

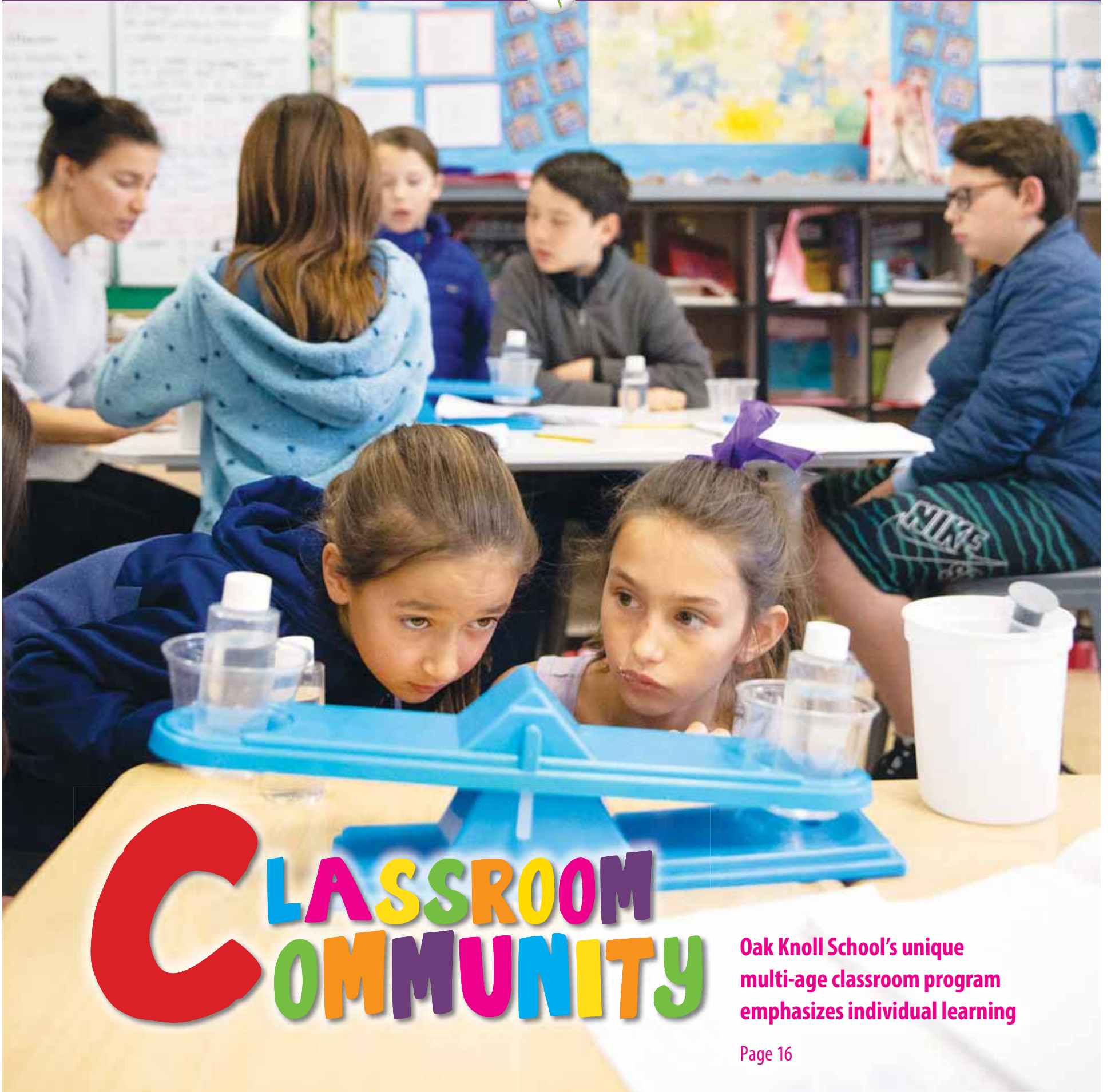
The Almanac

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

FEBRUARY 27, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 26



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C CLASSROOM COMMUNITY

Oak Knoll School's unique multi-age classroom program emphasizes individual learning

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New Menlo Park city manager named | Page 5
'Rummage Queen' Dolores Degnan dies | Page 21

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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Celebrating Black History Month

Margaret Blackwell sings along during a gospel song at the Black History Month Luncheon and Gospel Fest at the Menlo Park Senior Center on Feb. 22. The party drew a crowd from around the Bay Area, and entertainment included piano music by Nate Branch, a former Harlem Globetrotter and a Ravenswood High School grad. See additional photos on Page 22. Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Jerome-Robinson named new Menlo city manager

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park City Council wants to appoint Interim City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson to the position permanently and planned to make the appointment official at its Tuesday, Feb. 26 meeting, held after The Almanac went to press. Go to almanacnews.com for the latest news.

The council extended the offer to take the top leadership position in City Hall to Jerome-Robinson following its closed session meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 19. If appointed as expected, she would be hired under a two-year contract that would include a base salary of \$245,000, plus a vehicle allowance and other benefits such as medical insurance. After two years, the contract could be extended an additional year or on a month-to-month basis. Her official start date



(Photo courtesy city of Menlo Park.)

Starla Jerome-Robinson is a longtime Menlo Park resident.

would be March 31.

"I'm honored to have been selected by the City Council to become Menlo Park's next city manager," said Jerome-Robinson in the announcement. "I am excited for the opportunity to lead this organization comprised of very talented and

See **MANAGER**, page 6

Where have all the women gone?

Woodside's citizen government heavily weighted with men

By Dave Boyce
Almanac Staff Writer

Women living in Woodside outnumber men living in Woodside by more than 7 percentage points, according to 2017 census figures, but you'd never know it by looking at the current composition of local town government, where there are 17 men in positions of authority and two women.

The two women are on the seven-member Planning Commission. As of the morning of Feb. 12, there was another on the Architectural and Site Review Board (ASRB), but she's now gone although she tried to retain her position. There are none on the Town Council. (A preponderance of men on the council has been common in recent decades, but women held the majority between November 1983 and November 1993.)

Female majorities were common on the Planning Commission from 2006 to 2015, and on the architectural review board from 2009 to 2014, according to the town's online archives. Over

12 years — between 2006 and 2018 — neither panel had fewer than three women members.

Women have been slowly disappearing from the Planning Commission and the ASRB in recent years. Have they also given up?

Then there were none

In 2018, the number of women on the architectural review board dropped to one: Thalia Lubin, a member since 2010 and the only licensed architect on the board. Then, on Feb. 12, the council voted 4-3 to appoint Christopher Matthew Green, who is a nonlicensed architect, and not reappoint Lubin.

Voting for Green were councilmen Brian Dombkowski, Ned Fluet, Tom Livermore and Sean Scott. Mayor Daniel Yost and councilmen Chris Shaw and Dick Brown voted for Lubin.

Lubin chose not to comment for this article.

The council interviewed the candidates in public. The town code requires appointment of a licensed architect to the board "if one is available." Green,

the director of retail design at Apple, is a practicing architect, according to his application, but does not have a license, he told the council.

The councilmen explained their rationales to The Almanac. "I was actually quite conflicted about this decision," Livermore said. "I highly respect Thalia. She's been a wonderful contributor to the town for many, many years."

"In Thalia's case, I'm a proponent of people not serving too long. Frankly, I'm a proponent of term limits. It's better to have fresh blood. Let's put it that way."

Fluet said he had "nothing but the utmost respect" for Lubin, adding: "I got to know her over the last year. I think she's an amazing professional and an amazing human being."

Scott, via email, said his decision was based on a combination of candidates for the review board that, he believed, "best aligned with the (town's) needs, direction and interests." Green, he said, "sufficiently met the intent/criteria for architecture experience."

Dombkowski said in an email that he voted for Green in light

of his breadth of experience, including his work with historical buildings, his negotiation skills and his "outsider's viewpoint," which combined to give him "the relevant experience, and that his experience fulfilled the intent of the Town's code" regarding the requirement to appoint a licensed architect if one is available.

'Convolved' excuses?

A Woodside resident and former longtime volunteer in town government who requested anonymity isn't buying it. Referring to Green's association with Apple, the former volunteer said that "it appears that (Dombkowski) and others on the council were dazzled by the shiny new 'Apple' before them."

The former volunteer wondered how Dombkowski formed his opinion of Green's negotiating skills, and why an outsider's viewpoint is relevant to matters intended to preserve Woodside's rural character.

"To say that the applicant's 'experience fulfills the intent of the code,' is convoluted and doesn't hold up, but it certainly sounds dazzling," the former volunteer said.

"They were both qualified candidates," Dombkowski countered in an email. "We received a

lot of feedback that folks wanted fresh eyes on old problems. And that's what you saw broadly in the outcomes of the process."

Councilmen professing admiration and respect for women seeking appointment and then not voting to appoint them is "just cheap lip service to make themselves look better," the former volunteer said. "It has no place here or anywhere. Nor does making reference to 'term limits' when there are none."

As for council members sidestepping the mandate to appoint a licensed architect if one is available, "In my view, it's just plain wrong," the former volunteer said. "And flouting the municipal code doesn't bode well for the future of the town. Maybe the 'new blood' on the council has been drinking too much of their own Kool-Aid."

The Town Council is "systematically eliminating well-qualified women who want to serve and have a right to do so," the former volunteer said. "One would think, with record numbers of women elected to office in the recent midterm (national) elections (and) in a state with two female senators, (a state) that also requires boards of publicly traded companies to have

See **WOMEN**, page 7



TOWN OF ATHERTON NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

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

MIDDLEFIELD ROAD CLASS II BICYCLE LANES IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Install detectable warning surfaces with concrete pad, signage/ bicycle way findings drainage improvements along bicycle path, signal modification improvements and coordination with PG&E. PG&E will complete all work related to micro-surfacing, striping and pavement markings. All work shall be completed per Town Standard Specifications.

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

Pre-Bid Meeting (Non-Mandatory): A non-mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, at **11:00 a.m.** Pacific Standard Time on **8th day, March, 2019**, at which time questions regarding the bid submission will be answered.

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, until **11:00 a.m.** Pacific Standard Time on **Monday, March 11, 2019**, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for **MIDDLEFIELD ROAD CLASS II BICYCLE LANES IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, Project No. 56081**", along with date and time of bid opening.

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The Almanac

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New deputy director will lead Menlo Park's housing efforts

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Rhonda Coffman has been hired as Menlo Park's new deputy community development director overseeing housing, Interim City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson announced on Feb. 20.

She is scheduled to begin work on March 4.

Coffman's position places her at the helm of the housing section of the city's Community Development Department. She will earn a base salary of \$150,000 annually.

"I am excited to have Ms. Coffman join the City's management team," Jerome-Robinson said in the written announcement. "Her extensive experience in housing and supportive services programs will be invaluable as we work to address the housing challenges facing our entire region."

Coffman will be filling, in part, the role left by housing and economic development manager Jim Cogan, who left to work as assistant city manager of Paso Robles at the end of April last year.

The city struggled to hire someone new for that specific role, and ultimately made some adjustments to the position and compensation to give staff more

flexibility in the hiring process.

Economic development in Menlo Park is now being led by Community Development Director Mark Muenzer. Management Analyst John Passman, hired Dec. 10, will also work on economic development and will report to Coffman.

Coffman is expected to eventually manage both housing and economic development, Administrative Services Director Lenka Diaz explained in an email.

Coffman has more than 20 years of experience in housing and construction management. She has worked as a housing and grants manager for the city of Redwood City, and as a construction manager in Redwood City. She has also worked as an affordable housing consultant, a construction business owner and operator, and a director of adult services for Partners & Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults (PARCA). She holds a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame de Namur University in business administration.

In her past work, she helped to lead a community outreach process and aided in the adoption of new housing fees, zoning ordinances and tenant protection measures. ▀

MANAGER

continued from page 5

hardworking employees who are committed to making Menlo Park a great place to live, work and play."

Jerome-Robinson took the helm as interim city manager in late October last year after former City Manager Alex McIntyre announced he planned to leave his role in Menlo Park for the same position in the city of Ventura.

In the announcement, Menlo Park Mayor Ray Mueller said that he and other council members were impressed with Jerome-Robinson's "interaction with the city's executive team, professional staff and the public."

"We realized we already had in place a high caliber candidate who embodied all the values and skills we were seeking in our city manager," he continued.

He said part of the decision has to do with the city's current complex workload, which includes processing Facebook's Willow Village development proposal, as well as other development

proposals in the city's eastern area that was recently up-zoned. The city is also deep into the process of developing a transportation master plan.

"Rather than risk disruption and waste valuable resources and time in a prolonged executive search, we chose to seize the opportunity to hire Ms. Jerome-Robinson," Mueller said in the announcement. Jerome-Robinson previously worked as assistant city manager for Menlo Park from 2008 to 2015, and was assistant city manager in Los Altos before that, between 1999 and 2008. She also has worked as finance director for the town of Atherton and the city of Milpitas.

She is also a longtime Menlo Park resident, having lived in the city since 1982. According to Mueller, the salary package she agreed to is at the market rate and is "frankly slightly less than that paid by cities of comparable size in San Mateo County, including Belmont, Burlingame, Foster City and San Carlos." ▀

'We realized we already had in place a high-caliber candidate who embodied all the values and skills we were seeking in our city manager.'

MAYOR RAY MUELLER



COMMUNITY MEETING

San Mateo County Transit District (District) and Cross Bay Transit Partners (CBTP) are engaged in a public-private partnership (P3) to improve transportation along the Dumbarton corridor in the San Francisco Bay Area. Together, they are exploring new, environmentally appropriate alternatives for a high-quality, high-capacity public transit system.

You are invited to join us for an introductory meeting about the future of the Dumbarton Rail Corridor. Your invaluable participation will help guide the development of this proposed new connection across the Bay. **Doors will open approximately 30 minutes prior for sign-in and refreshments.**

For the convenience of Bay Area residents, we have scheduled several times and locations for this meeting. Join us when it's convenient.

1	Newark Meeting Saturday, February 23 10:30am-12:00pm Newark Pavilion 6430 Thornton Ave Newark, CA 94560	3	Fremont Meeting Thursday, February 28 6:30pm-8:00pm Centerville Community Center 3355 Country Dr. Fremont, CA 94536
2	Redwood City Meeting Wednesday, February 27 6:30pm-8:00pm Veterans Memorial Senior Center 1455 Madison Ave. Redwood City, CA 94061	4	Menlo Park Meeting Saturday, March 2 10:30am - 12:00pm Menlo Park Senior Center 110 Terminal Ave. Menlo Park, CA 94025

At these meetings you will meet our project partners and learn about project background, goals, funding, timeline and process. Ample time will be provided for questions and answers. Refreshments will be served. Servicio de interpretación en español estará disponible.

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www.crossbaytransit.com info@crossbaytransit.com

WOMEN

continued from page 5

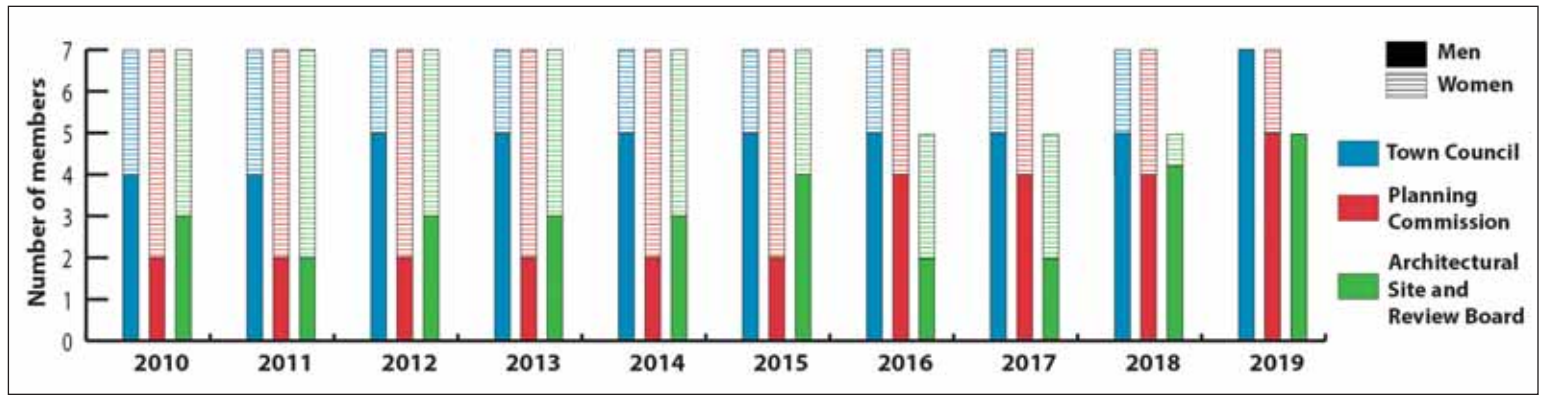
female members, that (council members) might at least be a little concerned about how it appears when the all-male council votes for all male applicants.”

A purge?

Lubin was the last of three women on the ASRB who were under fire for years by a contingent of residents alleging pickiness, overly subjective opinions and the absence of a welcoming attitude. The board’s mission is to review site development plans so as to preserve the town’s rural character as outlined in the town’s general plan and residential design guidelines, then make recommendations to the planning director.

One of Lubin’s two female board colleagues until recently, Nancy Reyring, did not seek reappointment in February 2017 after being the subject of a lengthy investigation over accusations by former mayor — and impassioned ASRB critic — Dave Burow that she violated the town’s ethics code. (Reyring sued over her treatment by the town and the town settled, paying her legal fees and agreeing to make recommendations for a revised ethics code.)

“What would you think about



Bar chart by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

The number of women volunteers being appointed to key positions in Woodside’s local government has declined recently, as shown by the preponderance of solid colors at the right end of the bar chart above.

members and former members of the council who gang up ... and allow a deliberate and systematic purge of capable and dedicated women rather than working in a positive way to reach consensus?” the former volunteer asked. “I’d say that’s a hostile environment.”

Board member Maggie Mah sought reappointment in September 2017, but was replaced by John Carvell on a 4-1 vote, with council members Livermore, Deborah Gordon, Shaw and Yost voting for Carvell and Anne Kasten voting for Mah.

Shaw discounts the idea of a purge. “The public criticism of ... Reyring, Mah, and Lubin had nothing to do with gender (and) to suggest otherwise would be revisionist for current political

climate expediency,” he said in an email. “Public criticism can and does discourage people from volunteering, independent of gender.”

As for the absence of gender diversity on the ASRB, he said the appointments “reflect what the Town Council is being told: the community wants ‘new eyes’ or fresh perspectives to focus on the process (of) building or remodeling in Woodside.”

Yost and Brown did not respond to a request for comment by The Almanac’s press time.

‘A big issue’

Of the seven people who applied in February for three seats on the ASRB, six were men. Of the five people who

ran for four Woodside council seats in November 2018, all were men.

The gender of review-board applicants “corresponds to the hostile culture described above and the advent of allowing certain individuals to conduct public shaming of women applicants in order to sway the council to appoint their male cohorts,” the former volunteer said. “They are always the loudest voices in the room, and no male applicant has ever been treated in this fashion. Both old and new councils have allowed this practice. People become aware of this and become reluctant to expose themselves to this kind of treatment.”

Shaw said he’s been seeking out candidates for public

positions in Woodside for more than three years, and that gender is not a factor. “Getting a person to volunteer is difficult because they have concerns about the time commitment and the risk of criticism that comes from standing up and offering your opinion in a public forum,” he said.

“I actually think it’s a big issue in that there should be more women,” Livermore told The Almanac. While he said he’s not sure why women applicants are scarce, he added that “in a small town like Woodside, we always have a problem getting people to step forward. Clearly, the town needs to do more outreach to try to get more women to apply for the jobs. It looks bad, no matter what.”



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Roadside remnant of land has affordable-housing potential

Apartments at Portola Valley Town Center also a possibility, drawings show

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

In Portola Valley, aside from in-home cottage units, there are likely just two locations in town in which different households share walls and roofs: The Sequoias retirement community at 501 Portola Road, and faculty and student housing at the Woodside Priory School at 302 Portola Road.

The Town Council twice tried to make room in town for condominiums — near the intersection of Alpine and Portola roads in 2003, and at a former plant nursery at 900 Portola Road in 2012 — but both initiatives were thwarted by residents who complained loudly and insistently about the negative impact of condos on the valuations of their single-family homes.

The council may try again. Council members on Feb. 13 informally examined a set of conceptual drawings, prepared by the Portola Valley firm CJW Architecture, that showed the possibilities for multi-family dwellings at two sites owned by the town:

■ At a 1.3-acre crescent-shaped parcel along the south side of Alpine Road near the Frog Pond Open Space and Corte Madera School. The drawings depict 11 homes: five single-story, two- and three-bedroom duplexes, and one free-standing unit, each consisting of

a 1,200-square-foot living area with clerestory windows, and a 200-square-foot carport.

■ At the maintenance building at Town Center at 765 Portola Road. The drawing shows two apartments — a one-bedroom and a two-bedroom — added as a second story to the building.

A presentation that included the drawings was on the agenda for the Feb. 7 meeting of an ad hoc committee commissioned by the council in January 2017 to consider the possibilities for affordable housing on town-owned parcels.

At the Feb. 13 council meeting, Town Manager Jeremy Dennis handed out copies of the drawings to council members as part of his periodic report on affordable housing.

Dennis commented on the drawings. “I think it’s worth noting that the exercise that Carter — ad hoc committee member Carter Warr of CJW Architecture — did on behalf of the committee isn’t intended to promote a particular project or a particular design or a particular number of units,” he said. “It’s simply to illustrate what the site could potentially be capable of. There is no project at this time.”

“It’s very interesting to see what might be possible on that site,” Councilman Craig Hughes said. “Even if it ends up being something very different than the sketch. ... Wow, it could be something as potentially

impactful as that. A lot of details to work on.”

“And significant conversations” to be had in the community, Dennis added.

A long-term effort

Of the 30 town-owned parcels the ad hoc committee examined, most were designated open space or unsuitable due to geologic conditions, according to a committee report of October 2017. While four had potential — the two shown in the conceptual drawings along with a parcel near Ford (baseball) Field and a remnant in the Blue Oaks neighborhood — they were not “obvious candidates” for affordable housing, the report said.

The two council members on the committee — Maryann Derwin and Mayor Ann Wengert — said at the time the report was submitted that they were in favor of looking into that potential.

“I don’t want to stop tonight with just accepting the report, saying, ‘This was great. Let’s move on,’” Derwin said. “I would like to see some forward action coming out of this action tonight, whether it’s tasking this group with another mission and/or looking at the four properties to consider moving forward on them.”

There’s an audience in town for more on this issue, driven in part by families who want their



Illustration by Kristin Brown/The Almanac

This conceptual drawing shows the possibilities for 11 condominiums near Corte Madera School at 4575 Alpine Road in Portola Valley. The drawing was one of a set recently presented to a committee looking into having affordable housing built on town-owned land.

children living nearby, Councilman John Richards said back then. Derwin noted that a town attorney and a school principal left town due to cost-of-living and commuting woes.

The conceptual drawings just released are the most recent steps in the effort to provide affordable housing that is “consistent with the Town’s open space ethos in size, scale and design,” Wengert said in an email.

The initiative includes second units on residential properties

and apartments on commercial and institutional properties such as The Sequoias retirement community and the Priory school, she said.

“The drawings,” she added, “are solely intended to visually represent site possibilities, and do not represent a proposal or a project. They simply represent what current zoning may allow, and require significant further analysis. There is no proposed project or associated review timetable.” ■

Atherton forms subcommittee to examine town’s rail service levels

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

The Atherton City Council will leave it to a subcommittee to come up with a recommendation on Caltrain service in town.

The council voted unanimously on Feb. 20 to form an ad hoc subcommittee to meet with staff and Caltrain on the future of the Atherton station. The subcommittee is tasked with crafting changes to the town’s rail policy based on the Rail Committee’s recommendations and return with a recommendation for the City Council.

This follows the town’s Rail Committee vote of 4-3, with two abstentions and one absence, at a Feb. 5 meeting to recommend that Caltrain restore weekday train service in town. Caltrain suspended weekday stops in the town in 2005 due to low ridership. The train now stops at the

Atherton station only on the weekends.

“We shouldn’t make a hard-and-fast decision right now,” said Mayor Bill Widmer.

The town is examining the issue as Caltrain reviews and plans its service schedules in preparation of rail service electrification from San Francisco to San Jose. Caltrain has indicated that rather than adding a stop in the overall train schedule, it might eliminate a stop in either Redwood City or Menlo Park to accommodate an Atherton stop, according to a staff report. Caltrain has the final say on the schedule.

Council member Elizabeth Lewis has expressed support for restoring weekday train service in town, but agreed that Atherton should carefully study the matter.

“It is a really, really big decision and we shouldn’t make it lightly,” she said. “I think that

we need to work really hard to do the best we can to get all the information, and I think by working in a subcommittee we can do that.”

Other council members said they don’t see as much of a need for weekday train service in town.

“I think train service to the town of Atherton is an asset to the town, it’s been in the town for almost 150 years,” said Vice Mayor Rick DeGolia. “But I also think that times have changed and people don’t commute principally to San Francisco from our community, like they did 30 years ago. People go south much more for their commute today.”

DeGolia noted he has gotten more emails on the topic of train service in town than any other subject this year.

In the fall, the Rail Committee recommended that the council restore full weekday train stops in Atherton, but it backpedaled

on the recommendation at a Jan. 9 joint council and committee meeting before going back to its original recommendation. The concern: SB 50, a bill introduced in December by state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco. The bill would require cities to allow new apartment buildings in any place that is within a half-mile of a rail transit station, within a quarter-mile of a high-frequency bus stop, or within a “job-rich” neighborhood.

The council is asking the town’s existing League of California Cities and City/County Association of Governments subcommittees to study SB 50.

The bill comes as state housing officials estimate that 180,000 homes need to be built each year to keep pace with population growth, according to a League of California Cities report cited in the town staff report. Over the last decade, on average, fewer than half that number have been

constructed annually, according to the report.

At past meetings, some residents and council and Rail Committee members said they fear that SB 50 could force Atherton to allow new housing, and take on the growth from other nearby jurisdictions that have growing job markets and populations.

DeGolia said that the town should prioritize safety around the rail station. High up in the town’s rail policy should be the requirement that Caltrain must take all necessary steps to make rail transit through the rail corridor as safe as possible, including the maintenance of quad gates at Fair Oaks Lane and the establishment of quad gates at the Watkins Avenue crossing.

The town plans to host a study session on SB 50 to better understand the legislation and what position the town should take on it, Widmer said. ■

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M-A wrestler voluntarily dismisses lawsuit against coach, school district

Wrestler's father was 'violent, erratic' in front of student wrestlers, district's court documents claim

By Angela Swartz
Almanac Staff Writer

A Menlo-Atherton High School student voluntarily dismissed a lawsuit against the Sequoia Union High School District, district administrators, the M-A athletic director and a wrestling coach for alleged retaliation against her and her father after they complained about "disturbing behavior" by a wrestling coach at the school.

M-A senior Kiernan Dunn dismissed her Nov. 9, 2018, lawsuit on Jan. 22, according to court documents. The lawsuit, originally filed in the San Mateo County Superior Court, alleged that the district retaliated against her for filing a Title IX complaint on Aug. 22, 2018. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in educational activities that receive federal funding.

Kiernan's lawyer, Christopher Campbell, confirmed that she had dropped legal action against the district and district officials, but declined to comment further.

Parents of other wrestlers assert that the claims of retaliation were replete with "false accusations" and that the student's father exhibited "violent, erratic" behavior in front of student wrestlers, according to court documents.

A school district statement emailed to The Almanac on Feb. 5 states: "There was no determination of any liability,

wrongdoing, or misconduct on the district's part. The decision to dismiss the lawsuit comes after the court denied the student's recent motion for a temporary restraining order seeking injunctive relief against the district. With the voluntary dismissal, the lawsuit is over and the court has closed its file on this matter."

The high school district had asked the court to move the case to the U.S. District Court's Northern District of California branch because Title IX is under federal law. There, Judge William Alsup denied Kiernan's temporary restraining order request on Jan. 16.

Kiernan filed a temporary restraining order request to be allowed to wrestle for the Fremont High School wrestling team in Sunnyvale, or for the court to allow her father Kevin Dunn, a former volunteer wrestling coach at M-A, to assume the role as her coach at M-A and coach of the M-A boys wrestling team. Kiernan requested that wrestling coach Phil Hoang be barred from the gym while she competed. A coach at Fremont High supported Kiernan's request to wrestle at his school, while continuing her academic pursuits at M-A, according to

court documents.

The district filed documents with the Northern District of California court opposing Kiernan's request for a temporary restraining order, stating: "Plaintiff is asking the Court to order Defendants to affirmatively fire its coach — or at least prevent him from coaching at meets — and hire her father as a wrestling coach. This is the essence of a mandatory injunction, and Plaintiff presents no justification for such extraordinary relief."

'Under Phil Hoang, the Girls Team has become the epitome of what a high school sports team should be.'

JOHN McDONNELL, PARENT

Other parents didn't want Kevin Dunn near the wrestling team, according to court documents.

"Having just learned of his daughter's bizarre demand for Mr. Dunn to be allowed to coach her in wrestling at M-A, I am truly afraid for my safety as an assistant coach and for Phil Hoang as the head coach if Mr. Dunn were to be allowed anywhere near the Girls Team," wrote Maria Smith, an M-A girls wrestling team assistant coach and a parent of a student wrestler, in an opposition statement to Kiernan's temporary restraining order request. "More importantly, I'm afraid for the safety of my daughter and the other girls on the Girls Team because of Mr. Dunn's demonstrated volatile and inappropriate behavior."

Kiernan's lawsuit alleged that Kevin Dunn was the victim of

retaliation after he complained about "disturbing behavior" and coaching practices of another coach, Cliff Olson. Olson, according to the lawsuit, made wrestlers blindfold themselves before practicing the "most dangerous moves in wrestling," leading a student to fracture his neck. Kevin Dunn complained to M-A wrestling coaches Hoang and Williams, but the two coaches ignored his complaints, according to the suit. Olson also made racist and sexist comments, which made Kiernan and other girls on the team uncomfortable and led wrestlers to quit the team, according to the lawsuit.

After Kevin Dunn complained to coaches about Olson's behavior, Olson threatened him with physical violence at a wrestling practice, the lawsuit asserted.

The school investigated Olson's conduct and fired him, according to the lawsuit. The district officials did not respond to questions about whether Olson was or is employed by the district. A Feb. 6 email from M-A Athletic Director Steven Kryger to Hoang states that the M-A administration removed Olson from the wrestling program.

According to the lawsuit, Hoang, who was named as a defendant in the lawsuit, "immediately retaliated" against Kevin Dunn after the complaints were made, barring him as a volunteer wrestling coach. M-A wrestling parents state that Kevin Dunn was the one harassing Hoang, according to the district's opposition statement. In an October 2018 letter, the school district asked Kevin Dunn to stay away from the wrestling team practices and Hoang because "many issues related to his conduct" led to employee safety concerns, according to court documents. Kevin Dunn also undermined and was rude to coaches, according to district's opposition statement.

"As you are aware, the District informed you last season that you could not volunteer coach for the M-A wrestling teams," Jacqueline McEvoy, the district's assistant superintendent

of human resources and student services, wrote in a letter to Kevin Dunn. "This decision not to have you coach remains for this upcoming wrestling season."

Kevin Dunn threatened physical violence against Hoang at a CCS (Central Coast Section) tournament in February 2018, according to the district's opposition statement.

The Dunns characterized the CCS incident differently in their lawsuit. Hoang approached Kevin Dunn at the CSS tournament and yelled "get up," and pushed him, the lawsuit asserted. Video evidence doesn't show Hoang pushing him during the incident; instead, Kevin Dunn is heard saying he will "f-k up" Hoang, according to the district's opposition statement. Kevin Dunn said in his own statement in court documents that he did say this to Hoang.

Smith said she witnessed Kevin Dunn's "violent, erratic behavior" in front of student wrestlers. Smith was also present when Kevin Dunn made physical threats of violence against Hoang, she said in her statement.

The district noted in court documents that Kiernan could wrestle for M-A if she wanted to, but "opted not to participate because she and her father do not like the current coach."

Kevin Dunn "entirely mischaracterized" the event and Kiernan's complaint was "replete with false accusations," according to an opposition statement written by John McDonnell to Kiernan's temporary restraining order request. McDonnell is a parent of an M-A girls team wrestler and is serving as legal counsel to other parents on the team, according to court documents.

"Under Phil Hoang, the Girls Team has become the epitome of what a high school sports team should be: positive, welcoming, structured, organized, honorable, diligent, good natured, respectful of each other and their opponent, and successful — traits which derive directly from Phil Hoang himself," McDonnell wrote. "Almost all girls on the team had never wrestled before joining, and now, because of Phil Hoang, they are part of one of the most successful programs ever to compete at Menlo-Atherton High School."

The M-A girls wrestling team won its third consecutive Central Coast Section girls wrestling championship on Feb. 16. Four wrestlers won individual CCS championships. The team finished second in state finals last week. ▀

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Local leaders, teachers gather for housing town hall

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

About 70 people gathered at Sequoia High School in Redwood City on Feb. 13 to discuss possible solutions to a crisis that's plaguing educators in San Mateo County: the scarcity of affordable places to live in the communities in which they work.

Representatives of the Sequoia Union High School District, smaller neighboring school districts and local housing groups, along with politicians like Redwood City's City Council member Giselle Hale, discussed potential solutions, while teachers in attendance shared their plights.

Menlo Park Mayor Ray Mueller and Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian moderated the panel, "Mid-Peninsula Teacher

Town Hall: Can We Solve the Teacher Housing Crisis?" Town Hall panelists included Sarah Chaffin, a parent and founder of SupportTeacherHousing.org, a group working to encourage local school districts to build teacher housing, who organized the event; Edith Salvatore, president

of the Sequoia District Teachers Association; Armando Sanchez, executive director of HEART (Housing Endowment

and Regional Trust of San Mateo County), a local housing assistance program; and Maya Perkins, a regional housing and transportation expert and a strategic initiatives manager at Facebook.

It's become difficult to build

staff collegiality with teachers who face daunting traffic if they were to stay after school for an event, such as an employee mixer on a Friday afternoon, Menlo-Atherton High School Principal Simone Rick-Kennel noted at the meeting. She added that her staff members are moving out of the

area because of the high cost of living.

Rick-Kennel, M-A's principal since the 2015-16 school year, said she tries to take care of her

staff, but knows they struggle daily with commutes.

Several teachers spoke of their struggles to afford to live in the area. Sequoia High School teacher Jose Rosario has taken on odd jobs to afford housing in the area, and even drove for Uber. He's picked up former students three times, he said.

"I want good pay for good work," he said at the meeting. "I don't want sympathy. I want to know I don't have to spend more than the next 10 years saving for a home."

The quality of teachers' lives affects the students' education,

Salvatore said. Students in the area are not getting their teachers' full attention the way previous generations did, she said.

"Some students come to me who had three different math teachers (in a year) because teachers had to leave," she said.

Workforce housing projects

Local government agencies are considering measures to help educators secure affordable housing. Simitian is spearheading a partnership with local school districts and cities to build a 60- to 120-unit affordable housing complex for local teachers and staff. The teacher housing would be built on a Santa Clara County-owned, 1.5-acre site at 231 Grant Ave. in Palo Alto.

"Teachers make what we used to call a middle-class salary, except in this housing market it just doesn't seem that way anymore," Simitian said at the event. "It is a solvable problem; we need the political will to do it."

In September 2018, the Ravenswood City School District Board of Education directed staff to explore building affordable housing for teachers and staff on the site of a former school — James

Flood Magnet School in eastern Menlo Park. It takes partnerships between cities and school districts, and parent support for educator housing to make these projects happen, said Sharifa Wilson, a Ravenswood City School District school board member. She doesn't want certain school staff left out of the conversation, though.

"Every time people say 'teacher housing,' I say 'workforce housing,'" she said. "Support staff also need that opportunity."

The Sequoia district has not ruled out the possibility of building teacher housing.

Challenges of building housing

Mueller predicted that residents will say "not near me" once developers try to build housing.

SupportTeacherHousing.org has an "army" of teachers — over 3,000 — ready to speak at city council and school board meetings to support housing, Chaffin said.

"My idea was to activate teachers in the community for workforce housing and then find a (housing) project to get a clear

See HOUSING, page 21

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C CLASSROOM COMMUNITY

Oak Knoll School's unique multi-age classroom program emphasizes individual learning

By Angela Swartz | Photos by Magali Gauthier

Doors remain open between classrooms at Oak Knoll School in Menlo Park as kids — a mix of third-, fourth- and fifth-graders — watch their student-produced morning news broadcast.

This setup epitomizes the goal of the school's 11-year-old multi-age program in which three classrooms are connected, with three teachers and three classes of students who are in kindergarten through second-grade, or third-through fifth-grade. The innovative multi-age program is one of only a few on the Peninsula, and serves about 200 of Oak Knoll's 690 students. It aims to foster community and treat students as individuals rather than confine them to grade-level standards.

Students in this program start their day in multi-age community circles. They spend half the school day with their multi-age class and the other half day in a single-grade class. They remain in their multi-age homeroom for three years; teachers within the cohorts specialize in one grade level.

"When they're in the same class for three years, they are

more comfortable and feel like it's home," said Principal Kristen Gracia, who came to Oak Knoll as a teacher nine years ago and became principal five years ago.

There is an emphasis on interacting with other students in the multi-age program. Multi-age classrooms integrate open-ended curriculum and project-based learning. Students take part in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) projects, in-class science experiments, games and social events to meet other students.

Older students are encouraged to mentor younger students, and teachers and families come to know each other well over their three years together, school officials say.

Teachers recently launched Genius Hour, in which students choose something they want to study independently and are matched with an expert on that topic. Students then use technology to share what they learn.

Oak Knoll also has traditional one-teacher, one-grade-level classes, which administrators say give parents another option for their children.



Renee Lavezzo, a kindergarten through second-grade teacher, helps Nina, a first-grader, and Avy, kindergartner, with written work in a kindergarten through second-grade multi-age class at Oak Knoll School.

How the program started

In 2008, David Ackerman, Oak Knoll's principal at the time, learned about multi-age schooling while attending the San Mateo County School Boards Association's Kent Awards ceremony, where John Gill Elementary School in Redwood City won an award for its multi-age program.

Ackerman visited John Gill to observe its program, and was impressed by the school's language arts-based multi-age learning community. He thought such a program could address challenges facing Oak Knoll: how to help struggling readers, how to increase teacher collaboration, and how to put more emphasis on relationships between students and teachers.

Soon after Ackerman's discovery of John Gill's multi-age program, Oak Knoll teachers put their own version of the program together. Teachers dedicated 20 days to research multi-age programs and one-room schoolhouses during the summer of 2008. They also wrote the social studies

curriculum and modified the science curriculum. (The school teaches reading, writing and math by grade level.)

By fall 2008, Oak Knoll launched its own multi-age program, which started with a kindergarten, first- and second-grade group. A third-, fourth- and fifth-grade group would come a year later.

School administrators often commented that teacher-student relationships didn't reach beyond the nine-month-long school year in traditional classrooms, Ackerman said. Before multi-age classes existed, a new teacher had to learn about a new child and what motivated and interested that student each year, he said.

With the multi-age program, students "were off to the races right at the very beginning" of the school year since teachers had already established relationships with two-thirds of their homeroom, said Ackerman, who is now president of the Menlo Park City School District school board. Oak Knoll, where he retired from in

2015, is part of the school district.

"Students adapted to school much more quickly (with the multi-age program)," he said. "There was a sort of closeness and class camaraderie and support for each other when they stayed together for a couple of years."

Benefits: 'teaching empathy,' confidence and community

Research shows that the benefits of multi-age groupings for students go beyond the academic.

A 2006 study by Mary Ellin Logue, now a professor emerita at the University of Maine, found that early student disobedience was less prevalent in multi-age groupings than in single-age classrooms. Academically, because of higher rates of language exchange among children in these programs, students had higher language development, according to the study.

Renee Lavezzo, who specializes in the first-grade segment of a kindergarten, first- and second-grade group at Oak Knoll, is in her sixth year of teaching in the



Kindergartner Jordyn reads on an iPad next to first-grader Trevor and other students in this kindergarten through second-grade class.



Second-grader Valery sits between first-graders Isla and Sarina during a class activity in a kindergarten through second-grade multi-age class.



Left: Michelle Tom, a third- through fifth-grade teacher, looks at a student's science experiment. **Right:** Fourth-grader Timothy and fifth-grader Hunter work on a science experiment together in a third- through fifth-grade class.

program. Lavezzo saw teaching multi-age classes as a chance to try something new, but challenging. She's seen firsthand how students benefit from mentoring one another, she said.

"There's a misconception that we're trying to make kindergartners grow up faster, but we're teaching empathy and compassion to show the younger kids the ropes," said Lavezzo, who will retire after 23 years of teaching at the end of the school year. "It's heartwarming to see how the older ones take care of the younger ones."

Sara Leslie, a parent of a fifth-grade boy at Oak Knoll, has had three of her children go through the school's upper-grades multi-age program. Her son has gained confidence as a leader to younger students in his cohort, she said.

"It's a really big school and the multi-age makes that really big school seem much smaller," she said.

Kianne, fifth-grader in the multi-age program, said she will miss her group when she goes to middle school.

"It's a very big, nice family," said Kianne, who is in Karen Clancy's

third- through fifth-grade cohort. "Sometimes you get a family sensation when we're all together."

Students also tend to thrive in multi-age classes because they have three different teachers working with them for multiple years who can see their strengths and weaknesses, Ackerman said.

'Few and far between'

Although there is no data on how many multi-age classrooms there are nationwide, such programs are "few and far between," said Sandra Stone of the National Multi-age Institute at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, and author of "Creating the Multiage Classroom." Stone founded the institute, which offers graduate-level courses in multi-age teaching practices.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, which put an emphasis on standardized testing by grade level, made it difficult for multi-age programs to survive. Multi-age programs look at each child as an individual and don't use standards to measure them, Stone said. The programs are comfortable, yet challenging for students, Stone said. Curriculum is flexible

so teachers can change the lesson plans based on what students are understanding.

Stone is concerned that traditional education doesn't support the wellbeing of students; she said that some schools might turn to nontraditional programs like the multi-age classroom to change this. Most traditional schools are creating factory-like conditions with paper-and-pencil tasks and workbooks, she said. Traditional education separates students into "winners" and "losers," which is unfair to children, causing them to lose their "wonder and excitement about learning," she said.

Gracia said students at Oak Knoll still prepare for standardized testing by grade level.

On the Peninsula, there are only a handful of multi-age programs, including ones in Hillsborough and San Carlos schools. The San Mateo County Office of Education doesn't track multi-age programs, Patricia Love, administrator of strategy and communication for that office, wrote in an email.

Challenges

It's important that teachers buy into and are prepared well to teach multi-age classes if a school wants to implement such a program, according to a 2009 research article from the Center for Evaluation and Education Policy at Indiana University Bloomington.

Many teachers have next to no preparation for teaching students of different ages, according to the article. About eight in 10 teachers oppose differentiated instruction — a term for the adaptation of curriculum to meet all students' needs, according to the article.

Educators doubt their abilities to assign the groups, carry out the materials and efficiently create group work among students of different abilities and ages, according to a 2008 study by the Farkas Duffett Research Group. Teachers are also unhappy with



the increased workload that comes with teaching multi-age classes, according to the Center for Evaluation and Education Policy article.

In establishing the program, Oak Knoll administrators had the most difficulty with finding teachers willing to take part in multi-age classes, Ackerman said. "Teachers hate split classes (a class made up of two grade levels), so the idea of recruiting three teachers to run a multi-age program was difficult," he said.

The multi-age classroom is not the same as the split classroom, which consists of two or more consecutive grades being placed in the same classroom under one teacher who is tasked with ensuring that students receive instruction at their grade level, according to the blog A Multi-age Journey. Split grades are usually created for numbers of reasons — too many students at one grade level, but not enough to make another full class of that grade, for example. The multi-age classroom functions as a single learning community.

Oak Knoll did get buy-in from three teachers willing to try multi-age classes.

"We sold them on the creativity idea," Ackerman said. "We sold them on the whole relationship idea and getting to know these kids for three years."

After the program's first year, the school made adjustments to aspects of the curriculum that didn't work. For example, administrators phased out a multi-age music program that wasn't working well, switching to the Suzuki Method violin program after the first year.

"It added to the mystique of the program," Ackerman said. "We had kindergartners running

around with violins."

Clancy, who specializes in third-grade teaching, is in her 10th year of participating in the program. Teaching multi-age classes keeps her engaged as an educator, she said.

"I didn't know what I was doing at first," she said. "But we could make it whatever we wanted it to be and think outside of the box."

Clancy still tweaks curriculum as she goes, but said teachers in her cohort know what each grade level needs. Multi-age classroom teachers are more locked into a schedule and spend more time with students on a lesson than is allotted for them since students move on to other teachers during a school day.

The future of multi-age programs in district

There's been discussion about bringing multi-age programs to other schools in the Menlo Park City School District, but "it's not an easy thing to implement," Ackerman said.

"You have to really work and find the right teachers," he said. "It became easier at Oak Knoll once other teachers watched the first innovators do it."

Clancy said she'd be more than happy to help other teachers learn how to teach multi-age classes, but that she hasn't been approached about doing so.

For more on the program, go to tinyurl.com/OakKnollmultiage. ▣



Third-grader Melinda watches fifth-grader Samantha add water to a bottle during a science experiment in a third- through fifth-grade class.

On the cover: Third-grader Melinda and fifth-grader Samantha determine which bottle of water is heavier during a science experiment. Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

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The Almanac

More Atherton home burglaries reported suspect in school break-in, theft arrested

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

Burglars hit two more Atherton houses since mid-month, the latest in a rash of burglaries in town, according to the Atherton Police Department.

Police responded to a burglary on Sunday, Feb. 18, around 7:10 p.m. in the 300 block of Fletcher Drive, according to a police department press release. When officers arrived, they found a broken window at the back of the residence.

An Atherton resident reported

a burglary to police that took place between Feb. 11 and 14 on Snowden Avenue. Someone stole jewelry and a medical bag from the home. Investigators couldn't determine how the burglar entered the house, and there is no estimate on losses.

There is also no estimate on losses from the other burglary, Atherton police Sgt. Anthony Kockler said in an email.

Police have characterized the recent spike in residential burglaries over the last several months as a “rash.” There have been seven home burglaries in town so far this year, and

about \$2 million worth of goods reported stolen in the first four of those incidents, police said.

On Feb. 14, police arrested a man, Valdemar Gabriel DaRocha, suspected in the burglary of \$14,000 worth of electronics from Encinal Elementary School during the first weekend of December.

DaRocha is in San Mateo County jail and faces burglary and possession of stolen property charges, police said. They do not believe DaRocha was involved in the residential burglary spree. ▣

Auto burglars hit a dozen vehicles in Menlo Park over the weekend

By **Dave Boyce**
Almanac Staff Writer

Auto burglars struck several neighborhoods in Menlo Park on Feb. 24, according to reports from the crime log of the Menlo Park Police Department.

Six of the 12 burglaries took place in the Menlo Oaks neighborhood, and three each were reported in Sharon Heights and Suburban Park-Lorelei Manor-Flood Park Triangle.

Burglars broke into 10 of the vehicles by smashing windows, while one was unlocked. There is no information yet on the

other case, police said.

Police do have information on what was stolen in six of the incidents — cash, backpacks, a wallet, packages, a laptop and a camera — but nothing for the other six.

The camera and accessories, which had a total estimated value of \$1,280, were stolen from a vehicle parked on Tioga Drive in Sharon Heights, police said. The other two Sharon Heights incidents involved \$130 in cash taken from a vehicle parked on Sierra Drive, and a wallet stolen from a vehicle parked on Biltmore Lane for an estimated loss of \$423, police said.

The crimes reported in Suburban Park-Lorelei Manor-Flood Park Triangle involved a backpack stolen from a vehicle parked on Del Norte Avenue, two packages taken from a vehicle parked on Hedge Road, and a backpack and laptop stolen from a vehicle parked on Oakwood Place for an estimated loss of \$1,300, police said.

Police have no information on what, if anything, was stolen in the six Menlo Oaks burglaries.

Detectives will be investigating these cases, police department spokesperson Nicole Ackers said. ▣

Would-be Menlo Park ‘Robin Hood’ found guilty of residential burglary

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

A 43-year-old Menlo Park resident has been found guilty of two counts of residential burglary and one count of petty theft tied to Brisbane burglaries following four days of jury trial in San Mateo County Superior Court.

Victor Manuel Caballero was arrested in Brisbane on Dec. 6, 2018, after a neighbor saw him walking around outside a home on Swallowtail Court and called police, according to prosecutors.

The Brisbane Police Department responded and found Caballero walking around aimlessly wearing two jackets with bulges in his sleeves and pants. He was carrying a computer keyboard and stereo speaker and pushing a cart containing stolen property, prosecutors said.

He also had debit cards belonging to burglary victims, \$1,010 in cash, and a woman's ring on his finger, prosecutors reported.

Officers found that he had accessed two homes on

Swallowtail Court by breaking glass with a rock. He then entered the houses and stole property, according to prosecutors.

Caballero, prosecutors say, “indicated he wanted to be like Robin Hood.”

Caballero's case went to jury trial Feb. 19. Of the jury's findings, the residential burglary verdicts are felonies and the petty theft verdict is a misdemeanor.

The case was continued to April 16 for the pre-sentence report. Caballero remains in custody on \$100,000 bail. ▣

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Erika Nord Richards dies at 102

Berlin native Erika Nord Richards arrived in the United States by steamer all alone with only \$10 in her pocket after fleeing the Nazis in Hamburg when she was 20.

"It didn't occur to me to be frightened ... but when I saw the Statue of Liberty, I broke down ... and all of a sudden I was frightened," she told an interviewer a decade ago.

That was the last time she felt that way, said her daughter, Evelyn Richards.

From that moment, Richards set out to build her life from the ground up, embracing America and its opportunities. She earned a physical therapy certificate from Northwestern University, then worked at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago, became an American citizen and joined the U.S. Army in 1944 as a physical therapist. Two years later, she was discharged as a first lieutenant.

The longtime Midpeninsula resident spent the rest of her life entrenched in the community,

donating her time and skills to the people and places around her.

Richards died on Feb. 13 at Vi Independent Living community in Palo Alto, just seven weeks shy of her 103rd birthday. She was the oldest resident at the independent living section of the community.

Her daughter said Richards' strength, spunk and positive character kept her "amazingly" active.

Until two months ago, when she contracted aspiration

pneumonia, she took twice-daily walks, swam on Sundays and enjoyed many social and cultural events while keeping up with the world around her. She was a devoted bridge player, and her regular circuit included Little House in Menlo Park and the Menlo Circus Club in Atherton.

Richards settled in Los Altos in 1966 with her husband, Richard K. Richards, a physician and pharmacologist who was attracted by the research and teaching opportunities at Syntex and Stanford's School of Medicine. After settling in the area, she became a lifetime member of the League of Women Voters and

initiated the process of offering voter registration to newly naturalized U.S. citizens.

Richards was born on April 7, 1916, in Berlin. She is survived by her daughter, Evelyn; son-in-law, Greg Pickrell; granddaughter, Liana Pickrell; brother, Helmut; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 36 years, Richard K. Richards, and her brother Achim.

A celebration of life for is scheduled for March 21 at 2 p.m. at the Vi, 620 Sand Hill Road in Palo Alto.

— *By Linda Taafe, Palo Alto Online.*

Alan Lawrence Kaganov

December 7, 1938 – February 2, 2019

Alan Kaganov, 80, died in his home in Los Altos Hills on February 2, 2019 after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis, which he fought with his characteristic combination of optimism, scientific analysis and creativity. Even two days before he died, he was in discussion with colleagues on ways to improve the oxygen delivery systems that were sustaining his life.

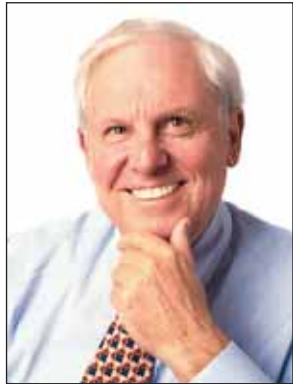
Holder of 15 US patents, Dr. Kaganov was a pioneer in biomedical engineering. He helped to develop treatments for many conditions including heart arrhythmia, internal issues, spinal and circulatory diseases and drug-delivery systems.

In 2017, Alan and his wife, Carol M. Kaganov, established the Kaganov Research Initiative at Duke University. This unique program aims to advance the diagnosis, treatment and outcomes of pulmonary diseases by fostering new collaborations across Engineering and Medicine at Duke, where he earned his BS in 1960 in Mechanical Engineering. He received Duke's Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award in 2004.

Alan's undergraduate degree was just the beginning of his trailblazing career which focused on the new field of Biomedical Engineering, first at Johnson & Johnson. Along the way he earned an MBA from New York University in 1966 in corporate finance. He received his Doctor of Science degree from Columbia University in 1975. Alan and Carol established a Professorship at Columbia as part of their legacy, and he served on its Engineering Board of Visitors starting in 2010.

His varied career focused on developing innovative new technologies at major medical device companies as well as start-ups, moving from R&D roles to general management. first at the Davis and Geck division of Lederle, then part of American Cyanamid.

He moved on to Baxter Healthcare in Illinois, where he was General Manager of the Fenwal Division, and then — recognizing his entrepreneurial spirit as well as R & D skills — he was made Vice President of Technology and New Ventures. A chance to become CEO led to EP Technologies in Palo Alto, CA, a start-up that produced steerable catheters for treating arrhythmias. It was acquired by Boston Scientific, where he became Vice President of Acquisitions and Strategic Planning.



Alan joined U.S. Venture Partners in 1996 where served as a venture partner, partner and senior advisor for over 22 years. He distinguished himself as an incisive, passionate and successful investor, and as a mentor to

many executives in the firm's portfolio. He cofounded Aptus Endosystems in 2002 and served as its chairman. Other board positions included NewUro, Neuros Medical, Atricure, St. Francis, A-Med Systems, Spinal Elements, and Flextronics. "Alan had an unusual combination of personality, skills and experience that made him a great venture capitalist. He could not only identify and articulate the strategic issues,

but based on his strong technical background and experience, he was an unusually valuable resource to entrepreneurs. And he was also a nice guy that everyone loved," remarked Phil Young, a longtime general partner and current senior advisor at USVP.

Alan was especially proud of his contributions to the Stanford University Bio-Science Lab, Bailard, Inc., where he was a healthcare advisor, and the Gladstone Institute, where he was on the Board and established an innovative Fellowship. He has been a generous supporter of the San Francisco Symphony and the Smuin Ballet, where he was an avid audience member as well as on its board. Alan was a passionate traveler, gardener, investor, and dedicated fan of the NY Yankees, the NY Giants and the Duke Blue Devils basketball team.

Alan Kaganov was born in Brooklyn, NY, on December 7, 1938, son of Morris and Sally Kaganov, and grew up in Miami Beach, FL, where he attended high school. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Carol Kaufman, from Albany, NY., sister Debby (Gil) Wolfenson, brother-in-law Henry Kaufman and wife, Meryl Unger, nephews Andrew (Jennifer) Wolfenson and Barry Wolfenson, nieces Carin (David) Blatteis and Erica (Dan) Asher, and eight grand-nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Alan Kaganov's life will be held in late February. In lieu of flowers, contributions in honor of Alan L. Kaganov may be sent to: DUKE UNIVERSITY – KAGANOV INITIATIVE, attention "Judge" Carr, Sr. Assoc. Dean for Development and Alumni Affairs, 305 Teer Engineering Building, Box 90271 Durham, NC 27708. Or, call (919) 660-5385, or email gifts.Duke.edu

PAID OBITUARY

Affordable housing on the agenda

By Dave Boyce

Almanac Staff Writer

There will likely be a substantial answer to the question, "What's new in affordable housing in Portola Valley?" after Wednesday night's meeting of the Town Council.

The council meets Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. in the historic Schoolhouse at 765 Portola Road and will hold a public hearing to consider an ordinance, proposed by the Planning Commission after months of deliberation, that could do the following:

- Increase to 1,700 square feet the maximum floor area of an accessory dwelling unit — a term of art for a cottage or second unit.

- Allow affordable dwelling units in all zoning districts, and allow external units — those that are detached or alter a house's outward appearance — on all parcels, though some restrictions would apply.

- Allow affordable dwelling units to have separate addresses as well as separate utilities.

- Allow Town Hall staff to review and approve plans for affordable dwelling units, bringing in the Architectural and Site Control Commission when applicable.

The proposed regulations would not include changes to adjusted maximum floor area and maximum impervious surface, setbacks and maximum heights, or landscaping, lighting and material requirements. ■

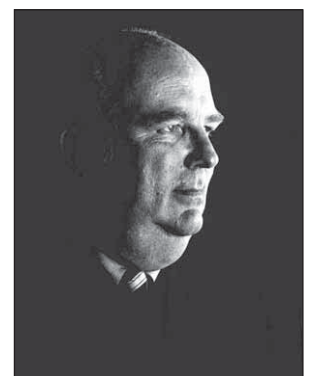
Judge Allan Bollhoffer

Allan Bollhoffer, 82, passed away on Sunday, February 10, 2019. Born in Cheyenne, Wyoming (1936) to parents John and Bernice Bollhoffer. The family moved to Belmont on January 1, 1948. Al attended Sequoia High School then Stanford University where he earned his BA degree (1958) and he graduated from Stanford Law School (1960). He worked as an attorney, became San Mateo's County's first Superior Court Commissioner. In 1977, he was elected in the June primary to the Superior Court. He served more than 20 years.

He and his beloved wife, Jean, who survives him, enjoyed 54 happy years of marriage. He is also survived by his loving sister, Marlene, numerous nephews and cousins.

Al loved bringing flowers every week to Jean. He had a marvelous gift of humor. Every opportunity to share laughter delighted him.

Services have been held. Memorial donations to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association are appreciated.



PAID OBITUARY

The Almanac
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Dolores Degnan, 'rummage queen' and town historian, dies at 80

By Barbara Wood

Special to The Almanac

Dolores Degnan, who moved to Woodside soon after her first birthday and lived in and loved the town for the rest of her life, died on Feb. 19 of complications from liver cancer at the age of 80.

Services will be held on Sunday, March 24, at 2 p.m. in the Woodside Village Church Sanctuary, 3154 Woodside Road.

Rummage queen

Dolores Degnan led the Woodside Village Church rummage sale for decades, often managing more than 100 volunteers who gathered two or three times a year raising as much as \$50,000 a year for the church and charities it supported. Degnan started working at the sale as a child with her mother, became head of the sale's boutique nearly 55 years ago, and had headed the entire sale for nearly 35 years, with major support for decades from Sharon Aissa and David Bean, church members from San Francisco.

The church gave her its "It takes a Village" award in early February, naming her "Church Matriarch and Rummage Queen."

Cutty Smith, a real estate agent with Sotheby's International, volunteered with Degnan at the rummage sale for 20 years, at first during visits to family even before moving to Woodside from North Carolina.

"She was uniquely kind and opening to new people," Smith said of Degnan, adding that she was "abundantly optimistic about turning what could be a pile of old leftovers into a glorious boutique."

Degnan's tireless hard work inspired many others to do the same. "It was amazing so many of us weren't even members of

the church," Smith said.

Bob Mullen, who knew Degnan from her childhood, said she was "a treasure at church heading up the Women's Fellowship" as well as the rummage sale. "She had a marvelous touch with flower arranging, both at church and for community events," Mullen said.

History expert

Both Smith and Mullen served on the Woodside History Committee with Degnan. She joined the committee in 1998, also serving terms on the town's livestock and recreation committees.

Her ability to remember the scenes of her youth in Woodside, down to details such as the furnishing of a home she'd been in as a child or how many horses their barn housed, amazed other committee members.

Jackie Young, the town's planning director and staff liaison to the History Committee, said Degnan's "deep knowledge of town history was invaluable, and she was always as delighted to share it as we were to hear it. She was consummately collegial and a great communicator."

Young said she will most miss Degnan's "warm smile, contagious enthusiasm, positive and grateful spirit, and her tireless efforts to build community and to always be part of the solution."

Move to Woodside

Born on January 27, 1939, in Winnetka, Illinois, to Thelma (Galliano) and William Wilke, Dolores and her family moved to Woodside in 1940, where her father was the caretaker of the Stanley G. Harris estate at 384 Mountain Home Road.

In those days Woodside had fewer than 400 residents, Degnan recently remembered, with most of them either being

the residents of large estates or those who worked at or provided services for the estates.

Dolores' father taught her to hunt and to fish, which in those days could be done in the creeks running through Woodside, and to drive a tractor.

Education

She started at Woodside Elementary School — which then had no kindergarten — a year early at age 5, went on to Menlo-Atherton High School, the College of San Mateo and dental hygiene school in the San Francisco College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Jim Degnan met Dolores on a blind date, and the two were married in June 1961, the first couple to be married in the Woodside Village Church's new sanctuary.

Dolores, Jim says, insisted on living in Woodside, so they bought their first home on Otis Street in the Woodside Glens neighborhood just before they were married.

In addition to working as a dental hygienist, Degnan spent more than a decade working at Degnan's Printing — founded by Jim's father in 1953 — had a florist business, and shared a stall in an antique co-op in San Carlos with Lorrie Goben.

Horses, dogs and cats

Degnan loved animals, with her favorites being horses, dogs and cats. She began riding her neighbor's horse as a toddler, joining Woodside's Junior Riders at age 7 a year after it was founded, under "Milo" Miloradovitch. She got her first horse at 10, "so then I was free as a bird, rode it all over," Degnan recently said.

She also loved to garden, and in the fourth of her Woodside

Salvatore suggested that changes to the state tax code could bring more money to schools. In January, the California Teachers Association voted to support a 2020 tax ballot initiative, the California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act, to restore \$11 billion annually to schools, community colleges, health clinics, and other vital local services. This would be possible by rolling back Proposition 13 restrictions on tax increases for commercial properties.

One way to pay teachers more is to raise funding levels for schools in the state, Redwood City School District Trustee Alisa Greene MacAvoy said at the meeting. She recommended that people visit landfairfunding.org, a to sign a

California School Boards Association petition to ask the state Legislature to raise school funding to the national average by 2020 and to the average of the top 10 states by 2025. Adjusted for cost of living, California ranks 41st in per-pupil funding, according to the petition.

One audience member commented that more corporate representatives should have attended the meeting to address how they'll help support housing needs in the area.

Perkins noted that Facebook established the Catalyst Housing Fund in 2016 to increase the construction and protection of affordable housing. She urged the public to speak out, telling corporations, "We need this — please build housing." ■



Photo courtesy Jim Degnan

Dolores Degnan in the 1960s.



Photo courtesy Jim Degnan

Dolores Degnan on a cruise in 2014.

homes transformed what had been a barren walnut orchard and tiny patch of lawn with a view out to Canada Road and the freeway into an oasis of lush plantings, garden rooms, structures and decorations.

Dolores and Jim Degnan were active in many of the Woodside community theater productions directed by the late George Sellman, with one of her favorite parts being a "Pick-a-Little Lady" in "Music Man."

Cutty Smith summed up Dolores Degnan this way: "She loved horses all her life. She loved animals, anything gardens, rummage, the history. She loved olives in her martinis

when she drank."

Degnan is survived by her husband of 57 years, Jim; sons and daughters-in-law Jeff and Jeannine and Mark and Monica Degnan, all of Woodside; and grandchildren Michael, Kaitlin, Bradley and Emily.

The family requests donations in lieu of flowers to Pets In Need, www.petsinneed.org/donate; or the Woodside Village Church.

Note: In the weeks before her death, Dolores Degnan shared many of her memories of growing up in Woodside with Barbara Wood, and those stories will be the focus of an upcoming Almanac story. ■

Jacqueline Irene Schwartzman

August 25, 1928 – February 3, 2019

Jacqueline Irene Schwartzman, a resident of Menlo Park, California since 1960, peacefully passed away at home on February 3, 2019 surrounded by her loving family.

Jacque, as she preferred to be called, was born to John and Irene Lovko on August 25, 1928, in Cleveland, Ohio, and she always noted that she and Mickey Mouse were born the same year. She was the commencement speaker for the 1946 graduating class at West Technical High School. She was a stewardess for Northwest Airlines from 1951 to 1954 and, as she said, was "goofy" about flying. She then moved from Ohio to San Francisco where she met Kent Schwartzman on a blind date; they were married in 1960.

Jacque will be lovingly remembered for her extraordinary creativity, her fine talents in the arts and her devotion to family, friends and community. Among her many roles, she was: President of the Oak Knoll School PTA, a wedding planner and event designer, a docent at Filoli Center (Woodside, CA), Chairman for five years of the Menlo Park Arts Commission, 25 years association with the Trinity Family Institute, and a continuing college student. She was perhaps best known as a floral arranger, both designing and teaching at Gamble Garden (Palo Alto, CA) for 24 years. She would always encourage people to seek out beauty in life, wherever they go.

Jacque is survived by husband Kent Schwartzman, daughters Lee Ann Schwartzman and Nancy Louise Schwartzman (Tuhtan) and two grandchildren.

A celebration of Jacque's life will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 2:00 PM at the Menlo Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA. Jacque's wishes were that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in her name to the charity of your choice.



PAID OBITUARY

HOUSING

continued from page 12

path to community support ahead of time," she said. Her group began organizing four years ago, but went public only last year, she said.

Development will not happen immediately, but some school districts are sitting on "very valuable land" that, if they're willing to part with it, can be used for teacher housing, said Sanchez.

Once you take land cost out of a project by building on district-owned land, there are more options, he said. There is an idea that school districts need to raise a lot of money to build educator housing, but bonds, financing and the rents teachers will pay to live there can cover costs.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Pastor Teirrah McNair claps along with Gwendolyn Smith during a performance at Menlo Park's Black History Month Luncheon and Gospel Fest.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Nate Branch, a former Harlem Globetrotter and a graduate of Ravenswood High School in East Palo Alto, performs at Menlo Park's Black History Month Luncheon and Gospel Fest, held Feb. 22 at the Menlo Park Senior Center in Belle Haven.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Alma Love leads a group of colorfully dressed participants in a line dance at the event.

Menlo Park's Black History Month party a jubilant event

Poetry reading, group line dancing and a cap-pella and gospel singing shaped the lively atmosphere of Menlo Park's 19th annual Black History Month Luncheon and Gospel Fest, held Feb. 22 at the Menlo Park Senior Center in the city's Belle Haven neighborhood.

The celebration drew a crowd from around the Bay Area, selling out with 130

tickets. According to Senior Center recreation coordinator and event organizer Avidah Yaghmai-Samardar, most of the attendees — about 90 percent — were seniors, and attendees came from Oakland, San Mateo, San Jose, and Mountain View.

Vice Mayor Cecilia Taylor also participated in the celebration.

Those attending the event

wore bright colors, and the paper decorations were made by seniors at the center. Other decorations included cardboard cutouts of notable African-Americans such as Michelle and Barack Obama, Martin Luther King Jr. and Harriet Tubman.

"I'm inspired by the sharing of cultures at the Senior Center," Taylor said.

— By Kate Bradshaw



"Beautiful Chaos" by Dan Fenstermacher 2018 Best In Show and Travel Winner

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Theater

Foothill Music Theatre Presents 'Bullets Over Broadway, the Musical' The Tony Award-nominated musical written by Woody Allen tells the story of a young playwright whose first Broadway play is financed by a gangster. Thursdays through Sundays, Feb. 28-March 17, times vary. \$12-\$36. Lohman Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. foothill.edu/theatre/bullets.html

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Presents 'Marie and Rosetta' In its West Coast premiere, the musical play "Marie and Rosetta" shares the saga of musical legend Sister Rosetta Tharpe, who inspired Elvis, Ray Charles and others on her way to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. March 6-31; times vary. \$40-\$100; discounts available. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. theatreworks.org

Music

'All-Night Vigil' Paul Flight leads a 35-member chamber choir, with soloists Gabriela Estefanie Solis and Mark Bonney, in Sergei Rachmaninoff's monumental "All-Night Vigil." Nine of the vigil's 15 movements are based on Orthodox chant. March 2; pre-concert lecture at 7:15 p.m.; performance at 8 p.m. \$10-\$35; discounts available. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. calbach.org/season/#rachmaninoff

Stanford Baroque Soloists: 17th Century German Masters — The Wild West of Western Music The Stanford Baroque Soloists, under the direction of Anthony Martin, present a winter program of music for strings by Biber, Schmelzler, Weichlein, Scheidt and Buxtehude. Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Stanford Symphony Orchestra and Stanford Symphonic Chorus The Stanford Symphonic Chorus performs Vaughan Williams's "A Sea Symphony" with the Stanford Symphony Orchestra, featuring Marnie Breckenridge, soprano soloist, and Kenneth Goodson, baritone soloist. Conductor Paul Phillips presents the California premiere of his own composition, "Wave," and 2018 concerto competition winner Nnamdi Odita-Honnah is flute soloist for Jacques Ibert's "Flute Concerto." March 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. arts.stanford.edu/event/81620/

Talks & Lectures

Creative Reading in the Galleries A collaboration with the Anderson Collection, there will be readings from lecturers teaching in Stanford's creative writing program. Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m. Free. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Dr., Stanford. events.stanford.edu/lectures/811/81163

The Future of Corporate Leadership Scott Weiss, Kwame Ferreira and Deborah Acosta discuss transparency in the workplace and its importance in building a successful business model. Several studies have shown that transparency is the top factor determining workplace happiness, trust and creativity. Feb. 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$25. Florence Moore Hall 319, Menlo College, 1000 El Camino Real, Atherton. menloparkrotary.org

Gauguin: A Spiritual Journey Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco gives a multimedia presentation on the museums' current exhibition on the work of Paul Gauguin. The talk covers the artist's paintings, wood carvings and ceramics; his spiritual journey; and how his relationships and sojourns shaped his development as an artist. March 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library downstairs program room, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Guy Kawasaki Guy Kawasaki, Silicon Valley author and entrepreneur, talks about the power of self-reflection and his latest book, "Wise Guy," which is filled with personal stories from his childhood in Hawaii, his education at Stanford University and UCLA, and the ups and downs of working for Steve Jobs. March 4, 7:30-9 p.m. Free, but RSVP requested. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.com/upcoming-events

Jill Abramson: This Is Now with Angie Coiro Host Angie Coiro talks with former

executive editor of the New York Times and Harvard University lecturer Jill Abramson about critical information battlegrounds: old media vs. new, documented veracity vs. click-bait. Feb. 27, 7:30-9 p.m. \$15-\$45. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.com/upcoming-events

Leading a Meaningful Life: A Conversation with Krista Tippett Associate Dean for Religious Life Sughra Ahmed talks with journalist and author Krista Tippett on matters of personal values, beliefs and motivations in order to gain a deeper understanding of life's meaning. A Q&A with the audience follows the conversation. March 4, noon-1 p.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Museums & Exhibits

Alphabete: The World Through the Eyes of Frederic Bruly Bouabre The exhibit displays an original pictographic alphabet as well as brightly colored postcard-size illustrations from contemporary African artist and poet Frederic Bruly Bouabre. Through March 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

The Dancing Sowe: Performing Beauty in Sierra Leone This exhibition focuses on one spectacular work in the Cantor's collection — a sowe mask, used by the women-only Sande Society that is unique to Sierra Leone. Through April 29; 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Do Ho Suh: The Spaces in Between In this exhibition, artist Do Ho Suh uses a chandelier, wallpaper and a decorative screen to focus attention on issues of migration and transnational identity. Through May 27, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Free First Friday Admission to the San Mateo County History Museum is free and includes a preschool activity hour at 11 a.m. and an hourlong tour at 2 p.m. of the museum's long-term exhibits. Ongoing, first Fridays of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. historysmc.org/events/free-first-fridays-20

Josiah McElheny: 'Island Universe' Josiah McElheny's "Island Universe" examines both cutting-edge art and physics. The monumental installation of five hanging chandeliers is a visual response to recent theories of the multiverse, an elaboration of the Big Bang theory. Through Aug. 18, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Kahlil Joseph: BLKNWS Kahlil Joseph, a visiting artist in the new Presidential Residencies on the Future of the Arts program, presents his work BLKNWS, a two-channel video projection that blurs the lines between art, journalism, entrepreneurship and cultural critique. Through June 16, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

The Medium Is the Message: Art since 1950 Using works created since 1950, this exhibition explores the relationship between subject, content and the materials that informed each object's production. Through Aug. 18, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Painting Nature in the American Gilded Age The Cantor Arts Center's newest exhibition considers how nature was depicted by American artists in landscapes, portraits and still lifes from the 1880s to 1910, an era of unprecedented industrialization and urban development. Through Aug. 25, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Galleries

'Variations on a Theme' — an Exhibition of Watercolor Paintings "Variations on a Theme" — an exhibition of watercolor paintings by Yvonne Newhouse of San Mateo — highlights Newhouse's ongoing exploration

of painting a single subject using multiple approaches. Through Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Sundays. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. portolaart-gallery.com

Film

Kerry Tribe: The Elusive Word Los Angeles-based visual artist Kerry Tribe's film "Critical Mass" (2013) features a re-enactment of a couple's heavily edited argument taken from Hollis Frampton's experimental 1971 film by the same name. Tribe offers modern viewers a fresh look at the struggle to find the words to express how one feels. Through April 29, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Food & Drink

Portola Valley Farmers Market Portola Valley Farmers Market offers locally grown organic produce, prepared foods and artisan crafts at the town center, with parking available. Thursdays, 2-5 p.m. Free. Portola Town Center, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley. goodrootseven.com/portola-valley-farmers-market.html

Lessons & Classes

Basic Computer Class for Spanish Speakers Students learn about computers and Microsoft Word, open an email account and explore the internet. Classes are Wednesday evenings. Feb. 27, 6-8:30 p.m. Free. Jobtrain, 1200 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park. jobtrainworks.org/evening-classes/

ESL Conversation Club Non-native and native English speakers talk together with the aim of developing English speaking and listening skills. No registration required. Free. Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/projectread

Make Your Own Movie! Zoom In is a 15-hour intensive video workshop that covers everything needed to create a digital video, from shooting to editing to uploading. Students produce a short video that will be shown on the center's YouTube channel and TV channels. March 2, 3 and 10; times vary. \$200. Midpen Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. midpenmedia.org/workshops/

Kids

The Beetledady Kids in kindergarten and older learn about the roles of arthropods in the environment and in people's lives. Feb. 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Road, Woodside. beetledady.com/events/

Mad Science: Movie Special Effects The show covers the difference between magic and science, what a dinosaur sneeze and polymers have in common, and gravity-defying feats using scientific principles, among other topics. Event is best suited for kids ages 5-12 with their adults. Feb. 28, 7-8 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Storytime with Peter H. Reynolds In "Say Something!" artist and children's book author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference in the world. March 3, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.com/upcoming-events

Religion & Spirituality

Public Tour of Memorial Church Tours of Stanford Memorial Church, one of the earliest interdenominational churches in the West, feature the church's stone carvings, mosaics and stained-glass windows. Ongoing, Fridays at 1 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

How to add events to calendar

Go to AlmanacNews.com and see the Community Calendar module at the top right side of the page. Click on "Add your event."

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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

STELLAR SWIMMING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280050

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Stellar Swimming, located at 3125 Jefferson Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BARBARA LYNN LeBLANC
4618 Bianca Dr.
Fremont, Calif. 94538

This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on December 23, 2009.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 14, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

CC8 MANAGEMENT GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280153

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
CC8 Management Group, located at 258 C Street, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
CHRISTOPHER CHUNG
258 C 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 N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 24, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

ART MY HEART
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280316

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Art My Heart, located at 741 Manzanita Rd., Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
JEANNE A. GOLDMAN
741 Manzanita Rd.
Woodside, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/7/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 7, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 13, 20, 27; Mar. 6, 2019)

FLORES GARDENING & LANDSCAPING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280275

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Flores Gardening & Landscaping, located at 1180 Hilton St. Apt. 2, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
ISIDRO FLORES RODRIGUEZ
1180 Hilton St. Apt. 2
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 01/18/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 4, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 20, 27; Mar. 6, 13, 2019)

E-COMMERCHANT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280390

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
E-Commerchant, located at 311 Sycamore St., San Carlos, CA 94070, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
ERIC ALEJANDRO TEJEDA
311 Sycamore St.
San Carlos, CA 94070

This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 14, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 20, 27; Mar. 6, 13, 2019)

EVA BLUES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280389

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Eva Blues, located at 214 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
EVANGELINA CLARK
214 Alameda De Las Pulgas
Redwood City, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 14, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 20, 27; Mar. 6, 13, 2019)

AUTUMN AND MULBERRY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280400

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Autumn and Mulberry, located at 3725 Jefferson Ct., Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
KATHRYN M. UTLEY
3725 Jefferson Ct.
Redwood City, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 15, 2019.
(ALM Feb. 27; Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2019)

Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email asantillan@pawekly.com for legal advertising.



NOTICE INVITING BIDS TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

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

2019 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT

Performing of Type II micro-surfacing per Town specifications on the listed streets, which includes notifications, traffic control, prep work, oil and chip installation, compaction, sweeping, and re-striping/pavement markings (as needed) with a 1-year guarantee.

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

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, until 2:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on **Thursday, March 7, 2019**, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for **2019 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT**", along with date and time of bid opening.



NOTICE INVITING BIDS TOWN OF ATHERTON, CA

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

2019 STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Removal and replacement of 2 inches of asphalt concrete pavement on various streets. Crack sealing and grind and replace approximately 25,000 square feet of asphalt to a 6-inch depth of pavement failures and placement of thermoplastic/paint striping. Some hand work around utility access-hole covers will be necessary.

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

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California 94027, until 2:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on **Thursday, March 7, 2019**, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for **2019 STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECT**", along with date and time of bid opening.

Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

A tribute to Mrs. Gertrude Dyer Wilks

By Henry Organ

February is Black History Month, and a tribute is being made to Mrs. Gertrude Dyer Wilks, a graceful African-American woman from East Palo Alto, who passed last month. She died on Jan. 20, the same date Barack Obama was sworn in as the first African-American president of the United States of America 10 years ago.

Mrs. Wilks was a staunch supporter of Mr. Obama beginning with his first presidential campaign. Politically, she reminded me in many ways of Fannie Lou Hamer, co-founder of the Freedom Democratic Party in Mississippi in 1964. Both were gifted in song, spirituality, determination, and evangelism.

Mrs. Wilks came to the public's attention in the southern part of San Mateo County when she realized that her son, Otis Jr., was not being properly

educated in the public schools as she thought he should. The education and motivation of black youth, not just her own, became her mission in life.

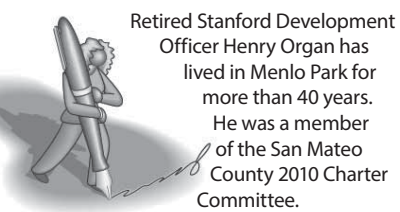
Because of her genuineness and personal magnetism, she was able to gather together an

on this body.

Mrs. Wilks's autobiography is entitled "Gathering Together: Born to Lead." It is a moving testimony of joy and struggle of an African-American child that began on a sharecropper's farm in Louisiana. Hence, to become a wife, mother, inspirer, counselor, gentle provocateur and builder of young men and women in California.

Though not learned and bestowed with formal educational credentials, she was endowed invaluably with sincerity, perceptiveness and — most of all — wisdom.

Mrs. Wilks has left a legacy of dedicated grandchildren, and many whose lives she has touched with a commitment to the education of and community service by youth of color. Thank you, Mrs. Wilks. Many a voice has been and will be lifted to sing your praises.



Retired Stanford Development Officer Henry Organ has lived in Menlo Park for more than 40 years. He was a member of the San Mateo County 2010 Charter Committee.

GUEST OPINION

ever-growing number of men and women of diverse backgrounds to share in this mission. She was instrumental in getting me appointed to the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees in 1968, on which I served for a short period, the first African-American

LETTERS

Our readers write

Challenging 'bizarre' claim regarding track elevation

Editor:

It is so unfortunate that bad information still circulates about the options for Menlo Park's Caltrain grade separations. Marcy Abramowitz (Guest opinion, Jan. 30, The Almanac) repeats the bizarre claim that the fully elevated scheme (over downtown only) would be "at 50 feet ... the tallest structure west of 101." Huh?

As is clear in the staff reports, the track elevation will top out (downtown only) at 20 feet up, leaving 15 feet underneath for vehicles — including fire trucks — to pass easily below at existing grade. (The track elevation is essentially unchanged at Felton Gables and at Linfield Oaks.)

Importantly, the 15-foot clearance allows full access to pedestrian, bikes and vehicles throughout downtown, where currently we have iron fencing, roaring trains and only three portals to cross. Additionally, the properties and walkways — civic and private — can remain

undisturbed, particularly at intersections.

The boogieman of 50 feet was invented by former councilman Rich Cline to argue for the "deep dip" option A. This is by adding in the height of the new power poles — spaced as far or farther than telephone poles — to the height of the "structure."

Back on Earth, the option of a fully elevated (through downtown) rail is not perfect — no solution is. But it has the fewest downsides, and by far the best upsides. Readers need to take their own view.

Henry Riggs
Callie Lane, Menlo Park

Another year of generous holiday giving

Ten local nonprofits that help people in need find housing, put food on their tables, receive medical and mental health care, and improve their lives through education will receive about \$15,000 each as a result of Almanac readers' generosity during our annual Holiday Fund drive.

Some 150 donors contributed \$151,000 over the holiday season — up slightly from the previous year — and every penny of those donations will be directed to these organizations: The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula; the Ecumenical Hunger Program; Life Moves; Project Read-Menlo Park; the Ravenswood Family Health Center; St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room; StarVista; Upward Scholars; Health Connected; and St.

Francis Center.

These nonprofits depend primarily on private donations and grants, so your support enables them to continue serving the less fortunate in our community as well as providing crucial support to our children through after-school and other programs.

We are grateful for our readers' generous support of our Holiday Fund program for 2018, and also thank the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for their matching funds that double the impact of individual contributions. ■

— Almanac Editor Renee Batti

2019
Wallace Stegner
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March 12



VAN JONES
April 23

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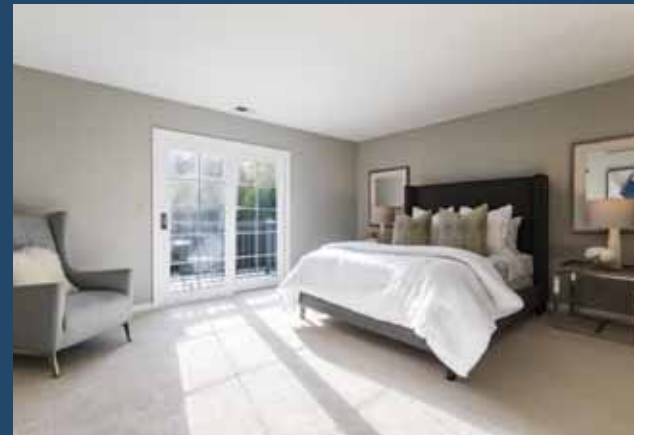
www.130OConnor.com

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

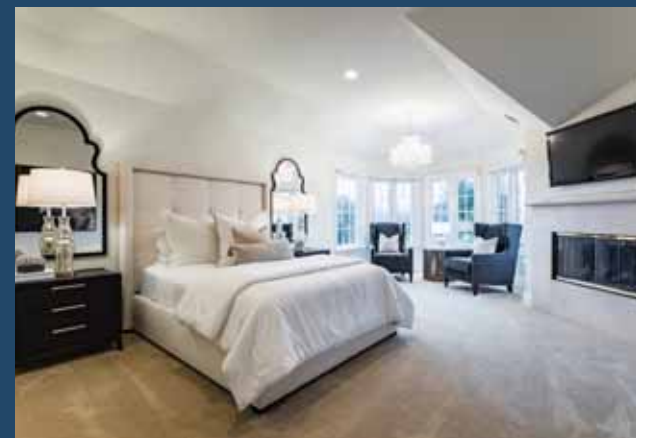
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中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun 電話: 650.785.5822



Listed by **Michael Repka** of the DeLeon Team

650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com | DRE #01903224



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35 Oak Hollow Way, Menlo Park

Offered at \$3,988,000

Extensive upgrades and modern elegance astound in this beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home of 3,060 square feet (per county) located on a 10,000 square foot lot (per county) in prestigious Sharon Heights. Travertine tile and walnut hardwood floors underline the formal gathering rooms. You will love the chef's kitchen, butler's pantry, main level guest suite, and upstairs master suite with a sitting area, fireplace, and heated bathroom floors. Take a dip in the enchanting 40-foot-long outdoor lap pool and entertain away in the private, all-season backyard. Nearby amenities include the Stanford Dish Trail, scenic Sharon Park, Sand Hill Road VC's, and Michelin-star restaurants.

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday
1:30 - 4:30 pm

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

www.35OakHollowWay.com

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