

The Almanac

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

MAY 1, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 35



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MIDNIGHT FOLLIES

It's Saturday night,
and The Bawdy Caste
is all dressed up,
with someplace to go

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New Pope-Chaucer Bridge proposed | Page 10

May Day festivities this weekend | Page 28

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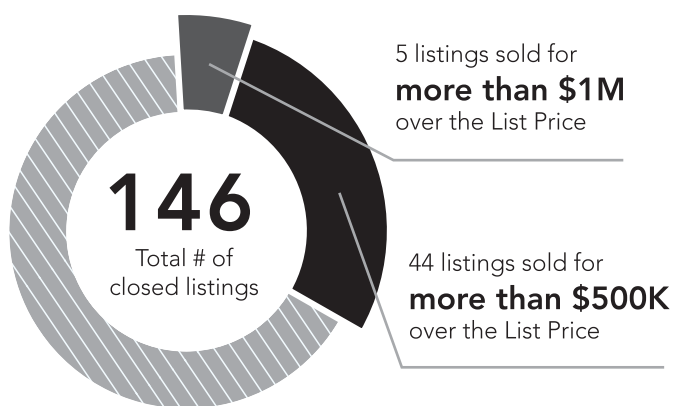


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Local News

MENLO PARK | AThERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Photo by Frank Manocchio

Craig Dremann stands on Kite Hill, enjoying the native flowering plants he helped restore.

Kite Hill going back to its roots

By **Rick Radin**
Almanac Staff Writer

Craig Dremann and his crew of two helpers are using string trimmers to trim the meadow on Woodside's Kite Hill.

They go back and forth to take down the grasses square foot by square foot as Dremann uses hand signals to guide the crew above the noise of the trimmers like a conductor directing an orchestra.

The work goes on for up to eight hours at a time, with the crew lugging their 25-pound trimmers across the meadow.

Kite Hill, between the Glens neighborhood and I-280, used to be alive with wildflowers and native plants centuries ago, Dremann says.

But when the Spanish explorers and settlers landed in California they brought their livestock with them. The livestock had eaten hay that contained seeds from weedgrasses that originated in Europe, he explains.

Within three generations, the weedgrasses took over the fields where the native plants once thrived burying the plants underneath them.

During summertime the weeds dried up and turned brown, creating fuel for the type of devastating wildfires that we're experiencing today, Dremann says.

Meanwhile, the native plant seeds lay dormant beneath the

soil waiting for their opportunity to emerge.

The string trimming tops the weedgrasses and kills their seeds so that within four or five years they're completely wiped out, allowing the wildflowers to reappear, he explains.

Woodside's Kite Hill is now ablaze with Tidy Tip, a member of the daisy family, which has white and yellow flowers and dozens of other multi-color blooms.

"A botanist who said he has been observing the plants on Kite Hill for 59 years said it was the best blooming he had seen in all the years he's been observing," Dremann says.

The Kite Hill project got started four years ago, helping the expanse of land to go from 90% non-native to 95% native with 100 species of wildflowers, Dremann says.

He says he's "unearthed an entire ecosystem" in the soil below as purple Owl's Clover, Miner's Lettuce and other natives have bloomed, replacing the grasses that have largely been wiped out.

"On the Peninsula, it's like ecological ruins restoration, restoring a system that's been around for millions of years," he says. "The nature preserve will be wiped out if you continue to let the weeds expand their territory."

Dremann's interest in plants began when he started a garden at his home in Redwood City at 4 years old.

When he was attending Sequoia High School he got a job a doughnut shop so he could raise the money to start his own vegetable seed business.

The interest in native plants came from being near open space at his home in the Redwood City hills. "I looked around in the '70s and '80s and thought about who is looking at our native plants, and the answer was nobody," Dremann says.

Now an East Palo Alto resident, Dremann began researching on his own about how to eliminate the weedgrasses, using small plots to try different techniques before perfecting his method.

In the meantime, he worked as an ecological restoration consultant for various agencies, including the California State Transportation Authority and the U.S. Forest Service.

Volunteers from the neighborhood had been pulling up the invasive Yellow Star Thistle that had been growing on Kite Hill more than 10 years.

The residents didn't know how to get rid of it, so they approached the town about the problem.

"Woodside decided to go in a native plant bent," explains Frank Manocchio, a Woodside maintenance contractor who supplies the labor and works with Dremann on the project. "When our test plot was successful, they OK'd us to move forward on Kite Hill."

See **KITE HILL**, page 6

Atherton crowd marks the start of civic center construction — at last

By **Barbara Wood**
Special to The Almanac

Nearly 100 people gathered in Atherton on Tuesday, April 23, to celebrate what speakers said had taken at least two decades to accomplish — the start of construction of a new town civic center.

"This is a great day that has been many, many years in the making" said Mayor Bill Widmer to a crowd seated in folding chairs set up in the parking lot and a closed-off section of Ashfield Road between the town offices and historic council chambers building.

Council member Rick DeGolia, who with fellow council member Elizabeth Lewis has represented the council on the town's Civic Center Advisory Committee,

gave some of the project's history. "Today we launch the most significant construction project in the history of Atherton," DeGolia said.

It has been 90 years, he said, since Atherton opened its original town offices in what is now the historic council chambers. "That created a center in the newly incorporated town of Atherton," he said. The new project will transform that center dramatically, he said. Once work is completed, nothing of the existing town buildings but the historic council chambers will remain. The renovated building will become part of the new 9,000-square-foot library, and will house a small cafe, a multipurpose room and the town's history archives.

DeGolia said the current administration building that also houses the police station was built in 1960 and over the years has been supplemented by seven now worn-out trailers. "These facilities have more than served their useful lives," he said.

The town had tried at least three previous times to replace the buildings, but "the efforts

failed due to lack of funding," he said.

"This time, with the help of Atherton Now and our residents who voted to use our general funds, we are going to get this done," DeGolia said.

In 2017, 61% of Atherton voters said in an advisory measure that money from the town's general fund could be used to help pay for a new civic center. That overturned a 2012 ballot measure calling for the design and construction of a new town center to be primarily paid for with private donations.

When the project is completed, estimated to be in 2021, a

'Today we launch the most significant construction project in the history of Atherton.'

COUNCILMAN RICK DEGOLIA

public courtyard will connect a new mission-style building housing police offices, town administration, building and planning offices, and a council chamber/emergency operations center to the new modern library.

Even the layout of streets in the area will change, with Ashfield Road, which now runs between the town offices and the historic council chambers, becoming a purely residential street.

Much of the town's 4.5-acre parcel "is now largely a parking lot that was well-used when our residents commuted to San Francisco on the train," DeGolia said. The train station is now open only on weekends. The new town offices will be located in that parking lot, with the entrance on Fair Oaks Lane. Because that area has few trees, the project has been designed so enough solar power could be added to make the building "the first zero-net energy civic center in California," DeGolia said. The solar aspect has not yet been funded, however.

Council member Lewis, who DeGolia said "has worked harder than anybody else in this town" on the new civic center, said the current project has been underway since the late

See **GROUND BREAKING**, page 7

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Editor

Renee Batti (223-6528)

Assistant Editor

Julia Brown (223-6531)

Staff Writers

Kate Bradshaw (223-6588)

Rick Radin (223-6527)

Angela Swartz (223-6529)

Contributors Kate Daly, Maggie Mah,
 Barbara Wood

Special Sections Editor

Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

Photographer

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

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

ADVERTISING

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahiralis (223-6570)

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ADVERTISING SERVICES

Advertising Services Manager

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Sales & Production Coordinators

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

The Almanac is published
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**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
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■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525
 Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

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Woodside school district superintendent announces move to Las Lomitas

Beth Polito is top pick to head school district in west Menlo Park and Atherton

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

Woodside Elementary School District Superintendent Beth Polito is leaving her post at the end of the school year to head the nearby Las Lomitas School District, pending a school board vote, according to a April 25 Las Lomitas district press release.

Polito, who joined the Woodside district as its superintendent in 2011, will stay on until July 1, she said in an email to district families April 25. She is poised to replace Superintendent Lisa Cesario, who announced her retirement in February.

The Las Lomitas district plans to vote on Polito's appointment in an open session school board meeting at 7 p.m. on May 8 in the La Entrada Middle School multi-use room, 2200 Sharon Road in Menlo Park, according to the district's press release.

"We are extremely pleased to attract someone of Dr. Polito's caliber. Her experience as a sitting superintendent, as well as her background as a teacher and school site and district administrator, all in the Bay Area, make her uniquely qualified to lead our district," said board President John Earnhardt in a prepared statement.

Polito is the third local school district superintendent to recently announce a resignation. In addition to Cesario, Portola Valley School District Superintendent Eric Hartwig announced his resignation in November.

Polito, who holds a doctorate degree in education from the University of San Francisco, served as assistant superintendent of the Saratoga Union School District for four years before coming to the Woodside district. Prior to that, she was a teacher, dean of students, vice principal, and principal at Redwood Middle School in Saratoga for 14 years.

Woodside school district officials say Polito will be missed.

"Over the past eight years as Superintendent for Woodside School, Dr. Polito has focused on making our school a place where every child can learn and thrive," wrote Woodside board president Silvia Edwards in an April 25 email to The Almanac. "Beth accomplished much during



Beth Polito

her tenure: She oversaw the implementation of the Common Core standards; She helped the district successfully pass a bond measure which resulted in the building and renovation of school facilities; Finally, she worked to build a robust SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) and Design Thinking program."

The school board reviewed a superintendent search proposal during a public meeting on April 26 and decided to push the process back until its May 7 meeting, Edwards said after the meeting. Board members expressed interest in possibly hiring an interim superintendent instead of doing a full-fledged search for a replacement, given the quick turnaround, she said.

At the meeting, the board opted not to hire the search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) to help fill Polito's job, Edwards said. The firm has been working with the Portola Valley School District to find a new superintendent, and was involved in the Las Lomitas district superintendent search.

At the May 7 meeting, the board will consider whether it will appoint an interim superintendent, hire HYA or interview other search firms, Edwards said. The meeting will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Wildcats room at Woodside School, 3195 Woodside Road in Woodside.

The school board will also host a community forum to solicit input on the superintendent search from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, in the Wildcats room.

The district hopes to fill the role by the end of the school year, which is June 7, Polito said. ■

KITE HILL

continued from page 5

"I know the neighbors are thrilled," he adds.

Dremann is being paid about \$10,000 a year for his work from the town's general fund, and Manocchio is paid by the

private Woodside Community Foundation, according to Town Manager Kevin Bryant.

"I think the project has been fairly successful," Bryant says. "People were volunteering their time, and it wasn't really working, and we very quickly thought there was a better way to go about it." ■

Portola Valley School District selects superintendent finalist

School board to vote on appointing Roberta Zarea at May 1 meeting

By Angela Swartz
Almanac Staff Writer

The Portola Valley School District has selected Roberta Zarea as the finalist for the superintendent position, according to an April 28 press release.



Roberta Zarea

The school board will vote on whether to appoint Zarea to replace Superintendent Eric Hartwig, who will step down from his post in June, at its meeting on Wednesday, May 1. If the board approves the appointment, Zarea's three-year contract would begin July 1, and she would earn \$215,000 per year, according to the proposed contract. Hartwig's annual salary is \$225,000.

"I feel deeply honored and humbled to be granted this leadership opportunity in a community so highly motivated to support student success," said Zarea, who has served as assistant superintendent of education services for the Saratoga Unified School District since 2013, in the press release. "One

of my immediate goals in Portola Valley is to build a strong relationship with the board of trustees, staff, students, parents, and the community. I will be carefully listening, observing, inquiring and studying input from all the stakeholders involved in the implementation of the district's Blueprint for Excellence."

Before her role as assistant superintendent, Zarea served as a principal, vice principal, coordinator of special projects, and elementary school teacher in the Saratoga district.

The firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates assisted in the search, and the district interviewed over 30 candidates.

"The PVSD Governing Board of Trustees met with many outstanding candidates for the role of Superintendent," board President Jeff Klugman said in a prepared statement. "Ms. Zarea's qualifications, and, in particular, her experience in the Saratoga Union School District and her visible passion for education set her apart from other

excellent candidates. Ms. Zarea was our top choice. On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees and the Portola Valley community, we're excited to attract someone with Ms. Zarea's background to our district."

Zarea led important changes to the Saratoga district's middle school math placement process, a kindergarten extended day initiative and to the district's sexuality education program, according to the press release.

Zarea, a San Jose resident, is originally from Michigan. She earned a bachelor's degree in Russian language and literature from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She also has a master's in elementary education from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and a master's in educational leadership from San Jose State University. She is completing work toward a doctorate in educational leadership from San Jose State.

The school board will meet at 5 p.m. on Wednesday in the Ormondale School Library, 200 Shawnee Pass in Portola Valley. ■

GROUND BREAKING

continued from page 5

1990s. She said former council member and mayor Didi Fisher took the lead in raising private funds to allow the project to get started.

When private fundraising failed to raise enough money to finance the civic center, the council asked voters to approve using money available from the town's general fund to pay for the construction.

"The need is here," Lewis said, and "we have the resources now."

"I can't tell you how wonderful it feels to me to see this project start," Lewis said.

Sandy Levison, who helped spearhead the private fundraising campaign by Atherton Now, a nonprofit formed to raise money for the civic center, thanked Fisher, who recently moved to McCall, Idaho. Fisher and the late council member and mayor Nan Chapman were early supporters of the project, Levison said.

More than 150 donations for the civic center were received, Levison said, many from supporters of the town's police department "who wanted the officers to have a decent place to work."

Steve Dostart, an Atherton



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Atherton Mayor Bill Widmer addresses residents and other well-wishers at the civic center groundbreaking ceremony held on April 23.

resident who served on the Civic Center Advisory Committee, said the town involved the public in the design of the civic center. "We did what you asked," Dostart said. "We think you'll like it."

Even the contractor who will build the civic center spoke. Dana McManus, the CEO of SJ Amoroso Construction, a former longtime resident of Atherton's Lindenwood

neighborhood, promised "Amoroso is going to come through."

"I love Atherton," he said. "I can honestly say that today, we're on budget and on time, and we're going to keep it that way."

After the comments, council members grabbed gold-painted shovels, donned hard hats and posed for the ceremonial groundbreaking with a pile of dirt specially delivered for the occasion. ■

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



A Fee Appraisal vs. A Market Appraisal

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agent can tell you how the market is doing that week, such as how many offers a particular property received, what buyers are thinking, and what is coming on the market that might compete with your property.

A fee appraisal will only give you information about closed sales, which is helpful but doesn't help you predict what the current market response to your property will be. There are also online resources that attempt to tell you what your home is worth based on data of closed sales. These estimates are very general and are influenced by algorithms rather than experience. Thus they are less reliable than other valuations.

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City manager announces three top leadership appointments

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

The city of Menlo Park has made three new appointments to leadership positions, according to an April 23 announcement from City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson.

Justin Murphy, currently the city's public works director, has been promoted to deputy city manager.

Sean Reinhart has been named permanent library services director, following a stint in the interim position.

Theresa DellaSanta has been named human resources manager. She currently works as Atherton's deputy city manager and city clerk, and is expected to begin her new position on May 20.

Both Murphy and Reinhart began work at their new positions on April 29.

"In a competitive labor market, our ability to retain and attract talented professionals is a credit to the organizational culture created by the current and past city councils," Jerome-Robinson said in a statement. "Menlo Park is a great place to work. Our city is financially stable, we invest in our employees through training and career growth opportunities and we have exciting projects in every department."

According to Jerome-Robinson, the only remaining vacancy at the management level is the assistant community development director for building position.

Justin Murphy

Murphy lives in Menlo Park and started working with the city as an associate planner in 1996. He moved up through the ranks and was named public works director in 2016. He will continue to oversee the Public Works Department and

manage more city matters.

He has a master's degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a bachelor's degree from Stanford University.

Jerome-Robinson said that Murphy's "intellectual rigor and deep knowledge of the Menlo Park community are true assets to the city."

Sean Reinhart

Reinhart took on the position of interim library services director in October 2018, after the former director, Susan Holmer, retired. He previously helped in the process to build a new library in the city of Hayward as library director in that city from 2009 to 2018.

He has also worked in the Redwood City and Santa Clara University libraries, and holds a master's degree in library and information science from San Jose State University.

Jerome-Robinson said Reinhart "brings with him a wealth of management experience that will serve our community well."

Theresa DellaSanta

DellaSanta will take on the position of human resources manager, which has been vacant since August 2018, when the prior manager, Lenka Diaz, was promoted to administrative services director.

DellaSanta has worked in Atherton since 2009 in a series of positions, including human resources manager, city clerk and interim city manager, prior to her work as deputy city manager. Before coming to Atherton, she was deputy board secretary for the San Mateo County Harbor District.

She has a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University.

Jerome-Robinson said that DellaSanta's "broad experience in local government management provides her with the background necessary to continue the good work of our human resources team." ■



Justin Murphy



Sean Reinhart



Theresa DellaSanta



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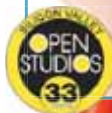
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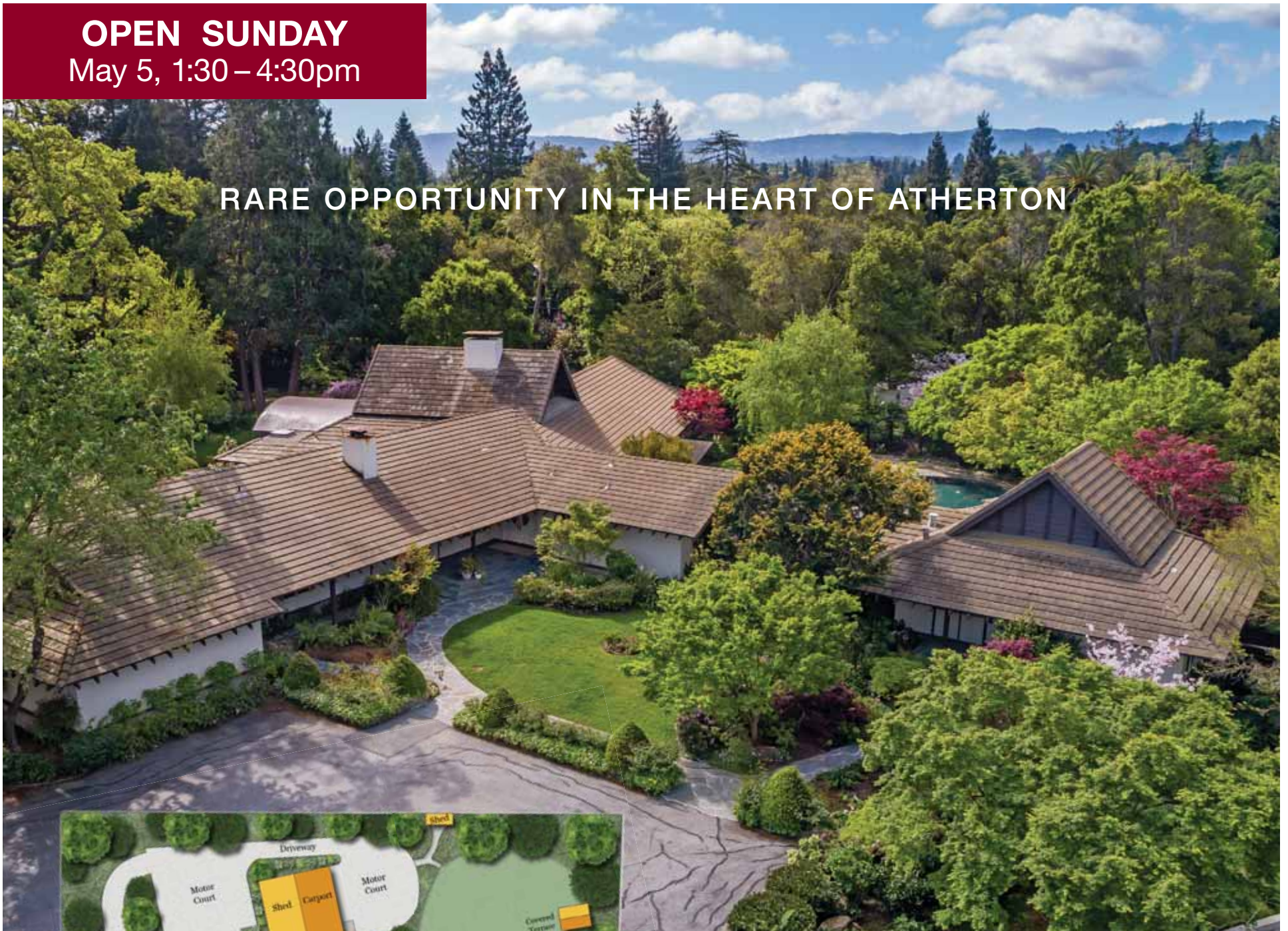


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New Pope-Chaucer Bridge proposed

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

About two years in the making, the San Francisco-Creek Joint Powers Authority (JPA) has released a draft environmental impact report exploring a series of options to minimize the threat of flooding caused by San Francisco-Creek upstream of U.S. 101.

The process enabled the JPA to identify a “preferred alternative” for how to reduce flood risk along the creek: rebuild the Pope-Chaucer Bridge to handle a greater creek flow, widen the creek channel in five locations, and ask Stanford University to help, either by using its land to detain water upstream during major storms or by making changes to the Searsville Dam.

Other than the temporary noise and air quality impacts expected to arise during construction, the draft report concludes, the project’s impacts would be “less than significant” if precautions and mitigation steps are taken, according to Len Materman, executive director of the JPA.

The creek, which is dammed at the Searsville Reservoir in the Jasper Ridge Preserve in Woodside, passes through unincorporated Portola Valley near Ladera and continues toward the Bay, running parallel to Sand Hill Road across El Camino Real. It then runs along residential areas, dividing Menlo Park and Palo Alto, with Woodland Avenue on one side and Palo Alto Avenue on the other. The creek continues further along Woodland Avenue into East Palo Alto, passes beneath U.S. 101 and continues into the Palo Alto Baylands and eventually the Bay.

Creek flooding is a significant risk for the area. According to the report, the creek has flooded twice in the past decade. The worst flood on record — since recording began in 1930 — occurred in February 1998. That incident, considered a 70-year event, damaged about 1,700 properties when the creek went over its banks in several areas.

The joint powers authority — which has on its board representatives from member cities East



Image courtesy San Francisco-Creek Joint Powers Authority

To curb flood risks along San Francisco-Creek, the joint powers authority over the creek recommends replacing the Pope-Chaucer Bridge connecting Menlo Park and Palo Alto, a project expected to take nine months. This rendering shows what a new bridge might look like one or two years after it is completed.

Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Palo Alto, as well as the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and the Santa Clara Valley Water District — was formed in 1999 to reduce future flood risks.

The JPA’s report divides the creek into three segments: the downstream section, running between the Bay and West Bayshore Road in East Palo Alto; a middle section, located from West Bayshore Road to the upstream side of the Pope-Chaucer Bridge; and a farther upstream section, from the bridge to the Searsville Reservoir.

Flood protection work was recently completed on the downstream portion of the creek.

The JPA built new levees and flood walls, and created a new marsh flood plain, according to the report. Those efforts are expected to provide protection against the “largest possible” creek flows, while factoring in up to 10 feet of sea level rise above the average high tide.

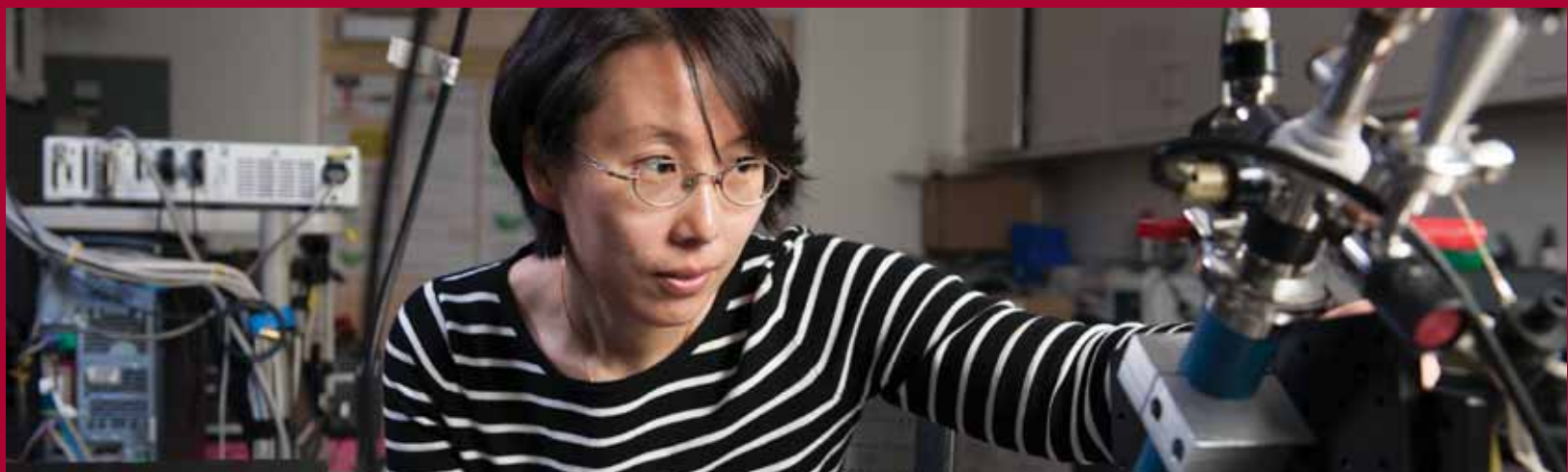
The middle section

The JPA’s preferred alternative for the middle section, which has the most residents living near it and is the one now most likely to flood, involves plans to replace the Pope-Chaucer Bridge with a new one that can handle a greater creek flow. The JPA also proposes to widen the creek channel at five locations. Doing

so could provide flood protection to the area in the event of a flood to the level seen in 1998, according to the report. With the changes, the new bridge could permit creek flows of up to 7,500 cubic feet of water per second under the Pope-Chaucer Bridge and downstream, according to the report.

Construction to replace the Pope-Chaucer Bridge would require it to be closed for about nine months.

To widen the creek channel, the JPA proposes to remove old concrete structures and replace them with vegetated, sloped banks. In places where restrictions limit the JPA’s power to change the angle of the creek, it



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would install “soil nail walls” — a method of reinforcing the soil to hold it in place. This proposal would include the removal of invasive species and the installation of water features like pools and riffles for fish, as well as “riparian enhancements.”

There are also a couple of areas in East Palo Alto where the JPA could install small parks alongside the creek, according to Materman.

In addition, the report states, the temporary wall upstream of University Avenue would be replaced with a permanent concrete parapet that’s about the same length and height. Just upstream, the concrete structure in the channel and wall on the East Palo Alto side of the creek would be removed and the riparian habitat installed.

According to Drew Combs, Menlo Park’s City Council representative on the JPA board, a major goal of the JPA’s work is to be able to provide the area protection from a 100-year flood event — a flood so bad it only happens once a century. That would require the creek and its adjacent infrastructure to be able to handle 8,150 cubic feet of water per second. Protection from a 100-year flood is the requirement for being able to skip buying residential flood insurance, which carries an average annual premium of \$850 in California, according to a 2015 San Francisco Chronicle report.

To provide full protection from a 100-year flood, more has to be done upstream, according to the draft EIR.

The upstream section

Upstream of the Pope-Chaucer Bridge, the JPA explored the possibility of creating detention basins, where excess water could be held in a major flood event. Most of the creek in this section is on land owned by Stanford, “the largest landowner in the watershed,” according to the report.

Stanford owns the Searsville Dam, which has been filling up with sediment over time. The university has been researching the possibility of making a hole in the dam to help clear out the sediment and permit fish to swim farther upstream. According to the report, Stanford has calculated that during a 100-year storm, such a project could reduce peak flows in flood-prone areas downstream by 800 to 1,000 cubic feet per second, beyond what the existing dam already provides. If Stanford doesn’t move forward on that plan, the JPA may try to get on-site water detention basins built in other locations on Stanford property, the report says.

Water detention areas

identified in the report include Stanford property, as well as portions of the Webb Ranch U-pick field and parking lot and the former site of the Boething plant nursery, according to the report.

In addition to the downstream creek project that was recently completed, the Joint Powers Authority is working on the SAFER Bay project, which aims to provide enough flood protection to properties along 11 miles of shoreline in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to get them out of the flood plain and protected against sea level rise.

Next steps

Three public hearings on the draft environmental impact report will be held in late May and early June:

■ On Thursday, May 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Laurel School Upper Campus atrium at 275 Elliott Drive in Menlo Park.

■ On Wednesday, May 29, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the East Palo Alto City Hall community room at 2415 University Ave. in East Palo Alto.

■ On Wednesday, June 5, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Palo Alto Art Center auditorium at 1313 Newell Road in Palo Alto.

Materman also plans to give presentations about the report to the Menlo Park and East Palo Alto city councils on Tuesday, May 21.

The deadline to submit public comments on the report is June 19. Comments may be submitted by email to comments@sfcjpa.org or by mail addressed to: Kevin Murray, senior project manager, San Francisco Creek Joint Powers Authority, 615-B Menlo Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025. The JPA’s phone number is 650-324-1972.

While efforts on the draft environmental impact report continue, the JPA plans to seek funding through FEMA’s hazard mitigation grant program and the state’s Proposition 1, as well as seek permits and land easement agreements. The original plan was to begin construction in 2020, but, according to a report Materman gave to the JPA’s board April 25, “beginning construction in 2021 may be more realistic.”

Access the full report online at is.gd/creek365. ■

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Motorcyclist killed on Highway 84

A 26-year-old motorcyclist was killed in a crash on Highway 84 on Sunday, April 28, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The accident happened around 11:41 a.m. about a mile west of Skyline Boulevard, according to CHP Officer Art Montiel. The motorcyclist, identified Monday by the San Mateo County Coroner's Office as Matthew Wong of Campbell, was traveling west-bound when he lost control of his bike as he was navigating a left turn in the road, Montiel said.

Wong went 40 feet down an embankment and was pronounced dead at the scene by emergency personnel, Montiel said. It does not appear that drugs or alcohol were factors in the crash.

One-way traffic control was implemented after the accident, and an SMC Alert was issued just after 12:30 p.m. The roadway fully reopened to traffic around 3:30 p.m.

Witnesses are encouraged to call Officer David LaRock at 650-369-6261 with any additional information.

Ravenswood appoints new principals for 2019-20 school year

District could face more leadership shuffles ahead

By Elena Kadwany

The Ravenswood City School District Board of Education approved new leaders for two schools on April 25, while other principals remain in interim district-level roles through the summer.

The fledgling Ravenswood Middle School, which suddenly lost its opening principal and vice principal last summer, will be led effective Aug. 1 by Amanda Kemp, the former principal of both Belle Haven Elementary School and Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy. Kemp was moved to Belle Haven in 2018 to replace former principal Todd Gaviglio, whose mid-year transfer to the district office drew protest from parents and teachers and led to an external discrimination investigation. Kemp will be the third principal for Ravenswood Middle School, which will be starting its third year this fall.

The board narrowly approved Kemp's appointment, with board President Tamara Sobomehin, Vice President Stephanie Fitch and trustee Marielena Gaona-Mendoza voting in favor

and trustees Sharifa Wilson and Ana Maria Pulido against it.

The district has not yet announced a new principal for Belle Haven.

The trustees unanimously approved Ravenswood Middle School teacher David Hicks as the school's new vice principal, effective April 29.

They also unanimously approved Alejandro Quezada, Ravenswood's STEM coordinator, as the new principal of Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy, effective Aug. 1. (This was a 4-0 vote, as Pulido was absent during this item.)

Two other schools, Willow Oaks and Brentwood Academy, remain under interim leadership while their principals fill temporary positions at the district office until June 30. Brentwood Principal Jennifer Gravem is serving as the interim director of special education and Willow Oaks Principal Cindy Chin as interim director of student services. Director of Student Services Gina Sudaria is still Ravenswood's interim superintendent; the board has yet to announce details on its plan for hiring a permanent replacement

for Gloria Hernandez-Goff, who resigned in March.

The board voted in March to appoint Willow Oaks Vice Principal Michelle Masuda as interim principal there and Brentwood Vice Principal Darice Thomas as Brentwood's, both through June 30.

Meanwhile, there could be more district-level leadership shuffles ahead. To address a tight budget, the board approved last month notices of possible reassignment for 19 certificated administrators. The board can rescind these notices if necessary.

According to the district, the positions that received notices are vice principals, principals, director of student services, coordinator of integrated services, coordinator of English Language Arts/English Language Development, director of curriculum and instruction, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, coordinator of data and assessment, integrated services program specialist and STEM coordinators. ■

Elena Kadwany is a staff writer with the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac's sister paper.

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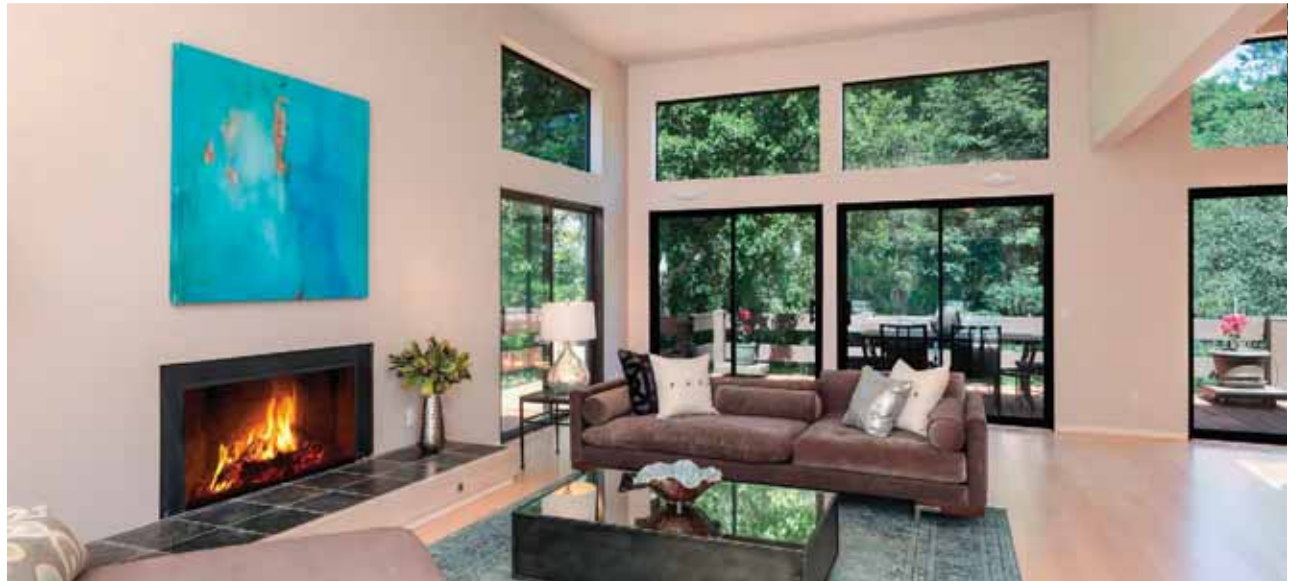
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Menlo School presents 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Musical opens this weekend

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo School Drama will perform the Tony Award-winning musical "Bye Bye Birdie" for two weekends in May, beginning Friday, May 3.

The show, which will take place on an outdoor stage at the Atherton school, follows Conrad Birdie, who is drafted into the U.S. Army in 1958, leaving his indebted record label in jeopardy, according to Menlo School press release.

"One of the central themes of the show is the disconnect between parents and kids, a fairly universal experience," senior Luke Arnold, who plays Conrad Birdie, noted in the press release. "Every kid has at some point wanted to storm off and forge his or her own path, and every parent has been left feeling the shock and disbelief of that idea."

This is the 17th musical Upper School Drama director Steven Minning is directing for the school.

Under Minning's leadership, the drama program has grown significantly, and auditions for Birdie brought out 38 students, the largest number of interested students in recent program history, according to the group.

All proceeds from the production will go to KIND (Kids in Need of Defense), a national



Photo by Clara Guthrie

Luke Arnold plays Conrad Birdie in the musical production.

nonprofit that works to provide legal representation to unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children. Menlo Drama Gives Back has raised \$36,000 for nonprofits over the past six seasons, according to the group.

Performances are at 8 p.m. May 3 to 5, and 8 p.m. on May 10 and 11. The school is at 50 Valparaiso Ave.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. They are available for advance purchase at store.menoschool.org. Tickets will also be available at the box office an hour before each performance. Gates open at 6 p.m. for lawn and traditional seating. Picnic blankets, picnic dinners and lawn chairs are welcome. ■

Rubio's restaurant has close call

A phone call and a sprinkler system apparently averted the possibility of major damage the morning of April 25 at Rubio's Coastal Grill at 515 El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

When employees at the Peet's coffee shop next door smelled smoke and gas fumes coming from the restaurant in the early morning, they called 911; Menlo Park Fire Protection District firefighters arrived at the scene at 4:45 a.m., according to a press release from Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman.

The firefighters made their way into the restaurant and found it full of white smoke from a smoldering and melted garbage can that was sprayed by an overhead sprinkler, Schapelhouman said.

Firefighters checked the premises and did not find any fire in the walls or the attic space; a cleanup of the area was completed by 5 a.m.

A check of a surveillance camera showed smoke starting to rise from the garbage can at 2 a.m. before it caught fire after 4:30. It was extinguished by the

overhead sprinkler, Schapelhouman reported.

Firefighters determined that the incident was caused by discarded towels that had been used to clean up grease and oils in the kitchen and that caught fire spontaneously.

Investigators were surprised that the water flow from the sprinkler system did not activate an alarm system, according to the fire chief.

"The sprinkler water suppression system, quick action of the Peet's employees in calling 911 and fire crews that minimized further damage, saved the day today insuring that this business will be back up and serving the community in days, not months, as we have experienced in other commercial business fires in this area," he wrote.

About half of older buildings in downtown Menlo Park are still not equipped with fire suppression systems and are extremely vulnerable to fires and the rapid spread of fires, according to Schapelhouman.

—By Rick Radin

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT Hearing Dates and Locations

Thursday, May 23, 2019
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Laurel School
Upper Campus Atrium
275 Elliott Drive
Menlo Park, CA

Wednesday, May 29, 2019
7:00-8:30 p.m.
East Palo Alto City Hall
Community Room
2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA

Wednesday, June 5, 2019
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Palo Alto Art Center
Auditorium
1313 Newell Road
Palo Alto, CA

Project Title: San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection, Ecosystem Restoration, and Recreation Project Upstream of Highway 101

Project Location: Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, CA

Project Summary: A draft environmental impact report (EIR) has been prepared by the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (SFCJPA) for the San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection, Ecosystem Restoration, and Recreation Project Upstream of Highway 101. The project proposes flood protection actions including channel widening and bridge replacement; habitat enhancement including in-stream fish habitat creation; and recreation opportunity development including development of creekside parks. The project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Significant Environmental Effects:

The Draft EIR finds that implementation of the project would lead to significant unavoidable project-level noise impacts and cumulative impacts related to air quality.

Draft EIR Document:

The Draft EIR is available for public review at <http://www.sfcjpa.org> and at the following locations:

East Palo Alto Library
2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Menlo Park Main Library
800 Alma St.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Menlo Park Belle Haven
Branch Library
413 Ivy Drive
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Palo Alto Downtown Library
270 Forest Ave.
Palo Alto CA 94301

Palo Alto Rinconada Library
1213 Newell Rd.
Palo Alto CA 94303

Comments on Draft EIR: The public comment period for this project begins on April 22, 2019 and closes on June 19, 2019. Comments regarding this Draft EIR will be accepted at all 3 hearings and may also be submitted to:

Kevin Murray, Senior Project Manager
San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority
615-B Menlo Avenue, Menlo Park, California 94025
email: comments@sfcjpa.org, phone: 650-324-1972



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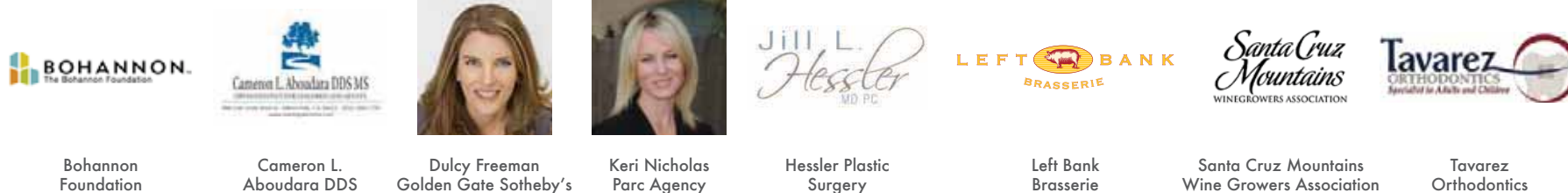
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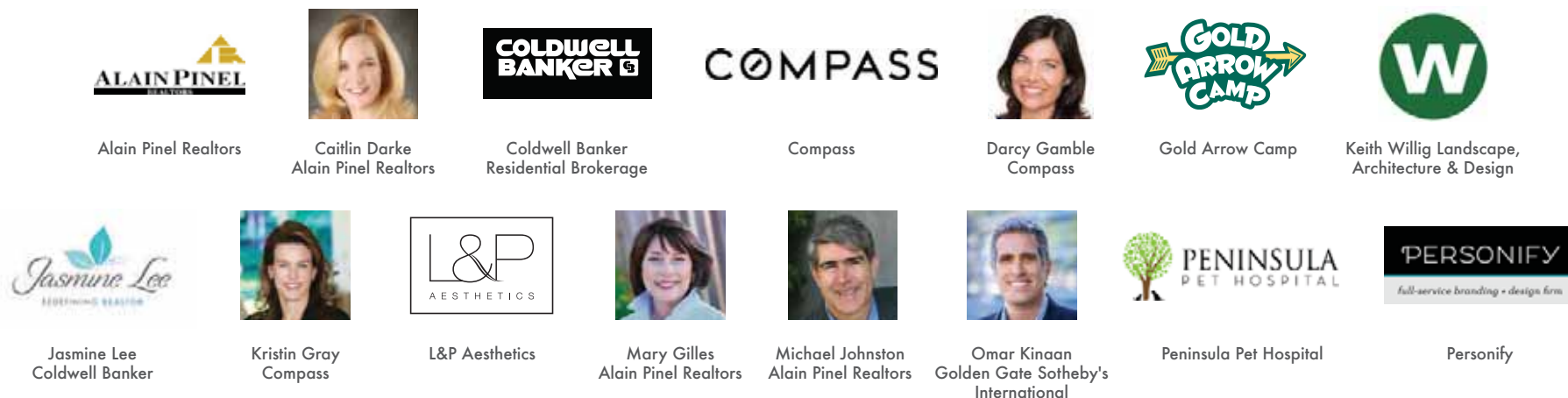
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Photo by Veronica Weber

A bumblebee pollinates blue-eyed grass and cream-colored California poppies in Cynthia Typaldos' Palo Alto garden, which will be featured in the upcoming Going Native Garden Tour May 4 through 5.

Going Native Garden Tour showcases 53 Peninsula gardens that require minimal maintenance

Palo Alto's Gamble Garden is participating for the first time in the event's 17-year history

By Melissa McKenzie

At just about anytime of the year, Pamela Chesavage's front-yard garden is blossoming with flowers or mint or tomatoes and artichoke plants — all grown with relatively little water or care.

It's an unusual garden space that evolved out Chesavage's passion for native plants and her preference to cook and eat fresh food.

The South of Midtown Palo Alto resident said the space was once 100% dedicated to native plants that required no watering on her end. Over the years, she incorporated more and more edibles, which she maintains with water-conserving soaker hoses and thick mulch that minimizes evaporation.

"I don't water my natives at all and they are incredibly happy. I always seem to have something blooming in my front yard," she said. "I don't do a lot of maintenance — just some cleanup in the fall and edible planting and weeding in the spring."

Chesavage's garden is among 53 landscapes throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties that will be open to the public in May as part of the Going Native Garden Tour organized by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Santa Clara Valley Chapter and the UCCE Master Gardner Program of Santa Clara County, which is held annually to encourage residents to be better stewards of the environment. This year's free, self-guided tour, held Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5, features attractive, habitat-haven, water-wise, low-maintenance and mostly chemical-free, bird-, butterfly- and other pollinator-friendly native gardens. Of the gardens, 12 are

new to the tour, including Palo Alto's Gamble Garden, which is participating for the first time in the event's 17-year history.

"Hopefully, the variety of plants in my front-yard and backyard gardens inspires others to replace their thirsty, only-nice-with-fertilizer-and-weed-killer-lawns," Chesavage said. "Even if you plant a combination of edibles, natives and other low-water plants, it's so much better than a lawn for the birds, bees, butterflies and for your health."

Tour coordinator Penny Pollack said the tour is aimed at helping gardeners find ways to incorporate native plants into their own landscapes using ideas and information from the event. Many of the local gardeners will lead native gardening talks or have plants for sale. Many of the gardens are wildlife and butterfly habitats as certified by the National Wildlife Federation, she added.

Pollack said the gardens on this year's tour range from small to large, including a 1.6-acre garden in Monte Sereno that has evolved from a space filled with invasive species to a meadow with native grasses and wildflowers growing among oaks and other native trees and shrubs.

Cynthia Typaldos' smaller native garden that she planted at the Midtown Palo Alto home she rents to create a wildlife-friendly habitat also will be on the tour.

"There is a small wildflower meadow in the back, which is full of pollinators all spring and summer," she said. "The garden attracts a wide variety of bugs; the bumblebees, especially. In the back, there is a lovely elderberry that was planted by a wild creature about four years ago. It's taller than the house now.

In front, there is an upright coyote bush, also planted by a wild creature next to the coyote bushes that I planted. I love the serendipity of this."

Typaldos said squirrels also have helped in the development of her garden, which is almost 100% native, by planting buckeye seeds throughout. She will be providing seedlings to tour-goers on Sunday, when her garden will be open for viewing.

All gardens on the Going Native Garden Tour, no matter the size, are required to have a minimum of 60% native plants and not contain any plants listed on the CAL-IPC Invasive Plant Inventory. Other features considered before gardens are included on the tour are garden design, number of edibles and water conservation methods, including rain barrels, rain gardens, pervious pavement and downspout diversion to retain roof runoff.

The tour is made possible by financial contributions from the Santa Clara Valley Water District, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program, Lyngso Garden Materials, California Nativescapes and donations collected from participants.

Melissa McKenzie is an Embarcadero Media freelance writer.

■ INFORMATION

What: Going Native Garden Tour
When: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, May 4-5.
Where: Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. A list of participating gardens and map is made available to registrants before the tour.
Cost: Free.
Info: To register, go to gngt.org.



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Menlo Park Fire District Public Education

Sudden Oak Death Blitz

Learn How You Can Help
Stop the Disease as a Citizen Scientist

Saturday May 18th, 10:00-11:00 A.M.
Portola Valley Town Center,
765 Portola Road, Portola Valley

This effort, led by UC Berkeley, is designed for all Californians to participate in the fight against Sudden Oak Death, the destructive and exotic disease that is decimating oaks throughout the state.



At this short and informative training session, you will receive a SOD Blitz collection kit and everything you need to survey and sample symptomatic trees in your area, making you a part of the hundreds of citizen scientists who are helping to track the presence of Sudden Oak Death.

By volunteering a small amount of your time to survey and collect samples, you and your community help make it possible for homeowners and land managers to successfully preserve and protect our native oak trees.

NEW in 2019: The very aggressive EU1 strain of the SOD pathogen has been found in Oregon. All samples collected during the California SOD blitzes will be tested to make sure the EU1 strain is intercepted and eradicated from California ASAP.

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MAKING OR FACING OURSELVES THRU MASK MAKING

presented by
Marsha Nelson, PhD



Kensington Place Family Support Workshop



Marsha Nelson, PhD co-founder and training supervisor for the Creative Journal Expressive Arts (CJEA) and Visioning® Training Supervisor. www.LuciaC.com

According to many schools of psychology, we all carry within us different sub-personalities. Each aspect has its own values, likes and dislikes, and set of feelings. These sub-personalities are reflected in our behaviors and in the many roles we play.

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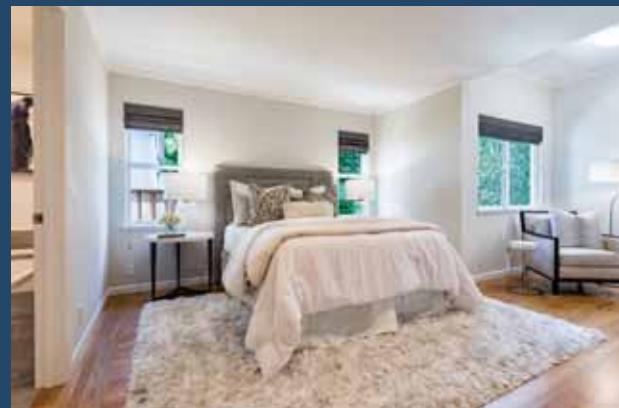
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It's Saturday night, and The Bawdy Caste is all dressed up, with someplace to go

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MAGALI GAUTHIER

At midnight on the first Saturday of every month, restless fans line up outside the Landmark Guild Theatre in Menlo Park. Some are glowing with glitter, others are strutting in gravity-defying high heels, and many are dressed provocatively.

They're here for a late-night showing of the cult film, "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Newcomers to the monthly showing, or "virgins" as they're called in the Rocky

community, might think they're seeing double during the movie. They're not. Performers dressed as characters in the film act out the entire movie in front of the screen.

The Bawdy Caste, a volunteer shadow cast that specializes in screen-accurate renditions of movies, performs "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at least twice a month, once at the Guild and once at Landmark's Clay Theatre in San Francisco.



Clockwise from top: Michael Delfino, who is playing Dr. Frank-N-Furter, performs with other Bawdy Caste members. **Siobhan Taylor**, who is playing Janet, puts the finishing touches on her makeup. Taylor loves the film, as she grew up watching it with her parents. In 2008, a couple of months after turning 18, she started volunteering for the Bawdy Caste. She worked behind the scenes before transitioning into performing as a Transylvanian, Magenta, Janet and Dr. Frank-N-Furter. The role of Janet holds a special place in her heart. "I don't look like Janet," said Taylor. "I'm tall and curvy and it's really empowering to play a strong, sexual female character." She says that it doesn't matter that most of the cast members don't look like the film actors. Body positivity is an integral part of the cast culture. "People play the role they want to," said Taylor. "We have members of all ages, all bodies and all genders. We work very, very hard to make it inclusive for the performers and the audience." **Cars zoom by** Landmark's Guild Theatre in Menlo Park before the monthly midnight showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" on April 6. The cast first performed at the Guild in 2006, on Dec. 2 and 16. The show used to take place twice a month.





The Bawdy Caste actors perform the cabaret scene in front of the projected film during a midnight showing of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” at the Guild Theatre on April 6.



Nina Loschiavo explains that the character of Magenta has the most striking eyelashes in the film. The cast’s goal is to be screen-accurate, so she wears fake eyelashes to mimic Magenta’s in the movie.

“We work really, really hard to do the same hand gestures, the same blinks,” said Siobhan Taylor, a cast member since 2008.

Each cast member memorizes his or her character’s performance. Michael Delfino, who has played Rocky characters Frank, Brad and Rocky since 2011, said that to prepare for a role he watches the movie to figure out the exact blocking. When on stage, he then moves left, right, forward and backward whenever his character on screen does.

The cast costumes also mimic what’s on screen. Taylor, a professional seamstress, has reproduced to a T the many characters’ costumes she has played. Over the years, she’s been a Transylvanian, Magenta, Janet and Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

Taylor said most of the cast’s 60 members rotate in and out of performing and behind-the-scene roles. Before acting, Delfino joined the cast as a support crew member in 2009. The Bawdy Caste has its own sound operators, a spotlight operator, prop managers, sales team, audience experience team and production assistants.

“All the theater really has to do

is provide the movie,” said Chris Hatfield, the manager of the Clay since 2006. “The cast sets up everything else.”

Hatfield says that many generations of people come to the midnight showings, thanks to the inclusive community Rocky Horror fans have created over the past 45 years since the movie’s release.

Taylor says the cast is also made up of performers of all genders, bodies and sexualities.

“Frank says at the end of the movie ‘Don’t dream it, be it,’” said Delfino. “Whoever you are, whatever you want to be, you can be. When we see audience members being whatever they want to be, that is the cultural phenomenon that is ‘Rocky Horror Picture Show.’” ▣

About the cover:

The Bawdy Caste members Michael Delfino, Julie Shepard, Nina Loschiavo and Tim Sturm play Dr. Frank-N-Furter, Columbia, Magenta and Riff Raff in front of a screening of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” at the Guild Theatre on April 6.



Audience members arrive at the midnight showing of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” at the Guild Theatre on April 6.



Audience members dance to Village People’s “YMCA” before the start of the midnight screening on April 6.



Michael Delfino’s high heels for the role of Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

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Photo by Richard Mayer

April Culver as Rose of Sharon, left, is comforted by **Judith Miller** as Ma Joad in "The Grapes of Wrath" at Los Altos Stage Company's Bus Barn Theatre.

'Grapes of Wrath' boasts fine cast but lacks depth

Los Altos Stage Company takes on Steinbeck's Dust Bowl masterpiece

By John Orr

Los Altos Stage Company's current production of "The Grapes of Wrath" is blessed with a mostly excellent cast, fine direction from Jeffrey Lo, a pretty set and even a good little barefoot band in the corner.

What it's missing is desperation, starvation, a sense of place and palpable death.

It is likely that no shortened version of John Steinbeck's 1939 masterpiece novel can ever really accomplish what exists in the book's nearly 500 pages. Not a play, not a movie (even with a great speech by Henry Fonda).

Every page in Steinbeck's Great Depression-set book is magnificent and powerful. The prose makes it so but also its ultimate meaning makes it so: Yes, horrible things happen to human beings — such as evil bankers and disastrous droughts — but in the end, the human spirit pulls us through.

The story: Tom Joad is released from prison after only four years of a seven-year sentence for murder. As he reconnects with family and friends, the first thing they all ask is "Did you bust out?"

The family farm in Oklahoma has been bulldozed by the foreclosing bank and the family, after reading flyers offering jobs in California, has decided to migrate. On their trip they begin to learn that it's all a heartless scheme by farm owners. Thousands of Okies, Arkies and other ruined farmers come to California begging to work for pathetic wages and find the jobs are all taken and there is no land left for them to homestead their own farms.

But the Joads — and thousands of others — have no money left to return to their Dust Bowl homes and there is nothing left for them there anyway.

The 12 people in the Joad group start dying or running off.

To put even a modest amount of Steinbeck's tale on stage, a great deal of creativity is needed. The play does not really communicate the desperation of the Joads, as they struggle to find food for their children, and for Rose of Sharon, who is pregnant.

Its weaknesses are mostly the fault of Frank Galati, who adapted it from the novel.

Christopher Fitzer's set is beautiful, with corrugated fiberglass and wood-beamed back wall, and a hanging flag in the corner. Lana Palmer's sound design may be the best I've ever heard in the old Bus Barn Theater. Miranda Waldron's lighting design was excellent. Melissa Sanchez's costume design put everybody in old farmer clothes and ragged jackets.

Kudos to the band: Bruce Avery on guitar, Emily Chiet on violin and ooga-horn, and Lana Palmer on banjo. They weren't loud but added a gentle bit of atmosphere.

It was cute how 12 members of the cast squished in behind what looks like an old bed frame with lanterns hanging from it to represent the front of a Hudson car that's been converted into a truck. Presumably the work of props designer Ting Na Wang.

But while we are told the Joad family is travelling through dusty prairie, arid desert and fearfully high mountains, we don't see them. We don't feel them. And we are given little understanding about how terrible it really was.

Lo's cast is almost uniformly excellent, although only a few of them managed anything close to Okie accents.

Jorge Luis Diaz is a very good Tom Joad. He is wounded after prison but recovering his

strength and his endless sense of righteousness. Tom Joad stands up for people.

Judith Miller is great as Ma Joad. There is never a moment she doesn't have a matriarchal sense of purpose and the strength to deliver.

Todd Wright is delightful as Grandpa Joad, and the stage really loses something when he dies. His last gasp is a very nice touch, but pathos was missing in the staging of his death (Wright comes back in some other roles).

Michael Champlin has a good turn as Jim Casy, the failed preacher, who does what he can to bring a voice of reason in hard times. Lawrence-Michael C. Arias has a number of very good scenes as Uncle John, who drinks too much and is burdened with guilt for his missteps in life.

Ross Briscoe is Al Joad, who likes women about as much as Uncle John likes booze but doesn't feel guilty about it. Gary Landis is quite strong as Pa Joad, who tends to argue with the smarter Ma Joad but ends up doing what she says.

April Culver doesn't have that many lines, although she's very good with what she has — and in a good Oklahoma accent at that — but it's what she does with her face and movement that really makes her role as Rose of Sharon stand out.

And Katie Maupin as young Ruthie Joad is a teaching moment in what a young actor can do. She has very few lines, but watch her face. She advances a scene with glances, reactions and small movements.

The most beautiful and important scene in the book, at the very end, on stage is rushed through, leaving too little room for understanding, pathos and appreciation.

Rose of Sharon, who has been starving like everybody else (not well expressed in the play), gives birth to a stillborn baby whose body is lost in a rainstorm flood. A man comes in who is dying of starvation, too weak and sick to even eat bread. Rose of Sharon, whose breasts are full of the milk meant for her baby, takes the man to her breast to save his life.

That's what the novel and the play are about: We struggle, but it's our acts of courage that help us save each other.

John Orr is a freelance writer for Embarcadero Media.

INFORMATION

What: "The Grapes of Wrath."
Where: Bus Barn Theatre, Los Altos Stage Company, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos,
When: Through May 5 (show times vary).
Cost: \$20-\$38.
Info: losaltosstage.org or 650-941-0551.

May 4-5 • 10 am to 6 pm

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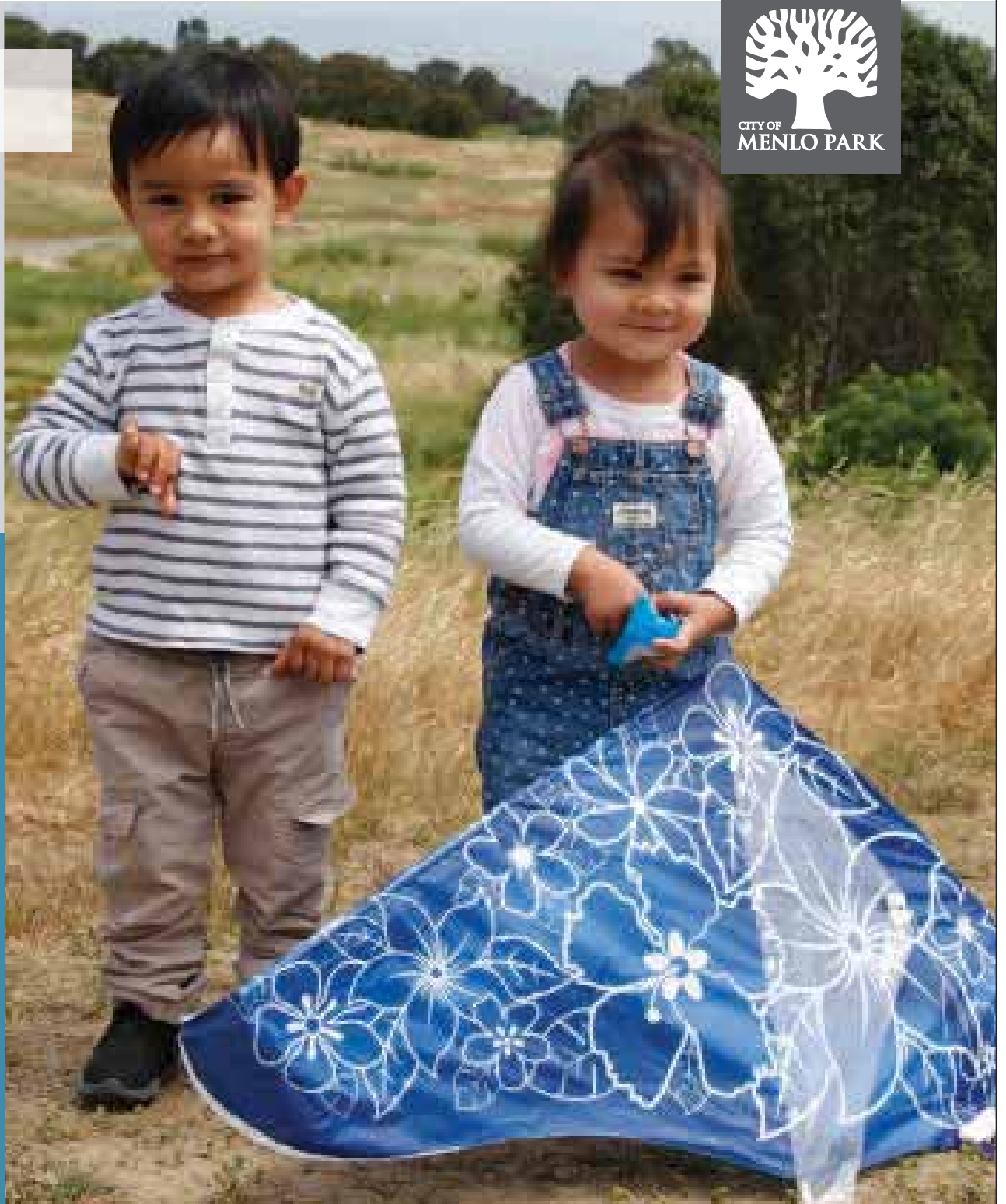
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www.sandhillschool.org/summer

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www.artandsoulpa.com

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www.cityofpaloalto.org/summercamps

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www.theatreworks.org/education

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

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www.ussportscamps.com

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

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Stanford

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campcardinal.org

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www.stanfordbaseballcamp.com

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Man charged with vandalizing vehicles, making racial threats

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

A man who allegedly vandalized cars, shouted racial epithets at multiple people and threatened and resisted police officers on Bohannon Drive in Menlo Park April 23, pleaded not guilty April 24 to charges of three felonies and one misdemeanor tied to criminal threats, vandalism and resisting arrest.

According to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office, Cole Hoffman, a 34-year-old from San Diego, was allegedly vandalizing vehicles parked on the 4500 to 4700 block of Bohannon Drive, which is a business area.

A man came outside while the vandalism was occurring and allegedly saw Hoffman damage his car by kicking the fender, causing about \$3,000 in damage.

The observer, who is African-American, then confronted Hoffman, who allegedly threatened to "slice and stab" him, hurled numerous racial epithets at him and yelled out "White power."

According to prosecutors, the observer then left the scene and called police. Officers arrived and found that Hoffman had damaged 10 separate vehicles by breaking windows, damaging windshield wipers and kicking dents in cars, they said.

Police chased and found Hoffman, who was allegedly screaming racial epithets at an African-American security guard and to others in the area, and yelling "White f---king pride."

According to the District Attorney's Office, officers struggled to control him and placed him in the "WRAP," a full-body restraining device. Hoffman also allegedly told an officer that he planned to slit the throats of everyone with the same name as the officer, and that he was going to make sure the "good ole boys" come to Menlo Park and shoot the officers.

He was appointed a private defender and, following his plea Wednesday, has a preliminary hearing set on May 7 at 2 p.m.

He remains in custody on \$200,000 bail. ■

Donna Goodheart Krupp

May 29, 1921 - April 18, 2019

Donna Goodheart Krupp, born May 29, 1921 in San Francisco, a Portola Valley resident for 48 years, died peacefully at home on April 18.

PAID OBITUARY

Kathleen Miller Hahn

May 21, 1962 - April 10, 2019

Kathleen Miller Hahn was born in San Francisco on May 21, 1962. She resided in Redwood City, Ca. Kathleen died peacefully in her sleep in her home surrounded by her children Gregory (fiancé Lauren), daughter Kimberly and grandson Kaden, and her mother Ann Miller of Redwood City. She is also survived by her brother Kevin Miller (Terry), Redwood City, sister Pattie Vincent (Wes) of Las Vegas and brother John Miller (Tiffany) Wisconsin.

Kathleen was a graduate of Nativity School, Menlo Park, St Francis High School, Mt View and DeAnza College, Cupertino where she earned a degree in nursing. She began her nursing career at Stanford Hospital where she worked in the ER department. After 3 years she moved to Sequoia Hospital where she worked for 24 years. Her last position was that of a Cardiac Surveillance Nurse.

Kathleen was diagnosed with a brain tumor and in 2004 she underwent the first of 4 subsequent major surgeries. In October 2018 she entered hospice care with Mission Hospice, San Mateo. In February 2019 her condition was considered terminal. Mission Hospice gave her the most compassionate care and she died in peace and is at last free of pain.

A Celebration of Life Mass will be held at The Church of the Nativity, 210 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park on Friday, May 17th at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Brain Tumor Assoc. of America, 8850 W. Bryan Mawr Ave. #550, Chicago, Il. 60631

PAID OBITUARY

ATHERTON EARTH DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

JOIN US!

CLIMATE CHANGE: THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

1 KEYNOTE SPEAKER Franklin "Lynn" Orr, PhD

Former Under Secretary for Science and Energy
Professor Emeritus at Stanford of Energy Resources Engineering

Climate Change: Where do we stand and what do we do about it?

Moderated by **Michael Killen, artist and talk show host**, who will also show his art piece, "Great Art and Climate Change"

2 Peter Drekmeier

Policy Director for the Toulumne River Trust

How Climate Change Can Impact Your Water Supply

3 Knowledge Is Power: Together We Can Save Our Planet

A panel moderated by **Rick DeGolia, Atherton Vice Mayor**, with

- **Jan Pepper** CEO, Peninsula Clean Energy
- **Steve Schmidt** COO, Home Energy Advisor
- **Teresa Herrera, PE** Manager, Silicon Valley Clean Water
- **Representative** San Mateo Office of Sustainability

HOLBROOK PALMER PARK

JENNINGS PAVILION
150 WATKINS AVE, ATHERTON, CA 94027

12 - 3:30 PM • FREE

Light lunch and refreshments will be served



MORE INFO:

WWW.CI.ATHERTON.CA.US/463/EARTH-DAY

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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 VILLICUS 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)

DIGITAL EQUANIMITY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 280977

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

Digital Equanimity, located at 740 Menlo Oaks Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
HARBRINDER S. KANG
740 Menlo Oaks Dr.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 11, 2019.
(ALM May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019)

997 All Other Legals

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)



Photo by Kari Daheb

Woodside School's Kindergarten Royal Court surrounds May Day Parade Grand Marshal Betsy Hobson, with King Jaden and Queen Margot sitting in front, and princes Romeo and Reid and princesses Josie and Fiona on either side, left to right.

Woodside celebrates May Day on May 4 with a parade of traditions

By Kate Daly

Special to The Almanac

It's time to get ready for May Day in Woodside, when the town turns out in force to celebrate with a full day of activities.

The centerpiece on Saturday, May 4, is the 97th annual May Day Parade, a pageant put on by Woodside School's Parent Teacher Association, featuring dozens of homemade floats, vintage vehicles, equestrians, musicians, and many costumed participants on foot, bicycles and scooters.

This year's theme is Myths & Legends, the same as the school foundation's Grand Auction fundraiser on May 18.

"Game of Thrones" fans and other fantasy buffs have until May 2 to register to be in the parade. Go to woodsideschool.us to fill out a form.

Betsy Hobson of Woodside will lead the parade as grand marshal. She has served on the school board and foundation, and the town's Planning Commission; her children went to Woodside School and her grandchildren attend now.

The traditional Kindergarten Royal Court will

follow Hobson in an antique fire truck.

The parade will start at 10 a.m. in front of the school, at 3195 Woodside Road. The road will be closed along the stretch to Canada Road until about 11:15 a.m., when the action shifts to the school's outdoor amphitheater for the third-graders' May Pole and sword dance, and the announcement of the Citizen of the Year Award.

Afterwards, a carnival and barbecue will take place on school grounds until 2:30 p.m.

Another fast-approaching deadline is early registration for the first event of the day — the 28th annual May Day Fun Run & Walk. Before April 30 entry fees are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children 14 and under, and \$40 for a family of four. The fees will be higher on the day of the race.

Early registration forms can be found at woodsiderec.net or at Town Hall.

The 2.25-mile course starts at the Woodside Library at 8:30 a.m. and loops around the neighborhood, ending near the Woodside Village Church where the Woodside/Portola Valley Rotary Cub is putting on its annual pancake breakfast. ☐

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Women, Figures and Frida Kahlo



"Frida Kahlo I" by Jack Hooper, mixed media on paper, 1984.

The works of Jack Hooper, a painter, muralist, sculptor and printmaker, is being featured at Art Ventures Gallery in Menlo Park through May 15. The exhibit is titled "From LA to San Francisco, to Mexico: Women, Figures and Frida Kahlo."

A reception is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the gallery at 888 Santa Cruz Ave.

The show, curated by Maria Cerrone, is the first solo exhibition of Hooper's work since his death in 2014, according to a press release from the gallery.

Hooper, who was born in 1928 and was an art professor at UCLA and chairman of the art departments at Mount St. Mary's College and UCSC, was born in Los Angeles and lived for a time in the Bay Area, Paris and, for the last two decades of his life, in Mexico.

In that country, he and his wife lived at the foot of a volcano, "where he did some of his finest and most inventive work," according to the press release. "Jack Hooper's paintings became increasingly personal and emotionally resonant, having reflected the trappings of the official art world."

Silicon Valley Open Studios

Dozens of artist from Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside are participating in Silicon Valley Open Studios this weekend, May 4 and 5. The annual event allows visitors to "get up close and personal" with artists as they visit their studios, according to a SVOS press release.

Artists from Menlo Park are: Sippora Aguia (jewelry), Nathalie Brossard (painting), Dorothy Burston Brown (sculpture), George Colliat (painting), Anne Combe Dachs (book arts, papermaking), Richard Dweck (photography) Beatrice Frangos (painting), Veronique Gillard (painting), Michele Guieu (assemblage/collage), Valerie Lauterbach (pottery/ceramics), April Maiten (glass, mosaics), Elaine McCreight (painting), Asia Morgenthaler (painting), Corinna Mori (pottery/ceramics), Paulette Phlipot (photography), Inga Poslittur (painting), Terry Tsu (mixed media), Rachel Tirosh (painting), and Diane Zingeler (painting).

Artists from Portola Valley are: Nancy Benton (painting), Helga Christoph (painting) Tamara Danoyan (ceramics/pottery), Danielle Fafchamps (sculpture),

Doris Fischer-Colbrie (pottery/ceramics), Rachel Greenberg (glass, mosaics), Denise Howard (drawing), Desiree Karge (jewelry), Jennifer Mineer (jewelry), Barbara Pease (painting), Eric Saint Georges (sculpture), Lanchi Vo (furniture, woodworking), and Mami Weber (watercolor).

Atherton painter Claude Sauquet and Woodside mixed-media artist Michael Standefer are also participating.

Go to svos.org to find studio locations.

Views from the Trail

The work of Menlo Park photographer Frances Freyberg Blackburn is on exhibit this month at Portola Art Gallery at Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road in Menlo Park.

An artist's reception is set for Saturday, May 11, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The exhibit features images of landscapes and seascapes, wildflowers and wildlife, from across the San Francisco Bay Area.

Gallery hours are 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Go to portolaartgallery.com for more information.

Music, music and more music on tap this spring in Woodside

Cellist performs Bach on Friday in Independence Hall

By **Kate Daly**
Special to The Almanac

Looking for some local live music? In the next few weeks a range of musical guests will perform at two different venues in Woodside.

On Friday, May 3, at 7 p.m., Chris Costanza, cellist with the St. Lawrence String Quartet, will play Bach's Unaccompanied Cello Suites at Independence Hall, at 2955 Woodside Road.

Admission is free. Light refreshments will be provided by the sponsor, the Woodside Arts & Culture Committee.

On Sunday, May 12, at 7 p.m., the Village Hub events team is starting a series of concerts in Woodside Village Church's Guild Hall at 3154 Woodside Road.

Carol McComb, Keith Little, Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum will sing and play guitar, fiddle, mandolin and banjo,

providing a mix of traditional and original folk, bluegrass, country and gospel music.

Tickets are \$25, \$20 for senior citizens, and \$15 for kids under 12.

For tickets, go to the villagehub.org for that event and the next.

On Sunday, June 2, at 6 p.m., the third annual Verdi in the Village dinner concert will take place at the church.

The performers, soprano Jennifer Mitchell, tenor Martin Rojas-Dietrich and pianist Elizabeth Neff, first performed together in Woodside in 2011 at The Little Store in a concert organized by the late Pauline Picchi.

Organizer Vicki Coe says the Village Hub is continuing the tradition "with antipasti, followed by a song set in the chapel, a full-course Italian dinner, another song set, and then dessert under the stars." ■

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Food & Drink



Passionate about pastries

Menlo Park resident Laurent Pellet's Maison Alyzee inspires with authentic French fare

By Monica Schreiber

Laurent Pellet says he interviewed more than 40 of France's most pedigreed pastry chefs in his quest to find three who were eager to trade Paris' grand boulevards for Mountain View's Castro Street, home to his 10-month-old Maison Alyzee.

In luring these young guns away from their Michelin-starred restaurants, his goal, he said, was to find partners who share his passion for pastry perfection.

"We want to bring to the Bay Area the most refined French pastries and food, crafted with the best European-style ingredients," the Menlo Park resident said. "Maison Alyzee is also about creating for our customers a sense of intimacy, elegance and style."

Named for his 4-year-old daughter, the chic and sunny patisserie-boulangerie is indeed turning out gorgeous, authentic French pastries, creamy, dreamy works of culinary art. Maison Alyzee's Gallic breakfast and lunch standards—omelets, croques monsieurs, salads Nicoises and the like—rival anything I've enjoyed in France.

With chefs in place and ingredients, from flour to

coffee, having been painstakingly sourced, the kitchen appears to have hit its stride. However, my three visits to Maison Alyzee would suggest that Pellet, a first-time restaurateur, is still working through some front-of-house challenges. During a phone interview, he admitted as much without my even asking. The former Sony executive, who also once ran a food distribution company in Eastern Europe, appears laser-focused on "building the brand" and elevating the customer service at his order-at-the-counter establishment.

This passion feels evident when Pellet is the one proudly bringing your order to your table. A Friday afternoon lunch was delightful, with Pellet checking back to be sure we were happy with our selections and refilling water glasses. Crisp white walls, a rustic wood-and-tile floor, elegant pendant lights and pastries displayed like jewels behind the glass counter invited happy memories of la belle France.

My croque madame (\$15) was the full expression of France's version of comfort food: smoked ham, gruyere and a luxurious mornay sauce enfolded in house-baked pain de mie, baked to the melting point and topped with a sunny side up egg. A

lightly dressed, simple green salad was an appropriate counterpoint to this iconic and decadent sandwich (fork and knife required).

The Club Nordique (\$15), also served on pain de mie, was piled high with smoked salmon, cucumber, iceberg lettuce, hard-boiled egg, avocado mashed with chives and a slather of mayonnaise. At once crunchy and creamy, with the soft, sandwich bread yielding gently to the teeth, the Nordique embodied everything that makes a sandwich satisfying.

The omelette Parisienne (\$13) was a pretty yellow pillow stuffed with mushrooms, Emmental cheese, ham, tomatoes, onion and fines herbes. The omelette also came with a green salad, but we thought a hunk of Maison Alyzee's baguette (\$4), dark and crusty outside with a tender, slightly chewy interior, also would have made a nice addition to the plate.

Unfortunately, breakfast was less enjoyable on a moderately busy Friday morning. It wasn't just me. I could see other patrons were experiencing the same issues—forgotten items, lukewarm coffee, unbussed tables—most of which appeared to be the result of

understaffing. I'm sympathetic, and I see the "help wanted" signs in virtually every window of every restaurant in the Bay Area. But at Maison Alyzee's price point, and given Pellet's vision for a best-of-France experience, one is inclined to point out a few missteps.

I ordered the Vendome breakfast (\$15.50) which comes with a choice of two viennoiseries (sweet breakfast breads), a specialty coffee and a glass of orange juice. I selected a croissant (buttery, crispy layers of perfection) and a kougin amman, an extra-buttery, puff pastry from Brittany made slightly sweet with a crust of caramelized sugar. A good kougin amman makes a croissant seem like diet food in comparison. But no complaints here.

However, my orange juice was forgotten. We were initially brought the wrong coffees. The correct cups were eventually forthcoming, but my vanilla latte (\$5) was barely warm. Patrons had to crowd around a single menu displayed on the countertop, jostling for space to read the offerings. Tables remained dirty and the bathroom was not in an acceptable state, also the situation on a later visit when Maison Alyzee was not at all busy.

I asked for jam to accompany my croissant (\$4.50) and was told it would be \$1.50 extra "because the jam is from France." Mon dieu, if memory serves, a small terrine of jam would be standard issue in France when you order a croissant at a sit-down breakfast. My dining companion's fruit salad (\$6.50) was 75 percent chopped pineapple covered with a handful of berries.

I bought some of the

almost-too-pretty-to-eat pastries to take with me, and that lifted my spirits. The wheel-shaped Paris-Brest (\$10.50), named for a famous bicycle race between the two cities, has always been one of my favorite indulgences. Maison Alyzee's was *magnifique*, a choux pastry filled almost five inches high with a praline cream that was nutty but not overly sweet, as too many American confections tend to be. I brought a box of mille-feuilles (\$9.50) to a soiree with some French friends and asked for their opinion. Delicious, if a little "flat" was the verdict, and I have to agree. They were delightfully creamy and flaky, but lacking depth of flavor.

Despite some quibbles and the breakfast that was less than perfect, I appreciate Maison Alyzee's spirit and Pellet's enthusiasm for bringing not just French pastries but the full French experience to Mountain View. If you can create pastry art, you certainly can sort out a few service missteps. I have a lot of faith in Maison Alyzee. Bienvenue a Mountain View. ■

■ INFORMATION

Maison Alyzee

212 Castro St., Mountain View
650-960 1212
maisonalyzee.com/
Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday - Saturday, 8 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Closed Monday.

Credit cards: Yes
Reservations: No
Catering: Yes
Outdoor seating: Yes
Parking: No
Alcohol: Champagne offered at lunch
Bathroom: Fair



Photos by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Above: Owner Laurent Pellet places a croissant on a plate in Maison Alyzee.

Top: The bakery's chocolate tart is made up of cocoa biscuit, dark chocolate ganache and chocolate mousse on a crunchy chocolate sable.

Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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, adults under 35. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

'Triptych' The Menlowe Ballet presents its spring season series "Triptych," three works celebrating fine art, facets of love and a trail-blazing visionary. May 3-5; times vary. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. menloweballet.org/

'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. Through May 12, 8-10:30 p.m. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org

'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' Woodside Priory Theater performs "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," adapted for the stage by Joseph Robinette from the novel by C.S. Lewis. May 2-4; times vary. \$15; discount for students. Woodside Priory School - Rothrock Performance Hall, 302 Portola Road, Portola Valley. priory.ticketleap.com/lion

Concerts

Magical Strings West Annual Concert Magical Strings West, a group of young violinists ages 4 to 17, will perform music by Bach, Handel, Dvorak, Bartok and more. May 5, 3:30-5 p.m. Woodside High Performing Arts Center, 199 Churchill Ave., Woodside. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Menlo Park Chorus Concert Menlo Park Chorus' spring concert, "Broadway a la Carte," features popular Broadway tunes. A reception to follow the performance. May 4, 7:30-10 p.m. \$15; discount for students, seniors; 12 and under free. Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park.

Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra Program 4 Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra performs Prokofiev's Concerto No. 2 for piano and orchestra in G minor, featuring Helene Wickett, and Sibelius' Symphony No. 2 in D major. May 4, 8 p.m. and May 5, 2:30 p.m. Tickets are good for either date. Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley. brownpapertickets.com

Music

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 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

String Trios and Folk Tales Composer Patrick Castillo guides audiences through musical history and theory with a focus on violin and viola trios. Live musical illustrations provided by violinists Pamela Frank and Arnaud Sussmann, and violist Paul Neubauer. May 2, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$30; discount for 30 and under. Martin Family Hall, Menlo School, 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. musicatmenlo.org

Talks & Lectures

Chang-rae Lee and Eavan Boland in Conversation about Diasporic Literature Stanford University English professors Chang-rae Lee and Eavan Boland will discuss their own diasporic experiences and how they influence their thinking and writing in an event sponsored by the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AISF). May 1, 7-9 p.m. Levinthal Hall,

Stanford Humanities Center, 424 Santa Teresa St., Stanford. aaisf.org/events/diaspora

Elizabeth Cobbs Author Elizabeth Cobbs will discuss her new book "The Tubman Command," a story that chronicles Harriet Tubman's journey to lead a Union raid to free 750 slaves. May 8, 7:30 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Film Discussion Meetup The Film Discussion Meetup discusses films that have recently played at the Guild Theatre. May 7, 6:30-8 p.m. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

John Burnham Schwartz Author John Burnham Schwartz will discuss his new historical novel, "The Red Daughter," inspired by the life of Joseph Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva. May 8, 7-9 p.m. Books Inc. Palo Alto, 855 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. booksinc.net

Let's Talk Food! Shelley Onderdonk and Rebecca Bloom will discuss their book, "The Anti-Cookbook: Easy, Thrifty Recipes for Food-Smart Living." May 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Shaili Jain Dr. Shaili Jain debuts her non-fiction work, "The Unspeakable Mind: Stories of Trauma and Healing from the Frontlines of PTSD Science." May 7, 7:30 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Gareth Hinds Author Gareth Hinds will discuss the challenges and opportunities of adapting and illustrating Homer's epic "The Iliad." May 2, 7-8 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Michele Filgate and Nayomi Munaweera Editor Michele Filgate and contributor Nayomi Munaweera present a new collection of essays, "What My Mother and I Don't Talk About: Fifteen Writers Break the Silence." May 3, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Family

City of Menlo Park Annual Kite Day Kite Day includes kite flying, a hot dog lunch, jump houses, face painters, pony rides and a petting zoo, among other activities. May 4, noon-3 p.m. \$8 for kite and hot-dog lunch combo. Bedwell Bayfront Park, 1600 Marsh Road, Menlo Park. menlopark.org/events

Museums & Exhibits

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

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.

'The Happy Homemaker: History of Household Appliances' The "Happy Homemaker: History of Household Appliances" exhibit showcases vintage washing machines, stoves, refrigerators, heaters, vacuum cleaners, coffee makers and more. Through Aug. 18, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. moah.org/

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

Kahlil Joseph: 'BLKNWS' Kahlil Joseph, a visiting artist in the new Presidential Residencies on the Future of the Arts program, presents his work "BLKNWS," a two-channel video projection that blurs the lines between art, journalism, entrepreneurship and cultural

critique. Through June 16, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

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

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

Public Tour: Auguste Rodin This exhibition celebrates Auguste Rodin's pursuit to convey complex emotions, diverse psychological states and pure sensuality through the nude. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays through Aug. 31; times vary. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

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

'Views from the Trail' — Photos 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

Kerry Tribe: 'The Elusive Word' Los Angeles-based visual artist Kerry Tribe's film "Critical Mass" (2013) features a re-enactment of a couple's heavily edited argument taken from Hollis Frampton's experimental 1971 film by the same name. Through July 7, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Lessons & Classes

Writing the Wisdom Book In this six week course led by artist Taun Relihan, participants explore some of the formal definitions and characteristics of wisdom as well as write their own stories highlighting lessons learned 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. Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org/projectread

Edible Container Garden This class covers how to design and care for a container garden and focuses on edible flowers and herbs. Attendees are encouraged to bring gloves, wear comfortable shoes and expect to get dirty. May 2, 10 a.m.-noon. \$75; discount for members. Filoli Gardens, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

Health & Wellness

Vaping Prevention Collaborative The conversation will focus on understanding vaping trends, health risks, industry tactics and steps that schools can take to address and prevent vaping among students. May 7, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sequoia Healthcare District Headquarters, 525 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

Outdoor Recreation

JHTC 2.0 Stanford Dish Walk The Jewish high tech community hosts a Saturday morning 3.8-mile group hike to the Stanford Dish. May 4, 10 a.m.-noon. Stanford Dish Hiking Trail, Stanford. Search eventbrite.com for more info.

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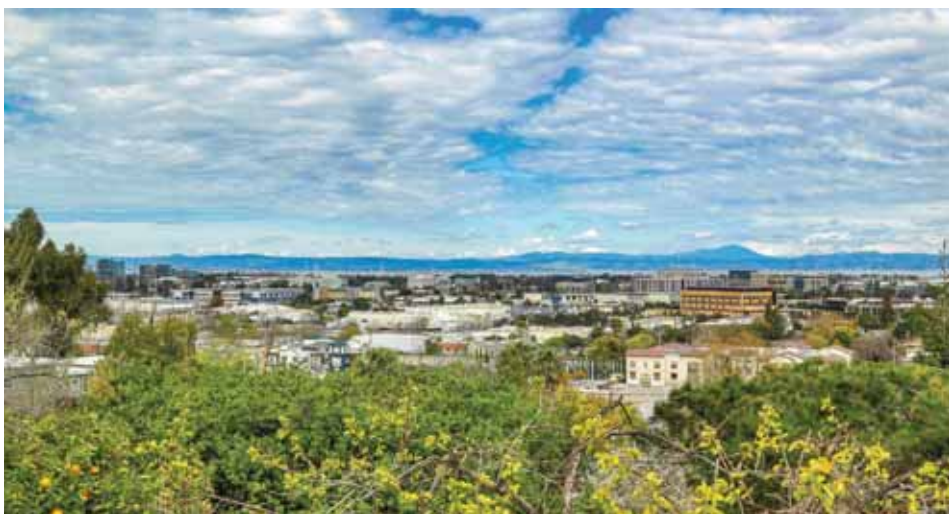
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