

The Almanac

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

MARCH 14, 2018 | VOL. 53 NO. 28



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It takes a village

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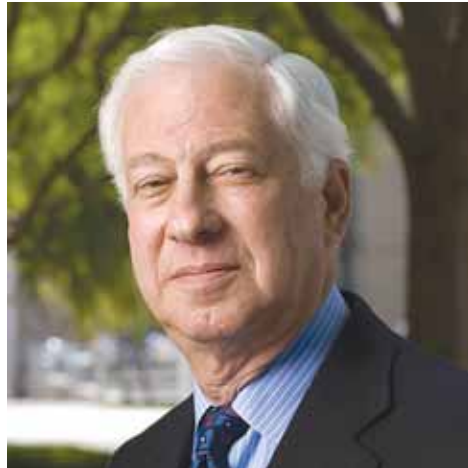
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Join us as we honor John Freidenrich, former chair of the Stanford University Board of Trustees, at a celebration of his life on Monday, March 19, at 2:00 p.m. at Bing Concert Hall.

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Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Neighbors question proposed signal at Alameda and Walsh

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

A proposal to put a traffic signal at Alameda de las Pulgas and Walsh Road in Atherton, which the Las Lomas School District says is needed to improve school safety, is being questioned by some neighbors who fear it would make it harder to get in and out of their neighborhood.

As part of a plan to rebuild much of the campus of the kindergarten to third grade Las Lomas Elementary School at 299 Alameda de las Pulgas, the school wants to move its main entrance to line up with Walsh Road and have a four-way traffic signal installed there.

District officials say the changes would make it easier and safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles to get in and out of the school. The school also wants other improvements, including the removal of some crosswalks on Alameda and a new location for others.

“Especially on this campus, safety has been a really great concern,” the district’s bond projects director, Eric Holm, told about four dozen people who attended a public meeting on the proposed stoplight on Tuesday, March 6, at the

school.

While plans for changes on school campuses don’t need local planning or building approval, the stoplight and any other changes the district wants on local streets must be approved by Atherton. The Atherton City Council would have the final say on the project.

The district had asked the town to pre-approve the light, and to pay for it, as part of negotiations to put a town water capture facility on school grounds. Town officials said they couldn’t approve the project without it going through the usual public approval process and the negotiations fell apart at that point. (The town also wanted to retain the ability to back out of the water capture project if its annual maintenance costs proved too high, which the district said it could not allow.)

Currently, parents drop off and pick up students on Camino al Lago, just south of the school. Because the amount of space for cars to wait on campus is limited, the waiting line now backs up on Camino al Lago.

A traffic study commissioned by the school found that traffic congestion at the Alameda/

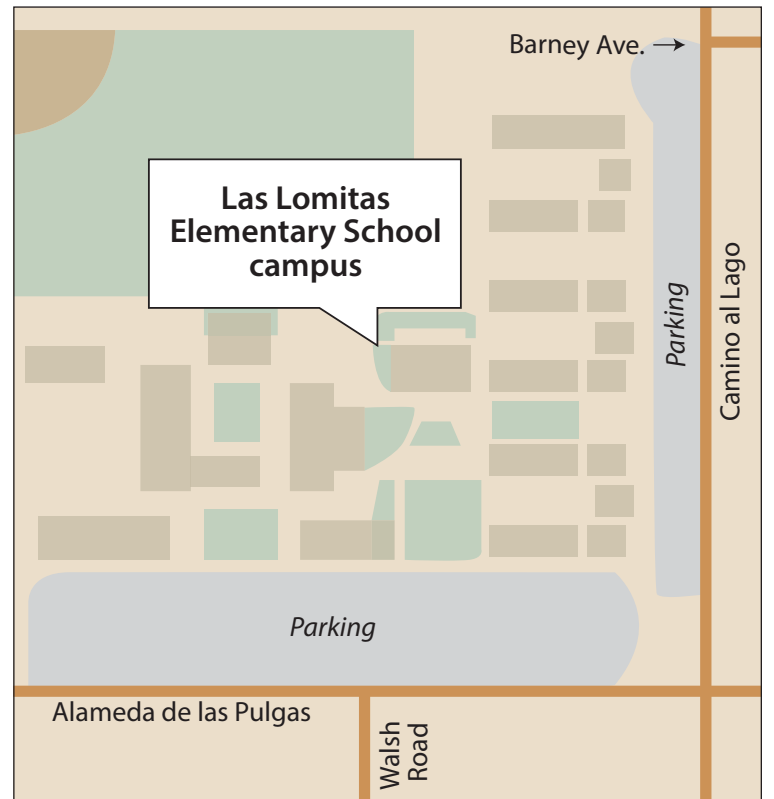
Camino al Lago intersection is at level F, the worst possible level of congestion, with 50 or more seconds of delay and jammed conditions during both morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times.

“We have this nexus of congestion that is really problematic from a safety standpoint,” said Mr. Holm. “We are fearful of a kid getting hurt.”

Under the new plan, parents would enter to pick up or drop off students from Alameda directly across from Walsh Road. They would turn left from that same point or turn right from farther north near the edge of the campus.

But many of the speakers Tuesday questioned the need for the traffic signal. One neighbor, who said she had attended Las Lomas Elementary School as a child and lives off Walsh Road, said the plan would “penalize the people who live on Walsh Road.”

“In order to accommodate the 44 percent of parents who are still in their cars,” many others would have to spend more time on Alameda de las Pulgas, she said, “so we can make it more convenient for parents to drop off and pick up their kids.” The changes would make it harder for Walsh Road



Courtesy Las Lomas Elementary School District

This drawing shows the school district’s traffic-flow plan. Student drop-off and pick-up would move from Camino al Lago (on the right edge of the drawing) to off Alameda de las Pulgas (at the bottom of the drawing). A traffic signal would be added at the intersection of Walsh Road and Alameda, at the new school entrance.

area residents to enter and leave their neighborhood, she said.

She also questioned putting a crosswalk across Walsh leading to another that would cross

Alameda at the new school entrance. “This is a disaster to have that two-sided crosswalk

See **SIGNAL**, page 6

Last hurrah at the Oasis

Managers of 60-year-old institution reminisce on the end of an era

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

When the clock struck midnight March 7, patrons at Menlo Park’s Oasis burger and beer pub said their goodbyes and helped clean up the facility for what may have been the last night of the bar and restaurant considered by many to be a community institution.

Hunkered in one booth to reminisce were former General Manager Jack Stemplinger and Steve Crooks, manager of another of the the Tougas family’s restaurants, the Garret.

Mr. Stemplinger oversaw the restaurant and the family’s other restaurant locations, and had worked for the Tougas family since the 1980s before retiring in

The March 7 closure was ‘the saddest day of my life.’

FRANCISCO SALAZAR,
LONGTIME BUSINESS MANAGER

July 2017. He now lives in Idaho, but flew out for the event.

He said there had been “such a cast of characters over the years.” In former days, the bar had been home to Friday night fights, evenings when fights were broadcast on TV in black and white. And there was a time when the bar offered deviled eggs, pickles, and maybe even pigs’ feet at the bar, Mr. Stemplinger said.

The bar had a long-running tradition of supporting craft

beer, he said, even before doing so was trendy. In the late 1950s, former owner Bernie Tougas negotiated an agreement with Fritz Maytag, owner of Anchor Brewing Company, to serve the beer there, he said.

Stanford affiliates, and particularly its sports teams, had long been mainstay clientele for the business, he said.

Mr. Stemplinger said he aimed to keep the location as a place where people could kick off their shoes, or let their hair down, but not have it be a dive or a dump either. He preserved the engravings at the restaurant’s wooden tables while routinely refinishing them to keep things clean.

Longtime business manager Francisco Salazar was also there

See **OASIS**, page 6



Photo by Kate Bradshaw.

Jack Stemplinger (left) and Steve Crooks swap stories about bygone days at the Oasis in one of the restaurant’s carved booths. Mr. Stemplinger, former general manager, said he redid the tabletops to preserve the initials and smooth the surfaces. The tables are from the early 1990s, he said.

Pizza may occupy a niche of its own in high school lunches

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

The lunch menus for public schools, as approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, appear to have plenty of comfort food in them. The list of 64 main dishes includes macaroni and cheese, sloppy Joes, scalloped potatoes, barbecued chicken and Hoppin' John, a Southern concoction of black-eyed peas, red pepper flakes and rice — USDA-approved only without the traditional ham hock, sausage or bacon.

It is perhaps an open question as to whether the federal government's recipes for pizza qualify as comfort food. You would have to ask the people to whom it will be served for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school

years: the 9,000 students of the Sequoia Union High School District.

The district board on March 7 unanimously approved a contract for a little over two years and not more than \$500,000 with New York Pizza, located in San Carlos and owned and managed by Luis Guzman. The district normally serves about 17,000 pizzas per school year through its lunch program. Under the contract, the district would pay \$9 per pizza, according to a staff report.

The bid was not competitive, but only because New York Pizza was the sole respondent.

The Sequoia district sought bidders over two weeks in February, but to no avail. One vendor told the district it was incapable of meeting the demand, the report said.

Another "stated that it did not want its name associated with pizza that was made to USDA School Lunch Guidelines, as past experience had hurt business."

According to recipes published by the department's Food and Nutrition Service, the USDA approves just two toppings for pizza: ground turkey and fresh vegetables.

In an email, Tony Crapo, Sequoia's director of purchasing, included an excerpt from USDA rules saying that "pepperoni must be (made of) reduced fat turkey." The sauce is to be made from no-salt-added tomato paste and dried herbs and spices, with the cheese to be low-fat, low-sodium mozzarella, according to a USDA recipe.

The vegetable pizza uses the

same sauce and cheese, but all other ingredients — onions, tomatoes, bell peppers, broccoli, mushrooms, yellow squash and zucchini — are fresh. The pizza crust must be principally whole wheat flour.

An unscientific survey of seven local pizza outlets showed that none offers toppings made from turkey, nor were there any crusts using whole wheat as a principal ingredient.

Mr. Guzman in an email said it is "very hard" to meet USDA requirements, but noted that he's been in business for over 30 years and has made school lunches for over 20 years.

The rules on ingredients are not "a negative incentive," he said, "because we care about the health of the kids in our schools and that's why we follow all the guidelines to comply with these rules." ■

SIGNAL

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at Walsh," she said. "That's an accident waiting to happen."

The school's traffic study predicts the light would actually make the wait time at the intersection slightly longer in the morning (from 21.1 seconds to 22.8 seconds) and shorter in the afternoons (from 24.5 seconds to 17.1 seconds).

It would dramatically improve the wait time at the intersection of Camino al Lago and Alameda, however, from 50.9 seconds in the morning to 26.6 seconds and from 59.3 seconds in the afternoon to 20.6 seconds, according to the study.

"I just think the plan needs to go back to the drawing board," said another speaker. "I think it really needs a more heartfelt look."

Other neighbors worried the new plan would just encourage parents to park and drive on neighboring streets. "We're going to see traffic shifting to

our street," said one.

Atherton City Council member Rick DeGolia followed up on questions from neighbors who asked why the school is proposing having its entrance moved from a side street to busier Alameda. He asked if the school had carefully studied ways to keep the drop-off where it now is. "It needs to be on Camino al Lago if you can do it," Mr. DeGolia said.

Andrew Lee, an engineer from Parisi Transportation Consulting, which did the traffic study, said the district is still working on the plan. "This is not a final plan by any means," he said. The proposal, however, "should calm traffic down a whole lot," he said. "There would be fewer conflicts with students, especially with traffic control."

The plan was to be presented at a meeting of Atherton's Transportation Commission on Tuesday, March 13.

At is.gd/Walsh see the district's presentation on the plan online. ■

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OASIS

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with his family. He had worked at the Oasis since 1992, and said it was the "saddest day of my life."

He plans to work at one of the Tougas family's other five restaurants in the South Bay, the Garret Station in Los Gatos.

He said he knows the regulars well, some of whom have been coming to the spot since they were kids. In some cases, he's seen families with three generations of Oasis-goers.

As the bartenders gave the last call, Mr. Salazar stopped by the hand-carved booth Mr. Stempler had so carefully preserved over the years. On one shoulder, he held a sleepy kid; his other arm he stretched out for a goodbye handshake.

A future for the Oasis?

According to a March 2 email from Menlo Park Vice Mayor

Ray Mueller to city officials, the Tougas family is open to speaking to potential operators "interested in licensing or buying the trademark, brand and menu of the Oasis, and operating the restaurant in (a) way that gives credit to the restaurant and family's history and place in the Menlo Park community."

Mr. Mueller added that property owner Dan Beltramo had indicated that he is in the process of finding a new operator for the site and wishes to discuss parking capacity at the restaurant with the city.

"I am cautiously optimistic the pieces are coming together that will keep the Oasis operating in Menlo Park," Mr. Mueller wrote in the email.

The Tougas family announced on Feb. 21 that they were closing the Oasis because they were "unable to negotiate a reasonable lease for our business, nor meet the requested terms of the building's owner." ■

Woodside loses a local hero with death of Alden R. "Dick" Tagg, 90

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

A memorial service for Alden Richard "Dick" Tagg, who died on Feb. 2, three weeks after his 90th birthday, will be held on Saturday, March 31, at 3 p.m. at the Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road in Woodside.

With the death of Mr. Tagg, who bought his home in the Woodside Glens neighborhood soon after the town was incorporated in 1956, Woodside lost a man seen by many as a local hero.

He was someone, many said, who saw things that needed doing, and quietly got them done.

Mr. Tagg bought his home in Woodside soon after he began working for the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park in 1956. Although he lived on the East Coast from 1962 to 1967, where he studied marine geology at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute on Cape Cod, for more than five decades he was deeply involved in the Woodside community.

He served on Woodside's Planning Commission — and half a dozen other town committees — for decades, from the turbulent period of Woodside's early years as a town until he moved to Lake Wildwood two years ago.

He donated blood platelets that could be used to save the lives of children with leukemia more than 760 times. In his 80s, Mr. Tagg rounded up a loose horse about to run onto Woodside

Road, and every week served as "muscle" for the Woodside Village Church's rummage sale.

Although his marine geology job required frequent travel, and he had three young children, Mr. Tagg began serving on town committees in 1970. He was appointed to the Planning Commission in 1972, serving until 1988, including five years as chair.

Over the years he also served on the Geologic Hazards Committee; as a founding member of Woodside's History Committee; for 16 years as Woodside's representative for the Mosquito Abatement and Vector Control District; and on ad hoc committees to revise development standards and redesign the town center.

He was also a member of the Woodside Village Church, serving on its Finance Board and helping with rummage sales, working in the electronics room.

Dolores Degnan was a Glens neighbor of the Taggs for many years. She worked with her neighbor on the rummage sale and the History Committee. She said that if he wasn't off on a USGS trip, Mr. Tagg "was always willing to help" with anything.

"The Glens was actually such a neat place to live then," she said. If a neighbor needed a new roof, the other neighbors got together and put on the new roof, and then had a barbecue, she says.

Mr. Tagg began donating blood platelets after finding out in the 1970s that the donations could help to save children with

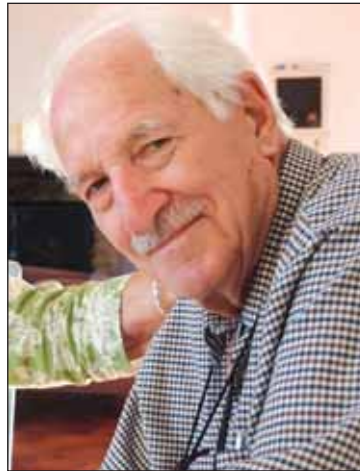


Photo courtesy Tagg family

Alden Richard "Dick" Tagg was the type of man who saw things that needed doing, and quietly got them done.

leukemia. Bradley Burton, the donor services director of the Stanford Blood Bank, said Mr. Tagg was a "donation legend" who may have impacted the lives of more than 2,100 patients from his 700 Stanford donations alone. He also made 69 donations to other local blood banks.

In a 2005 Almanac article, Mr. Tagg said, "Donating platelets is what needs to be done, and this is what I do to contribute."

He spent more than an hour at the blood bank as often as every two weeks, waiting while the platelets were extracted from his blood before it was returned to his body.

Mr. Tagg also volunteered several times to accompany donated organs by plane to the

See **TAGG**, page 10

adding that the council will likely discuss a process for filling Mr. Mason's seat at its March 27 meeting.

Mr. Mason (with his wife Virginia Dare) lives in and has been representing District 7, the residential parcels along Old La Honda and La Honda roads between Woodside and Portola roads westward to Skyline Boulevard.

"It has been an honor to serve the Town of Woodside for the last 14 years," Mr. Mason says, noting that he began his career in public service with four years on the Architectural and Site Review Board, followed by 10 years on the council.

"I regard my community service as one of the most rewarding experiences of my adult life and would like to encourage anyone in the community who is considering volunteering to just go ahead and do it," Mr. Mason says in concluding his letter. ■

Peter Mason leaves the Town Council after 10 years

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Longtime Woodside Town Council member and architect Peter Mason has resigned from his council seat, according to a March 9 letter to Mayor Chris Shaw, a copy of which was provided to The Almanac.

Town Clerk Dora Wong confirmed the substance of the letter, adding that a public announcement of Mr. Mason's resignation would be forthcoming at the council's Tuesday, March 13, meeting. The council meets at 7:30 p.m. in Independence Hall at 2955 Woodside Road.

In the letter, Mr. Mason says his resignation is effective immediately. "This year is proving to

be a very busy year for me professionally which will include a great deal of international travel ahead," he says. "I have concluded that I cannot meet the demands of serving on the Town Council and (meet) the needs of my clients."

Mr. Mason was re-elected to a third four-year term in November 2015, a term that would have expired in 2020. (In keeping with a new state law, the council had to shift its elections to even-numbered years, which it did through the option of adding a year to every member's term.)

The town has no formal procedure for filling a seat left vacant by a resignation, Ms. Wong said,

WOODSIDE

MONTHLY REAL ESTATE UPDATE WITH MANDY MONTOYA

March 2018



This February, the number of active listings in Menlo Park is down vs. last year. Also, there are as many homes selling as there are active, indicating inventory is turning over extremely quickly. Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton haven't changed significantly year/year and with so few sales in each town, it is difficult to chart average prices. The price trend is certainly up in all communities.

There are still many more buyers than sellers and interest rates are slowly rising, making right now a great time to sell. If you're in the market to buy a home, now more than ever strategic guidance from an agent who understands this market is crucial. Contact me if you're thinking of buying or selling a home.

	February 2017		February 2018	
	# of Active/ # of Sold Homes	Average Sales Price	# of Active / # of Sold Homes	Average Sales Price
Atherton	21/4	\$4,268,750*	16/5	\$7,308,000*
Woodside	15/3	\$1,683,000*	22/6	\$2,858,333*
Portola Valley	8/5	\$2,554,700*	8/4	\$3,775,250*
Menlo Park	40/23	\$2,258,386	23/24	\$2,691,719

*Very small sample size

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT 500 LAUREL STREET MENLO PARK, CA 94025

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the District Board of West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in the District's Board Room located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a proposed increase in sewer services charges for fiscal year 2018/2019. Additional information is available through the District's website at www.westbaysanitary.org and on the official notice that was mailed to every parcel address that pays District rates.

The annual sewer service charge will increase from \$1,072 per single family residence to \$1,126 in fiscal year 2018/2019. Approximately 68 homes in the Portola Valley area (located within the On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone) who pay higher charges for the maintenance of their STEP or Grinder Sewer Collection Systems will increase from \$1,364 per single family residence to \$1,432 in fiscal year 2018/2019. Some commercial classes, such as restaurants, were found to be paying less than their cost of service and their rates are being adjusted over a three-year period to correct the imbalance (fiscal year 2018/19 is the second year of the three-year transition period). Non-residential rates will increase proportionately according to loading characteristics. The increased charges are required to fund needed maintenance and reconstruction to the sewer system and to the Silicon Valley Clean Water regional wastewater treatment plant.

Protests against the proposed rate increase must be submitted in writing by 4:00pm on April 25, 2018, and signed by the property owner, must identify the owner(s) of the property for which the protest is entered, and must include the property address and assessor's parcel number (APN).

/s/ Phil Scott
Phil Scott, District Manager

Atherton residents question plans for water facility in park

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

Atherton's proposal to put a water capture facility in Holbrook-Palmer Park to help control flooding and remove pollutants from storm water before it reaches the Bay appears to have hit a snag — public opposition.

More than 60 people showed up for the March 7 Park and Recreation Committee meeting, and residents had more than an hour of questions about the proposed facility.

The town had advertised the meeting via a postcard mailed to all town addresses, but many at the meeting said they did not receive it.

The town has been talking about the project for more than a year, since it was offered \$13.6 million through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to build the underground facility.

Caltrans is being required by the state water board to reduce the amount of pollutants in runoff water near its roadways, so it has offered to pay for a number of such facilities throughout the state.

But speakers said that the town's timeline, which requires a council decision by June, is too short.

Outreach needed

A resident of nearby Maple Avenue said the town has "a lot of outreach that has to be done before they make a decision."

"This seems like that's an awful short time to do this," he said.

"I think we should use it for what it was meant to be, which is recreational purposes," he said to general applause.

Atherton and other local entities have similar mandates from the regional water board.

Initial plans to put the structure under playing fields at Las Lomas Elementary School fell apart after the City Council said it couldn't accept the district's terms, especially one asking the town to agree not to back out of the project once it was started.

Council members said they want the option to back out of the project once the design is far enough along that they can estimate what the annual maintenance costs will be, as the Caltrans agreement allows. The school district said it couldn't allow that because of its construction schedule.

Caltrans allowed the town to move the project site to Holbrook-Palmer Park, which had been identified in a drainage



Courtesy town of Atherton

These images show some of the construction process for a water capture facility that Atherton is considering putting underground in Holbrook-Palmer Park. More than 60 people turned out at a March 7 meeting on the proposed project.

master plan as one of three possible locations for a storm water detention basin. The other locations were the Las Lomas School campus and the privately owned Menlo Circus Club.

The drainage master plan envisions large, slightly depressed grassy areas where water could be diverted in flood conditions. The facility Caltrans has offered to pay for is much more elaborate, diverting and possibly storing the water deep underground, and would require much less above-ground land area.

Threat of lawsuits

More than one speaker said the town could face lawsuits if the project is approved in the park. "I think there's a high likelihood of lawsuits opposing this," said one neighbor. "This is going to be a very high-profile project in a very central part of town."

Others suggested alternative sites such as under the new civic center or under the playing fields at Menlo College.

City Council member Rick DeGolia, who is the liaison to the Park and Recreation Committee, said the project is still a long way from being approved. "We're looking at it. We haven't made any commitment to doing this," he said. Only after looking at "what all the potential impacts are, what

'I think we should use (the park) for what it was meant to be, which is recreational purposes.'

ATHERTON RESIDENT

all the potential benefits are" will a decision be made, he said.

The council does need to make a decision by June in order to continue the agreement with Caltrans.

Six feet under

Engineers at the March 7 meeting described the facility as an underground concrete structure about 11 feet deep, buried under 6 feet of soil, that could hold about 9 acre-feet of water. The drainage plan indicated that a holding area for 10 acre-feet of water would help the town avoid the size of flood predicted to occur once every 10 years.

Consultants at the meeting said the ability to divert that much water could protect from flooding both downstream and upstream from the park, and also in Redwood City, where the Atherton Channel ends up.

A rubber dam would divert water and debris to the underground facility after suspended debris was removed.

The collected debris would be trucked off about four times a year, the consultants said.

While the engineering is still in preliminary stages, representatives of Tetra Tech, an international engineering firm that has designed a similar facility in Southern California, said they are looking at three possible park locations under grass fields and a parking lot. The construction would probably require a new bridge into the park, which could also be used by fire trucks, the consultants said.

Almost the entire facility would be underground, unless the town decides it wants to be able to use the collected water for spray irrigation. That would probably be placed in the corporation yard where park equipment is stored.

Cap on costs

The consultants also said that the project will not be built if it costs more than the amount Caltrans has agreed to pay. The town is responsible for the annual maintenance costs, which won't be known until the design is further refined.

Matt Fabry from San Mateo County's City/County Association of Government's storm water pollution prevention program said pollutants at the levels that would be collected by the system would not be considered

toxic waste. "The levels of mercury and PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) ... that are going to be coming into any project in the park are going to be low levels," he said.

City Manager George Rodericks confirmed that in a similar Southern California project the town examined, the waste products from the facility go into a regular landfill and do not require any special treatment.

If the project is approved by the council, construction is scheduled to start in July 2019 and take 20 months to complete.

This timeline, which overlaps the town's construction of a new civic center, also raised some opposition. "Are you going to consider the impact on the people, the organizations," that use the park? one speaker asked. "We're going to be in a terrible situation with (the disruptions from) the new town center," he said. "Our only refuge is this park."

A consultant said the town would receive a number of benefits in addition to the flood control the project would provide. When the project is completed, a new irrigation system, sod and pathways would be installed and, if the council approves, a new source of irrigation water would be available.

At is.gd/HP_water find the meeting presentation and other information about the project. ▀



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POLICE CALLS

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

PORTOLA VALLEY

Suspicious circumstances: A resident living alone on Horseshoe Bend told deputies that items inside the house had been moved around, and not by the resident. Deputies advised acquiring a surveillance camera. March 2.

MENLO PARK

Commercial burglary: Would-be burglars pried open the back door of Enjoy Technology Inc. at 171 Constitution Drive, but were startled by an alarm and a passerby, police said. No losses. March 8.

Auto burglaries:

■ Using methods unknown, a thief entered a vehicle parked on Glenwood Avenue and stole a pair of headphones. Estimated loss: \$350. March 6.

■ Someone smashed a window on a vehicle parked in the 2200 block of Sharon Road, removed a bag of workout-related equipment and dumped out the bag's contents at a nearby school. No losses. March 4.

Animal bite: Two neighbors were having

a conversation on Waverley Street when one neighbor bent down to say hello to the other's dog. The dog, which was on a leash, jumped up and bit the neighbor on the face, causing a laceration to his lip, police said. The dog's owner called police for assistance, but the bite victim sought medical assistance on his own, police said. March 4.

Thefts:

■ A man walking in Bedwell Bayfront Park told police that another man grabbed his cellphone from his hand. Police are looking for a Hispanic man about 6 feet, 3 inches tall, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, black pants and shoes that might have been green and black. Estimated loss: \$1,000. March 2.

■ Someone stole a trailer with construction equipment and tools inside from Haven Avenue. Estimated loss: \$5,350. March 7.

■ A thief stole a laptop computer from the trunk of a vehicle parked in the 300 block of Sharon Park Drive. Estimated loss: \$2,563. March 7.

■ An employee in the 300 block of Sharon Park Drive told police that someone stole her purse from a locker in the restroom. Stolen were a credit card, a driver's license and \$400 in cash. Estimated loss: \$600. March 6.

■ A thief stole a backpack hanging unattended on a stroller. A wallet, driver's license, credit cards and \$400 in cash were

stolen. Estimated loss: \$515. March 5.

■ An employee of a Hamilton Avenue business told police that a package containing a camera had been delivered to her workplace but was subsequently either lost or stolen from her desk. Estimated loss: \$760. March 7.

■ Police examined three torn-open packages found in an atrium of an apartment complex on Sharon Park Drive and addressed to three different residences. One recipient claimed ownership of a package that contained one vest; two other vests with a combined value of \$93 were likely stolen. The contents of the other packages included a red plastic tub and 16 items of clothing. March 3.

■ A resident of Robert S Drive told police that five stainless steel buckets and a bottle of mouthwash had been stolen from a package left open on the doorstep. Estimated loss: \$175. March 4.

■ Police arrested and booked into jail a transient man on suspicion of theft from BevMo at 700 El Camino Real of a bottle of brandy. March 4.

■ A woman told police that she witnessed a male youth attempt to steal her bicycle from the vicinity of Burgess Drive and Laurel Street. She yelled at the youth, who then walked away from the bike, but the bike's owner called police. The suspect was cited and released him to his father. March 4.

Jellyfish tagger pleads no contest to vandalism

A 21-year-old Menlo Park resident known as "Stand" pleaded no contest on Feb. 26 to a vandalism misdemeanor on the condition that other charges be dismissed due to insufficient evidence.

According to prosecutors, Aderis Dominique Williams in 2014 tagged a Highway 101 railway crossing, a Caltrain car, a power transformer and several parking barriers in Menlo Park using the name "Stand" and a distinct jellyfish symbol in the graffiti.

Menlo Park police obtained a warrant to search the home of then 18-year-old Mr. Williams and found examples of his tagging work and graffiti materials,

prosecutors said. Police also found he had a jellyfish tattoo on his leg that matched the tagging symbol.

Mr. Williams' brother also reportedly confirmed that the young man's nickname is "Stand."

Damage cost estimates hover around \$4,000 but could rise, according to prosecutors. The case has been continued to April 9 for the restitution report and order for restitution.

Mr. Williams was put on two years' probation and will be subject to search and seizure, the "usual fines and fees," and will not be permitted to possess graffiti tools or instruments, according to prosecutors.

—By Kate Bradshaw

TAGG

continued from page 7

hospital where they would be transplanted.

In addition to having a soft spot for children and his community, Mr. Tagg also loved dogs. For many years Mr. Tagg was hardly ever seen anywhere — from his frequent trips to the Woodside Library to the rummage sale — without Minnie, a mixed-breed stray who knew when she ran into him she'd found a companion for the rest of her life.

Mr. Tagg loved research, and spent time researching genealogy, Gold Rush history and historic northern California cemeteries.

Lisha Mainz, who served on the History Committee with Mr. Tagg, says she knew him almost her entire life because she grew up in the Glens neighborhood.

"Everybody in the Glens knew each other back then," she said.

But what she most remembers is the time in 2007 that Mr. Tagg, then in his late 70s, and she were working at the Woodside Community Museum on a Sunday afternoon when they noticed a horse that had broken loose from the hitch rack behind the Pioneer Hotel heading toward Woodside Road. Mr. Tagg "just shot up and started sprinting," she says. He caught up with the big filly "and turned into the horse whisperer," Ms. Mainz says. Once he returned the horse to the nearby hitch rack and tied it back up, he "just walked back like nothing happened," she says.

Bob Meade, who became friends with Mr. Tagg in the 1950s at the USGS, says the incident with the horse "is just the sort of thing that guys like

Dick Tagg do."

"He didn't sit around and ask any questions, he just got on with it," he says. They worked on marine geology projects together, including mapping the continental shelf under the Atlantic Ocean.

"That was the greatest thing about being out to sea with him. If it needed doing, it got done," Mr. Meade says.

Mr. Tagg was born in 1928 in Sioux City, Iowa. He delivered newspapers and was an Eagle Scout, working several summers at a Boy Scout camp in the Southwest.

Mr. Tagg attended Iowa State College and spent two years in the Navy. He graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he was in the Air Force ROTC, with a bachelor's degree in geology. He was active in the hiking club, climbing all the 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado, and continued hiking with alumni for many years.

While at Woods Hole, he met his wife-to-be, Barbara O'Hara. They adopted their first son, Andrew, and after returning to Woodside they adopted David and Martha.

Mr. Tagg is survived by his wife of more than 53 years, Barbara; their three children and their spouses, David (Michelle) and Martha (Tim), all of Lake Wildwood, and Andrew (Deidre) of Roseville; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions go to the Woodside Village Church, the Woodside Library or the Woodside Community Museum, or that blood donations be made in his name.

A longer version of this story can be seen at AlmanacNews.com. ■

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NOTICE REQUESTING BIDS
WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
BELLE HAVEN SEWER PROJECT PHASE III

Sealed proposals for the BELLE HAVEN SEWER PROJECT PHASE III will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, April 11, 2018** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled: "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "BELLE HAVEN SEWER PROJECT PHASE III."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment, and other appurtenances for rehabilitation and replacement of sanitary sewer mains by Open Trench construction, Cured-in-Place Pipe construction, and Pipe Bursting, as indicated on the project plans.

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

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District upon payment of a check or money order in the amount of \$60.00 for each set. The check or money order must be issued to the West Bay Sanitary District. All payments are nonrefundable.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at **10:00 am on Wednesday, March 28, 2018** at the West Bay Sanitary District Office in Menlo Park, California.

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

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

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

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

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

In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code Section 3300, the District has determined that the Contractor shall possess a valid Class A License or a combination of Class C-12 "Earthwork and Paving," C-34 "Pipeline" and C-42 "Sanitation System" licenses at the time this contract is awarded. Failure to possess the specified license(s) shall render the bid as non-responsive and shall act as a bar to award of the contract to any bidder not possessing said license(s) at the time of award.

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

/s/ Phil Scott
 District Manager

Dated: March 2, 2018

Menlo Park woman launches campaign for governor

By **Kate Bradshaw**
 Almanac Staff Writer

Less than four months before the primaries, a Menlo Park woman has launched a campaign to be elected as California's next governor.

Amanda Renteria, who was born and raised in the Central Valley but has lived in Menlo Park for a little more than a year since serving as a top aide for Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, has been campaigning across the state since she announced her candidacy in mid-February.

In an interview with The Almanac, Ms. Renteria said she considers herself a "career public servant."

"I come at public service with this idea that there's folks we have left out," she said.

Born and raised in Tulare County, Ms. Renteria said that making sure the Central Valley gets fair consideration in statewide policy-making would be a priority for her as governor. Lack of clean water and air, and a lack of employment opportunities are some of the problems that area experiences now, she said.

She joins a number of other candidates in the race for governor; major Democratic candidates include Gavin Newsom, lieutenant governor; Antonio Villaraigosa, former Los Angeles mayor; John Chiang, state treasurer; and Delaine Eastin, former state superintendent of public instruction.

In 2014, Ms. Renteria ran for the District 21 congressional seat, located in the Central Valley, but lost to Republican David Valadao.

Ms. Renteria grew up the daughter of migrant farm workers in Tulare County; she attended Stanford University for her undergraduate work and Harvard University for an MBA.

She has worked as a budget analyst for the city of San Jose, an economic policy adviser to U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, and as chief of staff for U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan — the first Latina to hold that position, she said.

After working for the Hillary Clinton campaign, she worked as chief of operations for the California Department of Justice, but recently stepped down to run her campaign.

Since launching her campaign, she has also published a narrative on the website Medium describing an experience in which, as a 24-year-old, she dealt with inappropriate advances at work, calling it her "#MeToo" story.

What spurred her to enter the race was what she has seen of the other candidates, she said, particularly watching a debate in which she felt candidates Newsom and Villaraigosa argued about how they've leveraged their political positions to make money.

"That's not what it's about," she said. "It's about making sure we have a government and public institutions that people honor and trust."

Her campaign website is amandarenteria.com. ▣



Photo courtesy Renteria for Governor
Amanda Renteria

Menlo Park hires city clerk

There's quite a game of musical clerks happening on the Peninsula. Judi Herren, city clerk for the town of Atherton, confirmed with The Almanac on March 9 that she has been hired to the same job in Menlo Park, a position that has been vacant since last June, when Pam Aguilar left to take the same job in Redwood City.

A resident of San Mateo, Ms. Herren says she expects the new commute to add an extra four minutes, but that she's looking forward to working in a bigger city.

She has worked as Atherton's city clerk for five years. She also spent the previous five years working in Redwood City in

administrative roles in a variety of departments: police, public works and, eventually, the city clerk's office.

Her salary range in Atherton was \$72,871 to \$84,330; in Menlo Park it will be \$115,402 to \$144,252.

Ms. Herren said she enjoys working in the city clerk's office because it is fast-paced and offers exposure to everything that happens in a city, enabling her to "keep a finger on the pulse of what's happening." ▣

—By *Kate Bradshaw*



Photo courtesy Judi Herren
Judi Herren

Menlo Park fire district buys house for \$3.2 million for station rebuild project

By Barbara Wood
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District announced on March 2 the \$3.2 million purchase of a house on Valparaiso Avenue, next door to the district's Alameda de las Pulgas fire station in unincorporated Menlo Park.

The three-bedroom, two-bathroom house at 2110 Valparaiso Ave. is on a 6,000-square-foot lot next door to the half-acre corner lot the fire station currently occupies.

Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman said the additional land was needed for the district to build a station similar to the one it recently built in East Palo Alto, with three equipment bays that vehicles can drive through; fire trucks at the Valparaiso station must now be backed in and out of the station.

The chief said the district used "a template overlay" for a three-bay drive-through facility to determine the need for additional property.

The district paid nearly \$1 million more than the March 3 \$2.25 million estimated value on the Zillow website for the 1980s era, 2,050-square-foot home.

Chief Schapelhouman said the Zillow estimate was not correct. In an email, he wrote that the district's agent, Nino Gaetano of Pacific Union Real Estate, found data on recent sales of comparable houses in the area for as high as \$2.9 million. The chief said the property's sales price will be listed at \$2.9 million, but that the district "included a separate cash payment to the seller" of \$300,000. "That is how the seller wanted the deal structured," he said.

Mr. Gaetano said that, in his



Photo courtesy Zillow.com

The fire district recently bought this house on a 6,000-square-foot lot at 2110 Valparaiso Ave. in unincorporated Menlo Park, next door to its Alameda de las Pulgas fire station, which is on a half-acre corner lot.

opinion, the district "did really well and Zillow is not reliable and is never used for supporting data" by appraisers or real estate professionals.

The district paid cash for the property, with the money coming from the capital reserve fund for the Alameda station, Chief Schapelhouman said.

The purchase is just the latest property acquisition by the fire district, which in 2017 spent more than \$16 million buying land and structures. Those purchases included a \$4.6 million house next to the Alameda Avenue fire station in Atherton, a \$5 million 28,000-square-foot warehouse on 1.37 acres on Pulgas Avenue in East Palo Alto, and a \$6.6 million acre of St. Patrick's Seminary land next to the Middlefield Road fire station in Menlo Park.

The chief said the Alameda fire station is the district's oldest, built in 1949. It will be rebuilt after the district finishes a new station on Middlefield Road. "It will take us about 10 years, or more, to rebuild both of these

facilities," he said.

Chief Schapelhouman said that at least two of the district's chief officers have expressed interest in renting the new house. When the district first began negotiating for it, the house was listed for rent at \$6,000 a month.

The house is clean and ready for someone to move in immediately, Chief Schapelhouman said.

The district is currently finishing up a new station in downtown Menlo Park on Oak Grove Avenue. A new station was completed in East Palo Alto in 2016.

The station on Alameda de las Pulgas serves Menlo Park, Atherton, nearby unincorporated areas and the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, which the district serves under a contract, the chief said.

The fire district includes Menlo Park, Atherton, East Palo Alto and adjacent unincorporated areas. It has seven fire stations and an administration and fire prevention building.

It had a \$54 million budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year, with reserves of \$65 million. ▣

Human Rights Watch screens documentary 'Atomic Homefront' March 20 in Atherton

Human Rights Watch is hosting a screening of the documentary "Atomic Homefront" on Tuesday, March 20, at the Menlo-Atherton Center for the Performing Arts.

The film, by Rebecca Cammisa, is about "one community's activism and the need for government accountability in the wake of decades of radioactive waste contamination in the northern suburbs of St. Louis, Missouri," according to a Human Rights Watch statement.

The 6:45 p.m. screening will be followed by a discussion with a panel including Marcos Orellana, director of the Environment

and Human Rights division of Human Rights Watch.

Mr. Orellana, whose credentials also include work at the Washington, DC-based Center for International Environmental Law, will be joined by Rodney C. Ewing, Frank Stanton professor in nuclear security and co-director of the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University; and Lauren Davis, director of the energy program of the 11th Hour Project.

The discussion will be moderated by Michael Kieschnick, president of the Green Advocacy Project.

Filmmaker Rebecca Cammisa also made the Oscar-nominated film, "Which Way Home," and co-directed and shot the documentary, "Sister Helen."

Due to limited space, the event's sponsor is requesting RSVPs at bit.ly/hrwscreening.

The M-A performing arts center is at 555 Middlefield Road in Atherton.

Human Rights Watch is an international nongovernmental organization. The March 20 screening and panel discussion is sponsored by the group's Silicon Valley branch, located in Palo Alto.

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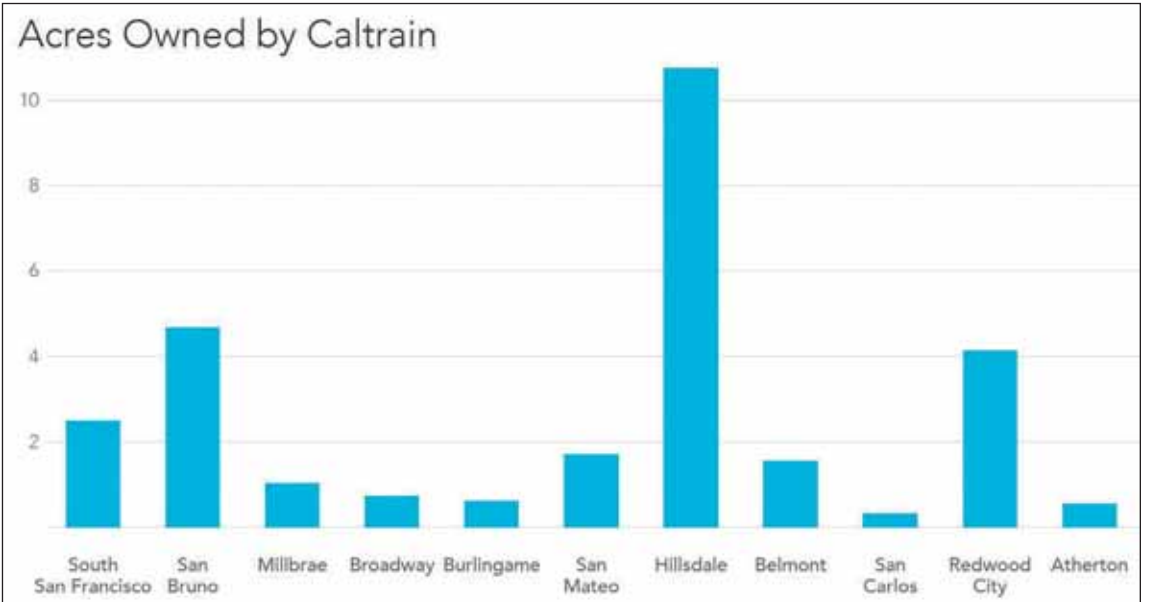


Image courtesy Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County

According to data collected by the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, Caltrain owns about two acres in Menlo Park and a half-acre in Atherton that the group hopes can be developed for higher-density housing, 20 percent of which it says should be affordable.

Group urges Caltrain to consider high-density housing on its land

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Caltrain is developing a new business plan this year, and one group is asking the agency to consider adopting affordable housing development as a priority for its

excess land along the rail line. That way, people can live in greater density without adding to the region’s car-driven traffic problems.

The Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County is asking the transit agency to consider adopting a

“transit-oriented development” policy, according to said Leora Tanjuatco, the leadership council’s organizing director.

Such a policy would formalize the agency’s priority of building homes on its land, she said. A key part of the group’s request is that the policy include a provision that at least 20 percent of any housing permitted on Caltrain land be designated as affordable.

Caltrain owns over 30 acres of property scattered throughout San Mateo County, mainly in the form of spacious parking lots, that could be rearranged to allow for high-density housing. The territory comprises “parcels of land that have been hiding in plain sight for years,” Ms. Tanjuatco said.

In Almanac territory, she said, the agency has about a half-acre in Atherton and two acres in Menlo Park.

Building housing on Caltrain property could enable the agency to boost ridership and help address the housing crisis at the same time.

“It’s basically common sense,” Ms. Tanjuatco said. “If you live near the train, you’re more likely to take it.”

One major hitch in the plan is that cities are responsible for the zoning in their own sections of the Caltrain line. But formalizing the transit agency’s intention by expressing a desire for housing on its land is the first step, she said.

The idea is still in an early phase, she said. The leadership council is organizing a campaign around local business owners who have trouble retaining employees because of a lack of affordable housing. ■

Visit *Lasting Memories*

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

Go to: AlmanacNews.com/obituaries



Peninsula Easter Services



CHRIST CHURCH

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Sunday April 1: Sung Eucharist at 8am and 10am

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www.ccpvw.org www.facebook.com/ccpvw Egg hunts after 10am!



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PALO ALTO

- ❖ 7:30pm Holy Tuesday — March 27
Tenebrae: A Meditative Service of Candlelight & Shadows
- ❖ 6:15pm Maundy Thursday — March 29
Agape Meal and Liturgy of the Word, Holy Eucharist and the Stripping of the Altar
- ❖ 12:00-2:00pm Good Friday — March 30
A Service focused on the Seven Last Words
- ❖ 2:00-3:00pm Rite of Reconciliation and Labyrinth Meditation
- ❖ 5:30am Easter — April 1
The Great Vigil with Renewal of Baptism Vows, the Great Fire and Story-Telling
- ❖ 8:00am Festive Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall and Family Easter Activities
- ❖ 10:00am Festive Holy Eucharist in the Church celebrating the Festival of the Resurrection

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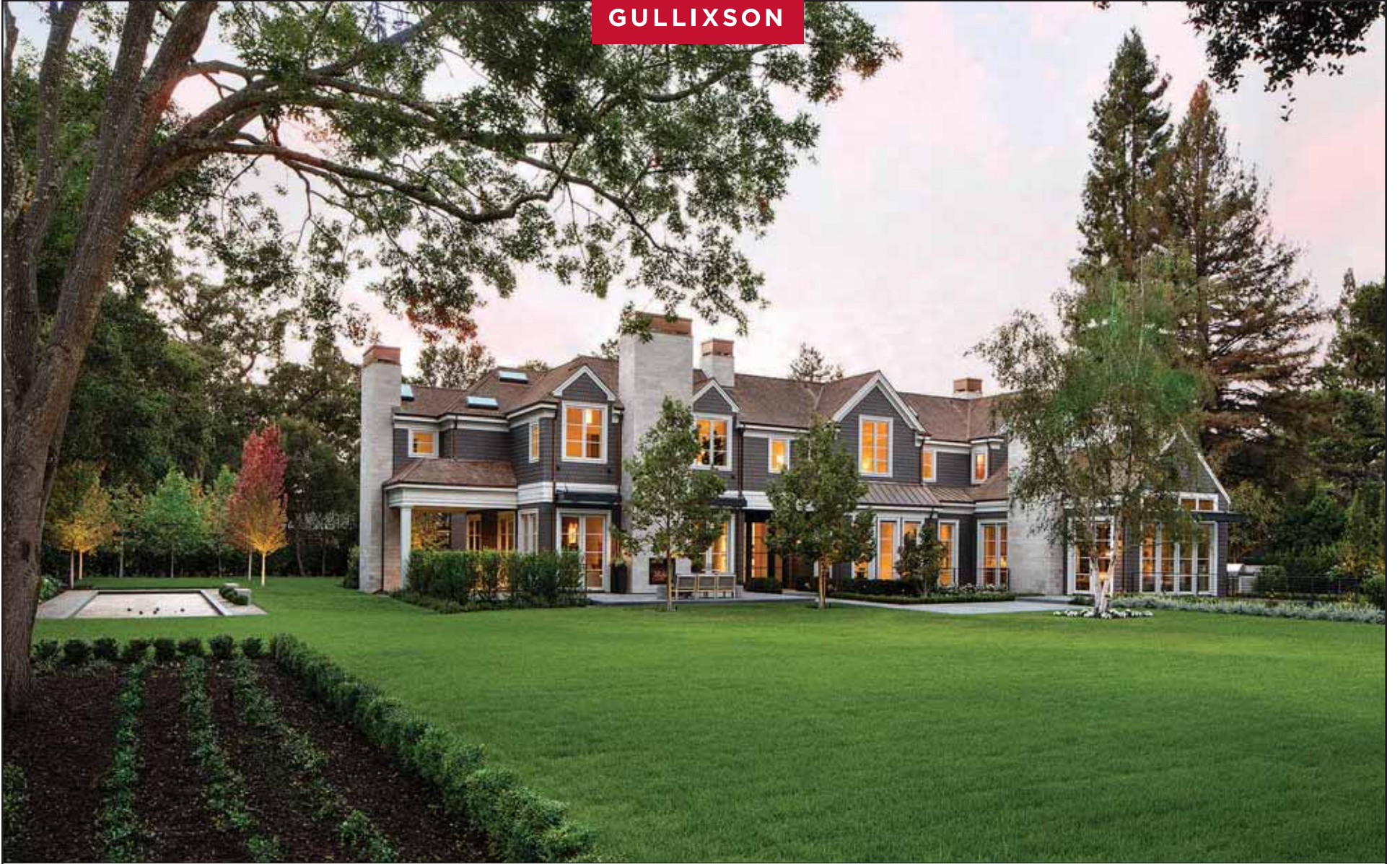
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Easter services at 9:00 and 11:00am

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PORTOLA VALLEY

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

The Town of Atherton will accept bids for construction of the following public work:

2018 OVERLAY PROJECT

Removal and replacement of 2 inches of asphalt concrete pavement on various streets. Crack sealing and grind and replace approximately 4,000 square feet of asphalt to a 4-inch depth of pavement failures and placement of thermoplastic/paint striping. Some hand work around utility access-hole covers will be necessary.

Plans & Specifications may be obtained at <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/bids.aspx> at no cost. The Contractor shall be responsible for any addendums that may be posted on the Town's website.

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, **until 2:00 p.m.** Pacific Standard Time on **Tuesday, April 3, 2018**, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for **2018 OVERLAY PROJECT**", along with date and time of bid opening.

Barbara Woods

May 12, 1927 – February 3, 2018

Barbara Benedict Woods passed away in her sleep on February 3rd at the age of 90, on a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon. Just a few days prior she had enjoyed a dinner out with a few of her grandchildren. She was born May 12, 1927 to Wilbur and Ruth Benedict in Philadelphia, PA.

Barbara graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, where she was a member of the Tri Delta Sorority. Her first job was at the Philadelphia office of N. W. Ayers & Sons advertising agency. Soon thereafter, she was greeted one morning in the elevator by a cheerful, youthful-looking man she mistook for a summer intern. Joe Woods was actually an account executive, and the two were married in April of 1952.

As was the nature of the times, numerous relocations followed, to Boston, where Wendy and David were born, and Northbrook, Ill, where Suzanne and Thomas were born. Moves to Chatham, New Jersey and Menlo Park, California followed in later years. In addition to raising her children, Barbara was an active member of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, serving as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and in many other areas. She was involved in Bible Study Fellowship for many years.

Barbara is pre-deceased by her husband Joseph (2012) and sister Joan Benedict Myers (1996). In addition to her four grown children she is survived by twelve grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be directed to Bible Study Fellowship, 19001 Huebner Road, San Antonio, TX 78258-4019 or bsfinternational.org.



PAID OBITUARY

Local girl receives national award for building orphanage in India

By Carmen Bechtel

Autumn Bright, a seventh-grader at Corte Madera Middle School, was recently honored as California's top middle level youth volunteer in the 2018 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

Autumn raised \$24,000 to build a small orphanage and install a freshwater well in India. She said she was inspired to volunteer after a visit to India in 2016 for her mother's birthday.

"We saw a little boy who came up to our cab when we were driving, and he knocked on the window," she said. "We gave him food and he ran behind the car, looked in the food, and then he smiled and waved at us. I started looking around more and I realized there's a lot of kids like him, and I want to help them."

The well and orphanage are located in Velishala Village outside of Hyderabad. Autumn worked with the charitable organization Angel House to identify where the orphanage should be located. For eight months, Autumn raised money in her community by babysitting, pet-sitting, watering plants, selling cookies, and collecting donations.

This experience helped build Autumn's confidence. "I am definitely not as shy now, she said. "At the beginning, we would make all the cookies and then we'd go to sell and I'd make my mom talk to all the customers. Eventually, I realized that they wanted to talk to me because I was doing the project, not my mom, and so I finally had to build up the courage to talk to



Photos courtesy of Autumn's family

Autumn Bright was welcomed at a village event in December celebrating the opening of the orphanage.



Photos courtesy of Autumn's family

Some of the boys who found a new home in the orphanage pose for a photo.

the people."

In early December, Autumn and her family attended the grand opening of the orphanage. Twelve boys ages 8 to 15 will live in the two-story building until they can find jobs, and the freshwater well will provide water for the village.

Autumn is unsure of what she might work on next, but she's considering building "a second layer onto my existing

orphanage" or collaborating with Angel House to build a different orphanage.

"This experience has shown me how lucky we are to be here and that we need to help other people who aren't as fortunate," she said. ▣

Woodside resident Carmen Bechtel is an eighth-grader at Corte Madera School who enjoys writing and painting.

Work starts on temporary Atherton library quarters

In preparation for the beginning of construction on Atherton's new civic center complex, the town has begun a month of work at the corner of Dinkelspiel Station Lane and Maple Avenue to ready the area for a temporary library building.

From March 7 to April 7 the contractor is scheduled to

prepare the site for a modular building, often known as a portable, and install access for people with disabilities.

Construction fencing and tree protection will go in first. Parking will be limited along Dinkelspiel Station Lane and parking restrictions on Maple Avenue will be strictly enforced, the town says.

There may be minor traffic delays near the construction site.

The library and town offices will continue to operate as usual during the project.

For more information, contact Rick Smelser at 408-916-5092 or Atherton's Public Works Department at 650-752-0555. ▣

—By Barbara Wood

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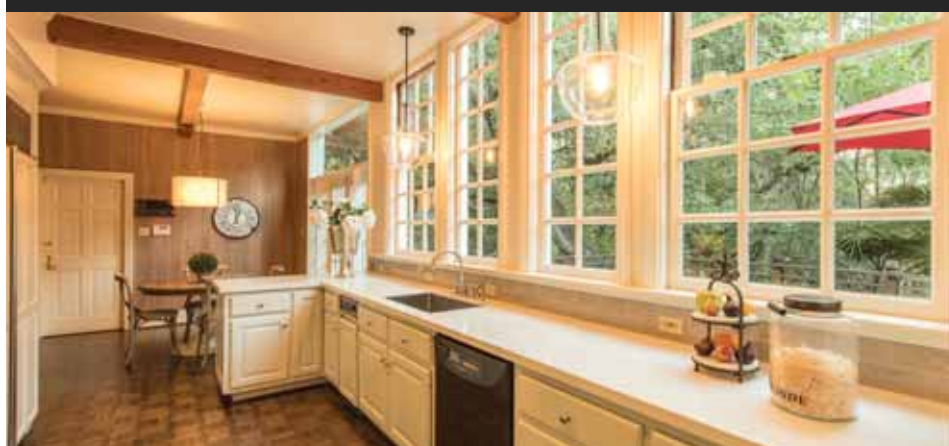
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It takes a village

How a local nonprofit and policymakers are working to make it easier for homeowners to take the housing crisis into their own hands

Story by Kate Bradshaw | Photos by Michelle Le

For nearly four years, Josh To was, by day, a Google employee, and by night, a residential counselor with his wife, Sara, at Eastside College Preparatory Academy in East Palo Alto.

The contrasts he experienced made him feel like he was in two worlds each day, he told a group of parishioners at Highway Church in Palo Alto in January. He was proud of where he worked, but also felt the the company's presence "had downstream effects on the community."

At Eastside, many of the students he worked with had families who lived in the Central Valley and could go home only on weekends. Many of the students would spend weekdays living on campus, and travel on weekends to visit their families as far away as Stockton, Tracy or Merced.

He and Sara, who now live in Menlo Park's Willows neighborhood, started a Menlo Park-based nonprofit organization — previously Brute Labs and now called Soup — about 10 years ago that has most recently shifted its focus to getting more accessory dwelling units built in the Bay Area to provide a roof over the heads of lower-income renters.

The family has just installed an accessory dwelling unit on their own property as a trial run; they intend to use it as a show unit for the next few months before leasing it to a low-income renter. They built it partly as an investment to bolster their household income, but also to learn how the process works to better guide other property owners through it.

The backyard home they

installed was purchased from the Canada-based prefabricated home manufacturer Honomobo and has two bedrooms and one bathroom in 640 square feet of living space. It also comes with a washer, dryer and water heater. It is a modern, rectangular unit with large windows facing the backyard, and has an uncluttered, open layout.

In a January interview, the Tos said that the process with the city of Menlo Park came with some unexpected steps for people new to construction, and ended up costing \$89,85 in plan reviews and permits.

In particular, Mr. To said, he found it surprising that an arborist had to come to the site to inspect every tree, and that he had to get written permission from the neighbors approving the unit's architectural style.

The project also required approval to build past the standard rear setback on the property line.

The Tos took extra steps to keep costs low by doing things themselves, Mr. To noted. They didn't hire a general contractor, and it took a while to pick up on the "architectural jargon" of the city's planning department, he said.

On the other hand, buying a prefabricated unit meant that he didn't have to worry about overseeing the construction of the house itself.

In all, the unit cost about \$200,000 and took about a year to build, Mr. To said. He added that he thinks the process could have been done three to five months faster, knowing what they know now. Costs to build such units vary widely, though, the couple emphasized.

Soup plans to provide support to property owners seeking to build second units in exchange for the owner's contracted assurance to lease the unit for a certain amount of time to low-income renters.



A view from the new backyard home of Josh and Sara To in Menlo Park's Willows neighborhood. On the cover: the Tos showcase the interior of the 640-square-foot home.

One of the biggest costs for a new unit is the foundation, he said. Initially, every quote he got came in at over \$100,000. Eventually he lucked out, because the father of a student he'd worked with at Eastside College Prep who owned a concrete business agreed to help with the foundation work for \$20,000.

Armed with some firsthand experience, Mr. To said, Soup plans to provide support to

property owners seeking to build second units in exchange for the owner's contracted assurance to lease the unit for a certain amount of time to low-income renters, likely holders of Section 8 vouchers.

The group initially sought to focus its work in East Palo Alto, but because of the water moratorium in effect there, they have been adding households from across the Bay Area to their wait

list, which now numbers about 20 or 25, he said. The family-funded nonprofit recently hired Pamela Dorr, former executive director of Hero Housing in Greensboro, Alabama to run the program.

Working on one second unit at a time is not likely to generate a huge number of new units quickly, but the goal is to popularize the development of such units. Mr. To said he's hoping to make adding an accessory dwelling unit like adding solar panels. Any new unit that gets built in the Bay Area will reduce the overall pressure on the housing market, especially if his organization can claim at least some of the new units for lower-income tenants.

Soup is only one of several efforts to help property owners take the housing crisis into their own hands.

Challenges

When it comes to building second units in Menlo Park, one of the policies that both the city's housing and planning commissions have discussed in recent months as a barrier to second units is the city's minimum lot size requirement. The city's current minimum lot size is 6,000 square feet, but city planners in the past have recommended that the minimum size be smaller.

Without a legal option to add on-site housing, some households in Menlo Park have illegally converted their homes to accommodate more people, which can create health and safety problems. Costly permitting fees are another possible reason some households don't pursue formally permitting second units.

Menlo Park code enforcement officer Eleonor Hilario has said



The Tos plan to use the backyard home as a show unit for several months before renting it to a low-income tenant.



The To family's nonprofit, Soup, has hired an executive director to help other Bay Area homeowners build backyard houses and rent them to low-income tenants.

that a common safety issue she responds to is when garages are illegally converted into living quarters. People who live in garages may have large water heaters in the room, or no insulation or heating, so they'll plug in many appliances through the same power strip, which can create a safety hazard, she said.

In her code enforcement work, Ms. Hilario said, she's found families, some with small children, living in garages, storage sheds or trailers, which have not been cleared for safety by the city. "You empathize and sympathize with them," she said. "It's heartbreaking to just tell a family, 'You cannot live in here. Eventually you will have to move out.'" If the illegal housing unit can't be cleared for safety, she may have to red-tag and evacuate it, she noted.

A regional problem

The housing crisis isn't unique to Menlo Park, as evidenced by the region's sky-high rent, grinding gridlock indicating more jobs than housing around, and frequent employee turnover in local restaurants, shops and even schools.

Part of the problem is that, in San Mateo County, there just aren't very many places to build.

Looking at the county's territory, about three-quarters of all the land within the county is protected open space or

agricultural land, according to Angie Evans of the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County.

And of the remaining quarter, about two-thirds is zoned for single-family housing. That leaves only about one-twelfth of land in the county that could be used for multi-family housing — and that land is likely to be claimed by developers for more profitable purposes, such as building office space.

But while policies to support higher-density and more affordable housing can help get many affordable units built, housing advocates have also argued not to forget about policies that enable residential property owners to build second units. Doing so increases the overall housing stock in areas that are otherwise considered "built out" at very low densities and can provide property owners with extra income — to help with their own burdensome mortgages — while boosting property values.

Ultimately, though, second units probably won't solve the housing crisis. All cities and policymakers can really do is encourage property owners to

build them and make rent something less than exorbitant. The idea is that a small second unit is still cheaper to rent than the adjacent McMansion, and can still provide property owners income through rent.

And under state law, second units are not subject to policies like rent control, even in jurisdictions with such laws on the books, according to Menlo Park

Housing Manager Jim Cogan. Plus, there are as yet no policies in Menlo Park discouraging homeowners from listing their second units on Airbnb or other vacation rental sites, which can fetch a higher per-night return than a longer-term tenant.

The city's Planning Commission last year flirted with recommending a ban on short-term rentals (less than 30 days), but the matter was postponed. A cursory look at Airbnb listings in Menlo Park indicates a handful of second units are available for short-term rentals on any given weekend.

Second units may be most useful in providing housing for what some housing advocates call the "missing middle," a term describing the gap in housing

supply for moderate-income earners. Typically, getting housing built for that income category is the hardest to get financed because many available government subsidies or tax credits can go only toward building housing for renters at low, very low- and extremely-low income levels, Mr. Cogan said.

To meet regional housing demand, the city ought to permit 142 more moderate-level housing units, according to the state's regional housing needs assessment valid through 2023.

In the past several years, some state and city policy changes have made it easier to build second dwelling units. For instance, a state law the city adopted in 2017 made it so that parking requirements would be waived if a proposed second unit were added in an area less than a half-mile from ready public transportation access.

There have been some signs that more second units are getting built as a result. In 2017, 37 percent, or 13 of the 35 total units, of net new housing units permitted in Menlo Park were second housing units, according to the city's annual housing report.

County tools

In January, San Mateo County's "Home For All" initiative released a toolkit that provides a workbook for property owners,

walking them through considerations they'll need, from cost estimates to the kinds of questions to ask city planners.

A calculator tool on the website — which comes with a waiver noting it's a rough estimate and explains some of the assumptions it makes — shows the investment benefits of building different sizes and types of accessory housing units. For example, if one were to convert a Menlo Park garage into a standard-quality, 500-square-foot studio at an estimated cost of \$192,700; pay \$50,000 and take out a 20-year loan for the rest, one could expect a monthly net income of \$958 (\$2,132 in monthly rent and \$1,174 in monthly costs) charging market rate, with an estimated two years for the unit to pay for itself in increased property value and four years to recover the cash investment.

It also describes the financial impacts of opting to reduce rent on the second unit to be affordable for someone on a schoolteacher's salary. In that scenario, one might still expect \$521 in monthly income (\$1,640 in rent and \$1,119 in monthly costs), with an estimated four years for the unit to pay for itself in increased property value and six years to recover the cash investment.

Access the toolkit and calculator at secondunitcentersmc.org. ■

'It's heartbreaking to just tell a family, "You cannot live in here. Eventually you will have to move out." '

MENLO PARK CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ELEONOR HILARIO



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

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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

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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



Photo by Kathy Smith

Left to right, Cella Hussussian, Derek Smith, Sophia Ashworth, Christian Canellos, Sam Borthwick, and Stefan Sujansky star in Woodside High's musical "On the Town."

Woodside High revives musical 'On the Town'

By Kate Daly

Special to the Almanac

Woodside High School is bringing the blockbuster musical "On the Town" back on stage, with an opening performance on March 16.

Originally produced on Broadway in 1944, the show has experienced several revivals over the years, winning Tony Awards along the way.

Audiences are likely to recognize songs such as "New York, New York."

The musical follows the adventures of three American sailors searching for fun and female companionship during a 24-hour shore leave in New York City in wartime 1944.

In leading roles are: from Woodside, Christian Canellos as Ozzie, Stefan Sujansky as Chip, and Sophia Ashworth as Claire; from Emerald Hills, Derek Smith as Gabey, and Sam Borthwick as

Hilde; and from Redwood City, Cella Hussussian as Ivy.

Directed by Barry Woodruff, the show is filled with colorful dance numbers, including "Imaginary Coney Island," a ballet originally choreographed by Jerome Robbins.

A cast of more than 50 students, accompanied by a live orchestra made up of student and professional musicians, will put on five shows over two weekends.

Performances are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 18; and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday March 23 and 24.

Go to whsdramaboosters.org to buy tickets or call 650-367-9750, ext. 43706.

Tickets cost \$20 for adults, \$15 for people 65 and older, and \$10 for students and staff. Groups of 15 may receive a discount.

Woodside High School Performing Arts Center is located at 199 Churchill Ave. in Woodside. ■

Woodside Community Foundation offers \$5,000 'seed funding' grants

By Kate Daly

Special to the Almanac

The Woodside Community Foundation is giving money away. The charitable organization has announced a new Woodside Community Grant Project offering \$5,000 to three Woodside area residents as "seed funding to grow your vision and cultivate our spirit of giving."

Applicants must submit their request by March 31 in an application that asks how the proposed projects will benefit the Woodside community. Goals may be local or global.

There is also a question about expenses and budgets, with the stipulation that the grant will not be used for "individual compensation."

Applicants younger than 18 will need an adult sponsor.

Go to woodsidegiving.org to apply.

For more information contact info@woodsidegiving.org or call 650-275-4886.

Winners will be announced on May 12 at a new event in Woodside called The Woodside Day of Giving, which WCF President Diane Talbert describes as "consciousness raising about being generous with both time/money and honoring all the ideas/ways of improving community."

Established in 1952, WCF serves as a pass-through nonprofit agent handling various funds, currently including Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA), Woodside Community Theater, Woodside Landscape Committee, and Angel Food. ■

Camp Connection

For more information about these camps visit paloaltoonline.com/camp_connection. To advertise in this weekly directory, call (650) 326-8210.

ATHLETICS

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Share the joy of dance with us! Our studio is an extended family and a home away from home for many community members, and we value the positive energy and atmosphere that we strive to provide. For children and teens. Jazz, Hip Hop, Ballet, Tap, Lyrical/Contemporary, Children's Combination. Events/Summer Dance Camps - Summer Session for ages 3 - adults: June 11-August 4.

www.danceconnectionpaloalto.com
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www.mountainviewtennis.net (650) 967-5955

Nike Tennis Camps Bay Area

Junior overnight and day tennis camps for boys and girls, ages 9-18 offered throughout June, July and August. Adult weekend clinics available June and Aug. Camps directed by head men's coach, Paul Goldstein, head women's coach, Lele Forood, and associate men's and women's coaches, Brandon Coupe and Frankie Brennan. Join the fun and get better at tennis this summer.

www.ussportscamps.com (800) 645-3226

Run for Fun Camps Palo Alto/La Honda

Run for Fun's mission is to provide creative and engaging play for all youth by getting kids active in an inclusive community centered around outdoor fun! We pride ourselves on hiring an enthusiastic, highly trained staff who love what they do. Summer 2018 features four weeks of Adventure Day Camp and two weeks of Overnight Camp High Five. Adventure Day Camp is a new discovery every day filled with sports, crafts and nature, including explorations to Camp Jones Gulch, Capitola Beach, Foothills Park, Shoreline Lake and Great America. Camp High Five is six days and five nights of traditional overnight camp mixed with challenge-by-choice activities, campfires, friendships and lots of laughter.

www.runforfuncamps.com/summer-camps-and-school-holiday-camps/camp-overview
(650) 823-5167

Spartans Sports Camp Mountain View

Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 1-7, sport-specific sessions for grades 2-9, color guard camp for grades 3-9, and cheerleading camp for grades pre-K - 8. We also offer a hip hop dance camp for grades 1-7. Camp dates are June 4 through July 27 at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available.

www.spartanssportscamp.com (650) 479-5906

Stanford Baseball Camps Stanford

At Sunken Diamond on the campus of Stanford University. Four or five day camps where the morning session includes instruction in several baseball skills, fundamentals, and team concepts. The afternoon session will be dedicated to playing coach pitched games and hitting in the batting cages. Session 1: June 18 - 22 Session 2: June 25-29 Session 3: July 16-20

www.stanfordbaseballcamp.com (650) 725-2054

Stanford Water Polo Camps Stanford

New to water polo or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half-day or full-day options for boys and girls ages 7 and up. All camps provide fundamental skills, scrimmages and games.

www.stanfordwaterpolocamps.com (650) 725-9016

Wheel Kids Bike Camps Palo Alto

At Addison Elem. Adventure Riding Camp for grades 1 - 8, Two Wheelers Club for grades K - 3. Week long programs from 8:30 - 4, starting June 4th. Join us as we embark on bicycling adventures for the more experienced rider or help those just learning to ride.

wheelkids.com/palo-alto (650) 646-5435

YMCA of Silicon Valley Summer Camps Silicon Valley

At the Y, children and teens of all abilities acquire new skills, make friends, and feel that they belong. With hundreds of Summer Day Camps plus Overnight Camps, you will find a camp that's right for your family. Financial assistance is available.

www.ymcasv.org (408) 351-6473

ACADEMICS

Harker Summer Programs San Jose

The Harker School's summer programs for children K-grade 12 offer the perfect balance of learning and fun! Programs are led by dedicated faculty and staff who are experts at combining summer fun and learning. Strong academics and inspiring enrichment programs are offered in full-day, partial and morning-only sessions.

www.harker.org/summer (408) 553-5737

i2 Camp at Castilleja School Palo Alto

i2 Camp offers week-long immersion programs that engage middle school girls in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The fun and intimate hands-on activities of the courses strive to excite and inspire participants about STEM, creating enthusiasm that will hopefully spill over to their schoolwork and school choices in future years.

www.castilleja.org/i2camp (650) 470-7833

iD Tech Camps Campbell Stanford/Bay Area

The world's #1 summer STEM program held at Stanford, Palo Alto High School, and 150+ locations nationwide. With innovative courses in coding, game development, robotics, and design, our programs instill in-demand skills that embolden students to shape the future. iD Tech Camps (weeklong, 7-17), Alexa Café (weeklong, all-girls, 10-15), iD Tech Academies (2-week, 13-18).

iDTechCamps.com (844) 788-1858

KCI Summer Camp Los Altos Hills

Students ages 11-16 discover endless possibilities as they design and engineer their own projects. Hands-on learning of latest technologies including virtual reality, 3D printing, video production, and more in KCI's new makerspace.

bit.ly/kcisummerncamp (650) 949-7614

Stanford EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on Biomedical Research Stanford

EXPLORE biomedical science at Stanford. Stanford EXPLORE offers high school students the unique opportunity to learn from Stanford professors and graduate students about diverse topics in biomedical science, including bioengineering, neurobiology, immunology and many others.

explore.stanford.edu explore-series@stanford.edu

Summer at Sand Hill School Palo Alto

June 26 to July 20; If you're looking for a great summer learning plus fun option for your child and you want them to be ready for fall, please join us at Sand Hill. The morning Literacy Program (8:30 to noon) provides structured, systematic instruction for students with learning challenges entering grades 1-8 in the fall. The afternoon Enrichment Camp (Noon to 4) focuses on performing arts, social skills and fun. Choose morning, afternoon or full day. Visit www.sandhillschool.org for more details and application.

www.sandhillschool.org (650) 688-3605

Write Now! Palo Alto Summer Writing Camps Pleasanton

Improve your student's writing skills this summer at Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton. Courses this year are Expository Writing, Creative Writing and Presentation Techniques.

headsip.org Emerson: (650) 424-1267
Hacienda: (925) 485-5750

ARTS, CULTURE, OTHER CAMPS

Art and Soul Camp Palo Alto

Art, cooking, tinkering, yoga and mindfulness. We celebrate multiple perspectives and recognize the many ways for our children to interpret their world. Summer Unplugged! is appropriate for ages 5-13 years. Located at Walter Hays School.

www.artandsoulpa.com (650) 269-0423

Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls Palo Alto

Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls Palo Alto Casti Camp offers girls entering gr. 2-6 a range of age-appropriate activities including athletics, art, science, computers, writing, crafts, cooking, drama and music classes each day along with weekly field trips. Leadership program available for girls entering gr. 7-9.

www.castilleja.org/summerncamp (650) 470-7833

City of Mountain View Recreation Mountain View

Come have a blast with us this summer! We have something for everyone: Recreation Camps, Specialty Camps, Sports Camps, Swim Lessons, and more! Programs begin June 4 - register early!

www.mountainview.gov/register (650) 903-6331

Community School of Music Mountain View

Community School of Mountain View Music and Arts (CSMA) Mountain View 50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, Summer Music Workshops, more! One and two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care from 8:30am-5:30pm. Financial aid offered.

www.arts4all.org (650) 917-6800 ext. 0

Let's Go Crafting Palo Alto

Let's Go Crafting's Studio is where your child will have fun while learning many different fiber related arts. We teach sewing, knitting, crochet, weaving and jewelry making to children ages 8 years to 15 years. AM or PM camps \$275/week. Full day camps \$550/week. 5 student minimum for all sessions; 10 student maximum. Contact Connie Butner at lets gocrafting@gmail.com.

lets gocrafting.wordpress.com (650) 814-4183

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC) Palo Alto

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

www.paccc.org (650) 493-2361

Stanford Jazz Workshop Stanford

On campus of Stanford University, Week-long jazz immersion programs for young musicians in middle school (starts July 9), high school (July 15 and July 22), and college, as well as adults (July 29). All instruments and vocals.

stanfordjazz.org (650) 736-0324

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Los Altos Menlo Park, Palo Alto

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theatreworks.org/youth-programs/for-youth
(650) 463-7146

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TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 28, 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 Town Council 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: March 7, 2018
Arly Cassidy, Interim Planning Director

Artscene

PEOPLE AND **PERFORMANCES** IN **ARTS** AND **ENTERTAINMENT**

Piano phenom Taylor Eigsti returns to Priory for anniversary concert

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Taylor Eigsti has come a long way since he first began playing the piano as a 4-year-old. Raised in Menlo Park and known by locals as a child prodigy who performed with pros such as Dave Brubeck from an early age, Mr. Eigsti is returning to the Peninsula this month for a performance.

The Almanac checked in recently with Mr. Eigsti, now 33 and a full-time jazz pianist living in New York City. He is scheduled to visit his alma mater, Woodside Priory School in Portola Valley, to perform with his quartet at a concert on Thursday, March 22.

Mr. Eigsti has had a storied career that has been documented in the archives of this and neighboring papers over the years — as a kid who loved playing Pac Man and shooting hoops in addition to tickling the ivory, and more recently as an accomplished live performer, recording artist and composer.

He says he decided he wanted to be a professional musician as soon as he learned that such a thing was possible. He recalls learning from his dad around the time he was 8 that musicians don't have to pay to perform in front of people, as he'd originally believed; the lucky ones could actually make a living as performers.

He eventually achieved his dream, rising to stardom as a teen, and to date has released seven recordings as bandleader and more than 50 as sideman; he also has multiple Grammy nominations.

Life as a professional musician isn't all glamorous, he notes — he spends about 200 to 250 days a year traveling, and works consistently with 14 or 15 groups — but that's what makes performing special.

"When you have the experience of being on stage and playing — I treat that as a very sacred thing," he says.

He's made a rule for himself that he shares with young would-be musicians, he says. When accepting a gig, you need to get two of three things out of it, he says: good music, good people or good money. "If you follow that format, you end up having a good time no matter where you are, no matter the situation," he says.

Today, Mr. Eigsti divides his time working as a composer, heading a trio or quartet, and working as a sideman in different bands. Each comes with its own rewards and challenges, he says.

Jazz, at its core, is a "social art form," he says. His art takes the form of improvisation about 98 percent of the time. He has to compose on the spot, within a framework set by his other band members. His music serves as a complement to, and a conversation with, the sounds of his collaborators.

He likes leading his own band best, but as a sideman, he brings his own musical personality to the sound of whatever collaboration he's working on.

As a composer, he says, he likes to create music that is informed by the "present" — more broadly, demonstrating an awareness of contemporary music, and more specifically, building a cohesive sonic



Photo by Bill Douthart

Taylor Eigsti, who grew up in Menlo Park, now lives in New York City.

landscape with his collaborators in any given tune.

Having played music for most of his life, funneling complex emotions into his music can come easier than words, he says. In his musical expressions, he aims to strike a balance between the familiar and the exploratory, for the sake of his audience: "It's nice when you can explore musically, but bring people along with you."

Jazz and other genres of music sometimes cater to audiences who have more background knowledge of the form or know what to look for, and can ignore those listeners who may be less knowledgeable, he says. He uses his energy, dynamics, excitement and set list to create a rewarding performance for those who hear him, he adds.

"I think having a mindfulness of that creates a balance where you can let an audience know that they mean everything," he says.

Mr. Eigsti is scheduled to perform with his quartet on Thursday, March 22, at the Woodside Priory Performing Arts Center, held in honor of the school's 60th anniversary.

The other members of his quartet are Eric Harland, multi-Grammy nominated drummer; Harish Raghavan, bassist; and Julian Lage, guitarist.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. and is preceded by a 6 p.m. reception. It is free and open to the public, but RSVPs are required, according to school spokeswoman Kelly Sargent. Occupancy is 425.

RSVP online at is.gd/eigsti375. ■



Photo by Gretchen Mueller

Taylor Eigsti during a live performance.



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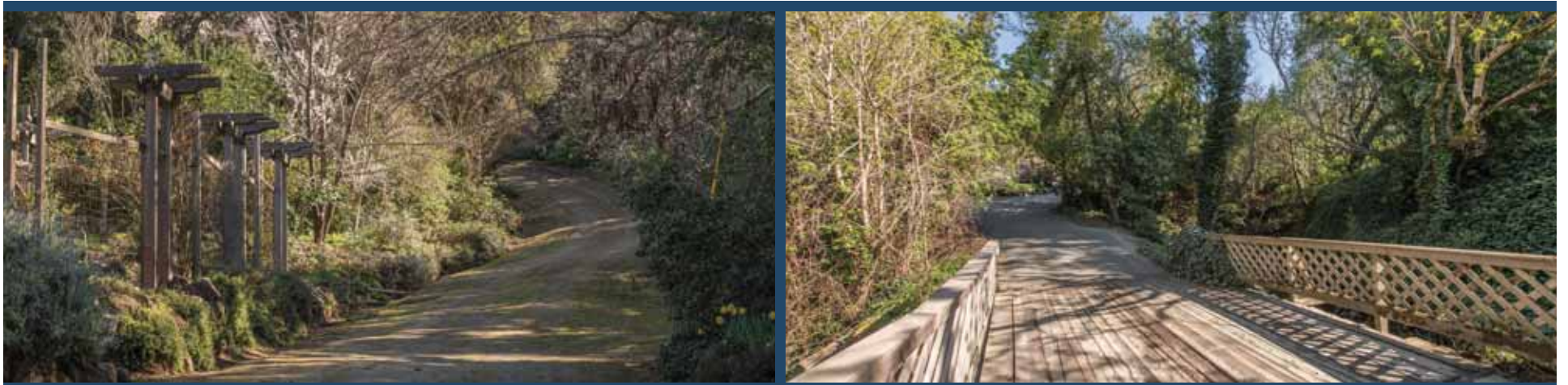


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Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

School funding idea a welcome example of creative problem-solving

With the ferocious pace of development on the Peninsula, few local residents are immune to the problems that come with growth that's not carefully managed by cities and counties. Locally, there's no escape from the existing growth-related problems if you drive a car, or are seeking a roof over your head in a housing market that is skewed by a supersized jobs-to-housing imbalance.

The political climate in Menlo Park appears to favor still more growth; a project proposal by Facebook that would add massively more office space and jobs in the eastern portion of town is in the pipeline, and there's little indication from city officials that the proposal won't become a reality.

And then there's Stanford, which is developing nearly 430,000 square feet of new office, retail and residential space on El Camino Real after winning City Council approval last fall.

Growth in Menlo Park appears to be unstoppable, and problems related to it are guaranteed to worsen in our community without a willingness on the part of city leaders to think creatively in designing strategies that will protect the quality of life many residents now enjoy.

An idea floated recently by City Councilman Ray Mueller to ease some of the pain expected to be caused by Stanford's El Camino Real housing development is an example of the kind of innovative thinking that city leaders must engage in as new development is proposed. Mr. Mueller's proposal addresses a thorny problem: Because the residential portion of Stanford's project will be used for "academic purposes" — i.e., housing faculty and staff — the university will pay no property taxes on that part of the development. That would mean the Menlo Park City School District, which would take in children from families housed in those 215 apartments, would receive no property tax revenue from that portion of the project — a situation the school district says will cost it about \$663,000 annually.

Stanford has already offered to contribute \$1.5 million to the nonprofit school foundation that supports the district to go toward an endowment. But the district says that figure is \$1 million shy of the mark.

The result of Councilman Mueller's innovative proposal would be that \$1 million of the city's unbudgeted returns from the state-governed Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) this fiscal year would set in motion a choreography of funding swaps that would ultimately mean an additional \$1 million turned over for the school foundation's endowment, proceeds of which would cover the costs of educating the new students living in Stanford housing. ERAF money is intended to be used by schools in districts that need financial help.

The funding shuffle would require not only approval by the City Council but cooperation by Stanford.

The idea has already generated great enthusiasm and the support of the school community. It deserves a full discussion by the council and community to smooth out possible rough edges. But the concept, which offers a glimmer of hope that negative consequences of development in the community can be addressed with some creative thinking, is one we hope wins the support of the City Council and Stanford. ■

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

An appreciation for The Almanac

By Richard Hine

While I retired in January as editor of The Almanac, I didn't want to head into the sunset without expressing my appreciation to everyone who has played a part in creating and sustaining this community resource for 53 years.

Quality local journalism should not be taken for granted, not in an age when news organizations are cutting back sharply on local reporting.

I'm grateful for The Almanac's founders, three Portola Valley women who in 1965 decided the community needed better local news coverage; for Mort and Elaine Levine, who bought The Almanac in 1980 and expanded it to Menlo Park and Atherton; and for Bill Johnson and Embarcadero

Media, which acquired The Almanac in 1993 and took on the challenges and opportunities of the internet age.

In particular I want to thank all the staff members in all the departments who have worked so hard over the years to keep The Almanac relevant and useful. Without their tireless efforts I would not have had the opportunity to do what I enjoy for 29 years.

The Almanac could not exist without the support of the community, from the advertisers to those who contribute information, comments and ideas, and those who back The Almanac through the "Support Local Journalism" campaign (AlmanacNews.com/subscribe). Thanks so much to all of you.

I want to express personal thanks to my wife, Jennifer Brown Hine, an Almanac "widow" who has been abandoned on many nights and

weekends while I worked on getting news online, editing stories and responding to emails.

Jennifer is retiring, too, this year. She is closing out a work life made up of many careers.

She was a wedding and fashion consultant and buyer for the famed City of Paris department store in San Francisco's Union Square. She worked in the jewelry business as a gemologist for a San Francisco diamond dealer. She got involved in print media as the West Coast representative for a New York telephone company's boating directory. That led to her years as an advertising sales associate and manager at The Almanac, where we met.

Then came her high-tech career, with companies such as Hewlett Packard and Advanced Micro Devices. During the dot-com boom of the late 1990s, she was executive assistant to the CEO of Shutterfly, a startup from that period that survived the dot-com bust.

For the past several years, she has been executive assistant to the CEO of a San Mateo-based commercial real estate company with a history that goes back to the California Gold Rush days. In March, that business will close and Jennifer will join me in retirement.

A final thanks to our readers, without whom, of course, there would be no Almanac. In stepping away from the editor's desk, I have joined you now as a reader of The Almanac. With our support, The Almanac can continue to provide independent and reliable news and information, which is as important to a community as it is to a country.



Richard Hine

'The Almanac could not exist without the support of the community, from the advertisers to those who contribute information, comments and ideas, and those who back The Almanac through the "Support Local Journalism" campaign.'

LETTERS

Our readers write

Walker feels imperiled on Menlo Park streets

Editor:

I wholeheartedly agree with the "Real safe routes require action" thoughts published in the Viewpoint section on Feb. 28. I am an avid walker. I consider myself spry, fit and aware of my surroundings. Even so, there have been at least 10 occasions I could have been hit by a car at the pedestrian crosswalk at Middle Avenue and

University Drive.

I walk a great deal to downtown doing most errands and grocery shopping on foot. I know that I cannot trust drivers at this intersection. Most drivers barely stop — especially behind the required white line of the crosswalk.

Currently, unless I make eye contact with the drivers making right turns from Middle to University, I will not proceed. This intersection really needs an extra warning or safety mechanism.

Drivers need to be reminded of California laws:

- Stop signs require full stops.
- Right turns at stop signs and

at red lights require full stops — first stopping behind the white line or crosswalk.

■ Drivers are required to make a full stop behind the white lines that are painted at street intersections, before entering the intersection or "creeping forward" to see if the road is clear to drive.

On a side note, I commend the progress for safety made by the hard-working Menlo Park Bicycle Coalition. The bike boulevards are a glowing example that action can impact progress and increase safety for all.

C.S. Thompson
Partridge Avenue, Menlo Park

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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145 Non-Profits Needs

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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

XFACTOR ADVISORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276501

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
xfactor Advisors, located at 740 Magnolia Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025 USA, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): JOHN ROBERT BOW 740 Magnolia Street Menlo Park, CA 94025 This business is conducted by: An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 31, 2018. (ALM Feb. 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14, 2018)

TURNER HORN REAL ESTATE
TAMES REAL ESTATE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276637

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Turner Horn Real Estate, 2.) Tames Real Estate, located at 170 Vista Verde Way, Portola Valley, CA 94028, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): JAMES HORN 170 Vista Verde Way Portola Valley, CA 94028 This business is conducted by: An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/1/2018.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on Feb. 12, 2018. (ALM Feb. 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14, 2018)

OLD LA HONDA GENERAL ENGINEERING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276567

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Old La Honda General Engineering, located at 12680 Williams Ranch Road, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County; Mailing address: PO Box 464, La Honda, CA 94020. Registered owner(s):

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SCOTT MCREYNOLDS
12680 Williams Ranch Road
Woodside, CA 94062
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 February 6, 2018.
(ALM Feb. 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. 269623
The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s).
KIRSTEN COOPER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):
KIRSTEN COOPER, LAC
214 De Anza Blvd.
San Mateo, CA 94402
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON: June 13, 2016
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
Kirsten Cooper
1119 Colorado Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94303
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY:
Individual.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on February 6, 2018
(ALM Feb. 28; Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

CALIFORNIA DRIVER ACADEMY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276595
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
California Driver Academy, located at 3723 Haven Ave. #111, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JZI CORP.
3723 Haven Ave. #111
Menlo Park, CA 94025
California
This business is conducted by: A

Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6-23-2014.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 7, 2018.
(ALM Feb. 28; Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

DALY CITY MARKET
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276490
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Daly City Market, located at 6775 Mission St., Daly City, CA 94015, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
DCM87 INC.
333 87th. St.
Daly City, CA 94015
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/29/06.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 30, 2018.
(ALM Feb. 28; Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

DALY CITY MARKET
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276491
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Daly City Market, located at 333 87th. St., Daly City, CA 94015, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
DCM87 INC.
333 87th. St.
Daly City, CA 94015
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/29/06.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 30, 2018.
(ALM Feb. 28; Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2018)

DELIGHTS BY LISA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276455

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Delights By Lisa, located at 25 West 25th Avenue #8, San Mateo, CA 94403, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ELIZABETH CHAN
233 Mansfield Dr.
So. SF CA 94080
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on December 18, 2007.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 26, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018)

#1 HONEST PLUMBER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276845
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
#1 Honest Plumber, located at 1111 W. El Camino Real Ste. 109-194, Sunnyvale, CA 94087, Santa Clara County.
Registered owner(s):
EDWARD HINOJOSA
301 Acalanes Dr. #29
Sunnyvale CA 94086
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 February 28, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018)

FOUR SEASON DAY SPA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276865
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Four Season Day Spa, located at 160 W. 25th. Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94403, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
GOLDEN OX 2018 LLC
160 W. 25th. Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94403

State of California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 1, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 14, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 2018)

BARRELHOUSE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276921
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Barrelhouse, located at 305 California Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JNJLL LLC
305 California Dr.
Burlingame, CA 94010
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/2005.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 6, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 14, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 2018)

VINYL ROOM
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276922
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Vinyl Room, located at 221 Park Road, Burlingame, CA 94010, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
AGSJ, INC.
221 Park Road
Burlingame, CA 94010
California
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/7/2006.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 6, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 14, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 2018)

STERLING & WOLFE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276867
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Sterling & Wolfe, located at 253 Nevada St., Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County; Mailing address: P.O. Box 1171, Redwood City, CA 94064.
Registered owner(s):
MARY ELLEN SZMAGAJ
253 Nevada St.
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 N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 1, 2018.
(ALM Mar. 14, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 2018)

DMV KWIK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 276933
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
DMV Kwik, located at 90 17th. Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
CAYABYAB AGENCY, INC.
90 17th. Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94402
California
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/7/18.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 7, 2018.
(ALM Mar.14, 21, 28, Apr. 4, 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.: 18CIV00680
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: BRENDA GARCIA filed a petition with this court for a decree

changing names as follows:
BRENDA GARCIA to BRENDA FARIAS.
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: April 3, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ, Room: 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: February 14, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018)

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CalRE #00870112



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Woodside | 4/3.5 | \$2,850,000
580 Old La Honda Rd
It's worth the drive. Custom-built home on 9.5 acres w/splendid views. 580OldLaHonda.com
Ginny Kavanaugh / Steve Gray 650.851.1961
CalRE #00884747, 01498634



Burlingame | 4/3 | \$2,495,000
1125 Oxford Road
Cape Cod Charmer on a Premier Street, this home is loaded with Style.
Regan Byers & Lyn Jason Cobb 650.324.4456
CalRE #1034761 | 01332535



Woodside | 6/4.5 | \$2,250,000
10691 La Honda Rd
Magnificent country property bathed in sunlight against a backdrop of towering redwoods
Jean Isaacson 650.851.2666
CalRE #00542342



Mountain View | 3/1 | \$1,999,999
Sat/Sun 11 - 4 1172 Farley Street
Land, Mature Trees & Remodeled Home. Prime corner lot walking distance to Google & shopping
Cheryl Rivera Smith 650.325.6161
CalRE #01890738



Menlo Park | 3/2.5 | \$1,800,000
2417 Sharon Oaks Dr.
Distinctive townhome in the sought-after Sharon Oaks neighborhood. 2417SharonOaks.com
Ginny Kavanaugh 650.851.1961
CalRE #00884747



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



Redwood City | 3/2 | \$1,498,000
1124 Connecticut Drive
Updated Home w/Huge Backyard, Amazing Storage Room, Work Shop, a "Man Cave" & 2-Car Garage
Doug Gonzalez 650.324.4456
CalRE #00895924



Central Woodside | 4/4.5 | Price Upon Request
Central Woodside
Sophisticated modern farmhouse combines casual comfort & the elegance of a Woodside Estate
Erika Demma 650.851.2666
CalRE #01230766



Menlo Park | 3/2 | call for price
561 Sixth St
Construction is complete on this 3 bedroom 2 bath stunner. Complete with a 2 car garage
Bob Johnston & Francesca Lampert 650.324.4456
CalRE #01228365 | 02039065

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