

The Almanac

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

JANUARY 15, 2020 | VOL. 55 NO. 19



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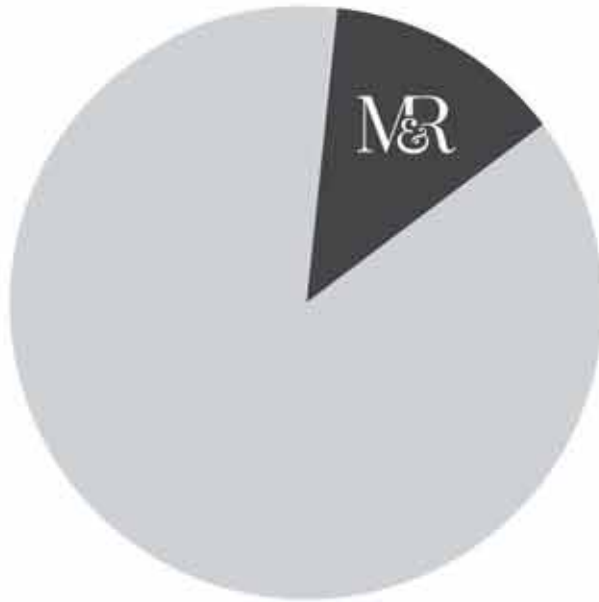
*Classmates of old collaborate
on an anecdotal memoir
about their long-ago school years*

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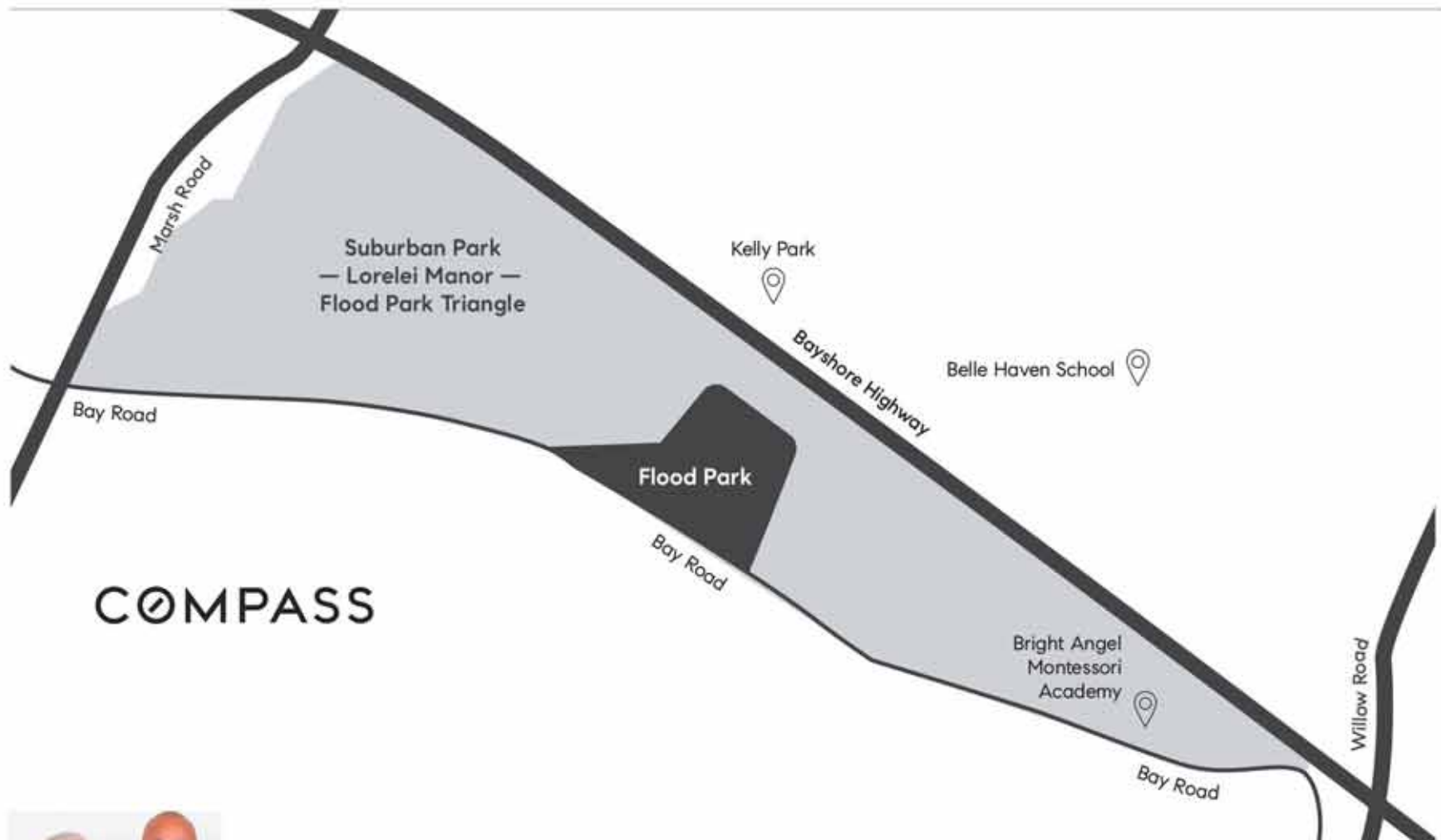
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY

Downtown employers adapt to new minimum wage law

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

With the implementation of Menlo Park's new \$15-an-hour minimum wage ordinance on Jan. 1, The Almanac asked local businesses what impacts, if any, they were experiencing.

The new ordinance is intended to accelerate the state's plan to raise worker salaries statewide to a minimum of \$15 by Jan. 1, 2023. The new state minimum wage for 2020 is \$12 an hour for employers with 25 or fewer employees, and \$13 an hour for employers with 26 or more employees.

Menlo Park's minimum wage will rise in future years based on annual inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, and will be capped at 3%. The ordinance applies only to businesses located within the geographic boundaries of incorporated Menlo Park; unincorporated areas are not subject to the law.

Of 15 downtown businesses along Santa Cruz Avenue that The Almanac canvassed, only three confirmed that employee wages would be affected by the city's new ordinance: Cheeky Monkey Toys, Susie Cakes and Juban Yakiniku.

Anna Chow, owner of Cheeky Monkey Toys, said it is too early to know how the ordinance would affect business.

"I mean, we've done our budgeting but ... (we're) only a week into the new year. It's too early to tell the full impact," she said.

She noted, however, that the business had preemptively stopped hiring employees under 18 years old.

"We put that in place just to reflect their experience level and maturity level with the new minimum wage," she said.

Michael Mai, kitchen manager at the Japanese restaurant Juban Yakiniku, said that up until now, the business has offered the state minimum wage to servers, plus tips, while kitchen staff have already earned \$15 an hour. Now all employees will be guaranteed at least \$15 an hour.

Carol Cirilli, general manager at Susie Cakes, said that a bigger challenge for the business' success than a minimum wage increase, which was planned for in the store's budgets, is "days like today." The bakery had no customers at the time of The Almanac's visit.

Fortunately, she said, while some "disruptive" delivery services like Amazon have harmed



Photo by Sammy Dallal/The Almanac

A pedestrian walks past Cheeky Monkey Toys on Santa Cruz Avenue in Menlo Park. The business will no longer hire employees under 18 years of age in response to the city's new \$15-an-hour minimum wage

small retail businesses, those that help deliver food have proved beneficial. Businesses like DoorDash and Postmates have enabled the bakery to offer delivery services to their customers and can increase demand. The presence of large nearby businesses also generates demand for catering services, she added.

Other downtown employees

say they haven't been affected by the minimum wage ordinance because they already earn more than \$15 an hour.

Salons are typically run with independent contractors who set their own rates, and all charge more than \$15 an hour, said Delia Snyder at the hair salon HumaniQ. The manager at Touch of Elegance salon said that

the ordinance would not impact that business either.

A worker at Mr. Green Bubble, a new boba shop at 604 Santa Cruz Ave., said that the business has another franchise location in the East Bay where the minimum wage had already risen to \$15 an hour, so they were prepared.

See **MINIMUM WAGE**, page 7

Residents urge Facebook to preserve Belle Haven history

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park residents packed the Belle Haven senior center on the morning of Saturday, Jan. 11, to hear more about Facebook's proposal to build a new community center and library at the Senior Center/Belle Haven campus.

Facebook is working with architectural firm Hart Howerton, and one of the firm's partners, Eron Ashley, explained to attendees some of the ideas the team has been discussing over the past few months.

The proposal is to build a new community and fitness center and a library with amenities for youth, adults and seniors at the existing site of the Menlo Park Senior Center and Onetta Harris Community Center.

Ashley said that one idea to incorporate into the new plans is to make it easier for people to access Kelly Park, which is somewhat hidden behind the Onetta

Harris Community Center and Senior Center in the current layout. The pool and the youth center are also not easy to find if you're not already familiar with the campus, he noted.

He presented some preliminary drawings of a three-story facility with a breezeway in the middle through which people could more easily access Kelly Park. On one side, near the pool, might be a locker room where people can have easy access to a pool, a gym with a basketball court, a youth center, and an upstairs fitness area; on the other side might be classrooms and meeting spaces.

The third floor, more removed from the noise of lower levels, might be dedicated to library space.

Making the building taller could result in more space around the park and pool for picnic or barbecue areas, he added, but noted that Hart Howerton and Facebook want to accurately reflect the community's input.

In order to keep the project on

its current timeline — an aggressive plan to start building in a year — the project will retain the total square footage of what's already on the site, expanding only about 10 to 15%, while keeping the same amount of parking, Ashley explained.

One of the primary concerns community members raised in a question-and-answer portion of the meeting was whether the name of the facility would be changed; it is called the Onetta Harris Community Center after Onetta Harris, a longtime community activist. The matter has not been discussed at all by the City Council or Facebook representatives, and the decision will ultimately be made by the City Council, explained City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson.

The discussion quickly brought to the fore some of the uncomfortable questions that might be expected when a giant company, Facebook, offers to rebuild a community institution in a neighborhood that's largely lower-income

and has a majority of Latino and African American residents. The questions are all the more pointed because some neighborhood residents blame Facebook, to varying degrees, for making the neighborhood less and less affordable.

Put bluntly, one resident said, "The bottom line is, this smacks of privilege."

He continued, urging Facebook to keep Harris' name on the community center. "Don't change the history of the community for the sake of privilege."

Another attendee talked about the significance of Onetta Harris's contributions to the community and added, "We cannot let Facebook's wealth undermine the history of our community and we will take a stand."

Yet others argued for the acute need for upgraded community center facilities.

Citlalli Contreras-Sandoval, a college student who grew up in Belle Haven, said, "It feels like (the new facility proposal) is not for me. ... Why is this only happening

because of Facebook? It should have happened 10 or 15 years ago."

As a little girl growing up in the neighborhood, she said, she would study the city's activity catalog, unable to participate in the programs at the Burgess center because they were too expensive; programs at the Belle Haven location were cheaper, but were also, in some cases, canceled. She said she goes back to the Belle Haven library, located at Belle Haven Elementary School, and sees the same faded picture books she read as a child.

Noting that Facebook is calling the project a "gift to the community," she said, "It could also be a curse."

"I didn't see anything about job development or legal help to keep people who want to stay here," she continued. "We're finally getting what we need in our community and we can't live here anymore."

Mayor Cecilia Taylor said she

See **FACEBOOK**, page 14

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NEWS

Slocum leads county Board of Supervisors for year-long term

By Rick Radin

Almanac Staff Writer

San Mateo County District 4 Supervisor Warren Slocum began a second term as president of the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday (Jan. 7), and he is looking forward to handling a slate of issues countywide and in his district in 2020.

On the radar screen for District 4 — which includes Redwood City, East Palo Alto, part of Menlo Park east of El Camino Real and the unincorporated community of North Fair Oaks — are the Middlefield Road Improvement Program and a community plan for North Fair Oaks.

Slocum, 71, also wants to continue to prioritize veteran care and efforts to reduce homelessness countywide this year.

After four years of planning, the \$12 million Middlefield Road project will begin at the end of summer. It will include undergrounding of power poles and reducing the road from four lanes to three between Pacific Avenue and Fifth Avenue in Redwood City and North Fair Oaks.

“We took public input on the project for the area based on what people have told us they wanted to see,” Slocum said in a phone interview. “They wanted safer crossings and safer streets that are more walkable.”

The work should give local merchants more customers and better foot traffic, he noted.

“Part of the process was getting community input for a year and getting approval from PG&E for the undergrounding,” Slocum said.

The project will include parallel parking spots, bike lanes and wider sidewalks that will allow for benches, landscaping, trash receptacles, street art and other amenities, giving a distressed area a more inviting look.

The county has been working on the North Fair Oaks Community Plan since 2012. One aspect of the plan calls for a transportation hub that would include buses, light rail and a biking center with storage lockers.

The hub could be next to the Fair Oaks Health Clinic on Middlefield, adjacent to the Caltrain tracks, Slocum said.

“The county is steam-cleaning the sidewalks and getting the area a little more shopper-friendly,” he said. “We’re trying



Photo courtesy of San Mateo County

Warren Slocum has begun his second term as board president.

‘I have always been a generalist manager and was very passionate about public service. I came from a family of entrepreneurs and wanted public service to be my life’s work.’

WARREN SLOCUM

to make it a destination shopping area as opposed to four lanes and cut-through traffic.”

The plan establishes goals for the development of North Fair Oaks for the next 25 to 30 years, incorporating programs, regulations and strategies to plan the future of the community, according to the county Building and Planning Department.

Homelessness

Along with Bay Area communities in general, the county will continue to focus on the homelessness issue, Slocum said.

Recreational vehicles are becoming more prevalent on city streets and are not limited to El Camino Real anymore, he noted.

“Also, in certain parts, it’s affecting retail, with customers sometimes afraid of seeing the RVs in front of businesses,” Slocum said.

The board is weighing proposals for safe RV parking lots and seeking ways to build more affordable housing and reduce

See **SLOCUM**, page 11



Image courtesy Greystar/Heller Manus Architects.

A rendering of “Menlo Portal,” a proposed project that would build 335 apartments, some office space and a small amount of commercial space at 115 Independence Drive and 104 and 110 Constitution Drive in Menlo Park.

City takes on second Greystar plan to add hundreds of apartments

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Portal, the tentative name for a second proposed project by developer Greystar that would build hundreds of apartments on Menlo Park’s Bay side, is moving forward, Menlo Park Principal Planner Kyle Perata announced on Jan. 7.

The proposal would add 335 new apartments, about 35,000 square feet of office space and about 1,600 square feet of commercial space on a 3.2-acre site at 115 Independence Drive and 104 and 110 Constitution Drive.

The project will be entering its environmental review phase with the release of a “notice of preparation” of an environmental impact study. With such proposals, the city is required to conduct an environmental impact analysis to identify potential areas where the project could have a negative impact on the environment, and establish a plan to mitigate or minimize

those impacts.

The step comes only weeks after the Planning Commission, on Dec. 16, had the same required discussion with Greystar over the developer’s Menlo Uptown proposal. That development would add 483 new housing units — 441 rental apartments and 42 condos — at 141 Jefferson Drive and 180-186 Constitution Drive.

Together, both projects would add 818 new homes to a city where jobs far outnumber housing units.

Last July, when the Planning Commission first discussed the Menlo Portal project, commissioner feedback included: support for more than the required minimum 15% of units designated to be below market rate for a range of lower-income renters; a requirement that the developer create a plan to reduce traffic trips by more than 20%; support for a publicly accessible open space that could be used for seating or live music; and the suggestion that the developer work

with the community to figure out what “community amenity” or publicly accessible benefit should be required in exchange for being able to build at a higher density than would otherwise be permitted in the city.

The announcement opens up a 30-day period during which people can comment on the scope of the environmental review process and make suggestions on what topics should be evaluated for potential environmental impact.

The deadline to comment is Friday, Feb. 7. People can submit comments by email to Kaitie Meador at kmmeador@menlo-park.org or by mail to Meador at the Community Development Department, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025.

People can also comment during the Planning Commission’s scheduled hearing on the topic, set for Monday, Jan. 27. The commission is set to meet at 7 p.m. that night in the council chambers at 701 Laurel St. in Menlo Park. ■

MINIMUM WAGE

continued from page 5

Rachel Schroeder at Goodwill Boutique said that the business has paid \$15 an hour for about six months.

Some others interviewed for this story said they don’t think that \$15 an hour is enough.

Lana Keyhan at Ruby Living, a furniture store, said she thinks that something closer to \$20 was fair. Noting that \$15 an hour is the earning before taxes, she conducted some preliminary calculations on a calculator before looking up and asking, “How can you live (on that)?”

Other operations with less traditional business models also weighed in. The Discovery Shop, which supports the American Cancer Society, is led by Kerry O’Donnell and runs primarily on volunteer labor, with only two full-time staffers. O’Donnell said she doesn’t think \$15 an hour is high enough, but added, “I think it’s going to help.”

Does the tight labor market affect the shop’s supply of volunteers willing to work for free? “We have good luck,” O’Donnell said, adding that people come to the shop to volunteer while job searching,

or looking for a more flexible schedule. For instance, she said, one volunteer began working at the shop while she was undergoing physical therapy.

Under the new ordinance, employees can file a complaint with the city about any business not in compliance. People who suspect noncompliance may contact Assistant City Manager Nick Pegueros at (650) 330-6619 or nmpegueros@menlopark.org.

Has your business been impacted by the city’s new minimum wage ordinance? Let us know by emailing kbradshaw@almanacnews.com. ■

REAL ESTATE REVIEW WITH MANDY MONTOYA



Looking at data for the full year of 2019, overall in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties prices remained relatively flat. We’ve had such tremendous price appreciation over the past 10 years so this is a good indicator of a healthy, stable market. Sales prices in Atherton, Menlo Park, Portola Valley and Woodside show more fluctuation but the data set is small. If you’re considering buying or selling and your outlook is at least 5 years, this is a great time to make a move. Contact me for strategic guidance.

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Santa Clara County	\$1,260,000	\$1,310,000
Atherton	\$6,000,000	\$6,650,000
Menlo Park	\$2,400,000	\$2,600,000
Portola Valley	\$3,042,500	\$3,330,000
Woodside	\$2,550,000	\$3,262,500

Source: MLS data

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New Portola Valley mayor embraces thoughtful change

Conservation practices, wildfire preparedness and housing among topics on the checklist

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

As a professional energy consultant, new Portola Valley Mayor Jeff Aalfs is well-positioned to help write new rules to make homes more energy-efficient, one of the Town Council's objectives for 2020.

The goal is for all new construction projects and major remodels to use recycled materials, all-electric appliances and electric space heating, to keep Portola Valley in the forefront of innovation in energy conservation.

"This is what all building is going to look like in the future," Aalfs said in a phone interview.

Requiring more energy efficiency in new construction is one of several initiatives the Town Council is planning for in 2020, according to a list of priorities published by the town.

Other plans include continuing to work on a long-term goal of providing affordable housing, preparing the community for wildfires and other emergencies, making streets and roads safer for pedestrians and encouraging more volunteering, according to the priority list.

The need to build affordable housing has been a hot topic in Portola Valley, generating a conflict between a desire of many

'There's going to be a very public discussion of the (Stanford Wedge housing) project. A lot of details have to be ironed out about how to proceed and what it looks like, and not all the objections are going to be overcome.'

MAYOR JEFF AALFS

residents to maintain the community's rural feel and emerging state regulations requiring more lower-priced housing units.

A Stanford University proposal to build 27 single-family homes, along with 12 affordable rental units, is a case in point. The proposed project, known as the Stanford Wedge, would undoubtedly increase traffic along two-lane Alpine Road, the main route in and out town, and would be much denser than any other housing that currently exists.

Aalfs said the project will get a thorough review by the Planning Commission, the Architectural and Site Control Commission



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Mayor Jeff Aalfs at his Portola Valley home.

and the Town Council.

"There's going to be a very public discussion of the project," Aalfs said. "A lot of details have to be ironed out about how to proceed and what it looks like, and not all the objections are going to be overcome."

Portola Valley has also been working on identifying property that it owns that could be used for affordable housing, but an ad hoc committee formed to do an inventory found only one small site at the Town Center where

there would be few barriers to development.

The Town Council dismissed a potential site next to a vernal pool known as the Frog Pond in the face of strong community objections, and another parcel across Los Trancos Road from the Blue Oaks subdivision was identified as having potential, but the location "may be too remote," among other barriers, Aalfs said.

"You would be putting a lot of housing on a very small road,"

which could create traffic problems or impede escape during an emergency, he added.

Portola Valley formed an ad hoc committee last March to make recommendations about how to deal with the threat of wildfires. The committee reported its findings in December.

The suggestions included adding regulations banning wood shake roofs and wood decks to building codes and doing more

See **AALFS**, page 11

City to reevaluate locking up public tennis courts

By Kate Bradshaw
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park, unlike many neighboring cities (with the exception of Atherton), keeps its public tennis courts under lock and key. It's a holdover from a bygone era, Community Services Director Derek Schweigart explained.

Today in Menlo Park, people must purchase a key if they want to access any of the city's 15 tennis courts. Key rates are \$63 a year for residents and \$127 for nonresidents. Last year the city sold 530 keys, 81% of which were sold to city residents, 11% to unincorporated residents (who are considered nonresidents) and 7% to those who live in another city. The city also offers lower rates to rent a key for a day, and half-year key rates.

In addition to the key rates, to reserve a tennis court, residents pay \$17 an hour, and nonresidents pay \$22 an hour, rates that

are comparable in cost to neighboring cities.

But the key system may be up for evaluation. Schweigart said that he's hoping to work with staff over the coming months to survey the tennis community and ask residents how they feel about the program. He also hopes to learn about residents' interest in the growing sport of pickleball, which uses tennis-sized courts but has different striping marked on them, he added.

"We know in Menlo Park we have a very vibrant tennis community, and people have high expectations for maintenance of courts," he said.

He noted that he hasn't heard complaints about the keys.

"I think that those who are participating in the program may find that it's a good value," he said.

The key system comes from a policy established around 2007



Photo by Magali Gauthier/The Almanac

Players use the tennis courts at Nealon Park in Menlo Park on Jan. 9.

aimed at helping the city better recover costs from individuals who access some city services, Schweigart said. Every year, the city approves a master fee schedule, based on a cost recovery study — the most recent study was done in 2018. It reports that the City Council favors

"mid-cost recovery" or recovery of 30% to 70% of the total cost, for tennis court usage in the city.

The key program, Schweigart said, helps to offset the costs related to maintaining the courts. Nets must be fixed, paint redone, lightbulbs replaced and surfaces power-washed.

The city dedicates half of an employee's salary to tennis court maintenance and maintains a capital improvement program for the courts, he added; the key program and court maintenance take up about 930 hours of staff

See **TENNIS**, page 11



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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.

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AALFS

continued from page 8

evacuation planning before the next fire season, Aalfs said.

“We’ve also been mapping trees, fire hazards and vegetation along our main roads,” he said. “We need to clear some of the more hazardous things so fire doesn’t block our escape routes.”

Portola Valley has produced a pedestrian safety plan that will be implemented beginning this year. Upgrades, including adding traffic warning lights, road markings and other measures will be completed as money is available, he said.

“The spending will have to be budgeted,” Aalfs said. “Some projects are big enough that we will need to get grants to pay for them.”

Portola Valley depends on volunteers to do the work that is sometimes done by paid staff in other, larger communities.

Although the town currently has plenty of people willing to step up, Aalfs said, he thinks it’s important to try to get younger people involved to encourage fresh ideas.

Environmental focus

Aalfs serves as chairman of the board for Peninsula Clean Energy, the alternative energy

provider for San Mateo County, and said the experience has “influenced my thinking around sustainability.”

He wants to investigate putting a microgrid at Town Center composed of solar panels and batteries that would enable Town Hall to function during an extended power shutoff.

The center is currently served by a diesel backup generator that could only be used for a limited period of time, he said.

A microgrid “is something that we have considered in the past and would be a very timely thing to consider again,” he said, referencing PG&E’s fire-prevention power blackouts in 2019.

Aalfs said he is also intrigued by the idea promoted by San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo of a public takeover of PG&E, and would like to see Portola Valley “weigh in on the idea and possibly support it.”

The move would put the public more in control of “cleaning up” the utility’s electrical grid and eliminate the need to make a profit to pay dividends to shareholders, he said.

“Customers are on the hook for PG&E’s costs as it stands,” Aalfs said. “If we could turn PG&E into a cooperative, run by its customers, that would be a benefit.” ■

SLOCUM

continued from page 6

the lopsided jobs-to-housing ratio, he said.

Better veterans and mental health services

Slocum also wants to provide better service to the 29,000 former members of the military now living in the county.

Mental health services, especially for young people, are also a priority that is being challenged by a \$57 million budget gap in the county health department, he said.

The county, along with cities and towns statewide, is also trying to cope with new state rules requiring it to create more affordable housing and, in the same vein, trying to find ways to attract and retain qualified workers who are moving away because of the high cost of housing.

TENNIS

continued from page 8

time a year. The key system also helps ensure that the courts are used for tennis as opposed to, say, a convenient enclosure to exercise dogs, he said.

Schweigart said issues of whether kids, teens or lower-income residents had trouble

“The county is going to play a bigger role in trying to build a regional consensus on these issues,” Slocum said.

Prior to being elected to the board in 2012, Slocum was San Mateo County assessor, chief elections officer, clerk and recorder. He also served as Board of Supervisors president in 2016.

“I have always been a generalist manager and was very passionate about public service,” he said. “I came from a family of entrepreneurs and wanted public service to be my life’s work.”

Slocum said he is looking forward to reprising his role as board president, which includes leading board meetings, having a hand in the overall agenda, representing the county at different events, and delivering the State of the County address.

Being board president “adds to the workload, but it is really rewarding to be able to serve,” he said. ■

accessing the courts because of the key requirement had not come to his attention, but he noted that the Kelly Park tennis courts, which are in Belle Haven, the city’s neighborhood with the largest number of lower-income residents, is less popular than other tennis courts even though the courts themselves are newer and in good condition. ■

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All Five preschool receives national accreditation

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

The National Association for the Education of Young Children recently accredited All Five preschool, making it the only preschool program in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood and the East Palo Alto area to receive the recognition.

The association is a professional membership organization that promotes high-quality early learning for children from

infancy to age 8, according to its website.

"It's a mark of quality that requires staff students, parents and board members to all reflect on best practices," said All Five's executive director Carol Thomsen.

The preschool received news of its accreditation last month after a nearly two-year application process, she said.

There are 10 requirements that programs accredited through the association have to fulfill,

including implementing a curriculum that fosters all areas of child development: cognitive, emotional, language, physical and social.

According to the association's website, the program must also have in place strong personnel, fiscal, and program management policies so that all children, families and staff have high-quality experiences; employ and support a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge and professional commitment

necessary to promote children's learning and development; and support families' diverse interests and needs.

All Five is in the process of trying to expand its services to younger children. School officials launched a campaign in November to raise \$800,000 for an infants and toddlers program that would begin this fall. The school currently serves students who range in age from 2 years, 9 months, to prekindergarten.

"The excitement is really building," Thomsen said, noting that the campaign received 50 additional donations over the holidays.

By the end of January, All Five officials will know whether they have raised enough money to open enrollment for younger age groups, she said.

If the fundraising campaign succeeds, the preschool will have capacity for 36 to 40 preschoolers,

three infants and six toddlers. About 24 preschoolers now attend the preschool, Thomsen said.

The planned expansion comes as San Mateo County families are struggling to find child care services. The county will need to fill about 2,500 teaching spots by 2025 to keep pace with the growing need for early childhood education programs, according to a 2016 early learning facilities needs assessment for the county. Between now and 2025, there is a projected shortage of about 14,000 slots for children in early education classrooms, according to the assessment.

Families interested in the All Five program can email an application to info@allfive.org. The form can be found on the All Five website, allfive.org.

School officials will host site visits for applicants in February, Thomsen said. ■

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■ POLICE CALLS

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

MENLO PARK

Spousal abuse: During an argument at Safeway in the 500 block of El Camino Real, a transient struck a woman in the head, poured beer on her and stole her purse. The suspect was located by officers and booked into San Mateo County Jail. Jan. 5.

Drunk driving: An Alameda man was behind the wheel of a vehicle and displayed signs of intoxication after being stopped in traffic in the 200 block of Willow Road. He was arrested and booked into San Mateo County Jail. Jan. 5.

Vehicle collisions:

■ The driver of a truck reported that his gas pedal became stuck and he lost control and ran into a fence in the 300 block of O'Connor Street. Jan. 4.

■ The driver of a Toyota was heading northbound on University Drive and stopped at the stop sign at the intersection of Middle Avenue. She proceeded northbound on University, and the driver of a Chevrolet reportedly struck her car. She was transported to the hospital after complaining of leg pain. Dec. 31.

■ The driver of a Toyota stopped at a stop sign westbound on Santa Cruz Avenue at Cotton Street before colliding with a Subaru that didn't yield. There were no injuries. Dec. 30.

Auto burglaries:

■ Someone smashed the window of a

vehicle in the 300 block of Felton Drive. Nothing was reported taken. Jan. 3.

■ Someone smashed the window of a vehicle in the 800 block of Laurel Avenue. Nothing was reported taken. Jan. 3.

■ Six separate auto burglaries were reported in the 100 block of Seminary Drive, with miscellaneous items taken. Jan. 2.

■ Someone entered an unlocked vehicle in the 00 block of Lorelei Drive and stole a pair of AirPods valued at \$100. Jan. 1.

■ Someone entered an unlocked vehicle in the 00 block of Lorelei Drive and stole miscellaneous items. Jan. 1.

■ Someone entered an unlocked vehicle in the 00 block of Lorelei Drive and stole \$60 from the glove box. Jan. 1.

Grand theft: Unknown thieves entered BevMo in the 700 block of El Camino Real, and stole several bottles of high-end liquor for a loss of \$2,150, and fled in an SUV. Jan. 2.

Hit-and-run with property damage:

The driver of an Acura was heading westbound on Willow Road when she saw a white car sideswipe the front of her car. She pulled over but the white car continued straight without stopping. There were no injuries. Dec. 31.

WOODSIDE

Traffic accident: A tow truck driver notified law enforcement that a driver requested that her vehicle be towed out of an embankment in the 800 block of La Honda Road. Upon arrival, sheriff's deputies found that the driver, a Menlo Park woman, was showing signs of being under the influence of alcohol. The driver was the solo occupant of the vehicle and was uninjured. She was arrested and booked into San Mateo County Jail. Jan. 3.

FACEBOOK

continued from page 5

was glad that residents were bringing up the "elephant in the room" at the beginning of the process.

"I'm here to preserve the history of this community and remind people who live and who lived here," she asserted.

Following the discussion,

community members were invited to tour the existing facilities and submit feedback on poster boards asking questions about what people like about the existing facilities, what they would change about the existing facilities, and what additions they would like to see.

The City Council is scheduled to discuss the proposal at its meeting on Jan. 28. ■

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Remembering Woodside circa 1966

Classmates of old collaborate on an anecdotal memoir about their long-ago school years

By Rick Radin
Almanac Staff Writer

Years after an idyllic experience at Woodside Elementary School, 35 members of the class of 1966 have written about their time there after experiencing the real world of adulthood.

Their stories are chronicled in a recently released book “This is Where I Live: The Legacy Project,” that was self-published by four of the class members.

Woodside Elementary has some similarities to an old-fashioned prep school, holding a May Day pageant and picnic, and crowning a king and queen every year.

The May 1 event is an old-fashioned ritual that for those who are about to graduate is a prelude to moving on to a private school or a more typical public school experience at Woodside High School.

Fred Brousseau, Mary Jean Eckhardt Risheim, Stuart Johnson and Adrian Krauss served as editors of the book after Krauss came up with the original idea in 2016.

“The look of the town, its trees and roads ... seem timeless,” Brousseau wrote by way of an introduction. “The highs and lows of childhood contain some universal stories, I believe. But I do think the uniqueness of the town in the 1950s and 1960s also comes through.”

The May Day festivities still go on with “an old-fashioned parade that celebrates the coming of spring,” in the words of Becky Ballentine Preimesberger.

“The May Day dance is still girls in pastel skirts and white blouses, although boys have been added to the event now,” Preimesberger wrote in her contribution to the book.

Some class members shared fond, Norman Rockwell-like memories of growing up in a small town on the outskirts of the Peninsula’s urban core.

“My joys in Woodside were BEING in Woodside,” wrote Steve Des Georges. “Being in a small town where you could find a job bagging groceries at Roberts of Woodside or busing dishes from the Stage Stop or selling mistletoe from a Ryder wagon.”

Some classmates stayed in Woodside and have been active in town life, including Bob Susk, who became an attorney and served as a mayor in the 1990s.

Susk remembered “the magical

time of the summer days when the sun just started to go down and the color and lighting of the trees was just beautiful.”

He was also old enough to remember when Roberts Market was Caldwell’s General Store and “the long journey to Stanford Shopping Center, which was much smaller than now.”

Engineer John Maroney still lives in Woodside and remembers taking part in the Fourth of July Junior Rodeo, with a pig scramble that, in recent years, has created an uproar with animal rights activists and others.

Horses were often a part of growing up in certain neighborhoods in Woodside, as they still are today. Kim Walker wrote about riding her first horse, “Bubbles,” in parades.

“Horses were a freedom pass, and I rode mine all over Woodside,” wrote Walker, who continues to ride at home in South Carolina. “There were many horse shows to participate in, mostly at the Mounted Patrol Grounds.”

Risheim also reminisced about riding — “Settling in with the drumbeat of hooves and the bobbling meditation of pricked ears before me.”

Some families were a bit different from the Woodside norm.

Chris Thompson remembered being “not your typical kid.” His family shared a house in the Glens neighborhood with another family, and a Stanford professor introduced his father “to members of the Menlo Park Foundation who experimented with LSD.”

The family eventually moved to Redwood City, but Thompson kept in touch with some of his Woodside Elementary classmates, including Bob Susk, and remembers hanging out and drinking iced tea with him and other friends at the coffee shop across from Roberts Market.

A couple of the contributors developed a certain degree of fame as authors and had involved stories to tell.

Barnaby Conrad III is the son of a writer and followed in his father’s footsteps, becoming a literary figure.

Conrad remembered his experience in Woodside as brief and bittersweet. His parents divorced in 1962 and his mother moved him and his two siblings to Woodside

for a year before moving on to Palm Beach, Florida.

“I hated (Palm Beach) and always wanted to move back to Woodside, but it wasn’t to be,” Conrad wrote. “The good news is that my mother married my stepfather in 1967, and we moved back to the Bay Area.”

After graduating from Yale, Conrad went on to publish 15 books about art and drinking, among other topics, including a illustrative book on California artist Richard Diebenkorn.

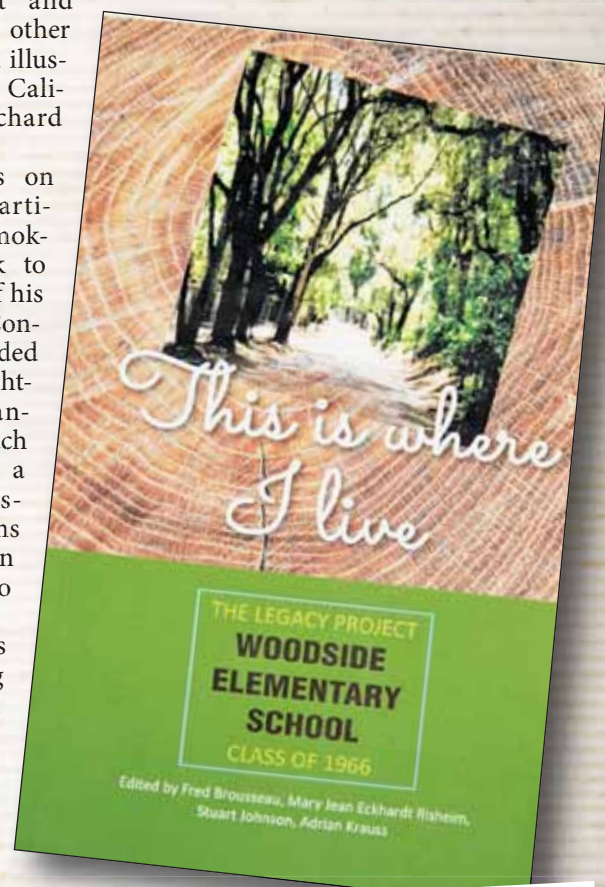
Conrad’s books on absinthe, the martini and cigar smoking hearken back to favorite subjects of his father, Barnaby Conrad Jr., who founded the El Matador nightclub in San Francisco’s North Beach in 1953 and was a ubiquitous presence in the columns of Herb Caen in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Conrad recalls honing his writing chops in the sixth grade at Woodside Elementary under Mr. Willett, who “drilled us on homonyms and antonyms and

corrected our grammar ... most fortunate for my later career as a writer,” Conrad wrote.

Unfortunately, it was also in Mr. Willett’s class that the phone rang in the classroom in November 1963 with the news of the Kennedy assassination that “eroded our innocence,” he remembered.

See REMEMBERING, page 16



At top, the cover of the self-published “This is Where I Live.” Above, the old Woodside Elementary School that the authors attended, which was replaced long ago.

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INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Districts 1, 5, and 7

Terms from February 2020 to February 2024

The Planning Commission participates in the administration of the planning laws and policies of the Town. It is responsible for recommending to the Town Council ordinances and resolutions necessary to implement the General Plan and adopted development policy. The Commission also conducts necessary public hearings to administer the planning laws and policies of the Town and acts upon applications for zoning amendments, conditional use permits, variances, subdivisions, and other related functions as may be assigned by the Council.

The Planning Commission meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

To obtain information on residency or addresses of residential properties located in Districts 1, 5, or 7, please check the Town website at www.woodsidetown.org, under "What's New", and "Town Council and Planning Commission Districts and Map."

Interested residents may check residency requirements, request information, and submit applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA 94062. The Town Clerk may be reached by calling (650) 851-6790, or e-mailing jli@woodsidetown.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, January 31, 2020, by 5 p.m.

INTERVIEW AND APPOINTMENT BY TOWN COUNCIL: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Published: The Almanac on January 15, 2020, and January 22, 2020
Posted: January 8 - 31, 2020

COVER STORY

REMEMBERING

continued from page 15

Author, teacher and editor Jane Ganahl, then known as Jane Buelteman, wrote for the San Francisco Chronicle for a time and went on to be a co-founder and current artistic director of the Litquake literary festival in San Francisco.

Ganahl wrote that she remembers Woodside as a pastoral landscape and that every time she visits she wonders "if it were really possible that I lived here."

She remarked about the contrast between her upbringing and that of her ex-husband, who grew up in Long Beach, a city next to a freeway dotted with oil derricks.

"I've often wondered if such a childhood spoiled me for the realities of life," she wrote. "No other place I've lived quite approached the Woodside gold standard."

Ganahl also credits Woodside Elementary with having an impact on her choice of career.

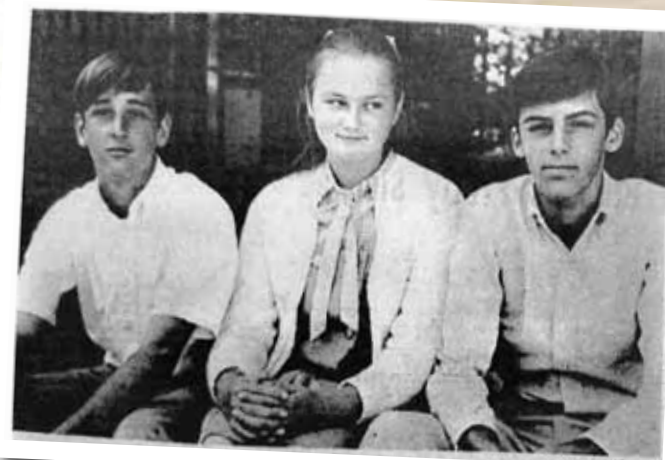
She remembered that Mr. Mueller, an English teacher, was so impressed with her ability to write haiku that he had her teach the class about it.

Mr. Mueller later recommended that she bypass eighth grade English at Woodside Elementary to jump to "AS English" at Woodside High School because of her precocity with words.

"I always credit my writing career to this," she wrote.

"This is Where I Live: The Legacy Project" is available on Amazon in hard copy and electronic forms. ▀

On the cover: A yearbook page, eighth-grade graduation and girls and boys in their elements highlighted memories of the Woodside Elementary School Class of 1966. Photos courtesy of the book's editors.



In photos from the top: Three members of student government, Stuart Johnson, Eve Williams and Victor Gonzalez, appeared in a photo for a news story announcing the June 16 graduation of 53 students of the Class of 1966; the eighth grade class operetta, still an annual event; and a Halloween party at an unknown date.

SB 50 returns — and so does Peninsula's housing debate

Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto Weekly Staff Writer

Responding to local concerns about the top-down mandates of his contentious bill, Senate Bill 50, state Sen. Scott Wiener in early January revised the bill to allow cities to craft their own zoning laws to facilitate home construction and avoid the bill's requirements.

The proposed law, which last year caused a stir in many Bay Area cities, targets areas near transit and "jobs-rich" sites for housing, effectively allowing residential developments of up to four stories in these areas. While SB 50 has generated great support from housing advocates and public officials, many local officials have characterized it as a "one-size-fits-all" solution and an affront to local control.

Under the amendments that Wiener released last week, cities will have up to two years to craft their own zoning laws that would allow as much — or more — housing production as SB 50 calls for. The local plans would have to be certified by the state. If the cities don't move ahead with this type of zoning change, the provisions of SB 50 would kick in.

In a Jan. 7 post on Medium, Wiener wrote that the bill's new provisions "seek to ensure that local governments can implement SB 50 in a way that works best for their communities ..."

"In other words, a city could decide to go taller in some areas and shorter in other areas or to focus density in some areas but not other areas," Wiener wrote. "As long as the city's alternative approach zones for at least the same amount of additional housing as SB 50 would, then the plan qualifies."

The additional zoning would have to be implemented in a way that does not place new housing far from jobs and transit, thus promoting sprawl development. It also prohibits cities from placing the bulk of its new housing in low-income communities, in violation of fair-housing principles. And much like the earlier version, the bill would give "sensitive communities" — which are made up predominantly of low-income residents and communities of color — five years to come up with housing plans before SB 50 kicks in.

The new version also proposes to give cities credit for zone changes that they had made in the prior 20 years to allow more housing — a provision designed to "reward good behavior," according to Wiener. And much like the prior version, it requires 25% of the new units to be affordable to low-income residents and prohibits cities from getting credit for

new housing by replacing existing housing developments.

The bill retains some of the more contentious provisions of the prior version, including the removal of density limits and the relaxing of parking standards within a quarter-mile of transit and high-frequency bus lines. It also makes a distinction between counties with more than 600,000 residents and smaller counties, where cities would have to allow up to 15 feet of additional height for new buildings near transit stops.

With the new amendments, Wiener hopes the bill would overcome the hurdles that stymied it last May, when the chair of the state Senate Appropriation Committee, Sen. Anthony Portantino, decided to turn SB 50 into a "two-year bill," making it eligible for a vote in January 2020. The decision came after both the Housing

Committee and the Finance and Government Committee voted to advance the bill, which was widely seen as the most ambitious and contentious of the dozens of housing bills under consideration.

In Menlo Park, there hasn't yet been a clear consensus in favor or against the bill from the City Council, though Councilman Ray Mueller has expressed his opposition to it in the past. He called it a "one-size-fits-all proposition" that "puts us in a precarious situation where we will be unable to negotiate for specific needs," and said it was a "a misguided precedent-setting centralization of power in the state that weakens the foundation of local representative government and devalues the voices of its electorate."

During a joint meeting held last May with the city councils of Menlo Park, Palo Alto and East Palo Alto, Palo Alto council

members generally opposed it and East Palo Alto council members generally favored it. But Menlo Park's council members have held their cards close.

While Mayor Cecilia Taylor didn't take a side on the bill during the May meeting, she said she believes one of the reasons SB 50 exists is because cities have not done a good job in entering into development agreements with employers that address some of the impacts caused by commercial projects.

Each city, she said, should adopt an "all-inclusive policy" that requires local hiring and contributions toward improving transportation and education.

She noted that the constituents in her district, Belle Haven, have trouble getting out of the city and getting home because of all the traffic. Schools, she added, are underperforming.

"I believe SB 50 exists because we didn't take care of our own

See **SB 50**, page 21

David Clark Loudy

January 19, 1946 – December 10, 2019

David Clark Loudy passed peacefully, surrounded by his family, on December 10, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 73 years old. David was born on January 19, 1946 in Oakland, CA to Marjorie Wise Loudy and Francis Howard Loudy. He was raised in San Leandro, CA and attended San Lorenzo High School, graduating in 1963.



After graduating from Cal State Hayward in 1968 with a degree in biological science, and a Graduate Gemologist from the Gemological Institute of America in 1969, David went on to have a storied career as one of the most trusted and well-respected jewelers in the Bay area.

After working closely with his father Francis Loudy and other family members at their jewelry store, Loudy's Jewelers of San Leandro, CA, David joined Gleim the Jeweler in Stanford, CA in 1969. David enjoyed a 50-year career at Gleim, training under legendary jeweler Art Gleim and serving as Vice President and principal gemstone buyer for over 30 years. David was a Certified Gem Appraiser as well as a Past President of the Northern California Guild of the American Gem Society. David was a true industry professional. His work gave him great pleasure and he genuinely enjoyed helping clients choose pieces to celebrate their loved ones and mark the special occasions in their lives.

David will be remembered for his unwavering dedication to family, incredible love of nature and strong commitment to his career, as well as a passion for fast vehicles - whether a "hot rod" car, boat or snowmobile. David enjoyed spending time outdoors, whether in Bear Valley to ski or hike, at the Sacramento Delta to boat and water ski, or in the Sierras for backpacking. He loved the annual boat camping trips he organized for family and friends at Lake Shasta and Bullards Bar for the past 45 years. More recently, David enjoyed trips to Stinson Beach, Tahoe and Yosemite Valley with his extended family. David was the "rock" of the family: a devoted husband, father, grandfather and brother.

David is preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Sarah Matteson Loudy. He is survived by his stepchildren Bob Shepard (Celia), Brian Shepard (Maggie), Doug Shepard, Lisa Shepard Reid (Craig) as well as his siblings Jackie DuVall, Bob Loudy (Pam) and Susan Bruno (Bob), along with eight grandchildren, eight nieces and nephews and 15 great nieces and nephews. His family meant everything to him, and the children in his life were a particular source of pride and joy.

A private Celebration of Life for David is planned. Donations in memory of David can be made to Peninsula Volunteers (Peninsula Volunteers | Serving Seniors on the San Francisco Peninsula for over 70 years).

Miyeko Tanabe

Miyeko passed away surrounded by her loving family, including her husband, Masato of 62 years.

Miyeko was born the daughter to Buntaro and Tsuneyo Takita in San Francisco where she lived until the age of nine. She moved to Japan with her family for one year and then returned to San Francisco where she attended Pacific Heights Elementary School and then Commerce High School. Miyeko also studied daily at Japanese school (Kinmon Gakuen). In February 1942, like other Japanese Americans, she was evacuated to an internment camp for the remainder of the war. She and her family were evacuated to Tanforan Race Track where they lived for six months before being relocated to Topaz Relocation Center near Delta, Utah. Upon leaving camp she was not initially allowed to relocate to the west coast and enrolled in Montana State University. She subsequently enrolled at University of California, Berkeley where she earned graduate degrees in Library Sciences. She worked for the U.S. Army as a librarian at Heidelberg University and after was accepted as a Fulbright Scholar to study at Keio University in Japan. She met another Fulbright Scholar at Keio, Masato Tanabe, and they enjoyed each other's company on sightseeing trips and Fulbright scholar activities. Miyeko and Masato were engaged before they left Japan and married in San Francisco upon their return.



Miyeko was musically gifted from an early age. She received as a gift her first toy piano at age three and started her formal music education at age six. She enjoyed listening to music and loved playing classical music. She taught piano and hosted recitals during her years in camp and continuing later in her home while she was raising her three children. In her piano teaching, she strived to hone piano technique as well as impart her passion for music. Miyeko created and launched the Japanese Language Program in the Palo Alto School District in the early 1970s and served as one of the program's two teachers for over a decade. Miyeko set high standards for herself and others be it piano, Japanese language, cooking or another of her many interests. Kindness and concern for others were at the heart of her character.

Miyeko is survived by her husband Masato of Palo Alto and her sister Aiko Takita of Berkeley, California; her three children Robert (Sukie), Kenneth (Michele) and Michiko, and her five grandchildren Kenji, Mari, (Alireza), Kimi, Brian and Sarah. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple.

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Photo courtesy of Joan Lambert

Atherton residents Mark Silverman and Joan Lambert work at the Amava office in San Mateo.

Become a barista, a beekeeper or a lighthouse keeper, with website's help

Atherton resident creates Amava to match retirees with interesting volunteer and part-time work

By **Angela Swartz**

Almanac Staff Writer

Foraging for mushrooms, recording voice-overs, walking dogs, brewing coffee. Or how about rescuing sea turtles?

These are just some of the opportunities listed on Amava, a website founded by Atherton resident Mark Silverman to help match empty-nesters or retirees who find themselves with extra time on their hands and an itch to keep busy with part-time jobs, volunteer work or travel adventures.

Officially launched in late 2018 after a test run earlier that year, Amava now boasts about 120,000 members across the country.

"The problem we're trying to solve is how to help tech-enabled individuals transition from full-time jobs to socially engaged post-career lives," said Silverman, a managing director of the venture capital firm Cata-mount Ventures who hatched the concept for the startup in 2017 in his guest house.

Silverman serves as the company's CEO, and his wife, former Menlo Park City School District board member Joan Lambert, is part of the 10-person staff.

Lambert left her school board post in late 2018 after eight years of serving, and said she is committing more time to the

company, which is currently headquartered in San Mateo.

Amava's mission is close to Lambert's heart. She said she saw the need for such a company when she saw her father become isolated when he retired, and that condition began to have an impact on his health. She saw his social withdrawal was something that had not been addressed by other companies.

"My dad worked for the federal government for his whole career," Lambert told The Almanac. "Soon after he retired, my mom was diagnosed with cancer and my dad was her caregiver."

"After my mom passed away, he really didn't know what to do every day, and he became isolated. He had been a gregarious person and loved socializing with people throughout his long career and over 40-year marriage, but as he withdrew it was clear that he was quickly losing his mental sharpness and was becoming depressed," she explained.

"When we tried to help we found limited resources available, and then mostly focused on residents of assisted living facilities; and also it was hard to help him from the Bay Area when he was down in (Los Angeles) as there were no good online resources at that time."

"A similar thing happened with Mark's grandfather

although the circumstances were different. Our personal experiences have had a profound impact on us and make us even more committed to what we are doing at Amava to make it easier for everyone to stay active and connected as they navigate the inevitable transitions that come with aging."

Volunteer opportunities and jobs listed on the website, which raised \$6.2 million this fall in a funding round led by RPM Ventures, include helping fire victims, hosting an exchange student, beekeeping or acting as an extra on a film set.

Silverman said he saw an opportunity to help an underserved population — more than 10,000 people in the U.S. daily who are leaving their full-time jobs, according to the company. He noted that most startup founders are younger and less focused on finding solutions for older people.

Because people are also living longer, pension supplies often become depleted, which means 60% to 70% of today's retirees will need some income to maintain their current lifestyles, he said. Finding flexible, part-time work is necessary to fill these financial gaps, he noted.

One financially successful potential Amava investor

Town of Woodside Invites Applications for Committees

Arts and Culture Committee - Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 5:00 p.m.; 2-year term; strengthens community involvement by initiating, sponsoring, and celebrating local art and cultural activities including, art, photography, design, music, horticulture, culinary arts, literature, drama, and dance; organizes and supervises events showcasing local creative talent.

Circulation Committee - Meets monthly on the 4th Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; 2-year term; supports the General Plan goal to foster a community of all users of the public roadway system; works with the Town Engineer, Sheriff's Department, and local and regional organizations to encourage "share the road" programs; develops educational programs on traffic safety, promotes safe, convenient access to schools, businesses, public and private institutions, and neighborhoods.

Emergency Preparedness Committee - Meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.; 2-year term; supports the General Plan Policies related to education on natural hazards and emergency preparedness; develops and maintains appropriate plans and procedures with staff to respond to disasters and emergencies; supports the Citizens' Emergency Response and Preparedness Program.

Environment: Open Space, Conservation & Sustainability Committee - Meets monthly on the 4th Thursday at 5:30 p.m.; 2-year term; advises and assists the Town Council, Planning Commission, and staff on implementing the goals and policies of the environmental elements of the General Plan: Open Space, Conservation, and Sustainability.

Livestock and Equestrian Heritage Committee - Meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.; 2-year term; reviews applications for professional stable permits and forwards recommendations to the Planning Commission; reviews applications for exceptions to the private stable regulations, forwards recommendations to the Planning Director, and conducts stable inspections in accordance with the Municipal Code; develops and supports education and information programs which aid the community in sustaining, protecting, enhancing, and enjoying equestrian activities and facilities.

Recreation Committee - Meets monthly on the 1st Thursday at 6:00 p.m.; 3-year term; guides the activities of the community recreation program. The Committee provides organized and supervised community recreation services in all areas of the Town and makes recreation budget recommendations to the Council.

Trails Committee - Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 3:00 p.m.; 2-year term; reviews land divisions, subdivisions and conditional use permits for locations for equestrian, pedestrian and bicycle trails and makes recommendations to the staff and to the Planning Commission; advises on trail maintenance projects and on rules, regulations and ordinances pertaining to the trails.

Woodside History Committee - Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 10:30 a.m.; 2-year term; advises the Town Council and staff regarding actions, policies and plans relating to historic preservation; plans and recommends means for ensuring the security and public accessibility of the Town's historic archives; gathers and catalogues historic material.

These are volunteer positions and serve in an advisory capacity to the Town Council. Interested residents may request information and applications from the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, or telephone (650) 851-6790, or through the Town web site at www.woodsidetown.org.

The deadline for applications is Friday, January 31, 2020, by 5 p.m.

Published: The Almanac on January 15, 2020, and January 22, 2020.

Posted: January 8, 2020 - January 31, 2020

Concerts sound the message: 'Hold Fast to Dreams'

Spirituals, jazz, blues, popular, and concert music on the program for two afternoons of celebration

Musicians and guest artists of the African American Composer Initiative will present benefit concerts dedicated to the rich heritage of music by African American composers at Eastside College Preparatory School on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 25 and 26. The concerts are set for 3 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at the East Palo Alto school.

All proceeds benefit Eastside College Prep.

Co-founded by Menlo Park pianist, Josephine Gandolfi, Judge LaDoris Cordell of Palo Alto, and Deanne Tucker of Los Altos, the African American Composer Initiative (AACI) has hosted these popular January benefit concerts for 11 consecutive years. Performances feature vocal and instrumental music in a broad range of styles: spirituals, jazz, blues, popular, and concert music.

Composers featured in the concerts, titled "Hold Fast to Dreams," will include Valerie Capers, William Grant Still, Florence Price, Mary Lou Williams, Duke Ellington, John Robinson, Adolphus Hailstork, Jeremiah Evans, Charles Lloyd Jr. and Kenny Dorham.

Performing on the program are

soprano Yolanda Rhodes; tenor Othello Jefferson; pianists/vocalists LaDoris Cordell and Deanne Tucker; The Picasso Ensemble with pianist Josephine Gandolfi, violinist Susan C. Brown, cellist Victoria Ehrlich; clarinetist Carol Somersille; percussionist Jim Kassis; trumpeter John Worley; trombonist John Monroe; flutist Stephanie McNab; and saxophonists Oscar Pangilinan and Tod Dickow.

Featured guest artists are Valerie Capers, piano, and John Robinson, bass. The Eastside Choir, directed by Jansen Verplank, will also perform.

The AACI has performed the music of 40 African American composers, commissioned over 15 new compositions, released three CDs, and established an eagerly anticipated annual community event, drawing audiences from San Francisco, Oakland, the Peninsula, San Jose and beyond to East Palo Alto to share in these musical celebrations.

The special guest artists, jazz greats Valerie Capers and John Robinson, return to the Eastside stage in their roles as performers, composers, and arrangers. They will collaborate with AACI



Photo courtesy of African American Composer Initiative

Two hands at the ready to perform, belonging to Judge LaDoris Cordell and Josephine Gandolfi, represent the gathering of many talented musicians of all backgrounds who will perform two benefit concerts on Jan. 25 and 26.

performers as a jazz trio and a larger jazz ensemble.

Eastside College Preparatory School was founded over 20 years ago by principal Chris Bischof and Helen Kim. To date, every Eastside Prep graduate has gone on to attend a four-year college.

The school is housed on a 1.6-acre campus in East Palo Alto and has a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center. In addition to its academic offerings, the school has an arts program that

includes visual art, photography, music, dance, and drama.

With fiscal sponsorship from the InterMusic SF, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the service of chamber music in California, AACI is able to raise tax-deductible support to cover the costs of concerts, guest artists, and commissions.

A reception for audience and performers will follow the Sunday performance.

Eastside College Preparatory

school is located at 1041 Myrtle St. in East Palo Alto. On-campus parking is available.

Tickets are \$20 general, \$10 senior, and \$5 student. They can be purchased online through Brown Paper Tickets at tinyurl.com/AACItickets2020.

For more information about AACI, visit aacinitiative.org.

For venue information, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. only, call 650-688-0850 (no ticket sales).

Three local lads soar to Eagle rank

Troop 206 Scouts perform range of community services to earn Eagle honors

By Lovinda Beal Blohm
for Scout Troop 206

Three local Scouts — Brendan Smith, David O'Connor, and Luke Virsik — have attained the highest rank in scouting, becoming Eagle Scouts after earning merit badges and meeting other requirements.

Smith and O'Connor were honored on Sept. 22 at St. Matthias Church in Redwood City, and Virsik was awarded the rank of Eagle in late 2018.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank offered by the BSA, formerly known as Boy Scouts. Only a small percentage of members ever attain this prestigious honor, which requires that the Scouts earn 21 merit badges and devise and complete a final Eagle project.

Troop 206, first chartered by Trinity Episcopal Church in Menlo Park in 1958, has advanced 202 Scouts to Eagle rank in the past 61 years. Its membership currently includes active Scouts from Menlo Park, Woodside, Portola Valley,

Redwood City, and Palo Alto.

Troop 206 Scouts participate in a variety of troop activities each year, such as putting out flags on Memorial Day, participating in the Veterans Day ceremony at Little House in Menlo Park, and collecting food for Second Harvest Food Bank.

They also do a variety of outdoor activities such as kayaking, rafting, rock climbing, and shooting, which were some of Brendan and David's favorites. The boys have made snow shelters and camped in the snow, and on backpacking trips at Philmont in the New Mexico high desert, the scouts were completely off-grid for almost two weeks.

Brendan Smith is the son of Adrian and Kathy Smith of Emerald Hills. He is currently a member of the senior class at Woodside High School.

He joined the troop in early 2014, just before his 12th birthday. "Scouting has provided me with a great foundation in planning and executing projects," says Brendan. "I feel that I am better prepared to take on real

life challenges."

For his Eagle Scout project, he led a team in designing and building a drinking fountain for the preschool playground at St. Matthias in Redwood City, a project that took over 170 hours to complete.

In addition to scouting, Brendan has played four years of football at Woodside High, and he was also involved in musical theater there, playing the lead in the 2019 production of "Mamma Mia."

In addition, on a church mission to Ecuador, he spent three weeks working with Hansen's disease patients, at a leprosy clinic, which he says was "an amazing and rewarding experience."

David O'Connor, son of Michael and Gail O'Connor of Redwood City, has loved the outdoors for as long as his parents can remember. Scouting gave David the opportunity to build on his love for the outdoors and exposed him to life and career opportunities that allow him to be closer to nature.

With Troop 206, David backpacked 327 miles, and camped a total of 98 nights, 57 of which were on backpacking trips. According to troop leader Emma



Three local young men from Troop 206 have earned the rank of Eagle Scout. From left, they are David O'Connor, Brendan Smith and Luke Virsik.

Shelton, Dave's camp cooking was memorable.

This summer he worked as a river rafting guide, and this winter he plans to crew on ski slopes in Utah.

At Woodside High School, David was on the varsity water polo and swim teams, and he founded the Cold Water (surfing) Club.

For his Eagle project, David designed and built a set of wooden bike racks for a small school in Layton, Utah. The racks are designed to provide safe storage and secure transportation for the school's 12 mountain bikes.

Luke Virsik, son of Peter and Allison Virsik of Ladera, was recognized as one of the Redwood District's Scouts of the Year in 2018, the same year he earned his Eagle rank. Luke is now a senior at Menlo School,

where he has participated in the cross county, track, and robotics teams. His "main life goal and ambition, he says, is to be an astronaut."

For his Eagle project, Luke built two pieces of furniture, with the help of a parishioner, for the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont. One is a shelf for the choir's computer, and the other is a bookshelf for the babies' cry room.

"Scouting has taught me outdoor skills, such as how to build a fire and how to construct a survival shelter," Luke said. On the trail to Eagle, he has been a patrol leader and a senior patrol leader, roles that have taught him many leadership skills.

All of these Eagle Scouts have also been recognized as members of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society.



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AMAVA

continued from page 18

wanted help finding a part-time barista job just to stay socially engaged, Silverman said. “He didn’t care about making money to make money.” The man also enjoyed the act of learning how to make an espresso, Silverman said.

Research from the Stanford Center on Longevity, which studies social and cultural change related to issues of longevity, underscores the value of seniors remaining socially engaged. Seniors who withdraw

socially after retiring experience more negative health impacts. Social isolation is linked to both higher rates of chronic illness and shorter lives.

In part, the negative effects of social isolation may be caused by inadequate sleep, depression, alcohol abuse and physical inactivity, according to the center. Compared with people in the same age group 20 years ago, Baby Boomers, the 74 million Americans ages 55 to 75 years old, are less socially engaged, according to the Stanford center and Pew Research Center,

which provides information on social issues, public opinion and demographic trends.

“During any transition, a lot of people feel isolated and feel like they’re the only one going through this,” said Lambert, who serves as the company’s research director. “There really are many of us going through this same thing. ... People identify as a (job) role.”

Silverman said he hopes that Amava can help people reevaluate how they identify themselves. “We want people to think of themselves based on their principles and values rather

than just their (job) identity.”

Although 60% of Amava members are ages 45 to 70 (23% are ages 35 to 44), Silverman and Lambert were surprised to find that over 1,000 of their members are between the ages of 25 and 34.

“People are always thinking about transitions,” Silverman said.

Amava operated out of a small office in Menlo Park for a year, but rent price increase led to the company’s move to 400 Concar Drive in San Mateo. The staff remains largely made up of people who live in the

Menlo Park area, including Scott Lohmann, Rebecca Bloom and Lisa Lindquist, Lambert said.

And what does “Amava” mean? The curious will have to find meaning in the work the company does, not in the name.

“We were looking for a name that was short, easy to pronounce and sounded ‘positive,’ and also that didn’t have a specific meaning,” Lambert said. “And Mark came up with ‘Amava’ after considering many other options!”

For more information on Amava, go to amava.com. ■

SB 50

continued from page 17

city,” Taylor said.

The bill has been particularly divisive in Palo Alto, where last March hundreds of people attended a community meeting to rail against it. The topic even came up during the recent mayoral election, where Councilwoman Lydia Kou refused to vote for new Mayor Adrian Fine — a proponent of SB 50 — on the grounds of his support for the proposed legislation. Reiterating earlier criticisms, Kou called the bill “one-size-fits-all” and said any amendments would be “lipstick on a pig.”

In speaking against SB 50, Kou quoted former U.S. President Thomas Jefferson’s dictum that “the government closest to the people serves the people best.”

“As an immigrant I can never understand why a government of the people, by the people for the people would abdicate its

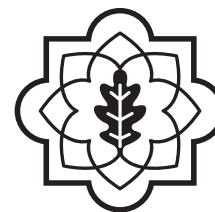
local control of our government,” Kou said.

But for proponents of the bill, the legislation is sorely needed at a time when the state has a housing shortage estimated at 3.5 million homes and when many cities are struggling to meet their housing targets, particularly for below-market-rate homes. While the city has a goal of building 300 housing units per year, it has fallen well short of the target in each of the last two years.

In his post, Wiener called SB 50 “an equity bill, an affordability bill and a climate bill” — one that overrides “local restrictive zoning — zoning that bans apartment buildings and affordable housing by only allowing single-family homes.”

“SB 50 ensures that as we build these millions of homes, we do so not just in low-income areas but in wealthy communities as well,” Wiener wrote. ■

Almanac reporter Kate Bradshaw contributed to this report.



MIDDLE PLAZA

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

Night Work on El Camino Real –
Starting December 2019

WHAT:

Middle Plaza construction crews will be doing night work and partially closing travel lanes on El Camino Real between Middle Ave and Ravenswood Ave in both directions for the demolition and installation of West Bay sanitary sewer lines. For a given direction of travel, a maximum of two lanes of travel will be shut down each night, leaving at least one lane of travel open at all times. Work will take place at night when traffic volumes along El Camino Real are lower.

WHEN:

Mid-December, 2019 – late-January 2020

Construction schedules are approximate and subject to change due to weather and unforeseen conditions.

WORK HOURS:

10:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M., Sunday through Thursday. No night work will occur on Friday and Saturday

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Middle Plaza project and to sign up for construction alerts, please visit our website at middleplaza.stanford.edu

If you have any comments or questions, contact
(650) 497-4052 or **middleplaza@stanford.edu**

Office of Government & Community Relations
450 Jane Stanford Way
Building 170, 1st Floor, Main Quad
Stanford, CA 94305

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

HORIZON VIEWS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283475

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

Horizon Views, located at 14826 Skyline Blvd. #4, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
BARBARA HEYDORN
14826 Skyline Blvd. #4
Woodside, CA 94062

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/23/2019.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on December 23, 2019.

(Alm Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2020)

AMERICA SERVICES PROVIDER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 283526

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

America Services Provider, located at 152 Daphne Way, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
SENITA UHILAMOELANGI
152 Daphne Way
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

APOLLONIA D. UHILAMOELANGI
152 Daphne Way
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

This business is conducted by: A Married Couple.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/02/2020.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 2, 2020.

(ALM Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2020)

Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email asantillan@pawebly.com for assistance with your legal advertising needs. The deadline is Thursday at 5pm.

History on a plate

Collector will share his research on a unique American art form at the Menlo Park Library

by Sheryl Nonnenberg

For most of us, ceramic plates are quotidian objects, used at meal-times and then stored away. For David Hoexter, they are a thing of beauty and a gateway to another time and place. That's because he collects American advertising calendar plates.

Hoexter will present his vast knowledge about the subject during a free public program at the Menlo Park Library on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m.

As the name implies, advertising calendar plates were given away by merchants, mainly in small towns, in the early part of the 20th century as complimentary gifts. They are small (usually around 8 inches in diameter) and were intended for display. They were produced using a process similar to lithography by factories in Ohio and New Jersey.

Hoexter has some examples that predate the 1900s, but for the most part, the plates were made from 1906 to 1920, with 1910 being the peak year of production.

The Palo Alto resident was introduced to the world of pottery collecting by his wife, Judie, who is an authority on English transferware. Judie was active in local antiques fairs, and David would assist her.

"About 10 years ago, we were working at the Hillsborough Antiques Show, when I saw a calendar plate from a Berkeley vendor," Hoexter said. "I grew up in Berkeley, so I bought it and decided to research it."

This was the start of a collection that now numbers around 90 ("and still growing") and of a fascination with the background of each and every plate.

"Often, the history is more interesting to me than the pottery itself," Hoexter noted.

A case in point is his collection of plates from North Dakota. As a consulting geologist, he has an innate interest in geography and topography. Using Google views, he researched the train lines that took immigrants to settlements in the state after the Civil War. He discovered that his plates were given away by dry goods and hardware stores as incentives to lure customers away from the competition.

Hoexter's keen interest in the subject resulted in a trip to North Dakota, where he and

Judie tracked the train lines and tried to locate the towns, most of which do not exist today.

Where does he find the plates? "eBay is a great research tool," Hoexter said. "There are usually several hundred (plates) offered at a time, and it's a better source than antique shows."

He usually pays between \$10 to \$20 for a plate, "but I have been known to bid higher for something I really want."

The most expensive plate he has seen was from a Portuguese merchant in Kauai. "It sold for several hundred dollars, probably because it was the only plate from there in any year," Hoexter explained.

The library presentation will be part Powerpoint (history and maps) and part hands-on, with examples of plates for people to see and touch.

Hoexter invited me to pick up the plates and look closely — necessary since some of the printing is tiny — and explained that because the plates are made of earthenware, "this is hardy stuff." And indeed, most of his plates are in good condition with clear designs and legible calendars.

"They were intended to go on the wall, so they were mainly for decorative use," he said. "But sometimes you can see marks or indentations from plant pots."

The plate designs vary: from flowers, dogs, horseshoes and angels to "Gibson girls" with large hats. Often, the months of the year are displayed around the border. "Some of the designs were topical, such as an image of the Panama Canal from 1915," he noted.

"I surmise that potters in Ohio came up with the original idea," Hoexter said. Merchants could pick a pattern from a catalog, or order from traveling salesmen. A paper decal would be produced, placed on a fired blank plate and then glazed. After a final firing, it was ready to sell.

Hoexter said that the merchant's name was placed on top of the glaze, which meant it was not sealed securely. "Often the name of the merchant is fully or partially scratched off, making research into its history more difficult." He explained that a shop owner might have paid 10 cents per plate in 1909, which would translate to almost \$3 today. "That was not an



Photos by Sammy Dallal

David Hoexter shows off roughly 70 advertising calendar plates, mostly from 1910, that he has collected over the last 10 years.



The plates' images vary from flowers, dogs, horseshoes and angels to "Gibson girls" with large hats and Native Americans with headdress.

inconsequential cost for a small merchant," he noted.

Hoexter estimates that he has identified 2,600 plates, and said that he has created a database that other collectors can refer to. He is active in the Transferware Collectors Club and currently serves as its internet activities administrator.

What was the attraction of the plates to people living in rural America? "Many of these people probably did not have much in the way of worldly goods," he said, adding, "I think people loved beautiful objects, as we do. And they were free!"

Sheryl Nonnenberg is a freelance writer

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED

David Hoexter will discuss his collection of advertising calendar plates on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 7-8 p.m. at the Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., in the Civic Center. Admission is free. For more information, call 650-330-2501 or visit menlopark.org/Library



Plates range in color from the pastel to the bold.



Hoexter estimates that he has identified 2,600 plates, and has created a database that other collectors can refer to.

Calendar

MEETINGS, MUSIC, THEATER, FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

*Visit AlmanacNews.com/calendar
to see more calendar listings*

A Doll's House, Part 2' Jeffrey Lo directs Lucas Hnath's comedic play that picks up right after the end of Henrik Ibsen's original play, "A Doll's House." Jan. 17-Feb. 2; dates and times vary. \$22-\$46; discounts available. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. paplayers.org

Ballroom Cultural Series Filoli's Ballroom Cultural Series features nine unique events ranging from live music to interactive performances. This Sunday features a staged reading of Katori Hall's "The Mountaintop." Jan. 19, 3-5 p.m. \$30. Filoli Gardens, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. filoli.org

'Goldilocks and the Three Sharks' The Puppet Art Theater Company presents a black-light production of the classic fairy tale with a twist, featuring clackety clams, silly seahorses, a giant octopus and a family of man-eating sharks. Jan. 16, 6:30-7:15 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

'The Snow Queen' Playhouse Productions takes on the timeless fairy tale "The Snow Queen" for a kid-friendly performance. Jan. 25-26, 10 a.m. and noon. \$12-\$14; discount for children. Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

'Taking Steps' Director Troy Johnson and Bay Area comic actors take on Alan Ayckbourn's farce "Taking Steps," where chaos unfolds in a haunted Victorian house. Jan. 16-Feb. 9; dates and times vary. \$20-\$35. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. thepear.org

Concerts

The Pianist of Willesden Lane TheatreWorks Silicon Valley presents "The Pianist of Willesden Lane," a true story about a young Jewish pianist escaping Nazi-occupied Austria at the outset of World War II. Concert pianist Mona Golabek recounts her mother's poignant saga of hope and resilience to illustrate the power of music. Jan.15-Feb. 16; dates and times vary. \$25-\$55; discounts available. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

Sundays with the St. Lawrence Quartet Acclaimed St. Lawrence String Quartet performs for an afternoon of Beethoven and John Adams. Jan. 19, 2:30 p.m. \$15-\$68; discounts available. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. live.stanford.edu

Kronos Quartet Kronos Quartet performs music from the '60s, "the years that changed America." Jan. 15, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$15-\$60; discounts available. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Mozart Birthday Celebration The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra celebrates Mozart's 264th birthday with a program of chamber music masterpieces by the "Salzburg Scribbler" himself. Jan 18, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Cubberley Auditorium, Stanford University, 485 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

Music

Free Organ Recital Weekly noon-time organ recitals on the two Flentrop organs at All Saints Episcopal Church. Each recital will include at least one work by J.S. Bach. Tuesdays through May 26, 12:15-12:45 p.m. Free. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. asaints.org

Talks & Lectures

A Time to Break Silence This special program features the premiere of the newly discovered, clear Riverside Church recording of Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic speech against the Vietnam War, "Beyond Vietnam." Clarence B. Jones, former counsel and speechwriter for King, also speaks about his experiences during this crucial period and the speech's enduring relevance. Jan. 16, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

The American Advertising Calendar Plate Guest speaker David Hoexter talks about plates, once distributed by American merchants, that provide unique insights into the history of early 20th-century America. Jan. 21, 7-8 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

Biased: How Unconscious Bias Shapes Behavior Professor Jennifer Eberhardt and author Julie Lythcott-Haims come together to discuss implicit bias, how it impacts our society, and what each of us can do about it. Jan. 15, 7-9 p.m. Free. Sacred Heart School, 150 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. eventbrite.com

Burke Collection Symposium Stanford Text Technologies and the Stanford Libraries host a public symposium exploring the art of manuscript illuminators with a world-class collection of Italian manuscript materials. Jan. 15, 1-5:30 p.m. Free. Cecil H. Green Library, Stanford University, 557 Escondido Mall, Stanford. arts.stanford.edu

California Senate District 13 Climate and Environment ForumThis nonpartisan forum for the California District 13 State Senate race includes six of the district's registered candidates and focuses on the climate crisis and key environmental issues facing this region. Jan. 15, 7-9:30 p.m. Free. Menlo-Atherton High School Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. eventbrite.com

Cornel West Harvard University professor Cornel West discusses democracy, race and justice in this evening talk. Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m. \$35-\$45. Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. foothill.edu

'No Small Matter' Hillview Middle School screens and hosts a panel discussion about Greg Jacobs' documentary, "No Small Matter," an in-depth look into America's early care and education system. Jan. 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Hillview Middle School, 1100 Elder Ave., Menlo Park. eventbrite.com

Voting in the Primaries: What You Need to Know Get a nonpartisan pros and cons review of the propositions up for vote, and learn how to vote in San Mateo County under the Voter's Choice Act. Jan. 18, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

What Does a Black Hole Look Like? University of California at Berkeley astrophysics theorist Eliot Quataert gives a free, illustrated, nontechnical talk on how scientists were able to take the first ever image of a black hole. Jan. 22, 7 p.m. Free. Smithwick Theater, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. foothill.edu

Family

A Day at the Farm Visitors can reserve a day at the Hidden Villa farm and tailor the reservation to include private farm tours for up to 30 people and one of three picnic areas. Dates vary through May 23; times vary. \$180-\$275; prices vary through packages. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. hiddenvilla.org

Museums & Exhibits

A Gift of Art from Marilyn F. Symmes Marilyn F. Symmes' gift to the Cantor Arts Center is an eclectic selection of prints and drawings highlighting different ways of thinking about artworks as both images and objects. Through May 18; times vary; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'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

'The Illuminated Page' Celebrating the art of Italian manuscript painting from the 12th to 16th century, "The Illuminated Page: Manuscripts from the Burke Collection, 1150-1550" explores choirbook decorations from the collection of T. Robert and Katherine States Burke. Through April 15; times vary. Free. Green Library, Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. arts.stanford.edu

'Jordan Casteel: Returning the Gaze' Featuring paintings made in the last five years, Jordan Casteel's large-scale portraits of Harlem community members are intimate portrayals of often overlooked members of society. Through Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'Left of Center' "Left of Center" exhibition seeks to show how modes of art-making that originated on the West Coast decisively changed the topography of American modernism. Through Sept. 20; times vary; closed Tuesdays. Free. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Drive, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

'The Melancholy Museum' Mark Dion, known for his work on the history of museums and their collections, delves into the original Stanford family collection to create a cabinet of curiosities for the 21st century. Ongoing. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

'Our Sacred Coast' Artist Ian Wing's "Our Sacred Coast" is an exhibition of landscapes, including plein air and studio pieces, depicting select locations across the California coastline. Jan. 15-20; times vary. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. arts4all.org

'Plus One' "Plus One" features vibrant expressions in abstract and representational paintings, photography, ceramics, wood, glass and jewelry. Through Feb. 9; Wednesday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. The Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City. themaingallery.org

'Process and Pattern' Memory, history and making collide in the work of contemporary artists McArthur Binion, Charles Gaines, Julie Mehretu and Analia Saban. Through Feb. 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays. Free. Anderson Collection, 314 Lomita Drive, Stanford. events.stanford.edu

The Red Baron J.R. Williams, former president of the League of World War I Aviation Historians, talks about ace fighter pilot Manfred von Richthofen. Jan. 18, 11 a.m.-noon. \$11-\$18; discounts available. Hiller Aviation Museum, 601 Skyway Road, San Carlos. hiller.org

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

Submitting items for the Calendar

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

Author Events

'Buddha's Office' Author Dan Zigmond gleans from his life as a big tech data scientist and an ordained Zen priest to teach mindfulness and Buddhist techniques that can be applied to work life in his new book, "Buddha's Office." Jan. 22, 7:30-9 p.m. \$7-\$23. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

'The New Family Table' Palo Alto physician and trained chef Julia Nordgren shares recipes, tips and insight on food in her new book, "The New Family Table: Cooking More, Eating Together & Staying Relatively Sane." Jan. 21, 7:30-9 p.m. \$7-\$34. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

Stegner Fellow Reading First year Stegner Fellows in fiction and poetry, Lydia Conklin and Safia Elhillo, provide a reading of their works. Jan. 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, 424 Santa Teresa St., Stanford. events.stanford.edu

This is Now: Kelly McGonigal Stanford research psychologist Kelly McGonigal draws on neuroscience, evolutionary biology, psychology and anthropology to illustrate the link between well-being and movement in her new book, "The Joy Movement." Jan. 16, 7:30-9 p.m. \$15-\$45; discount for students. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

Viet Thanh Nguyen, Thi Bui, and Their Sons, Ellison and Hien Pulitzer Prizer winner Viet Thanh Nguyen and Caldecott Prize winner Thi Bui bring their sons Ellison and Hien for an afternoon of artistic family collaborations. Jan. 18, 2-4 p.m. \$5-\$24. Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. keplers.org

Stairway Walks in San Francisco Mary Burk, co-author of "Stairway Walks in San Francisco: The Joy of Urban Exploring," shares some of the city's well-known and clandestine corridors. Jan. 15, 7-8 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma St., Menlo Park. menlopark.org

'Making Time: Art in the Age of Mass Incarceration' Nicole Fleetwood, professor of American studies and art history at Rutgers University, examines the impact of mass incarceration on contemporary art and culture in her new book, "Marking Time: Art in the Age of Mass Incarceration." Jan. 16, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. McMurtry Building, Stanford University, 355 Roth Way, Stanford. arts.stanford.edu

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RANKED #25 TEAM
NATIONALLY, PER
THE WALL STREET
JOURNAL, 2019
REPORT OF THE
TOP RESIDENTIAL
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(Published in June 2019).

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