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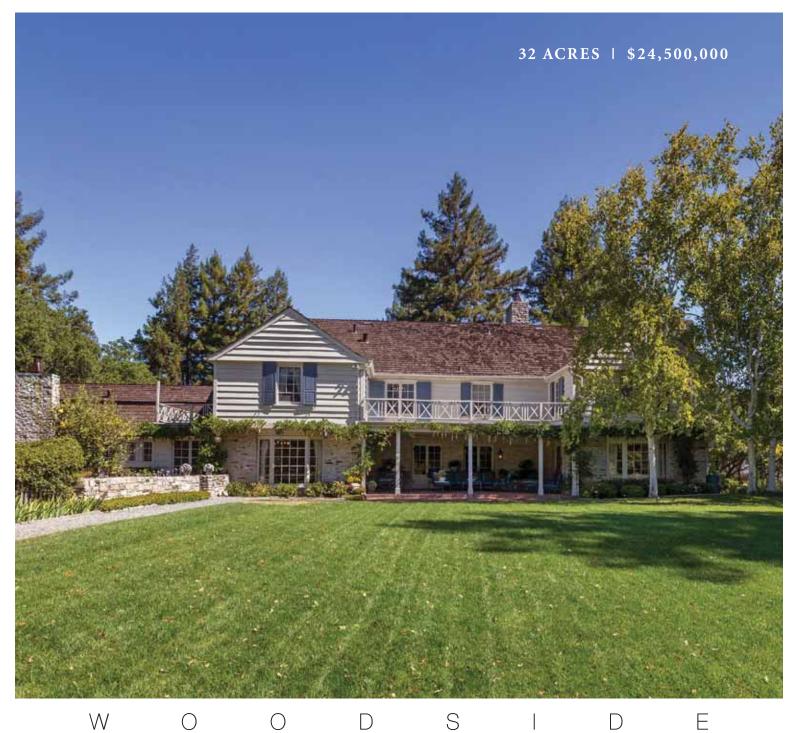
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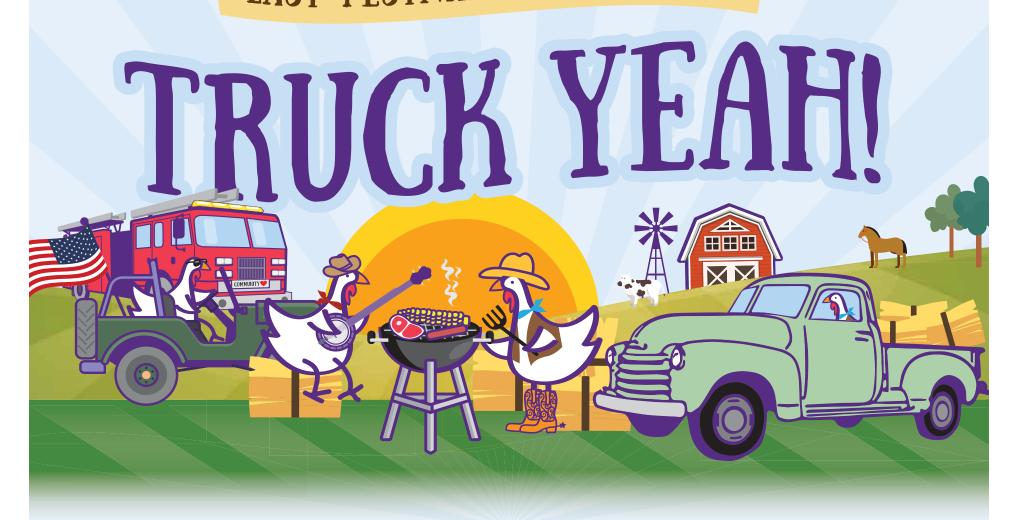


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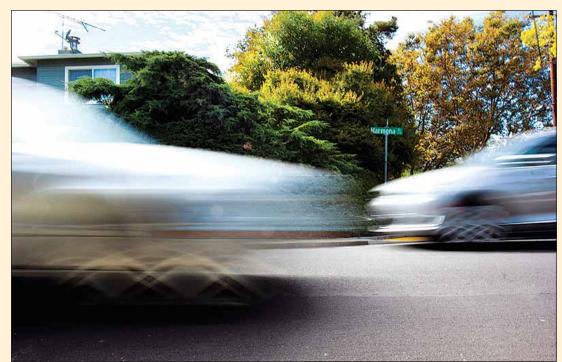


Photo by Magali Gauthier

A plan to calm traffic

The Willows neighborhood is likely to get some relief from speeding and excessive traffic after the Menlo Park City Council last week approved a six-month traffic-calming trial on a number of area streets. See story, Page 8.

School enrollment continues to dip in area elementary and middle schools

Some districts down by 5 percent, while others remain stable

By Angela Swartz

Special to The Almanac

Inrollment slightly declined this school year for local elementary school districts, continuing a recent area trend. The drop, local experts say, is due to the migration of young families from the area to find more affordable housing.

Las Lomitas Elementary School District, which serves portions of Menlo Park and Atherton, is one of the area districts with the most significant enrollment dip. Its enrollment dropped 5.4 percent from last school year, according to Sept. 12 enrollment numbers.

"The drop in enrollment was something that the district had expected and we have planned for it in terms of staffing and facilities," district Superintendent Lisa Cesario wrote in an email. There are 1,259 students enrolled this year compared with 1,331 at the end of the 2017-18 school year.

The enrollment numbers are "not going to go back up to where they were in their height," Cesario predicted, adding that the kindergarten classes are coming in with fewer students.

"There are not as many people with kids moving into the area," Cesario said. She noted that there's not as much new housing in the district as there is in nearby areas like Redwood City. "The cost of living in the area is pretty high and there's only so many places to live."

The Almanac gathered enrollment numbers for the 2018-19 school year that show:

■ Menlo Park City School District (Menlo Park and Atherton): down 2.2 percent from the

2016 high of 2,999 students. There are 2,932 students currently enrolled in the district. That's a 1.4 percent drop from last school year. This nearly lines up with a demographer's prediction that the district would be at 2,936 students this fall.

■ Portola Valley School District: down nearly 5 percent from last school year. There are 574 students enrolled in the district (as of Sept. 6); there were 604 students during the 2017 school year.

Woodside Elementary School District: down less than 1 percent from the 2012 high of 453 students. Enrollment is stable this year. There are 410 students enrolled (as of Sept. 12) — the same number as in 2017. Previously, the booming

See **ENROLLMENT**, page 6

School Districts	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Las Lomitas Elementary	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,382	1,380	1,331	1,259
Menlo Park City	2,799	2,903	2,904	2,943	2,999	2,973	2,932
Portola Valley	N/A	N/A	N/A	627	627	608	574
Woodside Elementary	453	450	438	409	398	410	410

Menlo Park council OKs new travel policy using good-governance model

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

In the future, Menlo Park City Council members will have clearer rules about when council and staff travel will be reimbursed by the city, and under what circumstances council members may accept funding from third parties for travel.

The Menlo Park City Council voted 3-0, with members Rich Cline and Ray Mueller absent, on Sept. 11 to approve changes to a 1991 travel policy and more clearly lay out rules for travel reimbursed by the city or third parties

Cline and Mueller had requested months ago that the discussion be held, but it was postponed multiple times to ensure robust council attendance. Cline told The Almanac he missed the Sept. 11 meeting because of a family medical emergency; Mueller said he missed it because he was ill.

City-reimbursed travel

Using a model policy developed by the Institute for Local Government, an organization that promotes good local governance in California, the council adopted a new travel policy that will relate to council or staff travel reimbursements.

Under the new policy, expenses may be reimbursed in situations that involve:

- Discussions with regional, state or federal government representatives about city-adopted policies.
- Attendance at educational seminars.
- Participation in activities with regional, state or national organizations that have to do with city interests.
- Recognition for someone's service to the city.
- City events.
- Strategies to attract or retain businesses in the city.

Any other expense would require prior council approval. That includes international travel or travel for which requested expense reimbursement exceeds \$2,000 per trip.

Reimbursement would not be provided for personal time on any trip; political or charitable events and contributions; family, guest or pet expenses; entertainment expenses; non-mileage personal car expenses; or personal losses incurred while on city business.

Also, if a trip is paid for by the city, the attendee will be expected to report about it at the next City Council meeting.

The policy should also have a clear list of examples of the type of trips the city will fund, Mayor Peter Ohtaki added.

"I am happy to support this policy," said Councilwoman Catherine Carlton. "It's fair and balanced."

Sister cities?

Whether travel related to visits to the city's sister and friendship cities should be reimbursed, and whether the expense should be cleared in advance through the council, were other questions.

Ohtaki recommended that if travel is reimbursed, it needs to be approved in advance by the council. If council members foot the bill themselves, he said, they don't need to clear it in advance, but "As policy, the City Council should be informed in advance of an upcoming sister cities trip."

In June, the council approved a one-time expenditure, not to exceed \$3,000, for an employee to chaperone a delegation of Menlo Park kids on a sister city trip to Bizen, Japan, along with Ohtaki. Clay Curtin, the staff member who chaperoned the trip, said Ohtaki paid his own airfare and train fare. Curtin said his travel costs came to \$2,254 for airfare, car and rail transport.

Other travel policies

In recent years, various council members have traveled abroad as part of local delegations, accepting substantial contributions for travel and lodging from third parties.

According to documents disclosing council members' economic interests, which they are required to file annually, the number and value of contributions for trips that council

See **TRAVEL**, page 22

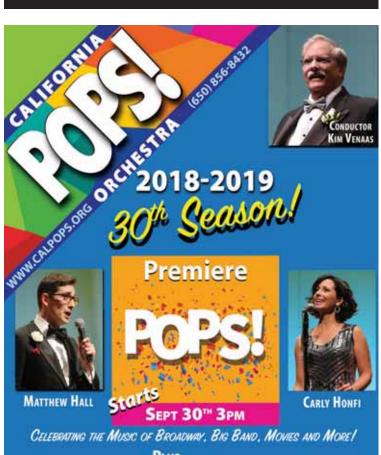


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Renee Batti (223-6528)

Assistant Editor

Julia Brown (223-6531)

Staff Writers

Dave Boyce (223-6527), Kate Bradshaw (223-6588) Barbara Wood (223-6533)

Contributors Kate Daly, Jane Knoerle,

Special Sections Editor Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

Photographer

Michelle Le (223-6530)

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager Kristin Brown (223-6562)

Designers Linda Atilano. Kaitlyn Khoe Rosanna Kuruppu, Paul Llewellyn, Talia Nakhjiri, Doug Young

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Local volunteer teams converge in Atherton for disaster drill

About 100 volunteers who have trained as Community Emergency Response Team members gathered in Atherton on Saturday, Sept. 8, for a disaster drill directed by the Atherton Police Department and the Menlo Park Fire Protection District.

Residents of Atherton, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park took part, with additional participants coming from as far north as South San Francisco and as far south as San Jose. The drill scenario was a massive earthquake that closed local airports and hospitals and cut off road access to Atherton.

Participants practiced emergency missions including disaster assessment, communications, reconnaissance, triage, medical transport and treatment, and light search and rescue.

According to Atherton Police Chief Steve McCulley, the drill was ian outstanding example of the collaboration and effective emergency response capabilities of the Atherton Disaster and

Preparedness Team (ADAPT), the Menlo Park fire district, and the Atherton Department of Police.î

The fire district also brought drones to use in the drill.

Local CERT teams and the fire district drill several times each

Michael Ralston, the district's community crisis management program director, said the fact that so many people are involved and enthusiastically taking their own readiness seriously "can actually save lives."

"Every time a potential disaster impact is lessened, that frees up the finite emergency response resources to possibly help others who may be in greater distress," Ralston said.

Chief McCulley said emergency response volunteers "are a critical part of the police departmentis emergency response and disaster recovery operations."

— Atherton Disaster and Preparedness Team (ADAPT)

ENROLLMENT

continued from page 5

regional economy meant more families moved into the area, increasing births and enrollment in local schools, according to a December 2017 report from Enrollment Projection Consultants, a San Mateo-based demographer.

Now, people are moving away once they have children because they can't afford housing prices, report author Tom Williams wrote.

The median home value in Menlo Park is \$2.4 million, according to online real estate platform Zillow. Menlo Park home values have gone up 19.4 percent over the past year, the group says. Zillow predicts values will rise 7.2 percent within the next year.

Between July 2015 and July 2017, Silicon Valley gained 44,732 newcomers, but also lost 44,102 residents, according to a February 2018 survey by Joint Venture Silicon Valley.

"Without question, Silicon Valley is still a hotbed," said Joint Venture CEO Russell Hancock, in a press release. "But our spectacular success has created a harsh environment for families. Housing is out of reach for all but a very few. Those who can't afford it are living challenging lives, or commuting from far-flung places, spending ghastly amounts of time in traffic.

The four school districts cited above are "community funded" (formerly called "basic aid"). This means they receive most of their revenue from local sources, including property taxes, parcel

taxes and donations. Little of their funding depends on enrollment, so dropping enrollment actually means there are more funds available per student.

"We do have to cut programs when we're absorbing growth," said Parke Treadway, public information officer for the Menlo Park City School District. "We can reimplement them when we have less kids."

There isn't a huge downside to the dip for the district, she said. If it were more significant, it would make it harder for the district to scale and offer more classes such as world languages.

"It's something we're paying really close attention to," said Terry Thygesen, Menlo Park City School District board president. There is obviously "some financial relief if enrollment does decline to some extent," she added.

It's also important to note that enrollment for kindergarten and sixth grade — bellwether years - remained steady this year, Thygesen said.

Enrollment in the Menlo Park district isn't expected to return to current numbers until new housing is built around 2023, according to Williams' report. There are 580 projected new residences in the next six years, which should bring in about 98 district-enrolled students in 2023, according to the report.

Las Lomitas Superintendent Cesario said her district will maintain programs like electives, "even as our enrollment goes down; we can afford to keep those.

School districts' final enrollment numbers are submitted to the state in early October.

Stephen Morse, a Renaissance man, dies in accident in Woodside hills

By Dave Boyce

orth Fair Oaks resident Stephen Morse had many jobs over his 66 years. He worked at an amusement park. He crafted one-ofa-kind devices for a commercial design house. His alma mater, San Jose State University, displayed his artwork in the university museum. He designed roller coasters and medical devices. including one about the size of a grain of rice.

Morse died Sunday, Sept. 9, in an accident in Woodside. For reasons not yet known, the Vespa motor scooter he was riding veered into oncoming traffic on La Honda Road near Grandview Drive and collided head-on with a truck, his wife Margery Morse told The Almanac. A celebration of his life is being planned, she

Morse was a native of Palo Alto and attended Addison Elementary School and Palo Alto High School, his wife said. He lived with his family in the Professorville neighborhood and sailed with the Palo Alto Yacht Club.

At San Jose State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in sculpture, he found work as a security guard at the university's art museum, then as a staff artist at the Frontier Village amusement park in San Jose. He made modifications to rides and sets, including animated figures for the ride known as the Lost Dutchman's Mine.

In his career, Morse specialized in making prototypes, his lifelong friend Kim Venaas said. He acquired 19 patents while working for his last employer, St. Jude Medical, Venaas said.

As a sculptor, Morse created finely wrought mechanical fantasy objects, many built around the theme of time and clock faces.

The opportunity for Morse to design roller coasters came along when he accepted a job with Arrow Development. His wife recalled her husband's account of the invitation to the job: a phone call from someone at Arrow who said that the company needed "somebody who could do what you do," she said.

The couple met at Southwall Technologies in Palo Alto, where Margery was a draftswoman. (She is now a mechanical designer at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory in Menlo Park.) "As soon as I met him, he had this big smile on his face," she said. They married three months later. She recalled being attracted to his "sailor



Photo by Sam Huie

Stephen Morse was a man of many accomplishments and interests. Educated as a sculptor, he worked in technology and design, acquiring at least 19 patents along the way.

hands" and his mustache.

Their shared aptitude for things mechanical sometimes came in handy, as it did on their second date when they went sailing. Sailboats entering or leaving the Redwood City harbor must use their engines to move about. The engine on Morse's boat wouldn't start, so his date suggested spraying the lubricant WD40 in the carburetor. That did the trick, she said.

Her husband loved tools, she said, and knives - collecting them, making them and sharp-ening them. With both their careers focused on mechanics, they would often talk about work, she recalled. "We always shared what we were working on, the frustrations and so forth," she said. "We were married 28 years. That's pretty good."

He owned six motorcycles and motor scooters, his wife said. In retirement, he acquired two tattoos, she said: a tiger that stretched from his shoulder to his forearm, and a griffin on his other arm to honor a family name.

Morse became a prolific painter, so much so that his wife said she asked him to stop because they had no more room in the house for his works.

Morse, also a musician, had a bit part in the 2003 movie "Swing" in which he played a saxophone in a nightclub band. One highlight of that experience: He was standing around on the set and the actor Jacqueline Bisset walked over and stood next to him. This happened, his wife theorized, because her husband "was probably the most handsome man in the group.'

Morse knew how to have a good time. Venaas recalled the two of them once being treated poorly at a Peninsula country club restaurant and walking out with the white tablecloth. They ended up at a Jack in the Box, where they made appropriate use of the cloth. It became a thing: On outings they would don tuxedos, take the tablecloth and crystal goblets and candelabra, and celebrate, Venaas said.

In addition to his wife Margery, Morse is survived by brothers Kenny of Portland, Oregon, and Doug of Chico, California.

Margery Morse suggested that donations in Morse's memory be made to the California Pops Orchestra, Save The Bay, and Planned Parenthood.



An example of Morse's sculptures.

REAL ESTATE Q&A by Monica Corman

Is Real Estate Becoming a Buyer's Market?



Dear Monica: I am looking to buy a home and have noticed a shift. There are more properties on the market than before and I am seeing some price reductions, which didn't happen earlier in the year. What is happening in the real estate market now? Beverly C.

Dear Beverly: There is a change in the market now from what we saw in the spring. The peak months for real estate sales and prices this year were March/April. Things slowed in the summer, which is not unusual, but now that it's mid-September, we are seeing fewer multiple offers and lower bids. The rising prices we saw in the spring cannot be sustained and so prices are leveling off and in some cases, diminishing, from what they were a few months ago.

Mortgage interest rates have risen to the 4.5% range, which affects what buyers can pay. Other factors too, such as recent tax law changes, tariffs on imports, and others, have made buyers more concerned about how these changes will affect them. If you are a buyer, this is a better market for you. But sellers, who expect the price surges they saw last spring, are disappointed that their properties are not getting bid up as they'd hoped. It may take time for them to realize that the market has changed.

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M-A student's video is semifinalist in Breakthrough contest

Bv Barbara Wood

Almanac Staff Write

video by Menlo-Atherton High School student Maya Khodabak-chian explaining how neuroplasticity allows the brain to change as new skills are learned is one of 29 semifinalists in the annual Breakthrough Junior Challenge for student videos that explain difficult scientific concepts.

The contest, founded by Sergey Brin and Anne Wojcicki, Yuri and Julia Milner, and Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan, challenges students ages 13 to 18 to make videos of three minutes or less explaining an important scientific theory, concept or principle in physics, mathematics or life sciences. Khodabakchian's video was one of 12,000 international

Until Sept. 20, the 15-year-old Atherton resident's video about neuroplasticity is posted on Facebook along with the other semifinalists' entries, vying to become the "People's Choice" contest winner.

At is.gd/MayaK a vote can be cast by liking, sharing or commenting on the video

Khodabakchian, a sophomore, says she was inspired to make her video by the recent interest in and discussions about

mental health in youth. She explains that she is the type of person who wants to look at the science behind a subject, and her research led her to the concept of neuroplasticity, the idea that brain pathways can be rewired with repeated actions.

Khodabakchian says neuroplasticity is also behind the idea of "growth mindset," a concept developed by Carol Dweck in her book, "Mindset: The New Psychology of Success," which says that instead of being born with innate basic qualities, people can change their characteristics through their own efforts.

Although Khodabakchian is still years away from making a choice about college, she says she is attracted to bioengineering as the "crossroads of biology and technology."

"I strongly believe the next step for medicine is technology," Khodabakchian says.

She was also a leader on her school robotics team and an active participant in debate.

A year-long broadcasting class in Hillview Middle School's broadcast lab that taught her "the skill of being able to tell stories via video" got Khodabakchian interested in making and editing videos. She says she's made several short



Courtesy Maya Khodabakchian

Maya Khodabakchian's video explaining, using animation, how the brain can develop new neural pathways with new experiences is a semi-finalist in the Breakthrough Junior Challenge for student videos that explain difficult scientific concepts

documentaries about people who are talented in art or technology, and about a local coffee shop.

"It's really great to be able to tell stories and teach through videos," Khodabakchian says.

The grand prize winner in the Breakthrough Junior Challenge, chosen by a

panel of distinguished scientists, will receive a \$250,000 college scholarship, \$50,000 for his or her teacher, and a \$100,000 science lab for his or her school.

The winner and a parent or guardian will also have travel expenses covered to attend the Nov. 4 Breakthrough Awards ceremony in Palo Alto.

Willows speed hump trial wins council approval

By Kate Bradshaw Almanac Staff Writer

ine speed humps. One yield sign. One road closed to vehicles, plus a few advisory speed limit signs. Yet it took, by one resident's calculations, 528 days to get the Menlo Park City Council to approve a six-month trial for such traffic-calming measures to be enacted in the Willows neighborhood.

Still, when the council voted 3-0 in favor of the plan on Sept. 11 (with council members Rich Cline and Ray Mueller absent), it appeared to give the parties present what they wanted. Marmona Drive and McKendry Drive will get four speed humps each; Blackburn Avenue will get one; and Baywood Avenue will get none. Clover Lane will be closed to vehicle traffic, though pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to access it.

Accompanying signage, including a yield sign on Baywood Avenue at its intersection with Blackburn Avenue, and some "Speed Hump Ahead" warnings will also be added. The humps will have breaks in them so that they can be crossed easily by emergency vehicles.

Susu Ribaudo, a Marmona Drive resident, said she began a city process to marshal neighborhood support for traffic changes in April 2017 with a goal, she explained in an email to the City Council, "to restore the safety and quiet of the neighborhood." She said she doesn't let her kids play in her family's front yard because of the speeds some cars reach while cutting through the neighborhood.

"It's an accident waiting to happen," she told the council.

Kristin Ocon, also a resident of Marmona Drive, recalled a similar proposal to add speed bumps from about 25 years ago, which failed at the time — to her disappointment, she told the council.

"I'm thrilled to see this come back again," she said. "Give it a chance after all this time."

While the residents of Marmona Drive preferred that speed humps be installed, it was equally clear that the residents of Baywood Avenue felt very differently toward the prospect of the humps.

When staff circulated a survey to gauge support for the plan in February, it was supported by 102 of 174 households, with 25 against it and 47 non-responses. The support meant the proposed trial crossed a 51 percent threshold and could move forward.

The next month, residents of Baywood Avenue submitted a petition requesting that no speed humps be added there, according to staff.



Map courtesy city of Menlo Park.

A map showing the proposed traffic-calming measures in the Willows neighborhood; the plan was approved Sept. II by the Menlo Park City Council.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," summarized Leslie Gordon, a resident of Baywood Avenue. "Please don't throw money at a problem that doesn't exist."

One thing residents did appear to agree on was the effectiveness of the right-turn restrictions the city recently implemented in the neighborhood as a result of crippling traffic that had been occurring because of changes at the Willow/U.S. 101 interchange. That step has lowered traffic speeds and volumes in the neighborhood, according to traffic data reported by staff.

An arduous process

Ribaudo told the council that

the process she and other supporters followed to develop a "Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan" was slow and arduous.

According to staff, the procedure was established in 2004 and lays out a very thorough process to ensure there is neighborhood consensus before such a matter comes before the City Council. Since then, this is only the fourth such plan to come forward.

The process involves: submitting a request and petition for a neighborhood traffic plan; collecting data; hosting neighborhood meetings and preparing a plan; surveying the community

about the plan; submitting it for review by the Complete Streets Commission and the City Council; installing the proposed changes on a trial basis; conducting a follow-up survey; and having the commission and council review the trial outcomes. Only after those hurdles are cleared can the changes be made permanent.

In addition, traffic-calming measures have been a notoriously fraught topic in the Willows. In 2011, a \$120,000 plan for the neighborhood was shelved, due largely to lack of consensus.

Mayor Peter Ohtaki told the petitioners that one of the outcomes of a citywide Transportation Master Plan, when complete, may ease the process by which neighborhoods pursue traffic changes. That plan is currently a 173-project working paper that is in the process of being reviewed by an oversight committee dedicated to the plan. On Sept. 12, the city's Complete Streets Commission was scheduled to review aspects of the working paper that pertain to city pedestrian and cycling networks.

According to Public Works Director Justin Murphy, the speed humps won't be installed for at least a couple of months. The project has to be sent out to bid, and then the construction — mainly pouring pavement — will depend on weather conditions, and could be delayed if the winter is cold or rainy, he said.

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Town council decides against parking on Marva Oaks Drive

Residents of Marva Oaks Drive in Woodside and local equestrians could not reach a compromise over how to address parking and horse traffic along the road — the residents didn't want any parking, while equestrians requested a formal roadside trail and space to briefly park a horse trailer — so the Woodside Town Council stepped in.

In what eventually became a unanimous vote on Tuesday, Sept. 11, the council established a no-parking zone that includes both sides of the entire road.

The idea for a horse trailer parking area died, but not quietly. The council considered a proposal to simply not post no-parking signs around an 80-foot area at the northwest corner at Raymundo Drive and Marva Oaks, where equestrians occasionally park their trailers. One problem: Hikers wanting to walk to Huddart Park to escape the parking fee, seeing no other place to park on Marva Oaks, would take up that space.

The council considered posting a sign to limit parking to 30 minutes. That passed

■ WOODSIDE

unanimously, but the council reversed itself unanimously a few minutes later upon realizing the parking limit could complicate the passage of a fire truck or delivery truck. Enforcement would have been another problem.

The council agreed not to consider a roadside trail until Marva Oaks residents and the equestrians find common ground on whether the trail would be on the west or east side of the road.

The council also voted unanimously to take the first of two steps to approve an ordinance amending the zoning code to allow residents to convert existing bedrooms to "junior affordable dwelling units."

Go to is.gd/JADU23 for more details on the ordinance.

Mayor Chris Shaw opened the meeting with a proclamation honoring the late George Offen, a dedicated and longtime community activist who died Aug. 5 at the age of 79. Shaw then closed the meeting in Offen's memory.

Residents want straight, not narrow

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

he roadside path along Laning Drive in Woodside, as it approaches the intersection with Canada Road, is now safe for equestrians and pedestrians — it no longer dead-ends in the vehicle traffic lane — but at what cost? And should the remedy that made it safe itself be remedied?

A bulb-out now intrudes 4 feet into the traffic lane to allow safe curving passage around a short section of plastered brick wall that blocks a straight path to Canada Road a few feet away.

Town Hall is planning to mail a survey to households along Laning, Jane and Ravine drives to gauge satisfaction with the change, Town Engineer Sean Rose told The Almanac.

The sticking point is that road is now narrower, and residents say they want the width restored, Rose said. "I don't disagree with that," he said. "In order to make that happen, we need to take that wall out."

Even with the bulb-out, Rose said, the turning radius is such that passenger vehicles should not have a problem making the turn from Canada onto Laning, and the turn "is achievable" for large trucks.

"The way things were is not acceptable," he said. "For whatever reason, it was allowed to exist, but that doesn't change the fact that (the path) dead-ends in the travel lane. ... "We're hoping that there's a solution that (would allow us to) remove the wall."

Council to focus on Glens

In the Glens neighborhood in Woodside, many residents live on small and/or steep parcels that make it difficult to adhere to Town Hall development standards that are based on larger properties in town.

The concerns of residents living on these "nonconforming" lots when rebuilding, remodeling or considering additions to their properties will be the focus of a special Town Council meeting set for 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Independence Hall at

2955 Woodside Road.

The meeting will begin with a history of the neighborhood, followed by a discussion of the neighborhood's specific plan and the constraints on development posed by the conditions of the properties and by current regulations.

The council will consider comments from the public and the challenges involved in applying current standards to these lots before a discussion about what to do next.









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Jane Goodall visits Ladera's Woodland School

Jane Goodall, the world-famous primatologist and anthropologist, visited Woodland School in Ladera on Sept. 12, spending time with Woodland first-graders who have been involved in her Roots & Shoots youth service program.

Goodall, who first visited Africa in 1960 at the age of 26 and became the world's foremost expert on wild chimpanzees through her observations and research, also spoke to Woodland's student body, faculty, staff and parents.

The first-graders showed Goodall their plans to build a garden, and how they mapped Woodland's campus and learned about their environment. They asked Goodall questions ranging from how she started working with chimpanzees to what stuffed animal she brought with her.

"I felt so special that she came to learn about our project, and even gave us some advice (to have fun)," one first-grade student said. With the larger group, Goodall shared stories of her child-hood and life work and encouraged Woodland students to take action. She explained her reasons for hope for the future, and told students how they can make a difference, specifically through her Roots & Shoots program.

Marja Brandon, Woodland's head of school, said that with her visit Goodall empowered the school "to carry her work forward. ... We have to believe it is not too late."

"Woodland students are her stewards of the future. They have to be if her work is to live on, and we are all to succeed in these efforts," Brandon said.

Roots & Shoots was founded in 1991 by Goodall with the mission of fostering respect and compassion for all living things, promoting understanding of all cultures and beliefs, and inspiring individual action to make the world a better place for people, animals and the environment.



Photo courtesy Woodland Schoo

Jane Goodall speaks to first-grade students at Ladera's Woodland School during a Sept. 12 visit.

■ POLICE CALLS

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

MENLO PARK

Commercial theft:

- Someone stole two bags of money from an unlocked safe in the manager's office at Le Boulanger on the 700 block of Santa Cruz Avenue. Estimated loss: \$1,000. Aug. 30.
- Someone broke into the locked parking garage at Stanford Health Care on the 100 block of El Camino Real and stole a bike, a

video projector and a backpack. Estimated losses: \$625. Sept. 7.

■ Someone entered the back of a business in the 1100 block of O'Brien Drive and stole four gas pressure power washers and an edge trimmer. Estimated loss: \$4,560. Sept. 13.

Embezzlement:

■ A former employee at The Millennium Group who controlled the company's PayPal account is suspected of transferring an estimated \$127,000 from the company account into his own personal bank account. 1100 block of Hamilton Court. The case is under investigation. Sept. 6.

ated Auto burglaries:

■ Someone smashed the window of a car and stole a tote bag, bracelet, purse and wallet near the 2900 block of Sand Hill Road. Estimated loss: \$8,450. Sept. 6.

Residential burglary:

■ Someone broke into a house in the 2300 block of Crest Lane by smashing a window in the rear door. The home appeared rummaged through, but it's unclear if anything was taken. Sept. 10.

Thefts:

- Someone called FedEx to switch the delivery location of a package containing gold collectible coins to the main FedEx office in Menlo Park. The person who collected the package was not the intended recipient at the 1100 block of University Drive. The theft is being investigated by FedEx and Menlo Park detectives. Estimated loss: \$88,700. Sept. 10.
- Someone stole a woman's wallet from a handbag left in a Trader Joe's shopping cart at the 700 block of Menlo Avenue. Estimated loss: \$1,500. Aug. 30.
- ■Someone stole a locked bike from a bike rack at an apartment in the 700 block of Hamilton Avenue. Estimated loss: \$1,000. Sept. 6.
- ■Someone stole a locked bike from a bike rack at an apartment in the 800 block of Roble Avenue. Estimated loss: \$400. Sept. 6.
- ■Someone stole a locked bike that was in front of a building in the 600 block of Laurel Street. Estimated loss: \$2,500. Sept. 7.
- Someone stole a bike in the 400 block of Encinal Avenue. Estimated loss: \$1,800. Sept. 10.

Assault and battery:

■ Menlo Park police arrested a man suspected of punching and bruising the arm of a roommate's friend because he did not want her there. The man fled the scene on a bicycle and was arrested by Menlo Park police. He was booked into the San Mateo County jail and subsequently released on bail, police said. Later that day, he returned to the home in the 400 block of Waverly Street and allegedly kicked down his roommate's door. Officers found the suspect was on probation and he was booked again into the county jail. Estimated damage: \$400. Sept. 9.

St. Raymond has new principal

Valerie Mattei is the new principal at St. Raymond School in Menlo Park, but hers is not a

new face at the school.

A longtime first-grade teacher, Mattei has also served as master teacher to a number of her colleagues, as a member of the leadership team for the school's 2012 accreditation, and as faculty moderator of the

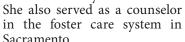
Student Council and Campus Life.

Daniel Syverstad, St. Raymond Church pastor, said Mattei "has impressive credentials both as a teacher and as a leader in our school community. She is extremely zealous

about building stronger bridges between the school and the larger parish community. We

are very excited about her new role as principal of St. Raymond School."

Mattei began teaching first grade at St. Raymond in 2007 after spending a year as a first-grade aide at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Belmont.



Mattei received a master's degree in education and school administration from Notre Dame de Namur University last



Valerie Mattei

Filoli in the fall

The 654-acre Filoli estate has kicked off its annual fall festivities with special events that run through Nov. 4.

This year's theme, "Golden Harvest," honors the estate's agricultural, homesteading and preservation practices. There are tours of the Gentleman's Orchard, tales from the families and staff who built Filoli, and antique farm equipment throughout the property. Amixed-media art exhibit is on display at the Visitor and Education Center.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, the estate will hold its daylong Autumn Festival, celebrating

family and cultural traditions related to the fall harvest.

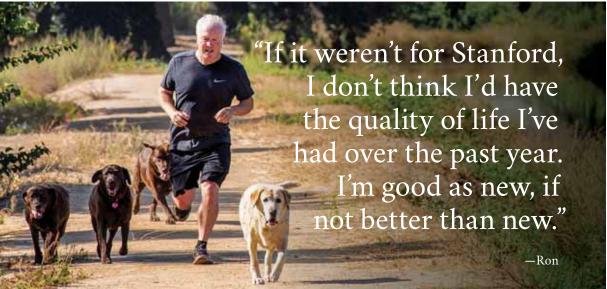
There will be heirloom fruit tasting from Filoli's orchards, autumn-themed floral demonstrations, orchard walks, live entertainment, pumpkin decorating, puppet shows, a cider tasting, a beekeeping demonstration and visits from zoo animals.

The Autumn Afterglow, with food, music, and beer tasting from Fort Point Brewery at the Woodland Beer Garden, is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m.

Filoli is at 86 Canada Road, Woodside. For tickets or more information, go to filoli.org.







Focal Therapy For Prostate Cancer Gives Patient Full Recovery, With Fewer Side Effects

Ron received a cancer diagnosis the day before his 58th birthday. It all started with a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test, a common blood test given to men to identify issues with their prostate. "It wasn't super high, but it was high enough that a biopsy was recommended," said Ron, a commercial real estate business owner in Lodi. "Everything progressed pretty quickly after I got my results. Within a month or two, I had to start making some choices and the options weren't really appealing."

An avid runner, bicyclist and skier, Ron was worried that surgery or radiation to treat his prostate cancer would put his active lifestyle in jeopardy. But not treating his cancer could potentially shorten his life by decades.

Standard treatment, which includes surgery or radiation, can cause erectile dysfunction and incontinence, side effects that can last a lifetime. Prostate cancer is typically discovered later in life, when many men are less physically and sexually active, and the benefits of treatment can outweigh the risks of side effects. But for men as young as Ron, side effects can factor heavily into the treatment decision.

"We didn't make a decision very quickly," said Yolanda, his wife of 34 years. Instead, they researched treatment options and doctors. A friend recommended Stanford, and suggested they see Geoffrey Sonn, MD, an assistant professor of urology.

"Dr. Sonn indicated that Stanford was looking into a new kind of focal therapy, where they treat just part of the prostate gland, instead of removing the entire gland, with better outcomes in terms of fewer negative side effects," said Ron. "So that was appealing to me, obviously."

Stanford has been offering MRI-guided highintensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) for the treatment of prostate cancer as part of a clinical trial for the past three years. The treatment is already approved and available to patients in Europe and Asia, but is undergoing FDA approval in the U.S.

With HIFU, ultrasound energy is aimed from outside of the body, and concentrated within a target deep inside the body. "The technology is something akin to taking a magnifying lens and focusing sunlight onto a leaf—you can basically destroy the tissue that's at that target and the surrounding structures are left intact," said Pejman Ghanouni, MD, PhD, assistant professor of radiology. HIFU is possible at Stanford because of the merger of two technologies—MRI and focused ultrasound. "We can see the target on the MR scanner, and then use those real-time images with the patient on the table to plan the treatment and see where we want to aim the energy," he said.

HIFU for prostate cancer is only offered at a handful of centers in the United States, and it is not recommended for every patient. There are some men with small, non-aggressive cancers who benefit from no immediate treatment, just observation, said Sonn. Conversely, men with larger, particularly aggressive cancers may have better long-term outcomes from a robotic radical prostatectomy or internal or external radiation.

As Sonn explained, "HIFU gives us an intermediate step between no treatment and really aggressive treatment that can have lifelong side effects." It is ideally suited for a man with an intermediate grade prostate cancer that warrants treatment,

but perhaps for whom removing the entire prostate is too aggressive, he said.

"What we have found with HIFU is lower rates of erectile dysfunction, lower rates of urinary incontinence, quicker recovery and minimal pain," said Sonn. "To be able to offer this treatment to a man in his 50s or 60s is very gratifying."

For Ron, traveling a few hours to Stanford meant receiving the most advanced standard of care available. "Quality of life was the most important thing," he said. "I'm lucky to have benefited from this cutting-edge technology."

On the day of surgery, Ron recalls waking up as if nothing happened. "Yolanda and I went out to dinner that night," he said. Having a catheter in place for seven days after surgery was the most discomfort he experienced. "The day the catheter came out, I started running again," said Ron. "It was that easy. If it weren't for Stanford, I don't think I'd have the quality of life I've had over the past year. I'm good as new, if not better than new."

Like many people who face a cancer diagnosis, Ron has a newfound appreciation for the simple things in life—the runs with his dogs, savoring good food. "Next year, I turn 60," he said. "People tell me I look better than before. You start to take a little better care of yourself, appreciate what you have and what you may have lost."



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INFORMATION: PaloAltoOnline.com/moonlight_run























Menlo Park suspect in Kelly Park sexual assault case now on trial

Man accused of assaulting teen in Kelly Park seven years ago

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park man accused of sexually assaulting an 18-year-old woman in a bathroom at Kelly Park seven years ago is being tried in San Mateo County Superior Court.

Miguel Angel Jimenez, 26, has pleaded not guilty to a felony charge of forced oral copulation with someone who was so intoxicated she could not consent.

On Sept. 12, the case went before Judge Jeffrey R. Finigan in the South San Francisco Courthouse, where the first day of trial was completed. The trial resumed Sept. 13 at 11 a.m. with jury selection, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office. It was put on hold Sept. 14 because the judge was not available but was expected to resume Monday, Sept. 17, according to the District Attorney's Office.

According to prosecutors, just after midnight on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011, the victim was intoxicated at Kelly Park with her friends; she was assaulted when she went to use the park's restroom.

According to a statement from the Menlo Park Police Department, she did not know the suspect, who allegedly forced her to "orally copulate him while she was intoxicated and without her consent." During the incident, the victim lost consciousness, police said.

When she awoke, she flagged down a passerby who escorted her to a nearby clinic in Belle Haven, where she was examined and interviewed, according to prosecutors.

Sperm samples collected from her shirt were uploaded into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System, known as CODIS, which stores DNA profiles at the local, state and national levels.

The defendant's DNA remained in the database and was re-entered into the system by law enforcement in February 2015, according to District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe. Another entry into the system means he was arrested or convicted for something else, though information on the nature of that alleged crime was not immediately available, Wagstaffe said.

Through the DNA match system the suspect was identified as Jimenez, who was 19 at the time of the alleged assault. In August 2017, he pleaded not guilty to a felony charge of oral copulation with a victim who was so intoxicated she could not consent, Wagstaffe said. Jimenez faces up to eight years in state prison. He remains out of custody on \$100,000 bail bond.

Menlo Park Police Chief Dave Bertini said he learned about the case shortly before he joined the Menlo Park Police Department in 2011. "It's not a case of, this guy was waiting in the bushes and threw her in the bathroom," Bertini said. "The victim was there with a group of friends."

Since the alleged assault, there

Since the alleged assault, there has been a multimillion-dollar renovation project at Kelly Park. Now, there is a security camera on the premises and automatic locks on the bathroom doors, Bertini said.



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TOWN OF WOODSIDE 2955 WOODSIDE ROAD WOODSIDE, CA 94062 NOTICE OF STUDY SESSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE will hold a Study Session in Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA, on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:30 PM, to consider:

ZOAM2018-0005: STUDY SESSION TO DISCUSS ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS RELATED TO NATURAL STATE, WHICH INCLUDE: REMOVING NATURAL STATE REQUIREMENTS FROM UNDEVELOPED LOTS THAT ARE 1-ACRE OR LESS IN SIZE; CREATING A NATURAL STATE RECLAMATION PROCESS; AND, CODIFYING A DEFINITION FOR "NATURAL STATE".

A staff report is available for public review at the Woodside Planning and Building Counter, Woodside Town Hall, weekdays from 8:00 – 10:00 AM and 1:00 – 3:00 PM, or by appointment. For more information, contact Corinne Jones, Associate Planner at (650) 851-6790 or cjones@woodsidetown.org

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments prior to the public hearing and to attend and give testimony. Dora Wong Seamans, MPA, CMC Town Clerk

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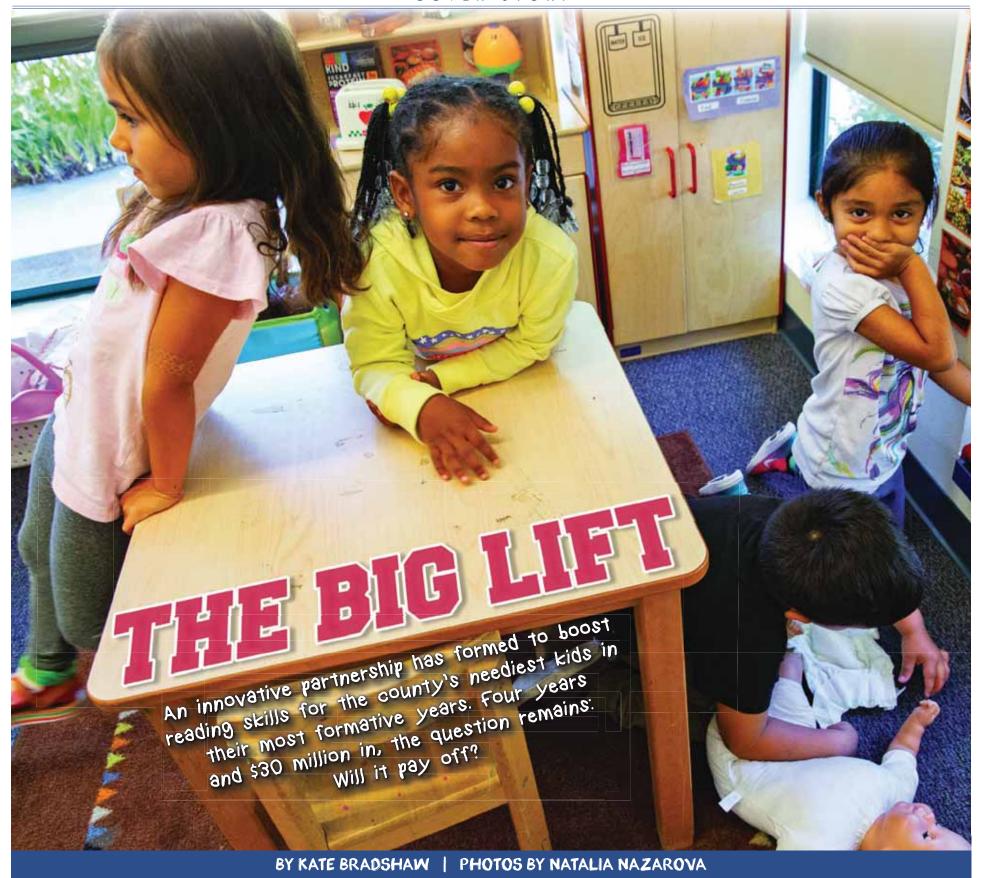
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On a recent Monday morning, Delaney Moore, center, and Aranza Martinez, right, and Marcos Linares, lower right, enjoy playtime at the Belle Haven Child Development Center. They're participants in "The Big Lift," a major effort underway to get kids across San Mateo County reading proficiently by third grade.

The goal: to get 80

percent of third-graders

in participating school

districts reading at

t all started with some startling data: After the 2013-14 school year, 43 percent of third-graders in San Mateo County schools couldn't read proficiently. That number rose to 65 percent for the county's Latino, African-American and Pacific Islander third-graders.

Reading proficiency at the third grade level is widely accepted as a predictor of a student's future success. That's because after third grade, classroom teachers generally assume kids can read, and switch teaching modes from "learning to read" to "reading to

Those who can't read well by then

go from being behind in only reading to trailing their classmates in all other class subjects, since text becomes one of the primary ways information in other disciplines is transmitted.

A longitudinal study released in 2011 and commissioned by the Annie E. Casey Foundation a private foundation focused on grade level in five years. improving American

four low-income kids who didn't read at grade level in third grade didn't to work to tackle the problem.

graduate from high school on time.

Faced with those statistics, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council, a coalition of public and

private organizations dedicated to improving kids' well-being, led by San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools Anne Campbell, San Mateo County Supervisor Carole Groom, and Silicon Valley Com-

kids' well-being — found that one in munity Foundation Chief Community Impact Officer Erica Wood, went

From research, they learned that there are four types of actions that make a difference in improving reading outcomes in early education and elementary school: engaging parents in their kids' learning, making sure kids don't miss school, preparing kids well for kindergarten, and preventing kids from backsliding on their learning gains during summer.

They developed a bold, ambitious plan, called the Big Lift, to put in place all four actions at once at school districts struggling with reading scores, and then see what happens, tracking outcomes with rigorous data collec-

tion and analysis.

The goal: to get 80 percent of third-graders in participating school districts reading at grade level in five

Enacting the plan, however, came with a price tag. In 2015, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors agreed to put \$15 million of Measure A funds (now Measure K) toward the

Around that time, the coalition also successfully applied for a competitive federal grant from the Social Innovation Fund, an Obama administration program. It was awarded what was expected to be \$16.5 million grant, with an initial \$7.5 million contribution and the remainder to be offered on a conditional basis.

The initiative started its first cohort in the 2015-16 school year with preschoolers in four county districts: Cabrillo Unified, La Honda-Pescadero Unified, Jefferson Elementary and South San Francisco Unified. The next year, it added three more districts: Ravenswood City, Redwood City and San Bruno Park.

Unexpected funding loss

Then, following the 2016 elections, the the initiative's funding from the Social Innovation Fund was cut by the Trump administration.

Reeling from the loss of that \$9 million in conditional funding, the county, the education office and the community foundation sprang into

Some cuts were made to the program - its annual operating budget is now about \$8 million, from \$12 million,

Groom said — and the initiative continues to partner with state-funded preschools to stretch public dollars.

San Mateo County continues to be the dominant funder, but other public and private donors have also stepped up, including First Five San Mateo County, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Heising-Simons Foundation, Silicon Valley Social Venture, and Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, among others. The roster of supporting organizations numbers over 100.

We've been working very hard to bring in new funding," Groom said in an interview, noting that she, Campbell and Wood have been doing a lot of the fundraising themselves.

To date, the Big Lift is the only program in the country to apply all four such interventions at once, Groom said, citing the Annie E. Casey Foundation. But there's a lag: The coalition won't know for sure if its efforts are fulfilling its ultimate goal until 2020, when the first cohort of students who were tracked starting in preschool finishes third grade and takes the state English test to determine grade level reading proficiency.

However, there are promising signs, both factual and anecdotal, that indicate the program is having an effect.

We're continuously looking at data," explained Diana Harlick, a Big Lift coordinator in the San Mateo County Office of Education. "We're seeing really promising early results."

Ravenswood district programs

State test results from 2017 indicate that few Ravenswood City School District third-graders are reading proficiently: About 85 percent did not meet grade-level reading standards.

In that district, the program is working with two preschools, and running summer programs for incoming kindergartners, according to Diana Harlick in the county Office of Education. The two preschools it works with are the Belle Haven Child Development Center in Menlo Park and the Institute for Human and Social Development, a Head Start program in East Palo Alto, she said.

The Big Lift provides resources to some preschools in the districts it has partnered with to help children be ready for kindergarten by improving preschool quality. The county provides extra funding to reduce the ratio of students to teachers, and provide individualized coaching for teachers.

Gaby Gutierrez, a teacher at the Belle Haven Child Development Center, said the coach who has come into her classroom has provided helpful guidance and modeled good teaching practices.

Handwritten, colorful posters on her classroom wall list the many learning standards the students are expected to master. Teaching happens throughout the day, in between the nearly four hours of free play time a day the state mandates that children must receive.

To promote early literacy for her students, Gutierrez says she reads stories in English and Spanish and asks her students questions to gauge comprehension.

In addition to bolstered learning opportunties, kids are given meals and snacks throughout the day and opportunities for screening for vision and developmental problems, according to Andrea Jones, Big Lift officer at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Both the preschools and the students enrolled are subjected to standardized analysis. The Belle Haven preschool, after two years of support from the Big

See BIG LIFT, page 20





Left: Mateo Nunez Correa, 4, tries on different costumes during play time at the Belle Haven Child Development Center. Right: An instructor at the Belle Haven Child Development Center works with young Nick Valencia, 3, teaching him how to write his name.

BIG LIFT

continued from page 19

Lift, has improved its overall rating from what's called a "Tier 3" to a "Tier 5" school, according to Carmen Lo, the center's director. Tier 5 is the top rating given to early childhood education centers.

The county has also adopted a standard kindergarten readiness assessment. It is, Harlick said, "the first time ever we have valid data on what kindergarten students look like when they walk through the door."

That, combined with a system to track outcomes of Big Lift students through preschool to elementary school, gives the county a way to compare Big Lift students with students who don't participate in the program. Those results are then sent to an external evaluator.

Analysing this data, Harlick said, "we are seeing incremental improvement every year," she said.

Parents and attendance

Because the school works with low-income families in an extremely high cost-of-living area, getting parents who work multiple jobs and long hours to attend evening workshops has been a challenge in the past, Lo said. However, through her own initiative and efforts supported by the Big Lift, the center has seen significant increases in parent involvement in recent months. The last meeting had 19 parents in attendance, up from fewer than eight. The workshop featured an interactive discussion of different learning styles, she said.

Through the Big Lift, students at the Belle Haven center are also sent home weekly with "book bags" containing bilingual reading materials for kids to read with their parents.

At the Belle Haven center, the school also recently hired a family engagement specialist to help connect the school's families with services they may be able to benefit from. For instance, the specialist recently helped a family fill out the paperwork to apply for MediCal, Lo said.

Under the direction of the Big Lift, the center has also launched a Parent Advisory Committee.

To reduce chronic absenteeism, parents at participating Big Lift programs are mailed friendly postcard reminders. Jones pointed to a May 2017 study from the Harvard Graduate School of Education that found that by mailing notes reminding families that attendance can affect students' learning, and reporting how many days the children had missed, chronic absenteeism decreased by 15 percent.

The idea is to promote good attendance early on: Kids who skip preschool are more likely to have attendance problems later, when being in the classroom becomes more integral to learning, Lo explained.

Summer Jearning

One of the key concerns in early literacy programs is the problem of "summer slide" — a term to describe the academic regression that happens when kids forget what they've learned during the school year if it's not reinforced during summer months. Studies show that "summer slide" more often impacts kids in low-income households.

In the Ravenswood school district, almost 100 rising kindergarten students participated in the Big Lift's "Inspiring Summers" program this year, a full-day summer program that prepares kids for kindergarten. For older students, similar summer programs are already offered, Harlick said. In other school districts, the Big Lift runs summer programs for students beyond kindergarten to prevent "summer slide."

Ravenswood school district Superintendent Gloria Hernandez-Goff told The Almanac that the Big Lift is a "huge support" to students who are learning English and whose primary language is English. "Through the program we are able to determine students' academic and social-emotional needs before they start school. We love this program and hope it will continue to be funded."

A study by the RAND Corporation, an external evaluator, found that during the summer of 2017, children enrolled in the program gained on average 1.5 months of learning, and were kept from losing two months of learning, for a net gain of 3.5 months.

Moving forward
Despite the reported successes of the program, a grand jury report released in August found that the initiative faces an \$11.4 million funding shortage through 2020.

While initiative leaders are not holding out hope of the lost federal grant funding being restored, Harlick said, there's a growing consensus among politicians and policymakers about the benefits of early childhood education. "We're certainly hopeful there'll be greater public investments over the next few years," she said.
What happens if the ambitious

project doesn't achieve its stated goals? Both Campbell and Groom were confident the goal could be achieved.

"I think it is going to be successful," Groom told The Almanac.

The bigger question is how to financially sustain the initiative into the future.

One potential funding source could be to take the matter to voters, Campbell said, adding that after the pilot, "if we show proof of concept — which I fully expect we can ... — then we need to go to voters and say, 'We're dealing with the county's most vulnerable atrisk kids. ... It's a good investment over the long haul."

Many of the families the program serves in the Ravenswood district are in "dire economic straits," may be experiencing overcrowding or housing insecurity at home, may be undocumented, and may struggle to have enough food or access to health care, Campbell noted. Getting kids into safe preschool environments and supplying them with services can give them a better chance of overcoming obstacles, she said.

According to Jones, the Big

Lift initiative helped 202 kids receive preschool services in the Ravenswood district in the 2016-17 school year. Of those students, the average family income was \$24,237 a year, and 96 percent came from families earning incomes under \$50,000 a year. Ninety-four percent of their mothers had a high school education or less; 92 percent were Hispanic or Latino; and 79 percent had a primary home language of Spanish.

Campbell pointed to a study by economist James Heckman, who asserts that high-quality educational programs for disadvantaged kids from birth to 5 can deliver a 13 percent per year return on investment for the community in that they help kids attain more education, better health, and higher income later in life.

"From an economic perspective, we're shooting ourselves in the foot if we're not investing in the youngest, because the economic outcome is so great," Campbell said. "For it to be sustainable over time, we've got to have public dollars coming into it."

About the cover: Students at the Belle Haven Child Development Center pay close attention to their teacher's lesson. Through the Big Lift, teachers receive coaching to improve their efficiency. Photo by Natalia Nazarova

TOWN OF WOODSIDE 2955 WOODSIDE ROAD **WOODSIDE, CA 94062** NOTICE OF STUDY SESSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE will hold a Study Session in Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA, on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:30 PM, to consider:

ZOAM2018-0006: STUDY SESSION TO DISCUSS ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS THAT WOULD CLARIFY BUILDING AND PLATE HEIGHT MEASUREMENT.

A staff report is available for public review at the Woodside Planning and Building Counter, Woodside Town Hall, weekdays from 8:00 – 10:00 AM and 1:00 - 3:00 PM, or by appointment. For more information, contact Corinne Jones, Associate Planner at (650) 851-6790 or cjones@woodsidetown.org

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments prior to the public hearing and to attend and give testimony.

Dora Wong Seamans, MPA, CMC Town Clerk



Belle Haven Child Development Center Director Carmen Lo pages through the center's waiting list, a binder of about 40 or 50 applications to the center from hopeful families.



PARK-LIKE SETTING WITH AMAZING VIEWS







1160 WESTRIDGE DRIVE PORTOLA VALLEY

- Park-like, 2.52-acre lot in desirable Westridge area of Portola Valley
- Ranch-style, one-level main house with 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths
- Guest house with 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath, living room, and kitchen
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 - Main house: 2,645 sq. ft.
 - Guest house: 740 sq. ft.
 - 4-stall barn: 830 sq. ft.
 - Attached 2-car garage: 595 sq. ft. Pool equipment room: 80 sq. ft.
- Main house: living room/dining room with vaulted ceilings and floor-toceiling windows, kitchen, family room, master suite, two bedrooms, one full bath, laundry room, and mud room
- Barn: 4 stalls, tack room, and storage
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TRAVEL

continued from page 5

members have taken have escalated in recent years. While some portion of those reimbursements came from places Menlo Park reports as a sister city or friendship city, many travel reimbursements reported fell outside of these locations.

International travel and lodging reimbursements funded by third parties began in 2014 with a trip to China by then-Mayor Mueller, which added up to an estimated contribution of \$3,770.

In 2015, Carlton reported receiving a total of \$16,205, with \$180 coming from sister city Galway, Ireland, and \$2,560 from Kochi, India, a friendship city to Menlo Park. The rest of the reimbursements she received were for travel in China that year. Mueller in 2015 reported receiving a total of \$2,560 funded by the Kochi government.

In 2016, Carlton reported receiving \$13,580 for travel in China and Korea, and Keith reported receiving \$13,032 for travel in Shanghai, Zhengzhou, Chongqing, and Shenzhen,

China. In 2017, Carlton reported receiving \$1,050 from the government of Bizen, Japan, as part of a trip related to Menlo Park's friendship city program.

Some members of the public have raised concerns about a trip to China that Keith took in March, where she attended a signing ceremony during which she was pictured with the mayors of Mountain View and Dublin, California, and others.

In public comments, George Fisher, a Menlo Park attorney, cited certified translated documents indicating that international media had reported the result of that signing ceremony was a memorandum of understanding in support of establishing a finance center and tech accelerator at an office park in China, with an outpost planned in Mountain View.

In July, Fisher filed complaints with the California Fair Political Practices Commission alleging violations of the state's Fair Political Practices Act by Keith and Carlton for accepting reimbursements over the \$470 gift limit by organizations that were not certified as 501(c)(3) nonprofits.

Carlton reported that she accidentally put the wrong organization name on her form and has corrected the form to list the right tax-exempt nonprofit that reimbursed her travel. Keith has provided letters from the FPPC indicating that organizations that funded the trips Fisher raised concerns about were permitted to reimburse for travel in excess of the gift limit.

Fisher maintains that the organization that has funded some of the trips, the China-USA CEO Association, may not have the proper legal clearance to operate as a 501(c)(3). The FPPC has not yet determined the validity of Fisher's complaints.

"This is not something to be taken lightly," he told the Keith defended taking the trip, noting she had planned months in advance to travel with her daughter, a student at University of California, Davis, during her spring break, and while she did miss a City Council study session about Facebook's massive Willow Village proposal, it wasn't an agenda item that involved a vote.

"I did choose to be with my only daughter on her spring break," she said.

Keith told the council and meeting attendees that she did not sign any documents on the trip, nor was she asked to.

The March trip, like other delegations she'd traveled with, she said, often involve speaking in general terms about Menlo Park, talking about what makes the city great and providing basic details about the city.

She suggested that the city develop a letter template that council members send to organizers of future trips to ascertain what documents are expected to be signed, and by whom, and who else will be in attendance.

Any documents provided should be translated into English, she added.

Carlton noted that on a previous trip, she had been asked to sign a document previously discussed by the City Council, but the way it was written changed what the council had approved in advance. She said she called City Attorney Bill McClure, and they reworded the document to align with the council's intentions.

Other policy questions that arose as part of this incident were determined to be best addressed in the part of the council's policy manual that deals with communications. As a general rule, council members agreed, they should not sign anything without clearance by the City Council — whether at home or abroad.

"We have all adhered to that," Keith said. "I don't think anything should be signed without council approval, no matter where you are," she added later. She suggested council members obtain advance letters from the FPPC validating whether an offer of trip reimbursements by a third party will be eligible for exemption to the \$470 gift limit.

When it comes to travel funded by third parties, McClure said he'd draft new language for the policy laying out what is and is not allowed regarding reimbursable expenses. That language would include a requirement that council members obtain a ruling from the FPPC in instances where it's not totally clear that a reimbursement offer is exempt from the gift limit.

Judythe Fina Woods

May 2, 1933 - September 8, 2018

Judythe Fina Woods, 85, passed away peacefully in her home on September 8, 2018. Judy, as she was called, lived in the Bay Area since the 1960's, most recently in Menlo Park, and earlier, in Palo Alto where she raised her family. She was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1933, daughter of the late Lucille Gastaldi Fina and Donald Fina. She was predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Lucienne Muriel Lastovic and Joseph James Lastovic, who died in 1977. Her



daughter, Lucienne Vian Woods, predeceased her on June 29, 2018. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Judy studied fine arts and teaching. She worked with disabled children prior to having children. Judy was a talented pianist who loved classical music. She recalled fond memories of daily piano practice as a young girl, rehearsing her favorite pieces. She inherited her love of piano from her father, who was an accomplished concert pianist and songwriter. One of her favorite memories was hearing him perform, "My Little Blue Eyes", composed especially for her. Judy was also a visual artist, having acquired artistic gifts from her mother, a talented painter. She was particularly adept at anatomical

A homemaker for most of her adult life, Judy raised two children, both of whom became physicians. Her children, niece and nephew have fond childhood memories of "trading summers" between their homes. Judy took the children on day trips to exciting places, such as San Francisco's Japanese Tea Garden, the Steinhart Aquarium, and a variety of museums. Judy also volunteered to teach art in their elementary schools. Holidays inspired Judy's abundant creativity to decorate lavishly: whether carving and decorating pumpkins with the children at Halloween, adorning the home with magnificent decorations at Christmas or creating colorful Easter baskets, she used her talents to delight the children.

Judy was devoted to her Catholic faith and was an active member of the Church of the Nativity in Menlo Park. Her family and friends appreciated her for her sharp mind and good sense of humor. She was also very proud of her Italian heritage.

Judy is survived by her son, Bryan Eugene Woods, his wife Jeanette Andonian, and their sons Jacob Robert Woods and William Zachary Queen of Portland Maine. She is also survived by her niece, Lucienne Michelle Lastovic and her son James Lastovic of Carlsbad, California, and her nephew, Michael Lastovic, his wife Karen Lastovic and their children Joseph and Lucy Lastovic of Huntsville, Alabama. She leaves behind many adoring friends and members of the church community who kept vigil by her side until her death. Also, Judy's wonderful caregivers provided the utmost kind and attentive care until she passed away.

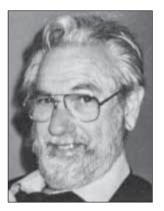
Judy's funeral service will be held at the Church of the Nativity, 210 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park on September 28, 2018 at 10:30. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, donations in Judy's honor can be made to the National Kidney Foundation: https://team.kidney.org/campaign/Judythe-Fina-Woods-Memorial-, or to the International Children's Art Foundation at www.icaf.org.

PAID OBITUARY

Richard Carter Angus August 25, 1927 - August 22, 2018

Richard Angus passed away peacefully at home in Saratoga, CA on August 22. Born in Atherton, he spent most of his life as an avid community volunteer in Saratoga and Menlo Park. He was a graduate and active alumnus of Sequoia High School. He served in the Navy at the end of WWII, then attended San Jose State University. Upon graduation, he married Shirley Adams,

his wife of 59 years. Dick was



dedicated to his careers at Ampex Corp. and Lockheed until he retired in 1992. He loved dancing, roller skating, water skiing and other sports. Always the volunteer, he was active in the Castlerock Horseman's Association, 4-H, Little League, Saratoga Drama Group, the annual Saratoga Parade, and most recently the Saratoga Senior Center, where he was former Board President and worked toward the new renovations: Menlo Park Historical Society, where he served as Board President and championed the Menlo Gate project; and De Anza Kiwanis, where he was a long-time board member and 3 times voted Kiwanian of the Year. His pet projects were delivering Christmas trees, manning the Special Games at De Anza College, mentoring Key Clubs and Circle K Clubs, and being the Route Coordinator for the American Diabetes Association Silicon Valley Tour de Cure. In 2017 he was presented with the Saratoga Citizen of the Year Award for his work in the Saratoga community.

Richard is survived by his 4 children, Kathleen (Larry Nelson) of San Francisco, Steven (Dana Angus) of San Jose, Dorothy of Saratoga, and Debby Weberski (Mark Weberski) of Tracy, five grandchildren, Emily and Rebecca Nelson, Brian and Gregory Angus, and Mark Smith; and two great grandchildren Zach and Megan. He was preceded in death by his wife Shirley, son Bruce, and grandson Doug.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, September 29 from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Joan Pisani Community Center in Saratoga

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Saratoga Senior Center, http://www.sascc.org/senior-center/ or the Child and Family Institute c/o Richard Angus Memorial Fund, https://www.cfamily.org/

PAID OBITUARY

Mom knows best: Slow down on neighborhood streets

In this week's column, Street Smarts discusses the importance of slowing down traffic on neighborhood streets and the challenges associated with doing so. Written by Jen Wolosin, founder and chair of Parents for Safe Routes and a member of the city of Menlo Park's Transportation Master Plan Oversight and Outreach Committee.

By Jen Wolosin

s a child, I was often embarrassed when my mom yelled "SLOW DOWN" to cars speeding by our home. Today — as a parent — I get it.

In pedestrian/auto collisions, the driving speed can be the difference between life and death. According to the UK transportation department, a pedestrian has about a 90 percent chance of surviving a collision with a car traveling 20 mph, but only about a 20 percent chance if the car is moving 40 mph.

To make our neighborhood streets safe for everyone, we must slow down. But it's easier said than done.

Speed limits

Many people assume that changing the speed limit is the most effective way to slow down traffic. Unfortunately, speed limits in California (and many other states) are set according to the "85th percentile convention" — that is, the speed that 85 percent of drivers do not typically exceed on a given stretch of road. The 85th percentile affects enforcement as

well: On most streets, as long as a driver is flowing with traffic, even if 85 percent of them are speeding, he is not doing anything unlawful.

Rather than using the 85th percentile as the driving force behind setting speed limits, safety considerations for all road users should be prioritized. Recently, California Assemblymember Laura Friedman introduced AB 2363, which aims to make it easier for jurisdictions to implement, and more importantly, enforce, lower speed limits.

Traffic Calming

Many transportation engineers agree that designing roads with traffic- calming features is an even more effective way to slow cars than reducing speed limits. Traffic-calming methods are road designs that deliberately slow down vehicular traffic. Some, like curb extensions and chicanes (mini roundabouts), force drivers to circumvent obstacles; others, like speed bumps and entry gates, provide cues and reminders to drivers to slow down



Menlo Park residents Jen Wolosin and Katie Behroozi will address transportationrelated questions and issues in this periodic column in The Almanac.

There are three main challenges with implementing these measures in Menlo Park. The first is that it can be difficult to obtain public resources — both funding and engineering staff time.

Second, in many cases, it is often difficult to reach community consensus on how, and even if, certain measures should be used. One neighbor's desire for speed bumps to slow traffic can be met by another's opposition to cars slowing and speeding back up in front of his or her house. Sadly in many cases, a failure of neighbors to compromise leads to streets remaining dangerous.

Third, when traffic-calming measures are installed, large emergency vehicles may have a difficult time navigating around the new obstacles. The same features that intentionally slow down speeding cars may also slow down an

emergency responder en route to a traffic accident, fire or heart attack victim.

While traffic-calming features that use concrete are often the safest and most effective solutions, sometimes a simple can of paint can be sufficient. Instituting a "road diet" by painting narrower lanes is oftentimes the easiest and most costeffective way to slow down cars. Whereas wide lanes give drivers the impression they are on a race track, narrow lanes remind drivers to pay attention and stay alert. While not free of challenges to implement, road diets can at least help the access issues related to first-responders — the full width of the street stays the same, allowing cars to pull over when

Regardless of which tactics are used to slow down traffic on our streets, we must do something. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, between 2007 and 2016 pedestrian fatalities have gone up nationwide by 27 percent, while all other traffic-related deaths have decreased by 14 percent. In this busy day and age, some things are worth slowing down for.

Have a traffic or transportation-related question or issue you'd like to see covered in an upcoming Street Smarts column? Email streetsmartsmp@gmail.com

■ CALENDAR

Opera

Bay Area Opera Collaborative Presents 'The Pirates of Penzance' Bay Area Opera Collaborative will present a gender-swapped production of "The Pirates of Penzance," a romance between two pirates. Sept. 22 at 2 p.m. and Sept. 23 at 8 p.m. \$13-\$26. Hillview Middle School Performing Arts Center, 1100 Elder Ave., Menlo Park. bayop.org

Theater

'The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence' Dragon Theatre presents "The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence," a play exploring the growth and effects of technology through a meeting of prominent figures from different eras. Through Oct. 7, times vary. \$18-\$35. The Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway St.,

'The Legend of Georgia McBride' The Los Altos Stage Company presents "The Legend of Georgia McBride," a comedy about an Elvis impersonator who is replaced by a B-level drag show. Through Sept. 30. \$20-\$38. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage/georgia-McBride

'Northanger Abbey' Pear Theatre presents "Northanger Abbey," adapted by Pear founder Diane Tasca from the novel by Jane Austen. In this play, Northanger Abbey follows several young ladies and gentlemen as they negotiate romances, friendships, betrothals and betrayals. Through Sept. 23, 8 p.m. \$15-\$35. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. Search facebook.com/events for more info

Palo Alto Players Presents: Disney's 'Tarzan' Theatre company Palo Alto Players presents the musical "Tarzan," based on the Disney movie. Through Sept. 23, times vary. \$25-\$55. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org

Concerts

First Subscription Concert: Redwood Symphony 2018-19 Season Redwood Symphony will hold its first subscription concert with piano concertos and more. Sept. 22, 8-10 p.m. Free. Canada College Main Theatre, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City. Search brownpapertickets.com for more info.

Lucinda Williams American jazz musician Charles Lloyd and his group, The Marvels, will perform with singer/songwriter Lucinda Williams. Sept. 21, 7 p.m. \$32-\$37. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Search bandsintown.com for more info.

Festivals & Fairs

Filoli Presents: 'Autumn Festival' Filoli will hold its Autumn Festival to celebrate the harvest season. Activities will include heirloom fruit tasting from Filoli's orchards, autumn-themed floral demos, orchard walks, live entertainment, line dancing lessons by Donna Frankel and interactive activities in the Family Meadow and Red's Barn. Sept. 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free-\$30. Filoli Gardens, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

Talks & Lectures

'My Stroke of Luck' by Diane Barnes "My Stroke of Luck" shares Diane Barnes' journey of medical catastrophe and recovery — not as the physician she is, but as a single mom to a frightened teenage son. Sept. 22, 5-6:30 p.m. \$50. Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway St., Redwood City. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Barbara Babcock: Women Lawyers, Then & Now Stanford Law School professor emerita Barbara Babcock will discuss her memoir, as well as her book "Woman Lawyer: The Trials of Clara Foltz." Sept. 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Main Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/adults

Forum: Closing the Computer Science Gap in K-12 Education Assemblyman Marc Berman will join employers, educators and military leaders to discuss the growing technology skills gap in California and how the state is working to bridge the STEM gap. Sept 24, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. East Palo Alto City Hall council chambers & community room, 2415 University Ave., East Palo Alto. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Francis Fukuyama: This is Now with Angie Coiro Francis Fukuyama made his mark with his 1992 book "The End of History and the Last Man." Since then he's undergone his own identity transition. His conversation with Angie Coiro for This is Now will interweave his own journey with the changes he's urging for America and the world. Sept. 25, 7:30-9 p.m. Free, RSVPs requested. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

'Helping Your Teen Transition to High School' Former high school counselor Melissa Kelley will discuss ways for parents to help their children transition into high school. Sept. 19, 7-8 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Main Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark org/adults

Kepler's Books Daytime Literary Seminars In this series, an author and former University of California at Berkeley adjunct professor discusses four books chosen for the spring 2018 seminars. The series is meant

to help participants read better through entertaining lectures and discussions. Select Wednesdays through December, 1-2:30 p.m. \$48, one seminar; \$160, complete series. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Lisa Margonelli with Mary Roach From Namibian termite mounds to Silicon Valley's cutting-edge labs and military think tanks, the leading biologists, tech entrepreneurs and military scientists in America are devoting a countless amount of research and funding to understanding more about these insects. Author Lisa Margonelli reveals more about termites in a conversation with author Mary Roach. Sept. 27, 7:30-9 p.m. Free, RSVPs requested. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

SRI Organon Toastmasters SRI Organon Toastmasters helps community members become better public speakers and leaders by providing a supportive, positive environment for practicing communication and leadership skills. Guests are welcome to visit and join. Tuesdays, year-round. Free. St. Patrick's Seminary & University, Redon Hall, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. sriorganon.com

When Anxiety Strikes: Compassion, Peace, and Understanding Healthy ways to cope with anxiety and panic attacks will be discussed at Lifetree Cafe. During the program, Lifetree participants will gain practical tools for dealing with anxiety and panic. Sept. 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Bethany Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., West Menlo Park. vimeo. com/282368888

Fundraisers

Palo Alto Weekly Moonlight Run & Walk
The 2018 Moonlight Run will take place at the
Palo Alto Baylands. Proceeds go to the Palo
Alto Weekly Holiday Fund, benefiting local
nonprofits that serve families and children.
Join us under the light of the full harvest moon
on a 5K walk, 5K run, 10K run, or new this
year, a half-marathon. Sept. 21, 6:30-9 p.m.
\$40-\$50. Palo Alto Baylands Athletic Center,
1900 Geng Road, Palo Alto. paloaltoonline.
com/moonlight_run

Family

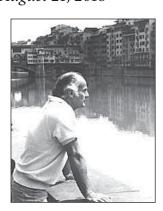
Science Night Science Night returns to the Menlo Park Main Library with exhibits and hands-on activities and experiments aimed at elementary school-aged children and adults. Sept. 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Main Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/sciencenight

See CALENDAR, page 25

John Frederick Straubel

May 19, 1928 - August 21, 2018

John Frederick Straubel, born May 19, 1928 in Green Bay Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2018, in Palo Alto, California, surrounded by family and loved ones. John lived a life full of adventure and creativity, and was able to integrate both into his career at Straubel Communications, the public relations agency he founded,



working with a long list of successful Bay Area companies.

After earning his BS in liberal arts in 1950 at Northwestern University in Chicago, John served in the US Navy during the Korean war. Upon the armistice of 1953, he moved first to San Francisco, then Menlo Park, where he built his life and many close friendships. He traveled widely, and was active in forging a better life for disadvantaged people worldwide. He also loved sailing on the SF Bay, and worked for many years in dedicated support of the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula.

Mr. Straubel is survived by his sister, Nancy S. Rogers and nieces and nephews Gay Freeborn, Patricia Christopher, Nancy Freeborn, Charles Freeborn, and Philip Freeborn.

Memorial services will be held at 1:30 PM on October 14, 2018, at Trinity Church in Menlo Park, 330 Ravenswood Ave. Menlo Park, CA.

In lieu of gifts or flowers please make a donation in John's name to The Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula. www.bgcp.org

PAID OBITUARY



LET'S DISCUSS:

Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues on Town Square at AlmanacNews.com



NOTICE INVITING BIDS TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

The Town of Atherton will accept bids for the following:

DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT OF LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT PROJECT NO. 56087

The Demolition and Abatement of Library Building located at 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane Atherton, CA 94027. Contractor will furnish all labor, equipment and materials and perform all work necessary and incidental to demolish Library building at 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, mobilize equipment and personnel, clear and grub all rubbish and debris in the work area, remove and dispose of any lead and asbestos containing material from the existing structure, transport and legally dispose of all rubbish and debris to an appropriate dump site, demolish and haul away of existing structure and foundations, excavate and remove of abandoned utility lines, protect all nearby trees, protect Historic Town Hall building, protect nearby residential homes, coordinate with all affected utility companies to cap abandoned utility lines, filling all ground surface voids and grade site to produce smooth and uniform surface, provide positive drainage.

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.

A non-mandatory pre-bid site conference will be held for the project scheduled for **Wednesday, September 19, 2018, at 10:00 A.M.** at the Historic Town Hall Council Chambers at 94 Ashfield Rd, Atherton, CA.

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 Wednesday October 3rd, 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 "DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT OF LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT, Project No: 56087", along with date and time of bid opening.

Celebrating six decades

Party, special worship service mark Valley Presbyterian Church's 60th anniversary

sixty years ago a group of friends planted a seed in the redwoods. On Sept. 29 and 30, old friends, new friends and former pastors alike will gather to celebrate the founding of Valley Presbyterian Church with two events, both to be held on the church campus at 945 Portola Road in Portola Valley.

The anniversary celebration is expected to attract a large crowd of current and former parishioners, staff members and residents. It starts with a party at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, that will feature musical performances by church-based singers and musicians; a live and silent auction; a collection of historic photos; videos depicting church history; and food and wine catered by resident Margie MacKenzie of Nutmeg Kitchens.

The second event is a special Sunday morning worship service at 10:45 a.m. on Sept. 30. Former pastors Lloyd D. Auchard (1971-85) and Mark and Cheryl Goodman-Morris (1987-2016) will join the current pastor, Jenny Warner, who has served

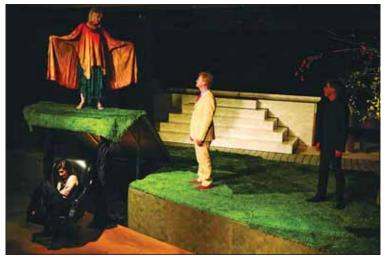


Photo by Ashley Pogue

VPC-sponsored Portola Valley Theatre Conservatory has staged numerous plays over the years. Pictured is Cheryl Goodman-Morris as Demeter and Mark Goodman-Morris as Zeus in the 2013 production, "Persephone." The play was written and directed by Noelle GM Gibbs, who now heads the theater group.

in her role since 2017. Longtime elder Chris Preimesberger will moderate a lively and reflective discussion among the pastors during the service that morning.

Valley Presbyterian's roots
Chartered in 1958, VPC

began as a new ministry project of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, now Menlo Church, under the leadership of the late George Vorsheim. The current VPC sanctuary in the redwoods was designed and built in the early 1960s and opened in 1964.

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Until then, congregation members met for worship in private homes as well as the Portola Valley Town Center.

Vorsheim served as the founding pastor until 1967, and was followed by the late Rev. Donald Peterson (1967-71).

Next, Auchard served with the associate pastor, Keith Wintermute, until 1985, when John Snyder from Fresno became interim pastor.

The Goodman-Morrises, both ordained ministers, came to the church in 1987 from Santa Ana and served 29 years until their retirement in 2016.

Warner, a Bay Area native who was serving as associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Bend, Oregon, is the current pastor.

VPC has been an integral part of the Portola Valley culture for nearly three generations. Not only has it been a creative and inspirational home for its congregation, but the redwood sanctuary is a beloved wedding venue that has hosted thousands of weddings to date.

The natural beauty of the sanctuary is a fitting backdrop for VPC's authentic, open and inclusive spirit. This comes through each Sunday, accentuated with music that includes handbells, a harp, keyboards, drums and a talented chancel choir.

A home for the community

The VPC campus has long been home to community groups and yoga and exercise classes. A labyrinth walk in the redwood grove provides a space of peace and reflection, and its memorial garden is a resting place for beloved VPC friends and members.

VPC has extended beyond its walls through a 30-year partnership with a sister church in Tekax, Mexico; by helping to build homes with Habitat for Humanity in the greater Bay Area; and by supporting multiple local and international organizations.

The VPC campus also serves as home base for the Portola Valley Theatre Conservatory, a nonprofit founded in the mid-1990s by Cheryl Goodman-Morris and board chair Tom Kelley, in partnership with VPC leadership. The vision was to open the church doors as an outreach to the greater community to provide a quality, transformational, supportive theater arts program for both young people and adults.

In addition to building a thriving year-round Children's Conservatory with 150 students, PVTC created a theater that has presented a long list of intergenerational musicals and dramatic or comedic plays during its tenure. These include "Les Miserables," "The Little Mermaid," "The Music Man,"
"Our Town," "Nunsense," "Fiddler on the Roof," "The Wizard of Oz," and "Oklahoma!" Noelle GM Gibbs has been an integral part of the conservatory since its inception and has served as artistic director since 2016, taking the reins from her mother, Cheryl Goodman-Morris.

All performances are held in Lane Family Hall, named for one of Portola Valley's pioneering families. The hall also has been the setting for many other VPC community activities, including the annual Crossroads & Friends Coffee House talent show, since its opening in 1992.

All friends and neighbors are invited to join VPC for the 60th anniversary celebration. Tickets for the Sept. 29 anniversary party are \$50 per person and are available at 650-851-8282.

Story contributed by VPC elder Chris Preimesberger.

CALENDAR

continued from page 23 $\,$

Museums & Exhibits

'Blackboard' "Blackboard" brings together works that imitate, resemble or feature a blackboard to consider the relationship between art and education. The "blackboards' on view examine schooling, authority, literacy, form and color. Sept. 19-Jan. 27; times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford. edu/exhibitions

Portola Art Gallery Presents 'A Traveler's Impressions' - A Collection of Oil Paintings by Oksana Johnson The Portola Art Gallery will present "A Traveler's Impressions," a collection of oil paintings by contemporary San Francisco-based artist Oksana Johnson. The exhibit focuses on Johnson's impressions from her travels in Europe, Hawaii and California. A reception will be held Sept. 22, 1-4 p.m. The gallery will be open through Sept. 29, Mondays-Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park.

'The Struggle of Beauty: African Wildlife Photography Exhibition' "The Struggle of Beauty," a fine art photography exhibition, features photographic works by cinema-photographer Andrew Wegst, photographers Sebastiao Salgado, Oliver Klink and Terri Vershel. The exhibition will also be complemented with

a narrative exhibit by environmental organization WildAid. The exhibit aims to raise awareness of the conflict between man and environment and the commercialization of animal products. Through Oct. 25, times vary. Free. Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. pacificartleague.org/exhibitions-current

Film

Art21: Art in the 21st Century Season 9

Premiere: Berlin Focusing on contemporary visual art and artists, "Art in the 21st Century" observes artists at work as they discuss both the physical and visual challenges of achieving their visions. Sept. 27, 6 p.m. Free. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Drive, Stanford. Search eyents.stanford.edu for more info.

Food & Drink

Filipino Cooking, Vegan Style Vegan chef RG Enriquez will put on a cooking demo and tasting for adults and teens. Sept. 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Main Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/adults

Outdoor Recreation

Filoli School Program Students in elementary school will be led by chaperones on a station-based experience through the house and garden. Station volunteers will lead activities that connect students to art, architecture and history. September, depends on school. \$190. Filoli Gardens, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

NOTICE REQUESTING BIDS

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT



DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION - NEW METAL STORAGE BUILDING

Sealed proposals for the Design and Construction - New Metal Storage Building project will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, October 10, 2018** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "Design and Construction - New Metal Storage Building."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials, tools, equipment, services, facilities, and other appurtenances for the Design and Construction of a New Metal Storage Building in the City of Menlo Park. The work includes, but is not limited to, design and construction of new metal storage building and foundation, installation of skylight panels, roof ventilators, overhead doors, personnel entry doors, and other appurtenances; and excavation, grading, and construction of new improvements.

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 \$50.00 for each set. The check or money order must be issued to the West Bay Sanitary District. All payments are nonrefundable.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at the West Bay Sanitary District Flow Equalization and Resource Recovery Facility located at 1700 Marsh Road 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 insure 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 B License or a combination of Class C-39 "Roofing Contractor," C-43 "Sheet Metal Contractor" and C-54 "Structural Steel Contractor" 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: July 31, 2018



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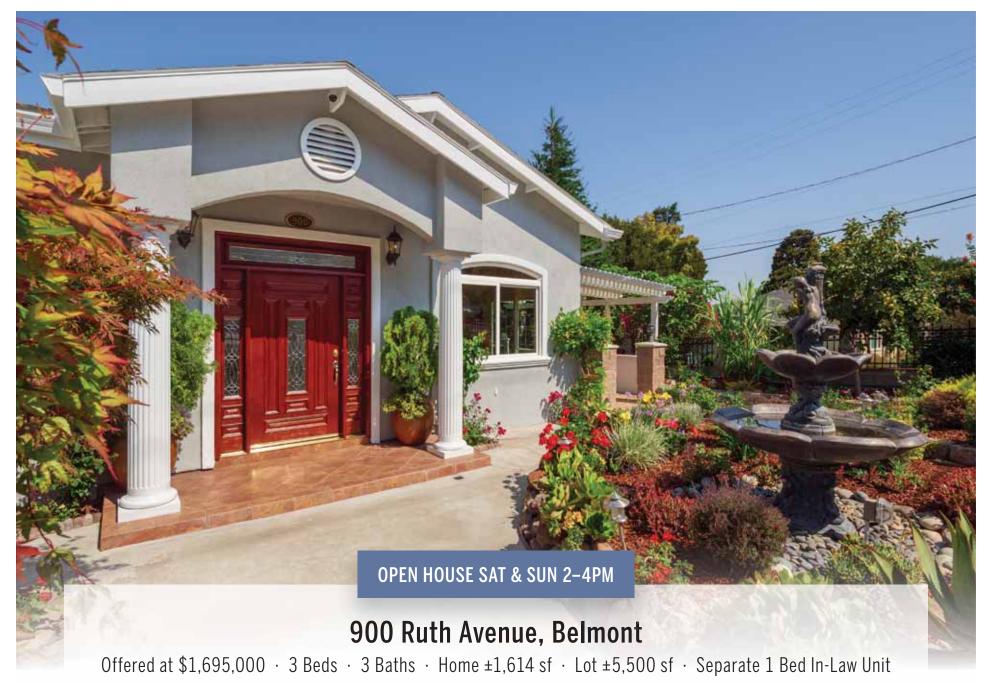
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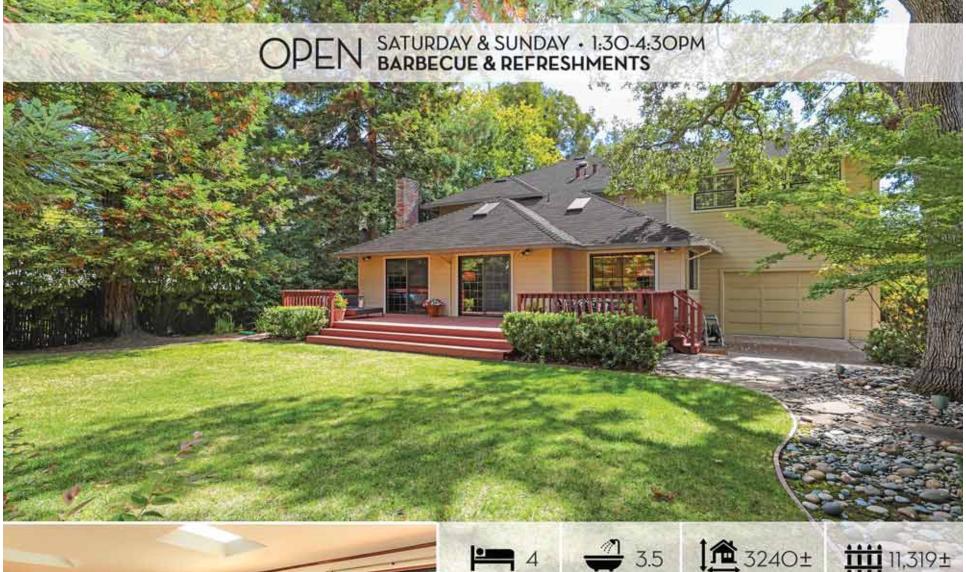
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995 Fictitious Name **Statement**

PLAYA AZUL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 278631

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Plava Azul, located at 46 Willow St.

Playa Azul, located at 46 Willow St., Apt. #20, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): MARIA DE LOURDES LARA CALDERON 46 Willow St., Apt. #20 Redwood City, CA 94063 This business is conducted by: An Individual.

Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 17, 2018. (ALM Aug. 29; Sept. 5, 12, 19, 2018)

WEST MENLO TUTORING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 278635 The following person (persons) is (are)

doing business as:
West Menlo Tutoring, located at 2050
Camino a los Cerros, Menlo Park, CA
94025, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): REBECCA PATTON GARCIA

Menlo Park, CA 94025 HEATHER HALLENBECK TITTERTON

HEATHER HALLENBECK TITTERTON 2169 Cedar Avenue Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: A General Partnership.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 20, 2018 County on August 20, 2018. (ALM Aug. 29; Sept. 5, 12, 19, 2018)

MARISCOS DE SINALOA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 278647 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Mariscos de Sinaloa, located at 412 Studio Cir. #1, San Mateo CA 94401, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s): JOSE DOMINGO QUINTERO CASTANEDA 412 Studio Cir. #1

412 Studio Cir. #1 San Mateo, CA 94401

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on August 22,

name(s) listed above on August 22, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 22, 2018. (ALM Aug. 29; Sept. 5, 12, 19, 2018)

VISTA TECHNOLOGIES VISTA TECH FCI VISTA MINIMINER.COM MINI MINER VISTA TECHNOLOGY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMEN File No.: 278759 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Vista Technologies, 2.) Vista Tech, 3.) FCI Vista, 4.) Miniminer.com, 5.) Mini Miner, 6.) Vista Technology, located at 2225 E. Bayshore Rd. Ste. 200, E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County. Registered owner(s):

Registered owner(s): ARMEN ARMOND TEMURIAN 1447 E. Garfield Ave

Glendale, CA 91205 This business is conducted by: An Individual

Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on September 4, 2018.

This statement was filed with the

County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 4, 2018. (ALM Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3, 2018)

VISTA NETWORK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278760

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Vista Networks, 2.) Vista Network,

located at 2225 E. Bayshore Rd. Ste. 100, E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo

Registered owner(s): ARMEN ARMOND TEMURIAN

ARMEN ARMOND TEMURIAN
1421 Valencia St.
Pasadena, CA 91104
This business is conducted by: An
Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on September
4 2018

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 4, 2018. (ALM Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3, 2018)

SAVI ENTERPRISE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278804
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Savi Enterprise, located at 2056 Pulgas
Ave., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo

County.

Registered owner(s): IMELDA LLANOS DE LUNA 2056 Pulgas Ave. E. Palo Alto, CA 94303 This business is conducted by: An Individual.

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 September 7, 20180. (ALM Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3, 2018)

LOWKEY LIFESTYLE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 278849

The following person (persons) is (are)

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Lowkey Lifestyle, located at 238 Hillview
Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062, San
Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ISAIAH LABELLE
238 Hillview Ave.
Redwood City, CA 94062
DINO ANDRIGNETTO
2670 Ohio Ave.

2670 Ohio Ave.

Redwood City, CA 94061 This business is conducted by: A General Partnership.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business business under the fictitious busines name(s) listed above on 9/12/18. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 12, 2018. (ALM Sept. 19, 26; Oct. 3, 10, 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.: 18CIV04030 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: SANGGILL KIM filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: SANGGILL KIM to THOMAS SANGGILL

SANGGILL KIM.

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.

a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: September 26, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior

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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: 8/13/2018 /s/ Robert D. Foiles JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (ALM Aug. 29; Sept. 5, 12, 19, 2018)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE
OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY
OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 18CIV04073
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: MARY JANE M. CABUNGCAL
filed a petition with this court for a

filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: MARY JANE M. CABUNGCAL to MJ M. CABUNGCAL

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons 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 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

written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: September 28, 2018, 9:00a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each

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

ALMANAC.
Date: 8/13/18.
/s/ Robert D. Foiles
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Aug. 29; Sept. 5, 12, 19, 2018) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE
OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY
OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 18CIV04368
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: CHRISTINA PROBST filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: CHRISTINA KUROWICKI to CHRISTINA

BLAISE PROBST.
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 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.

a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: October 5, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood

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: August 23, 2018

Date: August 23, 2018 /s/ Susan Irene Etezadi JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (ALM Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3, 2018)

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- The Almanac publishes every Wednesday.

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Deadline: 5 p.m. the previous Thursday

PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

If it has been 5 years since you filed your Fictitious Business Name Statement (your D.B.A.), you must file again to protect your legal rights.

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