

The Almanac

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

MARCH 20, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 29



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*Menlo College's
freshman wrestling
phenoms fight tough*

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Kitty survives Ides of March close call | Page 28

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Cross Bay Transit Partners hosts Dumbarton rail project Q&A

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Representatives from Cross Bay Transit Partners, a partnership formed between Facebook and the infrastructure investment company Plenary Group, answered questions about the future of the Dumbarton rail corridor before a standing-room-only crowd at the Menlo Park Senior Center on March 2.

Jim Hartnett, general manager and CEO of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans), explained that SamTrans has entered into an exclusive 18-month partnership with Cross Bay Transit Partners to explore the feasibility of reinstating passenger rail transit along the Dumbarton corridor. The initiative is entirely funded by the private sector, said Win-

some Bowen, Facebook's head of regional transportation strategy. Several attendees asked about the nature of the partnership, how it was formed, and what it means for the future of the rail corridor.

Plenary Group Executive Chairman Dale Bonner explained that the partnership with SamTrans involves an exclusive negotiation agreement — a typical process for such agencies — to take the potential project through an analysis to determine if it's feasible to build and operate. This process also involves seeking environmental clearances for the project.

Construction and engineering work would be done by other firms chosen through a competitive bidding process.

"That's all we have — an exclusive right to take a look," he said. Cross Bay Transit Partners may decide the project is not feasible, or the public may come out in force to say it's not appropriate, he added.

To move forward, the project would have to win approval from a wide array of agencies, he explained. It must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Protection Act, and gain support by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Altamont Corridor Express rail system and others.

If all goes according to an ambitious project timeline, the feasibility analysis and environmental certification could be completed by the first quarter of 2021. If the SamTrans board approves the environmental impact report by around that time, then subsequent steps — such as finalizing a longer-term contract between Cross Bay Transit Partners and SamTrans and reaching agreements to design, build, operate and maintain the project — might be done in time to start construction in 2022.

Between now and about the third quarter of 2020, Cross Bay Transit Partners will be



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

The old Dumbarton Corridor rail, seen from East Palo Alto.

conducting community outreach; doing environmental, commercial and financial analyses; pursuing agreements with federal, state and local agencies; and evaluating the technical feasibility of the project, according to a project timeline.

Questions and answers

Following a brief presentation, Bowen, Bonner and Hartnett fielded questions from the audience. Below are some of the questions and responses discussed. This was the last of four

initial outreach meetings held by the group; others were held in Newark, Fremont and Redwood City.

Q: What is the state of the current abandoned Dumbarton rail line?

A: The existing rail is not suitable to use, and was built in 1910, Hartnett said. "Whatever we do has to be consistent with the future."

Q: What's the revenue model?

A: That depends on ridership estimates and system costs,

both of which are currently unknown, Bonner said. Cross Bay Transit Partners plans to evaluate the entire cost of the project, including maintenance costs, rather than only construction costs as some developers do.

Q: What about tunneling the train under the Bay? Given the threat of sea level rise, should this be considered?

A: According to Bonner, SamTrans doesn't own the right-of-way to do so, so that alternative

See **DUMBARTON**, page 8

School board OKs new administrator position despite outcry

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

After a bristly back-and-forth between the Las Lomas Elementary School District school board and a group of parents and teachers, board members voted on March 13 to create the new position of assistant superintendent, and give a current district administrator the new title and a pay hike.

But questions remain about when the board discussed the new position before unanimously approving it, and why the two-school district needs an assistant superintendent.

The board voted to reclassify the position of director

of curriculum and instruction as an assistant superintendent position, with an annual pay increase for the person now in the position, Shannon Potts, of \$25,748, or 14.5 percent, according to the school district. Board President John Earnhardt said at the meeting that there is no plan to fill the curriculum and instruction role at this time.

The vote happened despite public comments at the meeting from parents and some teachers urging the board to delay the vote until getting broader public

input on the proposed change. Some parents who spoke, such as Laurie Sobel and Julie Chandik, explained that they came to the meeting to speak for teachers who feared retaliation for opposing the reclassification and pay increase for Potts.

"It was apparent to me that in closed session the board had already confirmed their commitment to approving the reclassification," said Mimi Sabo, co-president of the teachers' union, the Las Lomas Education Association, in a March 14 email to The

'My job as a trustee is to make sure the district can be run well with a new superintendent.'

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT
JOHN EARNHARDT

Almanac. "They were determined not to take into consideration any of the public comment. Despite the passion and eloquence of those who spoke, the public comment fell on deaf ears."

Was discussion of reclassification of a position appropriate for a closed session? According to Whitney Prout, a staff attorney for the nonprofit California Newspaper Publishers Association, school board members can hatch the idea for a new position during a closed session meeting, even if the discussion comes up when evaluating another employee. For instance, during an evaluation of an employee's contract, the topic of how various departments are doing

might come up, and it's legal to discuss creating a new role to help ease some of the burden on the position being discussed on the agenda, she said.

The California Brown Act, however, prohibits a board from creating a detailed job description during a closed session, Prout said. That law was enacted to protect the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies.

In this case, she said, creating and getting feedback on the new assistant superintendent job description could have happened in a more open manner. "Why not put it on hold and take it back into open session to

See **LAS LOMITAS**, page 10

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

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The Almanac (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Wednesday by Embarcadero Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County, The Almanac is delivered free to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Copyright ©2019 by Embarcadero Media, All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

The Almanac is qualified by decree of the Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish public notices of a governmental and legal nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued October 20, 1969. Subscriptions are \$60 for one year and \$100 for two years. Go to AlmanacNews.com/circulation.

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Portola Valley makes it easier to add second living units

By Barbara Wood
 Special to The Almanac

Fulfilling its goal of encouraging more housing in Portola Valley, the Town Council on March 13 unanimously gave preliminary approval to a new ordinance offering more flexibility to add additional living units on properties.

The new ordinance allows additional living units in all the town's zones, including nonresidential, as long as specific criteria for access in an emergency are met.

In most cases, the size of the units will max out at 1,200 square feet. On lots that are 3.5 acres or larger, the property owner can have one 1,500-square-foot unit, or two units that meet town regulations. Units inside an existing structure can reach up to 1,700 square feet if they meet certain criteria.

Previously, second units were allowed only on residential parcels of an acre or larger unless they were inside an existing structure. The new regulations tie the maximum size of the units to the adjusted maximum floor area (AMFA) allowed for the site, which means the new rules don't increase the amount of square footage currently allowed on a property.

The adjusted maximum floor area is calculated for each parcel based on its size, average slope, existence of soils prone to landslides and location in a flood plain, and includes all structures on a property.

For those who have less than 1,200 square feet of unused adjusted maximum floor area, a new second unit can't exceed the unused AMFA.

The ordinance permits individual addresses for second units, which will allow for separate utility connections and mail delivery; they can also have a separate driveway if it meets strict criteria for town approval.

The new rules do not require owners to live on site to rent out a second unit, but specify that the main house and its second unit can be rented simultaneously only if one lease covers both units. No units may be rented for fewer than 30 days.

The ordinance says its purpose is to:

■ Create new housing units while respecting the existing character of the town.

■ Provide housing that responds to residents' changing needs, household sizes, and increasing housing costs; and provide accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities.

■ Offer environmentally friendly housing choices with less average space per person and smaller associated carbon footprints.

■ Promote affordable housing for people who work in town.

As in earlier meetings on the issue, the council heard from several residents. Nan Shostak said she worried about increasing the density in the town. "Portola Valley is environmentally fragile," she said, and at risk in an earthquake. She also asserted that units of up to 1,700 square feet, which the town had been considering, would not be affordable.

Robert Shostak said the opportunity to build more housing units could also be seen as "a magnet for developers."

But resident Bruce Roberts argued that larger units should be allowed inside existing structures, citing his own existing 1,632-square-foot unit in the lower story of his home. "There's a huge difference between internal and external" living units, he said.

Longtime resident George Andreini said he was afraid the new ordinance is "a sweeping change to what the town of Portola Valley used to be." He said he is afraid money will motivate building second units and "it compromises what Portola Valley stands for."

Those fears may have been alleviated by the council's unanimous consensus to cap the size of most of the town's second units at 1,200 square feet. Council member John Richards, who is an architect, showed floor plans of two- and three-bedroom homes that were 1,200 square feet or less. "1,200 square feet is not a small space," he said.

Council member Craig Hughes said, "I think retaining the flexibility is probably important," and advocated choosing a cap size on the low end while not ruling out a future increase.

Council member Maryann Derwin said she has a 750-square-foot second unit and "it seems really spacious to me."

"I think people are happier in smaller spaces," she said. "You have less stuff." ■

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Commission supports 140-unit affordable apartment complex

Housing project will offer amenities and services, and replace 'functionally obsolete' units

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

A proposal to build a large affordable housing complex in Menlo Park cleared another hurdle on March 12 when the city's Planning Commission gave the project a thumbs-up.

The proposal from MidPen Housing is to redevelop 82 existing affordable apartments on the 1300 block of Willow Road into 140 new affordable apartments.

The proposed project by the nonprofit housing developer would have 66 one-bedroom, 50 two-bedroom and 24 three-bedroom apartments, plus a community room, a landscaped courtyard, an exercise room, a teen room, an after-school program area, two large laundry rooms and other small outdoor spaces, according to a staff report. It would have a total of 177 parking spots.

The proposed development is in an affordable housing overlay zone, so the approval process differs from that required for other developments, according to the report. The director of the Community Development Department will get the final say on whether the project is compliant with city ordinances. Also, the developer won't have to pay planning, building and public works permit fees. The environmental impacts of the project were already considered and signed off on when the city updated its Housing Element in 2013, according to staff.

MidPen Housing has its own property management company

that would provide additional services to residents beyond housing, explained Jan Lindenthal, chief real estate development officer at MidPen Housing. Those services might include an after-school program, fitness programs and adult education classes.

All of the tenants at the existing apartments there are classified as very low income, Lindenthal explained, and many have lived there since MidPen Housing acquired the property in 1986.

The buildings are "functionally obsolete," do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, lack air conditioning, and do not have on-site amenities, she said.

MidPen Housing owns the apartments on both the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Willow Road, and recently reorganized the units to redevelop the 1200 block for seniors only. That development has been completed and was renamed "Sequoia Belle Haven." The 1300 block of apartments would be intended for families and non-senior households.

One problem with the current layout of the 1300 block, Lindenthal said, is that the sidewalk cuts inward onto a private frontage road behind a wall on Willow Road, so pedestrian passersby are forced to walk through the private property of residents.

The new development proposal requires the frontage road to be eliminated, which would enable the new apartments to be pushed closer to Willow Road, giving neighbors at the rear of

the property on Carlton Avenue more space. A public sidewalk would then be installed along Willow Road "where it belongs, adjacent to the public street," Lindenthal said.

The development would have three segments, with the outer two having four stories, and a three-story segment in the middle. At the rear on the eastern side would be a large community room.

On this project, the Planning Commission doesn't have architectural control to dictate how the development looks, but could provide comments and ask for clarifications. Commissioner John Onken pointed out that the building will be very long, and more noticeably so because of the slowness of Willow Road traffic. "I would certainly welcome differentiation," he said. Other commissioners expressed support for the project.

According to MidPen, the project will be in a position to compete for state funding when applications become available. The city of Menlo Park has also committed up to \$6.7 million from its below-market-rate housing fund to support the project.

Soleska Market changes

In a related matter, the Planning Commission also voted 6-0 during its March 12 meeting to approve a request by the owner of Soleska Market, also located on the 1300 block of Willow Road, to purchase part of the frontage road to create a driving aisle for vehicles around the building. The commission also approved plans to make improvements to the market building, create an outdoor seating area and permit outdoor storage for some items. ■

Atherton considers installing license-plate readers

Two more home burglaries reported in town

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

In response to a rash of burglaries in town, the Atherton Police Department will ask the City Council at its meeting on Wednesday, March 20, to direct staff to study installing license-plate readers around town to "detect, solve, prevent and deter" crime, according to a staff report.

The crime spree dates back to late 2018. There have been eight residential burglaries in Atherton so far this year. About \$2 million worth of goods were reported stolen in the first four incidents of 2019, police said.

The topic of potentially installing public-safety cameras in town came up at a January meeting on the home burglary spree, City Manager George Rodericks said in an email this week.

Menlo Park and Portola Valley are among local jurisdictions that have installed surveillance systems that record license plates.

In the most recent incidents in Atherton, two residential burglaries were reported between March 8 and 17, according to a Police Department press release.

On Monday, March 11, a resident of the unit block of Deodora Drive reported to police that someone had broken a

window in the rear of the resident's home and burglarized the house between March 8 and 11. There is no estimate on losses,

See **BURGLARIES**, page 28

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REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Initiative To Change Some Property Tax Rules Coming

Dear Monica: I have heard that there may be a ballot initiative coming soon in California that would change the way commercial and industrial properties are taxed. Do you know about this?

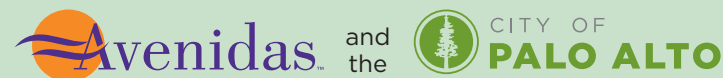
Carole V.

Dear Carole: Yes. There is a measure that has qualified for the ballot in 2020 that would require commercial and industrial properties to be taxed at fair market value. Proposition 13 passed in 1978, stipulated that all properties would be taxed at a certain percentage of purchase price, with a 2% annual cap on any tax increases. When a property is sold, it is assessed

under at the purchase price.

Many commercial buildings are owned by corporations and although they have not sold, in many cases the shareholders and corporations themselves have sold. There has been an enormous rise in property values and yet the property taxes stay the same. Funding for schools and local services has declined as a result. The ballot initiative to change needs a 60% approval to pass. Small family-owned business would be exempt from these changes until they are sold. For more information go to Schools and Communities First.org.

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Council takes steps to support anti-homelessness efforts

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park City Council held a one-hour discussion on March 12 to listen to community experts respond to three primary questions: What efforts are being made to address homelessness in Menlo Park? What are best practices for addressing homelessness? And what can the Menlo Park City Council do to support anti-homelessness efforts in the city?

Ultimately, the council agreed to direct staff to look into three actions: creating a task force to concentrate on housing specific individuals in the city, bringing the Downtown Streets Team into Menlo Park, and figuring out how to set up Project WeHOPE's "Dignity on Wheels" program in the marshes near the Bay.

No date was set for when the staff will present its findings to the council for further consideration or approval.

According to Menlo Park Police Commander William Dixon, the police department in

2018 received 468 calls for service involving homeless individuals, including calls related to loitering, drug-related offenses, medical matters, welfare checks, and suspicious people.

As of the latest point-in-time count in January 2017, there were 47 homeless people in Menlo Park, he said. The numbers from a January 2019 count of local homeless people are expected to be released this spring or summer.

The three main areas where homeless people tend to go are the marshes along the Bay, downtown Menlo Park, and, during summer months, San Francisco Creek, he said.

Several years ago, the police department made a concerted effort to tackle homelessness when an encampment developed at the Menlo Center building — the complex at 1010 El Camino Real where Kepler's Books and Cafe Borrone are located, Dixon said.

Over time, he said, the department developed relationships with the 10 or so people who had begun to camp there and worked with service organizations to

find housing for them.

And while the initial outcome was heralded as a success, Dixon said, over time, their work didn't solve anything.

"They are all now back to where they were before," he said. The people the police department worked with may have different resources and be staying in different locations, he added, but "we didn't do anything to solve homelessness in Menlo Park."

Compared with other cities with larger homeless populations and tighter resources, Menlo Park is able to work more closely with homeless people than most — but if anything is needed, Dixon said, it's not more funding but softer goods: continued coordination between agencies, and time spent to help people experiencing homelessness develop trust to eventually seek housing when they're ready for a change.

Representatives from the following service agencies explained to the council their roles in supporting the area's homeless.

Downtown Streets Team works in Palo Alto, but not currently in Menlo Park, to help people lacking housing access work opportunities in exchange for basic resources and a stipend. Much of the group's funding comes from contracts with public works departments in the cities in which the organization operates, explained Chris Richardson, a representative from the nonprofit.

LifeMoves is based in Menlo Park and runs homeless shelters and support programs for people experiencing homelessness. In Menlo Park, it runs Haven House, a family shelter program that offers intensive support to help families get back on their feet.

The nonprofit offers case management and aid to help families save money, as well as develop a housing plan for when they complete the program. Those enrolled in the family shelter program stay about four months, according to CEO Bruce Ives.

After completing the family shelter program, Ives said, about one-third of program

participants stay in San Mateo County, most often with the help of a voucher or subsidy; one-third move elsewhere in the Bay Area to a more affordable location, typically farther south or east (though those areas are also becoming less affordable, he added); and one-third leave the Bay Area altogether, often for the Central Valley, Nevada or other lower-cost areas, he said.

LifeMoves also runs the county's Homeless Outreach Team, in which staff do case management work within the county to provide support and develop trust to aid people experiencing homelessness.

Street Life Ministries provides free hot meals to people near the Menlo Park train station each Tuesday and Thursday night around 7 p.m., according to David Shearin, pastor and executive director of the group.

Samaritan House, a nonprofit based in San Mateo, operates a "core agency" location on Bay Road where people in Menlo

See **ANTI-HOMELESSNESS**, page 10

DUMBARTON

continued from page 5

is not being explored at this point.

Q: What would be the impacts of the new rail line for residents who live near the Dumbarton rail tracks?

A: According to Bowen, the project organizers have listened to feedback, particularly from Belle Haven residents who have opposed a bus operating in the rail corridor. The environmental impact analyses will also require mitigations and project adjustments to minimize impacts on sensitive communities, she added.

Q: Is this a pie-in-the-sky proposal? Is there potential for the Plenary Group to make money on this?

A: "There isn't any transit project anywhere that pencils out based on fare box (returns)," Bonner explained. He added that the analysis has to be done first to determine what the gap between the project costs and potential revenue is, and to identify what opportunities there are to close that gap. There may also be federal and state grants available in addition to some local funds, he added.

Q: What happens if something happens to Facebook or the Plenary Group?

A: By forming a separate company, Cross Bay Transit Partners, there are protections



Map courtesy Cross Bay Transit Partners.

The green line shows where a potential rail line across the Dumbarton transit corridor might run.

in place through insurance, equity investments and other factors to protect the project, Bonner said.

Q: What will the rail line connect to?

A: Some work still needs to be done with existing rail service providers to establish connections from the Dumbarton rail line to Caltrain, and in the future in the East Bay, to the Capitol Corridor Amtrak line and BART, Bowen said. Liz

Ames, BART board director for District 6, which includes Fremont, Union City, and Newark, commented, "To me, if you don't connect BART to Caltrain, it's not a viable project."

Q: Much of the transbay traffic that crosses the Dumbarton Bridge to the Peninsula heads south. How will the rail line get those commuters out of cars, if it only goes north to Redwood City?

A: According to Bowen, the

group plans to work closely with regional traffic models from the City/County Association of Governments and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). Hartnett added that over the next year and a half, SamTrans will be evaluating how to better meet community transit needs and completing a comprehensive analysis of its bus system in a process parallel to Cross Bay Transit Partners' project analysis.

Q: Would the train be diesel or electric?

A: The analyses are not evaluating diesel trains, but other alternatives, Bowen said.

Q: Are any homes along the rail line at risk of being lost or taken by eminent domain?

A: No. The proposed project would work within the existing rail right-of-way, and mitigations to minimize impacts to residents may also be required, Bowen said. ▣



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LAS LOMITAS

continued from page 5

discuss?" she said.

In a March 14 email to The Almanac, Earnhardt said the idea to reclassify Potts' position came about after Superintendent Lisa Cesario announced she would retire at the end of the school year in January.

The proposed change apparently was never discussed in public before last week's meeting. When asked whether the board discussed the reclassification of the job behind closed doors, Earnhardt responded that he can't talk about what was discussed in closed session.

During the March 13 meeting, Earnhardt said that the board followed protocol in making the decision.

"I hate to say this, but we post the agenda four days before meetings," he said. "Many of you haven't attended board meetings before, but that's the process."

Earnhardt argued that the decision would help retain key talent when Superintendent Lisa Cesario retires at the end of the school year. "My job as a trustee is to make sure the district can be run well with a new superintendent," he said.

During the public comment period, when Sobel, a parent of sixth- and eighth-graders at La Entrada Middle School, began reading a comment from The Almanac's online Town Square forum addressing the reclassification and criticizing Potts and Cesario, board members told her to stop reading the statement and to "not make it personal." The author of the

comment claimed to be a teacher who feared retaliation from the administration if he or she spoke publicly at the meeting.

After the meeting, Sobel said that stopping her from reading the comment exemplifies why teachers don't feel comfortable sharing their thoughts with the administration.

"I understand not wanting to have a review of the person (Potts)," Sobel said after the meeting. "But in this situation, the position was created for a person, so it's hard to separate the person from the position. I still don't understand why the decision had to be made last night."

Earnhardt noted that the board "of course listened" to teachers, but there are "way more inputs than just the teachers"

Sobel told The Almanac before the meeting that the scale of the pay increase is unprecedented in the district, because pay raises for administrators are usually tied to those of teachers (teachers and administrators already received a raise of 6 percent spread over the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years).

But school board members said Potts was doing work outside of her job description as director of curriculum and instruction, and the reclassification and pay change are a recognition of those added duties. The board said added duties include more data analysis; managing the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) to create goals, actions, services and expenditures to support positive student outcomes that address state and local priorities; and managing certified personnel.

If Potts is doing work outside

of her job description, the board is legally required to reclassify her role, board member Dana Nunn said at the meeting.

Sobel said earlier that she has three main concerns about the change: the questionable need for an assistant superintendent in a school district as small as Las Lomitas, which

has only 1,259 students in two schools: Las Lomitas (K-3) in Atherton and La Entrada (4-8) in Menlo Park; the fiscal impact on the district; and the timing of the reclassification and the raise.

Nunn noted that there aren't school districts comparable in

size to Las Lomitas, so it's not fair to say Las Lomitas shouldn't have an assistant superintendent because nearby small districts don't employ assistant superintendents. There are 410 students enrolled in nearby Woodside Elementary School District and 574 students in the Portola Valley School District. Neither employ assistant superintendents.

Moving forward, the teachers union will hold its monthly directors' council meeting on March 21, where teachers will provide input on the reclassification and brainstorm next steps, Sabo said.

Potts' new salary as assistant superintendent is \$203,145 annually, effective March 13, according to the district. She had been making \$177,397 annually, the district said.

Before becoming the director of curriculum and instruction, Potts was principal of La Entrada Middle School, where she began her career in the district in 2012.

Potts did not respond to a request for comment. ■

'They were determined not to take into consideration any of the public comment. Despite the passion and eloquence of those who spoke, the public comment fell on deaf ears.'

MIMI SABO, CO-PRESIDENT, LAS LOMITAS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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ANTI-HOMELESSNESS

continued from page 8

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It also operates what's called a coordinated entry system for all of San Mateo County, and is the gateway by which people are matched with homeless shelter opportunities, based on that person's or household's vulnerability to homelessness.

In addition, Samaritan House offers people food support, clothing and medical care to help them save for housing costs.

According to Christiana Weidanz, program manager of the coordinated entry system, the nonprofit has helped 24 Menlo Park households since July with housing support.

Project WeHOPE runs a homeless shelter in East Palo Alto as well as the "Dignity on Wheels" program, a mobile shower and laundry facility trailer. It's set up at Burgess Park in Menlo Park every Wednesday morning at 7 a.m.

Hearts for Homeless also offers support as well as dinners, a holiday celebration and a bike distribution program for the homeless. ■

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Menlo Park council hopes to partner with nonprofit on tenant fund

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Given limited staff availability and a lack of expertise, the Menlo Park City Council agreed on March 12 to explore whether the nonprofit Samaritan House would consider administering the city’s planned \$100,000 fund for renters in the city who are forced to relocate and are facing homelessness.

The San Mateo-based Samaritan House operates throughout the county to support anti-homelessness and broader anti-poverty efforts.

The council discussed many of the details about how the fund should be administered and who would be eligible for financial support before ultimately agreeing to contact representatives from the nonprofit. Samaritan House has an East Palo Alto location, on Bay Road, which is one of eight places in San Mateo County where people experiencing or facing homelessness can find shelter and other support, such as health care and food.

Funding allocations would be restricted to paying for the costs of moving and finding a new place to live. The city hopes to use data collected from administering the fund to determine the scale of the renter-displacement problem.

Mayor Ray Mueller said he’s

not interested in creating additional burdens for staff, or in initiating a new city program. “That’s not the business we’re in,” he said.

Councilwoman Catherine Carlton also expressed concerns about running the program from City Hall and what administrative costs the city might take on. Vice Mayor Cecilia Taylor expressed some reservations about the data collection being done by an outside agency, but went along with the idea.

Councilman Drew Combs favored keeping the program in the city, but became more open to the idea when Rhonda Coffman, the city’s new deputy community development director on housing, talked about how nonprofits are well used to complying with requests for data, metrics, and disbursing funds according to specific parameters.

Coffman said she had worked with Samaritan House in her previous job in Redwood City, and said the agency has the expertise to administer the city’s fund.

The council considered what income threshold should be set for eligibility to receive financial support. A draft of the ordinance laid out a range of 50 to 60 percent of the area median income, but members of the public suggested that it be raised to 80 percent of that

income. The council agreed to not to make a specific recommendation on this but to work it out with Samaritan House, should the nonprofit accept the job. In addition, the council agreed to collect data on who receives these funds over the next year, asking recipients to complete a small form.

Tenant assistance ordinance

While council members eventually agreed on the idea to have Samaritan House administer the fund, they retained their prior 3-2 split during a second reading and final approval of the city’s tenant relocation ordinance, with Cecilia Taylor and Betsy Nash opposed.

Several people raised concerns about potential loopholes in the Redwood City-based version of the tenant relocation ordinance the council approved.

In one situation in Redwood City, Housing Commissioner Karen Grove noted, a landlord of one apartment building who plans to refurbish the units has raised rent in the building by about 140 percent, forcing people out. Had they been able to pay for the rent increase prior to the construction work, the landlord would have had to pay the renters the relocation fees, she said.

“The Redwood City situation does vex me,” Mueller said. “Let’s keep an eye on what’s happening there.”

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RESOLUTION NO. 2139 (2019)

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE LANDS OF BURRELL

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR")... B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property... C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board... X. All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or

Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.

D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

- 1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law. 2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: April 10, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

- 3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i). 4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo. 5. The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A

September 13, 2018 LEGAL DESCRIPTION ANNEXATION TO WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT LANDS OF BURRELL AND A PORTION OF SIOUX WAY TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY, SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Exhibit B

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT EXHIBIT "B" SITE LOCATION 40 SIOUX WAY PORTOLA VALLEY, CA SEPTIC TANK EFFLUENT PUMPING (STEP) SYSTEM

Climate the topic for panel talk

A group of local climate experts will take part in a panel titled "Living Locally, Acting Globally: Celebrating Local Climate Leaders" at Woodside's Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, on Tuesday, April 2, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Woodside Mayor Daniel Yost will moderate the free event, which is sponsored by the towns of Woodside and Portola Valley. Children are welcome.

Space is limited, so seats should be reserved by Tuesday, March 26, at rsvp@woodsidetown.org.

A question-and-answer session will follow the discussion, and refreshments will be provided.

Panelists are:

Michael Bruce of Woodside, director of Emerson Elemental, a part of Lorene Powell Jobs' Emerson Collective, which has the mission of strengthening the relationship between humanity and nature through scalable, equitable, and innovative solutions.

Leslie Field of Portola Valley, founder of Ice 911, a nonprofit working to save polar ice.

Philip Gregory of Woodside, co-lead counsel for the Juliana v. United States court case, representing young people who say federal fossil fuel policies are violating their constitutional right to life.

Cliff Kalinowski of Woodside, president of SunSystems Technology, a solar energy equipment provider.

Jan Pepper of Los Altos, CEO of Peninsula Clean Energy, which provides energy from renewable sources to San Mateo County, and member of the Los Altos City Council.

Noel Perry of Woodside, founder of Next 10, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization focused on innovation and the intersection between the economy, the environment, and quality of life issues in California.

Steve Westly of Atherton, former California state controller and founder of the Westly Group, a venture capital firm that focuses on sustainable companies, including the sharing economy and the "internet of things."

Daniel Yost is the mayor of Woodside and a partner in the Orrick law firm, specializing in technology companies and transactions.





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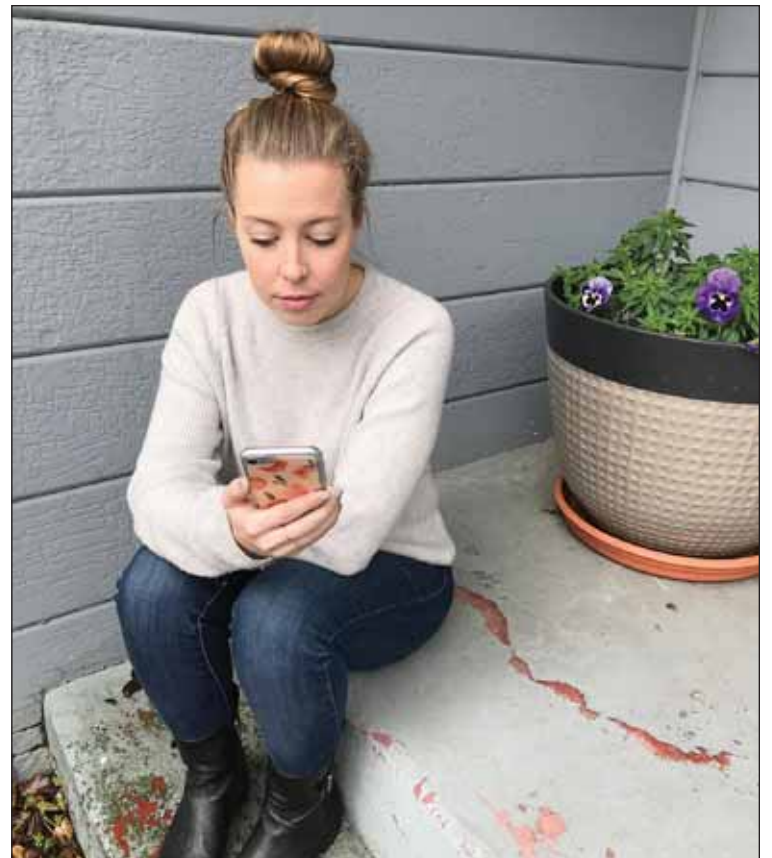
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Courtesy of SafeSpace

Lindsey McKenzie, a SafeSpace volunteer, uses the SafeSpace Support Line app.

SafeSpace offers mental health support line app

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

Youth seeking mental health support can now download a free app provided by a local nonprofit.

In late January SafeSpace, a Menlo Park-based mental health clinic for youth, partnered with 7 Cups of Tea, a company that offers an on-demand emotional health and well-being service, to provide the SafeSpace Support Line to anyone through the app. The app gives users a way to anonymously chat one-on-one about their problems with trained confidential “listeners” through a computer or smartphone. The volunteer listeners take an online course to learn how to best offer words of support.

“It’s super easy to use,” said Isabelle Mimeles, a junior at Menlo-Atherton High School and a SafeSpace youth advisory board member who has used the app. “For a lot of students, to go and get help is a really big step that’s overwhelming. This (the app) makes it not a big deal.”

Isabelle joined the SafeSpace advisory board because she has struggled with anxiety and stress in the midst of a competitive environment at M-A, she said. SafeSpace was designed by and for youth, and provides people ages 12 to 26 access to professional mental health services.

Glen Moriarty, CEO of 7 Cups of Tea, said in an email that it’s

important to use technology to provide youth mental health support since technology is an easy route to reach teens.

There are 260,000 listeners worldwide available to chat on the app. Users can choose a random listener or one based on the listener’s life experiences, ethnicity and expertise. The app includes exercises that help users learn about—and cope with—specific challenges that concern them, such as social anxiety, stress or loneliness.

Therapy is “overbooked and expensive,” and the app is an effort to provide an initial resource for youth seeking mental health support, said Liesel Moldow, a co-founder of SafeSpace. The app is tailored to have a “warm person at the end of line to help kids get through the crisis moment,” she said.

“It’s not about replacing therapy,” she added. “It’s about resurrecting community support that’s missing in our culture today.”

SafeSpace now partners with 18 local middle and high schools, where student members of the SafeSpace youth advisory board work with teachers and administrators to develop programs at each school. SafeSpace also recently opened a clinic for students in downtown San Mateo because of the demand for services in that area.

The app is available at 7cups.com/p/safespace or through safespace.org. ■

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In it to win

Menlo College's freshman wrestling phenoms fight tough

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Twelve young women training for the national championships gracefully dodge, weave, dive and leap to the thrum of hip-hop blaring from a boombox as a Menlo College women's wrestling coach directs them through a warm-up routine.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Menlo College freshmen Alleida Martinez and Gracie Figueroa, who grew up wrestling in the Central Valley town of Selma, went undefeated in the Women's Collegiate Wrestling Association in their first season. **On the cover** Martinez and Figueroa practice wrestling drills before the February WCWA national championship event. Photo by Veronica Weber.

With an almost choreographed grace, they throw each other to the ground, attack and defend in lightning-fast motions. As these women, who make up California's only all-women collegiate wrestling team, step and fall onto a soft blue mat covering the gym floor, steam fills the windows inside their toasty gym.

The banner of the team's recent national championship at

the Women's College Wrestling Association hangs on the wall proudly, but doesn't distract the athletes, focused on their new goal: defeating their opponents in the inaugural National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Women's Invitational, held last weekend, March 15 and 16, in Jamestown, North Dakota.

Their efforts during long hours

of practice paid off. Menlo College won the championship title on March 16, and all 12 wrestlers who competed came back with All-American titles. Five returned with individual national titles as well.

Freshman phenoms

Two of the 30 athletes on the team are star freshmen, undefeated at the college level in their

respective weight classes: Gracie Figueroa, 19, in the 116-pound class, and Alleida Martinez, 18, in the 109-pound class. Figueroa and Martinez both hail from Selma, a small town in Fresno County known as the Raisin Capital of the World.

As children, they found their way into the Selma wrestling club separately and became friends over time as two of the few girls in the program.

Martinez, who began wrestling at age 9, said she was concerned at first that she would be the only girl on the team, but her parents encouraged her to try the sport. "I like the challenge," she said. "You had to know what you were doing out there."

Sometimes, she said, boys would forfeit rather than wrestle a girl, but she always felt supported in the sport by her team and her family.

Figueroa said she began wrestling at age 10 after being dragged along to her brother's wrestling practices and tournaments. As a kid, she said, she didn't care if she was the only girl. She had fun wrestling with the guys.

"When they were wrestling (me), they thought it was going to be easy," she said. When she surprised the boys and beat them, she added, "most of them cry. It was funny."

Martinez and Figueroa were strong competitors when they

wrestled with the Selma Wrestling Club. One of their coaches there, Joey Areyano, noted that when they were kids, Martinez and Figueroa were the only two girls on the team.

He attributes their success to having spent so much time training "in a room full of really tough boys," and working hard. He said he would assign the same tough workouts to everyone on his team, and both Martinez and Figueroa routinely woke up at 5 a.m. to run or lift weights.

"Nothing was ever made special just for them because they were girls," he said. "They were just treated as wrestlers."

From their first days on the mat, he said, they weren't "soft," like some young kids who start out somewhat timid, though he came to know the differences in their personalities: Martinez was quieter and liked the spotlight less, while Figueroa was more outgoing. "You'll know when she's in the room," he said. "They were really competitive and didn't like to lose to the boys. ... They had that attitude that they were going to try just as hard to win, just like everyone else."

Figueroa said she began to consider collegiate wrestling in eighth grade. Wrestling in college would be a way to ease the burden on her mom to help pay for school, she explained.

Martinez was more hesitant



Photo by Veronica Weber

Menlo College women's wrestlers Alleida Martinez, on top, and Hiba Salem, practice their wrestling moves during practice.

about the notion of college wrestling, she said. Initially, she said, she thought it would be too hard, but as she experienced more success as an athlete in high school, “I told myself I could do it and help out my family.”

“Selma is very supportive of us,” Figueroa noted. “That’s pretty much our family.” While there weren’t many female wrestlers to look up to growing up, Figueroa and Martinez said they found inspiration in their hometown twin wrestlers Marina and Regina Doi, who competed as college wrestlers at King University.

Now, Areyano said, more girls are starting to pursue wrestling in Selma, and he believes that has something to do with the role models that Martinez and Figueroa have been to younger female wrestlers in their community.

As athletes recruited by Menlo College, the two freshmen helped their wrestling team win the 2019 national championships at the Women’s Collegiate Wrestling Association, or WCWA, held in February. According to Menlo College Head Women’s Wrestling Coach Joey Bareng, that association pulls teams and individuals from schools of all sizes into competition.

The path to success as a collegiate athlete in women’s wrestling, however, is more complicated than in many other sports. While their sport may be growing rapidly, it still hasn’t received recognition from the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association), as men’s wrestling has. And the shortage of well-supported women’s wrestling programs has left them wondering why they still face some barriers to accessing competition and resources provided to collegiate athletes in other sports.

A sport on the rise

According to the National Wrestling Coaches Association, women’s wrestling is one of the fastest-growing school and

college sports. The number of female high school wrestlers, as of 2018, had grown to 15,562 from 804 in 1994, the association website states.

The coaches’ association is advocating that the NCAA categorize women’s wrestling as an “emerging sport,” a designation that would put it on track for full recognition over a number of years. Its website points out that women’s wrestling now has greater participation numbers at the high school level than crew, fencing or skiing, as well as other NCAA-classified “emerging sports” such as rugby, sand volleyball and equestrian competition.

NCAA recognition is significant. Because the NCAA doesn’t recognize women’s wrestling, female wrestlers don’t have access to the same privileges that male wrestlers in the NCAA receive, such as health insurance, scholarships, grants and internship opportunities, according to a 2018 National Public Radio story.

In addition, for talented athletes like Martinez and Figueroa, because the sport isn’t recognized by the NCAA, the chance to compete as a Division I athlete in the sport they love — a respected title college athletes at large universities can claim — isn’t a possibility right now.

“I believe we should have a chance to wrestle (Division) I,” Figueroa told *The Almanac*. “I wanted to go to a D1 school and call myself a D1 wrestler.”

Instead, the two athletes chose Menlo College, which, while it is the only college in the state with a women’s wrestling team, has fewer than 1,000 undergraduates and offers limited courses of study. (Both athletes said they’re still deciding on majors.)

A thriving team

Menlo College was one of the first colleges in the U.S. to start a women’s wrestling team. That was in 2001. Bareng said that when he started leading the team six years ago, the program had



Photo by Veronica Weber

Gracie Figueroa, top center, makes an offensive move against Lexie Contreras as the wrestlers practice their offense and defense.

floundered and was on the verge of being cut.

Each year he’s coached, he said, he’s focused on building up the team, drawing upon his experience as a strength and conditioning coach to help athletes peak at the right time in the season and be mentally prepared to compete. As a result, the team’s rankings have risen, and it’s become easier to recruit wrestlers, he said.

For the uninitiated, he explained the basic rules of the sport. Women’s collegiate wrestling follows the “freestyle” rulebook, which is also used in the Olympics. (Women’s wrestling was formally recognized as an Olympic sport in 2004.) There are two, three-minute periods during which a wrestler is tasked with the overall objective of pinning her competitor, back flat on the mat. In addition, athletes can score points through different moves carrying different point

values. A match can also end if a wrestler scores 10 or more points more than her opponent, which is called a “technical fall.”

Bareng said he likes that the female athletes he coaches are learning to compete the way Olympians do. In contrast, men usually wrestle in the “folk” style at the collegiate level, which has different time periods — a three-minute round, followed by two, two-minute rounds — and some differences in the point system.

When asked what attributes make a good wrestler, Bareng responded that she has to be tough, disciplined and able to fight through adversity.

At the end of the day, he said, the sport pits one athlete’s skills, strength and training against another, and if an athlete loses, she only has herself to blame. Coaches can help, of course, but it’s up to the individual athlete to make the most of the six minutes

she gets on the mat, he asserted.

“That’s what makes this sport really tough,” he added.

Eyes on the prize

Wrestling has already taken Martinez and Figueroa all over the world. Martinez said she’d been to Bosnia, Georgia (the country and the state), as well as Japan and Slovakia for training and competitions. Bareng said the Menlo College team has to travel widely in the U.S. as well.

After the completion of their first collegiate season, Martinez and Figueroa already have a road map for what’s ahead: first, training for the Women’s National Championships in May, held in Texas, where they will wrestle women in other age groups. Then? The 2020 Olympic trials.

“We know it’s coming around the corner,” Figueroa said. “We don’t want to think about it too much.” **A**



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Head Coach Joey Bareng talks about the success of the Menlo College women’s wrestling team. “We have a long history of women’s wrestling,” he said.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Freshman Alleida Martinez warms up during a wrestling practice at Menlo College.

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The Panelists:

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Philip Gregory Co-Lead counsel for Juliana v. United States (the "kids climate lawsuit")

Cliff Kalinowski President of SunSystems Technology

Jan Pepper CEO of Peninsula Clean Energy

Noel Perry Founder of Next 10

Steve Westly Founder of the Westly Group and former Controller of California

Moderator **Daniel Yost** Mayor of Woodside

Space is limited so please RSVP by Tuesday, March 26
to: rsvp@woodsidetown.org

More pressure put on Stanford to ramp up faculty housing

Planning staff recommends requiring university to quadruple the number of units

By Gennady Sheyner

Santa Clara County may require Stanford University to nearly quadruple the number of housing units it has to produce for its employees to secure permission for its ambitious campus-expansion plan.

The county last week released a set of conditions that staff recommends including as part of approval of Stanford's application for a new General Use Permit, a document and guide to the university's growth between now and 2035. Stanford is seeking the permit so that it can construct up to 2.275 million square feet of new academic space, 2,600 student beds and 550 units of housing for faculty and staff.

The county's new proposal, which is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, would upend Stanford's housing plan by requiring an additional 1,622 units of faculty and staff housing, for a minimum of 2,172 units, along with the 2,600 student beds that Stanford had requested. It would also allow the university to go beyond the minimum requirement and build up to 2,892 housing units and 2,807 student beds.

The county is also proposing a requirement that at least 70 percent of these units — a total of 1,520 faculty units — to be built on campus.

The proposal, which board President Joe Simitian discussed in a Town Hall meeting last week at Palo Alto's City Council Chambers, also includes a 99-year prohibition on developing in the foothills and a revised methodology for tallying Stanford's traffic impacts, with more consideration of reverse commutes and a new emphasis on limiting the growth of average daily traffic.

The new General Use Permit, much like the one the Board of Supervisors approved in 2000, will require Stanford to meet a goal of "no net new car trips" on campus. But whereas the existing permit gauges Stanford's compliance by measuring trips during a "peak hour," the new permit would base it on a three-hour "peak period" under the county's proposal.

While all these conditions are yet to be reviewed by the board, at least one member has already embraced some of the key provisions in the staff recommendation. In explaining the county position on housing, Simitian

noted last week that Stanford's expansion plan would bring an estimated 9,610 new people to the campus, according to the environmental analysis for the GUP. The student beds, he said, would take care of only 2,600 people. This, Simitian noted, leaves 7,010 people vying for the 550 units.

"I don't think 550 units of housing is sufficient to address the housing needs of those 7,010 people who are left over after we remove the beds," Simitian told the crowd during the Town Hall, which was sponsored by the Palo Alto Weekly. "This has been the source of discussion pretty much from Day One with respect to the proposal."

'We don't have as many tools as we would like in the land use process to help our schools.'

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SUPERVISOR
JOE SIMITIAN

The list of conditions did little, however, to address the topic that many in the community turned out to hear about: the impact of Stanford's growth on the Palo Alto Unified School District. Prior to the meeting, dozens of residents, including parents, students, school district officials and City Council members, rallied outside City Hall at King Plaza to demand "full mitigation" from Stanford, a phrase that Simitian also used in describing his goals for the project.

The list of conditions calls for Stanford only to relocate a designated school site from the east side of the campus to the west side. It does not, however, require the university to either contribute funding to the school district or to help it build a new school to serve the expected influx of students.

Simitian said that is a function of state law, which limits the ability of the county's ability to address school impacts as part of its environmental review process.

"We don't have as many tools as we would like in the land use process to help our schools," Simitian said at the rally before the Town Hall. "We can address traffic, we can address housing, we can address open space protection, but what we don't have by virtue of state law is a lot of tools to help us help our local schools and the kids they serve."

Simitian expressed some hope, however, that the school district and Stanford will be able to reach an amicable resolution on school impacts in the coming months. He cited the freshly launched negotiations between the two parties as of evidence change in the university's posture.

The district had approved last November a resolution requesting that Stanford provide funding and assistance for building a new school. Stanford's unwillingness to commit to these measures has frustrated many on the school side.

Last week, however, district Superintendent Don Austin said the district and Stanford had agreed to start confidential discussions about benefits and mitigations.

Jean McCown, Stanford's assistant vice president and director of community relations, said in a March 14 statement that the university "will seek to have the results of direct discussions between PAUSD and the university included as community benefits in the final agreement with the county."

Simitian said he sees the restart of the negotiations as a positive sign. "I, for one, welcome the evolution of thinking that has led to that," Simitian said during the Town Hall. "If there has been a turnaround on this issue, good! Great!"

The Board of Supervisors is also expected to broach the subject of school impacts during its own negotiations with Stanford University on a development agreement, a process that is headed by Simitian and Supervisor Cindy Chavez. The agreement will afford both sides more flexibility than the EIR process to propose mitigation strategies and community benefits that could be included as part of the expansion plan.

Stanford is unlikely to embrace the county's recommendation for more faculty and staff housing. Catherine Palter, associate vice president for land use and environmental planning, said in a statement last week that the university's proposal — which includes 550 units and 2,600 student beds — is based on a "careful planning process" and represents a "reasonable, responsible and paced approach, consistent with our values as a residential university committed to sustainable development

Camp Connection

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

ACADEMICS

Harker Summer Programs

San Jose

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

www.harker.org/summer

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Palo Alto

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

www.castilleja.org/i2camp

(650) 470-7833

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Stanford/Bay Area

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

iDTechCamps.com

(844) 788-1858

STANFORD EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on Biomedical Research

Stanford

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

Summer at Sand Hill School

Palo Alto

June 26 to July 23. If you're looking for a great summer learning plus fun option for your child and you want them to be ready for fall, please join us at Sand Hill. The morning Literacy Program (8:30 to noon) provides structured, systematic instruction for students with learning challenges entering grades 1-8 in the fall. The afternoon Enrichment Camp (Noon to 4) focuses on performing arts, social skills and fun. Choose morning, afternoon or full day.

www.sandhillschool.org/summer

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Summer Writing Camps

Palo Alto

Pleasanton

Improve your student's writing skills this summer at Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton. Courses this year are Expository Writing, Creative Writing and Presentation Skills. Visit our website for more information.

www.headsup.org

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

ARTS, CULTURE, OTHER CAMPS

Art and Soul Camp

Palo Alto

Art, cooking, tinkering, yoga and mindfulness. We celebrate multiple perspectives and recognize the many ways for our children to interpret their world. Summer Unplugged! is appropriate for ages 6-11 years. Located at Walter Hays School.

www.artandsoulpa.com

(650) 269-0423

Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls Palo Alto

Palo Alto

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

www.castilleja.org/summercamp

(650) 470-7833

City of Mountain View Recreation

Mountain View

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

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

City of Palo Alto Summer Camps

Palo Alto

A wide array of camps, from theater and tennis to ceramics and coding. Kids in kindergarten through high school can participate in camps during week-long sessions from June 3 to Aug 9.

www.cityofpaloalto.org/summercamps

(650) 463-4949

Community School of Music

Mountain View

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

www.arts4all.org

(650) 917-6800 ext. 0

Oshman Family JCC Camps

Palo Alto

Camps at the OFJCC introduce your child to new experiences while creating friendships in a fun and safe environment. We work to build confidence, stretch imaginations and teach new skills.

www.paloaltojcc.org/Camps

(650) 223-8622

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC)

Palo Alto

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

www.paccc.org

(650) 493-2361

Stanford Jazz Workshop

Stanford

World-renowned jazz camps at Stanford. Week-long jazz immersion programs for middle school musicians (July 8-12), high school (July 14-19 and July 21-26), and adults (July 28-Aug. 2). All instruments and vocals. No jazz experience necessary!

www.stanfordjazz.org

(650) 736-0324

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley

Palo Alto
Menlo Park

April 1 - 5, June 3 - August 2. Kids have fun, create a character, and learn lifelong performance skills at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's Theatre Camps. TheatreWorks offers camps during spring break (offered in Palo Alto and Menlo Park, April 1 - 5) and summer camps (six sessions offered in Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Los Altos between June 3 - August 2) for children and youth in grades K-6. Professional teaching artists lead students in activities including acting, dance, play writing, and stagecraft skills. Sibling discounts and extended care available.

www.theatreworks.org/education

(650) 463-7146

ATHLETICS

Dance Connection Palo Alto

Palo Alto

Share the joy of dance with us! Our studio is an extended family and a "home away from home" for our community of children and teens. At Dance Connection, we value the positive energy and atmosphere that we continuously strive to provide. Summer Dance Camps include all styles of dance for ages 4 and up and features our new "This is Me!" Empowerment Camp along with Teen Jazz and Hip Hop Camps. A Summer Session for ages 3 to adults will be offered from June 3-August 2.

www.danceconnectionpaloalto.com/dance-connection-event-calendar/summer-dance-camps

(650) 852-0418 or (650) 322-7032

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Palo Alto
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www.KimGrantTennis.com

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Call: 650-752-8061

Nike Tennis Camps

Bay Area

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

www.ussportscamps.com

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(800) 645-3226

Run for Fun Camps

Bay Area

Run for Fun's mission is to provide creative and engaging play for all youth by getting kids active in an inclusive community centered around outdoor fun! We pride ourselves on hiring an enthusiastic, highly trained staff who love what they do. Summer 2019 features four weeks of Adventure Day Camp and two weeks of Overnight Camp High Five. Adventure Day Camp is a new discovery every day filled with sports, crafts and nature, including explorations to Camp Jones Gulch, Capitola Beach, Foothills Park, Shoreline Lake and Great America. Camp High Five is six days and five nights of traditional overnight camp mixed with challenge-by-choice activities, campfires, friendships and lots of laughter.

www.runforfuncamps.com/summer-camps-and-school-holiday-camps/camp-overview

(650) 823-5167

Stanford Athletics & Youth

Stanford

Stanford Youth Programs brings you Camp Cardinal! Week-long day camp programs on campus for kids (grades K - 10) from June 3 - August 9. Space is limited so register online now.

campcardinal.org

(650) 736-5436

Stanford Baseball Camps

Stanford

At Sunken Diamond on the campus of Stanford University. A variety of camps are offered to benefit a wide range of age groups and skill sets. Campers will gain instruction in several baseball skills, fundamentals, team concepts, and game play.

www.stanfordbaseballcamp.com

(650) 725-2054

Stanford Water Polo Camps

Stanford

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

www.stanfordwaterpolocamps.com (650) 725-9016

Wheel Kids Bike Camps

Addison Elementary,
Palo Alto

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

www.wheelkids.com/palo-alto

(650) 646-5435

YMCA of Silicon Valley Summer Camps

Silicon Valley

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www.ymcasv.org/summercamp

(408) 351-6473



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- Apply by April 5, 2019
- Menlo Park resident
- Over 18 years of age
- Committed to attending scheduled meetings

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit menlopark.org/commissions
- Call 650-330-6621
- Email jaherren@menlopark.org



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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

The County of San Mateo's Sustainability Academy provides **NO-COST** events and workshops to San Mateo County community members.

To register for our offerings, please visit: www.smcsustainability.org/academy

Master Resource Conservation Course: Registration Now Open!

Thursday evenings 6:00 - 9:00 pm during February 21, 2019 - April 18, 2019 Room 101, 455 County Center, Redwood City. Space is limited!

Application found at www.smcsustainability.org/academy and due February 15th.

The Sustainability Academy's Master Resource Conservation Course is a no-cost 9-week course. This year, the course will use a study of the food system to look in depth at the following topics:

- Climate change and sea level rise
- Energy and water efficiency and conservation
- Solid waste management
- Transportation
- Communication strategies and instructional skills you can use to teach others about sustainability

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- You don't need a backyard to compost! Discounts and rebates for compost bins available for County residents.



Saturday, March 30, 2019,

12:00 - 3:00 pm,
840 W Orange Ave., South San Francisco

Saturday, March 30, 2019,

2:30 - 4:30 pm San Carlos Public Library,
610 Elm Street

Saturday, April 27, 2019,

10:00 am - 12:00 pm South City Scavengers,
500 E Jamie Ct, South San Francisco

Questions? Visit: www.smcsustainability.org • Call: 1-888-442-2666 • Email: sustainability@smcgov.org

The Almanac
AlmanacNews.com

LET'S DISCUSS:

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

AlmanacNews.com

Celebration of life April 6 for Fred Herzer of Atherton

A celebration of the life of Frederick Ford Herzer Jr., a longtime Atherton resident who died Feb. 26 at the age of 92, is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, at Menlo Church.

Herzer, who lived in Atherton for more than 50 years, led "a rich and fulfilling life" despite having lost his eyesight as a 9-year-old boy in a train accident, according to his family.

Former Almanac publisher Tom Gibboney, in an article written 20 years ago, said that Herzer was "upbeat, gregarious, enjoys his leisure time with his wife, swims with his grandchildren, and rides his exercise bike every day." The then-72-year-old Herzer told Gibboney that the accident that took his sight "was a matter of kids playing too close to the tracks," but that he had no hard feelings about his blindness, or the railroad. In fact, he and his wife Virginia lived near the Atherton train station, and when the train stopped daily in that town, he was a frequent rider, hopping aboard to ride to his office in Menlo Park.

Born on Long Island, New York, Herzer moved with his family to the Los Angeles area, where he grew up. He had a fondness for mathematics, and earned degrees in economics and business from the University of California at Berkeley.

He founded Herzer Financial

OBITUARY

Obituaries are based on information provided by the family.

Services, a private real estate lending company now run by his son, David, his family said.

His interests included playing bridge and traveling the world with his wife. The Herzers visited many "exotic locations," including Kathmandu, Bangladesh and India, his family wrote in an obituary submitted to The Almanac's online Lasting Memories page. Fred Herzer was fluent in Spanish, and the couple traveled many times to Spain and numerous Central and South American countries.

In addition to his wife of 64 years, Virginia, and son David of Kentfield, Herzer is survived by daughters Ruth Herzer of Bend, Oregon, and Cynthia Richardson of Menlo Park; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The celebration of his life is set to begin at 1 p.m. April 6 at the church, located at 950 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park.

The family requests that memorial donations be made to the UC Berkeley Disabled Students Program, attention Jessica Arevalo-Hillen, University Development & Alumni Relations, 1995 University Ave., Suite 400, Berkeley, CA 94704.

STANFORD

continued from page 22

and service to the community."

"We are proposing an amount of new academic space consistent with the university's historic growth rate, and 3,150 housing units and student beds, 550 of which would be subsidized apartments close to public transit for faculty and staff," Palter said. "The analysis in the

county's final environmental impact report validates the careful planning that went into the 2018 General Use Permit application. The result of that process is a proposal that we feel balances the needs of the university and the community while addressing potential impacts over the life of the permit." ■

Gennady Sheyner writes for the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister publication.

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■ POLICE CALLS

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

MENLO PARK

Stolen vehicles:

- A white 2008 Toyota Sequoia was taken from the street in front of a home in the first block of Oak Hollow Way. The vehicle was unlocked with the keys inside. March 2.
- An unlocked 2016 Toyota Tacoma with the engine running was taken from the 200 block of Ivy Drive, where the owner had left his car warming up. March 6.
- Burglary:** Someone entered a residence in the 200 block of Hedge Road between 1 and 2 p.m. and took \$600 in cash, a PlayStation console, an Apple watch and other miscellaneous items valued at \$1,400. March 8.
- Thefts:**
 - \$6,000 worth of construction tools were taken from a residence in the 1000 block of Oakland Avenue after a lock was broken off a rear sliding glass door to enter the residence. March 5.
 - Sometime between Saturday morning and Monday morning someone took tools, a generator and two saws valued at \$3,522 from the 300 block of Constitution Drive. March 5.
 - Two bikes valued at \$1,800 were taken from a closet in a carport in the 1000 block of Laurel Street. March 5.
 - Someone took \$1,700 from a locked filing cabinet at H&R Block on Chestnut Street. Police say several employees have access to the cabinet. March 4.
 - An unlocked bicycle valued at \$1,100 was taken from in front of Hillview Middle School, 100 block of Elder Avenue. March 6.
 - Two bicycles, valued at \$700, were taken from Oak Knoll School. March 7.
 - Someone took items valued at \$470, including sunglasses, a gift card and a wrench, from an unlocked vehicle in the 2300 block of Sharon Road. March 2.

Auto burglaries:

- Two cars had their windows smashed on the 1300 block of El Camino Real between 6 and 9 p.m. In one car a backpack with a laptop in it valued at \$2,460 was taken; in the second the interior of the car was tampered with, but nothing was taken. March 8.
- A car parked at Ivy Drive and Carlton Avenue had its window smashed between noon and 11 p.m. The registration and insurance card were taken. March 8.

Fraud:

- Someone in the first block of Siskiyou Place noticed several unauthorized charges on both personal and business checking accounts, starting in late July 2018, totaling approximately \$6,000. March 5.
- Someone used the personal information of a resident of the 1000 block of Cascade Drive, gained by unknown means, to open accounts at AT&T and Sprint. March 7.

ATHERTON

Thefts

- Sometime between March 1 and March 4, a bike lock, valued at \$30 was cut and an orange Felt Hybrid bicycle valued at \$400 was taken from a bike rack in the 100 block of Encinal Avenue. March 4.
- Someone was caught on surveillance cameras taking a red and white specialized 21-speed bicycle valued at \$70 on Feb. 25 at about 8:30 a.m. from the 500 block of Middlefield Road, but could not be identified. March 7.
- Hit and run**
 - A two-vehicle collision at El Camino Real and Walnut Avenue left one person with minor injuries. One vehicle left the scene, but the driver was later found, and the case forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for review. March 7.
 - One vehicle collided with another while both were traveling southbound on Middlefield Road. Police said the driver at fault fled the scene and has not been identified. March 8.

WOODSIDE

Suspicious circumstances: A resident of the 3200 block of Woodside Road reported that someone had gained access to and transferred an unknown amount of money from a bank account. The bank was contacted and the account frozen. Feb. 28.

PORTOLA VALLEY

Theft: A resident of the first block of Oakhill Drive reported someone had used personal information to spend \$3,200 at retail stores. March 2 through March 4.



RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

LANDS OF SHARMA

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
- X. All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: April 10, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i).
4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
5. The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A


Date: 12-28-18
 Annexed to: West Bay Sanitary District
 Name of Annexation: West Bay Sanitary District

**Geographic Description
 Lands of Sharma
 Proposed Annexation of a 1.329 Acre +/- Parcel**

All that certain real property situated in the Town of Portola Valley, San Mateo County, California more particularly described as follows:

Lot 18 in Block 2 as shown on that certain map entitled "TRACT NO. 814 ARROWHEAD MEADOWS, UNIT NO. 6, SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, filed in the office of the County Recorder of San Mateo County, State of California, on November 29, 1963 in Book 59 of Maps at pages 18 and 19.

This legal description is for assessment/annexation purposes only and may not be used for any other purposes.



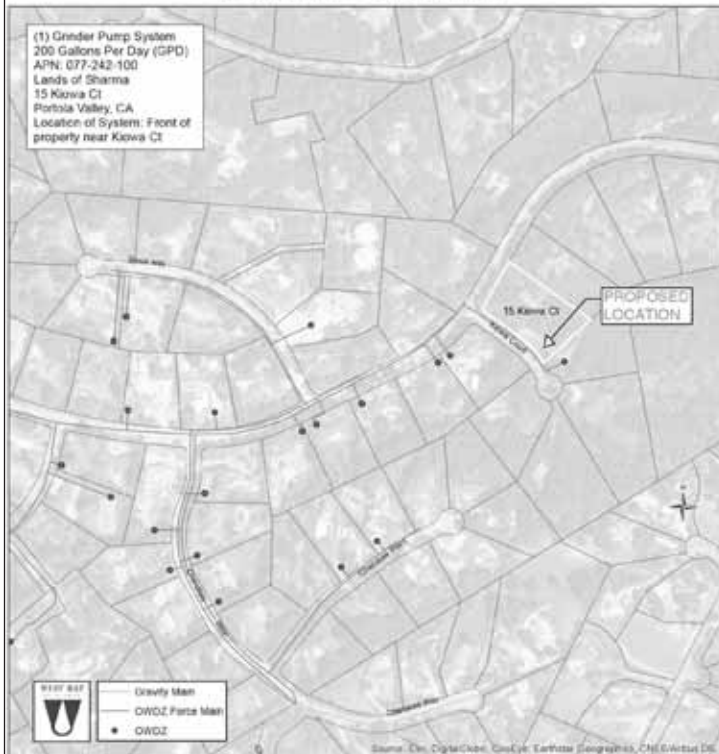
12/28/18
Michael T. Turney

APPROVED
 SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
 FORMATION COMMISSION
 455 COUNTY CENTER
 REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

EXHIBIT A PAGE 1 OF 2

Exhibit B

**SITE LOCATION
 15 KIOWA CT
 PORTOLA VALLEY, CA
 GRINDER PUMP SYSTEM**



Source: Cdn. DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

New city gates celebrated in St. Patrick's Day event

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

In a tip of the hat to Menlo Park's Irish roots, a St. Patrick's Day ribbon-cutting ceremony was held March 17 to celebrate the completion of the new "Menlo Gates" that sit near the intersection of Ravenswood Avenue and Alma Street, near the Menlo Park Library.



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Workers add finishing touches to a replica of historic gates outside the Menlo Park Library, where Ravenswood Avenue meets Alma Street.

The gates are a replica of a previous set of arched gates erected in 1855 near what is now the Ravenswood Avenue and El Camino Real intersection by Irish immigrants, brothers-in-law Dennis Oliver and Daniel McGlynn, according to the Menlo Park Historical Association.

The two men purchased a large ranch there and named it Menlo Park, after a village in Galway, Ireland, called Menlough.

The gates were demolished by a speeding car in 1922, which, according to the historical association, was "filled with singing passengers."

Historical association records indicate that when the San Francisco-San Jose railroad was built, a stop was established near the San

Francisquito Creek and named after the ranch, Menlo Park, giving the area its name.

According to the historical association, wealthy San Franciscans built summer homes north of the station — in what is now Atherton — while a workers' village grew up around the train station, which later became Menlo Park, formally incorporated as a city in 1927.

The historical association has worked to rebuild the gates for a number of years, collecting community contributions and support from the City Council. It was designed by architect Sam Sinnott and his daughter Melina.

The project was slowed by the deaths of two project chairmen, Ernst Meissner and Bill Weseloh, in 2017. ■

Rev. J. Bryant Wright

September 1, 1923 - February 16, 2019

Rev. J. Bryant Wright passed away peacefully in his sleep, in the presence of his children, on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at his residence in Davis, California. He was 95 years old.

Born on Sept. 1st, 1923, in Presque Isle, Maine, Bryant received acclaim at both school and church as a boy soprano. He found solace at church and loved the outdoors. He learned to skate at 3, and spent winters sledding with his dog, Wolf. Bryant also kept busy with Boy Scouts, a paper route and school. In church, each Sunday, he sang tenor with a quartet and served as youth leader. Graduating from Presque Isle High School in 1942, he became the first member of his family to attend and graduate from college. He received his Bachelor of Divinity from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Overbrook, Pennsylvania in 1949 and his Master's from Temple University in Philadelphia in the following years.

There, while working as a young minister at the Oxford Circle Baptist Church, he met and eventually married Jane Audrey Perkins of Philadelphia. The two were married for 58 years until Jane's passing in 2014. Following their wedding in 1955, the couple honeymooned across the country and settled in the Bay Area, where Bryant took the position of Director of Christian Education and Camping on behalf of the American Baptist Churches of the West. In 1964, Bryant and Jane settled in Menlo Park where he served for four years as the Senior Minister at the First Baptist Church of Menlo Park, California and later as the Senior Pastor at the First Baptist Church of San Carlos, a position he held for more than 27 years.

Bryant's love of the outdoors as a child and young man was best exemplified by his early work with the American Baptist Churches of the West, which was seeking to establish a summer and weekend retreat near Half Moon Bay. In his position, Bryant negotiated the purchase of a 160-acre site and subsequently oversaw the planning and construction of the Redwood Glen Baptist Camp and Conference Center, which celebrated its 60th anniversary last year. Bryant served many years as the Redwood Glen Camp Director for Outdoor and Youth Education.

As a member of the Ladera Oaks Swim

and Tennis Club from 1970 to 2008, he served for over a decade as the announcer at Ladera's summer swim meets. Known as the "Golden Voice of the Green Machine," he loved interacting with the swimmers, coaches and parents. Ardent swimmers, Bryant and Jane became fixtures with the Ladera Oaks Masters Swim Team.

Bryant was also a long-time member of the San Carlos Rotary Club and was involved in the organization's many community service endeavors.

As a child and young man, Bryant loved music and was an accomplished soloist. Later in life, he enjoyed singing with the Masterworks Chorale, with which he and his daughter, Meg, performed in concerts both abroad and in the U.S., including a performance at Carnegie Hall in New York. He attributed his path into the clergy to his love for music and using his voice to glorify God. "Music is the wonderful fiber woven through my life and it has always made it good," he said.

Bryant was preceded in death by his wife, Jane Audrey Wright, his parents, James Wiley and Blanche Anne, and his brother, Wayne Ellsworth. Bryant is survived by his three children, Jamey Wright and his wife, Nancy, of Davis, Meg Knight and her husband, Andy, of Bend, Oregon, and Doug Wright and his wife, Lori, of Davis. Bryant is also survived by his sister, Barbara St. Michaels, of Kalispell, Montana, and his nephew, Peter Wright, and nieces Annabelle Matthews, Sharon Pillsbury, Lise Teilmann and Gail Irons. Bryant is also survived by his 10 grandchildren: Michael, Hailey and Cameron Wright of Davis, Ben and Becky Knight of Bend, and Malaya, Luke, Aubree, Landon, and Payton Wright, also of Davis.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 4pm on March 23, 2019, with a reception following at the First Baptist Church of San Carlos at 787 Walnut St, San Carlos, California. A second service will be held on Sunday March 24, 2019 at 2 pm at University Retirement Community in Davis at 1515 Shasta Drive.

Donations can be made in Bryant's name to Redwood Glen Camp and Conference Center and/or UC Davis Athletics – Women's Water Polo Development Account.



Fred Herzer of Atherton

July 22, 1926 – February 26, 2019

Frederick Ford Herzer Jr. a long time resident of Atherton passed away peacefully at the age of 92. He was the son of Ann Nicholson Herzer and Frederick Ford Herzer Sr. Fred was born on Long Island, NY, but grew up in the Los Angeles area. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1948 with degrees in Economics and Business. Fred was the founder of Herzer Financial Services, Inc., a private real estate lending company. His son David now runs the business.

Early in his childhood Fred was struck by a train that ran near his neighborhood, costing him his sight. He never let that interfere with a rich and fulfilling life. Each morning he walked to the Atherton train station and rode the train to the Menlo Park station, and walked to his nearby office. The conductors nicknamed him The Hopper. Fred loved to play bridge and became a Life Master. He and his wife Virginia traveled the world to exotic locations such as Kathmandu, Bangladesh and India. Fred was fluent in Spanish so they took many trips to a wide variety of Spanish speaking countries in Central and South America, as well as his beloved Spain.

Those close to him remember his fantastic memory, mathematical mind and his love of family and backyard parties. He was well respected in the community as a business man, investor and family man. More than anything he will be remembered for overcoming the odds, living a full, rich and loving life with a remarkably positive attitude and strong determination.

He is survived by his wife Virginia of 64 years and by daughters Ruth Herzer of Bend Oregon, Cynthia Richardson of Menlo Park, and son David (Sharon) Herzer of Kentfield. Six grandchildren and one great grandchild also survive him.

The family requests donations in his memory be made to the UC Berkeley Disabled Students Program which supported Fred during his time at Cal. Their address is below.

A celebration of life will be held at 1:00 pm, Saturday, April 6. Menlo Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park.

University of California, Berkeley
Disabled Students Program
Jessica Arevalo-Hillen
University Development & Alumni Relations
1995 University Avenue, Suite 401
Berkeley, CA 94704

PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

Woodside approves 30-foot-tall water tank off Skyline despite neighbors' protest

By Barbara Wood
Special to The Almanac

In a debate that some said pitted the needs of the larger community against those of individuals, Woodside's Town Council voted Tuesday night to allow Cal Water to put a new, much larger water storage tank in a neighborhood off Skyline Boulevard, but limited the height to 5 feet less than the utility had asked for.

"I don't want to be sitting here three years from now explaining why we said no to more water when the whole hill burns down," council member Dick Brown said as he cast one of six votes in favor of the project, despite neighborhood protest.

Cal Water wants to install a

new water tank to replace two corroding 24-foot-tall tanks on a small property tucked between two homes in the Skywood Acres neighborhood, just below Skyline Boulevard.

Yelling 'fire'

Council member Ned Fluet, who represents the neighborhood, cast the only vote against the project. "We should be careful about being railroaded into projects we know nothing about just because someone yelled 'fire,'" Fluet said.

A report on the issue says a 30-foot-tall tank will hold approximately 80,000 more gallons of water than the existing tanks hold, while the 35-foot-tall tank the water company had requested would have held close

to 125,000 gallons of additional water than the existing tanks.

In addition to the fact that the current tanks are corroding and their roofs could fail and allow the water they hold to be contaminated, the company is trying to vastly increase the amount of water it can store to serve its customers in the Skyline area both in an emergency and for daily use, officials said. Erin McCauley, a former director of the Bear Gulch Water District and Cal Water's interim director of capital delivery, said the company moves water to the Skyline area via a single pump located near Interstate 280. The water line up to Skyline crosses the San Andreas fault. "We're going to be out of water for a significant period of time" if the

line or pump fails, she said.

Cal Water officials said they have been asking to replace the two 60,000-gallon water tanks since Cal Water took ownership of them after purchasing the Skyline County Water District in 2009, but the California Public Utilities Commission didn't give them permission to do so until 2015. Since then they've been working on the project, McCauley said.

Neighbors' view

But two neighbors, who each separately hired an attorney and filed an appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of the project, argued that the proposed tank needs more study.

Appellant Jess Lee, who lives with his family on one side of the water company's property, said the proposal is "a massive tank on a tiny, tiny lot."

"My daughter's bedroom is less than 50 feet away downhill

from this water tank," Lee said. "Only after a detailed review can we figure out how to move forward."

Appellant Bill Stronck, who lives on the other side of the Cal Water property, said he doesn't disagree there is a need for more water to be stored in the Skyline ridge area. "Cal Water does have a lot of options, a ton of options," he said. More study needs to be done to find the right spot for that water storage, he said.

At the recommendation of town planners, the Planning Commission had ruled that the project should be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (better known as CEQA), reasoning that the water company's need to provide water to residences and to fight fires qualifies the project as an emergency, exempt from CEQA study. The neighbors, however, said

See **WATER TANK** page 28

Accident claims life of former Menlo Park resident 'Mac' MacCorkle, 77

Longtime Menlo Park resident Emmett W. "Mac" MacCorkle III died on March 2 after being struck by a delivery truck while walking in the Casa Dorinda retirement community in Montecito, where he had moved last year. He was 77.

MacCorkle was a larger-than-life figure, in spirit, personality, and physique.

He bore a physical resemblance to Daddy Warbucks but possessed the warmth and charm of a spirited parish priest. He was a man with a common touch, yet an uncommon generosity of spirit.

"My brother was loved by everyone who knew him," said his sister Alice Carrott Eidson, "and he treated everyone he encountered with respect and good will."

Mac was the founder of MacCorkle Insurance Services in Burlingame, which he oversaw for 50 years. In 1980 was named "Man of Year, Peninsula Association Life Underwriters." He sold the company that bears his name to his employees, retiring to Santa Barbara in June 2018.

Born in Virginia, the son of Nelda and Emmett W. MacCorkle, Jr., Mac was raised in Portland, Oregon, and San Marino, California, graduating from San Marino High School.



Emmett MacCorkle

He attended Cornell University and remained an active alumnus. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and served in Vietnam in 1966-1967.

MacCorkle was a respected and beloved member of the Bohemian Club and served as its president. He served as chairman of the Dawn Redwoods Trust and was a member of the Board of Regents of Belarmine College Preparatory in San Jose. He was a past president of Cornell Club Northern California and a member of the Menlo Circus Club.

In addition to his sister Alice, MacCorkle leaves his wife of 54 years, Carol; sons Jeffrey of Beijing, China, and Steve of Los Angeles; daughter-in-law CJ Chen; four grandchildren; and several nieces and a nephew.

A small private family service took place in Santa Barbara, with a larger gathering planned for the future.

For those interested in honoring Mac's memory, the family suggests making a donation to the Dawn Redwoods Trust, 1 Blackfield Drive, Suite 331, Tiburon, CA 94920; or the MacCorkle Family Scholarship (Fund # 992612) at Cornell University, Cornell Office of Development, Attn: Advancement Services, 130 E. Seneca St., Suite 400, Ithaca, NY 14850.

— Obituary courtesy of Linda Hubbard/InMenlo

Sylvia-Anne Fairn Cornish

1934-2019

With sadness we announce the death of Sylvia-Anne Fairn Cornish, who died at the age of 85 of natural causes on March 1, 2019 in Napa California.

Sylvia was born in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada in 1934, the youngest of six children. Her father, Leslie Raymond Fairn, was a prominent architect and her mother was Ethel Hutchinson Fairn. After an idyllic childhood growing up in rural Nova Scotia, Sylvia went on to attend King's-Edgehill School and Dalhousie University.

While visiting her sister Ardeth and brother-in-law Kingsford Jones in Atherton, Sylvia met and fell in love with Jim Cornish, and they soon married. Sylvia embraced the California lifestyle. She made lovely homes in Menlo Park and later in Atherton for her family of three children.

Sylvia was an active volunteer with The Junior League and The Peninsula Volunteers. Her radiant beauty graced many a modeling runway at charity events. Sylvia loved animals and had a special fondness for her many dogs. She also loved snow skiing in the Sierras, and playing tennis and riding

horses at the Menlo Circus Club.

Sylvia and Jim divorced in 1977. A few years later she married Bob McNeil, with whom she traveled the world from their home bases in Atherton and Lake Tahoe. Her marriage to McNeil ended in 1986. She remained living in Atherton and continued to travel with friends and family.

In 1998, Sylvia moved from Atherton to Napa, where she found joy in tending to her expansive flower gardens and boutique vineyard. She was an active member of The Francisca Club and the Napa Garden Club. She continued to spend her summers at her house on Lake Tahoe.

Sylvia is survived by her brother Hugh Fairn, her three children, Jay, Hugh and Cass, and her six grandchildren. Sylvia was a strikingly beautiful and grand lady. Her powerful personality, sense of humor, passion for life and huge presence will be dearly missed by her children, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Memorial donations may be given to the League to Save Lake Tahoe (donate.savelaketahoe.org).



PAID OBITUARY

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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)

GABRIEL'S GARDEN SERVICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280478

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Gabriel's Garden Service, located at 1 Newell Ct., Apart. 1112, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
JUAN GABRIEL CASTRO

1 Newell Ct. Apart. 1112
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/22/2019.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 22, 2019.
(ALM Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

A & A BROTHERS LANDSCAPING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280581

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

A & A Brothers Landscaping, located at 2921 Westside Ave., Apt. #1, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
MARCO RANGEL RODRIGUEZ
2921 Westside Ave. Apt. 1
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 3-4-19.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 4, 2019.
(ALM Mar. 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 2019)

COMPASS CONSULTANTS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280382

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

Compass Consultants, located at 1195 Los Trancos Rd., Portola Valley, CA 94028, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
JULIA PETERS

1195 Los Trancos Rd.
Portola Valley, CA 94028

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 13, 2019.
(ALM Mar. 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 2019)

CUCO'S BURRITOS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280614

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Cuco's Burritos, located at 2855 Middlefield Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 1140 17th Ave., Redwood City, CA 94063.

Registered owner(s):
MARIA G. PERALTA

1140 17th Ave.
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 March 7, 2019.

(ALM Mar. 20, 27; Apr. 3, 10, 2019)

BAR DOE BUD INVESTMENT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280672

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Bar Doe Bud Investment, located at 2059 Goodwin Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
DAVID T. NELLIGAN

2059 Goodwin Avenue
Redwood City, CA 94061

DORAINE V. COUILLARD
2059 Goodwin Avenue
Redwood City, CA 94061

BARRON A. VAUGHT
2059 Goodwin Avenue
Redwood City, CA 94061

This business is conducted by: A General Partnership.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 13, 2019.

(ALM Mar. 20, 27; Apr. 3, 10, 2019)

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 19CIV00983

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: NIKKI VILLABROZA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

NIKKI YEE VILLABROZA to NIKKI YEE.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: April 12, 2019, 9:00 a.m., Dept.: PJ of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

THE ALMANAC

Date: February 27, 2019

/s/ Jonathan E. Karesh

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(ALM Mar. 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 2019)

Kitten survives the Ides of March thanks to Menlo Park firefighters

A tiny black kitten that had slipped into a drain pipe and ended up 14 feet underground was rescued by persistent Menlo Park Fire Protection District firefighters on Friday, March 15.

Responding to a late afternoon call from a Selby Lane resident who said she had heard a kitten crying for hours, firefighters used a cell phone camera to take video inside the drain pipe that showed the tiny black kitten in a drain pipe that had a concrete deck above it.

San Mateo County animal control officials tried unsuccessfully to extract the kitten for more than a half hour and then called the firefighters back to try again.

Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman said It took more than

an hour for firefighters to snare the kitten with twine tied in a loop.

Probationary Firefighter Ryle Fitzgerald was given credit for the rescue, Chief Schapelhouman said, and was dubbed "the cat whisperer" by his fire crew and the animal control officers. Fitzgerald is considering adopting the kitten.

"It's amazing all of the strange predicaments both humans and animals can get themselves into. Just when I think we've seen it all, something new comes along," Chief Schapelhouman said.

Schapelhouman added that all fire units "remained available for priority emergencies during this incident."

— By Barbara Wood



Photo courtesy Menlo Park Fire Protection District

Menlo Park firefighter Ryle Fitzgerald was nick-named the "cat whisperer" after he managed to pull this tiny kitten up from a pipe 14-feet underground.

Young artists invited to show their colors

SamTrans has launched this year's youth art contest, with the winners getting a whole lot of visibility. That's because the winning entries will be displayed as a wrap on a bus for an entire year, according to the transit agency.

The 15th annual Art Takes a Bus Ride contest encourages

students in first through 12th grades to submit entries on the theme "The Power of SamTrans."

The winning art will also be featured on ad cards inside SamTrans buses.

Students have until the close of business on April 5 to submit entries, either via participating

schools in San Mateo County or directly to the county's Office of Education at 101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065.

More information and an entry form can be found by visiting samtrans.com/artbus.

— Bay City News Service

WATER TANK

continued from page 27

the project isn't an emergency because it is taking so long to complete and that there is no imminent danger.

The council's vote affirmed the Planning Commission decision to skip environmental review, and also approved a variance Cal Water needed to allow the new tank to have less than the required setbacks from the property lines of the 6,757-square-foot parcel. The approved project also includes a new driveway with concrete curbs to direct water flow in the event of a tank failure, new drainage for the property and equipment to remotely monitor the tank.

CalWater had originally asked for a 48-foot-tall tank, but changed its plans to a 35-foot-tall tank after neighbors protested.

Other plans

The utility says it has also for several years been negotiating with the MidPeninsula Regional Open Space District to place two 400,000-gallon water storage tanks on the district's Skegg's Point property. Currently, however, the tank in the Skywood Acres neighborhood provides water for 39 percent of Cal Water customers in the Skyline area, those to the south and east of Skywood Acres, the water company said.

A study by the utility found it should be storing nearly 2 million gallons of water in the Skyline area, but is currently storing only about a quarter of that amount.

"The community need outweighs the need of the individuals," council member Brian Dombkowski said in approving the modified plans.

The 30-foot height, Mayor Daniel Yost said, "seems right to me; it matches the neighborhood." But he noted that the additional water capacity is needed. His parents, he added, had fled the recent fires in Santa Rosa just ahead of the flames.

What will happen next is not completely clear. Lee's attorney, Gregory Klingsporn of Jorgenson, Siegel, McClure & Flegel LLP in Menlo Park, said that while his client is happy that the height of the tank has been lowered, Lee is still troubled by the lack of environmental study of the project and could take their objections to court.

"We're still evaluating what our next step will be," Klingsporn said.

Cal Water officials said they are still deciding on how to proceed with the project. ■

BURGLARIES

continued from page 7

police Sgt. Anthony Kockler said. Officers are investigating the incident.

Between Friday, March 15, and Sunday, March 17, someone shattered a rear window

of a home on Mulberry Lane and stole a safe from inside the house, police said. The preliminary estimated loss is \$200, police Sgt. David Gomez said. That amount could change since officers are still investigating the incident, he said. It's unknown at this time whether

this incident is related to other residential burglaries in town over the last several months.

Police Chief Steven McCulley said on March 12 that the culprits hitting homes in Atherton may be the same people who are burglarizing residences "up and down the Peninsula." ■

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

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Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Submitting items for the Calendar

Go to AlmanacNews.com and see the Community Calendar module at the top right side of the page. Click on "Add your event." If the event is of interest to a large number of people, also e-mail a press release to Editor@AlmanacNews.com.

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more calendar listings

Theater

Jewish Women's Theatre: 'It's a Life!' True Colors Los Angeles-based Jewish Women's Theatre (JWT) presents "It's a Life," the second of three new shows at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center. March 25, 7:30 p.m. \$25-\$30; discounts for members and j-pass holders. Oshman Family JCC, Conference Room F401 (4th floor above the theater), 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org/jwthre

'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare Dragon Theatre presents "Macbeth," William Shakespeare's tragic tale of all-powerful ambition and consuming conscience. Through April 7, 8-10 p.m. \$37; discounts for students, seniors. Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway St., Redwood City. dragonproductions.net

'The Man Who Came To Dinner' Menlo-Atherton High School drama presents "The Man Who Came To Dinner," a fast-paced comedy about a famous radio host who sets up camp in a starstruck family's home. March 22-24; times vary. \$15; discounts for students, seniors. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. madrama.org

'Sojourn' Pear Theatre presents "Sojourn," a futuristic play written by Evan Kakkila Schumacher and directed by Carline Clark. Through April 7; times vary. \$32; discounts for seniors, students. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. thepear.org

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. Through March 31; times vary. \$40-\$100; discounts available. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. theatreworks.org

'The Witches' Los Altos Youth Theatre performs Roald Dahl's classic, "The Witches." March 22-24; times vary. \$20; discounts for students, seniors. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org

Concerts

Forbidden Music New Century Chamber Orchestra welcomes Venezuelan-American pianist Vanessa Perez to perform music written by composers under the shadow of oppressive regimes. March 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. ncco.org

Music

Brahm's Requiem Masterworks Chorale presents Brahms' "Ein deutsches Requiem" and "Blow Ye the Trumpet" for chorus and orchestra by San Francisco's Kirke Mechem. March 23-24; times vary. \$35; discount for students. Canada College Main Theatre, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City. masterworks.org

John Thomas Griffith Live Cafe Zoe presents John Thomas Griffith, a certified Texas guitarist, singer and songwriter. March 22, 7-9 p.m. Cafe Zoe, 1929 Menalto Ave., Menlo Park. cafezoe.com

Menlo's 28th Annual Luau Menlo Park College students' 28th annual luau features live music and dance performances that tell stories from the Hawaiian Islands, Tahiti, Samoa, Tonga and New Zealand. March 23, 4-9:30 p.m. \$40; discounts for students, kids. Menlo College, 1000 El Camino Real, Atherton. Search facebook.com/events for more info.

Fundraisers

Object: Art — The Annual Benefit for Art in Action Art in Action's benefit event features a silent auction of original artwork and art-themed experiences, and presentation of the Art Visionary Award to Tony DeRose and Elyse Klaidman of Pixar Animation Studios. Proceeds help bring a visual arts education to students in underserved schools. March 22, 6-9 p.m. Hotel Nia, 200 Independence Drive, Menlo Park. artinact.ejoinme.org

Talks & Lectures

2019 Winter/Spring Evening Literary Seminar Series Author and former adjunct professor at University of California at Berkeley, Kimberly Ford, leads discussions of four books: "The Beautiful Struggle," "A Fairly Good Time," "Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls," and "Less." Mondays; March 25, April 22, May 20, 7-8:30 p.m. \$48, based on number of seminars. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

'Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali' Kirk Waller performs "Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali," using traditional instruments and other storytelling elements to carry the tale along. March 20, 7-8 p.m. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

'Unmarriageable: Pride and Prejudice in Pakistan' Author Soniah Kamal presents "Unmarriageable," a modern Pakistani twist on the classic "Pride and Prejudice" plot. March 27, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Mysteries On Screen and Onstage The Mystery Readers Group hosts a monthly discussion about writers of TV crime shows, mystery movies and plays, with a different topic or guest author at each meeting. March

20, 7-9 p.m. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Jill Koziol and Liz Tenety Motherly lifestyle brand co-founders Jill Koziol and Liz Tenety share their collaborative essay collection, "This Is Motherhood: A Motherly Collection of Reflections + Practices." March 21, 7-9 p.m. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 74 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto. booksinc.net

Family

Art Around the World: Russia This event takes kids ages 6-11 on a virtual trip to Russia and teaches them about the famous Faberge eggs. March 23, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Registration required. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Museums & Exhibits

Anderson Collection Public Tour The Anderson Collection features modern and contemporary American paintings and sculptures assembled by Harry W. and Mary Margaret Anderson and Mary Patricia Anderson Pence, a Bay Area family who built the collection over the last 50 years. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 18, 12:30 p.m. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Drive, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Portola Art Gallery Presents 'Faces' — A Collection of Portraits in Oil and Pastel by Linda Salter This exhibit features portraits of friends and relatives, artists' models and subjects from her travels in foreign countries. Through March 30, Monday-Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. portolaartgallery.com

Film

Chesley Bonestell Film Screening Filoli Historic House will screen the documentary film "Chesley Bonestell: A Brush With the

Future" from filmmaker Douglass M. Stewart Jr. March 24, 3-5 p.m. \$30; discount for members. Filoli Estate, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

Lessons & 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. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/projectread

Outdoor Recreation

Whiskey Hill Redwood Run The Bay-Trailrunners Whiskey Hill Redwood Run is a competitive 10K, half, full marathon and 50K trail race open to all levels of runners. March 24, 9 a.m. Whiskey Hill Redwood Run, 1100 Kings Mountain Road, Woodside. trailrunner.com

SVE Monthly Hike Silicon Valley Entrepreneurs (SVE) hosts a monthly hiking meet-up where attendees can make new connections and get some fresh air. March 24, 8:45-11:15 a.m. Stanford Dish Alpine Entrance 2, 8 Piers Lane, Portola Valley. Search meetup.com for more info.

Tall Ships Visit Redwood City! Tall Ships Lady Washington and Hawaiian Chieftain will visit Redwood City and offer adventure sails, battle sails and vessel tours from the dock. March 22, 2 p.m. Port of Redwood City, 451 Seaport Court, Redwood City. redwoodcity.org

Wildflower Hike Filoli's Nature Preserve offers hiking tours among its native wildflowers to learn about their qualities and how they adapt and thrive. Saturdays through May 4, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$15. Filoli Gardens, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

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Relieve traffic congestion by reviving a rail line

As elected leaders representing the cities of Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Redwood City, and unincorporated North Fair Oaks, we are keenly focused on reducing the terrible traffic congestion we encounter every day, protecting our quality of life, and supporting a strong local economy.

This is why we are united in support of the San Mateo County Transit District's (Transit District) effort to collaborate with private-sector partners and the community to explore rebuilding the Dumbarton Rail Bridge and connecting Redwood City and Newark and the East Bay with new passenger rail service.

The Dumbarton Highway Bridge was completed in 1982. It connects Newark, Union City, Fremont, and the I-880 corridor on the eastern side of the San Francisco Bay to Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Redwood City, and the 101 corridor on the western side. Traffic congestion has grown rapidly along this corridor, and today over 60,000 vehicles travel across the bridge between Alameda and San Mateo counties each day.

The now-defunct Dumbarton Rail Bridge lies just to the south of the Dumbarton Highway Bridge. Built in 1910, the rail bridge was the first structure to span San Francisco Bay. The last freight train traveled over the bridge in 1982, and the bridge was damaged by a fire in 1992.

In 1994, the Transit District purchased

the entire Dumbarton Corridor right-of-way from Redwood City to Newark, with the goal of eventually reactivating passenger train service connecting Caltrain on the Peninsula with ACE, BART and the Capitol Corridor in the East Bay to relieve regional traffic congestion.

For several decades elected officials, transportation agencies, community leaders and business interests on both sides of the bridge have studied and evaluated the feasibility and cost of creating this new rail connection in order to reduce traffic congestion and connect these growing communities and employment centers. The cost estimates always proved too high.

In August 2017, the Transit District took steps to refocus the region's attention on the burgeoning traffic problems plaguing the Dumbarton Corridor when it completed the Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study. The study recommends implementing improvements on the Dumbarton Highway Bridge and its approaches, and also recommends moving forward with Dumbarton Rail on the unused rail bridge right-of-way.

Following the study, local and regional

voters approved new funding to address traffic congestion along the Dumbarton Corridor, making the prospect of a new rail connection more viable.

Building on this momentum, the Transit District entered into a public-private partnership focused on creation of this new rail connection. The partnership allows Cross Bay Transit Partners LLC, a joint venture between the Plenary Group and Facebook, to accelerate the evaluation of the environmental, technical and financial feasibility of creating new Dumbarton Corridor rail service between downtown Redwood City and Newark through private sector investment.

If we had to wait for the traditional project development process and funding cycles, work like this could take decades. Instead, the public-private partnership will explore accelerated delivery of the rail project with the private sector.

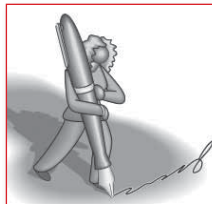
Despite the innovative approach of this partnership model, we can assure the community that this process will follow all of the required legal and environmental requirements mandated by state and federal agencies. The Transit District will continue to serve as the lead agency, and

the process will include a robust schedule of public meetings and opportunities for public comment. As the lead agency, the Transit District also ensures ongoing input from the cities and public agencies along the entire Dumbarton Corridor.

We are well aware of the community concerns and expectations associated with any future passenger train service on the Dumbarton Rail Corridor — including the need to evaluate bicycle and pedestrian access and address issues related to noise, vibration, and grade separations.

The Transit District and Cross Bay Transit Partners just completed four well-attended informational community meetings which took place in Menlo Park, Redwood City, Newark and Fremont. Future community meetings are planned, including scoping meetings at the initiation of the formal state and federal environmental analysis process that will be scheduled later in the year. We encourage everyone who is interested in this project to stay engaged in the process.

The time is now to explore how to leverage the potential of a public-private partnership in order to determine if we can accelerate the possibility of launching passenger train service on the Dumbarton Rail Corridor. Learn more by visiting crossbaytransit.com and the SamTrans web page at tinyurl.com/DumbartonCorridor.



Submitted by East Palo Alto Mayor Lisa Gauthier, Redwood City Mayor Ian Bain, Menlo Park Mayor Ray Mueller, and San Mateo County supervisors Warren Slocum and Don Horsley.

GUEST OPINION



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Francis Rolland
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frolland@cbnorcal.com
CalRE#00896319



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Shawna Sullivan
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