

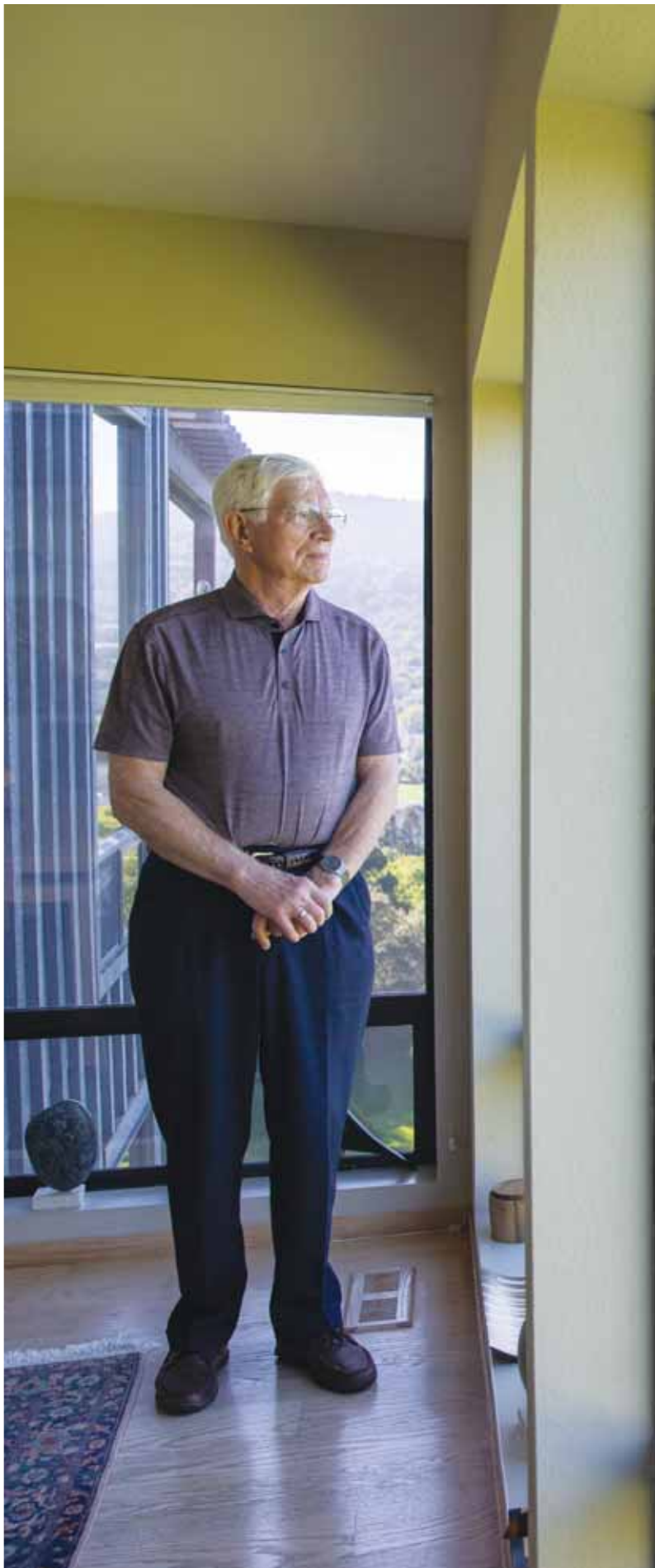
The Almanac

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

APRIL 24, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 34



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TO ALL **A** GOOD KNIGHT

Portola Valley's
Armand Neukermans
works hard to make
the world a better place

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Menlo Park's star athlete in spotlight | Page 22
Viewpoint | Pages 26, 27

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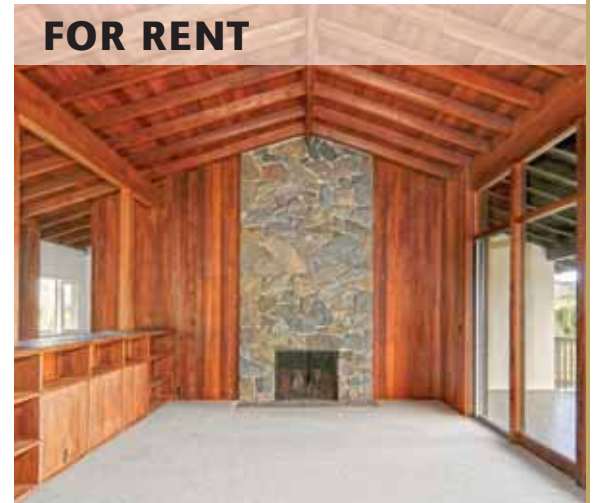
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Photo by Catherine Corre

Charlotte Acra poses in front of one of the monuments at United Nations headquarters in New York City on April 12, just before giving a keynote speech at the Model UN Youth Summit there.

Local teen ‘recycles the brainpower’ of her peers to help better the world

Menlo School student gives keynote speech at UN youth summit

By Barbara Wood
Special to The Almanac

When Menlo Park’s Charlotte Acra was 15, she saw a problem she thought had big implications — the small number of girls and minorities in technical and science fields — and set out to do something about it.

A year and a half later, the organization Charlotte founded, Little Miss Code, is completely teen-run and has taught free science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) classes to more than 130 minority students. Classes for students ages 7 to 13 are taught by high school student volunteers in several local communities and in Chicago, with plans to expand internationally to Lebanon this summer.

Charlotte has been so successful that she was invited to give a keynote speech at the first-ever Model UN Youth Summit at the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan on April 12.

After her talk, Charlotte said, she was approached by students and officials from a range of African, Asian and European countries who were eager to

find out how to emulate her program.

A video made of the event shows UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres of Portugal opening the summit with a plea to the high school and college students in attendance: “My generation has failed in a number of important aspects, the most important of which is climate change. My generation has failed to bring justice and equality. Your generation has to correct that.”

“Your generation will be in charge soon. You will need to have an absolutely essential role in rescuing our planet.”

The summit focused on the 17 sustainable development goals United Nations members adopted in 2015 for international implementation by 2030. Many of the universal goals sound nearly impossible to achieve — no poverty, zero hunger, quality education, gender equality and climate action among them.

But Charlotte, a 16-year-old Menlo School junior, has a different view. If you look at all 17 of the goals at once, it can seem overwhelming, she acknowledged, but added, “When you

try to break it down to more simple goals, it makes them seem a lot more realistic.”

“I look at it optimistically. I think it can be done by 2030,” she said. “Every small action is important to the bigger goal.”

The rest of the 17 global goal areas are: good health and well-being; clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation, and infrastructure; reducing inequality; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; life below water; life on land; peace, justice, and strong institutions; and partnerships for the goals.

Charlotte’s Little Miss Code program works toward three of the goals: gender equality, quality education and reducing inequality, she said.

In her UN speech Charlotte explained, quoting Nelson Mandela, that education “is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world,” and the best way to break a cycle of poverty. “Quality education and equal opportunity go hand in hand,”

See **UNITED NATIONS**, page 20

New Belle Haven Library plans move forward

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

The population of Menlo Park on the Bay side of 101 could triple in the coming years, but because of regular traffic gridlock in the area, residents there still primarily have access only to the Belle Haven Branch Library, which, in its current state, is housed at an elementary school and offers limited hours for public use.

To remedy this need, the city of Menlo Park has been working to streamline a process to build a new library in Belle Haven as soon as possible. The project took a step forward on April 16, when the City Council voted unanimously to approve a space needs study and move forward with the next steps in the process: completing a conceptual design for the new library, exploring potential locations and coming up with estimates for how much it will cost.

The Belle Haven library

project has been discussed for years, but took on a new life in 2017 after an offer by John Arrilaga to build a new main library triggered public complaints that the city’s priority ought to be the Belle Haven library instead.

The space needs study that was recently completed recommends a new library of 12,300 square feet.

Based on community feedback, the study recommends that the new library include a place where kids can go to get after-school homework help, a sound-insulated room for teens, a 100-seat community room that can be subdivided, a space for computer classes, a space for story times and activities for young children, quiet reading areas for adults, and multiple sound-insulated small study rooms for two to four people.

In Belle Haven and in areas of Menlo Park closer to the Bay, there is a greater need for

See **LIBRARY**, page 7

Bill to mandate safe parking for homeless students raises concerns for college district

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Community college students in California, many of whom are vulnerable to food, housing and financial insecurity, may soon have a safe place to park while they sleep in their cars, if a bill authored by a Peninsula state assemblyman, Marc Berman (D-Palo Alto), passes.

Assembly Bill 302 moved forward on April 2 with a 10-0 vote by the Assembly Higher Education Committee, and is next scheduled to go to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

If passed, it would create a July 1, 2020, deadline by which community college campuses with on-campus parking facilities would be required to grant overnight access to homeless students who take classes, pay tuition and are in good standing with the school. Community colleges would be reimbursed by the state for additional costs to run these programs.

Community college boards would be put in charge of coming up with a plan to comply with the legislation. The parking facilities would be required to have nearby accessible bathrooms and be monitored for safety. The bill also calls for additional support to be available to students, such as housing, food and financial help from state, county, community or community college sources. Students would have to sign liability waivers and agree to certain rules.

In a press conference, Berman explained that he developed the bill in response to five informational hearings he convened throughout the state during the 2017-18 legislative session. He chairs the Assembly Select Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education in California, and during these hearings, “heard heart-wrenching stories from some students who found themselves homeless and

See **HOMELESS STUDENTS**, page 12

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Village Stationers to close Menlo, Los Altos locations

By **Kate Bradshaw**
 Almanac Staff Writer

For 53 years, Village Stationers has helped Peninsula residents find gifts, cards, office supplies and more at its family-run stationery shops.

But the owner of the business says Village's two remaining locations, in Menlo Park and Los Altos, will be shuttered before the end of the summer.

Owner Kerry Hoctor has opted not to renew the leases for the two locations at the end of August, and is prepared to leave before then if the landlords find new tenants, he told The Almanac.

Escalating challenges over the years, combined with the fact that both Hoctor and his daughter, Shannon Klein, who runs the Los Altos store, have other plans for the future, mean the days of the four-generation family business are numbered.

Hoctor plans to retire, and Klein plans to go into teaching. They tried to find someone to buy the business, Hoctor said, but found no takers.

"I would say the horizon is bleak when it comes to retail business," he said. Online retailers have drawn customers away, plus the demand for stationery isn't what it used to be, with the rise of e-cards, he explained.

In addition, with young students requiring few office supplies beyond a laptop today, back-to-school sales have declined significantly, he added.

Pair declining revenue with the high costs of doing business in the Bay Area — having to pay a premium for a downtown retail space, and high wages to employees, given the competitive job market — and it was not, Hoctor said, "an attractive proposition for anybody to come and take over."

"It's something we're quite proud of, to survive all these years with all of these challenges put forward," he said.

According to Hoctor, the shop has been run by four generations of his family, with five generations involved. His parents started the store in 1966 at the Palo Alto Town and Country Village, before moving it to Santa Cruz Avenue in Menlo Park in 1976,

according to the Village Stationers website.

When his parents traveled out of town, his grandfather would step in to help run the shop, Hoctor said.

In 1996, he moved the Menlo Park shop to its current location at 719 Santa Cruz Ave. He also ran a location on University Avenue in Palo Alto starting in 1988, before moving it to California Avenue in 2002. It closed in 2016.

In addition, in 2012, he opened a location at 222 Main St. in Los Altos. And just weeks ago, he said, his young granddaughter was in the shop helping him with pricing, representing the fifth generation of the family to be involved with running the store.

He said all of the stores had great customers. "Unfortunately, there just aren't enough of them anymore to stay profitable."

They've survived so long, he said, because of their customer service, with several employees working at the Menlo Park location for 10 or more years. "It was a comfortable environment for our customers," he said.

"I'd like to think that we'll be remembered at some point," he said. "You know, we're just going to be another chapter in the book of businesses that have come and gone."

"We held out longer than most. It's time to call it a day and move on." ■

'I would say the horizon is bleak when it comes to retail business.'

KERRY HOCTOR, OWNER
 VILLAGE STATIONERS

George Comstock memorial this Saturday

A celebration of the life of George Comstock, a resident and former mayor of Portola Valley, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, April 27, at Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road in Portola Valley.

A computer industry pioneer, inventor, entrepreneur and committed environmentalist, Comstock died on March 11 at the age of 95.

In addition to serving one

term on the Portola Valley Town Council, Comstock held a seat on the Architectural and Site Control Commission for eight years.

His wife, Anne Hillman, said that all are welcome to attend the Saturday celebration.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to Rosener House, The Land Institute, the Computer History Museum, or the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST).

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Measures to curb Belle Haven's cut-through traffic fast-tracked

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

In response to previous complaints that Menlo Park was moving too slowly to implement critical measures to deter cut-through traffic in Belle Haven, plans to remove street parking, install bulb-outs and put in place other measures to slow traffic throughout the neighborhood are moving forward on an expedited timeline.

The City Council voted unanimously on April 16 to approve a six-month trial of the traffic management plan, which will be implemented using materials that are low-cost and easy to remove, should they become unpopular.

According to City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, the materials are expected to be installed in May.

After six months, the city will seek feedback from residents to decide whether to make the changes permanent. According to staff, this process is usually more drawn-out and requires multiple votes by neighborhood residents. But many residents have expressed in past meetings that they need relief from the

constant congestion as soon as possible.

The Belle Haven neighborhood can be accessed only by Willow Road, or by Chilco Street from Bayfront Expressway, and as such, is highly vulnerable to congestion along those roads. Even so, residents say, commuters are known to cut through the neighborhood to try to minimize their waits on Willow Road or Bayfront Expressway.

The city required Facebook to pay for the creation of a plan to reduce cut-through traffic when it approved the company's campus expansion in November 2016.

Since the study began, and even since initial data was collected in late 2017 and early 2018, traffic conditions have only worsened, according to staff, due to "the number and severity of ongoing construction projects on Chrysler Drive, Independence Drive, Chilco Street and Constitution Drive proceeding simultaneously."

According to staff, efforts that have already been taken to curb cut-through traffic have included installing "no through traffic" signs at entries

to the neighborhood, adding speed humps, creating left-turn restrictions from Chilco Street to eastbound Hamilton Avenue, and closing roads.

The plan

The plan would be mainly focused on four streets in Belle Haven: Newbridge Street, Ivy Drive, Chilco Street and Terminal Avenue.

On Newbridge, brightly marked crosswalks will be added to each intersection from Carlton Avenue to Windermere Avenue, along with bulb-outs on the corners. Staff members say they anticipate that each bulb-out will require the removal of one or two on-street parking spaces.

On Ivy, the city will install crosswalks, bulb-outs, raised intersections and speed feedback signs. On Chilco between Windermere and Hamilton Avenue, the city will install a yellow line marking the center of the street, bulb-outs along the sides of the street, and "sharrows," or painted signals on the road that remind drivers to be aware of cyclists.

On Terminal, more crosswalks

See **TRAFFIC**, page 8

LIBRARY

continued from page 5

literacy support than elsewhere in the city. Those areas have a greater proportion of children struggling to attain grade-level reading proficiency than areas that are part of the Menlo Park City or Las Lomas school districts.

At Willow Oaks Elementary School, 67% of third-graders did not meet grade-level literacy proficiency, nor did 47% of third-graders at Belle Haven Elementary, according to 2018 test results. Both schools are in the Ravenswood City School District based in East Palo Alto. These percentages are less than 10% in the Woodside, Menlo Park, Portola Valley and Las Lomas districts.

The City Council's discussion on this topic came immediately after it held a study session to talk about recommendations in a separate plan for the city's park and recreation facilities. Those recommendations raised the possibility of rebuilding the Onetta Harris Community Center and Menlo Park Senior Center in Belle Haven, and there was some discussion of bundling those projects together with a new library. Belle Haven resident Sheryl



Photo by Michelle Le

Renovations to the Belle Haven Library were recently completed, but the site is located at a school and is not open to adults during school hours, limiting its use for a growing population on the city's Bay side. The city aims to build a new library in Belle Haven, but hasn't chosen a location yet.

Bims favored the idea, urging the council to "be visionary" and consider economies of scale when considering constructing new city buildings.

However, staff said that including the library project as one to re-envision the city's Belle Haven parks and recreation campus would require backtracking and create delays for the project.

Belle Haven resident Rachel Bickerstaff told the council that she felt the consultants and advisory committee working on the project "really did do their job

in making sure that our voices were heard," and urged the council to move forward with the staff recommendations.

"I appreciate the comments about the possibility of missed opportunities if we don't look at this comprehensively," Councilman Drew Combs responded. "My concern is (that we're) moving the goalpost. ... I think I have to prioritize the good over the perfect. ... The current library situation here is not sustainable and not reflective of the equity we want to see in Menlo Park. We need to deliver that." ■

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New city manager finds renewal at City Hall

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

Standing in her City Hall office, which overlooks the Burgess Park duck pond and draws in the spring sunshine, Menlo Park's new City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson describes Menlo Park as being in a state of renewal.

There are new faces on the City Council, and a number of recent hires in the city's management positions.

Following a spate of management-level departures last year, the city has since filled almost all of the vacated positions, Jerome-Robinson said. "We have a lot of fresh talent in this organization."

There's a lot of work to be done, she said. Internally, the city needs to get the new management situated. There's also some orientation that must take place with new council members, she said. A council member's job can look different when someone newly elected actually sits at the dais, she said, adding, "There's a lot to know."

Local government, she noted, is "highly regulated." She works carefully with the mayor and the staff to set agendas that meet legal requirements and can provide meaningful information on "the subject matters of interest to

the council," she explained. An important project of city staff is to help new council get the information and data they need to make informed decisions.

Jerome-Robinson returned to City Hall after a little more than three years away, following her retirement as the city's assistant city manager for seven years, from 2008 to 2015. Since 2015, she's worked as interim finance director for Redwood City and Portola Valley. Last October, she took the reins as Menlo Park's interim city manager after the departure of former city manager Alex McIntyre, who took the top administrative position in the city of Ventura.

In February, the City Council voted to delete the "interim" from her job title, and now Jerome-Robinson has a two-year contract with the city that includes a base salary of \$245,000, plus a vehicle allowance and other benefits such as medical insurance.

Upon her return to City Hall, she said, she was surprised by how much progress happened on some fronts, and how little changed on others. As examples, she said, citywide districting was completed in a matter of months, while library improvements have been more sluggish in coming to fruition. (She added that she's keeping a close eye



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Starla Jerome-Robinson at work in her City Hall office.

on how the city's new district-based election system may shift dynamics between residents and council members.)

"The issues before the community are so interesting and energizing," she said. "There are so many big needs and big projects ... it's hard to know which is most important."

Menlo Park is not without its challenges, she noted. The two biggest problems are housing and traffic, she said, but she isn't deterred.

As the new city manager, she's planning to prioritize being inclusive and listening to people, she said, adding that she's also aiming to focus on making

employees feel heard and valued.

Last summer, the city released a plan developed by staff to promote employee satisfaction, which has as its goals improving internal communication, supporting employee training and development, recognizing the efforts of employees, getting better at dealing with change, and promoting work-life balance. A poster spotlighting the plan and signed by employees hangs prominently in the new city manager's office.

Jerome-Robinson is also a longtime Menlo Park resident. "My husband and I bought a starter house that turned into a forever house in Menlo Park," she said.

While it can be harder to feel off-the-clock when living in the same city she's taken such an active role in, she said, being a longtime resident who sent her kids to local schools gives her valuable insights on the community.

"I like to think it makes my understanding of the community richer," she said, adding that she's careful to avoid assuming that her experiences in the city apply to all residents.

She said that she finds Menlo Park charming, and its best feature is its walkability: She loves to get exercise by walking around town in the fresh air, she added. ▀

TRAFFIC

continued from page 7

and bulb-outs are planned, along with several speed humps in the parking area near the Onetta Harris Community Center. The city also plans to add "gateway" pillars to mark neighborhood entrances.

The traffic management plan is expected to require the removal of up to 60 on-street parking spaces.

Challenges

The art of curbing cut-through traffic requires a delicate balance in installing obstacles that deter outsiders yet don't drive neighborhood residents crazy, staff explained. In a staff report, Associate Transportation Engineer Kevin Chen said that staff tried to pick measures that would also improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians and improve streetscapes, in addition to making it less convenient for outside commuters to shortcut through neighborhood streets.

Some parts of the plan will be slower-moving and require cooperation with agencies outside of the city, Chen said. For instance, the San Francisco Public Utilities

Commission has jurisdiction over Ivy Drive, and would have to sign off on crosswalks, line striping, speed feedback signs, and other planned measures.

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District also has an interest in making sure the roads remain wide enough to navigate emergency vehicles, Chen noted. The city plans to work with the fire district to ensure that firetrucks can navigate around any bulb-outs that are installed, he added.

Another traffic concern in Belle Haven is that the Willow Road and Newbridge Street intersection tends to get very congested, due in part to the frontage road that runs along Willow at that intersection. Caltrans has jurisdiction over Willow and, according to staff, the city wants to work with that agency to install a limited right-turn restriction and left-turn signal arrow on Newbridge at Willow.

Working with Caltrans has been slow, however, and some requests have been pending for over a year, according to a staff report. Staff has requested traffic signal modifications at all of the intersections along Willow Road (at Hamilton Avenue, Ivy



Map courtesy city of Menlo Park

A map of the planned measures to deter cut-through traffic in Belle Haven. These will be implemented throughout the course of a six-month trial, according to plans adopted by the Menlo Park City Council April 16.

Drive, O'Brien Drive and Newbridge Street), but the changes haven't been approved yet. Now,

staff members say they're looking into what it would cost for the city to take on responsibility

for those signals and signal timing so it would have more control. ▀

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Mayors, tech transportation leaders convene to talk traffic

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

In view of a hulking manzanita tree branch hung from the wall at the Unitarian Universalist Church in south Palo Alto, mayors and elected officials from Redwood City to Sunnyvale met with transportation program leaders from the area's biggest employers on April 18.

They were there to launch the "Manzanita Talks," a series of discussions convened by Joint Venture Silicon Valley to review ways to reduce solo driving on the Midpeninsula, potentially by starting what's being called a "sub-regional transportation management association."

A transportation management association (TMA) is a nonprofit that "develops, manages and markets a transportation program," according to the Palo Alto TMA website. These programs generally aim to give commuters viable alternatives to driving solo to get to work, and in some cases they can subsidize the cost of transit passes for low-income workers. TMAs generally include cities

and/or businesses.

While the first meeting was focused on preliminary introductions, the group has an ambitious agenda: to develop a conceptual plan for a sub-regional TMA by October. The group has planned four more sessions, set for May 16, June 13, Sept. 12 and Oct. 17. Redwood City, Atherton, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos and Sunnyvale have been invited to participate in discussions about a possible TMA.

Attendees on April 18 included representatives who lead employee transportation efforts at Genentech, Facebook, LinkedIn, Tesla, Google, Palantir, and Intuit, as well as mayors and council members from Menlo Park, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Atherton, Redwood City and Sunnyvale, along with other local stakeholders and transportation experts.

Joint Venture Silicon Valley president and CEO Russell Hancock, who moderated the discussion, explained that for better or worse, Silicon Valley is a center for innovation and continues to create jobs. There were 79,000 new jobs

generated in Silicon Valley last year, and the region is in its eighth year of continuous economic expansion.

And yet, he added, the region is "surrounded on three sides by water and ringed by permanently protected open space. It's no surprise we're placing tremendous pressure on infrastructure."

Aaron Akin, principal and co-owner of Good City Company and a former assistant city manager and community development director in Redwood City, presented traffic data about several intersections in the region, confirming what motorists already know: Traffic is indeed worse than it has been in the past. Traffic on the Dumbarton Bridge, he said, is up 70% from 2011, indicating that people are traveling longer distances to get to employment centers. Transit systems are also nearing capacity, especially Caltrain, he added.

Hancock explained that one of the challenges to effectively deter solo driving is what's called the "first and last mile" problem. If people are going to use public transit, they have to also have reliable, convenient

ways to traverse the segments of their journeys getting from home and work to transit stations, he said.

In a guest opinion piece published last month in the Palo Alto Weekly, former Palo Alto mayor Nancy Shepherd explained that some of the strategies TMAs can use to address the first- and last-mile problem are "transit subsidies, commute routes, incentives and more to reduce solo-occupancy trips into job center areas."

Palo Alto and Mountain View currently have TMAs, while Menlo Park and Redwood City have policies that support them. A number of tech companies in the area run their own programs to give commuters alternatives to driving.

According to the schedule presented, after the June discussion — which is also expected to delve into the major question of how such efforts would be funded — Akin of Good City Company will be tasked with developing a conceptual plan that will be brought forward in September and potentially approved in October. At that point, participating mayors and

council members would need to get formal approval from the councils in their respective jurisdictions.

On April 19, the city of Menlo Park also released a separate request for proposals, searching for a consultant to evaluate the commute patterns of people who work in Menlo Park, and make recommendations on four alternatives: creating a sub-regional TMA, a TMA with either large or small employers or organizations, or a citywide TMA.

The consultant would also be expected to do a cost-benefit analysis and look at the long-term impacts of a TMA. Proposals are due Friday, May 17, at 5 p.m.

According to Transportation Demand Management Coordinator Nicholas Yee, a separate Menlo Park process could create the potential to set up partnerships with East Bay cities. Creating its own TMA doesn't preclude Menlo Park from participating in a TMA that might come out of the Manzanita Talks, he added.

For an expanded version of this story, go to tinyurl.com/PenTMA-24. ■



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HOMELESS STUDENTS

continued from page 5

sleeping in their cars because they could not afford the cost of housing.”

“The harsh reality is that students are already sleeping in their vehicles,” Berman stated. “When we do not provide a safe place for students to sleep, we force them into the shadows where they are most vulnerable.”

The bill, however, is not without critics, including some members of the San Mateo County Community College District board, who have raised

concerns that Berman’s bill creates difficult logistical challenges for community colleges and doesn’t address the true needs of homeless students.

The district includes Canada College in Woodside, the College of San Mateo, and Skyline College in San Bruno.

Agreement to disagree

Concerns raised by district board members and reported in other news outlets caused Berman to post on Twitter on April 4, saying, “Surprised to learn (of) the news that the San Mateo County Community College

District doesn’t think it’s dignified or compassionate to provide a safe place for homeless community college students to sleep in their cars on campus. Would they prefer to ignore them?”

Berman later explained he had responded to a quote attributed to the district on KTVU, which stated that the district didn’t consider the bill to be a “compassionate, dignified or humane” way to address the problem of student homelessness.

Maurice Goodman, president of the college district board, and board member Dave Mandelkern told The Almanac that

they didn’t agree with Berman’s characterization of the board’s opinion, in part because the board has not yet developed a formal position on the bill.

Goodman told The Almanac he and Berman have discussed the legislation more than once, and “agreed to disagree on certain aspects of it.”

“It was premature to say we oppose this measure,” Mandelkern told The Almanac.

Goodman said he’s glad that the topic is getting attention and undergoing public debate, but pushed back against the notion that the district has

ignored the problem of student homelessness.

“It couldn’t be farther from the truth,” he said. “We do the opposite.”

“Yes. We have a problem,” he added, noting that the district’s surveys indicate that between 20% and 26% of students experience homelessness or food insecurity.

“The reality is that we have a few to several hundred students who are living in their cars while they’re going to school,” Mandelkern told The Almanac.

A new report by the California Community Colleges

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Chancellor's Office and The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice, published in March, drawing on surveys of about 40,000 students at 57 community colleges in California, which found that 70% of students had experienced homelessness or food or housing insecurity in the previous year. Nineteen percent of students surveyed had experienced homelessness in the previous year.

Mandelkern said he's heard that students favor parking overnight at 24-Hour Fitness locations because they provide around-the-clock restroom and shower access and are generally well-lit, though others seek out more secluded parking areas.

He added that the district already works with a number of county agencies and nonprofits to support students who are experiencing poverty, such as HIP Housing, Samaritan House, LifeMoves, and others.

The district has also historically been a leader in workforce housing development, and is currently looking into the possibility of building student housing, he added.

Goodman argued that the district's students deserve better than just somewhere safe to park overnight — but that responsibility shouldn't belong only to the district.

"We see people in the communities they live in, and the families they have ... We see their value to the communities they have. ... They deserve more than being unseen and unheard, (or) to look at this (legislation) as a win. This is not a win."

He continued: "I go back to some of the homeless veterans we serve at our colleges. I can't look at one in the eyes and say, 'Thank you for your service. Thank you for the sacrifice you made. Now all I have for you is a parking stall where you can sleep in.'"

In a similar vein, district board member Thomas Nuris commented in an email, "We do not believe that this is a

dignified or humane way to address this important issue."

Goodman also questioned the mindset of communities that would prefer to let homeless students sleep in their cars "up on the hill" near the community colleges than in local neighborhoods.

Questions

But the big question, Goodman added, is: Where do the resources come from to support a program like this?

"Do we take it from our scholarships? Our waivers? Our faculty, staff or counseling services? Those are questions that would have to come up," he added. (The bill includes a provision allowing schools to apply to the state for reimbursement of expenses for creating the safe parking lots.)

"If we're going to have vulnerable students in one location, with everything they have to their name (there), they might become victimized," he added.

Without the minimum number of credits a student would need to be enrolled in to qualify for parking, Goodman added, he's worried that people might take advantage of the program by signing up for a course like a one-credit walking class, and utilize the parking service. "Anyone can be potentially a homeless student and take advantage of this opportunity," he said.

"Why not focus on the communities and cities these students live in?" Goodman asked. "Why not put pressure on them?"

In an interview, Berman acknowledged that this bill will ask a lot of community colleges; it is part of a broader set of state actions, including the flood of housing-related bills working their way through the state Legislature.

"By no stretch of the imagination do I mean to accuse community colleges of being part of the problem. I am asking them to be part of a solution," he said. "We're going to ask everybody at every level of society to help

be a part of the housing and homelessness crisis we have in California."

Without a state mandate for safe parking, he added, local jurisdictions may be more likely to nix safe parking proposals due to neighborhood opposition. One outcome of this legislation would be that students could park overnight at community colleges in areas that otherwise ban overnight parking, he explained.

In addition, he added, the Legislature is looking at other bills to increase aid to students to more effectively account for the full costs of student education.

"We as a society have failed miserably; we have failed to build the amount of housing necessary to house our students, to house our retirees, to house our workers. ... And because we as a society have failed miserably over the last few decades, we now have to look for creative solutions to address the

repercussions of our failures," he said.

He acknowledges that the bill is a short-term approach to addressing the problem of student homelessness, but in his remarks emphasized the scale of homelessness among community college students and the urgent need for fast action.

"It's great to say we want a roof for every student, but be realistic about how long that will take, about how expensive that will be," he said. "What will that answer be to your students tonight?"

In addition to the statistic that 19 percent of community college students experienced homelessness in the last year, the survey found that the vast majority of students who experience food insecurity -- 84% -- are employed or looking for work, and most are still getting A's and B's in their classes, though students are somewhat more likely to struggle in class if they do experience these insecurities.

The survey found that students who were formerly part of the foster care system experience homelessness and food and housing insecurity at greater rates than their peers: 43% of students previously in foster care experience homelessness, while more than two-thirds experience food insecurity and 82% experience housing insecurity. In addition, students who reported having been convicted of a crime had higher rates of such insecurities: 44% reported homelessness and 83% reported housing insecurity.

Next, the bill will go to the appropriations committee for a cost analysis, and then be brought to the full floor of the assembly. Berman said he's planning to make amendments to the bill in response to feedback he's collecting. "I'm optimistic about the bill's chances," he added.

Go to is.gd/safepark652 to access the full story. ■

Community fair offers disaster prep guidance

What should people do to prepare for an earthquake on the Midpeninsula? What if Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside or Portola Valley is hit by fire or flooding?

A community fair to help locals prepare for such disasters will be held Saturday, April 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 1105 Valparaiso Ave. in Menlo Park.

According to event organizer Mary George, the fair will convene a wide array of emergency response groups in one place

to provide information to the public in the form of interactive booths and demonstrations.

CPR demonstrations on the hour and fire extinguisher demonstrations by the Menlo Park Fire Protection District on the half-hour are planned. The fire district will also give demonstrations of the drones it uses for firefighting.

In addition to the fire district, organizations scheduled to attend are the USGS, the Red Cross, PG&E, CERT, the Menlo Park Fire District's Community Emergency Response Team, and ADAPT (Atherton Disaster and

Preparedness Team).

A nurse will also be present to give first-aid advice on how to stop bleeding. Redwood Trading Post will offer emergency response supplies for sale, George said.

"Here in Silicon Valley, ... We think life could always be like this," she said. "It may not be. We need to be prepared to minimize the loss of life, property, pets or anything really valuable to you."

People are encouraged but not required to RSVP online on Facebook at is.gd/fairfb746 or Eventbrite at is.gd/fair746.

— By Kate Bradshaw

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1. Paul Ciccolella and Elizabeth Kerr PCDR2018-0002; VARI2018-0011
 729 West California Way Planner: Joseph Balatbat, Assistant Planner

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



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Menlo fire board criticizes JPA, county ambulance agreements

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District board on April 16 expressed its objections to an Emergency Medical System Joint Powers Agreement and an ambulance contract with San Mateo County following a brief opportunity to take a look at the deals.

Board members think that both deals, which would last for 10 years each, are being rushed through with little or no input from county fire agencies.

American Medical Response (AMR) was the only bidder for the ambulance contract, but the proposed contract was sprung on county fire chiefs with no input and only one day to review it before it came before the county Board of Supervisors for a vote on April 9, said Menlo Park district Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

The supervisors tabled the proposed agreement at the urging of four county fire chiefs, according to fire board President Virginia Chang Kiraly.

Fire board members are objecting to a number of elements in the contract, particularly that the

AMR ambulances will not carry some of the advanced lifesaving equipment that the fire district possesses, including a \$100,000 machine that provides a power-assisted heart massage during a cardiac arrest.

"We have equipment that AMR doesn't have, which our taxpayers have paid for," Chang Kiraly said. "AMR should move up to our standard of care."

The county would receive an extra \$500,000 as part of the proposed contract that it negotiated with AMR that isn't available to individual agencies, said board member Chuck Bernstein.

"Under the contract we also have no idea what AMR is charging residents," Bernstein said. "The county is giving them a monopoly."

Board member Rob Silano said that AMR has an agreement with the Department of Homeland Security, which could require the company to provide ambulances anywhere in the country in the event of a national emergency, leaving San Mateo County without service for a period of time.

The Joint Powers Authority agreement is also unpopular with the board for several reasons, including the fact that fire board

members believe the JPA board includes an unfair distribution of voting power.

Districts such as the one that includes San Carlos, Belmont and Foster City get three members on the board; Menlo Park, which also includes three cities — Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and Atherton — gets only one vote.

There are also objections to so-called automatic aid, which requires agencies within the JPA to send personnel and equipment automatically into other jurisdictions when help is needed.

The Menlo Park district would prefer to negotiate mutual aid agreements with other departments at its discretion rather than be locked into a mandate that includes only San Mateo County.

Board member Chuck Bernstein favors withdrawing from the JPA, which would enable the district to negotiate a mutual aid agreement with Palo Alto in Santa Clara County.

Since the Menlo Park district is at the southern end of the county, it makes sense to have mutual aid arrangements with fire agencies to the south instead of being locked into automatic aid within the county, Bernstein said. ▣

Study: Atherton traffic at 'saturation level'

By Barbara Wood
Special to The Almanac

Two long-awaited reports on traffic in Atherton were presented to the City Council on April 17, but council members asked for a study session to look at the reports in detail and the possible options available to the town.

One study concentrated on the Alameda de las Pulgas corridor, while the second looked at the whole town, focusing on 12 intersections on three streets: Alameda, Middlefield Road and Valparaiso Avenue.

Not surprisingly, the studies found that traffic backs up significantly at eight of the 12 intersections. Some council members were surprised, however, to see that traffic counts have not increased much over those in earlier studies.

Shruti Shrivastava, the trans-

portation project manager for the Alameda de las Pulgas study by Advanced Mobility Group, explained: "The amount of cars you can allow through a corridor is at its limit."

Ruta Jariwala, a principal at TJKM, the transportation consulting firm that did the townwide study, agreed. "We are at saturation level in the town of Atherton," she said. "There is no more capacity to take on any more demand."

One decision council members must make is whether they want to "move the traffic smoothly through town or discourage the traffic," Jariwala said.

She said that some of the consultants' recommendations, however, could have the effect of doing both. Adding traffic signals programmed to limit the number of cars allowed through each light cycle could, for example, make it harder to turn off onto side streets.

Traffic signals were recom-

mended for Alameda de las Pulgas at Atherton Avenue, Stockbridge Avenue and Camino al Lago; on Middlefield Road at Fair Oaks Lane and Watkins Avenue; and on Valparaiso Avenue at Elena and Emilie avenues. Both studies say traffic signals would significantly reduce the time it takes to pass through those intersections during commute hours.

The townwide study found that an overwhelming majority of the traffic on Atherton's streets does not originate in Atherton.

On Alameda de las Pulgas, with an average of 14,500 vehicles a day, 89% of southbound traffic is pass-through and 6% is cut-through. Northbound, 70% of traffic is pass-through and 20% is cut-through.

In both directions on Middlefield Road, with an average of 19,500 vehicles a day, 75% of traffic is pass-through and 20% cut-through. ▣

Atherton: Community meeting with police

The Atherton Police Department has scheduled a community meeting for residents about the recent rash of residential burglaries in town on Tuesday, April 30, in the Jennings Pavilion at Holbrook-Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave.

The meeting, from 7 to 9 p.m.,

will include an update on recent burglaries and discussions about crime prevention, safety, alarms and surveillance cameras.

Atherton has seen a spike in residential burglaries since November, prompting town staff to study the impacts of installing license plate readers and security

cameras around town. As of April 22, the most recent burglary was reported that day at a home on McCormick Lane near Watkins Avenue, according to police.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Jennifer Frew at 650-752-0503 or jfrew@ci.atherton.ca.us.



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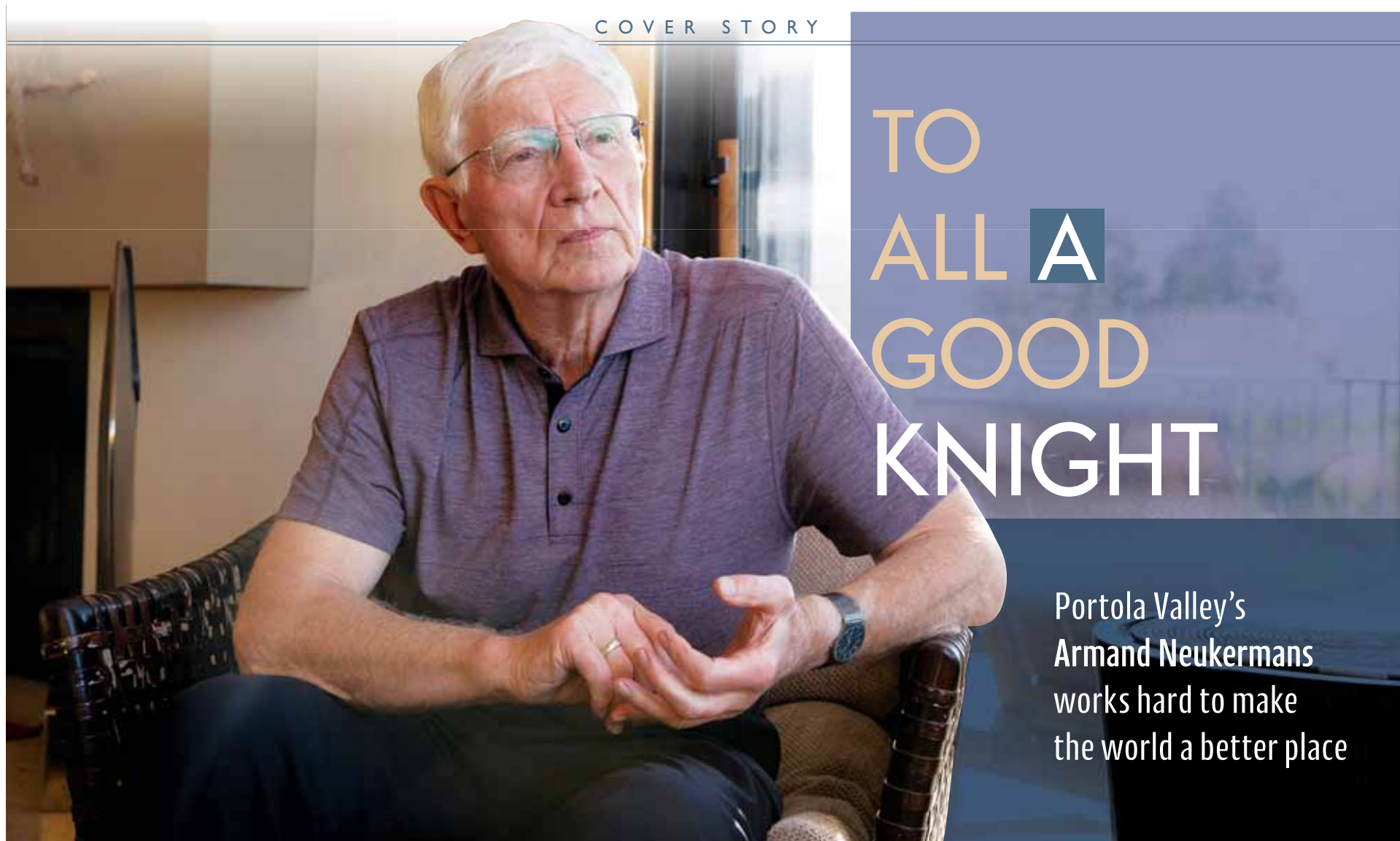
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TO ALL A GOOD KNIGHT

Portola Valley's
Armand Neukermans
works hard to make
the world a better place

Armand Neukermans talks to a reporter in his Portola Valley home on topics ranging from his early life and influences, projects focused on improving the lives of others, and climate change.

BY MAGGIE MAH

PHOTOS BY MAGALI GAUTHIER

Armand Neukermans is a brilliant scientist, prolific inventor, successful entrepreneur, dedicated philanthropist and passionate environmentalist. As if there weren't enough feathers in his indisputably impressive cap already, he was recently knighted by the king of Belgium.

Having attained great success in the for-profit world, he now dedicates himself to improving conditions for other people and for the environment. Where others might see boundaries and barriers, Neukermans sees opportunities to connect people

who can help each other.

For nearly a decade, he has focused, along with other scientists and engineers, on a project aimed at mitigating the dire effects of climate change.

Despite his many successes, the Portola Valley resident would rather talk about something other than himself, and gives ample credit to others. If you've never heard of Armand Neukermans, this might explain why.

Formative time

Neukermans was born in 1940, the youngest of 10 children, in Okegem, Belgium, a small town not far from Brussels. "We lived very frugally and after school, we

helped the farmers," he recalls.

He attended nearby Louvain University, earning degrees in both electrical and mechanical engineering. Louvain (or Leuven), a Catholic university founded in 1435, is renowned as a center of philosophy and scientific research, and for its culture of internationalism.

As a post-graduate student, Neukermans was picked by the university to be the Flemish representative to Sint-Janshuis, an international group-living situation that operated on the ecumenical principles of unity and cooperation.

Living in this environment with students of 15 different nationalities and languages proved to be a formative time. "The experience shaped me more than anything else," Neukermans says.

"Liberation theology was written there; the archbishop of Canterbury was a regular visitor. There were extraordinary discussions on religion, science, Teilhard de Chardin, evolution, sociology, social justice," he notes.

Neukermans initially came to the U.S. after being chosen as a candidate for a Fulbright scholarship. As it turned out, the Fulbright did not materialize, but in the process, he received some memorable feedback. With an ironic chuckle, Neukermans recalls that "someone on the panel told me I'd never amount to anything."

Amounting to something

Soon after the Fulbright encounter and as if on cue, Neukermans was recruited by General Electric, which precipitated a move west to Arizona and eventually on to Stanford, where he earned a doctorate in applied physics.

Beginning in 1962, Neukermans worked for pioneering Silicon Valley companies such as Hewlett-Packard and Xerox. Later, he operated his own consulting company, and later still created and sold a company based on a revolutionary optical switch.

Over the span of Neukermans' career, his work led to the development of the inkjet printer; advancements in hearing aid devices; transdermal medical delivery systems; innovations in the field of fiber optics and many more inventions represented in over 75 patents bearing his name.

Neukermans was named Silicon Valley Inventor of the Year for 2000 by the Silicon Valley Intellectual Property Law Association, and in 2014, was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Entrepreneurship from Belcham, the Belgian American Chamber of Commerce.

In retirement, Neukermans' activities reflect the influence of his student experience at Sint-Janshuis. Over the last 17 years, he and his wife of 55 years, Eliane, have devoted their time and resources to social and environmental projects that strive to improve the lives of others on both global and local scales.

One such project involved the creation of a low-cost artificial knee. Jaipur Foot, a nonprofit company based in India, provides artificial limbs and other needs

at no charge to recipients in India and 27 other countries.

Neukermans became acquainted with D. R. Mehta, the founder of Jaipur Foot, and learned that accidents that resulted in foot and lower limb amputations were prevalent in many third-world countries due mainly to unsafe conditions on trains and scooters. "Losing one's ability to walk is particularly devastating in areas with limited transportation," Neukermans explains.

When Jaipur Foot needed to create a knee, Neukermans

'We should be approaching (the climate change crisis) like a war.'

ARMAND NEUKERMANS



A photograph of Eliane and Armand Neukermans taken the evening he was knighted by Belgium in Los Angeles.

On the cover:

Armand Neukermans poses for a portrait at his home. Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

connected the company with researchers at Stanford. The collaboration resulted in what is called the Stanford-Jaipur Knee. In 2009, Time Magazine declared it one of the 50 best inventions in the world for 2009. It has since been fitted on more than 9,000 people. To learn more about Jaipur Foot, go to jaipurfoot.org.

Addressing climate change

After a screening of “An Inconvenient Truth,” former vice president Al Gore’s documentary on climate change, a group of Portola Valley Ranch residents gathered at Armand and Eliane Neukermans’ home to discuss ways to reduce their collective environmental impact. They decided that converting their homes to solar energy was the best option, whereupon Armand Neukermans set out to make it happen.

He approached a number of solar companies in the Bay Area, proposing to make a bulk purchase of photovoltaic installations in exchange for a discounted price. “I was turned down by all of them except Solar City,” Neukermans says.

Ultimately, 78 out of 200 homes converted to solar power and the program became the business model for Solar City’s

Community Solar Program.

Last November, King Philippe of Belgium knighted Neukermans and declared him an officer of the Order of Leopold, Belgium’s oldest and highest honor. When asked why he had been so honored by his native country, Neukermans’ response was characteristically modest: “I don’t know. I guess for some of my achievements.”

The official Order of Leopold document, however, says something far more specific: “For the Portola Valley Solar Community Project.”

Neukermans is profoundly concerned about the rapid changes that are taking place around the world due to the effects of climate change. He is realistic about what must be done to halt and reverse the effects of too much CO₂ in the atmosphere, but he is frankly pessimistic about whether or not anything can be done to halt rising temperatures before it’s too late.

When asked why there isn’t a greater sense of urgency in some quarters, he shakes his head. Having grown up in war-torn Europe, he has seen what can be done when people mobilize to overcome something that threatens their existence, and says, “We should be approaching this like a war.”

For the last nine years, Neukermans has led a team of veteran

‘I have eight grandchildren and it’s very hard to say “Look I saw this coming ... but we didn’t do anything about it.”’

ARMAND NEUKERMANS



Neukermans holds the medal he received when he was knighted by the king of Belgium for his work on the Portola Valley Solar Community Project.

Silicon Valley scientists and engineers who have pooled their knowledge and experience to work, pro bono, on a project aimed at lowering temperatures. The team is exploring what Neukermans calls “marine cloud brightening,” a process that makes clouds denser, more mirror-like and capable of reflecting sunlight back into the atmosphere, thus reducing temperatures on Earth.

While their work is not intended to be a solution, it may be something that could be used to avert disaster if temperatures continue to rise. The concept is one of several initiatives currently being explored that are collectively referred to as “geoengineering.” Although the concept

is 20 years old, it is controversial and remains to be tested in a real-life situation.

In a 2013 Al Jazeera report on climate change, Neukermans was quoted as saying, “I have eight grandchildren and it’s very hard to say, ‘Look, I saw this coming ... but I didn’t do anything about it.’”

When asked how he talks to people who are climate change skeptics or outright deniers, Neukermans replies: “I’ve given up. I can’t waste my time. How much evidence do you need?”

For others, what’s the most important thing to do now? Neukermans says this: “The best thing is to act for the carbon fee and dividend scheme.” The idea

would put a steadily rising fee on fossil fuels and give the funds to households as a dividend. It is intended to reduce carbon emissions by leveling the playing field for all forms of energy.

As for what else can be done, Neukermans has the following advice: “Show empathy for those already suffering from climate change, be it in our own state because of fires, or for those forced to cross borders because of it.”

To learn more about Carbon Fee and Dividend, go to tinyurl.com/carbonfee42419.

‘A visionary’

Neukermans may be reluctant to talk about himself, but others who know him don’t hesitate.

Annie Nunan is a chef and restaurateur who operated Nouveau Trattoria in Palo Alto for many years. She now uses her culinary expertise to help other people raise money by taking charge of the food for special dinners in private homes. She and her staff have put on a number of dinners at the home of Armand and Eliane Neukermans, and she expresses great amazement over the couple’s generosity, as well as his unwavering modesty in spite of his many accomplishments.

“They never stop giving and enhancing the lives of others,” Nunan declares. “They take people from different countries under their wing. They bring guests into the kitchen to introduce them to the staff, and they always help load and unload the car.”

Garden designer Danna Breen, a long-time resident of Portola Valley, says she doesn’t know Neukermans well, but when she has been at events with him, she has found him to be “inspirational. I always love talking to him about anything. He is a visionary.” ▣



A scientist and inventor, Neukermans has led a team of other veteran scientists working on a project aimed at lowering global temperatures.

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Mary Poppins brings her magic to Hillview

Hillview Middle School students will revive the Disney classic "Mary Poppins" with their upcoming spring musical.

The play, originally produced as a 1964 film starring Julie Andrews, will run from April 25 to 27. It follows the story of a magical British nanny who improves the Banks family dynamic by turning chores into games.

Hillview drama director William Hairston said in an email that he finds it remarkable to

see middle schoolers, 10- to 13-year-olds, perform a Broadway-length show.

"When I reflect on my own 12-year-old self, it seems even more incredible," he said. "Our emphasis on the Banks family as the heart of the show, and the students' bravery and maturity in exploring their roles is extraordinary." A student backstage and booth crew will run the show, which is "also unusual for middle school, and quite wonderful," he added.

Students in the production shared their thoughts with *The Almanac* on what theater means to them.

"Eight years ago I saw my first musical," said Ryann, an eighth-grader. "The lights and the music were amazing, but

what really caught my attention was the sense of community and family. Throughout my years involved in theater I have learned many valuable lessons of teamwork and encouragement you give and receive from your fellow actors. Theater to me is family."

Performances are at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 25; 7 p.m. on Friday, April 26; and 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, at Hillview Performing Arts Center, 1100 Elder Ave. in Menlo Park.

On the performance dates, concessions will be open an hour before curtain time.

Tickets are \$12 for children and \$17 for adults, and are on sale at hillviewdrama.org.

— By Angela Swartz

UNITED NATIONS

continued from page 5

she said in the speech.

Training more young people in STEM is also important, she said, in helping to solve the "daunting repercussions of climate change and ecological imbalance" her generation has inherited. "We will need as many minds as we can possibly educate and train in these areas of science and technology," to help find solutions, she said.

"These are the issues that my own generation will have to tackle courageously and intelligently. What we teach today and how many we teach it to" will determine whether the challenges can be met, she said in the speech, and will "bridge the gap between the world we live in and the world as it should be in 2030."

Little Miss Code is now teaching five different interdisciplinary STEM classes: coding, website design, robotics, design thinking and digital movie making. So far 15 high school volunteers have participated in the program, which, Charlotte said, allows her peers to "recycle the brainpower" they've gained through their own education and the abundant technical resources available to them to share with children with fewer resources.

Charlotte writes the curriculum for the Little Miss Code classes herself, making it available to those who are interested. Each student does a "capstone project" as part of the class, and families are invited to the project presentations.

The classes are taught to young students, Charlotte said, in order "to instill in them a love of learning" that will inspire them to continue their schooling.

Little Miss Code started in 2017 with one class at Taft Elementary in Redwood City, but now has expanded to classes at Brentwood Academy in East Palo Alto and classes and summer programs for homeless students at LifeMoves.

Charlotte said in an interview that she first became interested in working with students from East Palo Alto while attending the French International School in Palo Alto, located adjacent to East Palo Alto.

"My parents are both immigrants," she said, and both are in the tech field. Her mom is from France and her dad from Lebanon. "We talk about these types of global issues all the time at home," she said.

Charlotte is fluent in French, Spanish and English, and hopes to study international relations or foreign or domestic policy in college, she said. ■

Erna N. Daley

May 15, 1925 – March 24, 2019

Erna Daley, 93 a longtime resident of Woodside and Redwood City passed away peacefully at home on March 24, 2019.

Born to Carl and Marjorie Lassen of Piedmont, Erna was the youngest of two girls. A Piedmont High School graduate, she married and had three children, Cher, Gary, and Shirley. As a homemaker she was an incredibly talented seamstress who fashioned entire wardrobes of clothing, gowns, and even swimwear. She was also a terrific cook and had a penchant for baking all sorts of treats for family and friends. Her altruistic nature led her to a lifelong dedication to serving others both in her community and her church. During the early 60's she helped campaign for the Republican Women's League. As a woman of strong faith, she volunteered a great deal of time to her church serving in various positions spanning over 65 years. She was involved in the Atherlon's for many years and even in her 90's she volunteered for the Altar Guild in setting up for morning church services. She played in a bowling league for the "Hot Shots" and later "Marg's Girls" for nearly 50 years and could knock down a mean strike. Erna was also a fantastic hostess and had a wonderful way of making everyone feel welcome. She adored her family and as a grandmother a.k.a. Gram, took her 6 grandchildren to the family cabin in Clear Creek every summer and somehow managed to keep them all in line. She was a proud great grandmother of 11 and never missed an opportunity to share her affections. She was an avid reader of the SF Chronicle and always enjoyed the horoscopes over coffee. Erna loved to travel the World and shared many travel adventures with both her love, Emmett and her church group. She had a terrific sense of humor, a wonderful laugh and a beautiful smile. A force of nature and the family Matriarch. She was always optimistic, kind, and generous. She lived life to the fullest. A true lady of grace who left an indelible mark on all those she touched.

She is survived by her daughters Cher Greenlaw and Shirley Levy, sons in-law Russell and Marshall, daughter in-law, Julie, grandchildren Monica and Marc Malcuit, Jackie Jackson-Daley, Jenny Lapetina, Matt and Mitch Williams, Nikki Levy, and 11 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son Gary Daley, Richard Daley, and the love of her life Emmett Murphy.

Memorial services will be held at her beloved church, St. Peters Episcopal located at 178 Clinton St., Redwood City at 11am on May 4, 2019. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the St. Peter's Living Memorial Fund.

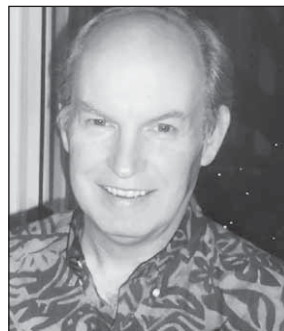


PAID OBITUARY

Mark Alan Eubanks

March 25, 1951 - March 7, 2019

Mark Alan Eubanks passed away unexpectedly on March 7, 2019 of a heart attack. Mark was born in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, to parents William J. (Dub) and Anna Beth Eubanks. His family moved several times in his early life, eventually settling in Menlo Park in 1962 where he attended Woodside High School. After several moves, Mark settled in Lakeport, California, where he raised his family, owned a local business and worked as a realtor and a computer and call center consultant. Mark was active in the community and served on the Lake County Planning Commission. In 2005, he reunited with Karen Larsen, a high-school sweetheart, and moved to Newport Beach, where he became the director of the national call centers for Direct Buy and was an independent consultant.



Mark was a thrill-seeker who enjoyed zip-lining, rappelling and fast rides. His favorite travel destinations were Hawaii and San Jose del Cabo where he enjoyed time with his family. Mark was a rock 'n roll lover at heart, but he developed an appreciation for jazz and other genres of music at his favorite local venues. Mark was also a true dog-lover who raised several dachshunds and most recently doted on his min pin, Guy.

Mark was a loving husband, father and grandfather who will be greatly missed by his spouse Karen Larsen; sister Susan Sartor (Michael); children Raymond Eubanks (Junea) and Melissa Egan (Brendon) from a prior marriage to LeeAnn Stong Eubanks; grandsons Jordan Eubanks, Dillon Egan and Liam Egan; and Karen's children, Hayley Palazzola (Michael) and Hunter Sheetz (Serena), and granddaughters Lily and Ella Palazzola.

A memorial service will be held on April 27, 2019 at St. Bede's Episcopal Church in Menlo Park. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the SPCA at aspc.org or American Heart Association at heart.org

PAID OBITUARY

A pianist's guide to Paris

Hershey Felder's latest celebrates
the music of Debussy and the City of Light

By Karla Kane

As its title suggests, pianist/actor/writer Hershey Felder's latest one-man show, "A Paris Love Story," tells the story of a man's relationship with the beloved French city. Men's relationship, actually, because in this case, the story involves both composer Claude Debussy and Felder himself.

"A Paris Love Story," which is making its world premiere with TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, is the latest in a string of big successes for Felder in Mountain View in which he inhabits — accent, facial hair and all — the role of a great composer. Previous stints have included Irving Berlin, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. This show is a bit different, however, in that Felder shares a very personal and special connection to the work of Debussy, who, we learn, was the favorite composer of his late mother.

In "A Paris Love Story," Felder switches between speaking as himself and as Debussy, who also posthumously watches over young Felder on his first trip to Paris as a 19-year-old. Together they offer information about Debussy's life and career as well as take a journey throughout the historic boulevards and noteworthy landmarks of Paris. And, of course, there is plenty of music, both in the form of recorded orchestrations and Felder's always-impressive live playing.

We learn that Debussy, who lived from 1862-1918, was desperate to break free from the old-fashioned German-style trends in music and always searching for the "new" in his own Impressionist work, loathing Wagner and loving the Javanese gamelan orchestra he encountered. We hear his mystical, nature-inspired compositions including the famous "Clair de Lune" (moonlight) and "La Mer" (the sea). And we hear, too, about his many ill-fated romances, including not one but two jilted flames who shoot themselves; his beloved only child "Chou-Chou;" and his excruciating, illness-plagued final years set against the horrors of the first world war.

We also wander with young Felder and ghostly Debussy past such landmarks as the Cathedral de Notre Dame and the Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile and into Debussy's former flat.



Christopher Ash

Hershey Felder portrays Claude Debussy in the world premiere of "Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story," presented by TheatreWorks Silicon Valley.

Felder's acting and musicianship have been widely — and deservedly — praised, but let's take a minute here to laude the scenic and projection design by Felder and Christopher Ash. A Parisian bridge, lit by gas lamps, showcases the grand piano placed in the center. Above are charming, animated chalk sketches of Paris coming to life and appearing to float as if by magic, along with fish, soaring birds, snowfall and more. It's a gorgeous visual complement to the dreamlike music and practically makes the city a character in its own right.

The production is just one act, no intermission, led by Felder's longtime director Trevor Hay. Because his shows allow him to address the audience directly (and because he is very good at it), Felder easily creates a warm rapport with the crowd. He's responsive to the audience's reactions, including in moments of humor. His inclusion of his own connection to Debussy, as well as to the city he loved, lends a touching and special quality to the show. There's a surprising bit where he gracefully moves — dances really — with a scarf, adding to the general lyrical tone.

As a character and a life story, however, Debussy himself comes across as less interesting as some of Felder's other subjects. A bit dull, in fact, as he mostly complains about other composers, compliments his own work or chronicles his various romantic exploits. He does

have a cheeky French charm about him, though, when wryly watching over young Felder and following him throughout the city. And while his music isn't as familiar or immediately gripping as that of some of the others in Felder's stable, when the projections are flowing and Felder is at the piano, the effect is spellbinding.

"A Paris Love Story" might not be the first Hershey Felder show I'd recommend to someone who'd never seen him before, but it will certainly please his loyal fans and prove an enchanting introduction to newcomers. There are certainly worse ways to spend an early spring evening than letting a master like Felder take you on a dreamy trip through the Paris moonlight. ▣

Karla Kane is the arts and entertainment editor for the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister paper.

■ INFORMATION

What: "Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story, Featuring the music of Claude Debussy."

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

When: Through May 5 (performance times vary).

Cost: \$40-\$120.

Info: Theatreworks.org or 650-463-1960.

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Beverly Merle Leggett

January 8, 1930 – January 30, 2019
Palo Alto, California

Beverly Merle (Merchant) Leggett, age 89, died January 30, 2019, in Palo Alto from complications of Parkinson's disease. Her daughter, Christine Leggett Triska, and niece, Cathie Merchant Peterson were by her side in the final days of her illness.

Born January 8, 1930, to a ranching family in Winters, California, Beverly demonstrated early on a talent for just about everything: academics, classical piano, and of course the ranch work that filled her days. By age 14 Beverly was driving a truck, preparing for college, and playing the organ on Sundays at Winters' First Baptist Church.

After graduating valedictorian from Winters High, Beverly attended UC Berkeley and UCSF where she earned her RDH in dental hygiene. There she met and married the love of her life, Richard Leggett. In short time they relocated to Seattle for Richard's military duty in the army dental corps. Beverly found employment teaching dental hygiene at the University of Washington's School of Dentistry and co-authored a textbook. After the Korean War ended, the couple moved to Menlo Park where they established Richard's dental practice at 888 Oak Grove, settling down in Atherton for 35 years to work and raise two children, Christine and Jeff.

Bev and Dick, as they were known, grew to be best friends and shared many happy times together, from building and enjoying their cabin in Ben Lomond, to sailing their Cal 20 in the San Francisco Bay and cycling in Europe. They were excellent business partners, too. Beverly later managed the dental practice until Richard's retirement.

In her will Beverly wrote to her children, "Please remember — there is no material thing on this earth more important than family." Indeed, she lived up to these words through her lifelong demonstrations of loving generosity.

Beverly is survived by her sister Carol Johnson, daughter Christine and husband John Triska and his children, grandchildren Ryan and Maren and their mother Birgitt Leggett, and five nieces and four nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at VI's Health Center and Beverly's Stanford doctors for their excellent care during her illness.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, June 8th in Woodside. Please feel free to call Christine Leggett Triska at (650) 743-8425 for details.

PAID OBITUARY

How Menlo Park's star triathlete wound up on LeBron's new TV show

By Sarah Klearman

Since moving to the Bay Area in 2016, life for Max Fennell has very much centered around being a “go-getter.”

Now, ‘go’ and ‘get’ have taken on new meaning for Fennell, who stars as a “defender” on NBA superstar LeBron James’ new TV show competition “Million Dollar Mile.” The show, which premiered on March 27 on CBS, features Fennell and nine other defenders who work against contestants attempting to finish an exhaustive obstacle course in the hopes of making it to the finish line — and potentially taking home the \$1 million grand prize. Fennell is not part of every episode, but will be featured multiple

times throughout the remainder of the season. New episodes will air again starting Saturday, May 4, at 8 p.m.

It’s no secret that Fennell is the type of competitor who enjoys an adrenaline rush — he describes himself as “addicted” to setting goals and accomplishing them, whether they be endurance or business oriented. Having completed 54 triathlons, Fennell is a world-class athlete, and he’s also the first African American triathlete to go pro. As if that wasn’t impressive enough, when he’s not swimming, biking, running or crushing the hopes of potential millionaires-to-be, he’s working on his coffee company, Fenn Coffee, and other entrepreneurial endeavors involving



Michael Yarish/CBS

Menlo Park resident Max Fennell is a “defender” on the new TV show competition “Million Dollar Mile.”

cryptotechnology like blockchain. Ahead of the show’s pilot episode, we sat down with Fennell to talk about his goal-setting addiction, caffeine and of course James.

Q: When did you hear about “Million Dollar Mile”? How did you get involved?

A: SpringHill Entertainment actually reached out to me and recruited me. It wasn’t like you were just chosen, though — they had a combine that you had to go through, and a boot camp that you went through for them to get all these stats. Then I found out that I got on to the show and had a month to prepare. I teach swim lessons at Stanford University, where they have a rock wall (to use for practice). My coach and I have spent three years getting rid of my upper body strength (for triathlons), and we had a month to get ready for the show to be able to beat people.

Q: The selection process must have been incredibly competitive — what was that like?

A: That’s the thing, they brought a whole bunch of people. My boot camp, my pre-casting session, there were maybe like 12 to 15 of us, just really fit people. It was literally like — you get off the plane, and they kind of took us to this place where they had the boot camp. So off the plane they’re like asking you all these questions, and then we had to do our combine that night. I flew down to Los Angeles, it was like two days total of the pre-selection. It was one of those things, a quick turnover — that’s the benefit of being already used to traveling and competing, because it’s very easy for (someone like me) to travel, get yourself out of your home base and be ready. That’s literally what it was. Off the plane, straight into like — “Hey, people, you’re here and you’re gonna go through this combine.” It was pretty much a three-obstacle-course combine on the track and it was a mile, so it was getting off

the plane and having to run a mile as hard as possible.

Q: Is it surreal to be around all of these brand-name athletes like (former NFL quarterback) Tim Tebow, who’s hosting? And I have to ask — did you meet LeBron James?

A: We didn’t get to meet LeBron James because I think that was during his preseason. I’ve mentioned this to other people, as well, kind of like the same thing for us — as soon as we were filming, you’re in race mode. So I personally don’t want to be taken out of the zone, because there’s a level of pressure that comes with you having to defend a million dollars. You don’t want to be the person that gives up a million dollars because you’re off your game. And when you have to compete night after night and sometimes twice in one night — you know, I wanted to meet LeBron James, but I also — if I have to race, my adrenaline is pumping. But it was very cool to meet Tim Tebow, because he was presenting it, and he’s the one that would launch you off. And that was very cool because he’s legitimately genuine, and it was just very cool to be on stage with him. While there’s a two-minute delay and I’m getting ready to go, in between takes you’re just talking to Tebow. And in the back of my head I was like, “Yo. This is Tebow!”

Q: So he’s very down to earth?

A: Yes — and that’s also helpful because you don’t want to be on stage like, “Oh my gosh, this is Tebow.” Meanwhile, the clock is counting down and you’re about to go chase someone.

Q: I know you’re originally from Pennsylvania. As a competitor, do you feel like you’re representing more the East or the West Coast?

A: I think actually it’s more like representing people in my situation. I think my community is strongly East Coast, but living in

this area I definitely have a significant presence here in the Bay Area. I also have international representation from people that direct message me and contact me, and I think it’s a representation of sometimes we just don’t see those that don’t have doors open for them. And I think that’s what LeBron James and SpringHill Entertainment are doing — they want to help individuals like myself that normally wouldn’t have the opportunity. They want to give individuals like myself that opportunity, and that helps inspire those that look like myself. This show’s going to be very inspiring from a health and fitness standpoint, because they’re going to look at me, see my story, and say, “Man, this guy because of the sport of triathlon is now on television,” whereas normally someone like me might play basketball.

Q: I was about to ask about paving the way for “firsts” — you’re the first African American pro triathlete, and now you’re the singular black contestant on this show. Was that on your mind the entire time?

A: It was, but it’s also ... from talking to my coach, it’s that the person that is needed to be a defender has to have a whole host of qualities and athleticism. There’s a significant water obstacle — you have to swim 18 yards across, and then be able to climb a 50-foot rock wall with an overhang. And to be able to do that, that means you have to have a certain aerobic capacity while also being a strong swimmer. I don’t think anyone would argue, actually, that on the show I was the strongest swimmer. So for me that meant that as soon as I hit the water obstacle where everyone else is out of gas, I can figure out how to relax underneath the water and not be out. So it’s one of those things — I think me being in the position I am in the show is going to inspire other individuals

See **TRIATHLETE**, page 24

1st Quarter 2019

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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

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

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Average results for water samples for the last four quarters have manganese levels of 58 ppb in well #1 and 153 ppb in well #2 (ppb=parts per billion). This is above the secondary drinking water standard, or secondary maximum contaminant level of 50 ppb.

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

What should I do?

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

What happened? What is being done?

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

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

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

For further information contact:

Secretary-Treasurer: Telephone 650-321-2723

Email: oconnorwater@gmail.com

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

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

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 (408) 553-5737

i2 Camp at Castilleja School **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

iD Tech **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).

idtech.com/locations/california-summer-camps/stanford-university (844) 788-1858

STANFORD EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on Biomedical Research **Stanford**

EXPLORE biomedical science at Stanford. Stanford EXPLORE offers high school students the unique opportunity to learn from Stanford professors and graduate students about diverse topics in biomedical science, including bioengineering, neurobiology, immunology and many others.

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 (650) 688-3605

Summer@Stratford **Palo Alto/Bay Area**

Stratford infuses its STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) curriculum into an innovative and enriching summer camp experience. Younger campers learn, explore, and engage in hands-on learning projects, while Elementary-age students collaborate to tackle real-world problems by utilizing academic principles and concepts in a fun and engaging way. At the Middle School level, individual subject-based enrichment classes are offered and tailored for each grade level.

stratfordschools.com/summer (650) 493-1141

Write Now! 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

ARTS, CULTURE, OTHER CAMPS

Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls **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 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

Kim Grant Tennis Summer Camps **Palo Alto Monterey Bay**

Fun and specialized Junior Camps for Mini (3-5), Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, High Performance and Elite tennis levels. Weekly programs designed by Kim Grant to improve player technique, fitness, agility, mental toughness and all around game. Weekly camps in Palo Alto and Sleep-Away Camps in Monterey Bay. SO MUCH FUN!

www.KimGrantTennis.com Text: (650) 690-0678
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 (800) NIKE-CAMP
(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**

At the Y, children and teens of all abilities acquire new skills, make friends, and feel that they belong. With hundreds of Summer Day Camps plus Overnight Camps, you will find a camp that's right for your family. Sign up today, camps are filling up! Financial assistance is available.

www.ymcasv.org/summercamp (408) 351-6473

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

LARA STRONG
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280561
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Lara Strong, located at 512 Warrington Ave., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ADRIAN A. LARA
512 Warrington 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 February 28, 2019.
(ALM Mar. 27; Apr. 3, 10, 17, 2019)

BioCollection
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280778
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
BioCollection, located at 3475 Edison Way Ste. Q, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BioCollection Inc.
3475 Edison Way Ste. Q
Menlo Park, CA 94025
DE Corporation
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 05, 2015.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 22, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

SEQUOIA APPLIANCE REPAIR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280805
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Sequoia Appliance Repair, located at 2793 Spring St., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JOSE RAMIRO ROSALES
887 15th Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03-26-2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 26, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

MEDICAL AESTHETICS OF MENLO PARK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280732
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Medical Aesthetics of Menlo Park, located at 885 Oak Grove Ave., Ste. 101, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
NIKKI MARTIN MD INC.
1405 Addison St.
Berkeley, CA 94702
CA
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/14.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 19, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

ECO-HOT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280689
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
ECO-HOT, located at 367 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
HAROLD WILLIAM WESTRICH
367 Alameda De Las Pulgas
Redwood City, CA 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 15, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

THE MAIDS RWC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280722
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
The Maids RWC, located at 593 Woodside Rd., Suite D, Redwood City, CA 94061,

San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
EMPRESAS MINERVA LLC
3137 Castro Valley Blvd., Suite 203
Castro Valley, CA 94546
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
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 19, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. 267655
The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
Registered Owner(s) abandoning the use of the fictitious business name(s):
JUAN PALOMINOS TORRES
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
JUAN PALOMINOS TORRES
450 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94085
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):
THE MAIDS RWC
1270 Marshall St.
Redwood City, CA 94063
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON: 12/31/15
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY:
Individual
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on March 19, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

BTMI PUBLISHING(Bound To Make It)
BTMI MUSIC (Bound To Make It)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280785
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) BTMI Publishing (Bound o Make It), 2.) BTMI Music (Bound o Make It), located at 1335 Camellia Dr., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
SEDRIC SALINAS M: LEVELL
1335 Camellia Dr.
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/25/19.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 25, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 10, 17, 24; May 1, 2019)

CHILDREN'S ADVANCEMENT & RESULTS THROUGH EVALUATION (C.A.R.E) CLINIC,
CARRIE S. WAI, PSY. D.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280779
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Children's Advancement Results through Evaluation (C.A.R.E) Clinic, Carrie S. Wai, Psy. D., located at 1220 Howard Ave., Suite 250, Burlingame, CA 94010, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
CARRIE S. WAI, PSY. D.
3565 Fillmore Street, Apt. 302
San Francisco, CA 94123
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 25, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 10, 17, 24; May 1, 2019)

HELM PHYSICAL THERAPY & INJURY PREVENTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280638
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Helm Physical Therapy & Injury Prevention, located at 1900 El Camino Real, Suite A, Menlo Park, CA 94027, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ANN MARIE MULL
3516 Farm Hill Blvd., Apt. 20
Redwood City, CA 94061
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 11, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 10, 17, 24; May 1, 2019)

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE OUTDOOR ACADEMY SFOA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280920
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Sustainable Future Outdoor Academy, 2.) SFOA, located at 330 Willowbrook Drive, Portola Valley, CA 94028, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
TERRA VILVICUS LLC

330 Willowbrook Drive
Portola Valley, CA 94028
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on March 6, 2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 5, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 17, 24; May 1, 8, 2019)

LOWEN LEFRANC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280887
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Lowen Lefranc, located at 98 Sutherland Drive, Atherton, CA 94027, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
SUZANNE CRANDALL
98 Sutherland Drive
Atherton, CA 94027
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/17.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 3, 2019.
(ALM Apr. 17, 24; May 1, 8, 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.: 19CIV01489
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: VIKTORIA TAGIROVNA KAMALOVA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: VIKTORIIA TAGIROVNA KAMALOVA to VICTORIA KAMALOVA FIFIELD.
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: May 1, 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: March 19, 2019
/s/ Jonathan E. Karesh
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2019)

AMENDED
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 19CIV01386
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: ALISANDRA VASQUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
A.) SANDRA JULIZABETH CASTILLO VASQUEZ to SANDRA JULIZABETH VASQUEZ
B.) ALISANDRA ELISEMA VASQUEZ to ALISANDRA ELISEMA AMBROCIO VASQUEZ.
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: May, 22, 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: April 4, 2019
/s/ Jonathan E. Karesh
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Apr. 24; May 1, 8, 15, 2019)

TRIATHLETE

continued from page 22

like myself to own their certain abilities. The show is looking for multiple seasons, but the fact of the matter is this just goes to the notion that as an athlete, I'm a rarity because of the skill set that's needed for the show.

Q: You're working on your coffee company right now, too — how are you finding balance between the company and your place on the show?

A: Even though I have my coffee company, I have other businesses, as well, that I'm working on, too. I have a blockchain company I'm working on — you can use blockchain technology to build your app or your platform. And I think it just comes back to living in this area and being around the individuals that I've been around. There's a very supportive entrepreneurial community that like — whatever it is that I think about, I can go to much more accomplished individuals and flesh out those ideas. And that's how I've been able to execute the coffee company, and building this blockchain app, and as well as the other whole host of business things. I think you see it now, already — athletes that are involved with other entrepreneurial ventures. The only difference is that I'm an entrepreneur that likes to build things. I'm more hands on about building it, and less so being like, "I wanna invest my money in something and get a return." I full on want to build it. Honestly, triathlon and endurance sports help me to become a successful entrepreneur, because it teaches me discipline — that time management — and then it gives me a lot of drive because I like setting goals for myself. I want to win races, but I also want to win in business. It's the same drive. Me being successful in my athletic endeavors just transfers over into business endeavors.

Q: Are there parallels between being an entrepreneur and an athlete?

A: It's the fact that I see that from triathlon, and for any endurance sport that I partake in: I set a goal for myself, and I always accomplish that goal. I see those incremental accomplishments in my business life as well, and I think that's just mainly what I'm addicted to. I'm addicted to setting a goal for myself and accomplishing it, as well as putting the work in for it, because I then sit back and I can look at the work that's been put in, and that's very satisfying.

Q: Are there any competitors on the show you've enjoyed running against or working with?
A: One of my friends is actually

on the show as a contestant — her name is Logan Cohen. She's a female entrepreneur out of New York who has a very successful educational app. We've known each other since high school because we're from the same community and we've worked together, and we've just been friends — I helped her train for her first marathon. When I was in LA filming the show, she posted that she was in LA. I was like, "Yo, Logan — you're in LA? I'm in LA! I'm here, filming this show." She's like — "No way, I'm here filming this show!" So it's like my homie from Philly. And then that's when we found out we were both on the show. We couldn't talk while we were there in LA, but since then we just think it's so funny, because we were like — what if we didn't know we had to compete against each other?

Q: Who do you look to as setting an example for you — maybe in terms of that representation or someone you think has really "put in work"?

A: I gotta be honest — people I've always looked up to are LeBron James and (former Los Angeles Lakers superstar) Kobe Bryant. Kobe Bryant, I've met him a few times in Philly as a kid, I saw him play in Lower Merions. I'm one of the Philly people that have seen him from the beginning and have been inspired by Kobe because he's a Philly guy. And the same thing with LeBron James because of what he does on and off the court, and what he stands for. When I found out I was going to be on the show, that's when it solidified — I was like, man, LeBron James is reaching his hand out and trying to figure out a way to help everybody, whether people realize it or not. My three people that I consciously cycle through my head would be LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Barack Obama. Those three people in terms of archetypal figures I strive to be.

Q: What's your ultimate goal for this season of the show?

A: It's hopefully to have a significant character impact — like I was saying, to get brought back for season two. We're also trying to see if we can have an impact where my brand continues to grow and influence people from the health and wellness standpoint. And we want to continue to see if we can travel the country and get more kids involved with triathlon and swimming, and living a healthy lifestyle. I hope it just builds my platform to a point where I can continue to inspire other people to live a healthy lifestyle. 📌

Sarah Klearman writes for Embarcadero Media's online publication, The Six Fifty.

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

'The Grapes of Wrath' Bus Barn Theater presents "The Grapes of Wrath," adapted from John Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about a family that finds itself reduced to poverty during the Great Depression, abandoning their Oklahoma farm for the promise of a better life in California. Through May 5; times vary. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org

'Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story' "Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story" chronicles the personal journey of virtuoso Hershey Felder while also exploring the life and music of impressionist composer Claude Debussy. Through May 5; times vary. \$40-\$120; discounts for seniors, people under 35. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

Palo Alto Players Presents: 'Flower Drum Song' Palo Alto Players offers a blend of American showiness and stylized Chinese opera tradition with "Flower Drum Power," a new adaptation from Tony Award-winning playwright David Henry Hwang of the 1958 Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical. April 26-May 12, 8-10:30 p.m. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paloaltoplayers.org

Concerts

Italian Masters in Vienna Paul Flight and the California Bach Society present the U.S. premiere of Antonio Bertali's "Missa Redemptoris," for soloists, chorus, brass and strings. The 30-voice chorus is joined by a period ensemble of cornettos, sackbuts and strings with featured vocal soloists. April 27, 8-10 p.m. \$30; discounts for seniors, people under 30. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. calbach.org

OFJCC Presents Gil Shaham and Akira Eguchi The Oshman Family JCC presents violinist Gil Shaham and pianist Akira Eguchi for an evening of music. April 27, 7:30-9 p.m. \$100 or \$150 premium; discount for members and J-Pass holders. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org

Siblings in Song: Ragazzi Boys and Peninsula Girls Ragazzi's Young Men's Ensemble and the Peninsula Girls Chorus Ensemble will perform together in celebration of their long history of collaboration. April 28, 4 p.m. \$20; discount for students, seniors. Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley. ragazzi.org

Music

Earthsong: Making Music in Nature Participants will listen to the sounds of nature and then join in by singing and making some simple instruments to play while walking through the outdoors. April 28, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. hiddenvilla.org

Little House Choir Group Little House is partnering with the Active Learning in the Arts organization to offer a new choir program that will sing songs in various genres such as folk, patriotic, musical theater and classical. Through May 29, 1-2 p.m. Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. business.menloparkchamber.com

Festivals & Fairs

Belle Haven Spring Fair This event is an annual resource fair that includes music, food and a raffle for prizes. April 27, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Ivy Drive Plaza, 410 Ivy Drive, Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Talks & Lectures

A Well-Balanced Perspective on College 'Fit' Denise Pope, senior lecturer at Stanford University, will discuss new research to help

reduce unnecessary pressure around the college admission process. April 25, 7-8:30 p.m. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Bill McKibben Climate activist Bill McKibben discusses his new book, "Falter," which explores how artificial technology, robotics and other new technologies could pose a threat to the variety of human experience. April 28, 4 p.m. \$23 or \$45 with book; discount for students. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Judd Winick In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Children's Book Week, author and illustrator Judd Winick will share his latest action-packed book, "HiLo Book 5: Then Everything Went Wrong." April 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 855 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. booksinc.net

S.K. Ali William C. Morris Award finalist S.K. Ali will discuss her new romance novel "Love from A to Z," which follows two Muslim teens who meet during a spring break trip. April 26, 7-9 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Young Authors Celebration: Readings from Bluefire Literary Journal This event includes readings of stories by the young authors published in the 2019 edition of Bluefire literary journal, remarks from guest judge and author Veronica Wolff, a panel with the authors moderated by writer Lindsay Tam Holland and a mixer with the authors. April 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Youth Reflections on Housing Crisis Five students from local high schools will share their reflections on the impact of the housing crisis on young people in the community. April 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

Museums & Exhibits

Public Tour: Anderson Collection The Anderson Collection features modern and contemporary American paintings and sculptures assembled by 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

David Park: Artist and Educator The life and work of artist and educator David Park will be discussed by his daughter Helen Park Bigelow, his former student Tom Holland and chief curator at SFMOMA Janet Bishop. April 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Drive, Stanford. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

From L.A. to SF to Mexico: Jack Hooper — 'Women, Figures and Frida Kahlo' The "Women, Figures and Frida Kahlo" exhibit features abstract artistic work of American artist and educator Jack Hooper. Through May 15, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Reception on May 4, 4-7 p.m. Art Ventures Gallery, 888 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. Search facebook.com/events for more info.

Lee Middleman's Spring Ceramics Open Studio Artist Lee Middleman's latest sculptural and decorative ceramics will be on display. April 27-28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Lee Middleman's Studio, 16 Coalmine View, Portola Valley. LeeMiddleman.com

Portola Art Gallery Presents Alan McGee's 'Woodlands' "Woodlands," by photographer Alan McGee of Portola Valley features photographs from the last half-century of his explorations in the landscape adjacent to his home. Through April 30, 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. portolaartgallery.com

'Views from the Trail' — photographs from Frances Freyberg's favorite Bay Area hikes The exhibit features landscapes and seascapes as well as wildflowers and wildlife.

In addition to framed photographs, photo cards will be available for sale. May 1-31, Monday-Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park.

Film

Film Screening: 'Vietnam: The Secret Agent' This film documents the history of chemical warfare, agricultural herbicides, damage to the world environment and the plight of Vietnam veterans and their families as they struggle for treatment of exposure to Agent Orange and dioxin. April 24, 7-8 p.m. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Lessons & Classes

Writing the Wisdom Book In this six-week course led by artist Taun Reihan, participants explore some of the formal definitions and characteristics of wisdom, as well as write their own stories highlighting lessons about life, success, love and memories. Through May 2, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Little House Activity Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. business.menloparkchamber.com

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

Home & Garden

How to Build a New Small Home That Will Grow in Value A panel featuring an architect, interior designer and general contractor will discuss how high-performance features could make a small home into an investment that grows in value, among other topics. April 29, 6-8 p.m. Jerry Yang and Akiko Yamazaki Environment and Energy Building (Y2E2), 473 Via Ortega, Stanford. Search eventbrite.com for more info.



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City moving forward toward a sustainable, healthy future

By Ray Mueller

We live in a truly special place in Menlo Park. Our city is engaged, diverse, and counts among its residents some of the brightest academic minds and professional talents in the world. We possess a rich history of community, innovation, and commitment to the preservation of a healthy and sustainable natural environment.

With that in mind, there is perhaps no better timing than on Earth Day to share news regarding our city's

renewed commitment to address climate and sustainability issues.

First some news from our past. In 2016, as many residents know, the City Council unanimously voted to join our neighboring cities in the formation of Peninsula Clean Energy, transitioning our region's power supply to renewable clean energy. Today, there are amazing results to report. Recently, Peninsula Clean Energy released a new estimate: While achieving significant greenhouse gas emission reductions, it also saved San Mateo County customers



Ray Mueller is serving his second term on the Menlo Park City Council, and this year holds the mayor's gavel.

GUEST OPINION

\$18 million on their electricity bills in 2018 alone.

It's wonderful news and only one example of the many positive steps our city and region have taken to move the needle on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. We have accomplished so much,

with the commitment of our professional staff, the leadership of our Environmental Quality Commission and in partnership with organizations like Menlo Spark, the Sierra Club, Committee for Green Foot-hills, and our property owners, stakeholders, and residents.

But as mayor, candidly, it's incumbent on me to say we cannot live in our past accomplishments and rest in a new status quo. We must continue to adapt and evolve our policies and practices, as the climate crisis continues to worsen. Our action or inaction on these issues will be our legacy left to our children and future city residents.

This past week, the City Council unanimously passed a Climate and Sustainability Resolution, setting forth an ambitious,

detailed and appropriate framework of policy goals for both city GHG emissions reduction and natural environment protection. The resolution sets forth that the city of Menlo Park will endeavor to:

- Adopt a new Climate Action Plan that: (1) accelerates near-term transition to carbon neutrality maximizing GHG reductions by 2030 — with a target of zero carbon emissions, (2) spurs local innovation, and (3) prepares for the impacts of climate change on public health, infrastructure, the economy, ecosystems, and public spaces in our community.
- Incorporate sustainability best practices into our city policies, programs, and plans.
- Increase public outreach on the city's communitywide sustainability and resilience efforts, including building baseline metrics and regular reporting on progress towards GHG reduction goals, actions, and policies.
- Recognize the needs of all community members through environmental and social justice, with a commitment to create equitable investment, planning, and services for a more cohesive city.
- Implement transportation policies that strive to eliminate carbon pollution and

reduce congestion, creating more convenient and safe options for bicycling, walking, and riding public transit, while supporting a transition to electric vehicles.

- Work with our development community to move toward standards that new homes and buildings will be built with zero-carbon electric heating and appliances, and work with regional partners to explore programs that assist home and building owners with upgrades that phase out fossil fuel use.
- Discourage the use of toxic chemicals among homeowners and businesses, including pesticides, and implement neighbor notification rules regarding the use of such chemicals.
- Protect open space and natural resources as a part of the climate action plan and adaptation strategy.

The Climate and Sustainability Resolution, which I signed on Earth Day, April 22, is a commitment to move forward towards a green, sustainable, zero-carbon future that supports a diverse, thriving, healthy community and natural environment where everyone is welcome. Together we can accomplish this. We just must have the will to endeavor as such, and the grit and determination to succeed.

We need the Green New Deal

By Arhaan Gupta-Rastogi

Our world will become a much more hazardous place unless we stop climate change. The United States contributes to climate change by producing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that heat up our atmosphere. The Green New Deal (GND) is a plan to stimulate the U.S. economy while transitioning the country to 100% renewable, zero-emission energy sources by 2045

If the GND passes, it will make a significant positive impact on our country. There are three reasons for this: the effects of climate change are serious; the GND will lead to the creation of many new jobs; and the government investment that accompanies the plan will spark a new era of technological innovation.

First, the effects of climate change are serious and urgent. The recent polar vortex storm in the Midwest is evidence of this. At the time of the storm, President Trump tweeted, "In the beautiful Midwest, windchill temperatures are reaching minus 60 degrees, the coldest ever recorded. In coming days, expected to get even colder. People can't last outside even for minutes. What the hell is going on with Global Warming? Please come back fast, we need you!"

The president is confusing weather

with climate. Though they are closely related, one is short-term and one is long-term weather predictions. In fact, large fluctuations in temperature are a symptom of climate change.

To address the extremes in temperature, we need to diminish our emission of greenhouse gases by a significant amount within the next five years. As Dr. Gavin Schmidt, NASA climatologist, has said, "We're no longer talking about a situation where global warming is something in the future."

The GND is an ambitious plan to reduce greenhouse gas emission and head off the worst damage caused by climate change.

Second, the GND also promises to create new jobs for average Americans. Like the New Deal of the 1930s, it is a series of federal programs aimed at stimulating economic growth and creating jobs. There are currently very few manufacturing jobs left in the U.S. This has had a devastating effect on communities and families throughout the country. The GND will invest heavily in manufacturing solar panels, wind turbines, electric vehicles, and others sorts of technologies. This will create new manufacturing jobs for many Americans and strengthen our economy.

And third, in the 1960s, the federal government invested heavily in space

exploration. Without NASA and the engineers it employed, would we have reached the moon? Would we have all the new technologies that have emerged from our space program? The GND offers a similar opportunity for the U.S. to take the lead in scientific innovation.

As a young person, I'm excited to think of what new technologies might appear through a plan to stop climate change. I'm even more excited to be a part of this innovation someday.

As a young person, I'm excited to think of what new technologies might appear through a plan to stop climate change. I'm even more excited to be a part of this innovation someday.

All in all, climate change is dangerous for our world and needs to be stopped. Stopping it does not have to mean eliminating growth and giving up jobs. The GND has not passed yet, but it is one of the most important initiatives of our time. It should pass.

As a young person whose future depends on the survival of the planet, I see the GND as a key to our survival and an important tool for the whole world to thrive.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Blame character, not tests, for college scandal

Editor:

San Francisco Chronicle, March 17, 2019: "... experts say the [SAT] tests have long been a source of problems ... that can push parents and students alike into murky ethical and legal waters."

Tests are not the problem; it's lack of character on the part of parents and students, willingness to lie and cheat their way to wealth, and of colleges that wink when large donations are offered.

The value of college is not the institution's name on the sheepskin; rather, it's the learning and understanding represented. People are learning that cheating works. Gerrymandering and voter suppression work. Business schools subtly imply that financial/legal tricks are the stuff of competitive business success. Builders increase profits by sidestepping safety regulations. Investment advisers suggest that addictive products constitute superior investments (nicotine, sugar, soda, etc.).

Appearance seems more important than substance; notoriety/PR more important than contribution; trappings of success more important than competence.

It's about money/power by whatever means, not contributing value. Bribery, corruption, sidestepping debts, are part of this mindset. Where are judges who hew to simple standards of honesty and fairness for all?

Don Barnby
Spruce Avenue, Menlo Park

SB 50 the wrong solution to state's housing problem

By Rick DeGolia

State Senate Bill 50 is focused on a serious problem that all of California faces: the need for housing, especially affordable housing. This is felt in every community. It is acute in suburban communities where teachers, police, municipal employees and service workers have extremely long commutes because they can't find local housing. This is not healthy. Commutes



GUEST OPINION

Rick DeGolia is serving his second term on the Atherton City Council. He is Atherton's representative on the Peninsula Clean Energy board of directors.

years by nonprofits, but there is no economic incentive.

To maximize available unused housing, the Legislature should make any rent for a room or ADU for more than 90 days nontaxable. To create an incentive for affordable housing, at least the rent should be nontaxable if it is "affordable" and, in every case, the rent should be nontaxable if the renter is a teacher or police officer. This will enable teachers, police

and others to live in the communities in which they work. Also, there needs to be a law that assumes any rental to teachers or police is not a conflict of interest, unless there is specific evidence of a conflict. Finally, renting at less than the market rate shouldn't be taxable to the recipient.

Third, the Legislature has worked very hard to drive California to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Our electricity is increasingly clean and there are significant advances in this area. The largest source of pollution in the state is transportation.

Peninsula Clean Energy has launched a program to deploy 3,600 electric-vehicle charging stations in San Mateo County to encourage and enable more people to purchase EVs; however, an enormous impediment to EV purchase is that 50% of San Mateo County residents live in multi-family buildings and there isn't an inexpensive way to enable charging in those buildings. If SB 50 mandates multi-family development without parking, then it guarantees that those residents are *much* less likely to purchase EVs. SB 50's no-required-parking mandate is in opposition to California's efforts to encourage people to purchase EVs.

of 90 minutes or two hours take people away from their families, create stress and result in enormous pollution. We have to craft solutions to address this problem. That is the goal of SB 50; however, SB 50 doesn't currently provide a solution that is good for all of California.

I believe that there are three takeaways for SB 50. First, SB 50's solution is an urban solution that is a windfall to developers who would apply its mandate in the suburban, single-family home environment. SB 50 enables developers to build four-story multi-family apartments within a half-mile of a train or BART station, and it would override local zoning to allow these buildings to have no parking. It is unreasonable to think that people living in an apartment without stores, restaurants, and other amenities within a half-mile will not have at least one car per unit. Everyone will have a car and they will be parked on the streets, mostly in existing single-family neighborhoods.

Second, the way to really solve the affordable housing problem, at least in suburban communities, is to encourage people to rent empty rooms and accessory dwelling units in their homes. This has been encouraged for



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Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

You can also submit a longer piece of 450 to 600 words for consideration to publish as a guest opinion column.

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



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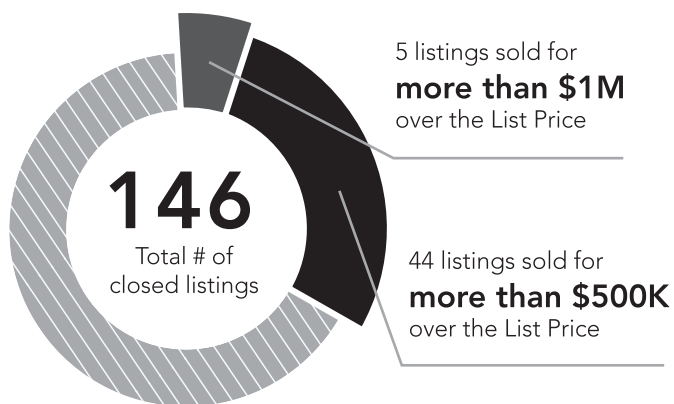


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