

The Almanac

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

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When it matters most, patients turn to Stanford Health Care



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“At Stanford, the whole team was great at making sure the right things happened for me to have the amazingly good recovery I’ve had so far.”

—Brett



U.S. News & World Report, again, recognizes Stanford Health Care in the top 10 best hospitals in the nation.

Brett’s cross-country bicycling trip ended 1,000 miles short of his goal. While crossing through Oklahoma, he crashed, landing on his head. He spent nine days in a coma. Part of his skull was removed to create space for his swelling brain. When he was stable enough to be moved, his family chose Stanford.

There, a team of traumatic brain injury specialists stabilized his inter-cranial pressure, rebuilt his skull and supported him through his neurologic therapy. Facing multiple years to fully recover, Brett pushed himself physically and mentally. He relearned how to talk, walk and use his left side. Six years later, Brett walks 40 to 70 miles a week and has completed 600 rides on a stationary bicycle. “I really feel like I’ve pulled through it the best I possibly could,” he said. “At Stanford, the whole team was great at making sure the right things happened for me to have the amazingly good recovery I’ve had so far.”

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Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Complex election ballots are here for the long run

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

Spare a thought this election season for the staff of the San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division. Changes in election law over the last several years are converging on the November election, impacting voters as well as officials who prepare the ballots.

State law is now concentrating elections in even-numbered years, when voter participation is higher. Ballots are becoming more dense and more complex, voter-information pamphlets are growing in size, and there are more ballot “styles” — ballots customized to reflect elections and measures for a given address — than ever before, said Jim Irizarry, assistant chief elections officer for the county.

(Voters have always seen ballots that differ depending on where they live. A ballot must give the voter the choices that apply to the overlapping jurisdictions that serve that voter’s address.)

Translation is a complicating factor. The county prepares ballots in English, Spanish and Chinese, and facsimile ballots to accompany English-language ballots for those who speak Filipino or Korean. In addition to hiring translators, the elections division must engage skilled proofreaders, Irizarry said.

A further complicating factor: the trend of subdividing elections of council and board members into voting areas or districts in which only residents can vote for a given candidate. In City Council elections in Menlo Park and board elections for the Sequoia Union High School District, the ballots used to be the same for everyone. Now that the jurisdictions have each been divided into five districts, voters receive ballots listing only the

candidates running to represent their particular district. Two jurisdictions have become 10.

Local measures are also a factor, Irizarry said. With more jurisdictions holding elections in even-numbered years, local measures are more common. For this election, there are 30. “That’s a lot,” Irizarry said.

All this means a lot more work for the elections division, where the staff of 14 is well below the Bay Area average, according to Mark Church, the county’s chief elections officer. There are 20 communities and 50 jurisdictions in the county, a higher concentration than in San Francisco and Santa Clara counties combined, Church said in an email.

The elections division has 3.3 employees for every 100,000 registered voters in this county. In Santa Clara County there are 7.5 employees for every 100,000 voters and 7.8 in San Francisco County. The average among the Bay Area counties excluding San Mateo County is 5.9, Church said. The situation “poses unique operational and workload challenges,” he said.

Off-year elections discouraged

Of the 70 agencies capable of holding elections in the county, the official roster shows 60 with open seats this November, an increase of 140 percent over the mid-term election in November 2014. Heading in the other direction are off-year elections — those held in odd-numbered years. The November 2017 election had 63 percent fewer jurisdictions participating than in the November 2015 election.

Elections in even-numbered years have a higher voter turnout, but there is also a less visible benefit: costs are lower. Election

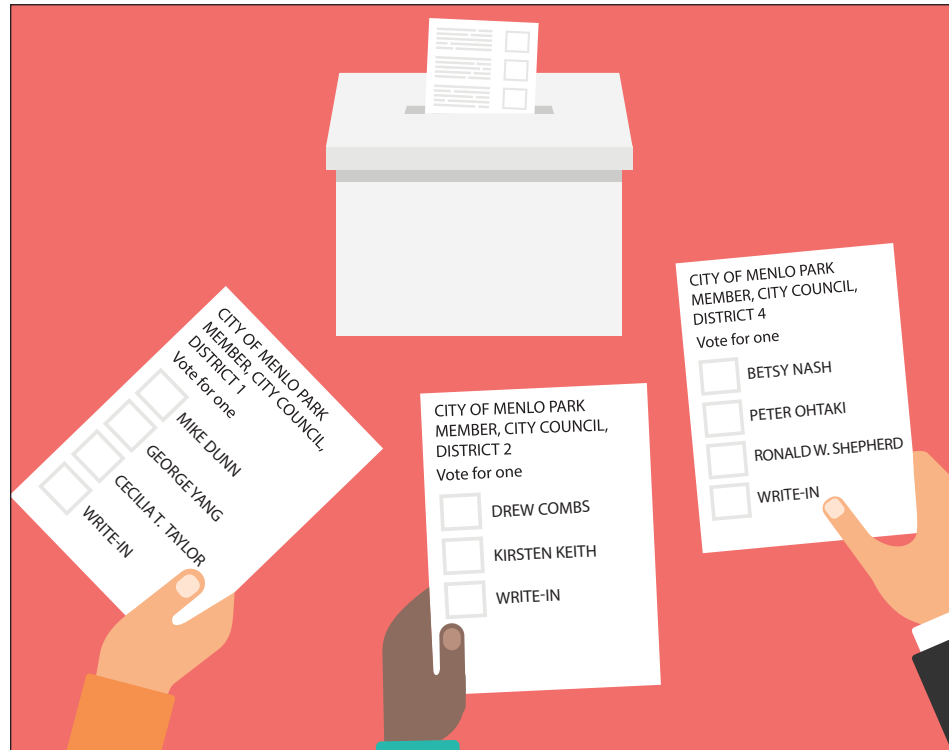


Illustration by Kristin Brown/The Almanac

Ballots for City Council races in Menlo Park for November 2018 are different than in years past. Candidate choices now depend on where you live. Ballots prepared for Allied Arts residents will list different candidates than those prepared for residents of Belle Haven.

costs have always been shared among the public agencies participating. The more agencies that participate, the better are the economies of scale, Irizarry said.

With far fewer agencies now holding elections in odd-numbered years, those that do will have fewer partners to share the expense. Off-year elections have become “incredibly more expensive,” Irizarry said. An off-year ballot measure proposed by an agency with a county-wide jurisdiction, such as the county’s

community college district, would now cost that district around \$1 million, Irizarry said.

In Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Atherton and Woodside, councils and governing boards for school districts and special districts have made the shift to elections in even-numbered years. Most implemented the change by adding a year to the terms of sitting members.

See **BALLOTS**, page 8

Informing candidates and getting out the vote

JoAnn Loulan charges on to swing midterm elections for Democrats

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

At about this time in 2017, Democratic Party activist JoAnn Loulan and 14 other Portola Valley professional women — a group that called itself Local Majority — were diligently working on behalf of Democratic candidates for state office in Virginia. The group’s policy analysis and opposition research on 15 Republican incumbents in Virginia’s lower state Legislature, the House of Delegates, contributed to an election that put Democrats in 13 of those seats.

Today they’re still calling themselves Local Majority and the group, now with 25 volunteers, is still providing research

to Democratic candidates. “Some of us spend at least 40 hours a week on it,” Loulan said.

The focus this time is on Republicans and issues in Florida, Minnesota and Michigan, three states where the group is supporting 45 Democratic candidates for state House and Senate races.

Janet Cruz, a Democrat running for the state Senate in Florida and until recently the minority leader of the state House of Representatives, asked Local Majority for material on a toxic algae bloom in Lake Okeechobee, the largest freshwater lake in the state.

Loulan engaged a retired professor from Stanford University to write a paper on the algae and

Florida Democrats have turned it into “a huge topic,” Loulan said.

‘I am motivated to do as much as I can to keep democracy very real and vibrant.’

JOANN LOULAN

Local Majority has been writing “to amazing depth” about the impact of Republican policies in Florida on public education, sea level rise, guns and health care, Loulan said. “These candidates need policy information.”

For the Minnesota races,

Local Majority wrote a paper, now in use by “candidates all over the state,” on a settlement involving 3M Corp., the manufacturer of Teflon, and what it means for polluted waterways in the state, Loulan said.

For races in Michigan, Loulan said, the group wrote about the impact the family of Betsy DeVos, U.S. Secretary of Education, has had on public education in the state.

Loulan said the fate of democracy is motivating her. “I worry that people are giving up on democracy and just following a leader that wants to be an autocrat,” she said. “It’s wearing. It’s depressing. I am motivated to do as much as I

can to keep democracy very real and vibrant.”

Local Majority has been meeting every week since January 2017, Loulan said. The irony, she noted, is that as members of the white upper-middle class, they and their families probably won’t be hurt by Republican policies.

“We are all motivated to help people who are not as fortunate as we are,” Loulan said.

Her most acute worry: “That people will think ‘Oh, it’s all guaranteed,’ like they did with Hillary,” she said. “That people will take the ‘blue wave’ for granted. People have got to go out and vote.”

See **LOCAL MAJORITY** page 8



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NEWSROOM

Editor

Renee Batti (223-6528)

Assistant Editor

Julia Brown (223-6531)

Staff Writers

Dave Boyce (223-6527),
Kate Bradshaw (223-6588)
Angela Swartz (223-6529)

Contributors Kate Daly, Maggie Mah,
Barbara Wood

Special Sections Editor

Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

Photographer

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

Designers Linda Atilano, Rosanna Kuruppu,
Amy Levine, Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahralis (223-6570)

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ADVERTISING SERVICES

Advertising Services Manager

Kevin Legarda (223-6597)

Sales & Production Coordinators

Diane Martin (223-6584), Nico Navarrete
(223-6582)

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■ Newsroom: (650) 223-6525

Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

■ Email news and photos with captions to: Editor@AlmanacNews.com

■ Email letters to:

letters@AlmanacNews.com

■ Advertising: (650) 854-2626

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Council OKs staff disability plan, raises and big bonus bumps

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Due to supplemental changes in Menlo Park's agreements with its labor unions and unrepresented management, the city's union employees will, starting in January, be able to participate in a statewide short-term disability program, and will receive two pay increases between now and when the new contract expires in July 2021. They will receive a 1 percent pay raise come Jan. 1, and an estimated 3.5 percent pay increase in July 2020, depending on increases in the regional cost of living.

In addition, in a step to recruit and retain non-union managers on staff, city employees at the management level will now be eligible for bonuses of up to \$20,000, double the previous bonus cap.

The Menlo Park City Council unanimously approved supplemental terms to the city's agreements with its two employee union chapters — the American Federation of County, State, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 829, and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 521 — and agreed to double the bonus cap for non-union managers Oct. 9.

AFSCME & SEIU

There are 37 AFSCME union members on Menlo Park's staff, who are non-sworn (not police, in other words) and who represent mainly supervisors. There are 162 employees who are part of the SEIU's Local 521 unit, mainly service workers.

One of the main changes in the supplemental agreements with the unions is a change in the disability policy, according to Menlo Park Administrative Services Director Lenka Diaz. Starting in 2019, employees will be enrolled in the California State Disability Insurance Program, and have access to short- and long-term disability programs, with premiums deducted. The city would pay for long-term disability insurance.

Currently, employees have to use leave time to make up for regular hours missed up to the 45th day before long-term disability kicks in. Under the new plan, a short-term disability policy will take effect for employees starting on day one of family leave and day seven of eligible leave for other reasons. Long-term disability wouldn't take effect for 180 days. The change is expected to save the city about \$23,000 for both unions.

In addition, the 1 percent pay

raises employees will receive in January are estimated to cost the city \$124,500 for both unions.

Their next raise would occur July 1, 2020, with a guaranteed salary increase between 2 and 4 percent, depending on that year's increase in the Consumer Price Index, an indicator of changes in the regional cost of living. The raise is expected to be about 3.5 percent in July 2020, according to a staff report that indicated an estimated cost to the city of \$899,000 for both unions.

The new terms also include increases to employees' "cafeteria" health plans, commensurate with the increases in the Consumer Price Index, starting Jan. 1, 2021, which are expected to cost the city \$136,600 for both unions.

The supplemental agreements include a provision for AFSCME employees that permits them to cash out unused compensatory time at overtime pay rates once he or she has accumulated the maximum amount, and, at the end of the year, to be paid for all unused compensatory time at the employee's regular pay rate. SEIU employees already have this benefit, Diaz said.

Managers

The council also approved changes to the bonus program for the city's management employees, who aren't part of a union, agreeing to double the amount that managers may receive in bonuses, up to \$20,000, for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The total 2018-19 budget for management bonuses is not being increased, and there is no proposed management bonuses budget for future years, according to Diaz.

The city has had a hard time hiring new managers, especially this year: Currently, seven of the city's 24 unrepresented management positions, or about 29 percent, are vacant or under recruitment to fill.

One contributing reason for that, said Diaz, is that the city's retirement formula and retiree health benefits for new employees are "some of the least generous in San Mateo County." (That's partly by design: Keeping pension costs down is a priority for the city's finance watchdogs, who don't want the city to put itself in a fiscal pickle to pay for promised pension contributions it can't afford in the future.)

Increasing the cap to \$20,000 was considered a step to recruit and retain employees. Such earnings are not "pensionable," so they are considered easier on the city funds in the long-term. ■

Atherton readies for civic center rebid, new library demolition

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

As Atherton readies to go out for new bids on its civic center project in early 2019, it's also preparing its buildings, doing everything from clearing out the library to labeling old items for auction.

The town came up with a plan to cut costs after bids for the project came in 40 percent higher than expected in June.

Now, workers are clearing out the library, which moved to a temporary location earlier this month to make way for a new \$22.8 million library. Staff is tagging everything from doors to water fountains to send off to auction, said Marty Hanneman, Atherton's project manager.

Library staff built shelves, set up the 3D printer and shelved books in preparation for the temporary library's opening on Monday, Oct. 22. The temporary library is housed in a portable next to the former library building.

A portable that was part of the old permit division complex had water leaking from the ceilings, but the water is now cleared out,

Hanneman said. The town will try to auction the portable, he said. The town intended for the permit division to stay in trailers temporarily, but they portables have now been used for 20 or so years, he added.

"To ask public servants to work in those conditions is deplorable," said Sandy Levison, campaign co-chair for Atherton Now, a group founded to raise funds for a new civic center. "I don't think people know how bad it is."

The police department, which was built in the 1930s, will be the last building to undergo construction if new civic center plans go forward, Hanneman said. This is because moving the department is difficult with all of its communications devices, he said. The building is not an adequate workspace for its 21 police officers and it's not up to code, he said.

The plan to cut costs to the civic center project includes removing the new council chambers from the project unless the town comes up with enough funds to build it.

Once redesign plans are complete, they will go before the City Council for approval and authorization to rebid the civic center project. ■

Sequoia district continues push for mental health awareness

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

Anxiety, compounded by academic pressure, led one Sequoia High School student to self-harming actions, landing her in the hospital twice.

This student and other Sequoia students dealing with anxiety spoke on a panel discussion after a screening of the film "Angst" at the high school on Oct. 16. Students shared how the 2017 film is raising awareness about anxiety and how they are finding some solace in more awareness and mental health resources.

"(The film) gives extreme details of what it (anxiety) really is and helps share stories. It makes me feel like I'm not the only one," a Sequoia High senior who suffers from panic attacks said at the screening.

Because of students' mental health struggles, the Sequoia Union High School District has focused on educating more people about mental health. Their efforts include partnering with local organizations to screen the 56-minute film at four district

high schools this school year. "Angst" includes interviews with young people who suffer, or have suffered, from anxiety who talk about they've learned about it. In the film, mental health experts talk about the causes of anxiety. The film also mentions resources and tools for coping with anxiety.

The film has touched a lot of students, said Charlene Margot, founder and director of the Parent Education Series, a Sequoia district program in which adolescent academic, physical, mental and social-emotional health and well-being experts teach district parents, staff and community members about their fields.

Students at the panel shared how they've learned coping mechanisms like exercise, painting or even watching TV with a family member. It can still be hard to control anxiety, one student panelist said. Parents should know there's a fine line between being helpful and too helpful, but they should treat anxiety like a medical condition, the student said.

"Make them (people with anxiety) feel loved and appreciated," said the student, who added it's

easy to feel like teens with anxiety are disappointing their parents. "It doesn't have to be a car or a phone. Sometimes I don't have control over most of my thoughts. It's nobody's fault."

About 200 parents, students, teachers and community members came out to the Oct. 16 Sequoia High showing.

The Sequoia High screening was the final of four scheduled showings in the district, but officials would like to also show the film at Redwood High School and East Palo Alto High School, Margot said. Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park will screen the film Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 6:30 p.m.

The district first showed the film at Carlmont High School in November 2017 and about 450 people watched it, Margot said. The film has struck a chord in the community, even inspiring district students to make their own films about anxiety, she said.

The Sequoia Union High School District Wellness Advisory Council, Sequoia Healthcare District, Children's Health Council, SafeSpace and others presented the Sequoia High event. ■

ProPublica reports racial disparities in schools nationwide, locally

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

White students were more than four times as likely to be enrolled in at least one Advanced Placement (AP) class as black students, and black students were over 15 times as likely to be suspended as white students in the Sequoia Union High School District during the 2015-16 school year, according to data collected by ProPublica, a nonprofit newsroom.

In school districts across the country, black and Hispanic students are, on average, less likely to be selected for enrollment in programs for gifted students and take AP courses than their white classmates, according to ProPublica's report published Oct. 16.

Members of minority groups are also more likely, on average, to be suspended and expelled, according to data from the 2015-16 school year.

Other key statistics for the Sequoia district include:

■ Hispanic students are 5.6 times as likely to be suspended as white students.

■ White students are three times as likely to be enrolled in at least one AP class as

Hispanic students.

There were 8,865 students in the high school district during the 2015-16 school year. Some 46 percent of district students were Hispanic; 36 percent were white; 10 percent were Asian, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian; 4 percent were two or more races; and 3 percent were black, according to the report.

In the **Menlo Park City School District**, black students were over 20 times as likely to be suspended as white students, according to the ProPublica database. Hispanic students were, on average, academically three grades behind white students.

In the **Las Lomitas Elementary School District**, black students are 17.8 times as likely to be suspended as white students, according to the database. Hispanic students were, on average, academically 2.6 grades behind white students.

The report didn't highlight any disparities for the **Portola Valley School District**.

In the **Woodside Elementary School District**, white students were equally as likely to be enrolled in the gifted and talented program as students of two or more races. ■



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LOCAL MAJORITY

continued from page 5

Celebrity power

Local Majority organized the project “Get Off Your Donkey and Vote!” which explains the issues in states and the differences between Democratic and Republican positions. “It gives people the opportunity to see specifically why voting matters and some very real facts,” Loulan said.

Actor and comedian Julia Louis-Dreyfus, star of “Seinfeld” and “Veep,” appears in Local Majority-funded ads running in six states. She’s been “everywhere,” Loulan said, including in People Magazine and on “Good Morning America.”

A sister project, “Multiply Your Vote,” encourages people to volunteer, whether by texting, writing postcards or canvassing door to door, in support of Democratic candidates. Louis-Dreyfus appeared on “Jimmy Kimmel Live” and the project acquired 500 volunteers by 10 a.m. the next day, Loulan said.

Loulan said she has reason for hope, given the number of volunteers and click-throughs for ads featuring Louis-Dreyfus. A Facebook ad typically registers 1 percent of viewers watching the entire thing, whereas the Louis-Dreyfus ad got a rate of 20 percent, Loulan said. “Our experts are blown away,” she said.

“All these remarkable professionals are volunteering for this,” she said. “It’s very exciting. Everyone is using our graphic of ‘Get Off Your Donkey and Vote!’”

In the ads, Louis-Dreyfus is seen standing with mostly young people and admonishing Democrats to “Get off your — at this point, a hee-hawing donkey makes a brief appearance — and vote.”

In the ads, Louis-Dreyfus sets the context by recalling her role as vice president on “Veep,” where she played “an inept, self-obsessed, corrupt moron who somehow becomes president of the United States.”

After three days of ads, the “Multiply Your Vote” project signed up 2,300 volunteers and is now getting 100 volunteers a day, Loulan said, adding that they now have 10,000 volunteers. Louis-Dreyfus has been making little videos to thank people for signing up, she said.

The campaign began with a phone call Loulan received in August from Louis-Dreyfus, her husband Brad Hall and a Hollywood producer. They wanted to know how they could help get out the vote for the midterm elections, Loulan said.

“We couldn’t pass this up. It’s such a great opportunity,” Loulan said. “Julia had never done anything like this before. She has never done something this partisan.” ▀

BALLOTS

continued from page 5

The state has given public agencies until 2022 to switch to even-numbered years, but with an option. Local officials can continue to hold off-year elections if they can show that turnout is within 25 percent of turnouts in even-numbered-years.

Doing their best

Voting in California has gotten easier. Gov. Jerry Brown signed a same-day voter registration law in 2012 and a law implementing automatic voter registration for visitors to the DMV in 2015. In 2016, new laws enabled some counties to hold all-mailed-in ballot elections, and extended access to electronic voting from a remote location to people with disabilities.

Since 2013, the county has been taking in about \$80 million annually from the half-cent sales tax first referred to as Measure A and now as Measure K. With all that new revenue, why such a small staff in the Registration & Elections Division relative to surrounding counties?

The elections division has been asking for additional staff for five years, in part to keep up with the new laws and new requirements,

Irizarry said. “The county manager’s office has traditionally rejected our requests for additional staff,” Irizarry said. “They have a very frugal approach to staffing levels in the county.”

Skilled people and up-to-date technology are “the pillars of elections,” he said. “We do the very best we can. We have an excellent staff. But we do face challenges with the complexity of the election.”

With a more complex ballot, voters may face what election officials call voter fatigue.

“By the 30th or 40th candidate, (some voters) skip the rest of the ballot because they get tired,” Irizarry said. “That’s one possible downside to having a very large ballot.”

San Mateo County is one of 14 counties currently allowed to conduct elections by mail, giving voters time to sit at home and study a ballot before completing it, Irizarry said.

At some 40 voting centers in the county, including at the city and town halls in Menlo Park, Woodside, Atherton and Portola Valley, voters can drop off a completed ballot, get assistance, or get a replacement ballot. Voting at home “is a mitigating factor for these large elections,” Irizarry said. ▀



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

JoAnn Loulan, center, chairs a meeting of Local Majority in Portola Valley as she’s been doing weekly since January 2017 — in that year to support the election of Democrats to state offices in Virginia, and in 2018 to do the same in Florida, Minnesota and Michigan.

Holman, Scharff vie for Ward 5 seat on open space district

Candidates look to replace Hanko in district that includes portion of Menlo Park

By Gennady Sheyner

Their Palo Alto City Council tenures may be coming to an end, but Karen Holman and Greg Scharff are preparing to square off in another competitive election this year, as each is looking to fill a seat on the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District board of directors.

The two council members — and ideological rivals — are vying for the Ward 5 seat that for decades has been occupied by Nonette Hanko, a Palo Alto resident who in 1972 helped to found the district. Hanko’s decision not to run for another term has created the opportunity for the two former mayors, each of whom joined the council in 2009 and who in many ways personify the city’s ongoing debate over land use.

The ward includes East Palo Alto and portions of Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Stanford. Another former Palo Alto mayor, Yoriko Kishimoto, currently serves on the board and represents Ward 2, which encompasses Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and other portions of Palo Alto and Stanford.

As council members, Scharff and Holman have often clashed on policy issues, with Scharff generally voting along with the council’s more developer-friendly side and Holman representing the slower-growth side.

Each candidate, however, believes she or he is perfectly suited to serving on the Open Space board. Scharff cites his years on other regional boards charged with protecting the environment and distributing funds to restoration projects.

Holman points to her many years of advocating for environmental sustainability and open-space preservation, as well as her history of volunteering for the open-space district and her participation in shaping its vision.

Scharff is currently one of seven board members on the San Francisco Bay Area Restoration Authority, which raises and distributes funds for restoration projects around the San Francisco Bay. The authority in 2016 spearheaded Measure AA, a parcel tax that is projected to raise \$25 million for shoreline projects in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties, as well as San Francisco.

Scharff also has been serving on the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission since 2013. He currently chairs the organization’s five-member Enforcement Committee and serves as alternate to Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese.

Scharff told the Weekly that he found his work on the two boards “very fulfilling.” Joining the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, which in 2014 passed its own \$300 million bond (also known as Measure AA), would provide him with an opportunity to make sure public money is well-spent, he said.

“I have a lot of experience and strong skills on the finance side, in making sure the projects get implemented and implemented in the right way,” Scharff said.

While Scharff’s decision to jump into the race is relatively

recent, Holman has had her sights on the district seat for several years, ever since Hanko informed her that she would not be seeking another term and asked her to apply for her seat.

“I’ve always been an advocate for the environment, whether it’s open space, marshland habitat, trees — it’s in my blood,” Holman said. “Her asking me — that was an honor.”

A former Palo Alto planning commissioner and vociferous critic of new developments, Holman has years been involved in the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, having served on the Community Advisory Committee that helped the district establish its 2014 Vision Plan. She co-chaired the committee in 2015-16.

Holman has also served as the director of the Palo Alto History Museum and a board member of the Palo Alto Historical Association.

As the race heats up, both candidates are enlisting supporters. Scharff, who has tighter alliances within the broader state Democratic Party, said he has received the endorsements of Assemblyman Marc Berman, D-Palo Alto, and state Sen. Jerry Hill, D-San Mateo. Holman, who has strong support among neighborhood leaders and who has been a regular attendee at the district’s retreats and annual lunches, said she has already received the endorsements of six of the seven current board members (all but Cecily Harris). ▀

Gennady Sheyner writes for the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac’s sister paper.

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Diocese releases list of priests accused of sexual misconduct with children

By Bay City News Service

The Catholic Diocese of San Jose released on Oct. 18 a list of 15 priests, most of whom have died or been banned from the ministry, who it says were “credibly accused” of sexually abusing children.

One of the priests on the list, **Philip McCrillis**, was alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with children while at St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park and St. Albert the Great Parish in Palo Alto between 1968 and 1969.

According to the list, McCrillis was assigned to work at the St. Albert parish from 1966 to 1969, St. Anthony Parish in Menlo Park in 1969, and St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park from 1969 to 1972, before later assignments in San Jose and Los Altos. The allegations against him were first made in 2004, and he was permanently banned from ministry that year. He died in 2007.

Several others on the list had assignments in nearby parishes, most many years ago. They include:

■ **Arthur Harrison**, who was assigned at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Palo Alto from 1956 to 1960. Allegations made against

him were regarding subsequent assignments in San Jose and Novato.

■ **Alexander Larkin**, who was assigned at St. Pius X Parish in Redwood City from 1968 to 1974, at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Palo Alto from 1974 to 1981, at Stanford University Newman Center in 1987, and at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish from 1987 to 1992. Allegations of sexual misconduct with children during his time at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in the 1970s were made in 2003. He was put on “restricted” ministry in 2005 and permanently banned from ministry in 2009.

■ **George Moss** who was assigned at St. Joseph Parish in Mountain View from 1963 to 1976. Allegations of sexual misconduct there were reported in 2002, 2004 and 2012. He retired in 1976 and died in 1986.

■ **Leonel Noia**, who was assigned at St. Joseph Parish in Mountain View in 1975. Allegations against him involved a previous assignment at St. Patrick Parish in San Jose. He was convicted of the allegations in 1976. After incarceration until 1978, he went on to assignments in San Jose, and was permanently banned from ministry in 2002.

He died in 2005.

■ **Joseph Pritchard**, who was assigned at the Serra High School for Boys in San Mateo from 1956 to 1970. Allegations were made against him in 2003 and 2004 regarding a later assignment at St. Martin of Tours Parish in San Jose. He died in 1988.

■ **Hernan Toro**, who was assigned at St. Athanasius Parish in Mountain View from 1983 to 1984 and St. Aloysius Parish in Palo Alto from 1986 to 1988. He had previously been convicted of allegations from an assignment at the Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Alviso and was a registered sex offender. He was permanently banned from ministry in 1990.

The list does not go into detail about the nature of the crimes reported, which date back to 1961 in some cases, but it does list all known locations where the named priest worked during his career with the Catholic Church.

It also contains the years in which crimes by specific priests were first reported, some of which were as late as 2006; and when that priest died, was banned from ministry, or was placed on “restricted ministry,” which means he was reassigned to administrative duties and

allowed to participate in Mass only with permission from the bishop and under supervision.

Several of the priests are still alive, and the list includes information of their current whereabouts.

Rev. Don Flickinger, who was first reported in 2002 and permanently banned from the ministry in 2006, is said to be in the vicinity of the Diocese of Fresno.

Robert Gray, who was reported and convicted in 1993, then permanently banned in 2002, is said to be in the Sunnyvale area.

Alexander Larkin, who was first reported in 2003 and permanently banned in 2009, is said to reside in the San Jose area, as is Phil Sunseri, who was first reported in 1987 and permanently banned in 1988.

Hernan Toro, who was reported, convicted and forced to register as a sex offender in 1983, is said to currently reside in the San Leandro area.

The list, which includes names of priests only if the accusations against them were “determined to be credible,” may be incomplete, however. That term covers only those who admitted to the offense, were convicted in criminal court, or deemed as such by the Independent Diocesan

Review Board (or) Sensitive Incident Team.

The diocese says that additional names may be added to its list once the priest in question meets the criteria noted above.

Joey Piscitelli, Northern California leader for the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, provided a list of six priests whose names do not appear on the diocese’s list. He also suspects there may be additional priests who have yet to be named and may still be working in ministry.

“It sounds way short,” Piscitelli said. “I’m sure there’s a lot more.”

“The dioceses never give a complete list,” he added.

Piscitelli argued that the diocese may be offering up an abbreviated list of accused priests in an attempt to “beat the government investigators to the punch” if they launch a major criminal investigation.

He’s also argued that this effort at transparency may be an effort to stem the loss of parishioners who may leave the church as a result of recent headlines.

Go to is.gd/priest068 to access the full list.

Kate Bradshaw contributed to this report.

Luisa “Lilo” Miller

Luisa “Lilo” Miller died peacefully on October 11, 2018 at Palo Alto Commons where she resided for 3+ years. Previously, she lived in Menlo Park for 20 years where she had been an active birder and walker, jazz lover, volunteer at Gamble Garden and a member of the Palo Alto Garden Club and Newcomers Club. She became an avid sports fan of the Stanford Cardinal and the Golden State Warriors.



Fluent in German and Spanish, Lilo volunteered as a Spanish-language interpreter for families at Stanford Hospital and had worked for years as a translator for the New Jersey courts. She enjoyed traveling and loved to spend summers at the Jersey Shore on Long Beach Island with her family.

Lilo was born in Montevideo, Uruguay and spent her childhood in Buenos Aires, Argentina with her parents, Karl and Irma Oertel, and older sister, Irma. She obtained her master’s degree in biochemistry at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and came to the United States in 1963 to pursue doctoral studies in pharmacy at the University of Florida and Rutgers University. While studying in Florida, she met her husband, George, to whom she was married for 53 years. Together, they had two daughters, Claudia (Brian Perry) and Michele (Chris Heitzman), and four grandchildren, Kayla, Jack, Marcus, and Theo. In addition to Argentina, Florida, and California, she lived in Richmond, Virginia, Borstel, Germany, and Montville, New Jersey.

In addition to her love for family and friends, Lilo was passionate about women’s health issues, scientific research, and the environment. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Planned Parenthood, the Nature Conservancy, or the Alzheimer’s Association.

PAID OBITUARY

Menlo Park council making plans to pick new city manager

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

How should Menlo Park’s next city manager be chosen? And who will take on the duties of the post in the meantime?

Those were urgent questions to answer for Menlo Park’s City Council on Oct. 9. City Manager Alex McIntyre has announced he plans to leave his post to take on the role of city manager for the city of Ventura by the end of the month.

During the Oct. 9 council meeting, Mayor Peter Ohtaki outlined the three stages of the plan to replace McIntyre: First, finding an interim city manager to bridge the gap until a new, permanent manager is hired; second, choosing and hiring a recruiting firm to conduct the search for a permanent manager; and third, interviewing and hiring the new manager.

The council agreed unanimously to form a subcommittee, made up of Ohtaki and Vice Mayor Ray Mueller, that will work on the effort until the new council is seated in December. The subcommittee

will essentially tee up as much as possible so that the new council can begin the search process in earnest, likely after the holiday season.

Ohtaki volunteered because, he said, he was on the selection committee about six and a half years ago when the city chose McIntyre as city manager.

In the interim

To find an interim manager quickly, it may be faster to pick someone already on staff, but that person is likely to have a full workload already. Should the city not choose someone to take the reins by McIntyre’s departure, Diaz said, the council could appoint a member of the city’s executive team to serve as an acting city manager.

Administrative Services Director Lenka Diaz noted in the staff report that if the council picks an existing city employee, it would on the plus



Photo courtesy city of Menlo Park
Alex McIntyre

side be a faster process, since the employee would probably understand how Menlo Park works, and the council members would probably know more about the top manager they’re working with.

However, she noted, such a candidate is probably already in a leadership role that would also need to be back-filled, and could leave an open position in an already-sparse management tier of city employees. Currently, seven of 24 management positions are vacant in the city, according to staff.

Recruiter

The city is seeking proposals from recruiting firms; a subcommittee could have recommendations prepared as soon as Oct. 23, Diaz said.

When it comes to picking a permanent city manager, the city should hire an executive search firm, but the degree to which the council and public are involved can vary.

She noted that the city should expect to spend about \$28,500 or more for the recruiter.

See **CITY MANAGER**, page 12



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A moving musical memoir

By Karla Kane

I've been eagerly anticipating "Fun Home" by TheatreWorks Silicon Valley for months. The groundbreaking toast of Broadway in 2015, "Fun Home" is the Tony-winning musical memoir based on cartoonist Alison Bechdel's acclaimed graphic novel of the same name. Because it's been so buzzed about, I briefly worried that my expectations would be perhaps too high. Happily, the show is as strong, moving and well-done as I'd hoped.

Like the autobiographical graphic novel, the stage version of "Fun Home" is a non-linear exploration of Bechdel's childhood and young adulthood, including her coming out, and especially her complicated relationship with her late father, Bruce.

Because the story is an autobiography, told in Bechdel's narrative voice, the live show puts adult Alison (Moirira Stone) on stage the whole time as if she were working on the creation of the book, framing the scenes and captioning them aloud as she goes. The action revolves back and forth between modern

day Alison, Small Alison (Lila Gold, with Ruth Keith in select performances) as a child in the 1970s and Medium Alison (Erin Kommor) in college in the 1980s. The "fun home" of the title is the family-run funeral home, where Bruce (James Lloyd Reynolds) works as a part-time mortician. He's also a high-school English teacher but his greatest passion is his Gothic Revival house, which he's meticulously restored and keeps like a museum.

Bruce is not a happy man. Gay but unsuccessfully closeted, he takes his unhappiness out on his long-suffering wife, Helen (Crissy Guerrero), and children, who include sons Christian (Jack Barrett, with Dylan Kento Curtis in select performances) and John (Billy Hutton, with Oliver Copaken Yellin) in addition to Alison.

Alison clearly adores her father and wants to please him; they find common ground over literature and at times, she says, he "appeared to enjoy having children." However, he's controlling, prone to angry outbursts and, thanks to his repressed true self, unable to really express his emotions. Medium Alison, who embraces her lesbian identity in college, falling in love with bold, comfortable-in-her-skin Joan (Ayelet Firstenberg), is absolutely shocked to learn her father, too, is gay. She attempts to connect with him on a new level but is unable to break through.



Photos courtesy of Kevin Berne/TheatreWorks

"Fun Home" is a musical memoir based on cartoonist Alison Bechdel's graphic novel.

Tragically, he dies at age 44 by probable suicide, leaving her with many regrets, questions and poignant memories.

Heavy topics, certainly, but Bechdel's work and the musical based on it (lyrics and book by Lisa Kron and music by Jeanine Tesori) is full of humor and sweetness, too. The Jackson 5 pastiche "Come to the Fun Home," the Bechdel siblings' homemade commercial for the funeral home, is hilarious and groovy, and the three child actors show off their considerable energy and talents. Kommor as Medium Alison gets her own sweet, funny solo with "Changing My Major," sung after she's just embarked on her relationship with Joan.

"Ring of Keys," the show's standout number, is an exhilarating example of successful songwriting. Capturing the moment at which Small Alison feels a kinship with and attraction to an "old-school butch" delivery woman, the song is simple but breathtaking. The lyrics describe the confusing twinges Small Alison is feeling in language that feels full of authentic childlike wonder. Tesori's melody absolutely soars. Full of ache, longing and joy, it captures Small Alison's awakening, not necessarily in a sexual or romantic way but in her steps toward discovering her identity. It's got the catchiness of a pop-radio single and has no doubt become both an LGBTQ anthem and a staple of many a young girl's audition repertoire. It's a lot to rest on the shoulders of a child performer but Gold delivers it beautifully.

As adult Alison, Stone particularly shines in the heartbreaking number "Telephone Wire," which depicts Alison and Bruce's

last drive together. She implores herself and her father to "say something" meaningful before it's too late. As Bruce, Reynolds effectively portrays both the good and bad sides of this deeply miserable yet compelling man. Guerrero, as mom Helen, gets a chance to say her piece in the powerful "Days and Days" (Bechdel, by the way, has written a second autobiographical book about her relationship with her mother). Rounding out the cast is Michael Doppe, who plays Bruce's various illicit-affair partners as well as, in a fantasy sequence, the lead singer in a "Partridge Family"-esque family band.

Set design by Andrea Bechert, costumes by B. Modern, musical direction by the reliable William Liberatore and direction by TheatreWorks head Robert Kelley all help to make the show a success. Though I had expected to see the production use more of Bechdel's original drawings, TheatreWorks follows the Broadway version's example of showing just one, of a touching moment depicting Small Alison and Bruce together.

"Fun Home" is a very personal and specific story of one woman and her memories of her dysfunctional family. However, it's one that resonates with anyone who's ever had a complicated relationship or who's struggled with finding and embracing their identity. That is to say, everyone. **A**



The Bechdel family (Billy Hutton, Jack Barrett, Crissy Guerrero and Lila Gold) attempts to be perfect for unhappy father Bruce (James Lloyd Reynolds) in "Fun Home."

CITY MANAGER

continued from page 10

Permanent manager

McIntyre said that involving the public in the selection process carries pros and cons.

Someone currently serving as a city manager in one place may hesitate to interview for another job if it's too public, because it

can carry repercussions in the manager's home city if the name is leaked and the person doesn't get the job.

"The process has to remain confidential, and any sign that it's not going to be confidential and you will lose candidates," McIntyre said.

"It's a difficult process to put yourself in. I will say my name

was leaked. I was on the front page of the newspaper. And that did not help my process," he said, referring to the process he went through when being selected for city manager position in Menlo Park.

Hiring a new city manager will be a different process from what it was six years ago, council member Kirsten Keith noted, given the

substantial city manager turnover locally. The city of East Palo Alto just lost its city manager, Carlos Martinez, to the city of Richmond, and Half Moon Bay recently chose Robert Nisbet for its new manager, pending council approval. San Mateo just announced as its new city manager former Menlo Park Finance Director Drew Corbett. **A**

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Man sentenced to life in prison for 2011 fatal shooting in Menlo Park

A 45-year-old transient has been sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for a fatal drive-by shooting in Menlo Park in 2011, San Mateo County prosecutors said Monday.

Jermaine Jones was convicted in March of the murder of 19-year-old Stockton resident Carl Purvis Jr. in the area of Newbridge Street and Almanor Avenue on the evening of Aug. 18, 2011.

Jones pulled up alongside Purvis' car and fired several shots into it. Purvis was hit in the abdomen and was able to drive a few blocks away but pulled to the side of the road and bled to death, prosecutors said.

Jones was eventually arrested in Stockton in October 2014 with the murder weapon in his car.

The murder conviction came after a 23-day trial and four days of jury deliberations. At his sentencing hearing Friday, several of the

victim's family members spoke, as did Jones, who again denied responsibility for the murder, prosecutors said.

Along with the prison sentence, Jones was ordered to pay more than \$9,000 to the victim's father plus other restitution yet to be determined.

Jones' defense attorney Eric Hove was not immediately available to comment on the sentencing.

Bay City News Service

Correction

An Oct. 17 story about the Woodside Town Council's adoption of a new ethics code credited Councilman Tom Livermore for the idea of revising the old code in the wake of an alleged code violation that led to an investigation and threatened lawsuit that were costly in attorneys' fees and community cohesion.

The code actually changed as a result of a settlement the town agreed to that included a stipulation requiring a committee of town residents to work with the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University to evaluate the old code.

The story erred in citing the cost to the town of at least \$33,384 in attorneys' fees for the investigation and for subsequently reaching a settlement. The total was at least \$68,384.

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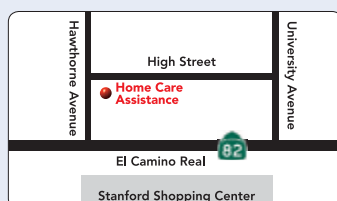


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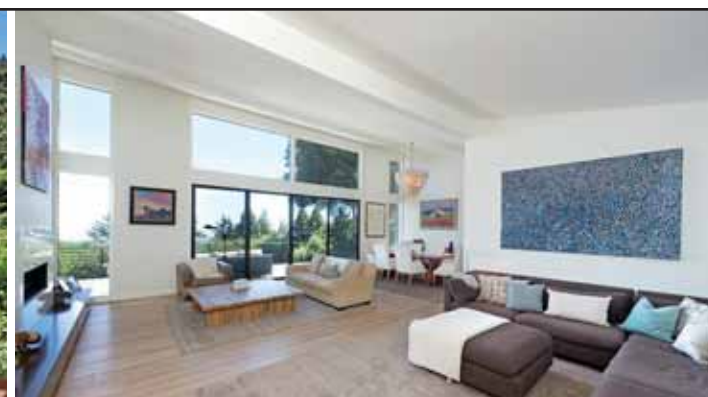
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County pushes sales tax Measure W for transportation projects

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Can voters countywide be convinced to support yet another sales tax? Supporters of Measure W, a proposed 30-year, countywide half-cent sales tax for transportation that requires a two-thirds majority to pass, hope the answer is “Yes.”

Measure W, if passed, would generate about \$80 million a year —and \$2.4 billion over 30 years — for the San Mateo County Transit District. Revenue would be split based on set percentages, going toward a range of transportation-related projects

The tax would apply to all sales transactions of “tangible goods” that take place in the county, not including groceries or services.

Supporters of the measure say the funding is needed to continue critical bus and paratransit services in the county, and to adapt SamTrans’ capabilities to do more than provide basic bus services. Opponents — from multiple points on the political spectrum — disagree with the tax or don’t support where the funding will go as outlined in a proposed spending plan designed to be flexible enough to cover 30 years.

Much of the debate around the measure boils down to questions about what really works when it

comes to unclogging the county’s transportation networks.

The plan

Measure W proposes to put the tax revenue toward a “Congestion Relief Plan,” broken down into transportation project types, each intended to receive a designated percentage of the revenue, and each with a list of sample projects that could be funded over the duration of the tax.

Some of the sample projects for road improvements (22.5 percent of the measure) include building grade separations on Bayfront Expressway in Menlo Park; installing express lanes on Bayfront Expressway in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto; reconfiguring Interstate 280 and Alpine Road in unincorporated San Mateo County; making highway interchange improvements along U.S. 101 at Woodside Road and University Avenue; and creating a countywide transportation demand management program to promote alternatives to solo driving.

Ten percent of the funding would go to cities for projects like paving streets, fixing potholes, funding shuttles, sponsoring carpools, promoting biking and pedestrian programs, coordinating signals, and pursuing grade separations for Caltrain. Two-and-a-half percent would be strictly for grade separations. Funding for each city would be determined based on its population

and road mileage. About 1.88 percent of the funding in this category would go to Atherton, 3.2 percent to East Palo Alto, 4.89 percent to Menlo Park, 1.49 percent to Portola Valley, 1.79 percent to Woodside, and 12.54 to unincorporated San Mateo County. In areas where roads are bad, the funding would have to go toward paving improvements until they reach a standard level of quality.

Another 5 percent of the funding would go to bicycle, pedestrian and other “active transportation” projects aimed at making walking and biking safer and more convenient in the county.

Ten percent would go toward infrastructure and services to improve transit connectivity in the region. This is the funding pool that could support a Dumbarton corridor project — a collection of proposals approved by the county transportation agency to get people to and from the East Bay along the Dumbarton vehicle bridge and via a potential rebuild of the rail bridge.

This funding pool could generate as much as \$240 million over 30 years, substantially more than the \$130 million dedicated to Dumbarton corridor improvements that voters approved as part of Regional Measure 3 (the bridge toll tax increase) in June, according to San Mateo County Board of Supervisors President Dave Pine.

The other half of the measure’s

funding is proposed to go toward supporting operations and capital needs of the SamTrans bus and paratransit service, Caltrain, “and other mobility services administered by the district.” Projects in this category include initiatives for SamTrans such as increasing bus frequency, expanding bus service hours, and providing better options for commuters to travel more easily between home, transit and job centers. For Caltrain, those projects include investments to expand service after electrification, and boost ridership capacity.

SamTrans plan

The business plan’s authors point out that nationally and locally, bus ridership is down, while ridership on paratransit services is up, and expected to climb in the future. The county’s population of residents over 65 years old is expected to rise 137 percent between 2010 and 2040, the plan states, so it’s anticipated that there will be more demand for paratransit services, with many more people who may have difficulty driving and otherwise getting where they need to go. While the district is looking at ways to reduce paratransit costs, it also seeks to improve its offerings for other users by providing affordable transit to those with no vehicle and a viable alternative for those who do have the option of driving.

The agency also aims to convert its entire fleet of buses to electric power. On Oct. 15,

SamTrans started using 10 new electric buses it had purchased. Pine said the agency has pledged not to purchase any more diesel-powered buses. Converting the fleet to all-electric buses will also require charging infrastructure to be installed too, the plan points out.

But beyond maintaining and improving its traditional bus services, explained Jeff Gee, district board member and Redwood City councilman, SamTrans aims to expand its position beyond bus operator to “mobility manager,” taking a more active role in promoting alternatives to driving solo. That means getting involved with projects like improving bus shelters and park & rides, and partnering with Lyft or Uber to help people get that “last mile” to work or home from transit hubs.

A and W

While such changes may sound intriguing, some county residents may feel a sense of déjà vu: A proposal for a half-cent sales tax for transportation, again?

The county already has a half-cent sales tax for transportation: Measure A, which generates about \$80 million a year now. The first iteration of that tax was passed in 1988, and it was renewed in 2004 to last until 2033.

That plan breaks down spending differently, with 30 percent for transit, 27.5 percent for highways, 22.5 percent for local streets and transportation, 15 percent for grade separations, 3 percent for pedestrians and bike projects, and 1 percent for “alternative congestion relief programs.”

And Measure A isn’t going anywhere, at least until it expires in 2033.

Because there are already several sales taxes in the county, a separate state law had to be passed to increase the limit in San Mateo County.

Funding needed

Yet proponents of the measure say that the transit district needs the money.

“If this doesn’t pass, we will see a reduction of rail, bus and paratransit in San Mateo County,” said Michele Beasley, co-chair of Neighbors for Congestion Relief and board member of TransForm, a group that “promotes walkable communities with excellent transportation choices,” (according to its mission statement).

Simply put, Supervisor Pine



NOTICE INVITING BIDS TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

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JANITORIAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Services includes the janitorial maintenance of Town owned buildings. Maintenance includes the upkeep and cleaning of facilities two (2) days per week with the exception of the Police Department and Library, which require three (3) days a week service and the Playground and Little League restrooms, which require seven (7) day per week service.

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

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, **until 3:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on Wednesday, November 14, 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 **JANITORIAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES**”, along with date and time of bid opening.

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Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

said, “Our transportation systems haven’t kept pace with the growth of our economy.”

“First off, we do have a structural deficit with SamTrans that needs to be addressed,” Pine said. “More importantly, we want to initiate programs that will encourage people to use the buses more.”

Pine and Gee pointed to the co-dependence of the county’s transportation authority on other transit agencies — SamTrans is not just about buses, they emphasize, but its finances are tied to obligations to both Caltrain and BART.

SamTrans is operating at a loss, Pine said, and with current spending patterns, the agency’s reserves are expected to be depleted by the 2023-24 fiscal year. And by the 2034 fiscal year, when the agency’s debt to BART is paid off, it’s expected to be in the red by about \$493 million.

One reason for the deficit, Pine said, is that unlike Caltrain, which recovers about 80 percent of its costs from customers — and is itself struggling for sufficient funding — SamTrans recovers only a fraction of its costs from fares.

Opposition

Opponents to the measure raise a number of criticisms, not just with the tax, but with the type of tax, and elements of the proposed spending plan. On the roster of opponents are the usual anti-tax suspects, like the county’s Libertarian and GOP party representatives. But others who come from the other, greener side of the political spectrum are on that roster as well. They argue that the measure puts too much funding into highway projects, and not enough into grade separations or bicycle and pedestrian projects.

Former Menlo Park council member John Boyle, chair of the county’s GOP party, said he is bothered by the lack of specificity within each of the measure’s spending categories in the plan. “I think it’s a misleading proposition, in the sense that most of this money could be spent on things besides improving roads,” he said.

As he sees it, the measure could become more of a “let’s get people out of their cars” tax, rather than a congestion-relief measure. A lot of people need cars to get around, and initiatives to educate people about why they should ride their bikes or walk places won’t necessarily change that, he argued.

“If we’re going to cough up that money and sign up for a regressive tax like this,” he

argued, voters should know what they’re going to get out of it. Sales taxes are often characterized as “regressive,” meaning they are applied the same way to all people, regardless of income, and therefore take a larger proportion of a lower-income person’s earnings.

Another key criticism raised against the measure is the allocation of only 2.5 percent for grade separations, which are considered crucial by many to keep roadways safe and not cripple them with traffic when Caltrain’s electrification is complete and more trains start running along the rail line. Pine said he advocated for more funding for such separations, but only the modest designation was set aside. Cities will be able put their transportation funding allocations toward such grade separations too, he added.

Environmental concerns

Gladwyn D’Souza, who chairs the transportation committee of the Loma Prieta chapter of the Sierra Club, said his group opposes the measure, in part, because of the spending record of the existing sales tax. He said he believes that the county’s transportation resources are going toward “continuing to build an incomplete system,” and putting more funding into improving roadways for cars instead of fixing the gaps to create a comprehensive public transit network. The problem, he said, is that the only way to effectively get from point A to B in the county now is by car. Other methods take twice as long, aren’t safe, or don’t get you where you want to go.

Andrew Boone, an East Palo Alto resident and advocate for biking, said he opposes the commitment of 22.5 percent of the

sales tax for highway projects, and wants far more to go toward public transit.

“We supposedly think of ourselves as a progressive, innovative region,” he said. “Why do we have to limp along with a crappy bus system a lot of people can’t use?”

Meanwhile, he argued, highway-widening projects are well-studied, and don’t effectively decrease traffic in the long-term because wider roads attract more vehicles, a concept termed “induced demand.” Instead, highway project funding should go toward making them safer to reduce car accidents and fatalities.

He pointed to the report recently released by the U.N.’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which asserts that fast, far-reaching and unprecedented efforts must be made to reduce the impacts of global

warming from catastrophic levels, including reducing global human-caused carbon dioxide emissions by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, and reaching net zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.

The 30-year tax, if approved, would last until 2049, when people should no longer be using fossil fuels, he said. “They’re ignoring climate change.”

In response to the criticism that the measure puts too much funding into highway projects, Pine clarified that the highway projects are primarily focused on addressing bottlenecks. He added, “We’re seeing more investment in non-highway projects than ever before.”

“It’s certainly not a cure-all, but it moves in the right direction,” he said. ■

For an expanded version of this story, go to tinyurl.com/MeasureW1024.

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BootUp Ventures' neighbors may see relief from noise

By Sue Dremann

A Menlo Park business that nearby Palo Alto residents say has been a nuisance for three years must cease holding events at its offices, Menlo Park officials said in a letter to the company.

The Oct. 5 letter to Mukul Agarwal, managing partner at BootUp Ventures, a startup-networking business at 68 Willow Road, stated the company

must cease immediately holding events, receptions or other gatherings and from advertising its spaces for events on its website.

The company, which was founded in 2013, bills itself as a "startup ecosystem co-working and event space." It advertises co-working spaces, a business accelerator, corporate workshops and event venues for rent at prices ranging from \$80 to \$500 per hour.

Residents of Palo Alto's

Downtown North neighborhood, which lies just across the San Francisquito Creek from BootUp, said the events create unwanted noise from people shouting, laughing and talking loudly and from amplified music. The problem has gone unabated for about three years, they said, despite their complaints to Menlo Park staff and elected officials.

"All afternoon, it was just blasting out from there, all over

our neighborhood," resident Anne Meyer said of a Sept. 15 foundation fundraiser that was attended by about 300 people. The event had amplified music and took place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., according to the application.

Andres Mediavilla, a Palo Alto Avenue resident whose home is immediately across the creek from BootUp, told the Weekly that the problem has become so persistent that he has considered filing a lawsuit. On Oct. 4, he wrote to Menlo Park city officials regarding an event.

"We could still hear people being loud and screaming at 9 p.m.," Mediavilla wrote. "BootUp has been organizing events without the proper permits on average of twice per week for the last three years in complete violation of their C-1 zoning rules."

Neighbors have called Menlo Park police numerous times, Mediavilla said, and he and his attorney have communicated several times with Menlo Park City Attorney Bill McClure. (McClure is currently out of the office and could not be reached for comment.)

Mediavilla and his partner presented concerns at a Menlo Park City Council meeting last December, and he said he communicated several times with the city's code-enforcement officer. A police commander who was said to be in charge of the matter didn't reply to Mediavilla's inquiries, the resident said.

"All our efforts have been utterly fruitless. The city of Menlo Park's apathy and inactivity to resolve this situation makes it appear as if the city of Menlo Park condones BootUp's violations and that it is biased on enforcing their zoning rules," he wrote in his letter.

"These constant events are negatively impacting our quality of life by preventing the peaceful enjoyment of our home and surroundings," he wrote.

But now, the city is finally taking action. In its letter to BootUp, Menlo Park staff said the business is allowing unpermitted activities. The property is zoned C-1, which is limited to professional, executive and administrative offices; research facilities; public utilities; and some special uses in accordance with applicable laws, according to city ordinance.

"The property at 68 Willow Road cannot be used for hosting, conducting or renting (e.g., conference room or the patio) for special events, receptions, workshops, and/or other gatherings. These uses are not permitted under the current use permit

for general-office uses. All such activities and advertisement as an event venue on the BootUp website will need to cease immediately," wrote Deanna Chow, assistant director of community development and planning.

She cited the business' 2007 application to the city's Planning Commission for new landscaping and outdoor improvements.

"The patio was described as a passive area with reading benches and a water fountain that would connect via a path to a new passive seating area adjacent to the creek. There was no mention of any active use of the patio for events, receptions or other gatherings in either the application or discussion at the Planning Commission meeting," Chow's letter noted.

BootUp will need to seek a revision of its use permit if it wants to conduct outdoor gatherings and social events associated with office use, she noted. A new permit application would require a full accounting of the types of activities, their frequency, times and locations, use of amplified sound and the number of attendees, among other data.

But in no case can the site be used as an event center for patrons who are unaffiliated with the business, the letter noted.

Such a restriction would appear to dampen BootUps' current practices.

"Event space for any occasion," the website offered, as recently as Oct. 17.

The choices include business networking to conference rooms; professional catering; outdoor events; corporate off-site presentations; and "formal evening," which offers indoor dining for up to 48 people. Its Startup Cafe for professional networking events accommodates up to 130 people at a rate of \$500 per hour; the outdoor patio can be rented for \$200 an hour, according to the website.

The change can't come fast enough for the neighbors.

BootUp's location is not appropriate for "a nightclub kind of thing," LaNell Mimmack said.

Mimmack went to BootUp when it first opened to find out what was going on.

"I think they offered me a beer," she recalled.

BootUp has not responded to requests for comment. Mark Muenzer, Menlo Park's community development director, said the company has not replied to the Oct. 5 letter. ■

Sue Dremann writes for the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister paper.

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Courtesy Dave Gildea

An eastbound bicyclist travels the improved Sand Hill Road route across Interstate 280.

Improved bike lanes the result of long but diligent effort

Sand Hill Road bicyclists now have a safer route crossing the freeway

By Dave Gildea

There are new bike lanes across the overpasses where Sand Hill Road crosses Interstate 280. The heroes for this are Don Horsley, San Mateo County supervisor, and Joe Lo Coco of the county's Department of Public Works.

Several previous efforts for improved bike lanes for this intersection had failed because the designs were not acceptable to Caltrans, or funds for the projects depended on grants from Caltrans and the agency did not approve the grants. Horsley solved the second problem by successfully pushing for a \$120,000 allocation from the county budget for the project. Lo Coco resolved the first problem by working with bike advocates for a design that was acceptable to Caltrans.

The zone where Sand Hill Road crosses I-280 has long been known to be dangerous for bicyclists. The overpass in the westbound direction had a center bike lane with a substandard narrow width that was only semi-visible with white dashes. Bicyclists were passed on both sides by cars traveling at high speeds within a few feet of them. Cars changed lanes across the bike lane at any point.

The eastbound direction overpass was even worse. High-speed drivers mixed with bicyclists in the same traffic

lane. Cars from southbound 280 would come around the cloverleaf at near freeway speeds to immediately merge into the same lane as the eastbound bikes.

San Mateo County Transportation Information Management System (TIMS) data from 2005 to 2013 showed that there were more car-bike collisions at the Sand Hill-280 intersection than at the Woodside-280 and Alpine-280 intersections combined, even before the Alpine intersection was improved in 2013 after there was a fatal truck-bike collision.

Several thousand recreational bicyclists ride Sand Hill Road across the I-280 intersection each week as a part of the nationally known Portola "loop." Bike riders from the Midpeninsula cross this intersection to ride up to Skyline and the coast. Bike commuters who live west of I-280 cross this intersection for jobs in Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Stanford.

The project to improve bike safety at the Sand Hill Road-280 intersection started with a chance encounter between me and Supervisor Horsley at an April 2016 fundraiser for Marc Berman, who was running for state Assembly. Horsley was immediately responsive and sensitive to the general issue of bike safety, and following this meeting, Bill Kirsch, Cindy

Welton and I formed an ad hoc group to work with Horsley for bike safety improvements at several sites in south San Mateo County.

The Sand Hill Road crossing of I-280 was one of the most hazardous of these sites. Although both Bill and Cindy were members of the Menlo Park Bike Commission, and Menlo Park City Council members Ray Mueller and Kirsten Keith supported the effort, the ad hoc group had no official ties to any official government organization or even to any other bike group. The ad hoc group organized several site visits, many meetings and hundreds of communications with government officials. Many other bike advocates, especially John Langbein, contributed. The goal was to achieve greater bike safety while maintaining the same level of automobile throughput.

The eastbound and westbound directions for Sand Hill/280 had different challenges. For the eastbound direction, Caltrans had previously stated that the overpass would not accommodate a bike lane unless the overpass was widened. This would require a cantilever construction which would certainly exceed the county's funds. We didn't

See **BIKE LANES**, page 28

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NOTICE OF VACANCY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF WARD 7

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the office of Director of Ward 7 on the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District became vacant on October 11, 2018. Ward 7 includes the cities of El Granada, Half Moon Bay, Montara, Moss Beach, San Carlos, and portions of Redwood City and Woodside.

The remaining members of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District intend to appoint a successor who will serve the current, unexpired term of Director of Ward 7, which ends on January 4, 2021. The appointment will be made on November 27, at a meeting to be held at 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos, California, 94022 at 7:00 p.m.

- THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT invites interested candidates to submit an application to fill the vacant position of Director representing District Ward 7 for an unexpired term ending January 4, 2021, through the next general District election in November 2020.

THE DISTRICT

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is an independent, non-enterprise, California Special District whose mission is to purchase and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education. To date, the District protects and manages more than 63,000 acres of open space.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS:
November 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- 18 years and older
- Registered Voter residing within the boundaries of District Ward 7

WHERE TO OBTAIN THE APPLICATION:

- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Office
330 Distel Circle, Los Altos
- District website: www.openspace.org

For further information, please contact Jennifer Woodworth, District Clerk at (650) 691-1200.



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For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit:

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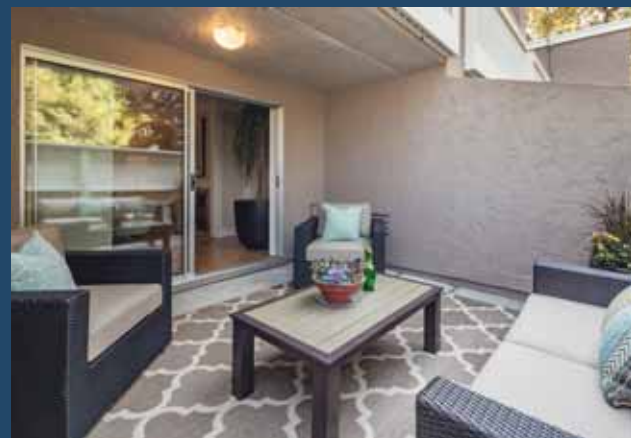
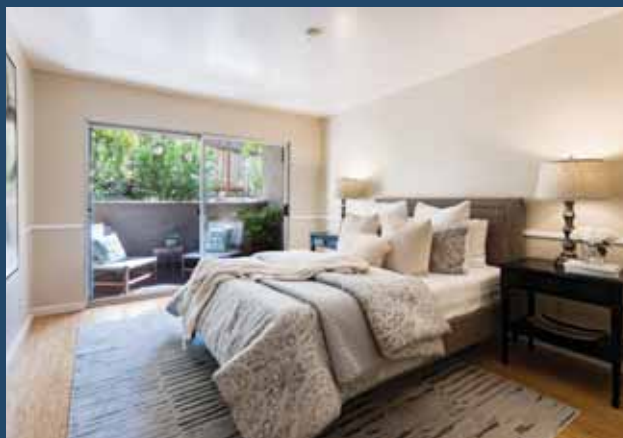
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Nestled in the esteemed Sharon Heights neighborhood of Menlo Park, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath condominium offers upscale convenience, efficiency, and centrality to top attractions. Occupying a ground-floor end-unit space, this property offers privacy and peaceful views of the grounds. The spacious interior is outfitted with custom closets that provide valuable and abundant storage space. Marble detailing, bamboo floors, granite kitchen countertops, a master suite, and two patios offer desired style and serenity. Enjoy the common swimming pool at your leisure, dine at award-winning Madera or Mitsunobu, or explore Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club, peaceful Sharon Park, scenic Sand Hill Road, and hiking trails along Alpine Road. Children can attend excellent schools in the Las Lomas School District, including Las Lomas Elementary, La Entrada Middle, and Menlo-Atherton High (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE

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1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit:

www.675SharonPark134.com

Giving Voice

Young writer chronicles travails of life for girls and women in India

Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Sophia Nesamoney in her home office in Atherton, where she wrote most of her recently published book about the lives of girls and women in India, and also works on college applications and high school homework.



‘I really wanted to use my passion for writing to help out in any way I could.’

By Barbara Wood

Sophia Nesamoney says she learned when she was very young about “the power of a voice.”

“A voice is so important, and many people don’t have that voice,” she says. The Atherton teen also discovered that as a writer she could give a voice to others by telling their stories.

Sophia’s just-released second novel, “The Other Side of the Bridge,” gives voices to an array of young women and girls from India: a 7-year-old given up by her father and sold as a child laborer, an impoverished 15-year-old abandoned by

her husband as she is about to have her second child, a 16-year-old aspiring doctor pulled from school to be married off to a 50-year-old man, and a 21-year-old Indian-American journalism student named Varsha, who was adopted as a 5-year-old from a Kolkata orphanage and whose life is changed by those she meets during a summer reporting trip to India.

While telling those stories, Sophia, 17, paints a vivid portrait of India: its cities, slums and countryside, along with its traditions, clothing and food. The bridge of the title is a Kolkata bridge that literally spans the river dividing the slums of Varsha’s orphanage from the neighborhood of high-rise office buildings and luxury hotels her adoptive parents bring her to, but figuratively keeps those who have away from those who do not.

The stories Sophia tells, she says, “are not only stories of hardship, but also of hope.”

The novel is based on people Sophia met and observed during many trips to India, which she has been visiting at least once a year her entire life. Although Sophia has lived in Atherton since she was born, her parents, Usha and Diaz Nesamoney, were both born in India, and many relatives still live there.

On several of Sophia’s trips to India she interviewed people whose stories inform her novel. The American India Foundation sent Sophia to talk with women about rural newborn and maternal health services, and most

recently Sophia used a fellowship awarded by her school to interview child sex-trafficking victims.

Unlike the budding journalist in her novel, however, Sophia has been accompanied on most of her trips to India by her mother. The reporting trip about maternal and newborn health occurred when Sophia was only 15. Her first novel was published when she was 12. She is now a senior at Castilleja School in Palo Alto, where she says she is applying to colleges that might allow her to study medicine, global health and writing, hoping to find a “bridge between the sciences and the humanities.”

In addition to writing for her high school newspaper, Sophia plays tennis and coaches a middle school tennis team; is part of her school’s robotics team; has worked on a phone app to teach human anatomy; was one of three global finalists in a public health challenge contest to track and treat those with Ebola; and recently co-founded a startup, attach’d, to make women’s clothing more functional with attachable pockets.

Society of Young Inklings

Both Sophia’s current book and her first novel, “The Other Side of Carroll,” were published by the Society of Young Inklings, an organization dedicated to encouraging and supporting young writers that was started by Naomi

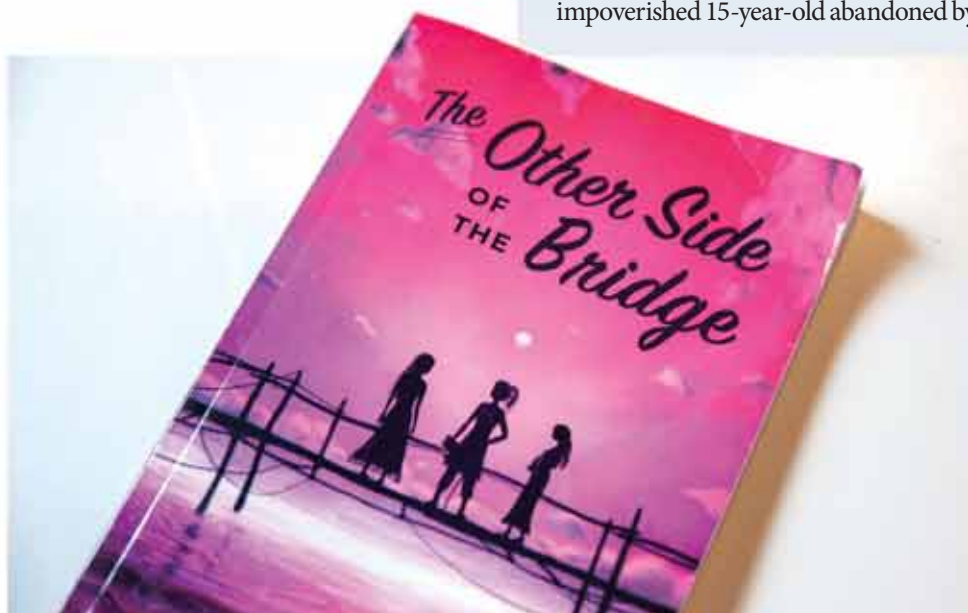


Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

“The Other Side of the Bridge” is Sophia Nesamoney’s second book. Both books were published by the Society of Young Inklings, an organization that encourages young authors.

'I was really just a curious kid. I wanted to go further and kind of explore.'

Kinsman of San Jose in 2008. Sophia says when she was 8, a Young Inklings writing workshop at her school, Phillips Brooks in Menlo Park, helped her discover her love for writing.

"I was really just a curious kid," Sophia says. "I wanted to go further and kind of explore."

"I've always loved creating stories in my head," she says.

Sophia's current novel was sparked during a family trip to Lake Tahoe, where her younger brother, now an eighth-grader at Menlo School in Atherton, was part of a ski team. "I was just sitting in the hotel room really bored, so I started writing," she says.

After Sophia sent the Society of Young Inklings a first draft of the book, written over a six-month period, she was partnered with Ailynn Knox-Collins, who served as a mentor and editor over six more months.

American India Foundation

When she was entering eighth grade, Sophia became a part of the youth ambassador program of the American India Foundation, an organization formed by former President Bill Clinton and Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 2001 after the devastating Gujarat earthquake. In Bangalore, India, she and other students explored the effects of the lack of clean, accessible water.

"That kind of exposed me to a lot of different issues," Sophia says, including the reality that young girls often must travel long distances in sometimes unsafe circumstances for water. "I really wanted to use my passion for writing to help out in any way I could," she says.

The foundation sent Sophia, when she was 15, to rural communities in the eastern Indian state of Jharkhand, partnered with trained female health workers, called sahiyas, to gather stories from women about newborn and maternal health. "Women often give birth at home" because hospitals are often not available, she learned.

"I was really inspired by the sahiyas and the idea that empowering a woman can change the whole community," Sophia says.

The stories she gathered and wrote were put on the foundation's website. "It was really about bringing awareness" to

the problems she found, Sophia explains. "When you hear a story, it just kind of changes people," she says.

Sophia also has visited Mother Teresa's orphanage in Kolkata to learn more about children abandoned in such institutions.

Katherine Hass Fellowship

Most recently, Sophia was awarded the Katherine Hass Fellowship for Exploration, Empathy and Inclusion by Castilleja, which she says allowed her "to pursue any type of global research" in the summer between her junior and senior years.

The fellowship was created in honor of a deceased Castilleja grad who, Sophia says, was "known for being an incredible listener, ... kind of amplifying the voices of others."

Through the fellowship, she says, "I went to India, but actually to places I would have never thought I'd go." She interviewed victims of human trafficking in shelters in Hyderabad.

"I saw the realities that really had been hidden" during her other visits, she says.

Although the shelter had security guards, the husband of a woman who had fled with her children after he had threatened to kill her got past them. As Sophia played with the woman's young sons, the man approached her and warned: "People who cross me often end up dead."

Sophia also met Asma, a girl her own age who had been sold by her stepfather to traffickers in Saudi Arabia. "We didn't even speak the same language," says Sophia, but "we got to know each other really well over the course of two days."

What Sophia learned from Asma was that she at times thought she'd be better off in Saudi Arabia than in the shelter, where her contact with the outside world had been cut off to keep her safe. "She was told she had to stay in that shelter the rest of her life," Sophia says.

"It was so hard for me to leave," she says. "My mom had to literally drag me to the car."

Sophia says Asma asked her for her phone number, saying: "If I ever get out of here, I want to know that there's one person who cares if I'm alive."

Sophia gave Asma her number. ■

Sophia's book is available at Kepler's Books in Menlo Park and at Amazon.com.



Photo by Usha Nesamoney

Sophia Nesamoney, a 17-year-old writer and student from Atherton, accepts the "Girls for the Last Girl" award at the United Nations headquarters in New York City on Oct. 11.

Just a girl with a pen

Atherton's Sophia Nesamoney, 17, was presented the "Girls for the Last Girl" award by the anti-sex trafficking group Apne Aap and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the U.N.'s International Day of the Girl Child on Oct. 11 in a ceremony at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

Here are excerpts from Sophia's acceptance speech, given at a reception after the U.S. premiere of the sex-trafficking movie "Love Sonia," by "Slum Dog Millionaire" director Tabriz Noorani:

"Thank you for inspiring me with your bravery and compassion," and "also for believing in the power of stories to transform hearts and lighten lives," Sophia said.

Sophia talked about Asma, a 17-year-old she had interviewed in a shelter for abused women who had been sold to sex traffickers by her stepfather when she was 14. "She is not free," Sophia said. "Asma has been wounded, betrayed even, yet she remains fearless."

Asma showed Sophia scars on her shoulders and chest, telling her: "They hit me and burned me every day. ... They wanted to remind me I was powerless, and no one would ever hear my screams."

"As a writer," Sophia said, "my dream is that some day no human being will be bought or sold. And that no girl or woman ever fades into the background or becomes another statistic of what happens when we don't take action."

"Silence blinds and deafens us. Silence is injustice," Sophia said, noting that 270 girls or women go missing in India every day.

"I'm just a girl with a pen and a set of eyes and ears, and I think that's all we need to have to make a big difference,"

she said. "Our eyes, ears and voice are the most powerful tools we possess."

"I believe that real change can only begin when we give young women like Sonia and Asma a chance to tell their stories," she said.

Sophia recalled that Asma told her: "I will never forget you, for you have given me hope. No one else has cared enough to listen to my story."

'Silence blinds and deafens us. Silence is injustice.'

After the event, Apne Aap board member Mona Sinha said in an email that the organization had been delighted to honor Sophia. "In selecting the recipient, we look for young leaders who share our vision of leaving no girl behind. Sophia has shown deep empathy in her work with prostituted women and their children — she has written their stories and elevated their voices in a very meaningful way," she said. "Her courage and her passion shine through her work and she is a bold example of our hope in the next generation to create a more just world."

Sophia recently learned that she will receive another award in March, when the American India Foundation will give her its inaugural "Youth of the Year" award. Foundation chair Lata Krishnan told Sophia in an email announcing the award that she will be recognized for "the incredible commitment you have demonstrated in the community for the underprivileged." ■

-By Barbara Wood



Photo by Usha Nesamoney

On reporting trips to India Sophia Nesamoney, center, met girls including Asma, left, who was sold to traffickers by her stepfather, and Miriam, right, who ran away from abusive parents.

About the cover: Sophia Nesamoney in the backyard of her family's home in Atherton. Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac



WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

ALPINE ROAD SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Sealed proposals for the ALPINE ROAD SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, November 7, 2018** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "ALPINE ROAD SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT."

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

The contract documents may be inspected at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District; San Francisco Builders Exchange, Attn: Deanna Johnson, 850 So. Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94110; Peninsula Builders Exchange, Attn: Andrea Nettles, 282 Harbor Blvd, Bldg. D, Belmont, California 94002; Santa Clara Builders Exchange, Attn: Kanani Fonseca, 400 Reed Street, Santa Clara, California 95050; Builders Exchange of Alameda, Attn: Richard Owen, 3055 Alvarado Street, San Leandro, California 94577; Construction Bidboard Incorporated, Attn: Plan Room, 11622 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92130; and Contra Costa Builders Exchange, Attn: April Hamilton, 2440 Stanwell Drive, Suite B, Concord, California 94520.

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

A pre-bid meeting will be held at **10:00 AM on Wednesday, October 24, 2018** at the West Bay Sanitary District Office in Menlo Park, California.

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

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

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

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

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

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

West Bay Sanitary District
Board of Directors
San Mateo County, California
/s/ Phil Scott, District Manager
Dated: September 14, 2018

BIKE LANES

continued from page 21

understand Caltrans' reasoning, but decided to live with it and focus on the westbound direction.

Lo Coco worked with Nikki Nagaya of the Menlo Park Department of Public Works and the ad hoc group for a design for a complete continuous westbound bike lane that included sharrows for a crossover from right to center for the westbound approach, a regulation-width center bike lane for the overpass and a continuation past the clover leaf after the overpass.

By August 2016 (only four months from start!), the county and Menlo Park had a design for a joint proposal to Caltrans. Then, the first setback occurred. The county's Bike and Pedestrian Commission (BPAC) was reconstituted after having been quiescent, and the county decided to put the project on hold for BPAC review. Six months later, BPAC passed a resolution to approve the design.

During the interim there was discussion from some bike advocates that the eastbound direction would be a better use for the funds. Emma Shlaes of the highly regarded Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition and Bruce Hildenbrand, a respected bike advocate, effectively joined the ad hoc group for reviewing the issues.

After some debate it was collectively decided to continue the focus on the westbound direction design. The primary reasoning was that Caltrans had previously rejected an eastbound overpass bike lane. The westbound design had already crossed several design and advocate hurdles, it was within budget and the existing road markings made it very likely that Caltrans would permit the design improvements. The key was "doing the doable."

The group hoped that relationships from a success for the westbound direction would form a platform to tackle the more controversial issues for the eastbound direction. In June 2017, Lo Coco submitted the county and city's joint proposal to Caltrans to apply for an encroachment permit that would allow the county to implement the design.

Then, in September 2017, there was a second setback when Caltrans unexpectedly scraped all the existing road markings for both eastbound and westbound overpasses.

Apparently, the Caltrans department that eliminated the markings was not coordinating with the Caltrans department that was reviewing the encroachment permit that included the westbound overpass.

Lo Coco took a proactive approach, reasoning that Caltrans' scraping of both overpasses might be an opportunity to get bike lanes for both. He submitted a new design proposal to Caltrans for center green bike lanes for the overpasses in both directions. This effectively replaced our prior request of the westbound direction bike lane for the approach, overpass and continuation. Lo Coco politicked with Caltrans that since the overpasses needed new markings anyway, the agency could use the county funds for green bike lanes for markings for both overpasses.

Meanwhile, the Sand Hill Road overpasses were even more dangerous with no markings at all. Many people tried to communicate with Caltrans staff directly or through Supervisor Horsley or state Assemblyman Marc Berman to tell them that the overpasses with no markings were extremely dangerous for both cars and bikes. It is hard to know whether Caltrans received any of these communications. The overpasses remained in this exceedingly dangerous state with no road markings for five months until last February, when Caltrans unexpectedly renewed the prior old markings.

Then sometime in early 2018 Caltrans accepted Lo Coco's proposal for bike lanes for both overpasses. In June (26 months from start) Caltrans installed the new green bike lanes.

Bicyclists are generally thrilled with this result. We are not sure why Caltrans changed its position to allow the bike lane on the eastbound overpass, but we are very happy with the result. The next project is to improve the bike lane for the westbound approach to the intersection where the bike lane and car traffic for northbound I-280 toward San Francisco cross each other.

Bicycle riders want to express their appreciation to Supervisor Horsley and Joe Lo Coco of the county public works department for their proactive work for the success of this project. ■

The writer of this article, Dave Gilda, is a local bicyclist and bike-safety advocate.



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Community

STORIES ABOUT **PEOPLE** AND **EVENTS** IN THE COMMUNITY

A 'Fair Lady' comes to Woodside Community Theatre stage

By Kate Daly

Special to The Almanac

Broadway musical lovers need not travel all the way to New York to see the revival of "My Fair Lady," because it is playing in Woodside the last weekend in October and first weekend of November.

Woodside Community Theatre hired a new director, John Baiocchi, to mount what he describes as a "beautiful show, with lines and lyrics that are so clever, ... and really talented people."

The cast of 31 may be full of fresh faces, but the crew contains many veterans, including Steve Wilner, who has switched from playing the leading man on stage at WCT to serving as assistant director.

The only Woodsiders performing on stage this year are Darlene and Darrell Batchelder. For the first time, Darlene joins Mark Bowles, Donna Losey and Liz Matchett as a co-producer; she also takes on the acting and singing role of Mrs. Pearce.

Darrell, who plays a bartender and is a member of the ensemble, is back for his 17th WCT show.

"They get better every year, the quality of the talent, the leads in particular," he observes.

Occupying center stage are Alicia Teeter as Eliza Doolittle and Aaron Weisberg as Professor Henry Higgins. Both actors live in Sunnyvale and have appeared together before as leads in "The Music Man" at Lyric Theatre of San Jose.

He's a software engineer and she's a speech language pathologist, which has come in handy for her part, in which, with the professor's help, she evolves from a flower girl with a Cockney accent into an upper-crust lady in Edwardian England.

Dialect coach Kimilie Conkle has played a starring role in training the cast to perfect accents for the show. Mastering that skill set has spilled over into Heather O'Brien's job as vocal director.

Kristin Pfeifer returns as music director, and Gary Stanford Jr. of Woodside is choreographer. The show includes a live orchestra.

With music by Frederick Loewe and lyrics and book by Alan Jay Lerner, "My Fair Lady" premiered on Broadway in 1956

and won six Tony Awards.

Songs include: "Wouldn't It Be Lovely," "With a Little Bit of Luck," "Get Me to the Church on Time," "The Rain in Spain," and "I Could Have Danced All Night."

The story is based on George Bernard Shaw's play "Pygmalion." "For George Bernard Shaw there's no way they (Eliza and the professor) can be romantically together, but Lerner and Loewe hinted they get together," Baiocchi says.

"At the end of the story they're equals, because their relationship is so complicated: Who's the student? Who's the teacher?" he says.

The educational theme echoes in the cast and crew. Woodside High School students Chloe Montgomery and Michael Saco are in the ensemble. Sunnyvale kindergarten teacher Steve Anthony plays the part of Pickering. Hillview Middle School Music Director Richard Vaughan is singing in the Cockney Quartet, marking his 27th year with WCT. His wife, co-producer Matchett, is an instructional supervisor and Spanish teacher



Photo by Mark Bowles

Alicia Teeter stars as Eliza Doolittle and **Aaron Weisberg** as Henry Higgins in "My Fair Lady."

at Gunn High School.

Other husband/wife teams involved in the show are: Brian Lindawson in the ensemble, and his wife Alistair on props; Gary Newman in the quartet and the ensemble and Joan Pugh Newman as Mrs. Higgins; and John Tondino as Lord Boxington and in the ensemble and Lorraine as Mrs. Hopkins and in the ensemble.

Behind the scenes two Woodside couples continue to dominate: Akio Patrick as scene designer and Karen as costume designer, and Steven Patrick as chief builder and Tina as set painter.

Don Coluzzi of Portola Valley is once again head of lighting. He and Bob Sawyer of Woodside helped build the elaborate sets.

Karen Peterson of Woodside is house manager and in charge of publicity.

The six shows will take place at Woodside High School Performing Arts Center, 199 Churchill Ave. in Woodside, on Oct. 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 28 at 2 p.m., Nov. 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 4 at 2 p.m.

Go to woodsidesideatre.com for tickets. Prices range from \$15 to \$32. Depending on sales, some tickets may be available at the door. ■

Mystery solved: Turtles and fish of Sharon Park pond are A-OK

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Ever wonder what happens to the turtles and fish that live in the picturesque, aquamarine pond at Sharon Park when it gets cleaned out? It's a great question, and thanks to an Almanac reader who asked us, we now know.

According to Parks and Trees Supervisor David Mooney, when the Sharon Park pond is drained for cleaning, parks staff collects the fish and turtles living there and move them to the pond at the Burgess Park Civic Center.

When the pond has been cleaned and refilled, staff reverses the process, moving the aquatic creatures from the pond at Burgess Park to the Sharon Park pond.

According to Mooney, the ponds are cleaned annually during the warm months. During the cleaning, parks staff removes silt and sediment, and patches cracks and fills holes in the concrete as needed. On a weekly basis, staff cleans the filters, checks the pumps and removes items that get tossed in.

Mooney reports that the parks staff take "great care

moving the fish and turtles and don't experience problems when we have to transport them."

And the reason the water in the pond is extra blue? It's actually due to a non-toxic dye that gets added to the water to inhibit the sun's rays from penetrating to the bottom of the pond, which would promote the growth of algae, Mooney explained. He estimated that the city spends about \$4,000 to \$6,000 a year on operations and maintenance at the two ponds.

Have other questions about Menlo Park? Email kbradshaw@almanacnews.com. ■

The Almanac
AlmanacNews.com

LET'S DISCUSS:

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

'Lucky' great horned owl rescued in Woodside

Animal rescue workers, assisted by local fire district and Sheriff's Office staff, freed an adult great horned owl found tangled in kite string above Woodview Lane in Woodside on Oct. 15.

Someone spotted the owl and called the Peninsula Humane Society & Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which helped rescue the bird, the Humane Society said in a press statement. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and the Woodside Fire Protection District also helped in the effort.

The owl was hanging about 9 feet above the ground, suspended by her wing between two trees, Humane Society spokeswoman Buffy Martin-Tarbox said. "She was unable to free herself, and without human assistance (she) more than likely would have perished," she said.

With a ladder not available, a firefighter taped a knife to the end of a long stick and cut the string, Martin-Tarbox said.

Waiting below with a net was an officer from the Humane Society.

Officer Jerry Mai caught the falling owl and checked it for injuries, Tarbox-Martin said. "Thankfully, she suffered no injuries from her ordeal and was immediately released back to the wild," she said.

Workers believe that the owl wasn't stuck for long. If it had been, it would likely have had serious injuries such as a broken shoulder or wing, Martin-Tarbox said.

"This owl was just incredibly lucky," she said.

Martin-Tarbox had some advice for kite enthusiasts. "If a kite becomes caught in trees or wires ... please be mindful of wildlife and do everything possible to remove the string and/or retrieve the kite," she said in an email. "This advice also extends to fishing line, which can be very harmful to wildlife."

Bay City News Service contributed to this story.

■ CALENDAR

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar
to see more calendar listings

Theater

Brenda Wong Aoki: Oriental Ghost Stories The Menlo Park Library's 2018 Storytelling Festival concludes with a performance by Brenda Wong Aoki, the country's first nationally recognized Asian-American storyteller. The event is best suited for adults and teens. Oct. 30, 7 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Main Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/storytelling

'Hedda Gabler' Pear Theatre presents "Hedda Gabler," with Betsy Kruse Craig in the title role as a woman stuck in a loveless marriage, bored and facing financial constraints. Through Oct. 28, times vary. \$15-\$35. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. thepear.org

Playful Mindfulness 2: The Joy of Expanding Awareness Ted DesMaisons teaches mindfulness — paying attention to the present moment with curiosity and kindness — and practices of improvisational theater in this six-week course that meets on Thursdays starting Oct. 25, 6:45 p.m. \$597. Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. Search brownpapertickets.com

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Presents 'Fun Home' Tony Award-winning best musical "Fun Home," directed by Theatreworks' Robert Kelley, is the blazingly honest memoir of MacArthur Genius Award winner Alison Bechdel, who recounts her childhood growing up at a family-owned funeral home. Through Oct. 27, days and times vary. \$40-\$100, with educator, senior, and under-35 discounts. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org/201819-season

Concerts

Mike Galisatus Big Band featuring vocalist Duane Lawrence Original and contemporary compositions will be led by Mike Galisatus, freelance trumpeter in the Bay Area and director of bands at the College of San Mateo.

Oct. 28, 7 p.m. \$10. Angelicas, 863 Main St., Redwood City. bit.ly/2EWL75U

Music

Film Screening: The Voice of Hagia Sophia An acoustic and visual exploration of the 1,500-year-old Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey, built by Emperor Justinian in the sixth century and recognized as the largest domed interior in the Mediterranean before the Renaissance rebuilding of St. Peter's. This documentary records the research of Stanford's interdisciplinary project "Icons of Sound" that bridges technology with humanities and shows how the insights gained have deepened understanding of Hagia Sophia's complex history. Oct. 26, 5:30 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/793/79342

Mandy Patinkin in Concert: 'Diaries 2018' The Oshman Family JCC presents Emmy Award-winning actor/singer Mandy Patinkin, who will perform a selection of music from his latest record, accompanied by musical director and conductor Adam Ben-David. Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m. \$145-\$250. Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org/Music

'The Oslo Diaries' The Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival will show a screening of "The Oslo Diaries," which provides new insights as to why peace has not been achieved in Israel and Palestine. Oct. 24, 6:30-8:10 p.m. \$12-\$14. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. svjff.org

Redwood Symphony - Halloween Family Concert Children will meet the musicians, learn about the instruments and enter a raffle for one of 10 chances to conduct the orchestra in a Sousa march. The symphony will perform Sergei Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" and other music. Costumes encouraged. Oct. 28, 3 p.m. \$15-\$35. Cananda College Main Theatre, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City. redwoodsymphony.org

'The Testament' The Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival will show the Northern California premiere of "The Testament." A historian leading a debate against Holocaust deniers discovers that his mother carries a false identity, and he becomes willing to risk everything to discover the truth. Oct. 24, 8:30-10:05 p.m.

\$12-\$14. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. brownpapertickets.com

Festivals & Fairs

Halloween Hoopla and Merchant Trick-or-Treat The annual Halloween Hoopla Parade and Trick-or-Treat welcomes people in costume to participate in the parade to Fremont Park. Participants will receive a bag to trick or treat through downtown Menlo Park at participating stores. Fremont Park will also host carnival games, crafts and a magic show. Oct. 27, 11 a.m. Free. Fremont Park, Santa Cruz Avenue and University Drive, Menlo Park. menloparkchamber.com/events/

Hiller Aviation Museum Kids' Carnival The Halloween Kids' Carnival will feature a pumpkin drop from a helicopter and activities including the Haunted Hangar, painting a Cessna, building a flying craft project and more. Oct. 28, 10 a.m.-noon. Event free with museum admission. Hiller Aviation Museum, 601 Skyway Road, San Carlos. hiller.org/event/kids-carnival-18/

OAKtoberFest 2018 Families and Alumni Weekend This annual celebration at Menlo College is a weekend of fun for the entire Menlo Family — alumni, parents, families, students, faculty and staff. There will be live dancing and music, student and alumni sports competitions, OAKtoberFest food, drink and most of all camaraderie. Oct. 26, 5:30-10 p.m.; Oct. 27, 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Menlo College, 1000 El Camino Real, Atherton. menlo.edu/events/oaktoberfest/

Portola Valley Farmers' Market Year-round farmers' market featuring fresh fruits and veggies, berries, specialty foods, fresh artisan baked goods, farm meats and eggs, wine, honey, jams, nuts, nut butters, prepared foods, hot Roli Roti Chickens, made-to-order crepes, tacos and tamales, crafts, body products. Thursdays, 2-6 p.m. Free. Portola Valley Town Center, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley.

Talks & Lectures

Dan Lyons In his new book "Lab Rats: How Silicon Valley Made Work Miserable for the Rest of Us," journalist Dan Lyons searches for answers and offers a vision for what the workplace could be. Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m. \$15-\$45. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com

Elisa Camahort Page Elisa Camahort Page, activist and co-founder of the pioneering women's media company BlogHer, discusses her guide, "Road Map for Revolutionaries: Resistance, Activism, and Advocacy for All." Oct. 24, 7-9 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 855 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. booksinc.net

Post-Fire Debris-Flow Early Warning The lecture by Dennis M. Staley and Jason W. Kean of the USGS landslide hazards program and Mark Jackson with the National Weather Service's Los Angeles office presents the case for a forecast-based warning system. Oct. 25, 7 p.m. Free. U.S. Geological Survey, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. online.wr.usgs.gov/calendar

Family

Autumn Open House Autumn Open House for families and children will feature face painting, a juggler and cookie and pumpkin decorating. Costumes encouraged. Oct. 27, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park.

Museums & Exhibits

Artist Collaborative A.Space presents a retrospective of Atherton artist Judy Gaulke, featuring oil paintings from the past two decades, complemented by marble creations of Yoko Kubrick, another local artist from Woodside. This collaborative exhibit will end Oct. 27. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. A.Space, 773 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. adotspacemuseum.com/event/artist-collaborative/

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

The Dancing Sowe: Performing Beauty in Sierra Leone This exhibition focuses on one spectacular work in the Cantor's collection — a sowe mask, used by the women-only Sande Society that is unique to Sierra Leone. Ongoing until December; Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays-Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursdays 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center,

328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu/exhibitions

Do Ho Suh: The Spaces in Between In this exhibition, artist Do Ho Suh uses a chandelier, wallpaper and a decorative screen to focus attention on issues of migration and transnational identity. Through Feb. 25, times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu/exhibitions

Kahlil Joseph: BLKNWS Kahlil Joseph, a visiting artist in the new Presidential Residencies on the Future of the Arts program, is presenting his work BLKNWS, a two-channel video projection. The broadcast blurs the lines between art, journalism, entrepreneurship and cultural critique. Through June 16, times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu/exhibitions

Painting Nature in the American Gilded Age The Cantor Arts Center's newest exhibition considers how nature was depicted by American artists from the 1880s to 1910, an era of unprecedented industrialization and urban development. Through landscapes, portraits and still lifes, the exhibition delves into the importance of nature for artists and the public. Through Aug. 25, times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu/exhibitions

'The Struggle of Beauty: African Wildlife Photography Exhibition' A fine-art photography exhibition features photographic works by cinema-photographer Andrew Wegst and photographers Sebastiao Salgado, Oliver Klink and Terri Vershel. The exhibition is 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, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. pacificartleague.org/

'Vintage Toys: It's Child's Play!' The museum is showing a variety of antique toys that belonged to children in the past. This exhibition covers the origins of playtime, toy factories, toy trains, builder toys and more. Through Feb. 17, Fridays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. moah.org





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Restore power of municipalities to pass robust rent control

By Brenna Wood Fitzpatrick

The Bay Area is currently in the midst of the worst housing crisis in its history. By the time it is over, the Bay Area and the state of California will be fundamentally and irreversibly changed.

Municipalities need to embrace a wide array of strategies to counter the displacement of community members. But since 1995, one of the most important tools in the municipal toolbox — robust rent control — has been missing, thanks to the passage of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act.

Costa-Hawkins prevents municipalities from passing robust rent control. Primarily, Costa-Hawkins:

- Prohibits rent control from being imposed on single-family homes and condos.
- Prohibits vacancy control.
- Prohibits rent control on properties built after February 1995.
- Effectively prevents early adopters of rent control from implementing controls on properties built after an even earlier date (1979 in San Francisco and San Jose, 1980 in Oakland and Berkeley).

Voters have a chance this November to overturn Costa-Hawkins by voting yes on Proposition 10, and thus restore the ability of municipalities to explore and implement robust rent control best suited to their particular community.

Each of Costa-Hawkins' prohibitions detrimentally affects the ability of Bay Area municipalities to stem displacement. To start with, single-family homes and condos make up a huge percentage of rentals in the sprawling Bay Area. But even if a city's rental stock is largely composed of single-family homes and condos, city governments are powerless to implement even weak rent control over those units.

Insidiously, since the 2008 foreclosure crisis, institutional investors have gobbled up tens of thousands of single-family homes in California. Across the country, one-fourth of single-family

rentals today are owned by institutional investors. Blackstone's Invitation Homes, a publicly traded company (with a corresponding fiduciary duty to its shareholders), owns more than 12,700 single-family homes in California alone, and has dedicated almost \$7 million to defeating Proposition

10. Under Costa-Hawkins, municipalities are essentially powerless to rein in the power and abuses of institutional investors like Blackstone.

Perversely, these institutional investors, and indeed every landlord in the state, already benefit from a form of "rent control" via Proposition 13. Rents rise

with the market — but property taxes don't.

Meanwhile, the inability to pass some form of vacancy control (which limits the amount rent can be increased after a tenant vacates) encourages harassment of tenants with rent control and fails to keep the rental market truly affordable.

Further, the prohibitions on San Francisco, San Jose, Oakland, and other cities unfairly punish early adopters of rent control. Cities should have the flexibility to update their rent control ordinances as time passes.

Most people who oppose Proposition 10 do so because they believe it will make the housing crisis worse by discouraging building. But this is a fundamentally anti-democratic sentiment. Municipalities are keenly aware of the need for continued development. Proposition 10 does nothing more than give municipalities the ability to seriously explore, with public input, implementing a form of rent control that will best protect their community while continuing to encourage new development.

Too many families have already been displaced from the Bay Area and too many are currently struggling to make ends meet, causing them to make devastating choices in order to keep a roof over their heads. Rent control is one of the most effective tools for protecting renters from price-gouging and displacement. Voters should restore the ability of municipalities to implement robust rent control by voting yes on Proposition 10 this November.



Brenna Wood Fitzpatrick is a lifelong resident of Woodside and recent graduate of Elisabeth Haub School of Law, where she studied land use and environmental law.

GUEST OPINION

LETTERS

Our readers write

A vote for Holman for open space district board

Editor:

Please join me and vote for Karen Holman for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District board. She has a long record of environmental stewardship.

For over 17 years, as a Palo Alto planning commissioner and City Council member (and former mayor), she has worked tirelessly and intelligently for the protection of our precious environment, including our trees, natural

habitat, the Baylands, Foothills Park. She is thorough in her research and is always prepared to offer her wisdom to the public. (In the 2014 election, Karen Holman, emerged victorious in every Palo Alto neighborhood, winning the highest number of votes for City Council.)

Karen has the endorsement of all seven of the current MROSD board members, including co-founder Nonette Hanko, the Sierra Club, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, former Palo Alto Mayor Larry Klein, and many environmental leaders in the community.

There is no one quite as gifted as Karen Holman. Palo Alto has been fortunate she has made it her

life's work to be a public advocate for the environment.

Dorothy Bender
Palo Alto

What's on your mind?

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

Questions? Email Renee Batti at rbatti@AlmanacNews.com, or call 650-223-6528.

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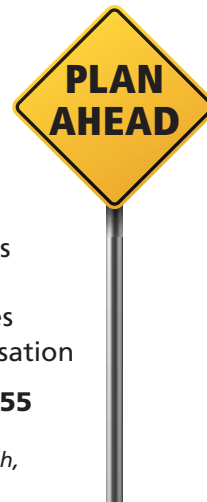
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Industrial Chic in Crescent Park

417 Seneca Street, Palo Alto

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11681 Dawson Drive, Los Altos Hills

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For video tour & more photos, please visit:

www.11681Dawson.com

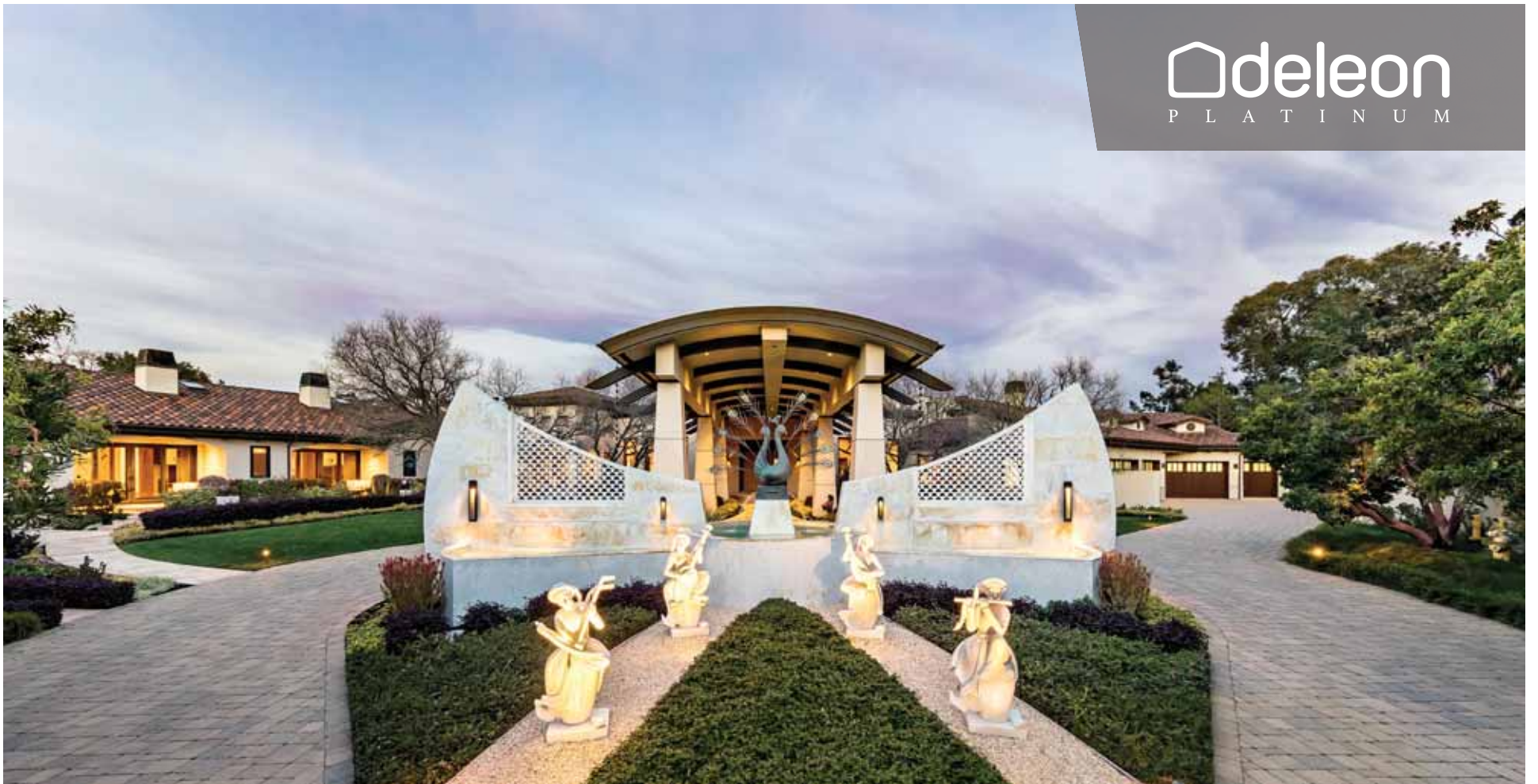
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500 Help Wanted

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Staff SW Engineer (Full Stack)
Personalis, Inc. has an opening in Menlo Park, CA. Staff SW Engr (Full Stack): platforms & products + solutions. Submit resume (principals only) to: laila.king@personalis.com & include recruitment source + job title in subject line. EOE

TECHNOLOGY
EntIT Software LLC is accepting resumes for the position of Technology Consultant in Palo Alto, CA (Ref. # ENTCPALURAA1). Provide technology consulting to external customers and internal project teams. Ensure that products are deployed and operating to deliver the technical and business results required. Telecommuting permitted. Extensive travel to various unanticipated work locations throughout the U.S. Mail resume to EntIT Software LLC, 5400 Legacy Drive, MS H4-1A-01, Plano, TX 75024. Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

SIALE CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278889
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Siale Construction, located at 1119 Del Norte Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
SIONE LS SEALE
1119 Del Norte Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
AKATA SIALE
1119 Del Norte Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: Married Couple.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 18, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2018)

LYFECHANGES CONSULTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278948
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Lyfechanges Consulting, located at 2315 Ralmar Ave., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
KESHA L. BROWN
2315 Ralmar Ave.
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 25, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2018)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. M-278916
The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s).
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MENLO PARK
1100 Middle Avenue,
Menlo Park, CA 94025
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):
NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
1100 Middle Avenue,
Menlo Park, CA 94025
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON:
09/20/18
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY:
Corporation.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on September 28, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2018)

SORIA & LEMUZ
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279013
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Soria & Lemuz, located at 1837 Clarke Ave. Apt. 21, E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JUAN SORIA NUÑEZ
1837 Clarke Ave. Apt. 21
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
JOSE DE LA CRUZ LEMUZ
14980 Terreno De Flores Ln.
Los Gatos, CA 95032
ADRIAN SORIA NUÑEZ
1837 Clarke Ave. Apt. 21
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
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 October 1, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

Rewire Sports Performance
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278930
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Rewire Sports Performance, located at 1211 Madera Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
DIAMOND HAWKINS
1211 Madera Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

DEON HAWKINS
1211 Madera Ave.
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 September 21, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

BJ'S MOVING SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279018
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
BJ'S Moving Services, located at 1305 Woodberry Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BETTY ATOCHE SALDANA
1305 Woodberry Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on September 8, 2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 1, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

ROYAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 278896
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Royal Building Maintenance, located at 427 Stambaugh St., #2, RWC, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BERNARDO ANGUIANO
427 Stambaugh St., #2
RWC, CA 94063
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/19/18.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 19, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

S & G JANITORIAL SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279031
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
S & G Janitorial Services, located at 2235 Poplar Av., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
FEDERICO MEMBRILLO
2235 Poplar Av.
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 3, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

CLEAN THUMB CLEANING
MAINTENANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279063
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Clean Thumb Cleaning Maintenance, located at 2773 Hunter Ave., East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
NICEFORO MORALES C.
2773 Hunter Ave.
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01-2016.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 5, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH MENLO PARK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279089
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
New Community Church Menlo Park, located at 1100 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MENLO PARK
1100 Middle Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
California

This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on August 19, 2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 9, 2018.
(ALM Oct. 17, 24, 31; Nov. 7, 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.: 18CIV04871
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: CHAN MYE KYAW filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
CHAN MYE KYAW to JACKSON KYAW CHAN.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: November 1, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC
Date: September 18, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2018)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 18CIV04923
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: SUN SUN KYUNG MARTIN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
SUN SUN KYUNG MARTIN to SUNNY CHOI MARTIN.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: November 7, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC
Date: September 21, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2018)

APN: 075-212-030-3 TS No: CA08006177-14-3 TO No: 95311054 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED February 2, 2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On November 6, 2018 at 12:30 PM, at the Marshall Street entrance to the Hall of Justice and Records, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94061, MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps, as the duly Appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded

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on February 27, 2004 as Instrument No. 2004-035145, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of San Mateo County, California, executed by RICHARD HATTFIELD, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor(s), in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. as nominee for PREFERRED FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. DBA PREFERRED MORTGAGE SERVICES as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 35 ECHO LANE, WOODSIDE, CA 94062 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the Note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said Note(s), advances if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$2,089,924.35 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the property receiver, if applicable. If

the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Notice to Potential Bidders If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a Trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a Trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same Lender may hold more than one mortgage or Deed of Trust on the property. Pursuant to a Judgment Determining Validity, Priority, and Extent and Liens and Interests recorded on November 4, 2011 as instrument 2011-132469 as well as subsequent rulings, the interest encumbered by the subject deed of trust (filed for record on February 27, 2004 as Document No. 2004-035145) is a 50% co-tenancy interest only. In other words, this sale will not convey a 100% interest in the property but will convey only a 50% interest in the property, which the purchaser will acquire as a co-tenant. Notice to Property Owner The sale date shown on this Notice of Sale may be postponed one or more times by the Mortgagee, Beneficiary, Trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about Trustee Sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call In Source Logic at 702-659-7766 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Web site address listed below for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA08006177-14-3. Information about postponements

that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: September 26, 2018 MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps TS No. CA08006177-14-3 17100 Gillette Ave Irvine, CA 92614 Phone: 949-252-8300 TDD: 866-660-4288 Myron Ravelo, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.insourcelogic.com FOR AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: In Source Logic AT 702-659-7766 Trustee Corps may be acting as a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained may be used for that purpose.ISL Number 50324, Pub Dates: 10/17/2018, 10/24/2018, 10/31/2018, THE ALMANAC

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 18CIV05189
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: DANA HARTMAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
DANA HARTMAN to DANA HARTMAN-NGALOAFE.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: November 9, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE ALMANAC
Date: September 28, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Oct. 17, 24, 31; Nov. 7, 2018)

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