

# The Almanac

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

OCTOBER 23, 2020 | VOL. 56 NO. 7



WWW.ALMANACNEWS.COM

## Street-cleaning teen takes dog along for the ride

UCSB freshman finds a helpful pandemic pastime while stuck at home in Menlo Park

By **Angela Swartz**

Almanac Staff Writer

Alex Roginski cruises down University Avenue with his trash picker-upper and Jack Russell terrier, Ollie, in tow.

Roginski, 18, began collecting litter along the streets of his Nealon Park neighborhood in May following the shelter-in-place order. He's since tackled other parts of Menlo Park and Redwood City, on what are usually daily two-hour trash pickups, by bike. He attached a trailer to the back of his road bike to hold a trash bin and the dog.

"I like finding a really dirty street and cleaning it," said Roginski, who graduated from Menlo-Atherton High School last spring. "What I realize is the routes I cleaned a few weeks back are still pretty clean. ... It feels like the right thing to do. I have the ability and there's an obvious problem out there that people seem to be neglecting."

Now, as he spends what would have been his fall semester at University of California at Santa Barbara at home in Menlo Park doing distance learning, he is finding his trash collection project rewarding.

**'I like finding a really dirty street and cleaning it.'**

ALEX ROGINSKI,  
MENLO PARK RESIDENT

"Sometimes I see a plastic bag flying down the street and I say, 'I'm going to get that,'" said Roginski, a data science and statistics major. He changes up his trash pickup route and cleans up different streets each day.

He collects about three bags worth of trash daily and empties the litter in public trash bins. He reuses the trash bags.

See **GIVING BACK**, page 13



Magali Gauthier

**Alex Roginski** picks up litter in a downtown Menlo Park parking lot on Oct. 19, with his dog, Ollie, sitting a trailer that holds trash bags.

## Panel tackles tough questions about law enforcement and race in San Mateo County

By **Kate Bradshaw**

Almanac Staff Writer

Months after protests calling for changes to how law enforcement agencies interact with communities of color rippled throughout the U.S. and Peninsula, Portola Valley hosted a panel Monday to discuss how the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and court system are responding.

The discussion was broad-ranging and not specific to Portola Valley, although the town contracts with the Sheriff's Office to provide its law enforcement services.

The panel was moderated by Henrietta Burroughs, executive director of the East Palo Alto Center for Community Media, and featured six panelists: San Mateo County Sheriff Carlos Bolanos; county District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe, attorney Kevin Allen, a member of the San Mateo County Private Defender panel; Rev. Lorrie Owens, information technology CTO at the San Mateo County Office of Education and president of the NAACP San Mateo chapter; Sheriff's Office Capt. Christina Corpus; and Michael Smith, a candidate for the Redwood City Council who serves on the boards of the Peninsula

Conflict Resolution Center and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Activities League.

Burroughs asked the participants how their organizations had adapted to public calls to improve relationships between law enforcement agencies and communities of color in San Mateo County.

Bolanos said that he felt the Sheriff's Office is very diverse, which makes people of color feel more comfortable interacting with his office. "I think we already reflect the community," he said.

Corpus said that the Sheriff's Office is working harder to listen to the community and

striving to hire more women in law enforcement. "We continue to look for people that understand our communities," she said. "Just because someone speaks Spanish, they may not understand the culture."

However, other participants pushed back, arguing that while having a diverse law enforcement staff is an important element of promoting equity within the law enforcement process, the data still indicates that the outcomes are worse for people of color, specifically Black and Latino residents, than for white individuals, when they interact with the county's law enforcement and court systems.

"One of the first steps law enforcement has done — and in all cases needs to do ... is reach out to the community and acknowledge there is a problem with law enforcement and people of color," Owens said. "[Statistics] show that when we have arrests and instances of use of force, it tends to be more people of color who are affected than people not of color."

She talked about how, decades ago, as an African American college student in San Mateo County, she worked a graveyard shift and was often pulled over in the early hours of the

See **PANEL**, page 14

INSIDE

VIEWPOINT 21 | ARTS 23 | FOOD 24

Safer Halloween events PAGE 5

# Get a head start to finding your home.

As we adjust to these changing times, our agents are proud to support their local communities and are committed to helping you find the perfect place for you to call home.

Access thousands of new listings before anyone else, only at [compass.com](https://www.compass.com).



**125 Shawnee Pass, Portola Valley**  
4 Bed | 4 Bath | \$7,995,000 | [125shawneepass.com](https://www.125shawneepass.com)

Erika Demma | 650.740.2970 | DRE 01230766



**713 West Glen Way, Woodside**  
3 Bed | 4 Bath | \$4,795,000 | [713westglen.com](https://www.713westglen.com)

Erika Demma | 650.740.2970 | DRE 01230766



**355 Old La Honda Road, Woodside**  
5 Bed | 3 Bath | \$4,250,000 | [355oldlahondaroad.com](https://www.355oldlahondaroad.com)

Erika Demma | 650.740.2970 | DRE 01230766



**148 Bardet Road, Woodside**  
4 Bed | 2 Bath | \$3,995,000 | [148bardet.com](https://www.148bardet.com)

Erika Demma | 650.740.2970 | DRE 01230766



**1509 Belmont Avenue, San Carlos**  
2 Bed | 1 Bath | \$1,499,000 | [1509belmont.com](https://www.1509belmont.com)

Mary Yeargain | 650.868.6488 | DRE 00609423

COMPASS

Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Numbers 01079009 and 01272467. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate.

**HOME**  
HAS NEVER BEEN  
MORE IMPORTANT

We are available to you now, as always, with safety first, technology, experience, and most of all care.

Selling homes during this pandemic and/or helping you plan now for the future.

**\$150 MILLION  
SOLD**  
in 2020 Year-to-Date

## Superior Real Estate Representation

FOR THOSE WHO EXPECT ONLY THE VERY BEST – NO MATTER WHAT

Menlo Park



**JUST LISTED**

**631 Harvard Avenue**  
3 beds, 3.5 baths  
\$2,950,000 | 631Harvard.com

Atherton



**PENDING SALE**

**36 Parker Avenue**  
5 beds, 3 baths  
\$3,395,000 | 36Parker.com

Menlo Park



**SOLD**

**1050 Trinity Drive**  
4 beds, office, 4 baths  
\$4,798,000 | 1050Trinity.com

Atherton



**SOLD**

**2 Sutherland Drive**  
5 beds, 5.5 baths  
\$10,750,000 | 2Sutherland.com

Menlo Park



**SOLD**

**1165 Klamath Drive**  
5 beds, 4.5 baths  
\$6,175,000 | 1165Klamath.com

Menlo Park



**SOLD**

**80 San Mateo Drive**  
5 beds, 4 baths  
\$5,200,000 | 80SanMateo.com

**COMING SOON**

Several Atherton and Menlo Park properties | **Contact us** for more information



**Tom LeMieux, MBA**  
650.465.7459  
tom@lemieuxRE.com  
License #01066910



**Jennifer Bitter, MBA**  
650.308.4401  
jennifer@lemieuxRE.com  
License #01847627



A *Wall Street Journal* Top-Producing Real Estate Team, 2020  
Over \$2.5 billion in sales since 1998

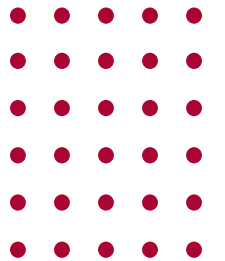
lemieuxRE.com | @lemieuxRE

COMPASS



**Stanford**  
**HEALTH CARE**  
STANFORD MEDICINE

# different world, safer care



“We now know a lot more about the virus and how it’s transmitted. We are confident that we can deliver great care, without risk of infection, and get back to routine procedures.”

—W. Ray Kim, MD | *Chief of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Stanford Medicine*



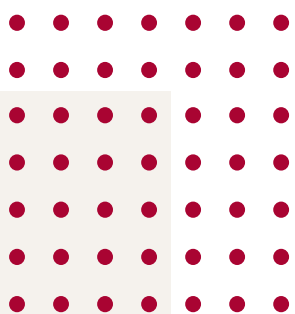
*U.S. News & World Report recognizes Stanford Health Care among the top hospitals in the nation. Ranking based on quality and patient safety.*

The world is ever-changing. At Stanford Health Care, we’re adapting to safely deliver the same, excellent care you have always relied on. Whether you need primary care or our world-class specialty services—including cancer care, cardiovascular health, neuroscience, and orthopaedics—we’re here for you.

We’re taking every precaution to protect your health:

- **Testing for COVID-19** before most procedures and to track the health of our workforce
- **Rigorous standards**, including COVID-19 health screenings at entrances, comprehensive PPE use, enhanced air filtration, and application of chemicals and UV light to sanitize spaces
- **Convenient care**, with expanded access to remote video visits and contactless check-in/check-out available through our MyHealth app when visiting our facilities in-person

To learn more and book an appointment, visit: [stanfordhealthcare.org/resumingcare](https://stanfordhealthcare.org/resumingcare)



# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

**Laura Forrest** places some chocolates in the candy chute she built for trick-or-treaters at the entrance of her Palo Alto home on Oct. 20. From Menlo Park to Mountain View, Midpeninsulans are getting creative to find safer ways to celebrate Halloween during the coronavirus pandemic.

## Local Halloween festivities that avoid COVID-19 scares

Plans call for safer alternatives to traditional trick-or-treating

By Sue Dremann

From virtual Halloween carnivals to neighborhood costume parades to a candy chute for contactless treat delivery, cities and residents throughout the Midpeninsula are gearing up for the holiday in creative and safer ways amid the COVID-19

pandemic — while still maintaining a festive spirit.

Gone this year will be the large gatherings of thousands who make an annual pilgrimage to Palo Alto's Waverley or Ramona streets for elaborate Halloween carnivals and decorations put on by business and tech executives Laurene Powell Jobs, Larry Page and Marissa

Mayer. Palo Alto isn't issuing event permits, and no police resources have been assigned to any Halloween events, city spokesperson Meghan Horrigan-Taylor said.

Some cities and organizations are aiming to encourage people to limit their traditional

See **HALLOWEEN**, page 12

## San Mateo County launches COVID-19 compliance unit

By Bay City News Service

San Mateo County on Monday launched a COVID-19 compliance unit that will warn and cite businesses that fail to follow the county's pandemic-related health order.

During a media briefing on Oct. 14, County Manager Mike Callagy said that people will be able to call 211 or go online to report businesses that have not been compliant.

Callagy said the compliance unit will work with businesses

to ensure that they understand what is required of them.

Under the county's health order, businesses must implement social distancing protocols, require face coverings, and provide hand sanitizer or soap and water. Businesses must also prepare and distribute a health and safety plan to personnel.

The full health order can be found at [smhealth.org](http://smhealth.org).

"It's not our intention to go out and cite businesses," Callagy said. "We want to go out

and work with businesses to make sure that they are compliant and providing a safe and healthy environment for individuals who come to their business."

The compliance unit will first issue a warning to non-compliant businesses. If the business ignores the warning, Callagy said the unit would move to civil penalties and then criminal prosecution if necessary.

See **COMPLIANCE**, page 15

## Menlo Park council favors lowering speed limits citywide

By Kate Bradshaw  
Almanac Staff Writer

Menlo Park could overhaul its speed limit system in favor of mandating slower speeds on city streets.

In a recent discussion by the City Council, a majority of members favored new speed restrictions on some streets and discussed the possibility of lowering speeds citywide to 25 mph.

The California Vehicle Code lays out certain procedures for setting speed limits, said Rene Baile, Menlo Park transportation engineer, in an Oct. 13 presentation to the council. While there are some basic speed limits when others are not posted — for instance, 25 mph around schools, residences and senior facilities — cities are required to regularly update speed limits using what's called an "Engineering and Traffic Survey" in order to be able to use radar or lidar for speed limit enforcement.

Menlo Park conducted its most recent study in 2019, after completing its previous one in 2012, according to staff. Such studies look at how fast vehicles travel on roads and identify the "85th percentile" speed — or the speed at or below which 85% of traffic usually travels, according to a staff report. Generally the number is rounded to the nearest 5 mph interval, but in some circumstances the number may be rounded down to the nearest 5 mile per hour interval, based on factors like the collision history of the street, home and business density and bike and pedestrian safety.

Based on the survey's finding, speed limit reductions were recommended along seven road segments, and the City Council voted 4-0, with Councilwoman Catherine Carlton abstaining, to adopt the following speed reductions:

■ From 40 mph to 30 mph: Chilco Street from Constitution Drive to Terminal Avenue.

■ From 35 mph to 30 mph: Constitution Drive from Independence Drive to Chilco Street and Valparaiso Avenue from the city limit to El Camino Real.

■ From 30 mph to 25 mph: Middle Avenue from University Drive to El Camino Real, and Santa Cruz Avenue from Avy Avenue/Orange Street to University Drive.

The council also lowered speed limits on Olive Street, and on O'Brien Drive, at the request of Mayor Cecilia Taylor, to 25 mph and asked staff to look into expanding the areas that constitute "school zones" with mandatory 25 mph speed limits, to the maximum extent possible. In addition, they directed staff to bring back ideas for traffic-calming measures on Middle Avenue, where several community members in public comment said they felt that cars drive too fast as they pass homes, churches, parks and kids on bikes.

### Citywide speed limit?

The council's Oct. 13 discussion expanded beyond adopting the recommended changes to specific streets into exploring a possible citywide speed limit of 25 mph. Menlo Park's Complete Streets Commission voted 8-0-1 in August to pursue lowering speed limits to 25 mph citywide, redesigning streets to lower vehicle speeds and supporting legislation to amend using the 85th percentile practice to determine acceptable vehicle speeds, according to staff.

City staffers said they didn't recommend those actions because slowing all roads citywide and increasing travel times could push commuters looking to get to their destinations faster onto residential streets; frustrated drivers might be more inclined to disrespect the posted limits; and the speed limits could not be enforced using radar under state statutes, among other reasons.

On the other hand, a compelling reason to consider lowering speed limits is safety, community traffic safety advocates argued. The risk of crashing into and fatally injuring someone while driving decreases dramatically when a vehicle is traveling 20 to 25 mph instead of 40, according

See **SPEEDS**, page 9

# Employment

The Almanac offers advertising for Employment, as well as Home and Business Services.

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call 650.223.6582 or email [digitalads@pawebly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawebly.com).



## TOWN OF ATHERTON NOTICE OF ORDINANCE NO. 646 ADOPTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON, CALIFORNIA, at its meeting of October 21, 2020 adopted Ordinance 646, an Ordinance of the City Council of the Town of Atherton, State of California, adding amendments to Chapter 17.52 "Accessory Dwelling Units" and Chapter 17.60 "Definitions" of the Atherton Municipal Code.

The full text of the proposed Ordinance is available for review or purchase in the City Clerk's Office at 150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton, California 94027 or online at [www.cit.atherton.ca.us](http://www.cit.atherton.ca.us). For more information, you may contact the City Clerk's Office at (650) 752-0529.

The Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days following adoption.

The Atherton City Council voted to adopt Ordinance 665 as follows:

AYES: Widmer, Wiest, Lempres, Lewis, DeGolia

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

/s/ Anthony Suber

Anthony Suber

City Clerk Town of Atherton

Dated: October 23, 2020



## TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSIONERS NEEDED

The Town Council is seeking three volunteers to serve on the Town's Planning Commission through December 2024. The Planning Commission consists of five members appointed by the Town Council, and meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

The Planning Commission is responsible for addressing policy matters related to general land use and development in Town. The Commission provides recommendations to the Town Council on legislative actions such as amendments to the Zoning Code and the General Plan. In addition, the Commission reviews and acts on certain types of applications, such as conditional use permits, subdivisions, and variances, as well as reviewing appeals of ASCC and administrative staff decisions.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council at [shanlon@portolavalley.net](mailto:shanlon@portolavalley.net) by 5pm on Monday, November 2, 2020. The Town Council will conduct interviews at a scheduled meeting on November 11, 2020. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Town Clerk Sharon Hanlon at [shanlon@portolavalley.net](mailto:shanlon@portolavalley.net) or (650) 851-1700 x210.

Established 1965

## The Almanac

Serving Menlo Park,  
Atherton, Portola Valley,  
and Woodside for over 50 years

### NEWSROOM

#### Editor

Andrea Gemmet (223-6537)

#### Assistant Editors

Julia Brown (223-6531)

Heather Zimmerman (223-6515)

#### Staff Writers

Kate Bradshaw (223-6536)

Angela Swartz (223-6529)

**Contributors** Kate Daly, Maggie Mah

#### Special Sections Editor

Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

#### Chief Visual Journalist

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

#### Visual Journalism Intern

Olivia Treynor

### DESIGN & PRODUCTION

#### Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

#### Designers

Linda Atilano, Amy Levine,  
Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

### ADVERTISING

#### Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahiralis (223-6570)

#### Display Advertising Sales

(223-6570)

#### Real Estate Manager

Neal Fine (223-6583)

#### Legal Advertising

Alicia Santillan (223-6578)

### ADVERTISING SERVICES

#### Advertising Services Manager

Kevin Legarda (223-6597)

#### Sales & Production Coordinator

Diane Martin (223-6584)

The Almanac is published every Friday at

3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525  
Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

■ **Email news** and photos with captions to: [Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com)

■ **Email letters** to: [Letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Letters@AlmanacNews.com)

■ **Advertising:** (650) 854-2626  
Advertising Fax: (650) 223-7570

■ **Classified Advertising:** (650) 854-0858

■ **Submit Obituaries:**  
[AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](http://AlmanacNews.com/obituaries)

The Almanac (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County, The Almanac is delivered free to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Copyright ©2020 by Embarcadero Media, All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

The Almanac is qualified by decree of the Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish public notices of a governmental and legal nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued November 9, 1969. Subscriptions are \$60 for one year and \$100 for two years. Go to [AlmanacNews.com/circulation](http://AlmanacNews.com/circulation).

To request free delivery, or stop delivery, of The Almanac in zip code 94025, 94027, 94028 and the Woodside portion of 94062, call 854-2626.



### CRIME BRIEFS

#### Motorcyclists suffer major injuries in crashes

A pair of motorcycle accidents on Skyline Boulevard over the weekend sent two men to the hospital with major injuries, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The first incident happened Saturday, Oct. 17, around 3:30 p.m. on Skyline Boulevard near Alpine Road. A 30-year-old Oakland man, who was unlicensed, was riding a BMW touring motorcycle northbound when a BMW car crossed westbound from Page Mill Road to Alpine Road at the intersection in front of the motorcyclist, according to CHP Officer Art Montiel.

The motorcyclist suffered major injuries and was taken to Stanford Hospital. He is expected to survive, Montiel said.

The second crash was a solo motorcycle accident. Around 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, a 55-year-old man was traveling southbound on Skyline north of Kings Mountain Road when he appeared to slam on the brakes, Montiel said. His motorcycle slid and he crashed, becoming unconscious. He was transported to Stanford Hospital with major injuries and doesn't remember anything about the accident, Montiel said. A witness told the CHP she saw him sliding on the road and that no other vehicles were involved in the crash.

—Julia Brown

#### Robbery suspect at Stanford Shopping Center

A man who reportedly had a gun at Stanford Shopping Center was arrested by Palo Alto police in connection with a robbery Oct. 10, police said in a press release Oct. 15.

At about 6:40 p.m. Oct. 10, officers responded to a call by security personnel at the shopping center, located at 180 El Camino Real, where they were attempting to keep a 39-year-old

See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 15

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Sequoia district athletic facilities reopen

Residents can once again use Sequoia Union High School District tracks, fields, and tennis courts, including facilities at Woodside and Menlo-Atherton high schools.

"I am happy to report that our Interim Superintendent Crystal Leach says that fields and tennis courts at our high school sites will open for use by the public this weekend," said Sequoia school board president Allen Weiner in an email Oct. 16.

The district closed facilities to the public in June to limit the spread of COVID-19.

#### New M-A scholarship program

Faculty advisers for the Menlo-Atherton High School Black Student Union announced the Ubuntu Scholarship Program, \$5,000 college scholarships for graduating African American/Black seniors, in an Oct. 9 press release.

Named for the African term Ubuntu, which stresses a sense of community involvement and giving to others, the program will provide two students each year with college scholarships funded over four years at \$1,250 per year.

The awards will be based on a student's academic achievement, financial need and community service work. Donations have been received to fund the first four scholarships. Additional donations are sought to continue to award two scholarships every year.

Donations can be sent to Menlo-Atherton High School, attention: Treasurer, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton CA 94027. Checks should be made payable to M-A Scholarships, with Ubuntu Scholarship Program in the memo line. Donations are tax deductible.

For additional information, contact Sherinda Bryant at [sbryant@seq.org](mailto:sbryant@seq.org), M-A alumni or community members who want to help fundraise for the scholarship can also contact Bryant.

—Angela Swartz

#### Supervisors OK immigrant relief funds

San Mateo County's Board of Supervisors on Tuesday allocated an additional \$2 million to the county's Immigrant Relief Fund, which provides financial assistance to immigrants during

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 15

# Meet the candidates in Woodside's uncontested council election

Two incumbents and two council newcomers are all running unopposed

By Heather Zimmerman

In a year of significant upheaval, the 2020 Woodside Town Council election appears to be smooth sailing. The races for four seats up for election this year, in districts 1, 3, 5 and 7, are all uncontested. Per the town charter, town officials are required to hold a council election to allow for the possibility of write-in candidates.

Councilmen Daniel Yost (District 1) and Tom Livermore (District 5) have declined to run for reelection, leaving open seats.

Attorney Jenn Wall, candidate for District 1, and management consultant John Carvell, candidate for District 5, are running unopposed, as are two incumbents, Chris Shaw (District 3) and Mayor Ned Fluet (District 7). Both Wall and Carvell would be newcomers to the council, but each has experience serving on town committees.

Woodside's Town Council candidates spoke with The Almanac about their priorities and some key town issues such as safer roads, helping to promote fire safety efforts and preserving Woodside's rural character while addressing the need for adding more housing as required by the state.

## Jenn Wall (District 1)

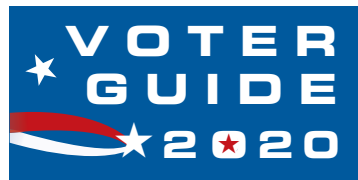
Attorney Jenn Wall, a resident of Woodside since 2012, called herself "an interested stakeholder in the future of Woodside."

"Just to be involved in how the town develops over time, in the policy, in the direction that it takes, those things are important to me because I want to raise my kids here. It's a town that I've really come to love. It's such a special place and so I want to make sure that it stays that way," Wall said.

She was appointed to the town's Circulation Committee in 2019.

Wall said she's interested in continuing to advocate for the Safe Routes to School program, which promotes biking and walking to school, and improving road safety around schools through a combination of education, law enforcement and infrastructure improvements.

"That was something that was also a priority for the Circulation Committee, and it's been making progress recently. A sidewalk was recently built along the north side of



Woodside Road which has definitely enabled more kids to be able to walk to school, including my own," she said.

Wall noted that the growth of outdoor dining in the town center this summer, though it arose out of necessity from the pandemic, has only highlighted the area's draw. With parking already limited, she emphasized improving accessibility to the town center for other modes of transportation besides driving so that residents can more easily travel to the area on foot, by bike or on horseback.

A priority for her even before COVID has been "helping to find ways to create more paths around town that can help people get to the town center. I think that's an important issue," she said.

Noting Woodside's large community of cyclists, Wall said she would like to see more road safety measures to accommodate bicyclists.

"One thing I would love to see is more prominent markings for bike lanes and turning lanes," she said, like at the intersection of Woodside Road and Highway 280.

Wall's term on the Planning Commission began this spring, around the time of the pandemic shutdown. The commission has met virtually since the start of her tenure, which Wall noted has made for an unusual experience, since she hasn't had a chance to meet her fellow commissioners face to face. But she said she doesn't think the online format has impeded the commission's work.

On the topic of bringing more affordable housing to town, Wall mentioned the recent state law that relaxed some requirements for building granny flats, also known as accessory dwelling units (ADUs), as a promising option for adding housing in a way that would also help maintain town character. The Woodside

council recently amended its own ADU ordinance to bring it into compliance with the new state law, with the aim of creating more affordable housing.

"I think we all want to see Woodside continue to have a rural character. I go hiking here all the time. I use the trails behind my house. And so I think it's an example of healthy tension: that we do want to preserve the rural character of Woodside, but also to do what we can increase the amount of affordable housing," she said.

With the wildfire season growing longer and this year even more of an imminent threat to the region, Wall said she's interested in continuing to advance the cause of fire safety. As someone who grew up in California, she said, "It's really sad for me to see these types of fire events now are our new normal."

She said she wants to make sure that town officials are doing the very best they can to keep residents, homes, animals and horses as safe as possible.

## Chris Shaw (District 3)

Chris Shaw is a 27-year resident of Woodside and the incumbent for District 3 after being elected to the Town Council in 2015. Shaw said that he learned very quickly what sets local governance apart from higher levels of government is that in a town of 5,000, with constituents who are friends and neighbors — people one may encounter while at the store or post office. "By default you must govern from the center. You can't play the extreme far left or far right all about political gain," he said.

"I think there's nothing better than issues coming before the council or getting an email from constituents and working to solve the problems for both sides of the issue," he said.

While the coronavirus pandemic hasn't imposed the financial burdens on Woodside that many other communities are experiencing, it still has brought some changes to the town. He said he's proud of the town allocating money in the form of \$10,000 grants

from the general fund to support local businesses through the San Mateo County Strong program.

Shaw commended the town staff on quickly adapting to the new working conditions, noting that the town moved quickly to put the proper protocols in place to ensure, for example, that the Planning and Building Department could continue running and doing

inspections.

He also said that with outdoor dining at restaurants in the town center proving popular with residents and visitors, he'd like to see the practice continue, and expand to restaurants elsewhere in the community.

With the recent nearby CZU complex fires, wildfires are top

See **WOODSIDE COUNCIL**, page 18

"Passionate about issues like education, the environment and closing the income gap... connecting non-profits with companies and individuals looking to make a difference, the Jefferson Award goes to Josh Becker."

©CBS NEWS

January 13, 2016

**JOSH BECKER**  
DEMOCRAT  
— FOR STATE SENATE —

BeckerSenate2020.com

As you prepare to fill out your ballot for the Nov. 3 election, The Almanac has compiled its voter guide online with links to news stories, candidate profiles and editorials to help you make an informed decision on local races. We'll keep adding links leading up to Election Day. You can find it at [tinyurl.com/alm-vg-2020](http://tinyurl.com/alm-vg-2020).

Paid for by Josh Becker for Senate 2020. FPPC #1409764

# California schools see big jump in homeless students

By Carolyn Jones/EdSource

California's escalating cost of living has led to a 48% surge in the state's homeless student population over the past decade, according to new research released Tuesday by researchers at UCLA.

Almost 270,000 students in K-12 schools lacked stable housing in 2018-19, numbers that almost certainly have grown since the pandemic and economic downturn began last spring, researchers said.

"We knew the numbers would be up, but we were surprised at the scope and severity of the crisis," said Joseph Bishop, director of UCLA's Center for the Transformation of Schools, which compiled the report. "Looking at these numbers was really a 'wow' moment."

Disproportionate numbers of California's homeless students were Latino and Black: 70% and 9%, respectively. Latinos make up 55% of the overall student enrollment, and Black students 5.3%.

The study found steep increases in student homelessness throughout the Bay Area,

particularly in counties that historically had some of the lowest youth homeless rates in California. Santa Clara County's homeless count rose from 2,676 students in 2017-18 to 4,409 students in 2018-19 — a stark 64.8% increase in just one school year. Contra Costa County also shows a similar spike, from 1,705 students to 3,062 over the same period.

Fewer than 1% of students in Santa Clara and Contra Costa had been homeless before 2018-19, but the recent surge in homelessness puts both counties closer to the statewide average of 4.3%.

In San Mateo County, where the Ravenswood City School District has reported a staggering 42% homelessness rate among its students, the study found homelessness rose from 1,580 students in 2017-18 to 2,347 in 2018-19 — a nearly 50% increase.

The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires that every public school count the number of students who are living on the street, in shelters, in motels, in cars, doubled-up with other families

or moving between friends and relatives' homes.

Using data collected by the California Department of Education, the UCLA researchers interviewed more than 150 teachers, students, school administrators and advocates to get a fuller picture of who's homeless, how schools are impacted, and what's driving the increase in numbers.

Describing a "tidal wave of factors," Bishop cited the skyrocketing cost of housing in many parts of California, widespread economic instability, a jump in day-to-day living expenses and over-burdened social services such as low-cost mental health counseling or access to affordable housing.

He also noted the grinding poverty that some families find hard to escape — especially when contending with family sickness or other setbacks.

The federal government gives money to schools to provide services for homeless students, such as backpacks or transportation to and from school. Some schools use the money to help entire families, by providing groceries, laundry facilities,

showers or connections to local nonprofits that can help secure housing or jobs.

But the funding, which has not increased under the Trump Administration, is grossly inadequate, Bishop said. In California, the state distributes about \$10 million annually through a competitive grant process, which means many districts that apply do not receive money at all.

About two-thirds of the state's homeless students were enrolled in those districts in 2018-19, meaning about 178,000 homeless students received few, if any, services through their schools, according to the report.

Some schools use money set aside for low-income students or foster youth to provide homeless services, but it's nowhere near enough to cover the escalating needs, said Debbie Raucher, a project director at John Burton Advocates for Youth, which focuses on foster and homeless youth in California.

"Having a roof over your head, having a safe place to sleep and study, is fundamental to absolutely everything," she said, noting that students

who experience homelessness have higher dropout rates and are more likely to experience homelessness as adults. "Investing in these students pays off in so many ways. It's a cliché, but it really is an investment in our future."

The crisis has become so severe that schools cannot be expected to solve the problem single-handedly, Bishop and others said. Social service agencies, early childhood education programs, colleges and other organizations need to create a cohesive approach to helping homeless young people stay in school and helping their families find stable housing, the report recommended.

Schools also need more staff dedicated to identifying homeless students and pairing them with services. In most districts, only one person — the homeless liaison — is responsible for counting homeless students, applying for funding and working directly with families, often at multiple school campuses.

Jevon Wilkes, executive director of the nonprofit California

See **HOMELESS STUDENTS**, page 15

## A Better Health Care Experience Awaits

with a Medicare Advantage plan from Stanford Health Care Advantage (HMO)

### Learn More at a Free Online Seminar!

#### You will learn:

- The Medicare basics you need, including information about eligibility and enrollment dates
- A breakdown of the pros and cons of your options such as Original Medicare, Medicare supplements, and Medicare Advantage plans
- Ways to save money on your medical and prescription drug costs
- How to get coverage over and above what Original Medicare provides
- Details about Stanford Health Care Advantage plans available in your community
- How Stanford Health Care Advantage plans give you access to Stanford Medicine and Sutter Health-affiliated doctors, specialists, and hospitals

For a complete list of webinars, visit [StanfordMA.com](https://stanfordma.com) and click Attend a Seminar.

Call 1-855-201-6324 (TTY: 711) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.\*

#### Webinar

Mon., Oct. 26 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

#### Webinar

Tues., Oct. 27 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

#### Webinar

Wed., Oct. 28 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

#### Webinar

Thurs., Oct. 29 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

#### Webinar

Fri., Oct. 30 | 10 a.m.

#### Webinar

Sat., Oct. 31 | 10 a.m.



**Stanford**  
HEALTH CARE ADVANTAGE

For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 1-855-201-6324 or, for TTY users, 711. \*You may reach a messaging service on weekends from April 1 through Sept. 30 and holidays. Please leave a message, and your call will be returned the next business day. Stanford Health Care Advantage is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Stanford Health Care Advantage depends on contract renewal. Stanford Health Care Advantage complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

# Las Lomitas kindergartners get first taste of classroom life

By Angela Swartz  
Almanac Staff Writer

Teachers and a cascade of bubbles greeted kindergartners as they filed off the school bus and entered classrooms at Las Lomitas Elementary School in Atherton on Monday, Oct. 19. These are some of the first students to step foot on campus — vulnerable groups of students who need extra support returned to classrooms several weeks ago — since the school shut down seven months ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These Las Lomitas Elementary School District students joined their peers in the neighboring Menlo Park City and Portola Valley school districts, who have returned to classrooms in recent weeks. The Las Lomitas Elementary School District includes Las Lomitas Elementary (grades K-3) and La Entrada (grades 4-8) schools

and serves about 1,111 students, according to Superintendent Beth Polito.

Las Lomitas Elementary Principal Alain Camou has felt “fear and anxiety” about reopening, but said the first day back was going “really well.”

“There’s something about having the kids here that puts me at ease,” he said. “We have all the right measures in place to have this return be successful and safe for the kids and staff.”

An Almanac reporter and photographer were turned away from the campus on Oct. 19, after district officials rescinded permission to document the first day back.

Class sizes on the K-3 campus are 16 or fewer, Camou said. The school has a staggered recess schedule that reduces the number of students outside to reduce the mixing of cohorts. There are now hand-sanitizing stations and free-standing



Olivia Treynor

**Principal Alain Camou** greets Evelyn, a student arriving at Las Lomitas Elementary School in Atherton on Oct. 19, as kindergartners were welcomed to campus for the first time this school year.

HEPA air filters in every classroom, as well as hospital-grade air filters in the HVAC system.

Older students will be phasing back into classrooms the following weeks, Polito said. First graders are due back on Oct. 26, with second and fifth graders set to start Nov. 2. Third and fourth graders will return Nov. 9.

Grades K-3 will start with a part-day schedule, with in-person instruction running from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fourth and fifth graders will be in class from 8:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. A full-day schedule is set to start on Nov. 16 for all students.

Middle schoolers (students in grades six through eight) will

continue with remote learning until the school board reviews a timeline at the Oct. 28 meeting, Polito said.

To accommodate smaller class sizes, the district reassigned staff members who may regularly teach reading or other niche subjects to a K-5 cohort of students, she said.

The county moved out of the most restrictive purple or “widespread” risk tier to the red or “substantial” tier on Sept. 22. Since the county stayed in the red tier for four weeks as of Oct. 20, all schools in San Mateo County serving transitional kindergarten through 12th grades are allowed to reopen, so long as they develop a reopening plan, have a testing plan in place for staff, and use an incremental approach to reopening, according to the San Mateo County Office of Education website. ■



Olivia Treynor

**Yataro plays with bubbles** on his first day of kindergarten at Las Lomitas Elementary School on Oct. 19.



Olivia Treynor

**Parents** send off their students to classrooms after starting the school year with remote learning.

Email Angela Swartz at [aswartz@almanacnews.com](mailto:aswartz@almanacnews.com)

## SPEEDS

continued from page 5

to data staff presented to the council. Safety concerns align with the “Vision Zero” goal Menlo Park has adopted to eliminate traffic fatalities and reduce the number of non-fatal collisions by 50% by 2040, staff said.

In a public comment, Belle Haven resident and community activist Pam Jones called the 85th percentile rule an “archaic law that prevents us from making sure all of our streets are really safe.”

However, one consequence of not following the California Vehicle Code’s processes for lowering speed limits is that the police department would have to use more difficult and potentially less effective methods than

radar or lidar for enforcement, said interim police Chief Dave Spiller.

Over the past three years, in 2017, 2018 and 2019, the police department issued 751 speeding citations combined. However, Menlo Park’s traffic enforcement is expected to decline due to the City Council’s actions earlier this year to eliminate the department’s traffic unit, although it still has the means to conduct targeted speed limit enforcement, staff said.

“If we’re going to deviate from the survey ... enforcement is going to be impacted pretty significantly,” Spiller said.

Councilman Ray Mueller presented a map indicating that much of the neighboring city of Palo Alto already has speed limits of 25 mph, and said he

avored doing the same for Menlo Park.

Council members discussed an alternative to simply posting 25 mph signs citywide that would be difficult to enforce: redesigning the streets so that they naturally slow down drivers.

Carlton was the most vocally opposed to the citywide speed limit, saying that at some times of the day, such as at night when no children are nearby, 25 mph could feel unnecessarily slow to travel down Santa Cruz or Valparaiso avenues, and frustrate drivers. Besides, she noted, speed limits are already assumed to be 25 mph unless otherwise posted.

Vice Mayor Drew Combs expressed some additional reservations, saying that picking

and choosing specific streets for lower speeds without a clear methodology seemed “ad hoc” and he favored following the state procedure for setting speed limits, but ultimately supported the council’s actions.

Councilwoman Betsy Nash, who also said that the process of selecting specific streets seemed random — and did not provide equal representation to the city’s District 3, which does not currently have a district-elected council representative — instead proposed moving ahead with the 25 mph speed reduction citywide that night. “It doesn’t feel right that we’re doing some and not others,” she said. However, Mueller, who was organizing the council’s motion, said he was not immediately prepared to adopt that policy

and favored bringing it back for consideration at a later date with a clearer plan from staff.

Email Kate Bradshaw at [kbradshaw@almanacnews.com](mailto:kbradshaw@almanacnews.com)

## OBITUARIES

**Mary Margaret Walz**, 81, a Menlo Park resident, died on July 16. **Michael David Spafford**, 64, a longtime Midpeninsula resident, died on Aug. 30.

To read full obituaries for them and other local residents who have died recently, leave remembrances and post photos, go to Lasting Memories at [almanacnews.com/obituaries](http://almanacnews.com/obituaries).

# Coronavirus updates: State launches vaccine safety group

By Embarcadero Media staff

San Mateo County reported 30 new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday, bringing the county's total to 10,918. No new deaths were reported, keeping the death toll at 157. There are 24 people hospitalized. Santa Clara County reported 103 new cases of the coronavirus on Tuesday, raising the total to 23,458. Four more people have died, raising the death toll to 382. There were 88 people hospitalized, 13 of whom were new. The most recent

seven-day rolling average of new cases per day is at 109, the highest average so far this month.

## State launches vaccine safety group

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the launch Monday of a scientific working group that will examine the safety of any coronavirus vaccine that receives federal approval.

The working group includes 11 epidemiologists, infectious disease specialists and other medical

experts from across the state that will be tasked with independently reviewing vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Two of the members have ties to Stanford University Health system: Dr. Grace Lee, a professor who specializes in infectious disease at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, and Dr. Yvonne Maldonado, professor and chief of the division of infectious disease within Stanford Medicine's Department

of Pediatrics.

Newsom said the Scientific Safety Review Workgroup will do so as pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies like Pfizer and Moderna roll out their coronavirus vaccines into next year.

The state's independent review process will also remain in place regardless of who wins the November presidential general election, Newsom said.

"There's been, frankly, a lot of politicization ... around vaccinations and we have to make sure that they're safe and they're effective," he said Monday during a briefing on the state's pandemic response.

Newsom cautioned that the amount of vaccine doses available before the end of the year will be a fraction of the U.S. population and that most Californians should not expect to have access to a vaccine until 2021.

The state was given an estimate of around 45 million total vaccine doses being available across the country by the end of the calendar year, according to Newsom.

That number, he cautioned, was strictly for state planning purposes and was also on the high end of the likely pool of available vaccine doses.

"Don't anticipate or expect that you can go down to a local pharmacy any time in this calendar year and likely get a vaccination," Newsom said.

In addition to the coronavirus' medical novelty, the pace of vaccine development is likely to be hampered because most treatments currently consist of two shots over 21 days.

Those doses must also be kept in either cold storage or ultra-cold storage at temperatures as low as below 70 degrees Celsius.

That necessary cold storage could further affect the availability of commodities like dry ice that would be used to prevent the vaccine doses from spoiling.

"While a small number of doses of an FDA-approved vaccine could be deployed before year's end, the reality is that the COVID-19 pandemic will be with us well into 2021 — and widespread vaccine distribution likely won't occur for many more months," said Dr. Erica Pan, the state's acting public health officer.

However, even when the time comes that a vaccine is widely available, the pandemic will not end overnight, Newsom said, adding that uncertainly still remains whether a vaccine will effectively prevent contracting the virus long-term.

## Stadiums, theme parks to stay closed

Professional sporting events will not be allowed to have

audiences and theme parks will not resume operation anytime soon in Santa Clara County, despite the state's decision that allows them to reopen, county leaders said on Tuesday.

County leaders said they would not relax their restrictions on theme parks and sports venues for some time, citing the trajectory of rising COVID-19 cases throughout the nation and warnings by federal and state officials that this fall and winter could see a dramatic rise in infection rates.


"We want to make it clear that superspreader events will not be allowed within the county of Santa Clara," county Executive Jeff Smith said during a press conference in San Jose on Tuesday afternoon.

The California Department of Public Health released new guidance and made updates to the Blueprint for a Safer Economy related to COVID-19 on Tuesday.

Professional sporting events at outdoor stadiums and racetracks may resume outdoor operations if their county is in the "orange" tier (also known as Tier 3, indicating a moderate risk level) with capacity limited to 20% and in the "yellow" tier (also known as Tier 4, indicating a minimal risk for COVID-19) with capacity limited to 25%. Ticket sales must be limited to customers traveling within a 120-mile radius. The guidance applies only to professional sports. It doesn't apply to youth or adult recreational, amateur, semi-pro or collegiate sporting competitions, according to the state guidance.

"The changes in the state's guidelines regarding professional sports in our opinion is really quite dangerous," Smith said. "You just do the math. Twenty percent of the number of capacity at Levi's Stadium means just under 14,000 people could attend a football game there, and if you look around the county and around the region within 150 miles of this county there are areas and communities that have positivity rates of COVID that are in the 8% range. Ours in this county happens to be around 1%."

## Comprehensive COVID-19 coverage

View interactive charts tracking the spread of the coronavirus in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties online at [paloaltoonline.com/tracking-the-coronavirus](http://paloaltoonline.com/tracking-the-coronavirus). Find a comprehensive collection of coverage on the Mid-peninsula's response to the new coronavirus by The Almanac and its sister publications, Palo Alto Online, and the Mountain View Voice, at [tinyurl.com/c19-Almanac](http://tinyurl.com/c19-Almanac). 

CalMatters and Bay City News Service contributed to this report.



## WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the District Board of the West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday evening, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park or attend by Zoom or telephone to encourage social distancing. Please refer to: <https://zoom.us/j/98868858396pwd=R1IBSGw4OTdhNE0vbTBWYWpLS05Rdz09>

Meeting ID: 988 6885 8396 Passcode: 170890 or by telephone (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 988 6885 8396 Passcode: 170890

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider a proposed increase in some of the customer rates for year 2021 effective January 1, 2021 for the collection of waste and recyclable materials in the West Bay Sanitary District for 2021.

The need for this increase was discussed by the District Board at the September 23, 2020 Board meeting. The staff report for this matter is available at the District Office located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park or online at [www.westbaysanitary.org](http://www.westbaysanitary.org).

### PROPOSED NEW RATES:

Approximately fifty-five percent (57%) of residential service containers are a 32 gallon size. The new rate for 2021 for a 32 gallon container would increase from \$51.00 per month to \$53.50 per month, a \$2.50 per month increase. The new rate for the 20 gallon container would increase from \$43.00 per month to \$46.00 per month, a \$3.00 per month increase. 20 gallon containers have been grandfathered to current users but are no longer available to new customers or to customers wishing to migrate down to a 20 gallon container.

The District's proposed rates are designed to transition the "per can" rate to an actual "cost of service" rate. For comparison purposes, the typical residential rates for 32 gallon containers for SBWMA Cities including Atherton, Burlingame, Belmont, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, and San Mateo, range from a low of \$24.59 (Foster City) to a high of \$50.00 (Atherton), based upon 2020 rates. 2021 rates are not yet available. Commercial customers will receive a 5% reduction in rates to the 1-cubic and the 3-cubic yard bins under this proposal, to better align their cost of service.

The following table shows the current rates and the proposed monthly rates for West Bay Sanitary District Franchised Customers to be effective beginning January 1, 2021.

Customer Service Level	Proposed Maximum Solid Waste Rates for 2021					
	MONTHLY RATES			QUARTERLY RATES		
	Current Monthly Rate	Proposed Monthly Rate	Monthly Increase (Decrease)	Current Quarterly Rate	Proposed Quarterly Rate	Quarterly Increase
<i>Residential:</i>						
20 gallon can	\$43.00	\$46.00	\$3.00	\$129.00	\$138.00	\$9.00
32 gallon can	\$51.00	\$53.50	\$2.50	\$153.00	\$160.50	\$7.50
64 gallon can	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$216.00	\$216.00	\$0.00
96 gallon can	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$315.00	\$315.00	\$0.00
<i>*Commercial: (Per Pick Up)</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Incr (decr) per pick up</i>			
1 yard bin	\$185.55	\$176.27	(\$9.28)	n/a	n/a	n/a
2 yard bin	\$352.15	\$334.54	(\$17.61)	n/a	n/a	n/a
3 yard bin	\$392.14	\$372.53	(\$19.61)	n/a	n/a	n/a
4 yard bin	\$522.84	\$496.70	(\$26.14)	n/a	n/a	n/a
6 yard bin	\$648.17	\$615.76	(\$32.41)	n/a	n/a	n/a
32-Gallon Cart	\$51.00	\$53.50	\$2.50	n/a	n/a	n/a
64-Gallon Cart	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	n/a	n/a	n/a
96-Gallon Cart	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$0.00	n/a	n/a	n/a

\*Commercial bin rates reflect collection charge for one pick up per week; to calculate charge for more than one collection per week, multiply rate by number of collections per week. For example, 1-Cubic Yard Bin (at proposed rate) collected 3 times per week = \$528.81 (\$176.27 x 3 collections/wk)

At this hearing, the Board of Directors will consider public comment as well as written protests by ratepayers regarding the proposed increase in monthly collection rates. If you would like additional information on the proposed rates, please call the District at 650-321-0384.

Any person interested, including all solid waste/recycling collection customers of the West Bay Sanitary District, may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to the proposed increase in monthly rates or attend by Zoom or telephone to encourage social distancing. Again, please refer to: <https://zoom.us/j/98868858396pwd=R1IBSGw4OTdhNE0vbTBWYWpLS05Rdz09>

Meeting ID: 988 6885 8396 Passcode: 170890 or by telephone (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 988 6885 8396 Passcode: 170890

West Bay Sanitary District  
Board of Directors  
San Mateo County, California

/s/ Sergio Ramirez  
District Manager  
Dated: September 23, 2020



## Contemporary Indoor/Outdoor Design with Extraordinary Beauty

56 HILLBROOK DRIVE | PORTOLA VALLEY | \$7,995,000 | 56HILLBROOK.COM



**Exceptional custom home** built in 2007 designed to seamlessly blend four-season indoor/outdoor living combining useable flat space with surrounding views

**Solar-powered** electricity and backup generator for core of the house

**4 bedrooms, office, and 4.5 baths**, including detached guest house

**Approximately 6,615 total square feet**

**Detached guest house** includes downstairs fitness room and upstairs guest suite with full bath

**Approximately one acre** (43,560 square feet)

**Myriad outdoor venues** include: interior courtyard with spa, dining terrace, fire pit terrace with fountain, elevated front patio with Windy Hill views, level lawn, and open meadows

**Premier central Portola Valley** location one-half mile to Roberts Market

**Excellent Portola Valley schools** in walking distance

**HUGH  
CORNISH**  
& ASSOCIATES

HughCornish.com

Ranked #1 Agent in SF Bay Area  
Coldwell Banker, 2019

Ranked #30 Agent in the U.S.  
*The Wall Street Journal*, 2020

Over \$2.5 Billion in Sales



For a private showing of this extraordinary property, please contact:

**HUGH CORNISH**

650.619.6461  
hcornish@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE#00912143

**STEPHANIE ELKINS  
VAN LINGE**

650.400.2933  
stephanie.elkins@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE#00897565



**GLOBAL  
LUXURY**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service, and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor agents and are not employees of the Company. ©2020 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker Logo are registered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. CalRE #01906304.

# Putting a new spin on Halloween traditions

Safer activities abound on the Midpeninsula, from jack-o'-lantern walks to online screenings of spooky movies

By Sue Dremann

**C**elebrating the ghoulish Halloween holiday might look a little different this year, with local public health guidelines that encourage face masks and social distancing and caution against door-to-door trick-or-treating. There are still many events leading up to Oct. 31 and on the spooky night itself. Here's a list of entertaining alternatives in Menlo Park, Mountain View and Palo Alto:

## Menlo Park

**Day of the Dead Loteria:** Menlo Park Library hosts a Day of the Dead-themed loteria game (similar to bingo) for children on Oct. 23, 6-7 p.m., online. For information and to register, visit [menlopark.org](http://menlopark.org).

**Halloween Hoopla Carnival:** Virtual city event includes free storytelling, a juggler, a costume contest and crafts on Oct. 30, 4-6 p.m. Children can also receive a free goody bag in advance of the event. For information and to register, visit [menlopark.org](http://menlopark.org).

**Trick-or-Treat Drive-Thru:** Menlo Church hosts an event featuring decorated cars, people dressed in costumes and drive-thru trick-or-treating combined with a canned food drive to benefit the Ecumenical Hunger Program. The event takes place Oct. 31, 3-6

p.m., at 950 Santa Cruz Ave. Visit [menlo.church](http://menlo.church) for more information.

**Trick or Treat Street:** Drive-thru candy distribution by Menlo-Atherton High School's Leadership program. Masks required. The event takes place Oct. 28, 5-8 p.m., at 555 Middlefield Road. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/rsvptots](http://tinyurl.com/rsvptots).

## Mountain View

**Monster Bash:** The city's Monster Bash, a series of events, includes a trivia night on Oct. 23 and a virtual concert on Oct. 30. The city is also hosting weekly challenges on social media, providing a community recipe e-book and more. Visit [mountainview.gov](http://mountainview.gov) and click on special events.

**Plaza Haunt:** Festive decorations at Pioneer Park and Civic Center Plaza through Nov. 2.

**Spooky storytime:** The Mountain View Public Library is hosting two Halloween-themed storytimes on Zoom for children on Oct. 26, 10-10:30 a.m. for children ages 5 and under and on Oct. 28, 3:30-4 p.m. for students in grades K-5. Preregistration is required at [mountainview.libcal.com](http://mountainview.libcal.com).

**Spooky Times at Deer Hollow Farm:** Virtual tour of spooky barns, the farm's livestock, and close encounters

with freaky farm monsters. Viewable online beginning Oct. 24 at [tinyurl.com/y43ursft](http://tinyurl.com/y43ursft).

**Trick-or-Treat Drive-Thru:** Menlo Church hosts an event featuring decorated cars, people dressed in costumes and drive-thru trick-or-treating combined with a canned food drive to benefit the CSA (Community Services Agency of Mountain View and Los Altos). The event takes place on Oct. 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at 774 Cuesta Drive. Visit [menlo.church](http://menlo.church) for more information.

## Palo Alto

**Jack 'O Jaunt:** Pumpkin-carving exhibition along California and University avenues on Oct. 30, 5:30-8 p.m. Winners of categories such as scariest, cutest and most creative pumpkin will receive a \$50 gift certificate to a Palo Alto restaurant of their choosing. Strolling, but no gathering, is permitted.

**Mask-erade contest:** Locals are invited to ditch the traditional Halloween mask and decorate a cloth face covering to keep the community safe during the public health emergency. Participants can take a selfie and post the photo on Instagram that tags the city at [@CityofPaloAlto](https://www.instagram.com/CityofPaloAlto). Winners will be featured on the city's social media pages.

**Midpen Media Movie Nights:** Every evening in October, Midpen Media will play five classic films for a Spooky Movie Night experience. The films air on Channel 30 at 8 p.m. and stream live simultaneously on the Midpen Media Facebook page.

**Most creative way to safely trick or treat contest:** City-sponsored virtual contest about creating the most ingenious ways to disburse candy to trick-or-treaters. Community members can share their method through social media posts that tag the city of Palo Alto or by email to [citymgr@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:citymgr@cityofpaloalto.org). Winners will be featured on the city's social media pages.

**Once Upon a Midnight Dreary:** Palo Alto Players' livestreamed Halloween cabaret show of song and dance and spooky scenes takes place Oct. 23-24 and 29-31 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. for a fee of \$20 per household to view the program. Visit [paplayers.org](http://paplayers.org) for tickets and information.

**Public Art Scavenger Hunt:** A downtown scavenger hunt of the many whimsical Greg Brown murals. Winners can send the city their funny photos in front of the murals, which will be shared on social media. A printable scavenger hunt list and online map are

available at [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org).

**Pumpkin decorating with henna:** One-hour class over Zoom hosted by Gamble Garden with Priti Aggarwal to teach viewers how to design a Halloween pumpkin using custom-made henna paste free of chemicals and dyes. No carving required. Event scheduled for Oct. 24, 10 a.m. All supplies (pumpkin and henna) are provided. To register, visit [gamblegarden.org](http://gamblegarden.org).

**Spooktacular library events:** The Palo Alto Library offers virtual Halloween-related events all month long and has many tips and resources for a safe and creative Halloween. Events include storytimes on Oct. 26-30 and Halloween crafts on the library's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/paloaltocitylibrary](https://www.youtube.com/user/paloaltocitylibrary).

**Trunk or Treat drive-thru:** Peninsula Bible Church on Middlefield Road will host its free Trunk or Treat drive-thru for families on Oct. 31, 3-5 p.m. Volunteers will decorate car trunks and tailgates, and children can participate in a visual scavenger hunt from the safety of their cars. Guests will be required to stay in their vehicles at all times and wear masks if they choose to roll down their windows. Kids will receive a goody bag at the end of the drive-thru. Visit [pbc.org/trunk-or-treat](http://pbc.org/trunk-or-treat). ■

## HALLOWEEN

continued from page 5

trick-or-treat activities and parties and are offering scaled-back events. In the days leading up to Halloween and on Oct. 31, residents can partake in a number of socially distanced events: Filoli Historic House and Garden in Woodside's sold-out Howl at the Moon event features a Halloween scavenger hunt, garden stroll and howl; Menlo Park will have a virtual Halloween Hoopla event; Palo Alto will host a Jack-O-Jaunt pumpkin-carving contest and exhibition in its two business districts on California and University avenues; and Mountain View will hold a Plaza Haunt with festive decorations at Pioneer Park and Civic Center Plaza.

But most municipal leaders and residents expect to celebrate the spooky holiday closer to home. A recent nationwide Nextdoor poll found that 73% of neighbors say they're looking for an alternative to

traditional trick-or-treating this year, according to the social networking site. Nextdoor has even altered its annual Treat Map with icons for COVID-19-safe Halloween activities, scrapping the candy corn icon to indicate places to trick or treat, and instead promoting more socially distanced activities, such as "haunted decor," "pumpkin projects" and a "costume wave parade."

Throughout the Midpeninsula, here's how residents are rethinking their usual approach to Halloween:

## Menlo Park and Atherton

Menlo Park's biggest Halloween event, Halloween Hoopla, will be going virtual this year, without the usual costume parade. Free storytelling, a juggler, a costume contest and crafts will still take place on Oct. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. Children can also receive a free goody bag in advance of the event, according to the city's website. Information

and registration is available at [menlopark.org](http://menlopark.org).

Menlo Church is turning its parking lot at 950 Santa Cruz Ave. into a trick or treat drive-thru with decorated cars and people dressed in costume, all of which will involve social distancing, according to Taylor Tompane Koerten, the church's connections director. The drive-thru will also be a canned food drive for the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto to provide assistance to people in need amid the pandemic. The event will be mirrored across all five of the church's sites throughout the Peninsula on Oct. 31.

Menlo-Atherton High School's Leadership program holds an annual Trick-or-Treat Street to provide children with a safe place to collect candy. This year, the group has made adjustments to keep the event going as a drive-thru gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic, members said.

From behind the wheel,

families will make stops through campus where Leadership students will distribute candy to children, the group stated in an announcement. The school will be sanitized and visitors will be required to wear a mask.

The event takes place Oct. 28 from 5 to 8 p.m., at 555 Middlefield Road. Trick-or-treaters can RSVP at [tinyurl.com/rsvptots](http://tinyurl.com/rsvptots).

Enterprising Hillview Middle School student Charlotte Anthony is selling "autumn pandemic awareness" stickers at [tinyurl.com/sticker-c-a](http://tinyurl.com/sticker-c-a) to encourage children to keep wearing a mask while celebrating the holidays. The stickers include images of a pumpkin, candy corn and black cats wearing light-blue surgical masks and a colorful circle that reads "6 ft."

"These cute seasonal stickers are meant to remind kids to wear a mask during Halloween and the holiday season," Charlotte, a seventh grader at the Menlo Park school, wrote in an email. "I have also created (the) 6-foot sticker in a choice of autumn or

holiday colors for people to use in businesses, classrooms, and public spaces to help remember to keep your distance."

Charlotte has shipped stickers to individuals, teachers and small business owners in 12 states, she said.

## Palo Alto

College Terrace resident Laura Forrest is taking an innovative approach to candy deliveries at her Yale Street residence, where she'll be inside her home waiting for trick-or-treaters who will be guided by a one-way sign to a candy chute. On Halloween, "scary" yellow caution tape and plastic sheeting will cordon off her front steps and door, she said. When she sees visitors arrive, she'll dispense candy down the chute, which she constructed from a leaf-blower bag and heavy, spray-painted cardstock. Trick-or-treaters can use a hand-sanitizer station

See HALLOWEEN, page 13

## HALLOWEEN

continued from page 12

before retrieving the sweets from a witch's cauldron. A sign guides them to the exit, she said.

The chute "is angled so it is gravity-assisted. My sister came a week ago and we tested it out," she said. When a candy bar arrived, her sister quickly snapped up the coveted chocolate treasure and refused to give it back, Forrest said.

Forrest set up the chute on Oct. 1 and her ingenuity inspired one neighbor who planned to create her own version to promote social distancing, she said. She has promoted the candy chute on social media and Nextdoor, but isn't sure whether anyone will show up this year.

"If not, my daughter and I will have some candy to eat," she said.

Jesse Bingham, who with his brother, Josh, set up an elaborate display every year at their Rinconada Avenue home in Old Palo Alto, said he's cutting back — just a bit. Last year's theme revolved around scary monster movies, where people sat in costumes to watch films on various screens, but this year he's taking a more socially distanced approach. He's focusing on werewolves in the front yard and a scarecrow-farmer and pumpkin theme on the side.

He's considering having people move their cars from in front of his house so that anyone who wants to drive by can see the display unimpeded, he said.

To maintain social distancing, Bingham said he hasn't decorated his small backyard as in years past. The side yard has a large, long driveway where people can maintain appropriate distance from each other.

"I still wanted to do something that people could enjoy. I'll still get to connect with those who are out," he said.

Julia Murphy-Chutorian, of Southgate, said she has invited her neighbors on Mariposa Avenue to put out tables with candy between 6-7 p.m. on Halloween.

"The neighbors can sit outside and see the kids come by and



Magali Gauthier

**A fake graveyard** is covered in cobwebs in Nicole O'Daniel's elaborately decorated front yard in Mountain View.

still be socially distanced. The nice thing is having an hour of fun for the neighbors to see the children. The fun part of Halloween is opening the door and seeing the costumes," she said.

She has also reached out to other streets in her neighborhood through Nextdoor to see if they want to join in, she said.

Few trick-or-treaters have come to her neighborhood in the past, Murphy-Chutorian noted. This year, she said she isn't sure what will happen as people choose to stay closer to home because of the pandemic.

"Hopefully that's what will come out of this: People will stay in the community and get to know their neighbors rather than going out to the hottest thing," she said.

for a few days after breaking his trash picker-upper while biking 15 mph collecting trash. He sticks to about 5 mph now when he doesn't hop off his bike to pick up litter or walk Ollie.

To keep himself entertained, he listens to podcasts while biking. Currently on his playlist is "On Purpose" by a former Buddhist monk.

He has gotten a few smiles and a "thanks," from passersby, he said. This stands in contrast to his experience as a remote college student.

Greenmeadow Community Association will host a "Spooky Time Trials" swim meet in the association's heated pool on Saturday morning, Oct. 24.

The neighborhood held a Halloween Scary Distance Meet during the evening for years, which took a hiatus from 2016 to 2018 but was revived in 2019, Donna Hill, chair of the association's swim team committee, said in an email.

As in years past, attendees will be greeted with pool decorations, spooky music and coaches and volunteers in costume. Event organizers will also reward all swimmers with a commemorative swim cap, mini pumpkin and candy, according to Hill. Children can win large pumpkins through a raffle drawing

"I initially thought college would be really fun," he said. "I would be in Santa Barbara on a beautiful campus, but that never happened. What actually happened is there is no way to really connect with other students right now. It's a little lonely. I leave a Zoom call and feel like, 'Damn, I was just with some robots' — people were muted and their cameras were off." ▣

Email Angela Swartz at [aswartz@almanacnews.com](mailto:aswartz@almanacnews.com)

that will take place throughout the meet.

"When all returns to normal, we will revert to evenings and go back to serving dinner and having a bigger raffle," she said.

The swim events for most children are about twice as long as their normal swim meets to make it a little "scary," but it's all in good fun and the children won't be disqualified if they can't go the full distance, Hill said. "We just want to encourage them to try new things in a festive environment."

The association will also use its adjacent park for social distancing and as a waiting area for swimmers to control the number of people congregating, she said.

The neighborhood is also planning to have trick-or-treating with guidelines that are somewhat more restrictive than the city's, according to a flyer. Residents who agree to abide by the guidelines will be added to a map of houses for trick-or-treating.

## Mountain View

In Mountain View, Christopher Chiang and his daughter, Mary, will be building a Rube Goldberg machine-style slide to pass out candy from a distance, he said in an email.

The Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association's Connections Committee is organizing some fun activities around Halloween, including a socially distanced Dogs in Costume parade on Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. at Bubb Park, 680 Barbara Ave., and a Halloween home decorating contest on Oct. 31, according to the committee.

They will also distribute a digital Halloween map to the Cuesta

Park neighborhood's participating homes, indicating which houses will be offering treats.

The committee also created an extensive set of guidelines, which was sent out to the community through email. Its suggestions include holding small, street-by-street celebrations, including a socially distanced costume parade, or designating a home to set up individually wrapped goody bags on their driveway for the entire street.

Nicole O'Daniels, who lives on Tyrella Avenue in the North Whisman neighborhood, said she's switching from a planned haunted house to decorated stations on her front yard.

"I decided to go bigger. I started decorating in September and decided to make it a monthlong thing," she said.

Each station has a different theme, including a witch with a cauldron and a big spider, so visitors can pick whichever area they want to explore. Halloween-themed cellophane baggies filled with treats will be out on a folding table to limit physical contact.

"It's hard to have any kind of sense of normalcy," she said of the pandemic. Putting up decorations "brings happiness to my heart. I'm out there puttering every day. Everybody's looking for some kind of distraction. It's fun. This year has brought everything you can imagine (but) all hope is not lost. This is the perfect holiday for social distancing," she said. ▣

Angela Swartz and Mountain View Voice staff writer Kevin Forestieri contributed to this story. Email Sue Dremann at [sdremann@pawekly.com](mailto:sdremann@pawekly.com)

## GIVING BACK

continued from page 1

"Why waste them?" he said.

Roginski said he has found "so much weird stuff" during his trash pickups. A Playboy beanie, an unopened beer, single gloves and a Sacred Heart Prep hat are among the items he has found. (He plans to post some of these usable items on Nextdoor.)

"I found a plastic goat just chilling on the road," he said.

He was out of commission

## MAYERS JEWELERS

Family Owned &amp; Operated Since 1969

## FINE JEWELRY &amp; GEMSTONES

## • Buyers Of Gold &amp; Silver

## • Watch &amp; Jewelry Repair

## • Ring Resizing

## • Custom Jewelry Design

## • Estate Jewelry Appraisals

## • Consignment Sales

WATCH BATTERIES  
Buy One, Get One  
Free!

Must be done together.  
Offer limited to 1 per customer.  
Exp 11/30/20



2323 Broadway • Redwood City

Free Parking Available in Jefferson Street Garage (1-1/2 hrs)

650.364.4030

[www.MayersJewelers.net](http://www.MayersJewelers.net)

**PANEL**

*continued from page 1*

morning by police in a jurisdiction she declined to name and asked, “What are you doing here?” Meanwhile, her white male colleagues working the same hours never got pulled over, she said.

“Black folks are eight times more likely to be arrested in San Mateo County,” said Allen, the private defender, adding that if they are more likely than white people to be arrested, they are probably also more likely to be charged and incarcerated.

District Attorney Wagstaffe agreed that there are disparities; his office takes the cases that are brought to it. He added that he supports ending cash bail, and has since 2018, when a state law first passed that would allow cash bail to be eliminated in California. It faced opposition, and this year the matter is on the ballot in the form of Proposition 25.

He added that he’s taken on some efforts to add diversity to his office, but the current status is “nowhere it needs to be.”

While he said his office had planned to bring in speakers like Owens to talk about the experiences of communities of color in the court system, he admitted that sometimes, “you get crushed in the business and you don’t do it.”

He added that his office recently created two committees to explore how it interacts with the community and how it uses its power, and develop recommendations and best practices to promote racial and social equity.

Participants discussed many

of the challenges relating to addressing what can be strained relationships between law enforcement agencies and communities of color. One barrier to a more comprehensive approach, Allen pointed out, is that there are many city police departments along the Peninsula that operate independently, and each may have different policies or internal cultures when it comes to interacting with people of color.

Smith said he’d like law enforcement agencies to take a broader, comparative approach when considering policies. He lived for two years in Seoul, South Korea, a city where the community’s relationship with police was highly productive and generated trust and mutual support, he said.

Burroughs asked what the Sheriff’s Office has changed specifically since the protests earlier this year in response to the George Floyd and Breonna Taylor killings that called for local reforms to policing.

Bolanos replied that the Sheriff’s Office had made some changes since deputies fatally tased Chinedu Okobi, an unarmed Black man, in Millbrae in October 2018. Bolanos said that after Okobi’s death, the Sheriff’s Office developed a new use-of-force policy with the input of the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union), put automatic external defibrillator devices in its vehicles and added “less lethal” weaponry to its arsenal of tools for interacting with the public. He defended the less lethal weapons as intermediate steps that officers can use before engaging in the use



Screenshot via Zoom

**The participants** in Monday’s panel on race and policing are (row 1) Lorrie Owens, moderator Henrietta Burroughs, Steve Wagstaffe; (row 2) Carlos Bolanos, Kevin Allen, Christina Corpus; and (row 3) Michael Smith.

of deadly force with individuals that pose a threat to officer safety.

Other panelists, such as Owens, raised questions about why the county authorized about \$1 million earlier this year to buy the office new Tasers, given the pandemic-related restrictions of the county’s current budget. However, she did support recent steps by the Sheriff’s Office to adopt six out of the eight “8 Can’t Wait” policies that many communities nationwide are asking law enforcement agencies to consider in an effort to restrict the use of force by police. The recommendations the office has not fully adopted are requiring a warning before shooting and banning shooting at moving vehicles, according to its website.

Allen noted that his office is tracking the use of less lethal weapons by police and law enforcement agencies to identify patterns through an internal database within the private defenders’ office.

One attendee asked about how the Sheriff’s Office uses facial recognition technology. According to Corpus, it only uses facial recognition technology in violent crime cases, and faces audits to ensure compliance. Only specialized units use the technology, she added. Wagstaffe noted that facial recognition findings are not considered as evidence that is admissible in court, and his office does not permit search or arrest warrants based on the technology.

Another attendee asked about the Sheriff’s Office’s cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also known as ICE. Bolanos explained that the Sheriff’s Office does cooperate with ICE in the jail system, in accordance with the California Values Act. The law says that local law enforcement agencies can choose to cooperate with ICE on immigration enforcement matters for people who commit serious, violent felonies, but are not required to.

Allen said that people have been picked up by ICE right outside of the jail, and this can cause disruptions with the county court systems when people are removed to immigration court in the middle of another court process. “No one’s sure how that happens — I don’t think there’s blatant cooperation,” he said. But there is a sense that when undocumented immigrants are taken into custody, they feel pressure to bail out quickly or face immigration enforcement, he added.

Another question the Sheriff’s Office faced was about body cameras. When are they required to be on, and what are the consequences for officers that don’t turn them on? Bolanos responded that personnel are issued body cameras, but that it is not appropriate or practical in some situations to have them turned on; for instance, in responding to a domestic violence or sexual assault call in someone’s home. The office has disciplined people who don’t

turn the cameras on when they were supposed to, he said.

Allen pushed back, noting that during 911 calls, the tape always runs and can later be used as evidence, sometimes with sections excised if needed. “I think the cameras protect both sides,” he said. In a domestic violence call, he added, a perpetrator could turn on the officer and put him or her in a vulnerable situation. If the officer’s camera is not on, the case becomes word against word, he said. It’s better, he argued, that the evidence exists somewhere and the District Attorney’s Office decides what is appropriate to be made public. “The cameras should run,” he said.

Owens added that while she doesn’t get pulled over now unless she’s done something wrong or potentially embarrassing — like driving at 80 miles per hour — she wants the officer’s body camera to be on. “I’m not going to do anything, but the officer doesn’t know that,” she added. “It should be on at all times ... in case it’s needed to validate one statement versus another about what really happened.”

Smith, who said he works as a corporate strategist, said he’d like law enforcement agencies to embrace the concept of transparency, which he said is critical for establishing trust and support with the community.

Another option to build trust in the community is to consider establishing stronger civilian oversight processes, Allen said.

“We’re not going to make strides unless there’s some type of trust between organizations,” he added.

A recording of the discussion is available on YouTube at [youtu.be/ipUIEu24ng](https://youtu.be/ipUIEu24ng). **A**

Email Kate Bradshaw at [kbradshaw@almanacnews.com](mailto:kbradshaw@almanacnews.com)

# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

BREAKING GROUND THERAPY  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 285223

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Breaking Ground Therapy, located at 732 Montezuma Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):  
REBECCA GOOD, PsyD.  
732 Montezuma Dr.  
Pacifica, CA 94044

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 25, 2020.  
(ALM Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020)

FitCuts  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 285340

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
FitCuts, located at 1181 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 200 Leland Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):

KCH LLC.  
200 Leland Ave.  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
California  
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 6, 2020.  
(ALM Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020)

JCS TRAINING LAB  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 285221  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
JCS Training Lab, located at 1000 El Camino Real, Atherton, CA 94027, San Mateo County; Mailing address: PO Box 610080, 364 Woodside Plz., Redwood City, CA 94061.  
Registered owner(s):  
JESS CHRISTIAN REBADMOMIA SAYO  
4537 Half Dome St.  
Antioch, CA 94531

This business is conducted by: An Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 24, 2020.  
(ALM Oct. 23, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 2020)

For legal advertising call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578.



**Sign up today for  
the only food  
newsletter  
on the Peninsula  
at [AlmanacNews.com/  
express](https://AlmanacNews.com/express)**

BY ELENA KADVANY

## CRIME BRIEFS

continued from page 6

man who appeared to be armed under observation.

Police located the man, who was still holding what looked like a semi-automatic handgun. He quickly complied with commands to drop the weapon and police took him safely into custody, according to the release.

The weapon was a realistic-looking replica handgun. Officers found a second replica gun, still in its original packaging, in the man's belongings, police said. A credit card, prescription medication and personal documents belonging to others were also found in his possession.

The man had entered the Timberland store and attempted to pay for \$600 in merchandise with a credit card. After the transaction was declined multiple times, the man became increasingly disruptive to the point that an employee called security

personnel for assistance, police said. He allegedly removed the replica handgun from his waistband, brandished it at employees and left the store with the merchandise without paying, police said.

As he left, he allegedly yelled back inside to the employees that he would shoot them in their heads. The three employees inside the store at the time — a man in his 30s, and a man and a woman both in their late teens — feared for their lives, police said. Security personnel saw the man brandish the handgun at the employees and threaten to shoot them.

An investigation found that the man had tried to purchase the two replica handguns with a credit card earlier in the day at Big 5 Sporting Goods, located at 700 El Camino Real in Menlo Park. When the transaction was declined multiple times, he allegedly stole them and fled, the release states. The Menlo Park

Police Department investigated the theft as shoplifting.

Police booked the man, who has no permanent address, into the Santa Clara County Main Jail on suspicion of robbery and criminal threats, both felonies, and possession of stolen property and possession of medication without a prescription, which are misdemeanors.

Anyone with information is asked to call the department's 24-hour dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be emailed to paloalto@tipnow.org or sent by text message or voicemail to 650-383-8984.

—Sue Dremann

### Man convicted for mailing bombs in act of revenge on officers

An Oakland man was found guilty last week of sending bombs through the mail to take revenge on a corrections officer and a police officer, federal

prosecutors said.

Ross Laverty, 59, sent a bomb to a person in East Palo Alto who had the same name as a corrections officer who strip-searched Laverty when he was in San Mateo County jail in 2014.

Laverty also sent a bomb to an Alameda police officer who was involved in the probation search of Laverty's home and his arrest in 2013.

"In addition to his intended victims, Laverty put others, including postal workers and mail carriers, in grave danger," U.S. Attorney David Anderson said in a statement.

Laverty mailed a bomb to the East Palo Alto address on or about Oct. 9, 2017, according to evidence established at the one-week trial, prosecutors said. The victim decided on Oct. 19 to carry it into the backyard of his home. He opened it and it exploded, according to prosecutors.

The explosion injured the victim and blasted a hole through a fence

and a wooden object, prosecutors said.

The following month, Laverty mailed an identical bomb to a home on Bay Farm Island in Alameda where the wife of the police officer opened it and it exploded, according to evidence at the trial, prosecutors said.

A federal grand jury on May 21 of last year handed down an indictment that charged Laverty with two counts of mailing an explosive device that was intended to kill or injure, two counts related to possessing an unregistered gun and two other counts related to using an explosive.

Laverty was convicted Tuesday and faces a mandatory sentence of at least 20 years in prison, fines, supervised release and restitution.

Laverty's attorney Erik Babcock did not return a call or email requesting comment on the conviction.

—Bay City News Service

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

the COVID-19 pandemic.

The relief fund provides \$1,000 grants to low-income, undocumented San Mateo County residents who may not qualify for federal benefits. The \$2 million allocation came from the county's Measure K funds.

John Sobrato, a real estate developer and founder of the Sobrato Organization, seeded the fund in July with a \$5 million contribution. He challenged the board to match his contribution during an Oct. 6 board meeting.

The supervisors requested that an agenda item be added for their meeting Tuesday to allocate \$2 million to the fund, in addition to the \$2 million they initially allocated in July.

On Oct. 6, management analyst for the county Sophie Mintier reported that the fund had exhausted 96% of its funding.

To date, over 23,000 people

have applied and 10,394 have been approved, according to Sobrato.

Tuesday's allocation brings the board's contribution to \$4 million, in addition to the \$5 million from Sobrato, and \$4 million fundraised from private donors.

It is administered by the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County and the Mission Asset Fund. For more information, visit mission-assetfund.org.

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, the board also allocated money from the county's Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act fund.

Supervisors approved allocations of \$3.5 million to expand internet and technology access for students, \$2 million toward the Second Harvest of Silicon Valley food bank and \$2.5 million to the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center to assist small businesses in low-income communities.

—Bay City News Service

## HOMELESS STUDENTS

continued from page 8

Advocates for Youth, said schools need to work closely with Medi-Cal and other government agencies to coordinate services and take advantage of existing funding sources. For example, schools could bring Medi-Cal-funded mental health counselors to work directly on school campuses.

So, even though schools cannot solve the homeless crisis on their own, they play a crucial role in reaching students and families, he said. Schools are trusted, safe places for young

people, and are a logical place to reach students who need help.

Homeless himself as a teenager, Wilkes credited a school psychologist with finding him a safe place to sleep and ultimately graduate from high school.

"My life was saved because someone at the school asked me what was going on, and did something," he said. "We need our schools to have the resources to help every student who needs it. There's a lot at stake."

This story was originally published by EdSource.

## COMPLIANCE

continued from page 5

Under the county's urgency ordinance — approved by the Board of Supervisors on Aug. 4 — businesses can be fined between \$250 and \$3,000 per violation, depending on the gravity of the violation, prior warnings, efforts to comply or intent to profit.

As of Oct. 21, the compliance team had received 80 reports of alleged violations at businesses throughout the county, Callagy said in a Wednesday press conference.

"It's just irresponsible to act in that manner," Callagy said.

"So many businesses out there are acting appropriately and making sure people are healthy, and making sure that they are part of the process of us moving forward, and not back."

San Mateo County is currently in the red (substantial risk) tier of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Advancing to the orange (moderate risk) tier will ease restrictions and allow more businesses to reopen. In order to move toward the orange tier, Callagy said the county needs businesses to comply.

For the week ending Oct. 3, San Mateo County met some criteria for the orange tier, with a test positivity of 2.5% and a

4.8% health equity metric, which measures test positivity for places in the lowest quartile of the state's Healthy Places Index.

However, the county's adjusted case rate of 4.7 per 100,000 is up from 4.3 the previous week, and exceeds the 3.9 threshold for the orange tier.

Like us on  
**facebook**

facebook.com/  
AlmanacNews

## I belong to Avenidas Village...

### ...for the social connections!

- Sheltering in place made it a lot harder for me to connect with friends the way I used to.
- Avenidas Village helped me learn Zoom to join social activities like happy hours and conversation groups. We even have some in-person, safely distanced gatherings such as lunch in the park and walking group!
- The Village community helps me feel like I am not alone.



Call Avenidas Village at  
**(650) 289-5405 to learn  
how we can help you keep  
connected!**

**Avenidas  
Village**

www.avenidasvillage.org



**COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY**

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 1206 N. Lemon Avenue, Menlo Park

### Energy-Efficient Luxury in Central Menlo

Set on a lot of more than 0.30 acres in Central Menlo, this beautiful custom home offers timeless luxury blended with the best of modern sustainability. Built in 2011 as the first passive home in Menlo Park, this residence is nearly entirely energy self-sustainable, and features solar panels, a circulating hot water system, air filtration, and highly insulated walls for year-round temperature control. A wondrous, grand-scale ceiling with dramatic dark beams crafts an airy ambiance, and excellent use of glass fills the home with light. Enjoy large gathering spaces perfect for entertaining, the kitchen with an induction cooktop, and the family room with a wall of glass that opens to the backyard patio. Offering 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, and over 3,300 square feet of living space, this home is ideally suited for the modern, eco-conscious family. Topping it all off is a location just moments from downtown Menlo Park, with top-ranked public and private schools within walking distance.

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:  
[www.1206NlemonAve.com](http://www.1206NlemonAve.com)

Offered at \$4,988,000

**Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.**

**Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.**

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Menlo Park, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



# COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 984 MONTE ROSA DRIVE, MENLO PARK

### Beautifully Remodeled on a 0.42-Acre Lot

Privately situated on a spacious lot of over 0.42 acres in the sought-after neighborhood of Sharon Heights, this beautifully remodeled home of 6 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms offers 3,566 square feet of luxurious living space. A flagstone pathway leads past the expansive front yard to the front door, and inside, high ceilings and excellent use of glass create a bright, airy ambiance, highlighting beautiful wood floors that extend throughout most of the home. Features include the living room with a brick fireplace, the great room crowned by a cathedral ceiling and a kitchen with Thermador appliances. The master suite provides a welcoming retreat, and the additional bedrooms offer comfort and convenience, including one that easily converts to an office. Find great space for outdoor enjoyment in the multi-level backyard with a lawn and ample patio space. And enjoy a location close to everything Sharon Heights has to offer, with access to top-ranked schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit:

[www.984MonteRosa.com](http://www.984MonteRosa.com)

Offered at \$3,988,000

Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Menlo Park, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224

## Michael David Spafford

January 21, 1956 – August 30, 2020

Michael was born in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to Nancy Curtiss Wilcox Spafford and Calvin William Spafford III. He lived there, where his father was stationed in the Navy, until the family moved to Los Altos, CA when he was 3 and he lived in California thereafter. As the family prepared to move to a new house in Woodside, it snowed on Michael's sixth birthday in 1962. He spent a glorious day playing in the snow, assuming it was his birthday gift and waited every year thereafter for the snow to come on his birthday.



Michael spent his summers with his grandparents, first in Lakeport, Clear Lake and then Homewood, Lake Tahoe. His grandfather taught him how to fish, and fishing became one of his favorite pastimes. He loved the outdoors, camping, geology, archeology, rocks, creek digging for antique bottles and always talked about becoming a forest ranger 'when he grew up'.

Michael attended Woodside Elementary School from Kindergarten through Eighth grade, then Woodside Priory School in Portola Valley for high school. Michael began playing soccer with AYSO when he was 6 years old. He was a star in the AYSO soccer program for many years. He was naturally right-handed yet could kick best with his left, an attribute many cannot do. He also displayed his soccer skills on the Woodside Priory School soccer team and graduated from the Woodside Priory School in 1974 with many lifelong friends. He received a soccer scholarship to attend Chico State University but stopped playing soccer his sophomore year to focus on his studies in Geology. He went on to graduate with a BS in Geology from Chico State University in 1978.

Michael worked as a Geologist at Chevron for his entire professional career, over 34 years beginning right out of college. His true passions, though, were his children, Kaila and Miles. His life centered around his children and he enjoyed supporting them in sports and school activities as well as taking them on family trips and spoiling them however possible.

Michael had the biggest heart. He was so curious to get to know every person that he met and was always willing to offer a lending hand to strangers in any way he could. He was also usually the life of the party and always kept everyone laughing! He loved Creedence Clearwater, Led Zeppelin and The Rolling Stones, and went to many rock concerts, including Sundays at Frost Amphitheatre in the early 70's. Although he left us before his time, we feel he did live his life to the fullest. He died of health complications in San Francisco at the young age of 64.

Michael is survived by the two loves of his life - his daughter Kaila Spafford Brereton (Kevin) and Miles Spafford (Haley). He is also survived by his older sister Marcy Spafford, his younger sister Cathy Stienstra and his younger brother Peter Spafford, along with his grandson Oliver Brereton and former spouse and friend Ann Alexander Spafford; nieces Jennifer Haber, Marlena Jacobson, Shannon Powell, Josselyn Hazen, Michelle Spafford and nephews Christopher Spafford, Daniel Stienstra and Peter Spafford Jr. He is predeceased by his mother Nancy and his father Calvin.

The family held a small private ceremony and Michael was buried next to his mother at Skylawn Memorial Park in Woodside on September 11, 2020.

Donations may be made in his memory to the following organizations or to the organization of your choice: American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) or Chico State Geological and Environmental Sciences Program or American Heart Association.

PAID OBITUARY

## WOODSIDE COUNCIL

continued from page 7

of mind lately, and Shaw said that fire safety has been a long-standing priority for him.

"One of the things that I've worked at since day one is trying to raise awareness of and direct funding toward the existential threat of fire in our area. I can't think of a single bigger threat to livelihoods, natural resources, you name it, and it comes around every year," he said.

Shaw said some of the town's fire prevention initiatives were its "best-kept secrets and that's a shame," including programs such as the Defensible Space and Home Hardening Matching Fund Program, which provides grants to residents who, with the guidance of the Woodside Fire Protection District, address fire hazards on their properties like overgrown vegetation or combustible

roofs. The town also has a hazardous tree removal program for trees that pose a high fire danger, such as eucalyptus.

Traffic and road safety, another key issue for the town, is complex, with many stakeholders. Shaw said he recognizes that there are sometimes "competing interests," from residents needing to travel around town and visitors on their way to the coast to bicyclists out for a ride and equestrians looking to access the town's network of trails.

He pointed to something the town did while he's been on the council. On Cañada Road, Whiskey Hill Road and on Woodside Road through town, Woodside narrowed the travel lane where possible, which slows traffic and creates more space to separate cars and bicycles, he said.

Shaw has been active with the Safe Routes to School program and said he would like to see

greater walkability in the town.

"I think one of the big holes in the community is walking paths. I don't think Woodside is nearly as walkable as it should be," he said, though he noted that improvements to some of the walkways through the Glens were recently completed and the next phase of the project will be going to the Circulation Committee.

With new Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers on the horizon — housing goals set by the state on an eight-year cycle — Shaw raised concerns about what he described as "relentless erosion of local control."

Nonetheless, he said, "I'm proud that in the last two RHNA cycles, we met and exceeded our numbers for secondary dwelling units."

Though Shaw said it may help add some housing units in town, he also expressed caution about the town's recent loosening of some restrictions on building ADUs, noting that the update allows homeowners to build them within 4 feet of the property line, which on smaller lots may not necessarily be in keeping with the "rural" quality that's a draw in Woodside.

"One of the reasons that people move to raise families in Woodside is the ability to have a bit of land with setbacks that mean you're not staring into the neighbor's bedroom," he said.

He acknowledged that such objections may be perceived as NIMBYism, but takes issue with what he describes as a "one-size-fits-all" application of housing numbers mandated by the state, emphasizing concerns about setting a precedent that could pave the way for additional changes to Woodside that would not take the character of the town or the wishes of its residents into account.

## John Carvell (District 5)

John Carvell is a management consultant and a partner at 38 Degree Advisors, a financial services firm, who has lived in Woodside since 2011.

He and his wife walk the neighborhoods and talk with a lot of neighbors, "one of the advantages to having a dog, you get out and meet a lot of people," Carvell said.

Conversations with neighbors while out on those walks eventually led Carvell to seek a position with the homeowners association's Architectural and Site Review Board.

Since Carvell and his wife have renovated several homes on the Midpeninsula, and

Continued on next page

## Susanne Friedlaender

March 8, 1930 – August 17, 2020

Sue Friedlaender passed away peacefully in her sleep on August 17, 2020, after a lengthy illness.

Sue was born in 1930 in Berlin, Germany. Her family was fortunate to be able to escape Nazi persecution and settle in Michigan. She received a bachelor's in Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Sue married Frank Friedlaender and moved to Pasadena. She completed a Master's in Library Science at USC and worked in the children's department of the Pasadena Public Library where Saturday morning children's storytime was the highlight of her week.

After their first two children were born, Sue and Frank relocated to Ladera. All three of Sue's children attended Peninsula School in Menlo Park. She valued Peninsula's progressive, creative orientation to education and worked as a librarian there for years, where she sparked a love of reading and learning in many children.

In the 1980's, Sue began the next chapter of her life in Palo Alto where she founded The Bridge Language School. She taught English as a second language, German, and offered many other languages through a cadre of teachers.

Sue loved to garden, enjoyed art and music, and highly valued beauty in the world around her. Sue was strongly committed to others and to working towards a society in which everyone has the opportunity to fully develop their capacities. She offered free language and citizenship lessons to those who could not afford them and was active in local social justice and environmental causes. She inherited these passions from her grandmother with whom she spent the happiest part of her childhood. She loved being a grandmother herself and, with warmth, passed on a sense of awe in the world and deep appreciation for learning. Sue took great pride in sharing generations of family history through detailed records and animated storytelling. She made friends wherever she went, greeting everyone with a smile and genuine interest.

She is survived by her younger brother Walter List, her son David, her daughters Lenore and Diane, her grandchildren, Hannah, Zach, Miles and Josie, and former husband Frank.

The family thanks Kensington Memory Care for their exceptional love and care for Sue these last few years and the palliative care team at Kaiser Redwood City and Kindred Hospice Services.

Memorial donations may be made to Smile Train [www.smiletrain.org/](http://www.smiletrain.org/)



PAID OBITUARY

Continued from previous page

he served on the Woodside Hills Homeowners Association Architectural Review Board, he said neighbors would ask his thoughts as they shared frustrations with delays or inconsistencies in getting town approval even for small projects, such as installing a gate or fence.

“People asked me if I could sort of be a bit of a homeowner advocate — or not necessarily an advocate, but just somebody who has gone through it and been on the other side of the table and could understand.”

Carvell said one of his priorities on the council would be to streamline some planning and building processes where possible. As an example, he cited a simplified process already enacted by the town where approval for fences and gates used to go to the Woodside Architectural and Site Review Board and require a lengthy notice period. The process has been streamlined to require review from a town planning official, rather than signoff by the board.

“I think that could be extended to other things, if people are within the guidelines and within the codes. Do you need to have the extra meeting or can it just be noticed?” he said.

He said he’s mindful of maintaining “community spirit,” trying to avoid situations in the review process that would pit neighbors against each other and also for ways in which the town can help bring relief in challenging situations. He pointed to town officials’ responsiveness to local restaurants, streamlining the permit process to allow for more outdoor dining during the coronavirus pandemic.

As a bicyclist, Carvell has experienced some of the safety issues on local roads and would like to see shoulders added in areas such as Woodside Road near Wunderlich Park, which he said would help give bicyclists space to move away from passing cars.

Carvell noted that fire safety initiatives are more the province of the fire district, but he said the town should continue to support the fire district’s efforts on brush removal and provide information on the chipper program and removing eucalyptus trees.

Carvell said that he expects housing will continue to be a complex topic for Woodside and other local communities.

Particularly now, with the pandemic altering where people choose to live, and prompting some to leave the state altogether, Carvell said it doesn’t

make sense to plan for higher density, especially in a rural community.

But the town recently made its rules less restrictive for homeowners to add ADUs, and that can help, he said.

This summer, Woodside updated its ADU ordinance to bring it into compliance with a state law aimed at increasing affordable housing stock. Every town and city has a goal number for adding housing that’s laid out by the state’s Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), updated every eight years. A regional board, the Association of Bay Area Governments, helps determine each community’s allotment.

“We have continued to make accessory dwelling units available. The permitting for them and review process for them was very supportive of that for homeowners and those can count toward housing units. So I think it’s sort of continuing with the ADUs, that direction, and pushing back on some of the regional boards on what our allotment is going to be,” he said.

#### Ned Fluet (District 7)

Incumbent Ned Fluet is currently serving as Woodside mayor, an honorary position that rotates among council members.

He said that during his time on the council so far, he’s proud of the fact that some planning and building processes have been streamlined.

“We have been able to make the building and planning process in town just a little bit easier by cutting out red tape or giving residents more power to build the homes, the projects they want,” he said.

He said that he’s also proud that the Glens redevelopment plan, after many public meetings, community input and a “tremendous amount of work by staff,” was finalized.

Although the coronavirus pandemic slowed town business for a short time, and the shutdown did halt construction, Fluet said that for the most part, everything has stayed on track.

“For all intents and purposes, there was really no closure of town government. And very quickly, our staff figured out how to do everything remotely,” he said, adding that he is “so thankful to the town staff” for their adaptability.

An ongoing issue in Woodside is traffic and road safety, particularly drivers taking local roads at dangerous speeds and even racing each other. The council and town officials

have been working with the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office on stepping up enforcement and discouraging speeding, Fluet said.

“We’ve been working really closely with our local sheriffs to get more citations up on the hills. And we’ve also been working cooperatively with the (California Highway Patrol) really to get more resources and make it a less friendly place for those who want to engage in risky behavior like that,” he said.

Emergency preparedness, and fire safety in particular, are enduring issues for the town, and Fluet said that the town’s Defensible Space and Home Hardening Matching Grant Program has recently seen strong growth.

“We expanded our defensible space program — we increased the amount of money that the town will give, as far as grants — and the numbers have spoken for themselves, we’ve had a huge increase in people taking advantage of the program this year (which) has been fantastic. It makes our communities safer with individual residents taking control over their property,” he said.

Fluet cited fire safety as an additional factor in how best to add affordable housing to the town. Keeping density low not only is consistent with the town’s more rural nature, but also helps protect the local environment and doesn’t place large development in areas prone to fire danger.

“Whether people agree or disagree with the issue, increasing our affordable housing numbers is going to be something we have to deal with. I think one of the best ways to do that is to make it easier for people to build ADUs on their properties,” he said.

That is something that the council has already aimed to do, he noted, in relaxing some of the restrictions for building accessory dwelling units.

“(Adding ADUs) is one way to increase our affordable housing numbers, provide more housing for folks who want to live in Woodside but at the same time preserve what is a very sensitive ecosystem,” Fluet said.

Fire safety and prevention are the most prominent pieces, especially right now, in a bigger picture of preparedness and community resiliency.

“We still live in earthquake country, now we have to deal with pandemics — how do we make this town stronger, more resilient, whatever the environment throws at us?” Fluet said, pointing to the importance of improving communication

#### Jennifer Wall (District 1)

Attorney Jenn Wall is senior corporate counsel for X, a division of Google. She grew up in California and moved to Woodside in 2012, where she lives with her husband and three children. She has a bachelor’s degree from University of California at Los Angeles and earned her law degree from the University of San Francisco. Wall has served on the town’s Planning Commission since March and was previously a member of the Circulation Committee. She is a member of the Woodside School Foundation Board of Directors, where her children attend school.



#### Chris Shaw (District 3)

Chris Shaw is the incumbent representing District 3. He was elected in 2015 and served as mayor in 2019. He has been a resident of Woodside for 27 years, where he lives with his wife and two daughters. Shaw has a bachelor’s degree in economics from San Diego State University and is the co-founder and CEO of H2ORS, Inc., which produces an electrolyte replacement for cancer patients.



#### John Carvell (District 5)

John Carvell is a native of Los Altos who is a management consultant and a partner at 38 Degree Advisors, a financial services firm based in Portola Valley. He and his wife have lived in Woodside since 2011, as well as Atherton and Menlo Park previously. Carvell has a bachelor’s degree in management science from University of California at San Diego and a master’s degree in business from UC Berkeley. Carvell was appointed to the Architectural and Site Review Board in 2017 and currently serves as its vice chair. He also sits on the Woodside Hills Homeowners Association Architectural Review Board.



#### Ned Fluet (District 7)

Ned Fluet is an incumbent currently serving as mayor of Woodside who was elected to the Town Council in 2018. He lives with his wife and two young children and is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago School of Law and UCLA. He has served as deputy attorney general for the state of California and as a special assistant United States attorney in the Northern District of California. He’s the only candidate with a campaign website, which is nedforwoodside.com.



with residents. That includes getting more people signed up with the county’s SMC Alerts system and the town’s own alert system.

However, one major hurdle to better communication, Fluet said, is the inconsistent reliability of internet service in Woodside.

Getting reliable internet service throughout the town is a project he somewhat jokingly calls his “baby,” but he notes the need is serious.

“It’s not just a matter of having Netflix, but in this day and age, the internet is a lifeline. And the fact that parts of our town do not have reliable internet because they just simply don’t have access to the large

providers needs to change,” he said.

It’s taking time and some “creativity,” but Fluet said that progress is slowly being made toward improving connectivity in those areas. ▣

Email Heather Zimmerman at [hzimmerman@almanacnews.com](mailto:hzimmerman@almanacnews.com)

**express**

**Today’s local news  
and hot picks**

Sign up today at  
[AlmanacNews.com/express](http://AlmanacNews.com/express)

# WHY SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM?



*Our subscribing members  
say it best...*

“ *I thought your explanation of how good reporters approach election coverage and endorsements was excellent. Many people don't understand the role of the press. Local journalism is vitally important to the civic life of our communities. Thank you!* ”

- Brenda T.

***Will you join the thousands of others  
supporting local journalism?***

***Now's your moment to step up when we need you the most.***

Subscribe now at [AlmanacNews.com/join](https://AlmanacNews.com/join)

The Almanac

You can also subscribe for one year by mailing a check for \$120  
(\$60 for seniors and students) to us at 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto 94306.

The Almanac  
Online

## Our election recommendations

### EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

#### Measure RR - Yes

*Caltrain sales tax measure (requires two-thirds vote)*

The system under which Caltrain is managed and funded is a complete mess and needs a massive overhaul. The pandemic has only added to the governance and financial problems. The system has never had a guaranteed source of funding and relies on voluntary contributions from San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to supplement fare revenue, which is now a fraction of pre-pandemic levels. It's operated under a Joint Powers Agreement between the three counties but managed by the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans), and problems with this arrangement and the lack of accountability have been the source of conflict for decades.

Measure RR, which had to be approved by seven different agencies to get on the ballot, does nothing to fix the underlying governance problems, but it is necessary to ensure Caltrain's survival through and after the COVID-19 crisis. It will provide, for the first time, a secure source of funding through an eighth-cent sales tax over the next 30 years. That's a huge step forward. We reluctantly recommend voters approve this measure, which requires approval by two-thirds of voters overall in the three affected counties.

#### Prop. 14 - No

*Stem cell bonds*

Sixteen years ago, when voters approved \$3 billion in bonds for stem cell research, it was critical to the growth and development of a promising new field of research, largely because the Bush administration had prohibited all federal funding. But there is now adequate federal government and private funding being invested in stem cell research. With all of the state's other needs there is no reason California should continue to fund the state's own program when there is ample national research being done.

#### Prop. 15 - Yes

*Commercial property tax split roll*

It's long past time to end the property tax break to commercial property owners in California, whose taxes don't increase with the value of their property. Since commercial real estate turns over much less frequently than homes, the current system is grossly unfair and amounts to a giant subsidy to real estate investors. The most common argument against the measure is that property tax increases

are often passed along to tenants, which include small businesses. Economic studies have repeatedly shown, however, that commercial rents are driven by the market, not by tax rates. Owners of commercial buildings set rental rates based on what owners of similar space are charging and what tenants are willing to pay.

#### Prop. 16 - Yes

*Affirmative action*

When voters approved Prop. 209 in 1996, they banned most affirmative action programs in public institutions, including the state college system. At a time when residents are awakening to the racial bias that still permeates our society, this proposed repeal of Prop. 209, adopted overwhelmingly by the Legislature, will restore the ability for state and local agencies to consider race, sex, ethnicity and national origin in hiring decisions. Similarly, state universities will be able to consider these factors as part of their admissions process. Most private employers have active programs to diversify their workforce. It is wrong that public employers and schools are prevented from doing the same.

#### Prop. 17 - Yes

*Parolees' right to vote*

This simple proposal, placed on the ballot by the Legislature, would give those who have completed their prison sentence but who are still on supervised parole the right to vote. Parole is a period during which offenders are expected to reenter society, find gainful employment and contribute to society. Providing them with the right to vote gives them a stake in their future and comes at no harm to anyone. It's an easy way to give agency to a person trying to move on from the mistakes they've made.

#### Prop. 18 - Yes

*17-year-olds vote in primaries*

This legislative proposal allows for a 17-year-old to register and vote in a primary or special election if they will turn 18 before the next general election. It makes good sense to allow a young person who desires to exercise his or her right to vote in a general election after turning 18 to be able to participate in the primary election that selects the top two candidates for that office. Anything that encourages interest in voting and the electoral process among young people is good for democracy.

#### Prop. 19 - Yes

*Transfer of tax base*

This measure would add new tax benefits to existing law for people 55 and older who sell their home and purchase a new one by enabling them to retain

the property tax level of the home they sell. It's being pushed by Realtors and firefighters with \$42 million in campaign donations (versus almost no expenditures against). For those who have been in their homes at protected Prop. 13 tax levels for a long time, this is yet another unfair benefit to what they have already been enjoying by paying property taxes that are a fraction of what a new homeowner is paying. But until we have the courage to reform the entire property tax system, this measure will make a decision to move easier, and thereby help to increase helpful turnover of the housing stock.

#### Prop. 20 - No

*Criminal justice reform rollbacks*

This initiative measure attempts to undo reforms in the criminal justice system that were passed in the last decade and were an important part of reducing the state's prison population in response to federal court orders. It would put more people back in prison, at great expense, and cut programs that are aimed at assisting offenders to successfully return to society. This measure would be a giant step backward and return us to a day when nonviolent offenders were sentenced to long and unfair prison sentences.

#### Prop. 21 - Yes

*Rent control at local level*

Current state law prohibits cities from enacting any measures restricting rent increases for single-family homes, or any housing built since 1995. Even so, about 20% of California residents are living in pre-1995 units that are subject to rent control laws. San Francisco, Los Angeles, Mountain View and many other cities are successfully using rent control measures to protect renters. Prop. 21 doesn't enact rent control, it simply gives cities back the ability to decide for themselves if some form of rent regulation is in the best interest of their community while addressing housing needs.

#### Prop. 22 - No

*Gig workers as independent contractors*

Pressured by unions, in 2019 the California Legislature hurriedly passed AB 5 to virtually prohibit the use of independent contractors, including drivers for Uber, Lyft and other ride-share and delivery services, freelancers and an array of other workers. Ever since it has been struggling to fix all the problems and inequities in the law but has refused to budge on drivers and many other categories. In June a court ordered Uber and Lyft to treat their drivers as employees, but the ruling is on hold until the outcome of the election. AB 5 was a badly

conceived and written law that needs a rewrite. But Prop. 22 is not the answer. It only addresses "app-based drivers" and amounts to a rescue of a few large companies. They should be working as part of a broad coalition to amend AB 5 to address its threat to all businesses impacted by it, not just solve their own needs.

#### Prop. 23 - No

*Dialysis clinic requirements*

This is the second attempt by unions to organize kidney dialysis workers through passage of a confusing ballot measure that doesn't belong on a state ballot. It was defeated two years ago and should be again.

#### Prop. 24 - Yes

*Data privacy*

Just two years ago the Legislature passed a groundbreaking and controversial Consumer Privacy Act establishing rules allowing consumers to opt out from businesses with more than \$25 million in revenue or possessing data on more than 50,000 people from sharing data they collect on them. Prop. 24 is intended to strengthen the 2018

See **BALLOT MEASURES**, page 22



#### U.S. Congress

Anna Eshoo (D)(inc)

Jackie Speier (D)(inc)

#### State Senate

Josh Becker (D)

#### State Assembly

Marc Berman (D)(inc)

#### Menlo Park City Council, District 3

Jen Wolosin

#### Atherton City Council

Elizabeth Lewis (inc)

Cary Wiest (inc)

#### Portola Valley Town Council

Jeff Aalfs (inc)

Sarah Wernikoff

# Marketplace

## AmiCare

SERVICES INCORPORATED  
Quality and affordable  
caregiving services  
right at the comfort of  
your home.

**CALL FOR  
A FREE NURSE  
ASSESSMENT  
(650) 709-8900**

To advertise,  
call 650.223.6597  
or email [digitalads@  
paweekly.com](mailto:digitalads@paweekly.com).

**express**

Sign up today at  
[AlmanacNews.com/  
express](http://AlmanacNews.com/express)

## Vote no on Proposition 15

Measure would hurt tenants and consumers

By Brian McCarthy

I've just read the guest opinion in the Oct. 2 edition regarding support for Proposition 15 ("Leveling the ground: Yes on Proposition 15"). Clearly the supporters of this proposition do not understand how commercial property leases are written and the ramifications to California tenants and consumers if Proposition 15 passes.

### GUEST OPINION

I have been in the commercial real estate business for over 40 years and have represented many commercial tenants. If Prop 15 passes, it will be devastating to most of them and will have a negative effect on the already suffering economy of California for the following reasons:

- Almost all commercial lease agreements, including retail, written with landlords contain a pass-through clause which states that the "Tenants either pay all of the property taxes or will pay the increases in property tax above the base year." If Prop 15 passes and the property taxes significantly increase, the landlord will pass the increases on to the tenants, thus the tenants, not the landlord, will effectively be paying the increase in property tax!
- Many commercial tenants are barely surviving now in California. Retail tenants were already struggling prior to COVID-19 and will be on life support if Prop 15 passes. The manufacturing industry was having a hard time making it work in California with the high cost of living for employees, as well as all of the existing California government regulations and high taxes. If Prop 15 passes, many more businesses will not survive or will move out of California. The tenants that stay will have to raise the cost of their goods and services, ultimately leading

to higher prices to consumers. More layoffs will occur, especially in the manufacturing and retail sectors, ultimately hurting the most vulnerable employees. With the exception of some of the tech giants, numerous office tenants are now struggling as well.

The intended beneficiaries of Prop 15 may be deserving, but Prop 15 will also further hurt many vulnerable commercial tenants and their employees, especially retail, manufacturing and office. Examples include your local small and medium-sized businesses, restaurants, doctors' offices, etc. Tenants need to be able to have a choice in what type of building they can afford to lease. A company that has low margins needs to be able to locate in a building with a low tax base to survive. They cannot afford to operate in a new class A or B high-tax building or a reassessed older building and expect to survive. Prop 15 eliminates a tenant's choice.

In summary, the most vulnerable businesses and employees are going to be hurt. Many more small and medium-sized businesses will not make it. The California economy will continue to decline. The cost of California produced goods and services will rise. The most vulnerable of the California population will continue to be harmed.

I urge a no vote on Prop 15.

*Brian McCarthy is a  
Menlo Park resident.*

### NOTICE REQUESTING BIDS

#### WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT PROJECT NORTH BAY ROAD AND RINGWOOD AVENUE

Sealed proposals for the NORTH BAY ROAD AND RINGWOOD AVENUE PROJECT will be received at the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California 94025 until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, November 18, 2020** at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be labeled "West Bay Sanitary District, Proposal for "NORTH BAY ROAD AND RINGWOOD AVENUE PROJECT."

The Work will include the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment, and other appurtenances for new installation, rehabilitation and replacement of sanitary sewer mains by Open Trench Construction, Pipe Bursting, and Cured-in-Place Pipe, and add alternate installation of recycled water main by Open Trench Construction, as indicated on the project plans.

The contract documents may be inspected at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District, 500 Laurel St, Menlo Park, California 94025; San Francisco Builders Exchange, Attn: Deanna Johnson, 850 So. Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94110; Peninsula Builders Exchange, Attn: Andrea Nettles, 282 Harbor Blvd, Belmont, California 94002; Santa Clara Builders Exchange, Attn: Kanani Fonseca, 400 Reed Street, Santa Clara, California 95050; Bay Area Builders Exchange Attn: Jeannie Kwan, 3055 Alvarado Street, San Leandro, California 94577; Construction Bidboard Incorporated, Attn: Plan Room, 11622 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92130.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the West Bay Sanitary District upon payment of a check or money order in the amount of \$60.00 for each set. The check or money order must be issued to the West Bay Sanitary District. All payments are nonrefundable.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at **11:00 am on Tuesday, November 3, 2020** via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91805953854?pwd=YVl1U2RLdnFiWWszdTU3K2ZkNENzZz09>

Meeting ID: 918 0595 3854

Passcode: 335819

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,91805953854#,,,,,0#,,335819# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Passcode: 335819

Each bid proposal shall be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or a proposal guaranty bond payable to the order of the West Bay Sanitary District in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid as a guaranty that the bidder will execute the contract if it be awarded to him in conformity with the proposal. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in an amount not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price and a labor and material bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

The District ("Owner") reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to determine which proposal is, in the judgment of the District, the lowest responsible bid of a responsible bidder or group of bidders and which proposal should be accepted in the best interest of the District. The District also reserves the right to waive any informalities in any proposal or bid.

Bid proposals received after the time announced for the opening will not be considered. No bidder may withdraw his proposal after the time announced for the opening, or before award and execution of the contract, unless the award is delayed for a period exceeding forty-five (45) days.

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Contract Code Section 22300, and upon the request and at the expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld by the District to ensure performance under the Contract may be deposited with the District, or with a state or federally chartered bank as escrow agent who shall deliver such securities to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Only those securities listed in Government Code Section 16430 or other securities approved by the District are eligible for deposit. The deposit of securities with an escrow agent or the District shall be made in the form and on such terms and conditions as the District may require to protect the interest of the District in the event of the Contractor's default. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities that are deposited and shall receive any interest thereon.

Pertaining to Sections 1770, 1773, and 1773.1 of the California Labor Code the successful bidder shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. Copies of such prevailing rates are on file at the District office of the West Bay Sanitary District and which copies shall be made available to any interested party on request. The successful bidder shall post a copy of such determinations at each job site.

In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code Section 3300, the District has determined that the Contractor shall possess a valid Class A License or a combination of Class C-12 "Earthwork and Paving", C-34 "Pipeline" and C-42 "Sanitation System" licenses at the time this contract is awarded. Failure to possess the specified license(s) shall render the bid as non-responsive and shall act as a bar to award of the contract to any bidder not possessing said license(s) at the time of award.

West Bay Sanitary District  
Board of Directors  
San Mateo County, California

/s/ Sergio Ramirez

District Manager

Dated: October 14, 2020

### BALLOT MEASURES

*continued from page 21*

law by clarifying some provisions and making enforcement easier through the creation of a new state agency, while reducing the number of businesses that are affected. Importantly, it will permit changes through the Legislature (instead of voters) to further improve the law as long as they are consistent with the goal of increasing data privacy.

#### Prop. 25 - Yes

##### *Cash bail referendum*

This measure seeks to uphold 2018 legislation that does away with the cash bail system so that poor defendants aren't forced to remain in jail pending their trial while wealthy defendants are released on bail. The implementation of the new law has been delayed due to the referendum. The bail system is highly discriminatory and should be replaced with the risk-assessment system contained in

the 2018 law. A "yes" vote means you approve of the law passed to eliminate cash bail. A "no" vote means that law is stricken and cash bail will continue.

### What's on your mind?

From City Hall politics and the schools to transportation and other pressing issues, the Almanac aims to keep readers informed about their community. But we also want to hear from you.

Tell us what's on your mind by sending your letters to [letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com). Or snail-mail them to: The Almanac, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

Questions? Email editor@[AlmanacNews.com](mailto:AlmanacNews.com), or call 650-223-6537.

# Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## Pear Theatre offers well acted, poorly produced 'Lysistrata'

Streaming version of the ancient Greek comedy is available online through Nov. 15

By John Orr

Yes, we audience members are desperate to see live theater and actors are desperate to perform. And bless their hearts at the Pear Theatre for wanting to bring us a show — "Lysistrata" — via the magic of video recording.

But the video, which is available through Nov. 15, is a technical mess.

The show is often funny — it is an ancient Greek comedy, after all — but it looks and sounds as if director Betsy Kruse Craig and videographers Sinjin Jones and John Beamer had never seen an actual movie, and had no idea of how to make a play work on a screen. Directing for the stage is entirely different from directing for a camera.

And, the production is hampered by the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Everybody in the all-woman cast wears a full-face, clear-plastic mask and everybody stays socially distanced. It looks like the entire production was filmed in The Pear's side parking lot.

But even accounting for that, there is no forgiveness for the tragic blocking, which makes it difficult to know who is performing from scene to scene. The unfortunate camera flow makes it hard to keep track of dialogue, which is not helped by

the inept sound mixing. Lines of dialogue are overwhelmed by clacking sounds of props on the stage, or unexplained crashing noises.

The blocking might have worked indoors on a regular stage — Kruse Craig is an accomplished and capable stage director — but it doesn't work in this format.

For those who can tolerate the ham-handed video production, there are laughs to be had, and all eight members of the cast have moments that can be enjoyed. There is some good acting happening behind those plastic face masks, although it is sometimes hard to see, thanks to sun glare on the plastic.

This production is Carolyn Balducci's 1991 adaptation of the play by Aristophanes, first performed in Athens in 411 B.C. In it, the women of Athens, tired of their husbands and lovers always being away at war, decide to withhold sex until the men agree to keep the peace.

The embargo is suggested and organized by Lysistrata, played strongly by Cynthia Lagodzinski. She starts with Kalonike (played with plenty of humor by the great Nicole Martin), and soon more women are gathered, from all the warring Greek cities.

Can they get the men to cooperate?

"Men always want to cooperate," says one woman. "The only problem is getting them to stop."

Pouring wine in a Spartan shield, the women swear an oath, which includes "to my lover or my husband, I'll not open my doors, though he flaunts his battering ram."

The young women are helped in their effort by the older-women chorus, which takes over the treasury. The older-men chorus complains, "To arms! To arms! Men with balls, arouse yourselves! ... What if the enemy controls the treasury, which issues my veterans' benefits?"

The play dives deep into a cornball soup as some of the women try to escape Lysistrata's hold.

"They are, to put it bluntly," says Lysistrata, "dying to get laid."

Eventually, the men agree to stop their wars, the wine flows, everybody is happy, and



Courtesy John Deven

Natashia Deneè plays the commissioner, left, and Cynthia Lagodzinski stars in the title role of "Lysistrata," a video production by the Pear Theatre.



Courtesy John Deven

Tyler Jeffreys plays Lampito in "Lysistrata," a video production by the Pear Theatre.

the finale offers a connection between ancient and modern democracy.

While it has its charms, technical difficulties means that the Pear's production — like Lysistrata's sex strike — leaves something to be desired.

"Lysistrata" runs through Nov. 15. Tickets are \$30-\$34. For more information, go to [thepear.org](http://thepear.org). ■

Freelance writer John Orr can be emailed at [johnorr@regardingarts.com](mailto:johnorr@regardingarts.com)

### LEHUA GREENMAN



"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go."

650.245.1845 COMPASS



### TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY ARCHITECTURAL AND SITE CONTROL COMMISSIONERS NEEDED

The Portola Valley Town Council is seeking three volunteers to serve on the Town's Architectural and Site Control Commission (ASCC) through December 2024. The ASCC consists of five members appointed by the Town Council, and meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

The ASCC is charged with the review and approval of design review applications and site development permits, including applications for new homes, second units, larger additions, second story additions, and commercial buildings. In addition, the ASCC provides comments on conditional use permits, subdivisions, variances and other matters referred by the Town Council, the Planning Commission, or Town Staff.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest to the Town Council to [shanlon@portolavalley.net](mailto:shanlon@portolavalley.net) by 5pm on Monday, November 2, 2020. The Town Council will conduct interviews at a scheduled meeting on November 11, 2020. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Town Clerk Sharon Hanlon at [shanlon@portolavalley.net](mailto:shanlon@portolavalley.net) (650) 851-1700 x210.

# Food & Drink

## UNLIKELY OPENINGS: 14 NEW RESTAURANTS LAUNCH LOCALLY DESPITE COVID DOWNTURN



Courtesy Bottleshop

**BottleShop** in Redwood City offers a short menu of small bites and charcuterie to pair with its wines.

### What's driving the recent openings boom on the Peninsula?

By Elena Kadvany

Something surprising and wonderful started happening in the last few weeks: There were more restaurants opening than I could keep up with.

Establishments of all stripes, from boba shops, a food truck and a ghost kitchen to sit-down restaurants, are opening up shop after months of closures and dire predictions about the state of the restaurant industry (nearly 1 in 6 restaurants, or about 100,000 restaurants, have closed either permanently or long term since March, according to the National Restaurant Association). Many local projects had been in the pipeline for months or even years, and owners said they felt a financial pressure to open as soon as possible, despite the limitations and risks.

Zareen Khan, who opened the third location of her eponymous restaurant in downtown Redwood City this month, said she invested “significantly” in the space before the coronavirus hit. She started paying rent in May, meaning she went more than five months without any business coming in at that location.

“Cities are being very supportive with outdoor dining so that has helped many restaurants reopen as well,” Khan added.

Omid Zahedi this month opened Rise Woodfire, a massive restaurant at the San Mateo train station. It had been in the works for two years — two years of investment, a full remodel and effort that he couldn't walk away from.

“We needed to open as soon as possible due to our financial obligations, and every month we did not would be another month of falling behind on them,” he said.

Many Santa Clara and San Mateo county restaurants are also now taking advantage of the fact that they can again serve customers indoors, albeit

at much-reduced numbers (25% capacity or 100 customers, whichever is fewer).

“There is the counterintuitive optimism that ‘this too shall pass,’” Zahedi said. “Time will tell but the bold and brave that stayed the course in the face of dramatic fear in the industry may end up benefiting from the inevitable normalization of this time. What better time to build a restaurant than the 12-18 months that dried up supply and created pent-up demand for people's natural desire to gather and socialize?”

Below is a non-exhaustive list of more than a dozen new restaurants that have opened or are opening soon on the Peninsula, representing an exciting range of cuisines and a sense of optimism about the local dining world.

Because these restaurants are all new and some of their hours are changing as they adjust, call them directly or check websites and social media for current hours.

#### Marufuku Ramen, Redwood City

San Francisco ramen favorite Marufuku is opening in downtown Redwood City on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

Marufuku's 20-hour tonkotsu ramen regularly drew long lines in San Francisco pre-pandemic. Marufuku is known for hakata, a regional style of ramen — a rich pork broth served with thinner noodles. Marufuku's hakata ramen is topped with chashu pork belly, a seasoned soft boiled egg, green onions, kikurage mushrooms and bean sprouts. The menu also includes chicken paitan and vegetable ramen, rice bowls and sides like karaage and fried shishito peppers.

*Outdoor and indoor dining.* 865 Middlefield Road, Redwood City; [marufukuramen.com](http://marufukuramen.com).

#### BottleShop, Redwood City

John Graham-Taylor, a culinary school graduate, sommelier,

former wine supplier and restaurant general manager, has reopened Redwood City wine bar BottleShop. His resume includes stints in both the front- and back-of-house at the Michelin-starred Chez TJ in Mountain View, the now-closed Viognier at Draeger's in San Mateo and Cotogna in San Francisco.

After BottleShop closed several months ago, Graham-Taylor took it over with partner Tom Boriolo, wanting to bring a casual wine bar with high-level service to the Peninsula.

“We wanted to bring that level of quality but down to a more approachable and less stiff environment where you can come in, get really beautiful food, really manicured service but in jeans and flip-flops,” Graham-Taylor said.

While the former BottleShop focused on natural wines, the new iteration will not (though there will be some on the menu). Graham-Taylor described the wine selection as food friendly. He plans to offer custom food-and-wine pairings to customers in addition to a short menu of small bites and charcuterie. Wine bottles will also be available for retail purchase. They plan to offer classes, socially distanced events and wine and whiskey clubs.

*Outdoor and indoor service.* 2627 Broadway St., Redwood City; [thebottleshoprwc.com](http://thebottleshoprwc.com).

#### Alebrijes Oaxacan Kitchen, Redwood City

Carmen Lopez and her son-in-law Reynaldo Hernandez, both natives of Oaxaca, are behind the Alebrijes Oaxacan Kitchen food truck, which is now parked in Redwood City Monday through Thursday and pops up in Half Moon Bay on Friday and Saturday.

Lopez and Hernandez want to expose more local diners to the dishes and flavors of Oaxacan cuisine. Their two signature dishes are memelitas and tlayudas.

Memelitas look like tacos but are served on larger, handmade corn tortillas. They're filled with a layer of pureed black beans, cabbage, quesillo (Oaxacan cheese made from cow's milk), salsa, guacamole and drizzled with asiento, or porklard. Tlayudas, sometimes referred to as Oaxacan pizza, look like flatbread covered with toppings. Lopez and Hernandez toast a thin, 15-inch corn tortilla, lay it flat and smear it with asiento and pureed black beans, topped with cabbage, quesillo, tomatoes, salsa and your choice of carne asada, chorizo or marinated pork (or all three).

Memelitas and tlayudas are always on the menu but they rotate in additional dishes such as blandas (a Oaxacan burrito) and molotes (deep-fried masa stuffed with chorizo and potatoes).

*Takeout. Located at 2666 Middlefield Road in Redwood City Monday-Thursday and 724 Main St. in Half Moon Bay Friday-Saturday.* [facebook.com/alebrijeskitchie](http://facebook.com/alebrijeskitchie).

#### Tokemoana Foods, East Palo Alto

Polynesian food is vastly underrepresented on the Peninsula, but the newly opened Tokemoana Foods is changing that.

Tokemoana sells frozen foods and ingredients grown on the company's farms in Ha'ateiho, Tonga, like frozen ufi, or Samoan sweet potato. On the weekends, there's hot food, like palusami (taro leaves cooked in coconut milk), sapaui (referred to as Samoan chop suey, glass noodles stir fried with vegetables) and feke (steamed octopus tossed in a coconut cream sauce), among other dishes.

*Preorder for pickup.* 1425 Bay Road, East Palo Alto; [tokemoanafoods.com](http://tokemoanafoods.com).

#### T Bread, Mountain View

The owners of T Bread opened a banh mi shop in Saigon in 1990 and have brought their concept to

Mountain View. T Bread makes eight kinds of foot-long banh mi with fillings like pate, grilled pork, sardines and meatballs. There's also made-to-order gôicuoñ (spring rolls) and a selection of pastries.

*Takeout and delivery.* 805 E El Camino Real, Suite D, Mountain View; [tbread.store](http://tbread.store).

#### House on First, Los Altos

House on First has replaced Bumble in downtown Los Altos, opened by Jean-Luc Kayigire, who owns cocktail bar Amandine Project down the street.

House on First serves coffee, tea and pastries in the morning and dinner, cocktails, wine and beer in the evening. The dinner menu includes a burger (you can opt for the plant-based Impossible patty), halibut with romesco sauce, smoked duck with parsnip puree and rib-eye steak with herb-roasted duck potatoes. The space has a massive outdoor patio for socially distanced dining, heat lamps included.

*Outdoor dining.* 145 1st St., Los Altos; [facebook.com/houseonfirst](http://facebook.com/houseonfirst).

#### Wonderful, Foster City

Wonderful, downtown Millbrae's popular Hunan restaurant, has opened a second location in Foster City. Look for the restaurant's signature godfather noodles (fresh noodles topped with a spicy pork sauce, made-to-order), thick green onion pancakes, cilantro lamb, handmade dumplings and other Hunan dishes.

*Takeout, indoor and outdoor dining. Accepting cash or Venmo payments only during the soft opening.* 1000 Metro Center Blvd., Suite A, Foster City; [wonderful.restaurant](http://wonderful.restaurant).

#### Rise Woodfire, San Mateo

The owners of Rise Pizzeria in Burlingame recently opened their second act: Rise Woodfire, located in a historic building at the San Mateo train station at 2 North B. St. The restaurant

serves the same thin crust, wood-fired pizza as at Rise Pizzeria, the dough made from four flours that are fermented using a sponge method over three days. More than a dozen pizzas are available, or you can build your own from a range of cheese and toppings.

The open kitchen is equipped with two wood-fired ovens that were handbuilt in Naples. Here, the kitchen uses the ovens for more than pizzas, with chicken wings, kale, broccoli, salmon and prime rib getting the wood-fire treatment. Rotisserie items such as a half or whole chicken come with sides and sauces, from chimichurri and Peruvian aji amarillo to roasted garlic and chili butter and wood-fired pineapple teriyaki chipotle.

*Takeout, indoor and outdoor dining. 2 N. B St., San Mateo; rise-woodfire.com.*

#### Between the Bun, San Mateo

Oakland's Between the Bun has brought its lobster rolls to downtown San Mateo. As the name implies, these lobster rolls and other seafood sandwiches are served on a bun, more like a

hamburger than a New England-style roll.

All the seafood rolls — Maine lobster, red crab and North Atlantic Bay shrimp — are lightly dressed with mayo, butter and a spice blend. Sides include beans, kettle chips, slaw and waffle fries, plus lobster bisque and clam chowder.

*Takeout and delivery. 132 S. B St. San Mateo; facebook.com/btblobster.*

#### Pylos Estiatorio, San Carlos

Laurel Street has a new Greek and Mediterranean option with the opening of Pylos, from the owner of the nearby Spasso and Blind Tasting. Pylos is open for lunch and dinner, with dishes such as keftedes saltza (lamb-beef meatballs in a tomato sauce topped with yogurt), avgolemeno (egg-lemon soup with chicken and rice), saganaki (pan-fried cheese with lemon and oregano) chicken souvlaki and grilled lamb chops.

*Takeout, indoor and outdoor dining. 621 Laurel St., San Carlos; 650-226-3652.*

#### Societea House & Eatery, San Bruno

The local boba boom continues with the opening of Societea House & Eatery in San Bruno, which serves some inventive milk tea drinks, like black tea mixed with milk infused with Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal or blended with double-stuffed Oreos.

Societea House & Eatery also serves food, including kimchi fried rice, bulgogi sandwich, fried chicken sandwich, popcorn chicken and “loaded” waffle fries topped with spicy pork or lemongrass chicken, kimchi, kimchi aioli, pickled vegetables and furikake.

*Takeout and indoor dining. 446 San Mateo Ave., San Bruno; 650-636-4494.*

#### Capo, Belmont

The family behind longtime Belmont Italian restaurant Vivace expanded in September with Capo, a fast-casual Mediterranean eatery. Vivace owner Mike Gunn's son Hayden and nephew Serhat are running the restaurant.

Look for pita wraps, rice plates and salads, plus a calamari “po boy” wrapped in a pita with tzatziki and pickled onions and beef and lamb cooked on a slowly turning spit, served with bright-pink beet lebni.

*Takeout, delivery, indoor and outdoor dining. 2040 Ralston Ave., Belmont; capobelmont.com.*

#### Casper Restaurant Group, Sunnyvale

Pre-coronavirus, JW Catering's large kitchen in Sunnyvale churned out orders for tech conferences, office lunches, bar and bat mitzvahs and special events.

Now, it houses four different restaurant concepts available for pickup or delivery.

Jeffrey Weinberg's pandemic pivot has been to transform his catering company into a ghost kitchen. It's called Casper Restaurant Group, a play on the “ghost” concept. The first restaurant was The Marvelous Matzah Experiment (a riff off the TV show *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*), which serves Jewish deli fare inspired by Weinberg's East Coast youth, like housemade pastrami and corned beef on Wise Sons Deli rye bread, matzah ball soup and challah French toast.

They've since added Toasty Melt (grilled cheeses), Gorgeous Grits (Southern-inspired food) and the Lockdown Limited Luncheon (daily specials that change weekly), with more on the way. Weinberg said he can scale up to a dozen concepts in a single kitchen. His employees deliver food so the company can avoid the 30% commission fee charged by third-party delivery companies.

“It's allowed me to keep my employees employed,” Weinberg said of the ghost kitchen. “It's certainly not filling the gap on large corporate events — I gotta sell a lot of \$15 sandwiches to make up for a \$1,000 corporate event — (but) it's allowed us to keep the lights on and the doors open.”

Weinberg is also looking for a brick-and-mortar space to expand The Marvelous Matzah Experiment, hopefully in Palo Alto, he said. He's hoping to partner with a local restaurateur who might be struggling during the pandemic to share a kitchen and staff.

*Open for pickup and delivery. 649 S. Bernardo Ave., Sunnyvale; casperrestaurantgroup.com.*

#### Bamboo Sushi, Santa Clara

Bamboo Sushi, the Portland, Oregon, sustainable sushi restaurant, is now open at Westfield Valley Fair on the border of Santa Clara and San Jose.

Bamboo Sushi is known for paying close attention to seafood sourcing and maintaining a low carbon footprint. Every piece of fish served at the restaurant must meet the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch guidelines, and the menu notes where and how seafood was caught.

Bamboo Sushi Valley Fair serves nigiri, rolls, a wagyu burger and crispy sushi rice topped with your choice of fish, truffled eel sauce and green onion. It's only open for takeout now as it eases into opening, though diners can eat their to-go food on an outdoor patio. The restaurant team is discussing when the dining room will open.

Bamboo Sushi will join the ranks of Din Tai Fung, Ramen Nagi, Super Duper Burgers and Salt & Straw at the mall. Several new eateries have also opened in recent weeks, including Shake Shack, fast casual chicken-and-rice eatery Rooster & Rice, Southern California seafood restaurant King's Fish House and Japanese cheesecake chain Uncle Tetsu. The mall recently built a new outdoor dining plaza as part of a \$1.1 billion renovation.

*Takeout and delivery, with outdoor dining for takeout (no service). 2855 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 1840, Santa Clara; bamboosushi.com/restaurant/san-jose. ▴*

*Email Elena Kadvanj at ekadvanj@pawebly.com*



Olivia Treynor

**Farmhouse Kitchen** recently opened across from the Menlo Park train station.



We help you make sure insurance claims, payments, and questions are handled quickly.

Serving the community for over 30 years!

CHARLIE PORTER

Farmers® Agency  
License # 0773991  
671-A Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park  
650-327-1313  
cporter2@farmersagent.com



### Home Care Solutions That Fit Your Unique Needs





We believe in a holistic approach to care – offering a wide range of customized support for any stage of your health journey. Our caregivers are professionally trained in infection control & licensed to assist with:

Companionship  
Transition & Discharge Care  
Hospital Sitting  
Alzheimer's & Dementia Care

Specialized Care  
Delivery & Meal Services  
Concierge Services  
& more!

We're here to help...  
The Heart of Home Care

[www.careindeed.com](http://www.careindeed.com)

SERVING CLIENTS THROUGHOUT THE BAY AREA | (650) 850-5945



# COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 5 OAK FOREST COURT, PORTOLA VALLEY

### Private Woodland Paradise on over 1.5 Acres

Privately situated on a verdant lot of more than 1.5 acres, this peaceful Portola Valley home offers 4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, and over 4,200 square feet of inviting living space. Experience an instant connection to the natural beauty that surrounds this home the second you step inside, as picture windows, skylights, and transom windows fill the home with light and showcase the tranquil grounds. Soaring ceilings craft a fresh, airy ambiance that flows throughout. Highlights include two spectacular fireplaces, the chef's kitchen that flows into the expansive family room, and the office to meet all work-from-home needs. Find comfort in the large master suite, and appreciate the convenience of an additional bedroom suite for family or guests. The grounds include ample patio space, and a serene deck shaded by towering trees. This great location is mere moments to nature trails and Preserves, a short trip to Roberts Market, and acclaimed public and private schools are close at hand.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit:

[www.5OakForest.com](http://www.5OakForest.com)

Offered at \$3,988,000

Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties combined, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



355 San Mateo Dr, Menlo Park  
Offered at \$4,500,000  
Annette Smith · 650.766.9429  
Lic. #01180954



2199 Clayton Dr, Menlo Park  
Offered at \$5,500,000  
Shena Hurley · 650.575.0991  
Lic. #01152002



32 Palm Ct, Menlo Park  
Offered at \$4,988,800  
Mary Bee · 650.343.9999  
Lic. #00882849



2131 Oakley Ave, Menlo Park  
Offered at \$3,475,000  
Penelope Huang · 650.281.8028  
Lic. #01023392



621 12th Ave, Menlo Park  
Offered at \$2,890,000  
Annette Smith · 650.766.9429  
Lic. #01180954



1330 University Dr #63,  
Menlo Park  
Offered at \$1,795,000  
Lisa Keith · 650.703.8644  
Lic. #00882247



1700 Carleton Ct, Redwood City  
Offered at \$1,949,000  
Helen Ferrari · 650.722.1065  
Lic. #00807118



30 Trail Lane, Woodside  
Offered at \$23,000,000  
Michael Dreyfus · 650.485.3476  
Lic. #01121795  
Noelle Queen · 650.427.9211  
Lic. #01917593



111 Grove Dr, Portola Valley  
Offered at \$4,198,000  
Omar Kinaan · 650.776.2828  
Lic. #01723115



2 Acorn St, Portola Valley  
Offered at \$3,795,000  
Chris Iverson · 650.450.0450  
Lic. #01708130



436 Portofino Dr #203, San Carlos  
Offered at \$1,550,000  
John Young · 650.862.2122  
Lic. #02036387  
Gloria Young · 650.380.9918  
Lic. #01895672



416 Portofino Dr #204, San Carlos  
Offered at \$1,075,000  
Matthew Swenson · 408.655.9398  
Lic. #01361313

## Virtual Home Tours

See some of our premier listings from the comfort of your own home through 3D virtual reality and high definition video.



[goldengatesir.com/HD](http://goldengatesir.com/HD)



[goldengatesir.com/VR](http://goldengatesir.com/VR)

**Menlo Park Office**  
640 Oak Grove Ave  
650.847.1141

**Palo Alto Office**  
728 Emerson St  
650.644.3474

**Los Altos Office**  
195 S. San Antonio Rd  
650.941.4300

**Woodside Office**  
2989 Woodside Rd  
650.851.6600

**Redwood City Office**  
555 Middlefield Rd  
650.577.3700

**San Carlos Office**  
1250 San Carlos Ave 101  
650.597.1800

**Burlingame Office**  
401 Primrose Rd, Suite J  
650.865.3000

**Los Gatos Office**  
663 Blossom Hill Rd  
408.358.2800

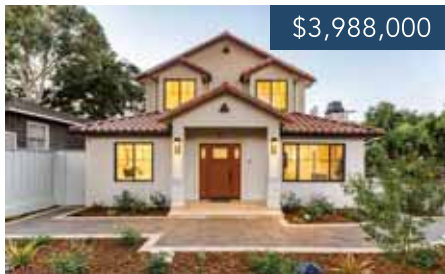
**Other Offices** BELVEDERE-TIBURON · BERKELEY · DANVILLE · LAFAYETTE · MILL VALLEY · MONTCLAIR  
NAPA · NOVATO · OAKLAND · ROSS VALLEY · SAN RAFAEL · SAUSALITO · STINSON BEACH

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



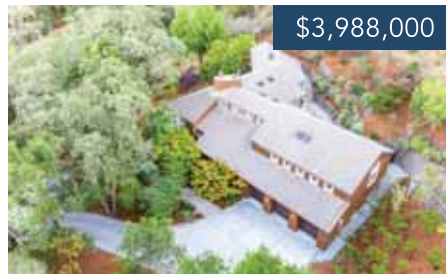
# COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



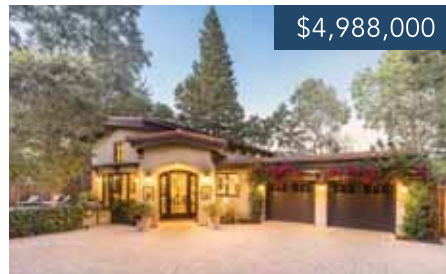
\$3,988,000

103 Stanford Ave., Menlo Park  
4 Bd | 3 Bth  
[www.103Stanford.com](http://www.103Stanford.com)



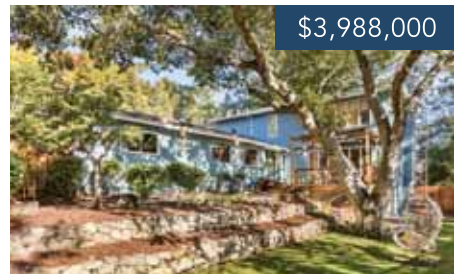
\$3,988,000

5 Oak Forest Court, Portola Valley  
4 Bd | 4.5 Bth  
[www.5OakForest.com](http://www.5OakForest.com)



\$4,988,000

1206 N. Lemon Ave., Menlo Park  
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
[www.1206NLeMonAve.com](http://www.1206NLeMonAve.com)



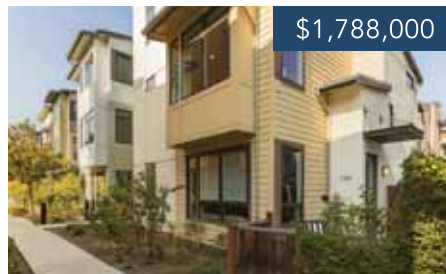
\$3,988,000

984 Monte Rosa Drive, Menlo Park  
6 Bd | 5 Bth  
[www.984MonteRosa.com](http://www.984MonteRosa.com)



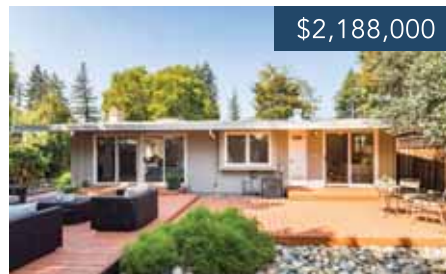
\$2,488,000

828 Ilima Court, Palo Alto  
3 Bd | 2 Bth  
[www.828Ilima.com](http://www.828Ilima.com)



\$1,788,000

1160 Donner Lane, Palo Alto  
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
[www.1160Donner.com](http://www.1160Donner.com)



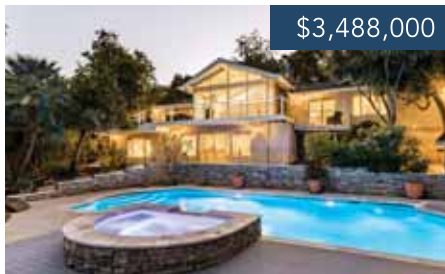
\$2,188,000

960 Dennis Drive, Palo Alto  
3 Bd | 2 Bth  
[www.960Dennis.com](http://www.960Dennis.com)



\$3,988,000

3883 La Donna Avenue, Palo Alto  
5 Bd | 3 Bth  
[www.3883LaDonna.com](http://www.3883LaDonna.com)



\$3,488,000

23284 Mora Heights Way, Los Altos  
4 Bd | 4 Bth (2 Full, 2 Half)  
[www.23284MoraHeights.com](http://www.23284MoraHeights.com)



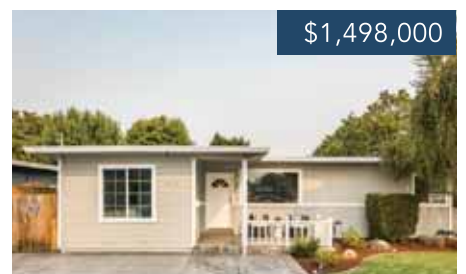
\$3,488,000

691 Templebar Way, Los Altos  
4 Bd | 2.5 Bth  
[www.691Templebar.com](http://www.691Templebar.com)



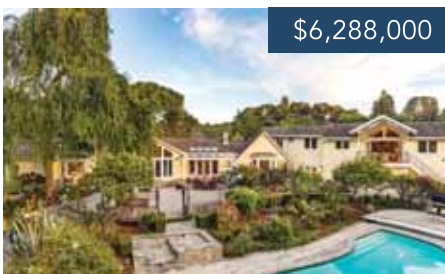
\$4,988,000

1515 Topar Ave., Los Altos  
6 Bd | 5 Bth  
[www.1515ToparAve.com](http://www.1515ToparAve.com)



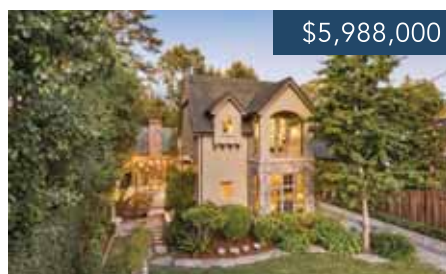
\$1,498,000

582 Manzanita Avenue, Sunnyvale  
4 Bd | 3 Bth  
[www.582Manzanita.com](http://www.582Manzanita.com)



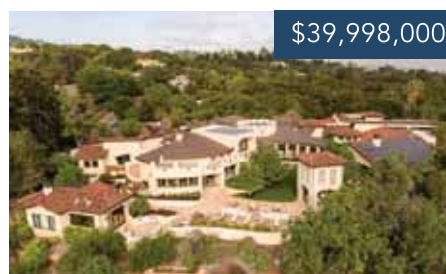
\$6,288,000

11491 Old Ranch Rd, Los Altos Hills  
6 Bd | 6.5 Bth  
[www.11491OldRanch.com](http://www.11491OldRanch.com)



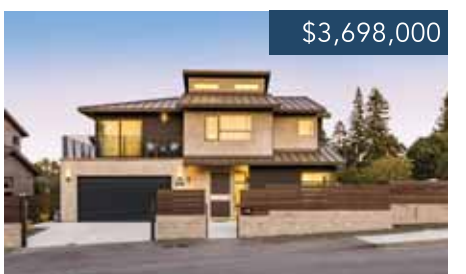
\$5,988,000

925 Lincoln Avenue, Palo Alto  
4 Bd | 4 Bth  
[www.925LincolnAvenue.com](http://www.925LincolnAvenue.com)



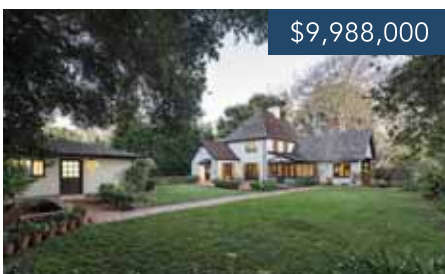
\$39,998,000

27500 La Vida Real, Los Altos Hills  
5 Bd | 12 Bth (7 full, 5 half)  
[www.27500LaVida.com](http://www.27500LaVida.com)



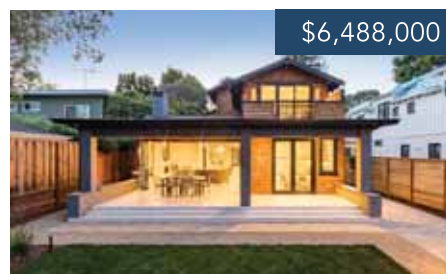
\$3,698,000

2087 Sharon Road, Menlo Park  
4 Bd | 4.5 Bth  
[www.2087Sharon.com](http://www.2087Sharon.com)



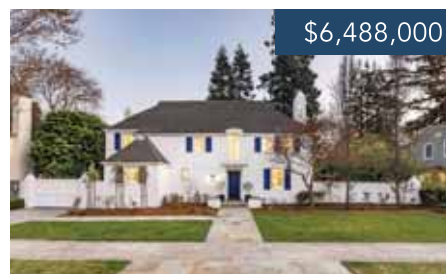
\$9,988,000

435 Santa Rita Ave., Palo Alto  
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
[www.435SantaRita.com](http://www.435SantaRita.com)



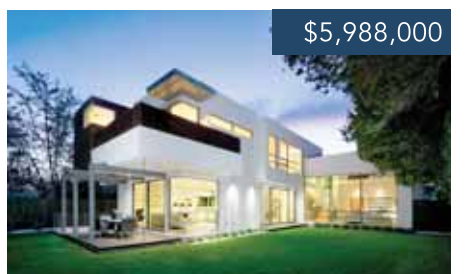
\$6,488,000

734 Channing Ave., Palo Alto  
6 Bd | 5 Bth  
[www.734Channing.com](http://www.734Channing.com)



\$6,488,000

1290 Pitman, Palo Alto  
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
[www.1290Pitman.com](http://www.1290Pitman.com)



\$5,988,000

848 Southampton Drive, Palo Alto  
5 Bd | 6 Bth (4 full, 2 half)  
[www.848SouthamptonDr.com](http://www.848SouthamptonDr.com)

Michael Repka | 650.900.7000 | DRE #01854880  
[michael@deleonrealty.com](mailto:michael@deleonrealty.com) | [www.deleonrealty.com](http://www.deleonrealty.com) | DRE #01903224



# COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 103 STANFORD AVENUE, MENLO PARK

### Newly Built Luxury with a Convenient Location

High-end appointments, tremendous build quality, and a floorplan perfect for a modern lifestyle – this recently completed home, built in 2020, offers all of this and so much more, with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and over 2,650 square feet of luxury living space, all set on a corner lot of 6,000 square feet. Abundant natural light infuses the home with a fresh, bright ambiance, while beautiful engineered white oak floors extend throughout. A fireplace in floor-to-ceiling stacked stone centers the living room, the chef's kitchen includes stainless-steel JennAir appliances, and the comfortable family room opens to an outdoor patio. The master suite offers an inviting retreat, with a spa-like bathroom featuring a soaking tub and rainfall shower. This great location puts you mere moments to both downtown Menlo Park and Palo Alto, and close to Stanford University, as well as Venture Capital firms along Sand Hill Road. Plus, children may attend acclaimed Las Lomas schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit:

[www.103Stanford.com](http://www.103Stanford.com)

Offered at \$3,988,000

Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Menlo Park, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



**COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY**

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 19 Prado Secoya Street, Atherton

### Modern Colonial Masterpiece on Over One Acre

Supreme luxury awaits at this prestigious home built in 2013, offering remarkable privacy, unparalleled build quality, and every conceivable modern amenity. With 7 bedrooms, 8.5 bathrooms, and over 9,100 square feet of living space, including a beautiful guest home, this Colonial-style masterpiece rests on a pristine lot of over an acre populated by colorful plantings and specimen trees. Soaring ceilings and excellent use of glass create a bright and inviting ambiance, highlighting high-end appointments including Herringbone flooring and elaborate moldings. Spacious, sophisticated living areas are ideal for both entertaining and everyday living, including the fireplace-centered living room, and the chef's kitchen that opens fully to the comfortable family room. Arranged over three levels with elevator convenience, this home also includes a library, a lower-level entertainment area with a wet bar and wine room, and five bedroom suites, including the incredible master suite with a romantic fireplace. Resort-like grounds include sweeping lawns, a sparkling pool, a sports court, and a built-in barbecue patio. Adding the finishing touch is a location just moments to both downtown Menlo Park and Palo Alto, with access to acclaimed Menlo Park public schools, and within walking distance of Sacred Heart and Menlo School (buyer to verify eligibility).

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:

[www.19PradoSecoya.com](http://www.19PradoSecoya.com)

Offered at \$16,988,000

**Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.**

**Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties**

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties combined, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

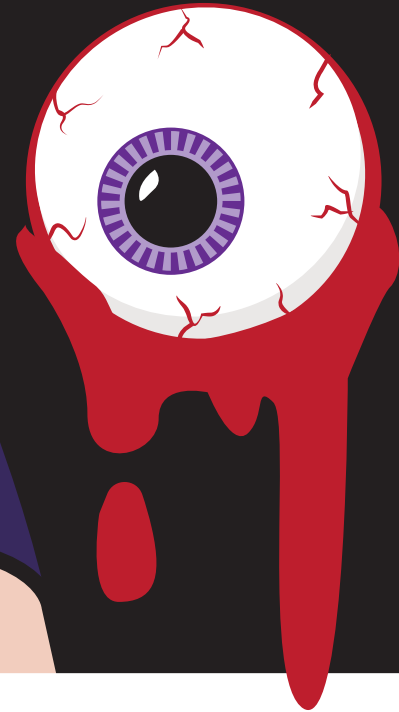
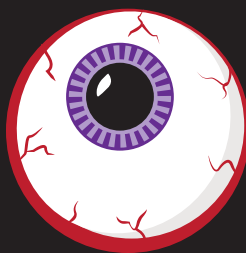
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



# Happy Halloween!

Children may be scared of zombies, but parents are scared of

## PROPOSED TAX INCREASES!



Join Michael Repka's real estate and tax webinar to learn about proposals to:

1. Increase the maximum federal capital gains tax from 23.8% to 43.3%
2. Increase California's maximum tax on ordinary income and capital gains from 13.3% to 16.8%
3. Partially repeal Prop 13
4. Allow property tax transfers to more expensive homes
5. Dramatically restrict property tax transfers to children
6. Expand permissible rent control

And Much more!

**Proposed Capital  
Gains Tax Increases  
& Ballot Propositions**

**Free Webinar:  
Thursday 10/29,  
12:00 PM**



Registration QR Code



## MICHAEL REPKA, ESQ

DELEON REALTY CEO & MANAGING BROKER

In addition to running the top listing team in Silicon Valley, Michael Repka is also the Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel of DeLeon Realty. Michael has two law degrees, including an advanced law degree in taxation (LL.M) from NYU School of Law, the #1 tax program in the nation. Prior to joining DeLeon Realty, Michael was a practicing real estate and tax attorney.

After obtaining his first law degree, Michael joined a law firm, where he counselled clients on the legal, tax, and procedural aspects of buying or selling homes. Following this, Michael worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers, focusing on mergers and acquisitions, and later at Baker & McKenzie, specializing in tax law. Michael then returned to real estate, first as a practicing attorney, and later as a broker.

DeLeon Realty is not a law firm, but is entirely attorney-owned and has a team of in-house attorneys. DeLeon Realty clients are able to receive legal services and tax advice related to their real estate sale directly through the Law Offices of Michael J. Repka at no additional charge, up to 25 hours of attorney time per transaction. This should not be deemed as advertising or solicitation. No attorney-client relationship is created by this mailing or the webinar and no legal advice is provided, nor should the webinar be a substitute for obtaining legal advice or a tax consultation from a suitably qualified professional of your choice.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com  
www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



**COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY**

2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent



## 580 Addison Avenue, Palo Alto

### Luxurious Living in Prime Palo Alto

The sought-after neighborhood of Professorville sets the stage for this beautiful 5-bedroom, 5-bathroom home, with over 3,750 square feet of luxury living space on a corner lot of more than 5,750 square feet. Built in 2008, and showcasing outstanding build quality throughout, this home offers elegant spaces to go along with a modern floorplan. A grand staircase connects all three levels of this bright, airy residence, which boasts expansive gathering spaces including the living room centered by a fireplace, the chef's kitchen with appliances from JennAir and Bosch, and the light-filled family room with backyard access. The master suite opens to a private balcony, while the home's additional bedrooms include one that easily converts into office space to work from home in style. An au pair quarters with its own outside entrance completes the downstairs. Entertain guests with ease in the backyard with a covered patio, built-in grill, and an outstanding wood-burning pizza oven. This great location is just blocks to University Avenue, convenient to Stanford University, and offers access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools including Addison Elementary, which is just steps away (buyer to verify eligibility).

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:

[www.580Addison.com](http://www.580Addison.com)

Offered at \$4,488,000

**Easy access for potential buyers and Realtors® only.**

**Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Palo Alto.**

Data from BrokerMetrics \* based on MLS sales from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, in Palo Alto, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224