

The Almanac

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

JANUARY 30, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 22



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Town, fire district explore future ties | Page 5
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New preschool off to a good start | Page 10

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2018 Menlo Park Top Real Estate Agents and Teams Ranking



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Name	Brokerage	Total Volume in Menlo Park*	Total Listing Volume in Menlo Park	Total Listing Volume Everywhere	SP/LP on All MLS Transactions**
DeLeon Team 	DeLeon Realty	\$121,824,000	\$75,004,000	\$494,965,500	108.5%
Keri Nicholas	The Parc Agency (Formerly with Alain Pinel)	\$98,461,000	\$70,336,000	\$107,980,500	99.9%
Judy Citron	Compass (Formerly with Alain Pinel)	\$64,371,050	\$32,530,000	\$84,833,000	100.0%
Elyse Barca	Pacific Union/Compass***	\$26,671,000	\$19,523,000	\$21,824,000	99.5%
Carol and Nicole Team	Alain Pinel Realtors	\$18,651,000	\$18,651,000	\$80,319,425	105.3%
Billy McNair	Compass (Formerly with Coldwell Banker)	\$23,700,000	\$18,620,000	\$32,825,000	102.6%
Annette Smith	Golden Gate Sotheby's	\$25,695,000	\$17,671,000	\$26,671,000	101.1%
Hossein Jalali	Coldwell Banker	\$22,478,000	\$16,758,000	\$22,158,000	96.6%
Elaine White	Coldwell Banker	\$18,681,000	\$14,175,000	\$22,457,100	105.7%
Jason Sewald	Pacific Union/Compass***	\$13,478,000	\$13,478,000	\$13,478,000	103.2%
Maya Sewald	Pacific Union/Compass***	\$13,478,000	\$13,478,000	\$13,478,000	103.2%
Mary & Brent Gullixson Team	Compass (Formerly with Alain Pinel)	\$16,535,000	\$12,535,000	\$175,740,000	93.2%

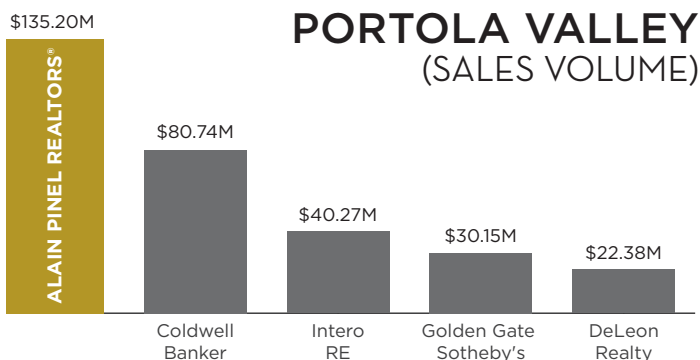
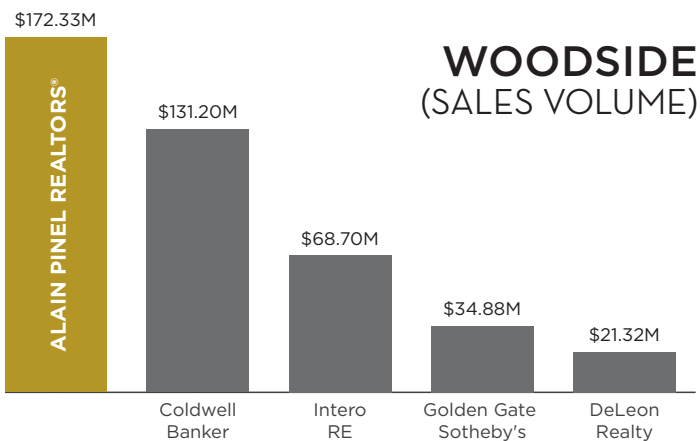
Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1st, 2018 - December 31st, 2018, Menlo Park, Residential Property: (Single Family Home, Condominium, Townhouse, Manufactured Home, Floating Home, Duet Home, Multiple on Lot, Farm/Ranch, Other Residential, Double Wide Mobile Home, Duplex)

* Total volume includes both the buyer and seller sides in Menlo Park **Sale price to List Price Ratio on all MLS Transactions in 2018

*** Compass acquired Pacific Union . These agents did not proactively leave Pacific Union.

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** 2018 REALTrends 500 Rankings

Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Learning to move, moving to learn

The semester-old Early Learning Center of the Menlo Park City School District is providing preschool kids a place to “experience wonder and engage their curious minds,” according to director Jessica Mihaly. In the photo, Anh-Tue and her classmates mimic frogs during a classroom singing activity. For the story and additional photos, see Page 10.

Developer proposes innovator sculpture walk at project site

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Picture this: Life-size sculptures of 13 historic innovators — including Ada Lovelace, Alan Turing and Marie Curie — varnished to look like white marble and set parallel to O’Brien Drive and Adams Drive, adjacent to a new life sciences building. The sculptures would be interspersed with landscaping, a walking path and seating areas.

That’s how developer John Tarlton and the sculptor he’s commissioned, Gordon Huether, pitched their idea for an “Innovation Science Art Walk” to the Menlo Park Planning Commission on Jan. 14.

Tarlton has proposed a new 260,000-square-foot building at 1350 Adams Court that would reach a height of 92 feet. The site of the proposed new building is an undeveloped area of an 11.2-acre site that has one other building — currently occupied by Pacific Biosciences — on it. It’s also near the site of Facebook’s proposed Willow Village development and is “relatively close to the city of

East Palo Alto,” according to a staff report.

Parking would be provided in a partially underground garage on a raised podium that would meet the city’s zoning requirements to accommodate sea level rise.

The next step for the project is the completion of an environmental impact review, or EIR. The deadline to provide input on what should be studied in that analysis was Jan. 24.

Under normal circumstances, the proposed project would most likely not need further environmental analysis beyond the big-picture “programmatic” EIR completed in 2016 as part of the city’s “ConnectMenlo” general plan update, according to Kirsten Chapman of the consulting firm ICF, which the city has contracted with to complete the environmental analysis for this project.

However, because of a lawsuit settlement reached in December 2017 between the cities of Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, a full EIR must be completed whenever a developer plans more than 250,000 square feet of new development or seeks a bonus

agreement within the territory of Menlo Park recently rezoned in the “ConnectMenlo” process -- roughly bordered by the San Francisco Bay, University Avenue, U.S. 101 and Marsh Road.

The four planning commissioners present, Camille Kennedy, Henry Riggs, John Onken and Andrew Barnes, raised no complaints about the proposed innovation walk.

Inspiring science

Tarlton said he hoped that the landscape and sculpture program would “inspire the kids of Belle Haven to engage more actively in science.” The walk could be coupled with tours of the companies inside the Menlo Labs O’Brien campus, he added.

The Ravenswood City School District, where children who live in Belle Haven are zoned to go to school, has struggled in the past to provide programs that prepare students for high school science, as other, more affluent school districts are able to do. Teachers in that district as of May 2018 have a goal to provide 20 science lab activities

See **SCULPTURES** page 8

Atherton council, Menlo fire board members meet to explore future ties

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

For years, the Atherton City Council has been complaining about the disparity between the fixed percentage of property tax revenues that the town’s property owners hand over to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District in return for emergency response services and how much it actually costs the district to provide those services.

A report prepared by a consultant hired by the town found that the fire district receives millions of dollars more annually than the town receives from property owners’ taxes to spend on government operations.

At a joint meeting of the council and Menlo fire board in Atherton on Jan. 22, officials agreed to form a subcommittee to talk about ways to resolve the issue.

The subcommittee, which will consist of two people from each agency, will discuss three options before the town: continue with the status quo, detach from the fire district and seek an alternative for emergency services, or find a mutually agreeable way to increase services to the town.

Serving on the subcommittee and representing Atherton will be Mayor Bill Widmer and Councilman Cary Weist. Fire board President Virginia Chang Kiraly and board member Jim McLaughlin, an Atherton resident, will represent the fire district.

It’s not yet clear how often the subcommittee will meet or what its timeline will be, Atherton City Manager George Rodericks said, adding that he doubts the meetings will be open to the public.

The consultant’s report showed that Atherton property owners’ taxes provided the fire district with \$11.8 million in property tax revenues in fiscal year 2015-16; the town received only \$7.5 million from the same pot for its own general fund. The consultant derived the fire district’s costs of emergency services for Atherton by extrapolation, Rodericks told The Almanac.

Atherton receives 10.6 percent of the revenue generated by its residents’ property taxes, while the fire district receives 15.7 percent, slightly more than the 15.6 percent assigned to the high school district, and a bit less than

the 16.6 percent for the elementary school district.

Atherton is home to 8 percent of the district’s residents — the district also serves Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and nearby unincorporated communities — and provides 31.7 percent of the district’s revenues, according to the consultant’s report.

At the joint meeting, Kiraly also introduced discussions on how emergency-response routes could be impacted when Caltrain electrifies its service, and the possibility of a secondary emergency alert system.

The fire district will continue testing a mobile long-range siren also capable of transmitting spoken messages in more than one language, Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman told the group. The systems can be encrypted to foil hackers, and the speakers have a range of 1 square mile, Schapelhouman said.

Weist noted that modern homes are well insulated, making them harder to penetrate with sound. Councilman Rick DeGolia commented that the device, when heard from Las Lomitas Elementary School on Alameda de las Pulgas during an early test on Walsh Road, sounded like a truck horn.

The sirens, Schapelhouman said, would be a secondary alert system to be used in conjunction with the primary system, currently SMC Alert messages sent to subscribers by email, phone and text message by the San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services.

Fifty percent of East Palo Alto is a flood zone and officials there are particularly interested in the siren system, Schapelhouman said.

Electrified trains

Switching Caltrain away from diesel power to electricity will mean more trains running at higher speeds and more quietly. To avoid conflicts with vehicles at grade crossings — there are two in Atherton, at Fair Oaks Lane and Watkins Avenue — those crossings would need to be raised above the tracks to create underpasses or lowered into tunnels.

Raising or lowering the tracks — known as grade separation

See **RECONCILE**, page 7

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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, Amy Levine,
Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

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ADVERTISING SERVICES

Advertising Services Manager
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Sales & Production Coordinators
Diane Martin (223-6584),
Nico Navarrete (223-6582)

The Almanac is published every Wednesday at
3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
Menlo Park, CA 94025

■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525
Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

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

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Atherton police to hold community meeting following recent rash of burglaries

By Angela Swartz
Almanac Staff Writer

A spate of home and auto burglaries in Atherton spurred officials to organize a community meeting, set for Thursday, Jan. 31, about the recent uptick in the crimes. Mayor Bill Widmer said that some Atherton residents had requested a formal meeting to address their concerns. Police Chief Steven McCulley and his department will host the meeting.

There were a number of burglaries in town in November and December. Among the incidents, someone stole \$14,000 worth of electronics from Encinal Elementary School during the first weekend of December, and in another incident, someone stole roughly \$225,000 worth of jewelry from a home.

On top of the burglaries, residents were spooked by the killing in December of former Atherton arborist Kathy Hughes Anderson on Valparaiso Avenue Menlo Park, across the street from Atherton, said Widmer, who plans to attend the meeting.

"They (Atherton residents) said, 'what are you guys (town officials and police) doing? How come we don't know what you're doing?'" Widmer said. The town, under the leadership of McCulley and City Manager George Rodericks, will communicate better with residents about crime in town, Widmer said. This includes more townwide Nextdoor posts, rather than posting to a single Nextdoor neighborhood in Atherton, he said.

Police Commander Joe Wade said that at least five or six Atherton police officers will attend the meeting and discuss the following topics:

- Crime prevention tools and information
- Alarm systems
- Free alarm monitoring by the police department
- Residential security camera registration
- The police department records management system

Rail subcommittee meeting Jan. 31

The Menlo Park City Council Rail Subcommittee, made up of Councilman Drew Combs and Mayor Ray Mueller, will meet to discuss next steps for the city's railroad crossing plan at 5 p.m. Jan. 31. It's scheduled to come up with a recommendation to the City Council on whether to separate the roads from the Caltrain rail line at Ravenswood Avenue only, or to also include separations at Oak

(Citizen RIMS: a website with day-to-day updates on police activity in town)

■ How to receive timely information from the town and police department (through newsflashes, San Mateo County Emergency Alerts, town email newsletters and social media platforms)

■ How crime reporting works
Police had a similar meeting with residents when there was a surge in the number of burglaries in town about three years ago, Wade said.

"Anytime the town has a rash of crime, which doesn't happen often in Atherton, it's important to pull residents in and tell them what to look out for (to prevent crimes)," he said.

The most recent home burglary in town was on Jan. 25 around 6:30 p.m., according to a police press release. Burglars forced their way into a home on the 100 block of Tuscaloosa Avenue by smashing a second-story balcony window, surveillance footage showed. Police have not made any arrests related to the recent burglaries, Wade said, and the department has no concrete leads.

In November, police released a list of safety tips to prevent burglaries during the holidays:

- Leave interior and exterior lights on when you aren't going to be home at night, and leave exterior lights on when you are home in the evening.
 - Make sure your alarm system is functioning properly and that it's activated while you're away.
 - Consider installing security cameras.
 - If you will be away, notify your neighbors so they can keep an eye on your home, and stop your mail and newspaper delivery.
 - Ask the police department to check on your home while you're on vacation.
 - Don't post about vacation plans on social media.
- Coffee and dessert will be served at the meeting, which will take place at 7 p.m. in the Jennings Pavilion in Holbrook-Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave. in Atherton. ■

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Menlo Park Library launches free movie streaming program

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Locals no longer need a subscription to stream a selection of movies and TV shows — they just need a library card.

The Menlo Park Library and the San Mateo County Library System have entered into a partnership with Kanopy, a film and television database that allows streaming on a cost-per-play basis.

“It enables library cardholders to have streaming access to thousands of TV shows and movies,” said Sean Reinhart, interim library director.

Kanopy allows library cardholders to download 10 films or TV episodes per month from its database for free, each of which can be kept for three days. Cardholders cannot download more than 10 titles per month.

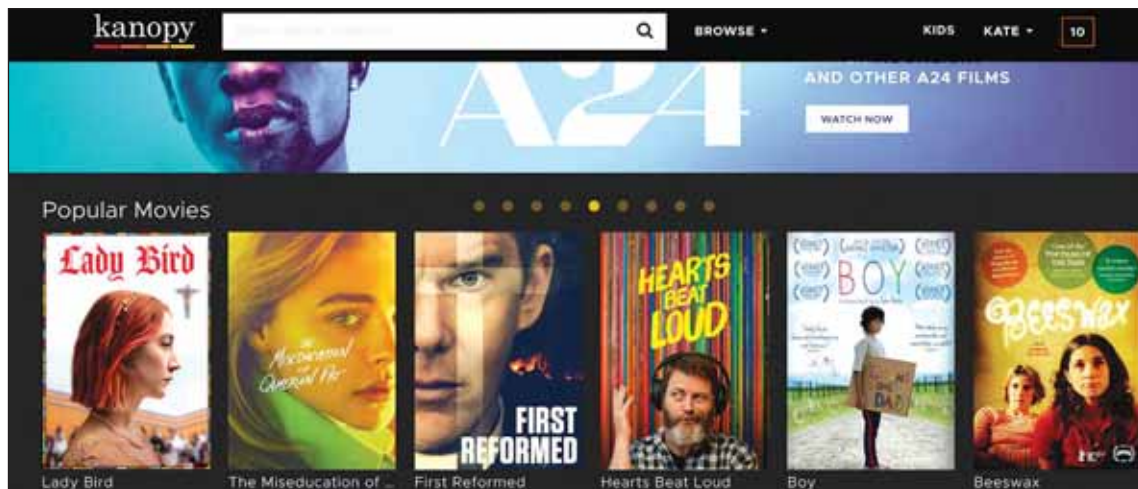
The Menlo Park Library paid

\$5,000 for the year for the program, according to Assistant Library Services Director Nick Szegda.

Over the next five or six months, library staff will monitor the program and see how often it’s utilized by cardholders, with plans to evaluate whether the number of permissible downloads should be increased, he said.

The selection is broad and updated frequently, and includes many independent, noteworthy films that are not available on other streaming services, Szegda said. Of note are selections from the Criterion Collection and special editions of films that offer director’s cuts and commentaries, he added.

The library is also working to provide users access to Hoopla, a digital media service that would permit library cardholders to stream or download movies, TV shows, music, audiobooks,



Screenshot/courtesy of Kanopy

A number of popular films are now available for Menlo Park Library users to stream or download through the library’s new agreement with Kanopy, a film and television database.

e-books, and comics through their devices. The media is automatically removed from the devices when the lending period ends. Library staff is hoping to make the service available by February, according to Szegda.

To access Kanopy, go to

menlopark.kanopy.com and sign up for an account. Users will be prompted to sign in with their library card number.

The library has scheduled workshops to teach users about available e-resources on April 9 and June 5. People can also go to

the library at any time to get help with Kanopy or other e-resources, or may contact the reference desk at 650-330-2520 or mplref@plinfo.org for help. The library also plans to put some video tutorials on its website to walk people through the process. ■

RECONCILE

continued from page 5

— costs millions of dollars, and there is opposition in Atherton to elevating the tracks. Councilwoman Elizabeth Lewis said in 2017 that raising the tracks “is going to ruin our neighborhoods.”

Lewis has been studying the issue for the council. “We need to somehow figure out how to finance the real solution” of dropping the tracks into a trench or tunnel, she said in 2017. “I think our communities could come together and figure out a way” to finance such a project, she said.

Fire board member Chuck Bernstein suggested at the Jan. 22 meeting that a tunnel is the chosen method in communities that care about their land.

Councilman Mike Lempres asked the fire chief whether firefighters could force trains to stop to allow emergency vehicles to cross the tracks at grade level. That would be done only if someone has been injured or a fire hose is lying across the tracks, Schapelhouman said. Otherwise, fire engines wait for the crossing gates to go up just

like other vehicles, he said.

Working together?

No one on the Atherton council is unhappy with the fire district’s performance when emergencies occur in town. “The service we get ... is top class. No question about the service,” Mayor Bill Widmer said. In thinking about the revenues-for-services issue, “there was discussion on what steps could we take,” he said. “One of the steps was detachment, yes ... (but) we said, ‘We’re not interested in building our own fire district.’”

“We do think that there’s a disconnect in the amount of money that each jurisdiction is paying based on the amount of service they’re receiving,” he said. “That’s what we wanted to discuss.”

“Atherton residents are committing more revenue into the system than they are taking back for the cost of their services,” Lempres said. “That (difference) is fairly substantial,

however you look at it.”

“Our preference is to stay in the district,” he added. “Our preference is to work cooperatively to get more resources in Atherton. We don’t know if that’s going to work or not. Thus far ... there have been mixed results. We don’t know whether we should be considering withdrawing or not.”

“It would have been nice to have a small (fire) engine in the civic center to respond locally to things,” he said. “That’s an example where the district could have put a little more resources into Atherton. We would have appreciated it greatly, and it changes that whole equation” of the allocation of property taxes.

While no one from the fire district disputed the disparities presented in the report, Bernstein did argue with the methods the consultant used, including the calculation of service calls to Atherton based on where the calls originated.

TOWN OF WOODSIDE 2955 WOODSIDE ROAD WOODSIDE, CA 94062 PLANNING COMMISSION February 6, 2019 6:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Daniel and Beth Nash APPL2019-0001
83 Tum Suden Way Planner: Alex Byrd, Assistant Planner

Planning Commission review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal to replace an existing composition shingle roof with a faux slate roof, made from plastic/rubber materials, on the main residence at 83 Tum Suden Way.

All application materials are available for public review at the Woodside Planning and Building Counter, Woodside Town Hall, weekdays from 8:00 – 10:00 AM and 1:00 – 3:00 PM, or by appointment. For more information, contact the Woodside Planning and Building Department at (650) 851-6790.

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TOWN OF ATHERTON GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Please join us for a community workshop to discuss the Town’s General Plan Update. The General Plan is the “blueprint” for the future of the Town, by establishing policies and guidelines for developing and preserving the quality of life in Atherton. The Plan is comprised of six different sections as required by State Law: Land Use, Circulation, Noise, Housing, Open Space and Conservation, and Community Safety. All Elements except Housing are being updated.

**Note that the General Plan Update is NOT proposing any changes to existing land uses – updates proposed are for required compliance with current State Law.*

What: General Plan Update Community workshop

Where: Jennings Pavilion in Holbrook Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave, Atherton, CA 94027

When: Wednesday, February 13th, 2019 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

More information: <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/208/General-Plan> (please check back often as the webpage will be continually updated)

Questions can be directed to Stephanie Davis, AICP Senior Planner: Sbertollo-davis@ci.atherton.ca.us, 650-773-7249

New coalition plans to invest \$540M for affordable housing

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

A coalition of businesses, philanthropies, housing advocates and community and faith leaders announced on Jan. 24 an ambitious plan to invest \$540 million over the next 18 years to preserve and build affordable housing and advocate for policies to protect and construct it in the Bay Area.

The coalition, which is being called “The Partnership for the Bay’s Future,” plans to raise and invest \$500 million in affordable housing and \$40 million to support policymaking aimed at boosting affordable housing and helping stem the wave of people being priced out of the Bay Area. It has so far raised about \$260 million for the investment fund and \$20 million for the policy fund. The group will focus its efforts in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

The fund was announced at an event that included a panel discussion on the Bay Area housing problem at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, which was followed by a press conference.

Among the funders are the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, the San Francisco Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Facebook, Genentech, Kaiser Permanente, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

The investment fund will be managed by LISC, a national community development financial institution that has been working for about 40 years in the Bay Area. Its first action was to create a revolving line of credit for the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation to support six community development projects over the next five years.

Policy

According to a press statement, the policy fund, which will be headed by the San Francisco Foundation, will focus on strengthening low-income tenant protections as well as preserving and expanding housing. The partnership plans to fund “challenge” grants — housing protection and preservation initiatives — and “breakthrough” grants, aimed at giving technical help to jurisdictions that want to develop affordable housing at scale.

Some of the policies will align with the CASA Compact, a regional set of housing-related policies recently established by a partnership convened by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

State Assemblyman David Chiu, who represents eastern San Francisco, said at the press conference that California has put dramatically less funding into housing since the state’s redevelopment agency dissolved in 2012, generating a loss of about \$1.7 billion a year. New California Gov. Gavin Newsom has proposed a budget that would put \$1.7 billion into housing the next fiscal year.

Newsom, in a press statement, praised the multi-sector, public-private approach to addressing the shortage of affordable housing, saying that it “will help move our state forward on one of the biggest issues we face.”

Local origins

So how did this all come about?

“It took the threat of a lawsuit,” Jennifer Martinez said during a panel discussion on housing following Thursday’s press conference. Martinez is the chief strategy officer for PICO California, a community organizing network, and was formerly part of Faith in Action.

She later told The Almanac that the preliminary talks for what would lead to the formation of the “Bay’s Future” initiative began when a nonprofit coalition, Envision Transform Build-East Palo Alto, of which Faith in Action was a part, approached Facebook just after the city of Menlo Park approved a development proposal by the company to build two new office buildings and a hotel, in November 2016. During the time leading up to the development’s approval, the group took steps that would have paved the way for a lawsuit, such as pointing out problems with the project’s environmental impact analysis. Construction on the first of those two buildings was completed in September.

In December 2016, the group successfully negotiated an \$18.5 million contribution from Facebook dedicated to funding anti-displacement efforts, with \$10



Photo by Kate Bradshaw

Discussing the housing crisis, KQED housing reporter Erica Aguilar, right, moderates while panelists weigh in on how to make the Bay Area more affordable to live in. From left: Jennifer Martinez, chief strategy officer of PICO California; Pastor Paul Bains, co-founder of Project WeHope in East Palo Alto; Dr. Priscilla Chan, founder and CEO of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative; Fred Blackwell, CEO of the San Francisco Foundation; and Janet Liang, president of Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.

million of that designated for East Palo Alto. Later, in August 2017, Facebook announced it would be working with LISC and that it aimed to generate \$75 million for affordable housing efforts in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto.

From there, Martinez said, others in the region began to imagine: “What if we could do a private-public approach to this?”

How to solve the housing crisis?

Local housing policy experts also expressed their opinions about the Bay Area housing problem in a panel discussion moderated by KQED’s housing reporter Erica Aguilar. It featured Dr. Priscilla Chan, co-founder of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative; Pastor Paul Bains, co-founder of Project WeHOPE, a homeless shelter in East Palo Alto; Jennifer Martinez, chief strategy officer of PICO California; Fred Blackwell, CEO of the San Francisco Foundation; and Janet Chiang, president of Kaiser Permanente.

Blackwell is also a co-chair of CASA, the Committee to House the Bay Area. That committee, which convened leaders throughout the Bay Area to develop a housing policy, recently approved a “compact” laying

out 10 policy recommendations aimed at addressing the shortage of affordable housing in the Bay Area and the displacement of vulnerable communities.

Among the proposed policies are to: establish a just cause eviction policy and a rent cap; provide emergency rent help and access to legal counsel to people at risk of being displaced from Bay Area communities; eliminate onerous regulations for secondary backyard homes; require a “minimum” amount of zoning for housing near transit; speed the process by which housing gets approved; unlock public land for affordable housing development; and find methods for funding and executing all of the above ideas.

Beyond the CASA Compact, though, other ideas were raised.

One suggestion, which The Bay’s Future plans to support, is to encourage faith communities to use their land to develop affordable housing. Pastor Paul Bains, who is the co-founder of Project WeHOPE, a homeless shelter based in East Palo Alto, pointed out that, after governments and schools, churches are some of the largest landholders in the area.

The housing crisis has both racial roots and racial impacts,

the panelists argued.

Of note, Blackwell emphasized that solving the housing crisis requires government support and financial support from the public through tax reform. “Our system of taxation contributes to the concentration of wealth in this country,” he said.

Reforming Proposition 13, taxing corporations or changing the incentives by which cities have come to favor kinds of development that generate tax revenue (such as commercial buildings and hotels) over those that drain it (like housing) may be worth considering.

One audience member asked about the possibility of a contribution like the one Microsoft recently announced: \$500 million to address housing problems in Seattle. Chan responded that “nobody here runs a tech company.” She added that she believes tech companies are more open to talking about housing and wanting to address the problem than in years past.

Many Bay Area communities, Blackwell argued, also bear some blame for accumulating jobs while resisting housing construction “with absolutely no consequence. “If I had a magic wand, I’d change that dynamic,” he said. ▣



Image courtesy DES Architects + Engineers/city of Menlo Park

Thirteen sculptures of different innovators are planned as part of the landscaping project for a proposed five-story office. The people to be featured include Isaac Newton, most famous for his work on gravity, and Annie Easley, who did calculations and later programmed computers for NASA.

SCULPTURES

continued from page 5

a year, compared with 100 lab days a year offered to students in more affluent districts, according to the Ravenswood Education Foundation.

Ravenswood’s science program is almost entirely funded by the Ravenswood Education Foundation, which has spent nearly \$1 million over the last six years on science materials and a new middle school science lab coordinator position. Volunteers also spend time in classrooms supporting science education. ▣



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Off to a good start

Menlo Park school district's preschool marks end of first semester

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

After a single semester in operation, Menlo Park City School District's new preschool is already "a home away from home" for children to "experience wonder and engage their curious minds," according to the program's director.

The preschool, called the Early Learning Center, or ELC, opened at Laurel School Lower Campus in Atherton on Aug. 24. Teachers use project-based learning with six-week curriculum themes for children just under 3 years old to 5 years old.

"The kids are really happy and the teachers are really involved," said ELC Director Jessica Mihaly. "We're excited to be part of something new."

Each classroom has 22 students and a lead teacher, assistant teacher and a preschool aide. The two classes have their own names: The older students are part of the Hummingbirds classroom; the younger students are part of the Doves.

ELC parent Nicole Fabrikant said her son comes home from school singing songs he learned and re-enacting stories that are read.

"He also comes home wanting to show us all that he has learned: from correctly identifying the first letter of a word — based on the sound that the letter makes — to lining up objects and talking about their sizes relative to one another, to counting objects by groups," Fabrikant wrote in an email.

Another parent said her daughter adjusted to the preschool quickly.

"New country, new home, new language and the first time full



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Jessica Mihaly, the founding director of the Early Learning Center preschool.

day at daycare," wrote parent Julia Arslanova in an email. "But the teachers and the director were so caring and attentive, that after only three weeks in, she did not want to leave the center. And it was such a relief for me as a working mom."

A diverse group

The school is striving to provide a unique, high-quality early education for a group of children from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. The district plans to subsidize tuition for 25 percent of the preschoolers on a sliding scale based on family income. Right now, 12 students, or 22 percent, receive scholarships to attend the preschool, Mihaly said. The remaining students are charged market-rate tuition, which covers all the preschool's operating costs.

Nineteen children, or 35 percent of students, are



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Victoria colors at a table in the Dove Room at the Early Learning Center.

English-language learners, speaking French, Russian, Estonian, Mandarin and Spanish, she said.

"Preschool and the early years provide a foundation for a child's later growth and development," said Mihaly, who spearheaded the Silicon Valley Community Foundation's reading initiative, The Big Lift, before launching the preschool. "They are more likely to do better in life and school."

The names of the preschool students will be entered into a district database, where the district can track how older students who attended the ELC do compared with students who didn't attend.

At ELC, students learn to master handwriting skills through a program called "Writing Without Tears." Counting and reading are part of the curriculum. Students also "learn to feel safe and supported" in a school environment and learn how to be a good friend, Mihaly said.

Children bring a piece of fruit or a vegetable to class every day, which the teacher cuts and puts in a bowl to share with others during snacktime. It's an

opportunity for students to try new food, she said.

Special education students from Laurel School Lower Campus visit ELC and participate in activities. It's another aspect of ELC's diversity and inclusion, she said.

Challenges

Mihaly said one of the biggest challenges was retrofitting the program's building for preschoolers. Construction workers dug deep into the ground to build tot-sized toilets in the building that formerly housed second-grade classrooms.

Another challenge? The start-up aches and pains of beginning a new program, she said.

But because the program is so new, the preschool works with families and teachers to ensure that it "works well for everyone," she said.

Growing the program

About 106 students were in the lottery for the 2018-19 school year and the preschool enrolled 54. Students come from Palo Alto, Redwood City, East Palo Alto and other nearby communities, Mihaly said. Full-day

classes run from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and afternoon classes are from 1:30 to 5 p.m. (with care available until 6 p.m.).

The district may expand the program to 72 students next school year, and is exploring opening an ELC classroom at Oak Knoll School at that time as well. It's surveying Oak Knoll families to gauge interest in the addition.

There's also a question on the registration form for 2019-20 that allows families to indicate interest in the Oak Knoll site.

Further down the line? The center isn't specifically named a preschool for a reason — to leave the option open to expand to include infants and toddlers. This would be labor-intensive though, Mihaly said.

"If the demand is there, and the space is there, we will expand," she said.

More information

Registration for next school year opened Nov. 1 for children born between Sept. 1, 2014, and Dec. 1, 2016. The application period closes on Feb. 1.

For more information, go to mpcsd.org. ■



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Children fill cups and pipettes with purple-colored water at the water play tables.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Kate Ermacoff, the lead teacher of the Hummingbird Room, reads a story about fireflies to her students.

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Fire district expands its property portfolio

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District has purchased another house, this time in the Belle Haven neighborhood of Menlo Park, according to Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

The fire district paid \$941,000 for a 790-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-story house at 1457 Chilco St. that's adjacent to Station 77. The house will be demolished in the future to make room for a new station, Schapelhouman said in a press release.

In the interim, he said, the fire district is likely to use the house as an office for an on-duty battalion chief and eventually as the on-duty chief's living quarters.

The second bedroom could also be used to store equipment and firefighting gear, he said.

The bidding for the house was competitive and took place on the open market rather than through eminent domain, Schapelhouman said. The fire district was one of 13 bidders, and the sale was narrowed down to three "serious bidders," with the district winning the day with its third counteroffer, he said.

The district, which provides first-responder services to Menlo Park, Atherton, East Palo Alto and nearby unincorporated communities, promised its Belle Haven neighbors that any property acquisition for a new station would allow firetrucks returning from a call to do all their maneuvering on station property rather than using public streets to enter the station from the rear. This purchase fulfills that promise, Schapelhouman said.

The acquisition is part of a long-term initiative by the district to improve emergency

response east of U.S. 101 and Bayfront Expressway — a necessary step given the negative impact commuter congestion has had on response times, the chief said.

Over the last 12 years, the fire district has acquired homes and properties adjacent to six of its seven stations, two of which have been rebuilt and modernized. Acquiring property contiguous to the stations is instrumental to the success of these rebuilding efforts, Schapelhouman said in the statement. All told, the district has spent almost \$30 million in property purchases since 2006.

"These areas are experiencing incredible and unprecedented transformation in population growth, zoning changes ... and employment boom that has resulted in increased call volume and significant traffic congestion which can challenge and decay current acceptable emergency response and readiness times," he said.

More staff, trucks

At Station 77, to go with its existing engine company and three firefighters, the station this month hired two more firefighters and became the new home of a rescue vehicle — a pickup truck outfitted with a utility box, medical equipment, light-duty rescue equipment and lights capable of illuminating an emergency scene, Schapelhouman said.

A rescue vehicle is handy when responding to Code 2 calls — situations such as a child who is not injured but is locked inside a car, or a person who feels ill but not in need of a hospital, he said.

Station 2 in East Palo Alto also has a new ladder truck, which should be helpful in a commercial neighborhood in which the allowable building height now extends to 11 stories, he said. ▣

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Council goal-setting date changed to Feb. 2

The Menlo Park City Council's goal-setting meeting has been rescheduled to Saturday, Feb. 2; it will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Go to is.gd/goals495 to submit suggestions or comments in advance of the council's meeting.

In an announcement on the city website, Mayor Ray Mueller said that the original meeting set for Jan. 11 "was rescheduled due to my father's funeral." The rescheduling of other reserved dates became necessary to

accommodate Councilmember Cat Carlton's professional travel schedule, he said.

"I am very grateful to our professional staff for joining us on a Saturday, and believe this weekend date will make it easier for the working public to attend the meeting as well."

After the goal-setting meeting is held, the staff plans to draft a work plan that the council is scheduled to consider on Feb. 26. ▣

Sam Halsted, a founding member of the Town Council, dies

Samuel Hoskins Halsted, a member of Portola Valley's first Town Council, a former mayor and key to the town's ethos of open space, was, during his life, a man of many talents. He painted a church steeple in San Francisco. In Palo Alto, he dealt cards in a casino, waited tables and played rugby. As an industrial and civil engineer, he built homes and designed subdivisions and public recreational facilities. He ran for state Senate and lost. He officiated at weddings, "dozens and dozens and dozens" of weddings, his son Ben Halsted said.

Friends and family of Sam Halsted, who died Jan. 16 in Stanford hospital at the age of 90, are invited to a memorial celebration from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2, at the Portola Valley Town Center at 765 Portola Road.

"Sam and the others who served on that first (Portola Valley) council established the core values of preservation, conservation and volunteerism (in town) which continue to this day," Town Historian Nancy Lund said in an email. "Sam's technical skills helped craft the ordinances that helped achieve those goals."

Before the town was incorporated, Halsted chaired a committee



Sam Halsted

convened to recommend a master plan and wrote a research paper on methods of preserving the town's character of open space, Lund said. He also served as vice president of the Committee for Green Foothills and advocated for the preservation of scenic resources, she said.

Halsted was a native of Chicago, grew up in Riverside, California, and relocated to Hawaii to be with his mother's family after his parents divorced. He was 16 in 1945 when he was accepted at Stanford University. With World War II still raging, he took a cargo ship back to the United States to attend college.

As he worked toward a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering, he held odd jobs to support himself, including work as a steeplejack — doing construction and repair work at great heights. He played rugby at Stanford for four years.

His engineering career began at Lenkurt Electronics in San Carlos and continued at Wilsey, Ham & Blair in Millbrae. While at Wilsey,

OBITUARY
Obituaries are based on information provided by the family.

he worked closely with Joseph Eichler in designing subdivisions in Palo Alto, including the locations of streets and schools, his son said.

He married Mercedes Vanoli, and the couple raised their sons in Palo Alto and in Portola Valley on an 11-acre property along Palmer Lane. Halsted returned to Stanford to earn additional bachelor's degrees in urban planning and civil engineering, then founded the engineering and planning firm Public Data Services, his son said.

Determining public sentiment was an important component of his civil engineering research, his son said. To gather data, Ben Halsted said, his dad would have his sons distribute questionnaires to the public, then use the results to determine a project's scope, cost, return on investment and other such data. "Lots of research," his son said.

As a consultant working for San Mateo County, Halsted helped develop the Emerald Lake Hills neighborhood above Redwood

City. Also known as Cordilleras Heights, it was the first community equipped with passive solar power, Ben Halsted said, adding that his dad named one of the streets after him.

Halsted ran as a Republican for state Senate, his son said, but lost in the primary election to Arlen Gregorio and ended up supporting his Democratic opponent. In 1973, he was appointed to the California Coastal Commission, and in 1975, he was named a special assistant to a deputy director of the state Department of Parks and Recreation.

The extended Halsted family enjoyed spending time together, including week-long summer camps and tea parties for the grandchildren, relatives said, adding: "He loved, and was very proud of, each of his children and grandchildren."

As an ordained minister in the Universal Life Church, Halsted officiated at many weddings. "That's just the type of guy he was," his son said when asked what motivated his dad to perform weddings for so many people. "He was just really connected to friends and family. Even in business, he would do whatever he could to make a personal

connection to everybody," he said. "Their wife, their kids, their family. He would remember everything they told him when he saw them again."

He helped people move into subdivisions with which he was associated in Redwood City and Pacheco Pass, including people who had trouble qualifying financially by offering them discounts and zero-interest loans, his son said. Among 10 residents he helped settle in the Pacheco Pass community, "every one is coming to his memorial," his son said. "They just loved him."

Halsted was preceded in death by his son Peter, his wife Sydwel, and his brother Tim. His last days "were filled with a constant stream of visits from his family, former colleagues, and dear friends, all regaling him with music, laughter, and shared remembrances," relatives said.

He is survived by sons Matt of Los Angeles, Ben of Cupertino, Tim of Palo Alto, Erik of West Sacramento, and Sam of Palo Alto; and nine grandchildren.

The family is asking that donations in his memory be made to the California Oaks project of the California Wildlife Foundation. Go to is.gd/CAoaks.

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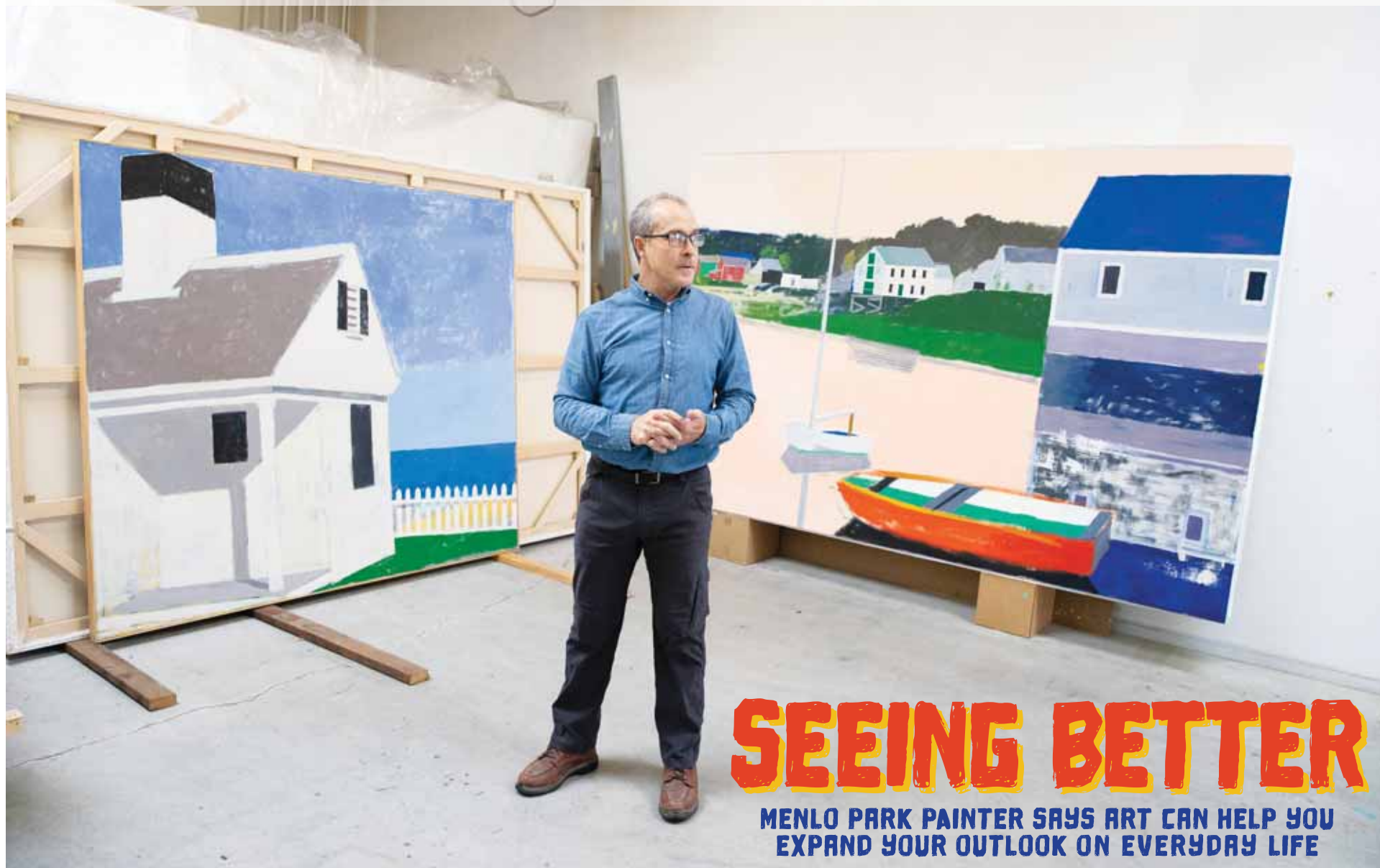
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In addition to Michael's love for real estate and tax law, he also enjoys many recreational hobbies, including piloting the DeLeon plane around the Bay Area, to Napa for world-class dining with DeLeon teammates and clients, and around the state for real estate and legal events. Michael and his wife Rachel are members of the Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club, where they enjoy dining, socializing, and embarrassing themselves on the golf course. In Michael's spare time, he also loves riding his Harley Davidson along the Pacific Coast Highway. Michael dabbles in adrenaline sports, has run eight marathons, including the NY City Marathon (twice) which was his favorite, and has climbed both Mount Kilimanjaro and Yosemite's Half Dome! He loves taking cruises to beautiful destinations such as the Caribbean, Mexico, Israel, Greece, Russia, South America, and Dubai.

Michael appreciates the opportunity to travel the world for business, especially to China and India for international real estate shows and seminars. However, his favorite place to go is Japan and his favorite food is Japanese cuisine, especially sushi.



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SEEING BETTER

MENLO PARK PAINTER SAYS ART CAN HELP YOU EXPAND YOUR OUTLOOK ON EVERYDAY LIFE

Mitchell Johnson stands in front of two paintings that will be on exhibit in his Menlo Park show, including, at right, “Cape Porpoise-Cap Ferret.”
On the cover: Johnson in his Redwood City studio. Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

By Renee Batti | Photos by Magali Gauthier

If you stand with Mitchell Johnson in front of one of his paintings, and listen to him describe its colors, shapes and lines, and their interplay within the confines of the canvas’ finite

space, you just might believe that the rectangle before you is alive. And that’s precisely what he wants.

Colors are “always talking to each other.” A painting “has its

own voice.” Shapes, light and shade breathe in harmony or in contrast on their shared canvas, altering in unexpected ways what you see — if you’re paying attention.

And as you let your eyes wander through the painting — stepping back, then shifting your position to the left or the right, and then moving in for a close-up view — Johnson might urge you to “see better. There’s always a chance to see better.”

That conviction is at the core of the artist’s drive to take up his brushes every day in his warehouse studio a short distance from his Menlo Park home. He wants those who view his paintings, and art in general, to sharpen their way of seeing things — on the canvas and beyond.

But Johnson, 54, also aspires to continually develop his own ability, through the act of creating, to see acutely and expansively.

Johnson, whose works are in private collections and in museums across the country and abroad, opens an exhibition of what he calls “color- and shape-driven paintings” — 25 of them — on Wednesday, Jan. 30, in downtown Menlo Park. To do so, he’s borrowing a friend’s gallery at 883 Santa Cruz Ave. through Feb. 12.

The show, “Far Away So

Close: Selected Paintings 1988-2018,” will feature 10 early works that he is donating to museums in the United States and Europe, and 15 more recent paintings inspired by scenes of San Francisco, New York, New England, Europe and Asia, Johnson says.

It will be his first gallery exhibition in seven years. Up to now, locals have been able to see his work “in person” only by visiting Flea Street Cafe on Alameda de las Pulgas in Menlo Park, just blocks away from where Johnson lives with his wife, author and former restaurateur Donia Bijan, and their son, Luca.

Johnson says that Luca, a senior at Menlo-Atherton High School who is leaving for Tufts University in late summer, was one of the reasons he wanted to hold a local exhibition. “I really wanted to have a show before Luca moves away,” Johnson said during an interview in his natural-light-filled Redwood City studio. “I just wanted to do something with him,” he explained, adding that the two will take on hanging the paintings and tending to other details during the two-week event.



In the foreground is Johnson’s cart-on-wheels palette in his studio.



Johnson in front of his 78-by-120-inch oil on canvas work, “Cape Porpoise-Cap Ferret.”



Johnson looks at a New York Times insert displaying his work.

‘Falling into’ a painting

His other motive for staging the exhibit, Johnson says, is to showcase a painting he created in 2012-14, “Cape Porpoise-Cap Ferret,” which he created based on impressions from visits to the village in Maine (Cape Porpoise) and Cap Ferret in western Bordeaux, France. It’s a large work — a 78-by-120-inch oil on canvas that can be seen in miniature in Johnson’s 2014 art book, “Color as Content.”

The painting mingles figurative and nonrepresentational styles, with images of water, structures and a boat, for example, defying the norms of coloration and dimensional representation.

Why did he favor “Cape Porpoise-Cap Ferret” as the centerpiece for the new exhibit? “It’s critical that people see the Cape Porpoise painting in person because the large scale of the color is what is making the painting interesting and profound,” he responds. “The scale of (the painting) makes its colors and shapes something you fall into like a large abstract painting by Clifford Still or Rothko.

“Despite your attempts to recognize the scene or identify the place and time of day, the distilled colors and shapes at that scale refuse to behave and become picturesque and simply the components of the scene.”

Looking back and ahead

Born in South Carolina and raised in New York and Virginia, Johnson earned a degree at Randolph-Macon College, where he studied with painter Ray Berry. After college, he continued his studies with important art-world figures, including Paul Resika, Larry Rivers, Nell Blaine, and Leland Bell.

He had been painting for many years — one of a minority of artists who met with enough

commercial success to earn a living at it — when in 2005 he saw an exhibit featuring works by Josef Albers and Giorgio Morandi in Bologna, Italy. He was struck by those artists’ sense of color and composition, and considers this experience a turning point in his own work, he says.

In a statement about the Menlo Park exhibition opening this week, Johnson notes that what he saw in Bologna influenced changes in his own compositions and brushwork,

representing a “shift away from European landscape and loose brushy paint application in favor of areas of flat color and distinct shapes.”

So affected by the Bologna experience he was that he applied for, and won, a position as artist in residence at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Bethany, Connecticut, in 2006-07.

In the same period, he also was influenced by painting trips to Truro on Cape Cod, where images of a number of

his paintings in the Menlo Park exhibit originated.

Johnson travels widely for artistic inspiration, including to France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Slovenia. In 2015, he was accepted as a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome, where he painted and did research on another of his favorite painters, Camille Corot, he said in an earlier interview.

Always evolving

Johnson’s 2005 turning point shouldn’t be confused as a stopping point. As reflected in his work since that time, and in conversations about his artistic vision and explorations, he believes that stasis is antithetical to creative endeavor.

In a gallery catalog from a 2006 exhibition in Santa Monica, he included a quotation by artist Willem de Kooning: “We must change to remain ourselves.” The quote, he said in a recent email, “is important because painting and drawing help you break down your own limitations and prejudices; it unravels your conditioning to certain answers.

“The goal is to see better and be more sensitive not to abandon yourself. So you inevitably change as you acquire insight, but you’re not abandoning, you’re expanding. It is still you.”

Johnson referred to a demonstration he offered this writer a few days before in his studio, in which he placed a small piece of canvas with a gray splotch of paint next to another, more brightly colored fragment. Then, he placed the gray sample next to a more subtle color. The effect was eye-opening.

“The gray you saw in my studio that was completely different in two different contexts is a reminder that lots of questions have numerous answers,” he said. “Truly realizing that means

that you have changed, but you are still yourself.”

Which brings us back to the imperative: See better.

“Seeing better is everything,” Johnson insists. “And yes, I believe paying attention, extended looking, slow-looking in a museum and in your day-to-day life heightens your awareness that you are constantly defining and organizing your surroundings.”

When we realize that a complex color in a painting can be gray next to one color, and green next to another, or a “dark” one moment and a “light” in another, we can understand that strict definitions can work against true understanding, Johnson explains.

“We assign meaning to space, color, scale all day long so that we can get out of the door, get things done and be at work on time,” he says. “But we get things wrong all day — we misunderstand other people, we misjudge situations, we scale the moon and many things in different ways and different moments depending on context.

“Changing context leads to different interpretations in taste, lightness, value, temperature ... Everything we taste, see, feel and touch is a product of context and comparison. The example that color fools us or deceives us so readily is a reminder that we are most likely being fooled and deceived by other moments in the day.

“A painting of ‘Cape Cod’ might be a commentary on how we see instead of a reminder of a fantastic vacation.” ■



Johnson’s “Cape Porpoise” mingles figurative and nonrepresentational styles that challenge a viewer’s ideas about dimension and context.

If you go: “Far Away So Close” opens Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 883 Santa Cruz Ave. in downtown Menlo Park. Doors are open from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day through Feb. 12. Artist Mitchell Johnson will be present to discuss his work.

Samuel Hoskins Halsted

May 28, 1928 - January 16, 2019

Sam Halsted, Stanford graduate, steeplejack, civil engineer, rugby player, politician, poker player, solar home builder, ordained minister, father, grandfather, friend, died January 16.

Sam was born May 28, 1928 in Chicago, IL to Samuel Thompson Halsted and Clarissa Hoskins Halsted. Within a few years the family moved to Riverside, CA, where his father had been raised. Two more children were added to the family, Harrison Wright "Tim" and Ann Leilani. After his parent's divorce, Sam moved to Hawaii, where his mother's family lived, and finished high school. In 1945 at the age of 16 he was accepted to Stanford University. With World War II still underway, Sam sailed back to California to attend Stanford via a merchant marine cargo ship. Sam supported himself throughout his college career in a variety of creative ways including being a waiter at Palo Alto's L'Omelette, a card dealer at the Cameo Club and finally as a part time steeplejack in San Francisco, painting the steeple of St. Ignatius Church and braving incredible heights washing the outside windows of the Top of the Mark restaurant at the Mark Hopkins Hotel on Nob Hill. In between studying and working, Sam played four years with the Stanford Rugby Club.

Sam graduated in 1950 with an Industrial Engineering degree. After graduation he went to work for Lenkurt Electronics in San Carlos for several years and then for engineering firm Wilsey, Ham & Blair in Millbrae. It was also during this time that Sam started the Peninsula Ramblers Rugby Football Club, a local rugby club made up of former Palo Alto High School and Stanford University student athletes.

Sam met Mercedes Vanoli in Palo Alto and were married in 1955. The young couple soon welcomed the first of their six sons in 1956. At Wilsey, Ham & Blair, Sam worked closely with Joseph Eichler on many of his Palo Alto subdivisions. In 1959, after the birth of their second son, Joseph Eichler offered Sam a special opportunity to purchase a prime lot in one of his Palo Alto subdivisions. But they didn't stay there long. After receiving a tip from a civil engineering friend working on a subdivision in then, unincorporated Portola Valley, Sam and Merce purchased 11 acres of land with an old barn and small farmhouse. In 1962, they moved in with their now four sons. Sam left Wilsey, Ham & Blair and returned to Stanford University where he earned additional degrees in urban planning and civil engineering and ultimately launching his own firm, Public Data Services, in Menlo Park.

Sam immersed himself in local politics and regional planning and was elected to sit on the first Town Council of the newly incorporated Town of Portola Valley from 1964-1970. Near the end of his Town Council service he made an unsuccessful bid for the local State Senate seat. In 1973 he was appointed to the newly formed

California Coastal Commission - Central Coast. In 1975-1976 he was appointed Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

No longer able to play rugby due to knee injuries, Sam kept active and fueled his passion for the sport by assisting Stanford rugby coach Pete Kmotovic with the Stanford teams and as a game referee into the 1980s. Sam was also an ordained minister who performed dozens of marriage ceremonies for friends, children of friends, and family.

In 1978, in Redwood City, Sam developed the first community of passive solar homes in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was proud of this achievement and sold the last home in the project in 1988. He then set his sights on 1800 acres of land along the Pacheco Pass. Over the years Sam thoroughly enjoyed making improvements to and spending time at the "Old Summit Ranch" property.

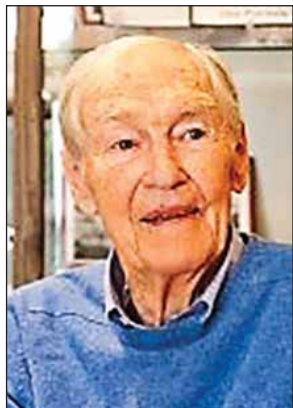
Sam and his second wife, Sydwell Flynn, lived in Palo Alto, and it was here that they welcomed Sam's boys, and Siddy's son and daughter and their families for gatherings, weeklong summer camps, and tea parties for the grandchildren. He loved, and was very proud, of each of his children and grandchildren. Sam was an avid reader and loved nothing more than investigating the history and geography of places he read about and people he met. He could often be found poring over his World Atlas cross referencing locations with current events or articles he was reading. This desire to constantly inform himself corresponded to his love of tracing his family's history, which he was able to do back to the 17th century.

Sam was born with a severe congenital heart defect and had an artificial heart valve installed and then replaced in the late 1980s. Suffering from heart failure in 1997, Sam was put on the Stanford cardiac transplant list and in July of that year, at the age of 69, was given a heart transplant. Told at the time that the transplant would give him an additional 7 years of life, Sam and the Stanford Cardiac Transplant Team stretched that past 21 years. He was the oldest heart transplant recipient in the US.

Sam is survived by his sons, Matt (Gayle), Ben, Tim (Hortensia), Erik, Sam (Alma) and grandchildren Celia, Katharine, Samantha, Harry, Arthur, Andrea, Elena, James and Charlotte, and stepchildren Jim Flynn (Kathy) and Erin Flynn (Ben) and step grandchildren Lauren, Eli and Sam. Sam was predeceased by his son Peter, wife Sydwell and brother Tim.

Sam's last days were filled with a constant stream of visits from his family, former colleagues, and dear friends, all regaling him with music, laughter, and shared remembrances.

Please join the family at a memorial celebration Saturday, February 2, 2019 at the Portola Valley Town Hall, 765 Portola Rd, Portola Valley from 11:00am - 1:00pm.



New Facebook exec Nick Clegg buys \$9M Atherton home

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Former U.K. deputy prime minister Nick Clegg is now vice president of global affairs and communications at Facebook, and recently purchased a home in Atherton for \$9 million.

The Guardian reported in mid-October that Clegg had been hired for the position and planned to relocate to the Menlo Park area in the new year.

On Dec. 17, two people listed as N. and M. Clegg bought the Atherton home, according to California REsource, a real estate information company. The company obtains the information through county recorders' offices from deeds after the close of escrow.

According to the Financial Times, Clegg had been wooed for months by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg prior to taking the job in October, and had been told he would have a "leading role in shaping the company's strategy."

Clegg had previously been critical of Facebook. In November 2016, he wrote the following in the London Evening Standard:

"I'm not especially bedazzled by Facebook ... I actually find the messianic Californian new-worldly-touchy-feely culture of Facebook a little grating."

When hired, he wrote in a statement in The Guardian: "Instead, as vice-president of global affairs and communications at Facebook, I hope to help it navigate the numerous challenges it faces, in common with other leading tech companies, as the data-driven technological revolution continues to affect every aspect of our everyday lives: the control we have over our personal data; the integrity of our democratic process; the power and concerns about artificial intelligence; the tension between the global internet and national jurisdictions; the balance between free speech and prohibited content; and the wellbeing of our children. ... If Silicon Valley were to disappear overnight, the technology invented in it would not. Global tech leadership would instantly transfer from the west coast of America to China. ... We need to find solutions, not succumb to the easy emotions and polemic of a 'techlash.'" ■

Court updates on local cases

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

No contest plea in Menlo Park jogger assault

The young man who approached and allegedly tried to force himself on a Menlo Park jogger last September pleaded no contest on Jan. 24 to a charge of felony assault with intent to commit a sexual offense, on the condition that he be sentenced to two years of state prison. He is in custody on \$150,000 bail.

Rogelio Alexander Artiga, a 19-year-old from East Palo Alto, had previously pleaded not guilty to three felonies and a misdemeanor tied to the attack.

On Sept. 17, a 33-year-old woman was out jogging in Menlo Park around 4:30 p.m. when, near the intersection of Oak Court and Woodland Avenue, Artiga jogged toward her and asked, "Do you like to dance?" according to prosecutors.

She called 911, but Artiga reportedly grabbed her from behind, put a hand over her genital area and moved her over several feet into the brush. While she was on the phone with the police, he grabbed her phone and threw it.

He allegedly then tried to pull her pants down, but she screamed and fought back, yelling that she

would kill him for attacking her.

Speedster who fled police pleads no contest

A 19-year-old East Palo Alto man pleaded no contest on Jan. 22 to two felonies, evading police and carrying a loaded, unregistered gun in a vehicle, on the condition of a nine-month jail sentence and no state prison time.

According to the San Mateo County District Attorney's office, Cristian Saul Santos Garcia was driving at about 50 mph through a residential part of Menlo Park at around 9:30 p.m. on Oct. 9, 2018. When an officer activated lights and a siren, Garcia allegedly fled before colliding with a truck, which then struck two other vehicles. He was trapped in the driver's seat, and a stolen .45 caliber gun was found on the driver's floorboard.

In addition to the nine-month jail sentence, for which he will get a little under seven months' credit for time already served, Garcia was placed on three years of supervised probation. He will not be permitted to possess weapons or ammunition, will have to pay fines and fees, and will be subject to genetic marker testing. He will also be subject to search and seizure, including of electronics and cell phones. He is in custody on \$85,000 bail. ■

PAID OBITUARY

Stress, costs and rankings: Experts discuss changes in the college admissions process

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

Nearly 500 people filled the Menlo-Atherton High School Performing Arts Center on Jan. 16 to hear experts talk about how the college admissions process has changed over the last two decades.

Alice Kleeman, who served as M-A's college adviser for 20 years and led its College & Career Center, sat down with Angel Perez, a vice president of student enrollment at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, at the event, "Twenty Years in College Admission — What Has Changed, What Hasn't: Reflections from Both Sides of the Desk."

A main takeaway from the night was that more has changed than stayed the same since both Kleeman and Perez started in the field about 20 years ago.

The event was part of the Parent Education Series, a Sequoia Union High School District program in which experts in subjects like academic success and student well-being discuss their fields with district parents, staff and community members. Kleeman took audience questions at the end of the event, which was attended mostly by parents.

Stress levels

Both speakers agreed that students are more stressed about the college admissions process than they were 20 years ago.

There's more of a culture of perfectionism today, Kleeman said. She used to tell students that they shouldn't be so burned out that staff has to "scrape (them) off the floor" when they arrive at college.

Students Kleeman worked with experienced "competitive stress," she said. For example, a student would say he stayed up until 3 a.m. studying for a test and another student would reply that she studied until 4 a.m.

Twice as many students at Trinity are using the counseling center because of stress compared with 20 years ago, Perez said. About 76 percent of roughly 77,000 undergraduate students surveyed in a spring 2018 American College Health Survey said they'd experienced overwhelming anxiety in the last year.

"High school students are on this marathon for four years, and the goal is to get to 'XYZ' college, then they go through another extraordinary marathon (in college)," he said. He added that this generation of



Alice Kleeman was M-A High's college adviser for 20 years.

students is more comfortable seeking mental health counseling than students 20 years ago, which helps them cope with stress.

Test-optional colleges

Some colleges are making it optional for students to submit standardized test scores from the SAT or ACT with their applications. There are now more than 1,000 accredited colleges and universities in the U.S. with bachelor degree programs that have test-optional admissions policies, according to FairTest, a nonprofit striving to "end the misuse and abuse" of standardized tests.

"The test-optional movement is really a movement to try to relieve some of the pressure on students and families in a test-obsessed culture," Perez said. "People like me (college admissions officers) have found the best predictor of success in college is actually not the SAT or ACT; it's actually grades. ... Why do we make students jump through hoops?"

He said that admissions offices try to look at all of the student's qualifications — including their letters of recommendation from teachers and essay submissions — and are familiar enough with the rigor of different high schools to know what an A grade means at each school.

"Folks believe testing will be an equalizer, but there is a strong correlation between wealth and doing well on the SAT," he said.

College costs

College costs have skyrocketed in the last 20 years.

In 1988, the average tuition for a private nonprofit four-year college was \$15,160 in 2017 dollars. For the 2017-18 school year, it was \$34,740, a 129 percent increase, according to College Board's report, "Trends in College Pricing 2017."

Students at public four-year institutions paid an average of \$3,190 in tuition for the 1987-88

school year, with prices adjusted to reflect 2017 dollars. Thirty years later, that average has risen to \$9,970 for the 2017-18 school year, a 213 percent increase.

Students today may go to their second-, third- or fourth-choice college — even when they get accepted to their first-choice school — if the school offers a better financial aid package, Kleeman said. A student will end up being just as satisfied in college, she said, if he or she doesn't attend the first-choice school.

"This (going to a second-, third- or fourth-choice school) is not a tragedy," she said. "It's not even sad."

The college financial aid system is broken and doesn't take into account differences in cost of living across the country, Perez said. Tuition costs are far too high, too, he said.

"There is nothing normal about paying \$70,000 to \$75,000 for a private college education," he said. "If anyone has ever tried to fill out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), it is the most soul-sucking experience in your life. It's cumbersome and bureaucratic."

More students are also choosing to go to community college before attending a four-year institution to save money, Kleeman noted.

Rankings

College rankings have become more prevalent in the last two decades, Kleeman said. As an adviser at M-A, she made a point of not mentioning college rankings or having a copy of U.S. News & World Report's college rankings list in her office.

College rankings don't tell students how good a fit they will be at a given school, Perez said.

"In my personal opinion it's one of the worst things that's happened in college admissions," he said.

For more on the Parent Education Series, go to tinyurl.com/educationseries. ■

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The Almanac, an award-winning community newspaper and online news source that covers the towns of Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside, is looking for an enterprising full-time news reporter with a passion for local journalism.

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The **Almanac**

4th Quarter 2018

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Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

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The O'Connor Tract Co-Operative Water Company has levels of manganese above the secondary drinking water standard.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. Our water system is in violation of a secondary drinking water standard. Violation of a secondary standard does not pose an immediate threat to health.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Average results for water samples for the last four quarters have manganese levels of 53 ppb in well #1 and 153 ppb in well #2 (ppb=parts per billion). This is above the secondary drinking water standard, or secondary maximum contaminant level of 50 ppb.

Manganese concentrations above the standard may have an effect on taste and tend to leave black deposits in some plumbing systems.

What should I do?

• **You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).** There is no health risk.

What happened? What is being done?

O'Connor Water has been above the secondary standard for manganese for many years, and this has been described to members in the annual Report on Water Quality Measurements. Recent state regulations have imposed stricter requirements for complying with the secondary standard for manganese. The state has issued the company a citation for noncompliance. The state ordered the company to start quarterly monitoring in February 2012, and this monitoring was completed in September 2012. The state also required that manganese monitoring be continued quarterly and that the results of these tests be reported to all water consumers.

The Company is working with State agencies and the City of Menlo Park to complete the planning of a manganese treatment facility that will then be installed and operational on the Company's property.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this public notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For further information contact:

Secretary-Treasurer Telephone 650-321-2723

Email: oonnorwater@gmail.com

O'Connor Tract Co-Operative Water Co., System 4110019

P.O. Box 1375, Palo Alto, California 94302-1375

Woodside Preschool director is author, counselor in spare time

Tom Limbert's books focus on parenting and sports

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

Tom Limbert knows how to keep busy. He's not only the director of Woodside Preschool, but is also the Woodside Elementary School District's parent education coordinator and social-emotional learning lead, a parenting consultant, and a published author.

Limbert's latest book, "Most

Valuable Dad: Inspiring Words on Fatherhood from Sports Superstars," includes interviews with athletes about how they owe part of their success to their fathers' support. The book came out in April.

Limbert, 49, said that the more he worked with young children, "the more I felt like I could help parents, so I tried to come up with pointers in a book."

The Alameda resident has

published two other books. He joined Woodside Preschool, which was founded in 1991, in 2012.

Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry's father, Dell Curry, wrote the forward to Limbert's latest book. How did he nab the elder Curry to write the section? A school district father is part-owner of the Warriors and tracked Curry down, Limbert said.

Limbert, a fan of the San Francisco Giants and Warriors, first decided to write about sports and parenting in 2010, when the famous University of California at Los Angeles basketball coach John Wooden died. He thought about Wooden's belief that the best way to motivate players is to treat them with respect and communicate clearly and honestly.

These reflections culminated in 2012 with his first book, "Dad's Playbook: Wisdom for Fathers from the Greatest Coaches of All Time," which meshed coaching philosophies and wisdom for fathers.

Limbert's advice for other writers?

"It's really hard to get published, so try to find a unique angle or take on something, and do your research on how to pitch things to publishers," he said. "Like any business, it somewhat comes down to who you know. I happen to have an agent that helped me get mine through."

When writing, Limbert likes to shut himself off from the world, putting on his headphones and finding a quiet space to focus.

"Starting is kind of tricky," he said. "You can flow a little bit once you get started. An editor is helpful for pruning ideas."

Limbert doesn't have any books in the works right now,

but outside of school he offers parenting consulting services in person and through video calls. He helps parents learn to discipline their children by changing his clients' parenting dynamics and methods, he said.

"I make it all about respect and social-emotional support," he said.

Summers off help him manage to have time to write and help more parents, he said.

"I've learned so much working with young children and their families since 1992," he said. "I'm very much able to listen to parents' challenges and provide efficient, timely support so it doesn't take too much of my time and I enjoy it."

A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Limbert moved to the Bay Area in 1991 to study English literature at San Francisco State University. He began working with children in the early 1990s, and found himself more interested in his work with 2- to 4-year-olds at the school's Child Study Center than in his literature studies.

"I would go to classes on Chaucer and Shakespeare, but would work with young children and families, and that appealed to me more," he said.

He went on to obtain a master's degree in education with an emphasis on childhood development from Mills College in Oakland.

"I love how real and true they are at this age (young children) and how genuine they are," he said. "How they just live in the moment and everything fascinates them — especially at the preschool age."

He spent a decade at Stanford University's Bing Nursery School before coming to Woodside. He also co-founded Studio Grow,



Courtesy of Tom Limbert

Tom Limbert has been with Woodside Preschool since 2012.

a Danville-based play space for children ranging from infants to 6-year-olds.

Limbert enjoys his many roles at Woodside Preschool.

"I love that my role is multifaceted," he said. "I love working with preschool families and love being on the social-emotional learning team ... Families down here are very dedicated to their children and supportive of the schools."

Limbert organizes parent education events for the Woodside school district on top of all of his other roles.

His social-emotional learning curriculum is embedded into course materials throughout the school year. Educators teach students to assert their feelings directly, be mindful, make decisions, work well in groups and be self-aware, among other skills. These skills prepare students to be curious, enthusiastic and self-motivated learners who succeed in school and life, according to the district website.

For more on Limbert, go to parentcoachtom.com. ▀

PORTOLA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE of REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The Portola Valley School District is requesting proposals for Network Infrastructure Electronics and Installation (RFP#190014961 E-RATE Y22-001). Visit the District website (<http://pvsd.net/rfp>) or the USAC EPC Portal website (<https://portal.usac.org/suite/>) for the complete Request for Proposal ("RFP") document as well as all addendum(s) and any questions and answers.

Sealed proposals must be delivered to the PORTOLA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (PVSD), 4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 by February 19, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. PST. Proposals shall be opened at the above-stated time and place.

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M-A Music Boosters hosts annual Big Band Dance fundraiser Feb. 2

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo-Atherton High School Music Boosters (MAMBO) will bring the spirit of Mardi Gras to the school community on Saturday, Feb. 2, to raise money for M-A's music program.

There will be live music performances by each of M-A's ensembles — Jazz II, Jazz III, Orchestra and Concert Band — at the annual MAMBO Big Band Dance, according to a press release. MAMBO is a nonprofit that raises funds for M-A music program equipment and sheet music, travel costs, festival fees and scholarships.

The event, which was attended by about 430 people last year, will also include free swing dance lessons, and Cajun food available for purchase.

MAMBO will also hold an online auction. Items up for auction include tickets to "Hamilton," an executive box at the San Francisco Giants game against the Los Angeles Dodgers on June 9, gift certificates for local dining, and wine.

M-A's ensembles have received international recognition. The Concert Band earned a gold medal at the 2019 WorldStrides Onstage Music Festival, while Jazz III took home the first-place prize at the 2018 San Joaquin Delta Jazz Festival.

MAMBO hopes to raise \$20,000 to support the annual music budget. This year's fundraiser will help pay for the ensembles' trip to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City this spring.

The online auction opens for bidding on Friday, Feb. 1, and closes on Monday, Feb. 11. Bids can be placed at 32auctions.com/MAMBO2019.

The fundraising event takes place from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Ayers Gymnasium on the M-A campus, 555 Middlefield Road in Atherton. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$20 for students. Attendees can purchase jambalaya or po'boy sandwiches for \$20.

Tickets are on sale at mamusicboosters.yapsody.com. ▀



A BALANCING ACT

Magali Gauthier

Joyce Genevro, the food coordinator at Project WeHOPE, a homeless shelter in East Palo Alto, accepts a delivery from Robin Martin of A La Carte.

Silicon Valley Food Rescue delivers excess meals from college, corporate cafeterias to those in need

By Christine Lee

There's a food truck in Silicon Valley resembling one of the many trendy trucks at large events frequently held along the Peninsula: a vibrant logo on its side, a giant window that opens into the kitchen and people standing outside, eagerly waiting to be served.

This particular food truck, however, offers all its meals for free, and it's trying to tackle two of the region's most critical issues: food waste and hunger.

Instead of small cardboard plates loaded with a serving of fusion foods, what came out of the truck's window were stacks of big aluminum trays with labels like candied rice, lentils and green beans, so packed with food that some of it leaked from the sides.

Joint Venture Silicon Valley, a San Jose-based nonprofit striving to address Silicon Valley's quality of life and economic issues, launched this truck to collect leftovers from universities and companies to distribute to those in need. It's part of a new initiative called Silicon Valley Food Rescue, a system the organization created in response to studies that revealed high rates of both poverty and waste.

The mobile food sector of this initiative, A La Carte, has already donated over 60,000 pounds of food to elementary schools, low-income apartments, senior centers and other locations in communities from East Palo Alto to Sunnyvale.

"We're going directly to the drop-off locations, directly to families," said Robin Martin, the executive director of Silicon Valley Food Rescue and A La Carte, after a long day of distributing food in Sunnyvale in December. "Once we get there, we don't ask a lot of questions. ... We open up a food truck and people come get what they like."

On a more recent afternoon, A La Carte made its way to Project WeHOPE, a homeless shelter in East Palo Alto, to distribute dozens of trays of food that would become dinner for 55 people.

"You don't know how much you're helping me," Project WeHOPE's food coordinator Joyce Genevro said to Martin as she continued unloading trays from the truck. "I've got three refrigerators, and if there's too



Magali Gauthier

A La Carte's refrigerated van heads to the East Palo Alto Senior Center to deliver donated food on Jan. 8.

much I'll always share."

The other two parts of the system include one focused on grocery stores and a communications team to provide education for food rescuers. For now, the food truck has been Joint Venture's primary focus.

"We're taking it one step at a time," Martin said.

An Ohio native, Martin moved to Menlo Park with her husband and quickly observed a unique situation in the area.

"We see a very large scale of prepared foods from corporate campuses, huge university campuses ... more prepared food

than is typical for the number of people that we have here," she said. "So much effort goes into preparing it, and it gets thrown away."

More than 700,000 people living in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties are at risk for hunger, according to 2017 data from the the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Understanding that there are low-income families in need throughout Santa Clara County, she said Joint Venture Silicon Valley saw an opportunity to simultaneously reduce food waste in the community

while combating hunger.

While college campuses and large companies create conditions for food waste, Martin said the plus-side is that since catered and prepared foods are made in massive amounts, excess foods are fresh when distributed. Food that's made is delivered on the same day.

"It's a quick turnaround," Martin said.

Since November, the truck has been picking up leftover food from Stanford University's dining halls and cafes — 29 kitchens in total — and delivering it five days a week with the help of Stanford student volunteers. Martin said A La Carte worked with organizations, including city community services and food banks, to carefully select locations in Santa Clara County where there are gaps.

"We fill in where we know there is a need," she said. "Maybe they are serving a portion of the need but we can make a difference."

Alicia Garcia, associate director of Project WeHOPE, who commutes in from Oakland on the weekdays, said A La Carte's partnership has been particularly helpful due to the convenience of prepared food and direct delivery. In the past, the nonprofit had to coordinate with other nonprofits to pick up the food and bring it back.

"It's better than what was being done in the past. Coming directly in a truck, this program is more focused and organized," Garcia said. "It just saves us a lot of time and resources."

Some communities lack enough visits from food banks, and often, donation facilities simply don't have room to store enough food, Martin said.

"It's difficult for the kitchen and shelters to take in a large influx of food," she said. "Churches often just have one refrigerator."

The program focuses heavily on ensuring the safety of the

See **BALANCING**, page 23

PORTOLA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Portola Valley School District invites applicants for Independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

The Portola Valley School District is seeking qualified, interested individuals to serve on a committee which will serve as the Independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) for the District's Measure Z, \$49.5 million, school facilities bond program that was approved by the voters on November 6, 2018.

If interested, please visit the district's website at <http://pvpsd.net/bondoversight> and review the Committee By-laws. If the role interests you, please send your completed application to the Superintendent's Office of the Portola Valley School District by 3:30 PM on February 15, 2019. For questions, please call (650) 851-1777.

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6 Separate Parcels.
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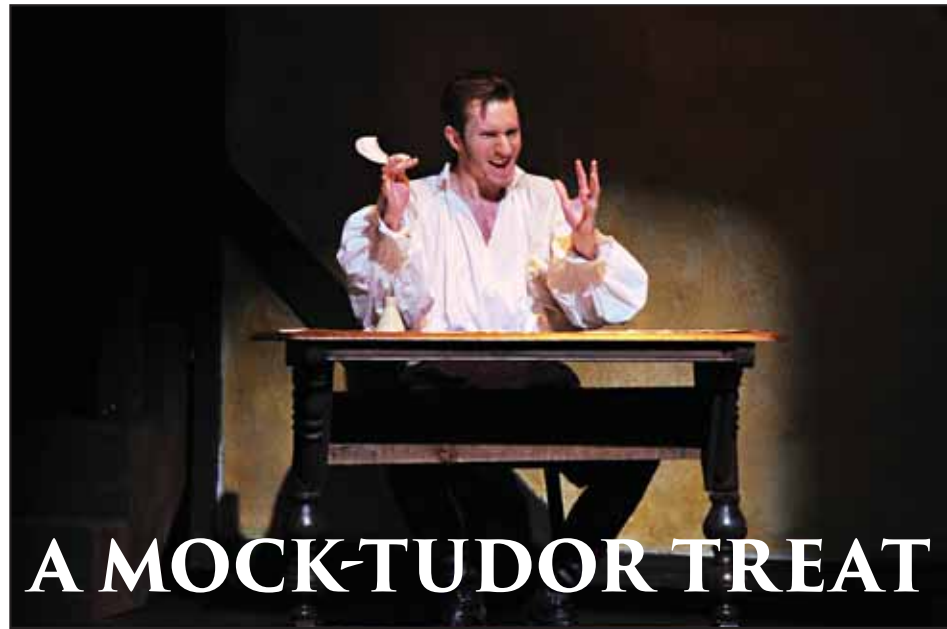
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Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Joyce Goldschmid

Palo Alto Players' production of "Shakespeare in Love" depicts the Bard suffering from writer's block.

A MOCK-TUDOR TREAT

Palo Alto Players' 'Shakespeare in Love' shines on stage

By Karla Kane

One of the most charming, albeit cheesy, entries in the category of "Fakespearian" stories that put the Bard himself front and center, "Shakespeare in Love" (Palo Alto Players' current production) is a delightful adaptation of the Oscar-winning film of the same name.

In 1593 London, up-and-coming playwright and actor William Shakespeare (Drew Benjamin Jones) is struggling with a bad case of writer's block. The timing is especially unfortunate, as he's promised to deliver plays to both to the weasley Henslowe (David Blackburn), who owns the Rose Theater, and pompous actor and

THEATER REVIEW

Curtain Theater honcho Burbage (Thomas Times). Henslowe himself is deep in debt to Fennyman (Joey McDaniel) and manages to engender a newfound love of theater in the moneylender by bringing him and a ragtag crew of oddballs together to act in Shakespeare's newest work in progress, the comedy "Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter."

Shakespeare is mentored by his friend, the esteemed writer Kit Marlowe (a confident and appealing Brad Satterwhite), who gives him worldly advice and writing

suggestions (the noble Marlowe is a much bigger presence, and more of a friend than frenemy, here than in the film). Wealthy Viola de Lesseps (April Culver), a passionate theater lover, longs to be an actor, something that is forbidden to women of all classes in these strict times. She's reluctantly engaged to the oafish nobleman Wessex (Jeff Clarke), who plans to take her to his tobacco plantation in the New World. With the support of her faithful nurse (Melinda Marks), she spends her final weeks before marriage sneaking off in drag as "Thomas Kent," auditioning and scoring the lead role in "Romeo."

Meanwhile, unhappily-married Shakespeare and Viola fall madly in love, despite the impossibility of their romance having a happy ending, and this sets the course for Shakespeare to create his well-known romantic tragedy "Romeo and Juliet" (a rose by any other name may smell as sweet but this doesn't seem to be the case when "Ethel" is involved). Cue tons of aren't-we-clever references, pseudo-Shakespearean speak, a very cute, if nervous, dog (Lucille, The Dog), sword fighting, madrigal singing, the beloved trope of theater being a refuge for artistic misfits, and some regal badassery from Queen Elizabeth I (Doll Piccotto).

The show (adapted by Lee Hall) sticks fairly close to the movie plot and script but, as befitting a story about theater, works even better on stage. I especially enjoyed the quick switching back and forth between backstage and onstage during the debut performance of "Romeo and Juliet." The presence of sporadic dancing and singing by the ensemble (musical direction by Lauren Bevilacqua) added to the Elizabethan flavor in a very pleasing way.

Palo Alto Players' production (directed by Lee Ann Payne) is humming with energy and good cheer. The luminous

Culver makes a very good Viola (in the role that made pre-GOOP Gwyneth Paltrow an Academy Award winner) and she's surrounded and supported by skillful performances by the rest of the cast. Blackburn is campily hilarious while McDaniel is wonderful as his comedic foil Fennyman, who glows with excitement upon being given the small but crucial role of the Apothecary. Seton Chiang waltzes in and steals the spotlight as the suave and conceited master actor Ned Alleyn. It's a large cast and each player manages to stand out and make their (in some cases, multiple) roles worth paying attention to.

The set, by Scott Ludwig, appropriately resembles a Tudor-era structure, with the lovely touch of changing sky peeking through the rafters. Costumes by Patricia Tyler are a Renaissance Faire-like pagantry of looks, while Kyle McReddie's fight choreography adds panache to the action sequences.

It's always fun to take a fictional look at the events and characters that could have helped shape some of the world's best-known works of art. "Shakespeare in Love" has comedy, romance, sex, danger, cross-dressing, a tiny bit of feminism and a bit with a dog. What more could an audience want from community theater? Palo Alto Players' production is verily as warm, sweet and lovely as a summer's day. **A**

Karla Kane is Arts & Entertainment editor of the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister publication.

What: "Shakespeare in Love."
Where: Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.
When: Through Feb. 3.
Cost: \$31-\$46.
Info: Go to paplayers.org.

Jym Marks jazz band performs Saturday at Menlo Park Library

The harmonies of progressive jazz are coming to the Menlo Park Library at 800 Alma St. on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. to noon.

The free concert features the Jym Marks Quintet. Over Marks' 50-year career as a jazz drummer, he has played with noted musicians such as John Handy, James Moody, Dexter Gordon and Pony Poindexter, according to his website at markstylecenter.com.

Guest artist Gary Horsman will open for the band, Marks told The Almanac.

Marks, the father of four and a U.S. Army veteran, is also a performing poet, author, lecturer and barber. For 50 years, he owned the Markstyle Barber

Salon and Beauty Salon at 828 Willow Road in Menlo Park. In January, he transferred ownership of the shop to Damien Dendy, his grandson, Dendy told The Almanac.

Marks is also known for celebrating his birthday with a 12-mile walk to the barber shop from his home in Fremont, a trek that includes crossing the Dumbarton Bridge. Arthritis in his knee prevented him from making the walk to mark his most recent birthday, he said, noting that he is planning to make up for that missed opportunity with a walk in the third week in April.

Marks, who overcame a reading deficit while in the Army, studied music at Foothill College

and sociology at San Jose State University. He is the author of 14 books, including 11 volumes of poetry, as well as four albums of spoken-word poetry, he said.

Marks has organized open-mic poetry workshops for Bay Area youth in the past, and said he plans to organize more of them once he finds a suitable venue.

Friends of the Menlo Park Library is funding the Saturday performance. Marks is dedicating the concert, and the tune "Pops and Bebops," to the memory of his friend and mentor Delmar E. (Pops) Hopkins, who died on Jan. 2 at the age of 110.

Go to is.gd/JymMarks for details about the concert.



Photo courtesy of Jym Marks

Jym Marks, who leads a quintet that performs this weekend, is dedicating the concert to his friend and mentor, "Pops" Hopkins.

CALENDAR

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more calendar listings

Theater

'American Night: The Ballad of Juan Jose' Los Altos Stage Company rings in the new year with "American Night: The Ballad of Juan Jose," a provocative mix of past and present, stereotype and truth. Through Feb. 17, times vary. \$20-\$38. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org

'Matt & Ben' A staged reading of "Matt & Ben," a parody on the lives of actors and filmmakers Matt Damon and Ben Affleck as they come across the script for their now-award-winning film "Good Will Hunting." Jan. 30, 7 p.m. Free. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org/staged-reading-series

Palo Alto Players Presents 'Shakespeare in Love' Adapted from the Academy Award-winning film, "Shakespeare in Love" is a witty romance filled with music and farcical characters. Jan. 18-Feb. 3, times vary. \$31-\$46. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org

'The Revolutionists' "The Revolutionists" is a comedic play about four women who lived boldly in France during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. Through Feb. 10, times vary. \$18-\$37. The Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway St., Redwood City.

'Spending the End of the World on OkCupid' In this play, a modern-day prophet predicts the disappearance of half the world's population and warns those remaining that they are the next to go. With 12 hours to live, some people choose to spend their remaining time on OkCupid, a dating website. Through Feb. 17, times vary. \$15-\$35. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. thepear.org

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Presents 'Frost/Nixon' In the Tony and Olivier Award-nominated drama 'Frost/Nixon,' Richard Nixon and a British talk-show host clash in a series of TV interviews that will determine the president's legacy. Through Feb. 10, times vary. \$40-\$100. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

Concerts

Jym Marks Quintet The Jym Marks Quintet plays progressive jazz in a performance that also features musician Gary Horsman. Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Music

Acoustic Original and Celtic Folk Hobbyhorse performs poetic originals and Celtic classics combined with acoustic guitar, mandolin, frame drum and vocal harmonies. Feb.

1, 7-9 p.m. Free. Cafe Zoe, 1929 Menalto Ave., Menlo Park. cafezoehub.com

Festivals & Fairs

Flying Football Fun Fest Hiller Aviation Museum explores the combination of football and flight through a helicopter football drop, the Drone Bowl demonstrations, experiments with the aerodynamics of footballs and more. Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$11-\$18. Hiller Aviation Museum, 601 Skyway Road, San Carlos. hiller.org/event/flying-football-fun-fest/

Talks & Lectures

Adrienne Mayor, 'Gods and Robots: Ancient Dreams of Technology' Research scholar Adrienne Mayor, author of "Gods and Robots: Ancient Dreams of Technology," explores how some of today's most advanced innovations in robotics and artificial intelligence were foreshadowed in ancient myth. Feb. 1, 12:15 p.m. Free. Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Building 110, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/799/79968

Leigh Bardugo Fantasy-fiction author Leigh Bardugo, who recently published the novel "King of Scars," hosts a Q&A and book signing. A one-hour meetup for fans of the Bardugo's Grishaverse precedes her appearance. Feb. 5, 6-9 p.m. \$25, includes book. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

Mike Chen with Maggie Shen King Local writer Mike Chen shares his debut novel, "Here and Now and Then" with Maggie Shen King, author of "An Excess Male," one of The Washington Post's "5 Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Novels of 2017." Jan. 30, 7-9 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 74 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto. booksinc.net/event/mike-chen-books-inc-palo-alto

Sara B. Hart at Books Inc. in Palo Alto Local author Sara B. Hart discusses 'The Upside of Downsizing: Getting to Enough,' a guide that focuses on the emotional side of downsizing one's life and offers advice on how to get to the point of sufficiency and satisfaction. Feb. 5, 7-9 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 74 Town & Country Village, 855 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. booksinc.net/event/sara-hart-books-inc-palo-alto

Stegner Fellow Reading First-year Stegner Fellows in fiction and poetry, Neha Chaudhary-Kamdar and Jay Deshpande, read and discuss their work. Feb. 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Levinthal Hall, Stanford Humanities Center, 424 Santa Teresa St., Stanford. arts.stanford.edu/event/80318/

Literary Seminar Series: 'The Great Gatsby' Kepler's hosts a seminar that delves into the literature of "The Great Gatsby." Seminar taught by Kimberly Ford, an author and former adjunct professor at UC Berkeley. Jan. 30, 7-8:30 p.m. \$48-\$86. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino, Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

Yogacharya O'Brian: 'The Jewel of Abundance' Author and teacher Yogacharya O'Brian explores the links between ancient Vedic tradition, the philosophy of yoga and

prosperity in today's fast-paced society. Jan. 31, 7-8:30 p.m. \$40, includes book. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

Family

Newton in a Nutshell Students in grades 1-5 get a hands-on look at inertia and motion and learn about gravity and other universal laws of motion theorized by scientist Isaac Newton. Jan. 31, 4-5 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

Film

Erik Bullot on Performing the Screening Filmmaker Erik Bullot surveys the history and theory of the art of the movie projectionist, with examples from classical and modern cinema, experimental tradition, and contemporary art. Jan. 31, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Oshman Hall, 355 Roth Way, Stanford. events.stanford.edu/events/817/81730

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

ANGEL EYES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 2799771
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Angel Eyes located at 1402 Stafford Street, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ANGELITA VALLE
124 B Street
Redwood City, CA 94063
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/05/2014.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on December 11, 2018.
(ALM Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2019)

STANFORD MENLO PARK RENTALS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 2800000
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Stanford Menlo Park Rentals, located at 115 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 8 Sandpiper Street, Irvine, CA 92604.
Registered owner(s):
RANJEET KUMAR PANCHOLY
8 Sandpiper Street
Irvine, CA 92604
VIJAY JAYA PANCHOLY
8 Sandpiper Street
Irvine, CA 92604
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 January 8, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 16, 23, 30; Feb. 6, 2019)

IPSY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 2800005
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Ipsy, located at 201 Baldwin Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94401, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
PERSONALIZED BEAUTY DISCOVERY, INC.
201 Baldwin Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94401
Delaware
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/03/2011.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 9, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 2019)

POINTS PASSPORT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280014
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Points Passport, located at 655 Oak Grove Avenue #782, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MOON BOUND VENTURES LLC
655 Oak Grove Avenue #782
Menlo Park, CA 94025
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.

Lessons & Classes

Chinese New Year: Foods and Traditions Former Sunset food writer Linda Lau Anusa-sananan, author of "The Hakka Cookbook, Chinese Soul Food From Around the World," talks about the history of the Hakka Chinese and offers a cooking demonstration. Feb. 4, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Outdoor Recreation

Mushroom Specialty Tours On Filoli's 90-minute mushroom hike, visitors learn about the important ecosystems of fungi and how to spot mushrooms on the forest floor. Hike is 2-3 miles on uneven terrain. For adults and children older than 5. Jan. 8-Feb. 16, Tuesdays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$15. Filoli, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org/event/mushroom-specialty-tours/

Home & Garden

Filoli's Orchid Show Orchids from several Bay Area orchid societies, along with Filoli's historic collection, are featured in lush floral displays and living arrangements in Filoli's historic house and greenhouse. Through Feb. 24, Tuesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

Greenhouse Specialty Tours Docent-led tours of Filoli's historic greenhouses cover the history of the greenhouses and nursery, their historic and present uses, and the plant collections. Through Feb. 16, Fridays and Saturdays, 2-3:30 p.m. \$15. Filoli, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org/event/greenhouse-tours/

Business

Ask the Career Adviser Jobtrain career advisers offer one-on-one help to those who drop in. Services range from career guidance to assistance with job searching. Jan. 30, 8:30-11 a.m. Free. Jobtrain, 1200 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 11, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, 2019)

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.: 18CIV06688
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: KOUROSH RICHARD DALILI-SHOAIE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
KOUROSH RICHARD DALILI-SHOAIE to KOUROSH RICHARD DALILI.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: February 6, 2019, 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: December 18, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2019)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 18CIV06836
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: JAMIE RICARDO AYON-FACUNDO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
JAMIE RICARDO AYON-FACUNDO to SANTIAGO RICARDO AYON FACUNDO.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: February 13, 2019, 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: December 28, 2018
/s/ Susan Irene Etezadi
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jan. 16, 23, 30; Feb. 6, 2019)

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/9/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 9, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 2019)

A & A HOME IMPROVEMENT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280069
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
A & A Home Improvement, located at 1327 Henderson Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ALEJANDRO ARGUELLO
1327 Henderson Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 15, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 2019)

ROBERT J. HOFFMAN AND CO. CPAS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 279997
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Robert J. Hoffman and Co. CPAS, located at 295 89th St., #200, Daly City, CA 94015, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JUSTIN HETSLEER
2261 Market St. #625
San Francisco, CA 94114
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/2/19.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 8, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 2019)

METRO CLEANERS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280111
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Metro Cleaners, located at 923 E. Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City, CA 94404, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ARYAHI TRINITY INC.
923 E. Hillsdale Blvd. Suite A-1
Foster City, CA 94404
CA
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/12/18.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 18, 2019.
(ALM Jan. 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, 2019)

ORAL FILM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280037
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Oral Film Technologies, Inc., located at 360 1st. Ave., #123, San Mateo, CA 94401, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
RICHER WORLDWIDE ENTERPRISES, INC.
360 1st. Ave., #123
San Mateo, CA 94401
California

stages and Martin said she plans to sign more contracts for food sources beyond Stanford throughout the spring.

In March, she plans to add a second truck operating in San Jose and nearby areas, for which she said she already has funding. With more donated food, she hopes to add more delivery locations. With another driver, the program can also run on Saturdays.

"You're giving people food they don't have the luxury of getting," said Lisa Allen, a San Carlos resident who volunteers at Project WeHope every week. "The prepared food is exciting because every week you don't know what's going to be here."

For more information about A La Carte's weekly schedule, contact Robin Martin at robin@join-venture.org. **A**

Christine Lee writes for the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister publication.

food, and all workers go through food safety training and protocols with the university. Martin's team also measures the temperature of all stored food, and the food is delivered in a refrigerated truck.

The program's seed funding for research first came from the county through its Recycling and Waste Reduction Technical Advisory Committee, which addresses waste management and makes policy recommendations to the county's Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission. Then, Sobrato Philanthropies helped launch the program and provided funding for the truck with \$150,000. California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, will provide additional funding through reimbursements made quarterly until May 2020.

A La Carte is still in its beginning

BALANCING

continued from page 12

Silicon Valley Homes



441 & 443 Laurel St, Menlo Park
Offered at \$2,500,000
David Gray · 650.773.1271
Lic# 01363266



2328 Branner Dr, Menlo Park
Offered at \$2,698,000
Chris Iverson · 650.450.0450
Lic# 01708130
Mimi Goh · 650.395.7677
Lic# 02031088



541 San Juan St, Stanford
Offered at \$4,700,000
Chris Iverson · 650.450.0450
Lic# 01708130



770 University Ave, Los Altos
Offered at \$5,299,000
Gloria Young · 650.380.9918
Lic# 01895672
John Young · 650.862.2122
Lic# 02036387



Los Altos Hills
Offered at \$13,980,000
Gary Campi · Lic# 00600311
Omar Kinaan · Lic# 01723115
Gloria Young · Lic# 01895672



Los Altos Hills
Offered at \$16,000,000
Gary Campi · 650.917.2433
Lic# 00600311
Tom Martin · 408.314.2830
Lic# 01272381



310 Kings Mountain Rd, Woodside
Offered at \$12,000,035
David Gray · 650.773.1271
Lic# 01363266



Napa
Offered at \$15,000,000
Dulcy Freeman · 650.804.8884
Lic# 01342352



1400 Cypress St, Montara
Offered at \$1,599,000
Marian S. Bennett · 650.678.1108
Lic# 01463986



2186 Del Monte Ave, Santa Clara
Offered at \$1,349,000
Tom Martin · 408.314.2830
Lic# 01272381



2870 Mauricia Ave, Santa Clara
Offered at \$1,575,000
Tom Martin · 408.314.2830
Lic# 01272381



Coastside Ranch, Santa Cruz
Offered at \$23,750,000
Jakki Harlan · 650.465.2180
Lic# 01407129
Michael Dreyfus · 650.485.3476
Lic# 01121795

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deleon **SPRING** *Bloom* Springtime Real Estate Listings

OPEN HOUSE

FEB

9th - 10th

16th - 17th



**1087 Fife Avenue
Palo Alto**
5 br/2.5 ba, \$3,988,000



**3233 Greer Road
Palo Alto**
3 br/1 ba, \$2,288,000



**717 & 723 Ellsworth Place
Palo Alto**
4 br/2 ba, \$2,488,000



**2281 Byron Street
Palo Alto**
5 br/5.5 ba



**3632 Arbutus Avenue
Palo Alto**
4 br/2 ba, \$2,998,000



**437 College Avenue
Palo Alto**
4 br/4 ba



**4238 Rickeys Way, Unit W
Palo Alto**
3 br/3 ba



**2154 Saint Francis Drive
Palo Alto**
3 br/2 ba



**108 Durham Street
Menlo Park**
3 br/2 ba



**3880 Alameda de las Pulgas
Menlo Park**
6 br/4 ba, \$3,488,000



**487 Tyndall Steet, Unit 5
Los Altos**
2 br/1 ba, \$998,000



**60 Winchester Drive
Atherton**
6 br/4 ba, \$7,988,000



**2040 W. Middlefield Rd, Unit 20
Mountain View**
3 br/3 ba



**1262 Socorro Avenue
Sunnyvale**
3 br/2 ba, \$1,298,000



**106 N. Springer Road
Los Altos**
5 br/5 ba



**438 King Street
Redwood City**
3 br/3 ba, \$1,599,000



**3281 Benton Street
Santa Clara**
4 br/2.5 ba, \$898,000



**0 Alpine Road
Portola Valley**
9.14 Acres, \$3,488,000

Please visit us at www.DeLeonRealty.com for more detailed information on these and many more upcoming listings that are not on the MLS

Contact Michael Repka at 650.900.7000 or your agent to view these properties




FEBRUARY SEMINARS

Presented by the DeLeon Team



How Feng-Shui Concepts Impact Home Value

 Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club
3000 Alexis Drive, Palo Alto, CA

 Saturday, February 9, 2019
11am -1pm

11am – 12pm Yang Earth Pig Year 2019
& Residential Feng-Shui



Aelita Leto
Feng-Shui Master

12pm – 1pm How to Maximize Sales Price in
a Slowing Market & Real Estate
Tax Changes in 2018




Michael Repka
CEO of DeLeon Realty



2018 Real Estate Tax Changes & Maximizing Sales Price in a Slowing Market

 Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club
3000 Alexis Drive, Palo Alto, CA

 Sunday, February 10, 2019
11am -1pm



Michael Repka, Esq.
CEO of DeLeon Realty
LL.M (Taxation)
NYU School of Law




Annie Watson
VP of Finance
DeLeon Realty
MST (Taxation)
MSA (Accountancy)



How To Reach Buyers in a Slow Market

 Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club
3000 Alexis Drive, Palo Alto, CA

 Saturday, February 16, 2019
11am -1pm



Michael Repka
CEO of DeLeon Realty

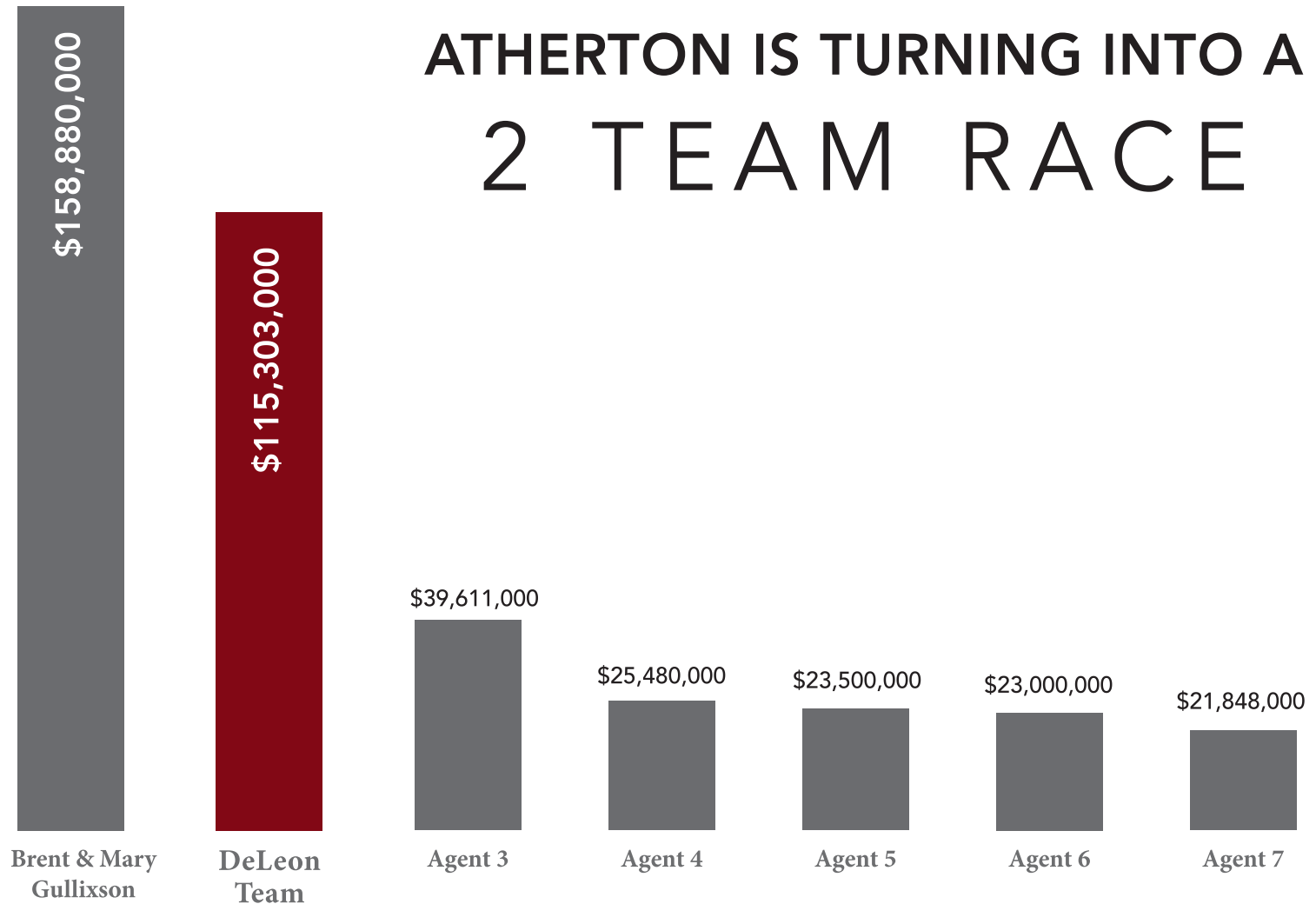
Appetizers & refreshments will be provided.

RSVP: 650.543.8500 | RSVP@DELEONREALTY.COM

Seminars are for prospective clients only.

No outside real estate professionals permitted.

ATHERTON IS TURNING INTO A 2 TEAM RACE



Sales in Atherton 2018

Please contact Michael Repka of the
DeLeon Team

the No. 1 Team in Northern California

to find out how our innovative approach reaches today's most active buyers.

Although the Gullixons and the DeLeon Team have very different approaches to preparing and marketing properties, they are both great choices to list your Atherton home. All Atherton sellers should interview both teams to determine which one is the best for them.



Michael Repka, Esq.

CEO & General Counsel

☎ 650.900.7000

✉ michael@deleonrealty.com

DRE #01854880

Using MLS Data: January 1st, 2018 - December 31st, 2018, Atherton, Residential Property: (Single Family Home, Condominium, Townhouse, Manufactured Home, Floating Home, Duet Home, Multiple on Lot, Farm/Ranch, Other Residential, Double Wide Mobile Home, Duplex).

650.900.7000 | www.deleonrealty.com | DRE #01903224



GULLIXSON

CONTEMPORARY PERFECTION IN ATHERTON

5 bedrooms, 2 offices, playroom and loft, 8 full baths and 2-half baths in the main home.

2-bed, 1-bath guest house with full kitchen

Detached 2-car and 6-car garages with EV charging

Approx. 14,740 total sq. ft.

Disappearing glass corner walls in living room and retractable Nano walls in recreation room.

Gym, room wired for home theatre, project/crafts room

Rare copper-shingled roof

50' x 25' pool and separate spa

1.71 acres beautifully landscaped

69Tuscaloosa.com



THEY ARE RANKED THE #18 TEAM IN THE NATION IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORT OF THE TOP RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS (PUBLISHED IN JUNE 2018). SINCE THESE RANKINGS WERE INITIATED THE GULLIXSONS HAVE CONSISTENTLY BEEN IN THE TOP 20, EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR BY TEAM.

MARY GULLIXSON
650.888.0860
mary@gullixson.com
DRE# 00373961



BRENT GULLIXSON
650.888.4898
brent@gullixson.com
DRE# 01329216

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