder of a 17-month-old girl. The DA's office has described the act as "... an extraordinarily horrific crime against one of the most vulnerable members of our society ..."

Indeed, horrific acts against others is unacceptable in a civilized society, but should that society respond similarly with state-sanctioned murder?

Irrespective of the savagery of cases, the public is faced with the immorality of executions, and the role of the state in them. Should the state take human life? How exact a process is this decision to seek execution in the first place? Should DA offices be entrusted and burdened with making this decision? And, once that decision to seek the death penalty is made, there is the dubious ethics

and fairness of prosecution, jury selection and deliberations, role of the judiciary, and adequacy of defense.

Is this too arbitrary a process to seek the death penalty, given the finality of executions? There is no "do over," once "over."

Presumably, the decision to seek the death penalty by the DA is on behalf of the perceived interests of the citizens. The reader may recall that last year there were two propositions on the state ballot regarding the death penalty. One was Proposition 62, which sought to abolish the death penalty; the other was Proposition 66, which sought to hasten executions. (Note that Proposition 66 was strongly supported by the California District Attorneys Association, and the DA of San Mateo County was its president; not exactly an unbiased position.)

Unfortunately, the proposition to abolish the death penalty failed; and, the proposition to hasten executions was passed,

but narrowly. Fortunately, the force of Proposition 66, now law, was seriously weakened in a court decision.

The two propositions must be examined at the county level, however. As opposed to state vote results, 57 percent of San Mateo County citizens who voted supported abolishing the death penalty! As opposed to the state voting results, 53 percent of the San Mateo County citizens who voted cast their votes against hastening executions! These are significant results, but apparently not significant enough for the DA's office.

Should the will of the county's voters be disrespected by the DA regarding pursuit of state-sponsored murder? The DA has stated that abolishing the death penalty "... would be a blow to crime victims." With due respect and compassion for those victims, the death penalty is not for the benefit of crime victims; it is the law of and by the people. In addition, more and more survivors of murdered family members are asking that the death penalty not be sought.

Perhaps the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors should adopt a resolution recommending that the county be a sanctuary against the death penalty.



### LETTERS

Our readers write

#### Dung and pony show

Editor:

Congressional Republicans remind me of the boy in the joke about the eternally and pathologically optimistic little boy whose parents decided to break him of his irrational optimism by dumping a load of horse dung in his bedroom for his birthday. The boy wanted a pony badly. When he came home from school his parents took him up to his room to see his present and were horrified when, upon finding the pile, their son jumped for joy, dove into it, and begin throwing it around the room gleefully.

When asked why he was happy with the pile, the little boy shouted, "With all this horse dung there must be a pony in here somewhere."

Pony, indeed. It will take 40 years to clean up the mess.

Don Barnby  
Spruce Avenue, Menlo Park

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## INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD 100-199
- FOR SALE 200-299
- KIDS STUFF 330-399
- 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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Bed, 2 Bath, Los Lomas Schools, No  
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650 851 4464

Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$5600

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**A COTTAGE, ADU or SM HOUSE**  
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### 855 Real Estate

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you've lost  
that counts,  
It is what  
you do with  
what's left."*

650.245.1845



# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

MGB MOBILE CAR WASH AND HOUSE  
CLEANING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276167

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

MGB Mobile Car Wash and House  
Cleaning, located at 1169 Willow Rd.  
Apt. #3, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San  
Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

MIRIAM GAMBOA CAMPOS

1169 Willow Rd., Apt. #3

Menlo Park, CA 94025

GEORGINA BARRERA

1169 Willow Rd., Apt. #3

Menlo Park, CA 94025

This business is conducted by: Married  
Couple.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 1-21-18.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 2, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

CASTELLON DRYWALL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276190

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

Castellon Drywall, located at 157 Arch  
St. Apt. #304, Redwood City, CA 94062,  
San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

DANIEL CASTELLON GARCIA

157 Arch St. Apt. #304

Redwood City, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 11-12-17.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 3, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

A & G LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276200

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

A & G Landscape Construction, located  
at 72 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Redwood  
City, CA 94062, San Mateo County;

Mailing address: P.O. Box 620303,  
Woodside, CA 94062.

Registered owner(s):

NOE GARCIA

7767 Thornton Ave.

Newark, CA 94560

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 1-4-18.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 4, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

EL DORADO TOWING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276198

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

El Dorado Towing, located at 429  
Macarthur Ave., Redwood City, CA  
94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

EMILIO PRIETO GOMEZ

6295 Escallonia Dr.

Newark CA 94560

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 12/08/17.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 4, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

UNFORGETTABLE BAPTISM, BABY

SHOWER & ACCESSORIES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276062

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

UNFORGETTABLE Baptism, Baby  
Shower & Accessories, located at 3262  
Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025,  
San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

LUCIA PAREDES

625 Lakehaven Dr.

Sunnyvale, CA 94089

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 12/19/17.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on December 19, 2017.

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

ROY'S DRIVE-IN CLEANERS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276178

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

Roy's Drive-In Cleaners, located at 1100  
El Camino Rl, Redwood City, CA 94063,  
San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

GRACE J. CHUNG

4024 Fair Oaks Ave.

Menlo Park, CA 94025

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on 2002.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 3, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 2018)

BAY VIEW LANDSCAPING & GARDEN

MAINTENANCE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276235

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

Bay View Landscaping & Garden  
Maintenance, located at 2730  
Devonshire Ave., Redwood City, CA  
94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

BENITO AGUILAR CIBRIAN

2730 Devonshire Ave.

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 03-02-2014.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 8, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 17, 24, 30; Feb. 7, 2018)

RIK

AUTOMASTER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276341

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

1.) Rik, 2.) Automaster, located at 1130  
Mandela Court, East Palo Alto, CA 94303,  
San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

ELENA KHAN

1130 Mandela Court

East Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 18, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 2018)

AUTODECOR

GENUINE PARTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276325

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

1.) AutoDecor, 2.) Genuine Parts, located  
at 1130 Mandela  
Court, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San  
Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

SERGEI KHAN

1130 Mandela Court

East Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 18, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 2018)

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 January 16, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 2018)

PARKINSON'S DISEASE AND MOVEMENT

DISORDERS CENTER OF SILICON VALLEY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276334

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

Parkinson's Disease and Movement  
Disorders Center of Silicon Valley,  
located at 418 Willow Road, Menlo Park,  
CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

DR. SALIMA BRILLMAN LLC

39 Vine Street

San Carlos CA 94070

This business is conducted by: A Limited  
Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business  
name(s) listed above on December 1,  
2017.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 17, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

ABC TRANS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 276347

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

ABC Trans, located at 1130 Mandela Ct.,  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo  
County.

Registered owner(s):

ALEXANDR SVIRIDOV

1130 Mandela Ct.

East Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: An  
Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact  
business under the fictitious business

name(s) listed above on August 13,  
2009.

This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo  
County on January 18, 2018.

(ALM Jan. 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

**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.: 17CIV05862

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: MEGAN STREICHER filed a  
petition with this court for a decree  
changing names as follows:

JOHN SLOCUM NICHOLS to JOHN DAVID  
STREICHER- NICHOLS.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons  
interested in this matter appear before  
this court at the hearing indicated  
below to show cause, if any, why the  
petition for change of name should not  
be granted. Any person objecting to the  
name changes described above must  
file a written objection that includes  
the reasons for the objection at least  
two court days before the matter is  
scheduled to be heard and must appear  
at the hearing to show cause why the  
petition should not be granted. If no  
written objection is timely filed, the  
court may grant the petition without  
a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: February 8, 2018,  
9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, of the Superior Court  
of California, County of San Mateo,  
located at 400 County Center, Redwood  
City, CA 94063.

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

THE ALMANAC

Date: Dec. 27, 2017

/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

## 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, 223-6578, for assistance in refiling.  
It's inexpensive and easy.



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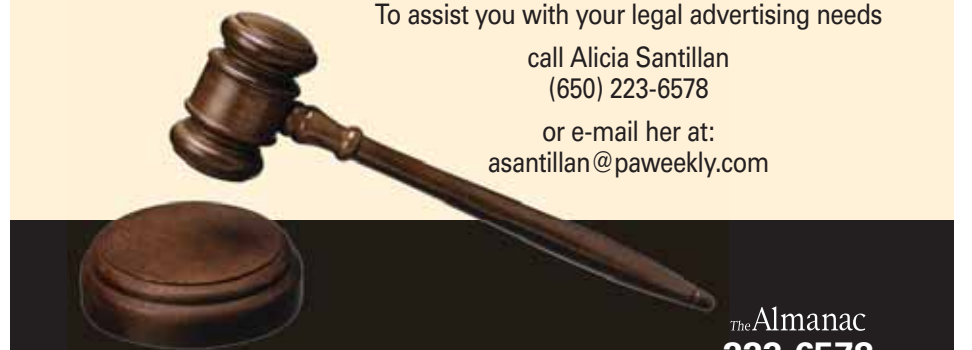
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call Alicia Santillan  
(650) 223-6578

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**223-6578**

# COLDWELL BANKER



**Woodside** | 4/4.5 | \$13,500,000  
1250 Canada Road  
Approx. 5 acs in Central Woodside, working equestrian center. Fantastic Woodside Value

Sean Foley 650.851.2666  
CalRE #00870112



**Woodside** | 5/5.5 | \$8,900,000  
**Sun 1 - 4** 135 Farm Rd  
Classic estate on 4+ acres w/ equestrian facilities, pool and tennis court 135Farm.com

Ginny Kavanaugh 650.851.1961  
CalRE #00884747



**Woodside** | 4/4.5 | \$8,495,000  
**Sun 1 - 4** 3970 Woodside Rd  
Custom Craftsman on approx 2 acres w/ vineyard, vast lawns & next to Wunderlich Park.

Erika Demma 650.851.2666  
CalRE #01230766



**Atherton** | 5/3.5 | \$5,988,000  
**Sun 1 - 4** 157 Watkins Ave  
Beautifully remodeled 1-level home w/ resort-like backyard. Nearly 1 acre on a private lot

Hossein Jalali 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01215831



**Menlo Park** | 5/5.5 | \$5,800,000  
**Sun 1 - 3** 625 Hobart St  
Contemporary award winning Masterpiece home. 5 bd suites. Gorgeous gardens.625HobartSt.com

Lyn Jason Cobb 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01332535



**Atherton** | 5/4 | \$4,900,000  
**Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** 40 Selby Ln  
This property offers numerous opportunities on over one acre in sought-after Atherton.

Jackie & Richard Schoelerman 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01092400



**Central Menlo** | 3/2.5 | \$4,250,000  
**Sat/Sun 1 - 4** 355 Olive St  
Built in 2008 w/ premium finishes throughout. Parklike backyard & award winning MP Schools

Elaine White 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01182467



**Lindenwood Area** | 5/3 | \$3,998,000  
**Sat/Sun 1 - 4** 272 Greenoaks Dr  
Great opportunity to remodel and move-in or build new on this 40,000+/- sq ft property!

Doug Gonzalez 650.324.4456  
CalRE #00895924



**Portola Valley** | 5/3.5 | \$3,495,000  
**Sun 1:30 - 4:30** 900 Wayside Rd  
Stunning views across SF Bay from Mt. Diablo to Black Mountain!www.900wayside.com

Jean & Chris Isaacson 650.851.2666  
CalRE #00542342



**Redwood City** | 4/4.5 | \$3,195,000  
**Sat/Sun 1 - 4** 718 Canyon Road  
Brand new stunning "Modern Style" yet traditional home. Top of the line finishes & sun-filled yard.

Sam Anagnostou 650.851.2666  
CalRE #00798217



**Carmel** | 3/2 | \$2,950,000  
Casanova 3NE  
Remodeled, Light & Bright Carmel Cottage-Style home. 4 blocks to dog-friendly Carmel Beach

Camille Eder 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01394600



**Palo Alto** | 3/2 | \$2,895,000  
1879 Hamilton Ave  
Pristine, tree-lined street in prime, Green Gable. Open floor plan & Top PA schools.

Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01073658



**Woodside** | 4/3.5 | \$2,850,000  
**Sun 1 - 4** 580 Old La Honda Rd  
Custom-built home on 9.5+ acres with splendid views is worth the drive - 580OldLaHonda.com

Ginny Kavanaugh | Steve Grey 650.851.1961  
CalRE #00884747 | 1498634



**Redwood City** | 5/3.5 | \$2,195,000  
2673 Ohio Avenue  
Newly Renovated Woodside Plaza home, Large open floor plan & great central location.

DiPali Shah 650.851.2666  
CalRE #01249165



**Portola Valley** | \$1,500,000  
501 Wayside  
Great building opportunity in Portola Valley. 1.5+ Acre buildable, sunny lot with views!

James Milton 650.324.4456  
CalRE #01833221



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