

The Almanac

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

NOVEMBER 27, 2019 | VOL. 54 NO. 12



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FINDING HELP *and giving it back*

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EHP a one-stop shop
for support services

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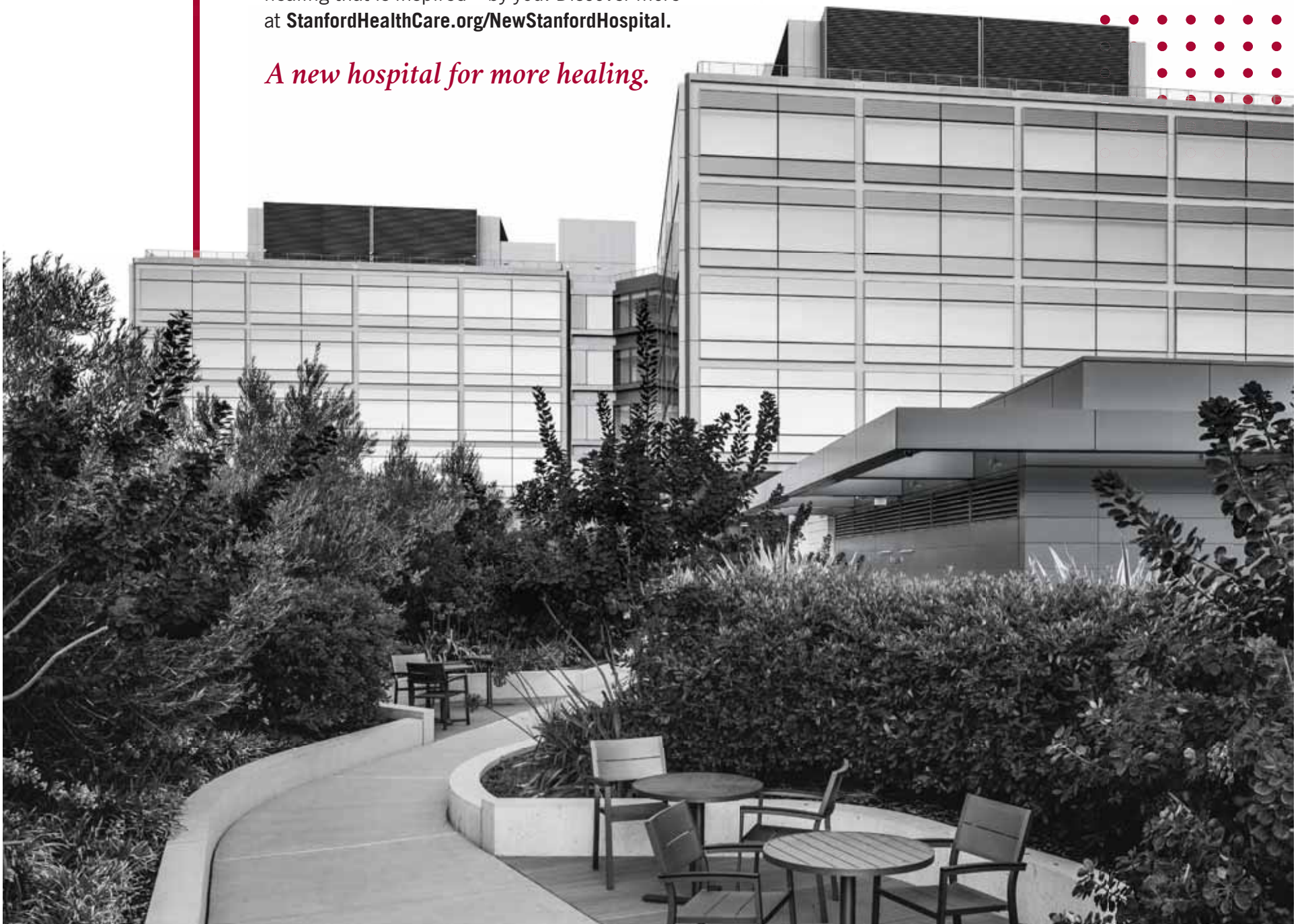
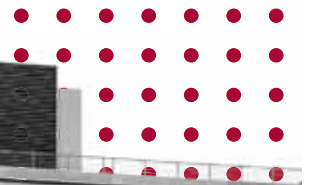


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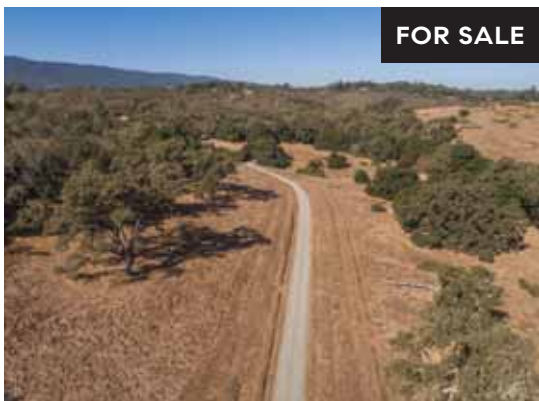
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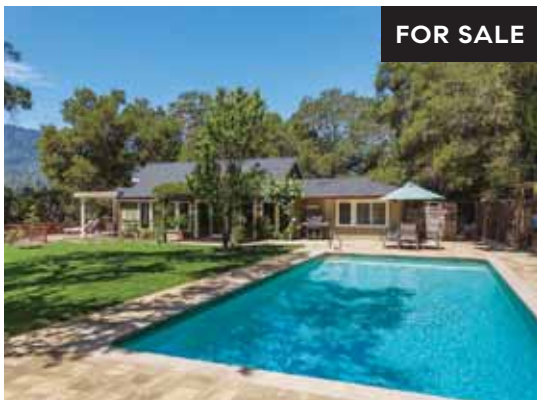
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Your gift helps local children
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Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed \$150,000 from more than 150 donors for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched, to the extent possible, by generous community organizations, foundations and individuals, including the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

All donations to the Holiday Fund will be shared equally among the 10 recipient agencies listed on this page.

Boys & Girls Clubs

Provides after-school academic support, enrichment, and mentoring for 1,800 low-income K-12 youth at nine locations across Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, and the North Fair Oaks neighborhood of Redwood City.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

Provides emergency food, clothing, household essentials, and sometimes financial assistance to families in need, regardless of religious preference, including Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for more than 2,000 households.

Fair Oaks Community Center

This multi-service facility, serving the broader Redwood City community, provides assistance with child care, senior programs, citizenship and immigration, housing and employment, and crisis intervention. Programs are available in Spanish and English.

LifeMoves

Provides shelter/housing and supportive services across 18 sites in Silicon Valley and the Peninsula. Serves thousands of homeless families and individuals annually on their path back to permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

Project Read

Provides free literacy services to adults in the Menlo Park area. Trained volunteers work one-on-one to help adults improve reading, writing and English language skills so they can function more effectively at home, at work and in the community. Basic English classes, weekly conversation clubs and volunteer-led computer enrichment are also offered.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

Provides primary medical and preventive health care for all ages at its clinic in East Palo Alto. Of the more than 17,000 registered patients, most are low-income and uninsured and live in the ethnically diverse East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

Serves hundreds of hot meals six days a week to people in need who walk through the doors. Funded by voluntary contributions and community grants, St. Anthony's is the largest dining room for the needy between San Francisco and San Jose. It also offers take-home bags of food, as well as emergency food and clothing assistance.

Second Harvest Food Bank

The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributed 52 million pounds of food last year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to more than 250,000 people each month through more than 770 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

StarVista

Serves more than 32,000 people throughout San Mateo County, including children, young people and families, with counseling, prevention, early intervention, education, and residential programs. StarVista also provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services including a 24-hour suicide crisis hotline, an alcohol and drug helpline, and a parent support hotline.

Upward Scholars

Upward Scholars empowers low-income adults by providing them with financial support, tutoring, and other assistance so they can continue their education, get higher-paying jobs, and serve as role models and advocates for their children.

The organizations below provide
major matching grants to the Holiday Fund.



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Local News

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Photo by Magali Gauthier

Soccer star pays a visit

It was an exciting Friday for Oak Knoll School students gathered for an assembly last week whose star speaker was Tiarna Davidson, a center back for the U.S. women's soccer team. A former Oak Knoll student herself, Davidson signed autographs and urged the students to "go out into the world and live your best lives." See Page 11 for the story.

Supervisors extend renter protections to unincorporated area residents

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

After hearing more than 25 impassioned pleas from renters, activists and landlords pushing for and against a proposed emergency ordinance to enact a statewide renter protection law early, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 on Nov. 19 to pass the ordinance and protect renters in unincorporated county areas.

The ordinance mirrors the one passed Nov. 12 in Menlo Park. A number of other jurisdictions in the county have passed such ordinances, including Redwood City and San Mateo. The intent of the urgency ordinances is to immediately put in place renter-protection provisions of AB 1482, which goes into effect on Jan. 1. This is needed, local lawmakers have said, because since the Legislature passed AB 1482 earlier this year, some landlords, in an attempt to avoid that law's provisions, have sent out eviction notices or raised rents above what the state law will allow.

At the Nov. 19 supervisors' meeting, a number of the speakers supporting the ordinance came from faith-based backgrounds,

with representatives from Faith in Action, a network of people in faith organizations who organize around community needs such as housing, as well as the San Mateo County Faith Leaders' Solidarity Cohort, a group of leaders from different faiths who advocate for justice.

The Rev. Penny Nixon of Congregational Church of San Mateo said that there are "3 Ps" of housing: protection, preservation and production. The protection element, she said, "has been woefully underrepresented and unaddressed," and added that she considered the ordinance to be a "moral decision." If passed, she said, it would send a message "that you will protect the most vulnerable in our community."

Others opposed the ordinance. Tom Thompson, member of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, said the notion of the law being applicable retroactively to protect renters scared him, adding, "I've never feared my government until now."

While supervisors achieved the four-fifths majority needed to enact an emergency ordinance, which takes effect immediately, the sole vote against the ordinance came from Supervisor

David Canepa. He favored an ordinance that would not provide what he called "retroactive" protections to renters who have already received eviction notices and haven't yet moved out, and expressed broader concerns with the notion of rent control.

Supervisor Dave Pine said he favored the ordinance because even though it is not likely to directly benefit a large number of people who have received notices of evictions or rent increases outside the bounds of what the new state law permits, those it will affect will benefit greatly. Also, he said, the ordinance wouldn't affect "99.9%" of landlords who are good-faith housing providers. As for the other 0.1% of landlords, he added, "I'm OK saying 'stop' after the fact because of the harm it causes."

Supervisor Don Horsley said he foresaw that AB 1482 could have potential unintended consequences in that landlords may be less forgiving of any delays or shortcomings in tenants' rent payments, and it could affect renters' references, but said he didn't have problems with the ordinance. Supervisor Warren

See **RENTER PROTECTIONS**, page 10

City moving forward after 2018 challenges, mayor says at event

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park Mayor Ray Mueller continued the city's annual tradition of giving a "State of the City" speech on Tuesday, Nov. 19. His verdict: Things are looking up after the city worked to overcome some major challenges that emerged last year.

The event was held in the City Council chambers, where attendees were offered coffee and a large German chocolate cake. Mueller opted to dedicate the typical \$15,000 budget for the event — which has been held at venues like the Rosewood Sand Hill Hotel, Facebook headquarters, the British Bankers Club and the Park James Hotel in recent years and offered attendees beer, wine and appetizers — to starting a youth advisory commission in the city.

Summarizing the city's achievements over the past year, he started by talking about the challenges the city faced toward the end of 2018. The city had begun to "hemorrhage professional staff members," including the city manager; an offer by developer and philanthropist John Arrillaga to help build a new main library was withdrawn; and the city was experiencing the uncertainty of its first district elections.

Mueller said that he wanted to help restore trust, so the council asked former assistant city manager Starla Jerome-Robinson to come out of retirement and serve as interim city manager, and then extended the offer to her to continue in the permanent role.

Acknowledging the concerns that district elections would cause "balkanization" in the city, he complimented the three new council members elected by districts, saying they have been "a beacon about everything that is right in district elections."

"There were things in this city that I didn't understand because of where I lived," he confessed.

He complimented Vice Mayor Cecilia Taylor on her passion for equity and being a voice for Belle Haven; Councilwoman Betsy Nash for her heart and hard work; Councilman Drew Combs

for his logic and intellect; and Councilwoman Catherine Carlton for being a team player and ambassador for the city.

He highlighted a few city projects that have moved forward this year.

One council priority this year has been to move forward with a new Belle Haven library. The city had worked on plans toward progress, but there were concerns about how to find funding to build it.

Facebook came forward with an offer to build a new multi-generational community center, including a library, in a way Mueller said was transparent and with a "public promise it would not be a quid pro quo for Willow Village," the Facebook's pending application to build a new neighborhood in the business park opposite Willow Road from the northern part of Belle Haven.

Efforts also moved forward to improve services at the existing Belle Haven library housed at Belle Haven elementary school by expanding service hours and opening a new after-school homework center served by community volunteers.

On the environmental front, the city passed a set of "reach" codes, those that legislate beyond a statewide baseline what environmental standards must be met in new buildings.

"When we did it, we expected tremendous pushback," he said. Instead, stakeholders said they just wanted to know what the rules are and how to comply, he added.

And when there was a community outcry over seven redwood trees that were taken down on El Camino Real at Ravenswood Avenue, Mueller said, the council reached an agreement with the owner to plant 76 new trees throughout the city, including 50 new ones in Belle Haven.

On the police front, the city recruited 13 new officers and now has a fully staffed traffic team, and the department has been doing a number of community outreach events, Mueller said. People can also now text to 911 to alert the police department when they're in need.

See **STATE OF THE CITY**, page 6



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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)

Chief Visual Journalist

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

Staff Visual Journalist

Sammy Dallal (223-6520)

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

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

ADVERTISING

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ADVERTISING SERVICES

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Sales & Production Coordinators

Diane Martin (223-6584),

Nico Navarrete (223-6582)

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**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
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■ Newsroom: (650) 223-6525

Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

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

■ Email letters to: letters@AlmanacNews.com

■ Advertising: (650) 854-2626

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Flegel's: Yes, it's moving; no, it's not going far

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

‘Moving Sale’ signs in front of Menlo Park’s 65-year-old downtown furniture store and interior design business, Flegel’s Home Furnishings, have triggered a flurry of concerns sent to The Almanac to find out what’s going on.

Brian Flegel, business manager of the shop at 870 Santa Cruz Ave., spoke with The Almanac Thursday to clear up some questions.

Yes, Flegel’s plans to relocate, he said. He plans to keep the business in Menlo Park, within a mile of its current location, he added.

“I’m all geared up to move,” he said. “We’re going to stay in

Menlo Park and still serve the community and clients. Nothing is changing in terms of staff or anything like that.”

The family-owned building has been listed on the market for some time — at least since May — and the owners have now identified a buyer.

“We’re definitely planning to leave the current location,” Flegel said, adding that the family is currently in negotiations over a couple of different Menlo Park locations.

Regardless of where the store moves, it will be in a smaller location, which is why the business is being proactive about shrinking its inventory, he added.

The move could take place as early as the first quarter of next year, he said. ■

STATE OF THE CITY

continued from page 5

The city’s administrative services department has worked to bring the staff vacancy rate down to a more competitive 8.7%, from 16.6%, and increased automation and access to public data through its IT master plan. The city’s land management software system will also allow permit applications to be submitted online.

The community development department has worked on housing and economic fronts. In September, the council approved a local minimum wage, set to start Jan. 1, and development projects are moving forward. There’s also a growing interest in downtown investment, he said.

“I think the future of our downtown is very bright,” he said, noting that the revamp of the Guild Theatre is expected to start soon, adding an entertainment option downtown to complement its restaurant offerings.

Through the community services department, the city completed a facilities master plan for its parks. In addition, a new wheelchair-accessible playground at Nealon Park opened

Saturday, Nov. 23.

Work also moved forward with a safe routes to school program to enable kids to more safely walk or bike to school, as did plans for a bike and pedestrian Caltrain undercrossing at Middle Avenue.

Mueller thanked nonprofits like Menlo Together, which recently hosted a discussion about Menlo Park’s history relating to racial housing discrimination, and the Chamber of Commerce, for partnering on community events.

In addition, he talked about some of the joint meetings the council held this year with other jurisdictions — the fire protection district, Atherton City Council, and the city councils of East Palo Alto and Palo Alto — as a step beyond the way many local cities interact: mainly to blame each other for traffic.

And starting next year, he said, he’s hoping to implement a sunshine calendar policy in which council members report whom they meet with each week and what they talk about.

“I believe that together we will prosper and we will keep building that city of the future,” he concluded. ■

Correction

A story about a Nov. 6 Portola Valley Planning Commission meeting evaluating Neely Wine’s application to operate a wine tasting room on its property misstated the number of speakers from the public at the meeting. There were eight speakers. And although the story stated that all the speakers panned the project, about half merely expressed concerns about

potential problems with parking, traffic, and noise.

The story also erroneously indicated that visitors could taste wine without reservations, and that the number of visitors would be limited to 60 per day. In fact, tasting would be allowed by reservation only under the plan, and the limit on visitors would be only 30 per day.

New survey detects rapid growth in sudden oak tree death syndrome

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

An annual survey of the spread of sudden oak death (SOD) throughout the state has detected that oak trees surveyed in towns on the Peninsula between Redwood City and Los Altos Hills have a 21.6% infection rate, with significant new outbreaks reported.

The syndrome was detected locally in oaks in northern Woodside, Portola Valley, Emerald Hills, and Palomar Park, according to the report from the University of California at Berkeley Forest Pathology and Mycology Lab.

At the same time, the infection rate has almost doubled throughout the state in the past year and in some locations increased up to 10 times, ominous news for researchers who have been following the infection that kills tan oak, coast live oak, Shreve's oak, California black oak and canyon live oak species.

The oak trees get infected in the trunk and die slowly over two to three years, according to Debbie Mendelson, who heads the Portola Valley and Woodside version of the survey known as the SOD Blitz.

"It's sad that our numbers are higher this year," Mendelson said. "I would hope that a lot of

people will come out for next year's Blitz so that we can make every effort to protect and save these species of native trees."

The SOD Blitz is held annually at 25 locations throughout the state. During the Blitz, volunteers go out into the oak forests and test bay laurel trees, which carry the disease and can infect oak trees growing nearby. Leaf samples from the bay laurel trees are then sent to the forest pathology lab for testing.

The SOD Blitz in Woodside and Portola Valley was done on April 17, and the results were reported at a meeting in Woodside on Nov. 9.

Statewide, teams surveyed 16,227 trees across 16 counties, collecting approximately 9,000 leaves from 1,732 trees, according to the forest pathology lab.

Results from the data collection are available at SODBlitz.org and SODMap.org.

The infection rate for oaks within 15 feet of a bay laurel is about 75%, according to Matteo Garbelotto, the lab's director. After a distance of about 20 yards, the infection rate drops dramatically.

The infected oaks can fall down when they are still green, potentially on top of a house or a car, Garbelotto said.

"If an infected oak is near your house, you want to take it

out because if it burns in a fire it will spread to your home," he said.

In San Mateo County, the SOD infections, carried by bay laurel and tan oaks, move through the ridge top of the Santa Cruz Mountains and then east down the hill through Woodside and Portola Valley to urban areas, where the temperature is warmer and the severity of the infections decreases, said Garbelotto, who was on the team that first isolated the microbe that causes SOD.

The team found that the pathogen originated in ornamental plants that had arrived from Asia, including rhododendrons and camilla, and escaped into the larger environment, he said.

The phenomenon happened first in California, but there have also been recent SOD outbreaks in England, Belgium, Holland, Ireland, France and southern Oregon, he said.

Forest managers can use sanitation, chemical treatments, and the targeted removal of bay trees, but these tools are only useful before oaks and tan oaks are infected, so early detection is critical to slowing the epidemic, according to the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. ■

Town to buy back leaf blowers, add church to housing program

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

The Portola Valley Town Council created a buy-back program for gas-powered leaf blowers on Nov. 13 and added Ladera Community Church to its core group of "affiliated housing" partners.

The town passed a ban on gas-powered leaf blowers in January that takes effect in January 2021, and now wants to encourage residents to transition to electric-powered blowers in advance of the ban taking effect, according to the staff report on the program.

The program will provide a rebate for 40% of the total cost of an electric leaf blower, up to \$120, in exchange for turning in a gas-powered blower.

The council earmarked an initial \$6,000 from its general fund to provide rebates for 50

electric leaf blowers, according to the staff report.

The council also added Ladera Community Church as a partner in its Affiliated Housing Program, which connects the town with institutions such as schools and retirement homes to create affordable housing for their employees.

The church itself is located in the unincorporated community of Ladera, but it also owns a half-acre of vacant land south of the church, within Portola Valley's boundaries, that could be used for housing. Ladera Community Church would like to broaden its efforts to provide affordable housing beyond its participation in the Portola Valley program, according to a letter from the church.

"We ask to join the Affiliated Housing Program with the understanding that in

its current form the Affiliated Housing ordinance would limit us to housing for our few employees, while our primary interest is in serving the greater community," the letter states.

Woodside Priory School, the Sequoias retirement community and Stanford University, owner of the parcel known as the Stanford Wedge, are the other members of the Affiliated Housing Program. ■

LEHUA GREENMAN



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Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

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REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Should I Wait Until January to Sell?

Dear Monica: After months of preparation, my house is finally ready to put on the market. I'm wondering though if December is a bad time to list a property and that it would be better to wait until January. Any advice? Ann C.

Dear Ann: If this were a typical year in real estate, I would probably advise you not list your property in December when fewer

people are buying, and to wait until the new year. You could certainly do this, but you may also decide not to wait until January.

The market is slower this year and there is more inventory and price reductions. Properties sell all months of the year and if yours is in a popular price range I would advise you not to wait. There is likely no advantage to doing so.

Contact me at monica@monicacorman.com; Office: 650-465-5971, COMPASS. Ranked in the Wall St Journal's 2016, 2017, and 2018 Nationwide list of top 250 Realtors.

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Police provide update on crime, license plate readers

Officers share lead on possible suspects in Atherton's earlier burglary spree

By Angela Swartz
Almanac Staff Writer

About 80 people gathered in Atherton's Holbrook-Palmer Park Pavilion on Nov. 18 to hear updates on crime and safety as what police call "burglary season" approaches.

During the meeting, police revealed that they believe a crew of four people, possibly connected to a Chilean gang, may have been responsible for some of the 20 home burglaries reported in Atherton between November 2018 and February of this year.

Police worked with other departments in the county and state and, with the help of phone records, determined the same cellphone was present at burglaries in Atherton in December and January, Cmdr. Joe Wade said. Police linked the cellphone's location to a mini-mart in the Bay Area, which captured surveillance footage of the suspects, he said.

Most of the burglaries last holiday season shared similar methods of entry — thieves broke in through second-story

master bedroom balcony windows, police said.

So far this year, there have been 18 residential burglaries, Police Chief Steve McCulley said. In the most recent, someone stole \$200,000 worth of jewelry on Nov. 16 from a home on the unit block of Atherton Avenue, police reported.

Eighteen "is a very low number, but we treat one burglary as too many in Atherton," McCulley said.

License plate readers

Police also discussed automated license plate readers, known as ALPRs; the department is recommending that the town increase usage of the readers due to the crime spree last holiday season.

ALPRs are mounted on police cars or on fixtures such as road signs and bridges, and use small high-speed cameras to photograph about 900 plates per minute, according to a town staff report.

In October, the City Council directed staff to begin testing the devices. Staff expects to begin a 30-day camera testing

period in the "next seven to 10 days" at the Holbrook-Palmer Park entrance and exit, City Manager George Rodericks said in a Nov. 25 email. They will be evaluating camera aesthetics, efficacy, visibility, bandwidth, and network connectivity and power requirements, he said.

"It's another crime-fighting tool," Wade said of license plate readers. "They offer a better chance to solve a crime, but aren't an end-all be-all." Police also passed out flyers with answers to frequently asked questions about ALPRs.

A member of the Midpeninsula chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union who spoke at the meeting said she was concerned that installing more cameras, particularly near churches, could infringe on people's privacy. Another meeting attendee asked police to consider enacting annual oversight of its camera system by an independent, outside agency. Other attendees said they are willing to give up some of their privacy to help deter crime.

Addressing the question of

privacy, McCulley said, "You have to have trust that we will not misuse the information."

Crime prevention, emergency tips

Police shared several crime prevention tips with residents to help them prepare for the holiday season.

Most burglaries have taken place between 5 and 10 p.m., Sgt. Anthony Kockler said, recommending that residents leave both indoor and outdoor lights on and turn on a radio or TV when they aren't at home. These steps make it appear as if someone is home, and criminals won't want to attempt to burglarize a home if they think someone is inside, he said.

Police recommended that residents activate their alarm systems when away and not place holiday gifts near the front windows of their homes. They also advised residents to avoid having items delivered while they are away.

Residents can register their home alarm systems with the police department, which monitors about 1,500 alarm systems,

according to the department.

One resident asked about installing more street lights to make it harder for burglars to go unnoticed. McCulley noted that it's part of Atherton's culture to have rural country-style lanes without sidewalks, which would make it difficult to add more lighting.

"It's the Atherton way," he said.

Police also addressed how to prepare for emergencies.

Windy weather has recently prompted PG&E to shut off power in communities across the state, including parts of San Mateo County, because of concerns about wildfires (Atherton has not been affected by a shutoff so far). McCulley noted that it's important for residents to prepare seven days' worth of supplies in case of an emergency, be it because of a large fire, earthquake or other emergency. He also suggested that residents invest in power generators in case of a blackout.

"The theme for everything tonight is 'get ready,'" McCulley said. ▣

Parcel tax renewal on March ballot

The Portola Valley School District board passed a resolution on Nov. 20 to put renewal of the parcel tax on the March ballot, according to Superintendent Roberta Zarea.

The parcel tax, which passed in

2013 with 69% of the vote, is set to expire in June 2021 and generates about \$1.2 million annually. Measure O consolidated two expiring measures: Measure C (with an annual tax of \$290 per parcel) and Measure D (\$168 per parcel)

and increased the rate by \$123 per parcel to \$581, district Chief Business Officer Connie Ngo said.

The election takes place on March 3. Two-thirds of voters must approve the tax for it to pass.

— By Angela Swartz



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Council ratifies full array of new Glens development rules

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

The Woodside Town Council on Nov. 19 unanimously passed the remainder of a development plan for the Glens neighborhood that the Planning Commission and planning department had been working on for more than a year.

The changes include incentives for building detached garages by allowing height increases for new garages on down-sloping lots.

The new rules also allow reduced setbacks for smaller, constrained lots maintaining existing development patterns, and a tiered approach for development on lots with more than a 35% slope.

The height-limit relaxation allows detached garages, carports and parking platforms to exceed the 17-foot overall height limit for accessory buildings, according to a staff report.

The setback rules allow the continuation of existing setback

lines, with a minimum of a 5-foot setback, according to the report.

On Nov. 12, the council passed a portion of the Glens plan that increases the maximum house size for smaller lots. It also allows homeowners count parking that is in the road right-of-way but off the pavement toward meeting the requirement for off-street parking.

The right to increase house size is on a sliding scale for lots beginning at 3,500 square feet, the smallest lot in the Glens, and ending at a lot area of 14,000 square feet — accounting for 51% of the lots in the neighborhood — with a cap of 3,000 square feet on the size of each house, according to the staff report.

This would result in an increase of about 500 square feet

in maximum home size, permitting additions to many houses that were not previously eligible under the old zoning rules.

Homes on lots between 14,000 square feet and 19,950 square feet will also have a 3,000-square-foot home size cap.

There will be no change to the maximum house size for lots above 20,000 square feet, with home sizes capped at 4,200 square feet, according to the staff report.

Since many streets in the Glens have a right-of-way of 40 feet — and with the paved portion often less than half of that — the Planning Commission determined that it was reasonable to allow parking on the unpaved right-of-way to count toward the minimum four required on-site

parking spaces.

The council turned aside arguments from some residents at the two meetings that loosening the rules could increase the population in the Glens, thereby causing more traffic congestion and possibly impeding drivers from leaving and emergency vehicles from entering the neighborhood during an emergency.

The neighborhood of 185 homes has two points where residents can enter or leave, according to the staff report.

Other residents argued that the previous zoning rules had prevented them from enlarging their homes to accommodate growing families and were artificially depressing property values.

The new rules will take effect Dec. 19. ■

Jan Eve Bray Didriksen

March 12, 1935 - October 23, 2019

Jan Didriksen, age 84 from Portola Valley, passed away peacefully while surrounded by her family on October 23rd in Palo Alto. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Neal Didriksen; her children Erik Didriksen and wife Susan, grandchildren Hart, Landen and Yale; daughter Karin and husband Simon North, and grandchildren Lachlan and Callum. Jan was preceded in death by her son, Ian Didriksen, and her parents John and Florence



Coomber. Jan immigrated to the USA in 1956 and began a career in Botany before obtaining a Master's in Biochemistry at Columbia University. She moved to California and met Neal during a hike with Sierra Club. Jan and Neal were married in 1969 and raised their three children in the Bay Area. The family enjoyed traveling, outdoor activities, and managing rental properties together.

Please join us for a celebration of life on December 6th at Valley Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. with a reception immediately following at Ladera Oaks Swim and Tennis Club in Portola Valley.

PAID OBITUARY

Lopez case continued, again, until next year

The jury trial of retired San Mateo County Sheriff's Deputy Juan Pablo Lopez was postponed, again, on Nov. 18 because of the busy schedule of defense attorney Tony Serra, according to San Mateo County District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe.

Judge Jonathan Karesh granted an extension until April

13 because Serra is currently involved in a multiple-defendant, special circumstances murder case in Alameda County that is scheduled to begin this week, Wagstaffe said.

A case was also set for motions to dismiss and to suppress evidence for Jan. 9, he said.

Lopez faces three counts of mortgage fraud, one count of conspiracy to commit a crime, one count of filing a false declaration of candidacy, and one count of

voting where he was not entitled to vote, according to Wagstaffe.

The former deputy ran as a write-in candidate for county sheriff against now-retired sheriff Greg Munks in 2014, and Serra said the current charges and other charges in the case that were previously dismissed were made in retaliation for Lopez's ballot-box challenge of his boss at the time, the predecessor to current Sheriff Carlos Bolanos.

— By Rick Radin

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RENTER PROTECTIONS

continued from page 5

Slocum said he favored the ordinance in part because he was "moved by the fact that it seems like most of those cases cited were from North Fair Oaks, frankly, and the coast as well."

Board President Carole Groom noted that the legislation didn't come from the county; it was handed down from the state, and the gap it left between the date when the legislation passed and when it took effect has yielded unintended consequences for the renters the legislation sought to protect.

"What we're trying to do today is protect those in our community who are the most vulnerable," she said. "If there are 10 or 11 of them, that's 10 or 11 too many in my mind. ... There (are) some very vulnerable people living in our county right now and they need all the help they can get."

The new law states that a landlord cannot evict a tenant unless he or she has a "just cause." Evictions are allowed in situations in which it's the tenant's fault — for example, if the tenant doesn't pay rent, is a nuisance, or violates another

lease term — and in some circumstances where the tenant is not at fault, such as if the landlord takes the housing units off the market, moves in, or allows a family member to move in. In the latter category of these "no-fault" evictions, landlords would be required to pay between one and four months' rent to the displaced tenants to help cover relocation costs.

In addition, a landlord may increase rent only by 5% plus the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index, or by 10%, whichever is lower. Since this year's annual increase in the index was 4%, the maximum allowable rent increase in 2020 will be 9%. And under the new law, there is a provision that beginning in 2020, the baseline rent to which that 9% increase can be applied is whatever a tenant's rent was on March 15 of this year.

There are a number of rental housing situations in which the new law does not apply. Single-family homes or condos not owned by a corporation; housing units that are 15 years old or newer; school dorms; or already-restricted affordable housing are not covered by the law's protections, for example. ■



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Board of Directors of the West Bay Sanitary District at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at the District Offices, located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California to consider the adoption of an ordinance amending Section 209 "Board Member Compensation" of the District's Code of General Regulations to increase the amount Board Members shall be compensated for attendance at meetings of the Board or for each day's service rendered as a Director by request of the Board from \$220.00 per day up to \$231.00 per day, not to exceed six days in any calendar month.

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

By: /s/ Phil Scott
Phil Scott
District Manager

U.S. soccer player revisits her elementary school

Tierna Davidson was part of the 2019 World Cup championship team

By **Angela Swartz**
Almanac Staff Writer

“Hometown hero” and U.S. women’s soccer team player Tierna Davidson, 21, visited Oak Knoll School in Menlo Park this morning (Nov. 22), where students, teachers and administrators celebrated her success.

The Menlo Park native and former Oak Knoll student answered students’ questions and shared advice with them during a schoolwide assembly. Kids welcomed Davidson, who was part of the 2019 World Cup-winning U.S. women’s soccer team, with applause and a colorfully painted welcome sign. Many students dressed in soccer jerseys and donned red, white and blue attire.

“I want you to go out into the world and live your best lives,” said Davidson, who noted that she hadn’t been to Oak Knoll for about 10 years. “Do what you want to do and never

apologize for it.”

Davidson, a Stanford University student, said she was initially more focused on colleges with aerospace programs because as a child she dreamed of becoming an astronaut for NASA. She changed her mind when she got the opportunity to play soccer at Stanford, she said.

During the assembly, Menlo Park Mayor Ray Mueller presented Davidson with a proclamation from the city to honor the “hometown hero’s” hard work and dedication to playing soccer.

Oak Knoll Principal Kristen Gracia described Davidson as a fantastic soccer player and teammate. During this year’s World Cup, the Oak Knoll kids enjoyed following the action, and watched a match during lunchtime one day, Menlo Park City School District officials noted.

“She’s a great example of what an Oak Knoll Otter does,” Gracia said.

Davidson left college a year



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Tierna Davidson, and her Oak Knoll Elementary School teachers at a Nov. 22 assembly at the school. Students are turning to look at Davidson’s parents, who attended the event.

early to become the first-round draft pick for the women’s professional soccer team, the Chicago Red Stars, according to a United States Soccer Federation profile of Davidson. She is finishing up her undergraduate

degree in “bits and pieces,” she told students.

Davidson grew up a 10-minute bike ride away from Stanford, according to her profile. As a girl, she idolized American professional soccer player Mia

Hamm, she told students.

A student asked if Davidson would play in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo next year, but the soccer star said it depends on how she recovers from an ankle injury. ▀



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Event spotlights Menlo Park's troubled race-based housing history

By **Kate Bradshaw**
Almanac Staff Writer

The high-ceilinged Sequoia room at Menlo Park's Arrillaga Family Recreation Center hummed as about a hundred people in small groups of four or five sat and discussed the racial history of zoning and housing policy in Menlo Park and other communities on the evening of Sunday, Nov. 17.

The event, called "The Color of Law: Menlo Park Edition," was organized by Menlo Together, a community organization that, according to its website, is made up of "Menlo Park and Peninsula residents who envision a city that is integrated and diverse, multi-generational, and environmentally sustainable." Members, it states, "advocate for an accessible and inviting downtown Menlo Park with housing at all affordability levels, and with pedestrian and bike-friendly spaces, developed

to be carbon free."

Before breaking into discussion groups, attendees were first given a quiz. Answers could be found by walking around the room and reading a set of posted sheets of paper making up a timeline, running from the late 1800s to today, going over historic events and practices that have shaped some of the racial inequalities that exist on the Peninsula today.

With permission from Menlo Together, The Almanac has converted the timeline, with some minor modifications, into an online interactive timeline.

Go to is.gd/menlohousinghistory to access the online timeline.

Heather Hopkins, an event organizer, said she spent somewhere between 40 and 60 hours digging through archives in the basement of the Menlo Park Library to find details and photographs of the area's civil rights history to incorporate into the timeline.

Among the facts that the quiz revealed were that:

■ The neighborhoods of Linfield Oaks, Ladera and the Willows prohibited people of African, Japanese or Chinese descent from living in their community through homeowner covenants in the 1920s and 1930s.

■ Menlo Park increased the minimum single-family lot size to 7,000 square feet from 5,000 square feet in 1953 to "protect" the city from multifamily "slums."

■ In the 1950s, real estate agents profited from buying homes from white families in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood at low prices and selling them to black families at higher rates, a process known as blockbusting.

The Almanac also explored how the history of this and other discriminatory practices has shaped environmental health inequities in southern San Mateo County in a recent

series titled "Uneven Ground," which can be accessed online at is.gd/unevenground1.

Participants were asked to talk through their responses to the information they were presented with, then reflect on it and consider whether there were connections between Menlo Park's history and its current challenges.

Several shared some of the main points of their discussions with the group of attendees afterward.

Dayna Chung, executive director of the Community Equity Collaborative, a group that co-sponsored the event, said that a person in her discussion group argued that "it is obscene for there to be such great wealth so proximate to such great need."

In concluding remarks, Menlo Together member Karen Grove, who also sits on the Menlo Park Housing Commission, argued that while the area's racially-based residential history can

be uncomfortable, "When we act to improve racial equity, all people benefit."

Additional supporting organizations of the event were the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, the Community Equity Collaborative, Tech Equity Collaborative, Peninsula for Everyone, Palo Alto Forward, Menlo Spark, Nuestra Casa, Youth United for Community Action, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto, the League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County, the Menlo Park Historical Association, Palo Alto Housing, and NAACP San Mateo County.

Among the attendees were four of five City Council members (Mayor Ray Mueller, Vice Mayor Cecilia Taylor, Betsy Nash and Drew Combs), state Senate candidate Josh Becker, Silicon Valley Community Foundation President and CEO Nicole Taylor, and City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson. ▣

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HOLIDAY FUND 2019



Finding help — and giving it back

Holiday Fund beneficiary EHP a one-stop shop for support services

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

The Ecumenical Hunger Program does much more than satisfy the community's need for food, Executive Director Lesia Preston emphasizes.

It's also a center for helping people help each other, helping its clients give back as volunteers and providing placement and support services to the community, she says.

Founded in 1975, EHP has grown to become the largest emergency food provider in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, according to the nonprofit's 2017-18 annual report.

The headquarters is housed in office and warehouse space surrounding a central parking lot at 2411 Pulgas Ave. in East Palo Alto, a block south of University Avenue.

Over time, the agency has branched out to provide for other needs for the individuals and families it serves, distributing clothing, furniture and household items.

It receives no government funding and relies on support

HOLIDAY FUND

Donations to The Almanac's Holiday Fund benefit the Ecumenical Hunger Program and nine other nonprofits serving the local community. To donate, use the coupon on Page 4 or go to siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund.

from individual donors, foundation grants and other donors.

Volunteers do much of the work, including repairing donated appliances that are distributed to clients.

For the fiscal year 2017-18, EHP received more than \$1.5 million in financial support and \$3.8 million worth of in-kind support in the form of volunteer hours and donations. During that year it served an array of needs of 452 families and 10,928 individuals through its emergency food program, with 26,000 food boxes.

Nearly 5,600 meals were served through its Hot Meal Program.

The agency, Preston says, attracts donors through speaking at community events and keeps track of volunteer hours to apply for grant funding.



Photo by Sammy Dallal/The Almanac

Doreen Huse holds her grandson Ngatulelei Kanongataa, 3. She regularly uses EHP services.

Preston began volunteering at EHP to lend a helping hand to the woman who was then executive director. That person just happened to be Preston's mother, Nevada Butler, who held the nonprofit's top post for 30 years. Preston moved into that position when Butler retired in 2011.

"When I see the children who used to come here with their

parents go on to get good jobs and support themselves, that's satisfying," Preston says. "It's amazing to see them go on and donate to us."

Early on, many of the clients' kids were dropouts from grade school, Butler notes, but today some of EHP clients' children have prospered. She cites as examples kids who attended Eastside College Preparatory School in East Palo Alto and went on to college at Stanford and the University of California at Berkeley.

"One of the dreams of the founders was to get people from this community to prosper and give back," Butler says. "To have them go through EHP makes you really proud to be a part of it."

Finding support

Current EHP client Geraldine Mwendu is lucky in many ways, but she's also self-sacrificing and determined to succeed. A native of Kenya, she won an opportunity to move to the United States in an immigration lottery sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

She says that she and her 6-year-old son, Jewel Muniyao,

didn't have anything and couldn't afford anything when they arrived, but EHP took care of that. The agency helped her find an apartment in Palo Alto and helped place Jewel in the Aspire East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy, a charter school near the EHP headquarters.

People in Palo Alto, she says, are "very good people, very welcoming."

The nonprofit also provided her with a bed, clothes and everything she needed to outfit an apartment, including kitchen items and other necessities, along with school supplies for Jewel.

Mwendu enrolled in a pre-nursing program at Foothill College and now takes the bus to and from the campus, which involves a two-hour round trip. Her schedule is daunting since she works full time in the evenings as a nursing assistant in Santa Clara after her daytime classwork is completed.

She is considering moving to Iowa in December to attend a one-year professional nursing program, but she hopes to return to the Bay Area to pursue a career.

'When I see the children who used to come here with their parents go on to get good jobs and support themselves, that's satisfying.'

LESIA PRESTON,
EHP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Photo by Sammy Dallal/The Almanac

Lesia Preston, executive director of the Ecumenical Hunger Program, left, Doreen Huse holding her grandson Ngatulelei Kanongataa, and Mwende Geraldine share a funny moment. Both Huse and Geraldine regularly use Ecumenical Hunger Program's services

See **GIVING BACK**, page 15



HOLIDAY FUND 2019



Photo by Sammy Dallal/The Almanac

Altigracia Hernandez over the last 10 years has regularly used Ecumenical Hunger Program's services, which can include food, clothing and resources to find affordable housing.

GIVING BACK

continued from page 14

Mwende said she and Jewel will need the jackets they received from EHP if they go to Iowa as they get used to the colder weather they will experience compared with that of California.

She's looking forward to completing a nursing program. "I want to surprise everyone when I tell them I got my RN," she says.

In contrast to Mwende, Allagracia Hernandez has lived most of her life in the Bay Area and has been a EHP client for more than 20 years.

The daughter of farm workers, the 45-year-old Hernandez was born in Anaheim and moved with her parents to East Palo Alto when she was 7.

Her parents traveled south to pick strawberries in Watsonville, and she remembers going with them to the farms where they worked. "I remember loving to sample the strawberries," she says.

A graduate of Sequoia High School, she now lives in East Palo Alto with her four children, ages 25, 18, 13 and 10.

Life can be a struggle, Hernandez says, adding that she depends on support from EHP to hold things together. The family gets help with food, clothing, blankets and school supplies.

She and the father of her children never married, but

"he helps out every once in a while," she says.

The toughest part is paying the rent, which is going up \$100 a month, Hernandez says. "Now rents are very high, and the help (from EHP) is a blessing to us," she adds.

After she drops the kids off at school, she often goes over to EHP to volunteer.

"Sometimes they need help and sometimes they don't," she says. "If they need help, I help them out."

Doreen Huse, 52, is a native of the south Pacific island of Tonga, and came to the United States when she was 12.

She and her husband Kevin, a traveling salesman, live in East

Palo Alto and have five children — two adopted and three of their own — and seven grandchildren.

Three of her children and all seven grandchildren live with her.

They've been lucky with housing and live in a house owned by her husband's aunt, which she bought for \$79,000.

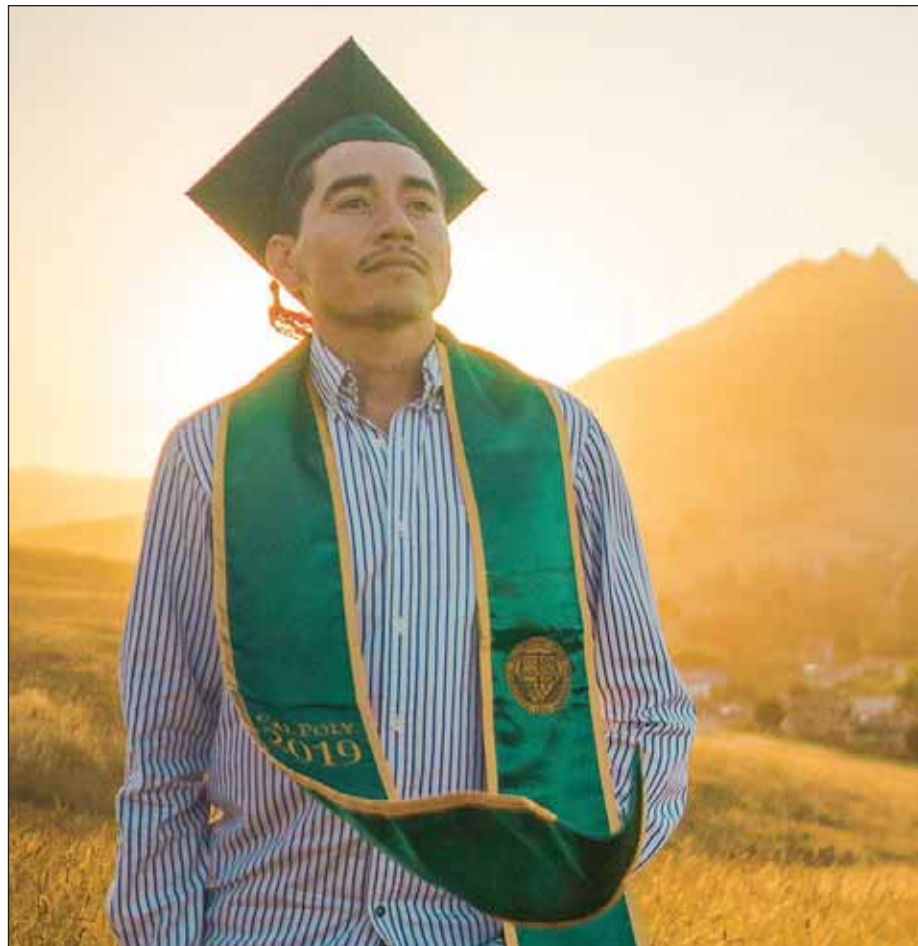
They receive food along with toys and clothes for the grandkids from EHP, Huse says.

"Tongans have big families," she notes. "Be fruitful and multiply."

Huse sang during an EHP community fundraising event in August, Butler says. "Doreen has heart of gold and a voice like an angel. She sews all of her clothes and clothes for other people." ■

'One of the dreams of the founders was to get people from this community to prosper and give back.'

NEVIDA BUTLER, FORMER EHP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Courtesy of Upward Scholars

Amado emigrated from Mexico unable to communicate in English. With help from Upward Scholars and Canada College programs, he now has a degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a good job.

Nonprofit offers support and hope

Upward Scholars helps students achieve their dreams for a better future

By Linda Prieto, executive director of Upward Scholars

When Upward Scholars alumnus Amado came to the U.S. from Mexico in 2011, he started at zero. "I couldn't communicate in English. I didn't have a job. I didn't have any experience in this country," Amado says. His first job was working as a line cook at a Mexican restaurant earning \$8 an hour.

In June, Amado graduated

with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and two months later began work as a project engineer at WebCore builders, a San Francisco-based general contractor.

Amado attributes much of his success to the support he received from Upward Scholars, a nonprofit that provides adult immigrants in our community the boost they need to move up the economic ladder

HOLIDAY FUND

Donations to The Almanac's Holiday Fund benefit Upward Scholars and nine other nonprofits serving the local community. To donate, use the coupon on Page 4 or go to siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund.

through education and vocational support.

Soon after coming to the U.S., Amado enrolled in ESL (English as a Second Language) classes at Sequoia Adult School, then started taking classes at Canada College. At that time, he also applied for a scholarship from Upward Scholars. During Amado's tenure at Canada, he received more than \$2,000 in support from Upward Scholars, which paid for his textbooks as well as bus passes that covered the cost of transportation to and from college.

"When I began my journey, the people at Upward Scholars were among the first people who believed in me," Amado says. "I will always be grateful for that."

Amado is one of 824 students Upward Scholars has served since 2011. Most Upward



Courtesy of Upward Scholars

Upward Scholars student Christen receives her laptop from, left to right, Janet Larson of Atherton, Upward Scholars Executive Director Linda Prieto, and Mary Lou Schiavo of Atherton.

See **UPWARD SCHOLARS**, page 16

My mother's house

By Donia Bijan

Every day for nearly 20 years, I drive or walk by the apartment complex on Sharon Road on my way to Safeway, or to the post office, or the dry cleaners, and every time, I wish the same wish, that my parents still lived there, and every time, this wish will not come true.

Across the street is La Entrada, where my son went to school from fourth to eighth grade. Down the street is the shopping center with a pharmacy and a Starbucks, and several other merchants that have come and gone over the years.

Except for fresh paint, very little has changed about the facade of Sharon View Apartments. It was brown, now it is burnt orange. The two-bedroom unit on the first floor nearest to the stairwell will always be my mother's house. It can only ever be called that even if my parents moved into a house and then a condominium after living there for seven years. It was the first place I entered when I came home from college for Thanksgiving. It was my first home in America.

My son is far away at college now but in the five years at La Entrada Middle School, with every pick-up, I wished for a parallel universe where he walked across the street to his grandmother's house for an after-school snack, for help with homework, or just to watch TV. To me, that imaginary scene is how the world should be — the one place where you can drop by unannounced and stay as long as you like.

I tell myself that my son cannot miss something he never had, but this absence of grandparents in his day-to-day life was like a hole in the middle of our house that we covered with a rug

and stepped around, but sometimes it swallowed us up.

Sometimes we talked about moving. Lately, I walk by my mother's house with different scenarios playing in my head. I make the same wish for her to be behind that door and pull me inside.

FIRST PERSON

Donia Bijan is a Bay Area chef and author who left Iran in 1978. She ran her acclaimed restaurant, L'Amie Donia, in Palo Alto for 10 years, and is the author of a memoir, "Maman's Homesick Pie," and a novel, "The Last Days of Cafe Leila." She lives in Menlo Park with her husband, the painter Mitchell Johnson, and their son.



In one scene she makes tea and we nibble on Digestive cookies. She says that I have lost weight, that I swim too much and eat too little. I put my head on her lap and tell her that I miss my son. That he is grown and far away. That his room is dark. Then, she says it's how it should be and I accept this. She reminds me that I did the same at an even younger age. That my suitcase was always packed.

In another scene, we uncork a bottle of wine because I finished my novel. I confide in her that it took two years to write it and days for it to be rejected. She speaks my nickname. "Tell me." So, I tell her the title and the story, and why I wrote it, and how I cried for the characters who are now homeless. She asks to read it. "Maybe you need to sit longer with your story." I ask to stay a while longer.

Some days, I wish to knock more urgently than others. Yesterday, I told

her that someone I love is very sick. How he looks to be wasting away. The radio played Schumann, a piano wrapped notes around us. Today, her face lights up with news of a baby. Soon she will be a great-grandmother and I will be a great aunt. She hops, forever spry.

I want to tell her these things in the house on Sharon Road with the swimming pool where we swam parallel laps sideways for seven summers, talking all the while. Our pool is still blue. A few yellow leaves float on the surface.

In Safeway, see me standing too long before the freezer studying the ice cream. I consider pumpkin but buy mint chip. I always buy mint chip. Her favorite, so it is mine. Home from college for the summer, we ate mint chip and watched old movies on channel 20, side by side on a couch she gave me when I moved into my first apartment. Hear her sigh and announce Ava Gardner, Jimmy Stewart, Lauren Bacall as if she's seeing them for the first time.

We live here now. Sometimes we talk about moving.

The neighborhood changes. Bigger houses go up. I hear Mom's apartment rents for a sum that makes smoke plume from my ears. On a warm day in fall, I walk by with a package to mail and peek through the fence at the balcony wondering if any of her plants have survived. To settle in, she composed a lush little garden in planters and containers. Azalea, gardenia, hydrangea, and half-dead plants she carried home, where in time they flourished. It made her happy nursing them, making a patch of earth hers. At Christmastime, she hung blinking lights on the ficus tree. Few people rented these units longer than a year — they certainly did not plant gardens or put gourds by the front door or leave gifts of cranberry sauce for neighbors. My mother, she lived for giving.



Donia and her mother, Atefeh, in a 1983 photo taken in Atefeh's Sharon Road apartment.

Across the street, small noisy children spill out onto the sidewalk. They carry enormous backpacks, poster boards, California Missions dioramas, Thanksgiving crafts. A boy named Sam crosses over, asks if I've seen his grandpa. I like his papier-mache turkey and tell him so. I keep him company or he keeps mine. Leaves the color of amber at our feet. Moments go by, and sure enough, there's his grandpa. Sam, mindful of me, yells "Happy Thanksgiving" over his shoulder. I wait for the sound of their voices to fade.

Only this morning, we talked about moving.

(Donia's mother Atefeh Bijan, an outspoken women's rights advocate and former member of parliament, left her native Iran in 1978 on the eve of the Islamic Revolution. A resident of Menlo Park for 25 years, she was a registered nurse at Kaiser Permanente. In 2004, she was struck and killed in the crosswalk in front of her home on Santa Cruz Avenue.)

UPWARD SCHOLARS

continued from page 15

Scholars students are immigrants who came to the United States as adults.

In addition to receiving textbooks and bus passes, many Upward Scholars students receive laptops that are critical to college success.

"Before I received my laptop, I did all of my assignments on my phone," says Christen, a recent laptop recipient who lives in Menlo Park and is taking ESL classes at Canada College. "This laptop changed my life."

The Upward Scholars laptop program receives critical technical support from Menlo Park resident Sue Kayton, who also is the coordinator of Menlo-Atherton High School's Computer Donation and Refurbish Program.

A cornerstone of Upward Scholars support is its tutoring program, in which students are paired with local volunteers who work with their students one-on-one at a time and location that is convenient to the tutor and the student. This semester, almost 80 students are working with an Upward Scholars tutor or mentor.

Menlo Park resident Deb Abel has been an Upward Scholars tutor for the past five years. "Tutoring an Upward Scholars student is a rewarding way to add real value to someone's life," Abel says. "And it's a tangible way to help students feel welcome in our country."



Courtesy of Upward Scholars

Amado took classes at Canada College before going on the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he earned a degree in civil engineering.

Willows toy drive effort in full gear; volunteers needed

Willows neighborhood residents have again organized a toy drive to benefit children in the Ravenswood City School District, which includes Belle Haven School in Menlo Park.

Local donors have until Dec. 7 to contribute to the effort — one that organizers hope will result in 2,500 toys and gift cards. Donors who would like to choose toys themselves are being urged to make their purchases from Cheeky Monkey in downtown Menlo Park, which has offered to discount direct purchases to benefit the toy drive, according to Chrisie Wendin, a key organizer of the effort. Unwrapped toys may be

dropped off at 1231 Woodland Ave. in Menlo Park — on the porch and in a plastic bag if it's raining.

Donated funds will be used by volunteers to purchase toys and \$25 gift cards.

Toy Drive organizers are also seeking volunteers to transport toys on Dec. 6 and 7; to help set up distribution on Dec. 7; and to help with distribution efforts on Sunday, Dec. 8, at the Ravenswood district office.

For information on where to send gift cards and checks for the drive or to volunteer, email Ravenswood-Toys2018@gmail.com, or call or text 650-207-3835.

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8086	India Berber	4.2 x 6	Black	\$875	\$250
8083	India Berber	4.1 x 5.11	Crème	\$1,005	\$250
9504	Pakistan Gabbeh	3.5 x 5.9	Burgandy/Blue	\$2,105	\$450
7322	Pakistan Gabbeh	4.1 x 6.2	Blue/Gold	\$2,085	\$450
7694	Afghan Balouch	3.10 x 5.10	Rust/Navy	\$705	\$250
10923	India Sultanabad	4 x 6	Brown/Red	\$1,805	\$450
9276	India Boro	4 x 6	Saffron	\$2,885	\$750
1316	Persian Gabbeh Soumak	3.11 x 5.10	Red	\$3,005	\$650
9509	India Fine Tabriz	4.1 x 6.4	Ivory/Blue	\$2,845	\$750
9511	India Fine Tabriz	4 x 6.3	Green/Beige	\$2,755	\$750
2615	Pakistan Tabriz 16/16	4.0 x 6.1	Blue/ Ivory	\$2,445	\$650
9506	Fine India Tabriz	4.2 x 6	Beige	\$2,755	\$750
7697	Afghan Balouch	3.4 x 6.1	Red	\$702	\$250
9507	India Fine Tabriz	4.2 x 6	Ivory/Blue	\$2,845	\$650
6291	Iran Gabbeh	4.5 x 6	Rust/Green	\$3,395	\$970
832	Pakistan Sultanabad	3.5 x 6.1	Beige	\$1,500	\$350
9273	India Boro	4.2 x 6	Blue	\$2,885	\$750
9280	India Boro	4.1 x 6.2	Blue	\$2,885	\$750
9271	India Haji Jalili Tabriz	4 x 6	Burgandy/Ivory	\$2,885	\$750
545	Pakistan Sultanabad	4.1 x 6.1	Red/Burgandy	\$1,685	\$350
8090	India Berber	4.2 x 5.11	Beige	\$865	\$295
1374	Tuffenian Rag Weave	4 x 6	Grey/Gold	\$5,505	\$950
10940	India Sultanabad	4.1 x 6.3	Silver/Sand	\$1,915	\$550
10936	India Sultanabad	4 x 5.9	Navy/Red	\$1,725	\$450
1240	India Kazak	4.2 x 5.11	Ivory/Blue	\$1,715	\$750
950	Iran Gabbeh	3.10 x 5.9	Gold/Red	\$4,185	\$750

5 x 7

10031	India Shiraz	5 x 6.9	Rust/Navy	\$3,355	\$950
8094	India Berber	5.10 x 6.10	Grey/Ivory	\$1,395	\$425
9030	Persian Gabbeh	4.8 x 6.7	Red/Gold	\$2,505	\$950
8735	Persian Kashkuli	4.6 x 6.5	Ivory/Rust	\$5,005	\$1,850
851	Nepal Modern	5.2 x 7.2	Black/Gold	\$2,505	\$850
1402	India Kazak	4.6 x 6.8	Navy/Beige	\$2,505	\$950
7368	Turkish Konya	4.5 x 7.2	Blue/Rust	\$1,255	\$450
11733	Old Persian Malayer	4.11 x 6.6	Rust/Navy	\$1,005	\$450
10828	India Kazak	4.10 x 6.10	Green/Rust	\$2,505	\$950
1053	Nepal Modern w/Silk	5.1 x 7.2	Green/Rust	\$5,715	\$1,525
952	Iran Gabbeh	5.2 x 7.7	Beige/Brown	\$4,755	\$950
9032	India Modern Jute	5.3 x 7.6	Gold/Brown	\$1,785	\$550
1115	Pakistan Sultanabad	5.7 x 7	Beige/Red	\$3,445	\$850
9951	India Ikat	4.9 x 7.10	Blue/Ivory	\$3,875	\$1,450
1785	Pakistan Chobi	5.7 x 7.9	Chocolate	\$4,675	\$1,250
9020	India Pebbles	5 x 7.10	Grey/Beige	\$2,505	\$850
2092	India Haji Jalili	5.3 x 7.1	Beige/Gold	\$3,275	\$1,250
9270	India Haji Jalili	5 x 7.9	Red/Burgandy	\$4,655	\$1,550
11730	Antique Persian Kurd	4.5x 7.7	Rust/Navy	\$1,005	\$450
8232	Pakistan Chobi	5.1 x 6.8	Beige	\$3,745	\$1,250
8734	Persian Kashkuli	5.8 x 7.8	Ivory/Navy	\$8,505	\$1,850

6 x 9

Stock #	Description	Size	Color	Original Price	Sale Price
2246	Pakistan Chobi	5.1 x 9.4	Chocolate	\$3,495	\$750
2612	Pakistan Chobi	6 x 8.10	Red/Ivory	\$3,975	\$950
12421	India Isfahan	5.10 x 9	Pink/Ivory	\$1,755	\$850
8440	India Oushak	6 x 9	Red/Ivory	\$7,905	\$1,250
5847	Turkish Kazak	6.3 x 9.3	Gold/Red	\$5,005	\$450
6082	India Bidjar	6.1 x 8.9	Rust/Blue	\$2,970	\$950
7206	India Soumak	6.2 x 8.10	Blue/Ivory	\$1,775	\$550
4996	India Sultanabad	6 x 9	Beige/Brown	\$2,575	\$950
8015	Pakistan Antique wash	5.10 x 8.10	Beige/Peach	\$2,505	\$950
811	Iran Gabbeh Soumak	5.7 x 7.10	Gold/Red	\$5,315	\$1,650
14532	Turkish Bidjar	6 x 9	Gold/Red	\$4,550	\$750
11734	Pakistan Chobi	6 x 9	Beige/Green	\$5,005	\$1,950
8228	India Oushak	6.8 x 8.7	Beige	\$7,445	\$1,950
9948	India Tabriz	5.10 x 8.10	Ivory/Brown	\$5,155	\$2,250
1126	Pakistan Chobi	6 x 9.4	Beige	\$3,805	\$950
1437	India Oushak	5.9 x 8.9	Beige/Rose	\$1,815	\$850
10693	India Kazak	6 x 9	Beige	\$4,415	\$1,250
1445	India Haji Jalili	6 x 9.1	Brown/Navy	\$6,685	\$1,950
294	Persian Kurd	5.3 x 9	Navy/Red	\$6,525	\$950
800	Pakistan Ghazani	6 x 8.8	Red/Burgandy	\$3,215	\$950
2180	India Herati	6.1 x 9.2	Navy/Red	\$4,745	\$950
2088	India Haji Jalili	7 x 9	Navy/Rust	\$6,300	\$1,950

8 x 10

9267	India Haji Jalili	7.10 x 10.2	Burgandy/Gold	\$9,565	\$2,675
9266	India Haji Jalili	7.10 x 10	Burgandy/Gray	\$9,405	\$2,575
2045	India Antique Look Kazak	7.8 x 9.9	Navy/Rust	\$6,775	\$1,950
9939	India Fine Tabriz	7.10 x 10.4	Rust\$8,905	\$1,950	
5078	India Esplande	7.11 x 10.4	Grey/Beige	\$5,595	\$1,650
11967	India William Morris Design	8 x 10	Rust/Beige	\$3,605	\$1,350
9830	Pakistan Bokhara	7.1 x 10.5	Taupe	\$6,005	\$990
6628	India Esplande	8 x 10.7	Beige/Gold	\$6,855	\$1,950
10554	India Kozen	7.10 x 9.10	Beige	\$8,405	\$1,990
1220	Rajasthan N	7.10 x 10	Buirgand/Brown	\$7,445	\$2,150
10059	Rajasthan K	8.3 x 10.1	Burgandy/Blue	\$7,505	\$990
12618	Afghan Elephant Foot	8.5 x 11	Burgandy	\$4,005	\$990
10896	India Rhapsody with Silk	7.9 x 10.3	Grey	\$8,965	\$1,550
10917	India Rathay with Silk	8 x 10	Beige/Blue	\$10,005	\$3,550
1101	Pakistan Aryana	8 x 9.7	Beige/Rust	\$7,220	\$1,950
7874	Pakistan Chobi	8.2 x 10.7	Rose/Ivory	\$4,500	\$990
12911	Rajstan K	8 x 10.2	Rust/Beige	\$5,045	\$2,250
7225	India Ikat	7.8 x 9.9	Navy/Rust	\$6,305	\$1,350
10538	India Mulberry with Silk	8.3 x 10.4	Blue	\$15,345	\$4,550
4004	India Pur Silk Tabriz	8.2 x 9.11	Beige /Green	\$19,295	\$2,950

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Barber retires his clippers after decades at Ladera Country Shopper

By Kate Daly
Special to the Almanac

As he gathers up his scissors, clippers and combs for the last time at Diane's Salon on Nov. 26, Steve Cervelli has a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday.

"I've just loved this area — I've loved working here, I have been blessed to work for great people and with great co-workers," he says as he retires from his job as a barber at Ladera Country Shopper for more than 40 years.

Starting with this holiday, he's ready at age 70 to spend more time with his family and friends, play golf, and travel.

His wife of almost 50 years, Maureen, recently retired from her human resources position with a medical group in the South Bay. And their daughter, too, retired from her hairdressing job in San Francisco.

Their son works at Apple and will continue on as one of Cervelli's two remaining customers. The other is the barber's 18-year-old grandson, who likes getting his buzz cuts for free.

Otherwise, the century-old, 8-foot-long wooden barber sign

that has hung in Portola Valley for so many years will now serve as a wall decoration at the Cervellis' home in San Jose.

"I won't miss the commute," Cervelli says.

He cut back his weekly work schedule to four days a couple of years ago, then to three days, and this year, two days, he says.

His last day of appointments is already filled with regulars eager to get in one last trim.

Cervelli figures about 10 of his customers have been coming to

him for 40 years. He names "some of the old-timers," clients such as the late singer Tennessee Ernie Ford and Portola Valley pioneer Walter Jelich.

"This area has changed tremendously in the last 47 years — it has gotten more upscale. There used be horses tied up at the

shopping center," he recalls. "It's not country any more."

"Most of my customers are a little older, not the newer generation of Silicon Valley. ... most have made it on their own and are grounded," he says.

One man works in Thailand and comes in every few weeks for a haircut. Other clients usually come in every four to six weeks,

In all his years he has never nicked a customer, not even when the 1989 Loma Prieta quake hit, and he and his customer dashed outside as racks of hair-care products spilled onto the floor.



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Steve Cervelli cuts Juan Navarro's hair, and has been doing so for nearly 40 years. Cervelli owned and operated the Razor's Edge at Ladera Country Shopper until 13 years ago, when he began renting a chair at Diane's Salon in the center.

and in the 20 minutes it takes Cervelli to trim head and facial hair they rarely discuss business.

"We just talk about other things ... travel, stuff they like to do," he notes.

He has been cutting hair since he was a teenager. His neighbor in San Mateo was a barber and encouraged him to go to barber school in San Francisco.

Right after high school, Cervelli spent a semester training to be a barber, went to College of San Mateo for two years, and then earned his teaching credential at San Jose State.

He found cutting hair was a good way to make money during college. Married at 20 and soon thereafter a father of two, he needed the income.

He taught history and government for a couple of years, but was finding it hard to move upward and onward. Then, barber Rod Lahman called to ask: Would he consider buying The Razor's Edge at Ladera Country Shopper?

That was in 1976, when haircuts cost \$2.70.

Cervelli said yes, and ran the barbershop until 13 years ago,

when a new owner took over the shopping center and raised the rent. Diane Pham owned the salon right next door and ended up taking over Cervelli's space for her nail business. He and two of his colleagues packed up their gear and switched to renting chairs at Diane's Salon.

Wearing casual clothes, Crocs, a warm smile, glasses and short white hair, Cervelli comes across as a friendly, calm person. In all his years he has never nicked a customer, not even when the 1989 Loma Prieta quake hit, and he and his customer dashed outside as racks of hair-care products spilled onto the floor.

When children are upset about getting their hair cut the best way to stop the crying, he has found, is to get the parents to leave and go out for a short walk.

Cervelli has been practicing Buddhism for 50 years. He's been to Japan four times, but says most of his involvement is local — through Soka Gakkai International, or SGI, a community-based lay organization with 4,500 to 5,000 members in San Jose.

During retirement he expects to increase the 15 to 20 hours each week he spends within the community doing "a lot of visiting people, chatting with people, volunteering at the community center, fixing things."

And maybe he'll find time to go "have coffee with people," because, he laughs, he's heard that's what retirees do. ▀

Esther Litton celebrates 100th birthday, enthusiastically

By Angela Swartz
Almanac Staff Writer

To celebrate a century of life, about 50 friends and relatives of former Portola Valley resident Esther Litton gathered at Parkside Grille on Nov. 1 for a birthday party.

Litton, who was born on Nov. 18, 1919, lived in Portola Valley from 1958 to 2016, but relocated to Southern California in recent years. She hitched a ride north with her son to the recent celebration in Portola Valley.

Litton and her late husband, Martin Litton, moved to Menlo Park in 1954 when Martin took a job as an editor at Sunset Magazine, she said in a recent interview with The Almanac. They then built a house on a 4-acre plot of land on Bear Gulch Drive in Portola Valley. The home's architecture resembled Sunset Magazine's adobe-style Menlo Park office. The Littons lived there with their four children — John, Kathleen, Donald and Helen.

"It was pure magic," Litton said. "It was full of live oaks, bay trees and madrones. The children had

trails down there. We worried they didn't have a big lawn, but it didn't really matter; they enjoyed the hills and wildflowers."

Litton worked for the Portola Valley School District for 30 years as an instructional materials center clerk. In her role, she cataloged materials from the county, mounted pictures, laminated materials, delivered mail in a "little bus," and did other odd jobs, she said.

"I made some wonderful friends with teachers and administrators," she said. "Friendships that have lasted for all of these years."

During her birthday lunch she reminisced with friends — many of whom are also former school district employees and part of a book club she belonged to that met for 25 years, she said.

Litton's decadeslong friend and former colleague Linda Vlasic told The Almanac that Litton is "absolutely, without a doubt, the most gracious, kind and delightful person" she knows.

"In her off the cuff comments at her party, she shared how grateful she was to bring up her children

and live in such a wonderful, caring, community," Vlasic said in an email. "Portola Valley is filled with amazing creative people who enriched our lives immensely."

Litton is an only child who was born in Los Angeles. Her mother, who worked in the embroidery department at MGM, raised her alone with the help of Litton's grandparents, who lived with them, Litton said.

She majored in art and minored in French at the University of California at Los Angeles, where she met her husband in a French class in 1927. The two married in 1942, she said.

The Litton family visited Yellowstone National Park, the Sierra Nevada and British Columbia, among other destinations, during summer vacations, she said. The vacations were part of Martin's work assignments during his 15 years at Sunset Magazine. Their children would be featured in photos that were part of his travel stories, she said, adding that to show the scale of mountain ranges and other natural features, the children would wear red shirts



Photo courtesy of Linda Vlasic

Esther Litton, in red, is surrounded by, from left, Marge Destaebler, who hosted the luncheon, Maryanne Anderson, Elaine Winer, Eve Mortensen and Linda Vlasic.

and be in the middle distance of the photo.

There were fewer restrictions, such as hiking or camping permit requirements, on the John Muir Trail and other areas during these trips than there are today, so it felt as if they "owned the mountain by ourselves," she said.

After her husband died in 2014, she sold their Portola Valley home and moved south to be

closer to family.

Litton said she doesn't have any tips for living a long life, but said she has always been a curious person and tried to learn a lot.

"I have no advice," she said. "I had no particular vitamins or exercises. I don't ever think I did things to get to be 100. I did try to be interested and enthusiastic about life and be aware of what was going on." ▀



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Friday, December 6
5:30–7:30 pm
Fremont Park
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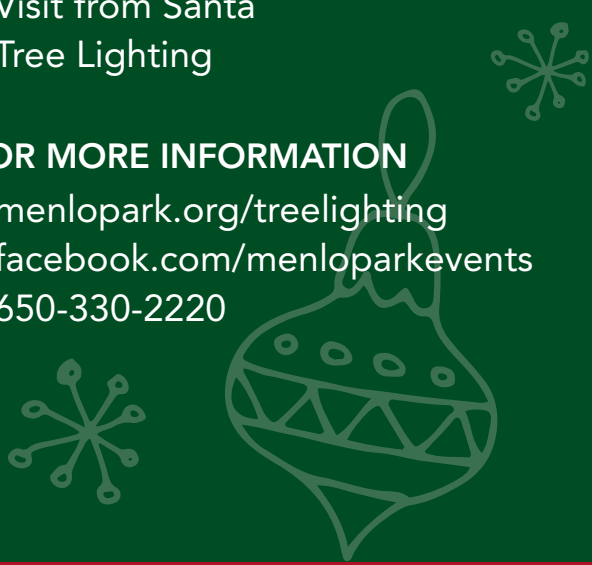
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- Tree Lighting

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995 Fictitious Name Statement

LA MICHOCANITA GRILL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 282980
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
La Michoacanita Grill, located at 1226 Jervis Ave., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JAIME E. CABALLERO
1226 Jervis Ave.
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 10-29-2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 29, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

DINO FIXES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 282823
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Dino Fixes, located at 1041 Ruth Ct., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
BERNARDINO CARDENAS
1041 Ruth Ct.
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 10/15/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 15, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019)

THE CLEAN MASTER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 282972
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
The Clean Master, located at 3510 Hoover St., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JAZMIN MARTINEZ
3510 Hoover St.
Redwood City, CA 94063
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/29/19.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 29, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 13, 20, 27; Dec. 4, 2019)

JR JANITORIAL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283020
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
JR Janitorial, located at 2224 Menalto Ave., East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MIGUEL MORENO MORENO
2224 Menalto Ave.
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/1/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 4, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 13, 20, 27; Dec. 4, 2019)

EMBLT FINANCIAL GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283035
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
EMBLT Financial Group, located at 80 Yale Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
SANFORD PRINGLE
80 Yale Rd.
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 November 5, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 20, 27; Dec. 4, 11, 2019)

GO EZ MAINTENANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283058
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Go EZ Maintenance, located at 618 Bay Road, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
FELIPE DAVID GOMEZ

618 Bay Road
Redwood City, CA 94063
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 12, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 11, 18, 2019)

THE UPS STORE #5639
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283171
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
The UPS Store #5639, located at 3130 Alpine Rd. Ste. 288, Portola Valley, CA 94028, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
HAN GROUP, LLC
3130 Alpine Rd. Ste. 288
Portola Valley, CA 94028
CA
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/30/2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 20, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 11, 18, 2019)

M&T TOWING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283166
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
M&T Towing, located at 427 Macarthur Ave., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MIGUEL ANGEL SANDOVAL LARA
2329 Menalto Ave.
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 N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 20, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 11, 18, 2019)

24 HOUR FRIENDLY HOME CARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283200
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
24 Hour Friendly Home Care, located at 6 Newell Ct., East Palo Alto, 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
LONGO MOELOTU TUKITOA
6 Newell Ct.
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 N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 22, 2019.
(ALM Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 11, 18, 2019)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. : 00000008515298 Title Order No.: 1110948 FHA/VA/PMI No.: ATTENTION RECORDER: THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO AN ATTACHED SUMMARY APPLIES ONLY TO COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR, NOT TO THIS RECORDED ORIGINAL NOTICE. NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 04/15/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 04/28/2004 as Instrument No. 2004-083184 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of SAN MATEO County, State of CALIFORNIA. EXECUTED BY: WILLIAM COATS AND SHERRI COATS, HUSBAND AND WIFE, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by California Civil Code 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 12/04/2019 TIME OF SALE: 1:00 PM PLACE OF SALE: AT THE MARSHALL STREET ENTRANCE TO THE HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS, 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY, CA 94061. STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 10 JOAQUIN ROAD, PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94028 APN#: 080-130-220 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances,

to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$634,394.72. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site www.servicelinkASAP.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 00000008515298. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: AGENCY SALES and POSTING 714-730-2727 www.servicelinkASAP.com BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP as Trustee 3990 E. Concourse Street, Suite 350 Ontario, CA 91764 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 10/29/2019 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. A-4709057 11/13/2019, 11/20/2019, 11/27/2019

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Menlo-Atherton Storage ("MAS") intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

MAS will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, at 9:30 AM on the premises where said property has been stored and is located at 3757 Haven Avenue, Menlo Park, San Mateo County, State of California, as follows: the property includes general household goods, tools, furniture, and cargo box.

Carrasco, Richard M.; Davis, Tyrone; Santiago, Lilitana; Weisman, Stuart; Manuofetoa, Taufu; Tuionetoa, Tefini; Zlogar, Alfred W.; House, April

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is where is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sales tax is applied to items sold. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between MAS and obligated party. Auctioneer Paul D. Tyson, Phone 650.366.3757, Surety Bond #251541C.
(ALM Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 2019)

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

CALENDAR

Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar to see more calendar listings

Theater

'Miracle on 34th Street' The holiday classic, "Miracle on 34th Street," is retold in the tradition of a live 1940s era radio broadcast. Nov. 29-Dec. 22; times vary. \$20-\$38; discount for students. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org

Music

Molly Tuttle and Tristan Scroggins Bluegrass singer-songwriters Molly Tuttle and Tristan Scroggins perform at the Woodside Village Church. Nov. 29, 7-10 p.m. \$15-\$25; discounts available. Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. m.bpt.me

Talks & Lectures

'As Long As You're Asking' "Seinfeld" actor Jason Alexander presents a variety of topics for the audience to pick from and discuss, later culminating in behind-the-scenes stories of his life, career and social activism. Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. \$85-\$120; discounts for members. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org

'What Maisie Knew' Bestselling author and former adjunct professor at University of California, Berkeley, Kimberly Ford, explores Henry James' "What Maisie Knew," a tale of a 19th-century London divorce from the perspective of the young Maisie. Dec. 2, 7-8:30 p.m. \$48. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

Museums & Exhibits

Cointraptions "Cointraptions: Classic Coin-Operated Machines" explores what life was like before the era of credit cards with classic coin-operated machines, including gambling devices, a mutoscope, vending machines and more. Through Feb. 16; Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. The Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. moah.org

Edward Weston and Ansel Adams This exhibit features landscapes, still lifes, nudes and portraits created by Edward Weston in Mexico and Ansel Adams in the American southwest. Nov. 27-Jan. 6, 2020; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'Richard Diebenkorn An intimate and interactive installation of famed Bay Area artist Richard Diebenkorn, shedding light on the artist's process and his shift from figurative to more abstract work. Ongoing; times vary; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'Surf Sequence' "Surf Sequence" explores Ansel Adams' relationship with water in different forms with a series of spontaneously captured surf images. Nov. 27-May 18, 2020; times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Galleries

'Collusion' A joint exhibition by Inna Chernyikina and Marina Goldberg, "Collusion" displays oil and water color paintings of landscapes, cityscapes and still lifes. Through Dec. 31, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. portolaartgallery.com

Dance

Persian Dance This 11-class series explores the fundamental techniques of classical

miniature and regional folkloric Iranian dances. Through Dec. 9; Mondays, 8-9 p.m. \$146-\$201. Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

'The Christmas Ballet' "The Christmas Ballet" features two acts, classical ballet and festive contemporary numbers, celebrating the holiday season. Nov. 29-Dec.1; times vary. \$25-\$86; discounts available. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. smuinballet.org

Food & Drink

Holiday Teas Each traditional-tiered tray served at every table includes finger sandwiches, freshly-made scones and delicate holiday treats, all served alongside clotted cream and Filoli Clock Tower Shop jam. Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m. \$65-\$75; discount for members. Filoli Gardens, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

Wine Appreciation Class Local wine connoisseur Judy Morley teaches how to identify underlying flavors in various types of wines, taking the mystery out of wine purchasing. Dec. 2 and 16, 4:30-6 p.m. \$60-\$80; discounts for members. Little House Community Center, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. peninsulavolunteers.org

Lessons & Classes

'My Dragon & Me' This weekly course is designed to be a bonding experience as participants sing, dance and tell stories with their bodies and voices. Each week, the class will repeat songs and dances while the children engage in dramatized interactive storytelling. Through Dec. 10; Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-noon. \$10; Redwood City residents free. Dragon Theatre, 2120 Broadway St., Redwood City. rwcyt.org

The Bugs of Pokemon Stephanie Dole, Ph.D., leads a workshop for students K-8, sharing how the creator of "Pokemon," Satoshi Tajiri, based his universe on real life bugs and insects. Dec. 1, 2-3 p.m. Free. Belle Haven Library, 413 Ivy Drive, Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Health & Wellness

Healing From Trauma Through Traditional Arts The Omnira Institute, Halau 'O Kawanuhi and the Alliance for California Traditional Arts give a glimpse of their respective programs, art forms and healing processes. Dec. 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Outdoor Recreation

Garden Lights Holidays at Filoli: Garden Lights features an outdoor lights program with festive lights throughout the estate, the Terrace Bar with apple cider and mulled wine. Nov. 29-Dec. 29, 4-8 p.m. \$35 adults; \$18 kids ages 5-17; Children 5 and under free. Filoli Gardens, 86 Old Canada Road, Woodside. facebook.com

Religion & Spirituality

Windhover Tour Open for public tours every Saturday, the Windhover building is a meditative space built with the intention of promoting mental and spiritual well-being. Ongoing; Saturdays, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 370 Santa Teresa St., Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

Community Groups

Spinners Meet Meet with hand spinning enthusiasts to share spinning techniques and ideas for creating unique yarns. Dec. 1, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Marketplace

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Holiday Fund helps to brighten season for all

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving, anticipating more traditional holiday season festivities in the coming weeks.

Many Almanac readers have honored another end-of-year tradition over the last 26 years by giving generously to our annual Holiday Fund in support of those less fortunate, who benefit not only through the holidays but all year round.

This year the donations will support 10 nonprofits that help the poor, the hungry, those in need of medical care, kids from disadvantaged families or in need of mental health services, youth and adults struggling to acquire literacy skills and a general education, and many others who need a helping hand to get through difficulties in their lives. Last year, Almanac readers and Holiday Fund supporting foundations raised \$150,000 for those nonprofits.

Donations are handled by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which doesn't charge for administering the program. Matching funds will be provided by the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation — community nonprofits that have supported the Almanac's Holiday Fund for many years.

Please consider making a contribution to the Holiday Fund this year by using the coupon elsewhere in this newspaper, or online at siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund.

Here are this year's beneficiaries:

EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Boys & Girls Clubs

With locations in Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and the North Fair Oaks neighborhood in Redwood City, this organization provides academic and after-school support, enrichment, mentoring and activities for low-income K-12 kids.

Ecumenical Hunger Program

EHP provides emergency food, clothing and household essentials, and sometimes financial assistance, to families, regardless of religious background. At Thanksgiving and Christmas time, the program provides baskets to more than 2,000 households.

LifeMoves

With 18 sites on the Peninsula and throughout Silicon Valley, this program each year serves thousands of homeless people, including families. It offers one-on-one counseling, assistance in securing housing, children's programs and training in comprehensive skills so that its clients can achieve self-sufficiency.

Project Read-Menlo Park

Project Read offers free literacy services to local adults. It trains volunteers to work one-on-one with students wishing to improve their basic reading, writing and English language skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, at work, and in the community. It also sponsors basic English classes and weekly conversation clubs.

Ravenswood Family Health Center

The center provides primary medical and preventive health care at a clinic in East Palo Alto. Most of the center's registered patients, who number more than 17,000, are low-income and uninsured, and live in the Belle Haven, East Palo Alto, and North Fair Oaks areas.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

St. Anthony's, the largest dining room for the needy between San Francisco and San Jose, serves hundreds of hot meals six days a week to people in need. It also offers take-home bags of food, and emergency food and clothing assistance.

Second Harvest Food Bank

Funded through private and business donations, Second Harvest distributes food to the hungry through more than 770 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. More than 250,000 people each month are beneficiaries of the program, which

Upward Scholars

This program, formerly the Sequoia Adult School Scholars, provides financial support, tutoring, textbooks and other assistance to local low-income adults, allowing them to continue their education, improve their workplace prospects, and serve as role models and advocates for their kids.

Fair Oaks Community Center

The center is part of the core network of community service agencies of San Mateo County. It offers multiple services — including senior programs, housing and employment assistance, and crisis intervention — to residents of the broader Redwood City/Fair Oaks community.

StarVista

StarVista serves more than 41,000 people in San Mateo County with counseling, prevention, early intervention, education and residential programs. It also provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services, including a 24-hour suicide crisis hotline, a parent support hotline, and an alcohol and drug helpline.

Setting the record straight on Neely Wine plans

By Lucy Neely

On Nov. 13 the Almanac published an article titled "Neely Wine's tasting room plans meet further resistance by residents." The article contained numerous errors (see printed corrections in this issue), which had the effect of exaggerating both our proposal and the opposition to it expressed at the Nov. 6 Portola Valley Planning Commission meeting. I appreciate that the editor has invited me to respond to the article with a Guest Opinion.

The article characterizes the meeting as primarily antagonistic when actually it was helpful. The reporter's dramatic tone does disservice to this valuable town process. Indeed, many individuals have expressed to me their frustration with Portola Valley — its processes, residents, and civil servants — as a result of reading this article.

The reporter misrepresented the Planning Commission as being oppositional

to our proposal. This misrepresentation is clear if you compare the article to the meeting minutes, available from the town, and it does a disservice to the planning commissioners, who are

volunteers working to serve their community in a reasonable and balanced manner. The commissioners have approached our proposal with due caution, and also with open-mindedness, genuinely searching for what will best serve Portola Valley.

I have found the planning process to be intelligent and effective; slow — sure — but it facilitates an inclusive community conversation to inform the development of the proposal. And I feel grateful to my neighbors who have expressed their concerns. Public participation has helped guide our proposal towards the greatest



Lucy Neely operates Neely Wine with her brother, Simon Neely. She is the daughter of winery founders Kirk Neely and Holly Myers.

GUEST OPINION

potential benefit to the community at the least burden.

In our most recent revision of the proposal, submitted last week, we have reduced our requests to the minimum necessary to operate

a financially viable wine business in this circumstance. To limit visitors and their impacts, we have agreed to operate entirely by reservation. We have ceded all events except those necessary to support a successful Wine Club. And we are entirely on board to prevent and mitigate the noise and traffic about which our neighbors are concerned!

The article described our family as saying that we "might be forced to sell the property for housing development if a tasting room is not allowed." We have *not* said this — please read the minutes.

Our primary intention in the wine business is to support the financial viability of maintaining the larger land base in open space and agriculture. However, in considering possible futures, planning commissioners are aware of and interested in the subdivision potential of the land as relevant information. As has been noted, we are a "bird-in-hand" — a family that wants to keep this land in open space and agriculture.

After taking in our presentation at the Nov. 6 meeting, one neighbor who had previously written a letter in opposition to our proposal changed their mind and joined our Wine Club. Maybe our family and proposal are not quite as disagreeable as the reporter portrayed in his article. Our vision is one of connection: local agriculture, a sense of place, a local wine club, a 5,500-year-old alchemical art and science, and a business that benefits the community it serves — not least because it maintains their view-shed as open space.



Elegant Menlo Commons Condominium

2140 Santa Cruz Avenue #E204, Menlo Park

2 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,200 Sq Ft | \$995,000

Welcome home to this perfectly located and stylishly updated two bedroom, two bathroom condominium in the sought after Menlo Commons community designed for active adults 55 years and over! With an open and inviting floor plan featuring generously proportioned rooms, this "stretch" unit is ideal for the way we live, work and entertain today. The oversized windows and private covered balcony offer ample light, tree top views and comfortable outdoor enjoyment. Host friends in the spacious living / dining room while preparing appetizers in the well appointed kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Relax in the expansive master suite with its lovely seating area which could also be arranged as an office or study. Stay healthy by taking advantage of the community pool, spa and exercise facilities. Schedule group meetings or social gatherings in the elegant clubhouse facilities. Participate in classes or take in a concert, play or sporting event at close by Stanford University. This special condominium has all the requisites for retirement Silicon Valley style!

Open House Saturday and Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm



Colleen Foraker
 Realtor
 650.380.0085
 colleen@colleenforaker.com
 DRE 01349099



Rankings provided courtesy of Real Trends, The Thousand list of individual agents by total sales volume in 2018. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.



HAPPY
Thanksgiving

It's the season of thanks, and here at DeLeon Realty, we're thankful for our amazing clients and the wonderful communities we are proud to serve.

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy, festive holiday!



deleon



Menlo Park | \$1,849,000

This 2br/2ba Spanish style home has a remodeled kitchen, guest room w/kitchenette sits on a 9K sqft lot. The living room has a classic fireplace with a dining area combination all in random plank hardwood flooring.

J.D. Anagnostou
650.704.5134
jdsoldit@pacbell.net
CalRE# 00900237



Los Altos | \$4,388,000

Magnificent 4br/3.5ba home on large lot. Boasting an open floor plan, chefs kitchen, high ceiling, master suite retreat, office, resort back yard.

Vicki Geers
650.269.9470
vicki@vickigeers.com
CalRE# 01191911



San Mateo | \$699,999

Lauriedale Condominiums 1br/1ba unit w/lovely views of greenbelt from back deck.

Michael Galindo
510.706.3755
michael.galindo@cbrnocal.com
CalRE# 01998769



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