

# The Almanac

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

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## A harrowing experience with COVID-19

Local school district adviser says it felt like his lungs were 'on fire'

By Angela Swartz

Almanac Staff Writer

Perla Rodriguez pulled up the family van in front of Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara on Dec. 17. Her husband, Rolando Bonilla, was in the passenger seat struggling to breathe.

Bonilla, 42, a communications consultant for the Ravenswood City and Sequoia Union High school districts, had contracted COVID-19 from a family member in his social bubble.

The first week of his illness was marked by fever and aches, he said.

"I end up taking a nosedive where I'm literally gasping for air," Bonilla, chief strategy officer for Voler Strategic Advisors, said in a phone call on Jan. 6 from his home in the eastern foothills of San Jose.

Although Bonilla is feeling better now, he still struggled to catch his breath while talking and is struggling with the lasting effects of the virus. "I

couldn't get out of bed and take more than two steps because it felt like I ran a marathon and was completely winded," he said.

He had what Rodriguez describes as an "ugly cough" and his blood oxygen levels were unhealthily low.

Because of restrictions implemented to slow the spread of the coronavirus, Rodriguez couldn't help her husband into the hospital. She dropped him off and said, "I love you" and "call me to keep me posted," and watched as he checked in with a security guard to make sure he didn't faint or fall.

When he sat down in the emergency room, the nursing staff knew he needed to be admitted.

"They said, 'You're not going home tonight,'" he said.

Bonilla thinks he likely contracted the virus from

See **BONILLA**, page 19



Magali Gauthier

**Rolando Bonilla**, a communications consultant for the Ravenswood City and Sequoia Union High school districts, is photographed at his home in San Jose on Jan. 12.

## Business owner seen at Trump rally at Capitol faces backlash

By Kate Bradshaw

Almanac Staff Writer

Some people are threatening a boycott of a Menlo Park business after it came to light that its owner attended a pro-Trump rally on Jan. 6 after which a mob violently invaded the U.S. Capitol.

The Almanac received several news tips showing a photo of Suzi Tinsley, owner of downtown Menlo Park business Sugar Shack, in a crowd of people near the Capitol building with what looks like a Trump flag tied around her shoulders and a red "Keep America Great" hat on her head, with two thumbs up. She is also shown not wearing a mask in the photo.

Tinsley has not responded to requests for comment.

According to NBC Bay Area, she issued a statement saying that she supports Trump and made the trip to D.C. to see his last appearance as president, but thought that the rally would be peaceful. When things got unruly, she was injured and left the scene to return to her hotel, the news station reported.

"Just like every other American, I watched in horror as the chaos unfolded on television. I couldn't believe my eyes and remain appalled at what I saw," Tinsley said in a statement to NBC Bay Area.

As a Trump supporter, Tinsley is in a political minority in San Mateo County, where about 78%

of voters supported Joe Biden in the 2020 general election. According to campaign finance record website Open Secrets, Tinsley donated \$5,182 to Donald Trump's campaign between February and August 2020.

Tinsley ran Sugar Shack for seven years at 816 Santa Cruz Ave., between 2007 and 2014, when she closed it, before relaunching the business at 883 Santa Cruz Ave. in October 2019. The store is known for offering custom candy for private events as well as its popularity with preteens.

Initial community responses to the revelation of Tinsley's presence in D.C. Jan. 6 have

See **BACKLASH**, page 13



Andrea Gemmet

**Sugar Shack**, a candy shop in Menlo Park, is facing boycott threats after its owner attended the pro-Trump rally that morphed into a siege of the U.S. Capitol.

INSIDE

Help local families in need 12

VIEWPOINT 20 | ARTS 21 | FOOD 22





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# Local News

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Courtesy Facebook/Signature Development Group

**A rendering** of the proposed town square area of Facebook's new Willow Village neighborhood. A large glass dome intended as a collaborative area for Facebook workers is shown in the background, surrounded by an elevated park that would be open to the public.

## Facebook's Willow Village now has giant glass dome, 'High Line' path

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

Facebook and Signature Development Group submitted plans to the city of Menlo Park at noon on Jan. 8, laying out more details for their new Willow Village development, according to a statement from the developer.

The proposed development — slated to be the largest ever in Menlo Park — would replace a 59-acre campus of single-story offices and industrial spaces located at the corner of Willow Road and the

Dumbarton rail line with an entirely new neighborhood.

The development would replace the Willow Road office park with 1,729 housing units, 1.25 million square feet of office space, a 193-room hotel, shopping space, including a grocery store, as well as a publicly accessible neighborhood park, elevated High Line-style park, dog park, and town square.

The new submissions include architectural drawings for all of the new buildings, which reveal a large glass dome planned to be a

collaborative area for Facebook workers, bordered by an elevated, landscaped path that would stretch over Willow Road and connect to the Belle Haven neighborhood. The path is intended to be similar to New York City's popular High Line, offering easy pedestrian and bike access from Belle Haven across Willow Road and into the development, with publicly accessible views of the Bay.

The number of housing units is higher, while the square

See **WILLOW VILLAGE**, page 18

## 'I will vote to impeach this traitor'

Rep. Anna Eshoo supports removing President Donald Trump from office

By **Sue Dremann**

Granted only 30 seconds to speak on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Anna Eshoo did not mince words regarding President Donald Trump during Wednesday's impeachment hearing.

On Jan. 13, Trump was impeached on a charge of inciting an insurrection on Jan. 6, after speaking at a rally where hundreds of supporters and right-wing extremists marched to the U.S. Capitol where both

houses of Congress were voting to certify the election of Joe Biden and stormed the building. Five people died as a result of the insurrection, including one Capitol police officer. The chaos included beatings of law enforcement officers, threats against congressional leaders and the ransacking of legislators' offices, according to law enforcement officials. A gallows was erected outside, and many of the rioters carried weapons ranging from bear spray to metal pipes.

Representatives, senators,

staffers and journalists were forced into hiding for hours before Vice President Mike Pence approved sending in the National Guard after Trump allegedly declined to intervene, multiple news agencies reported.

Eshoo said in an interview given while in hiding from rioters on Jan. 6 that she would immediately vote to impeach Trump, and expanded on her reasons for supporting Trump's removal after the historic vote Jan. 13.

See **IMPEACH**, page 11

## San Mateo County COVID-19 vaccine rollout ramps up via clinic, partnerships

By **Astrid Casimire/Bay City News Foundation**

In San Mateo County, about one-third of the health care workers and long-term care residents eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine as of Tuesday have received it so far.

Through a vaccination clinic, pharmacy partnerships and health providers, vaccine rollout continues this week for those eligible under Phase 1A of the state's vaccine rollout plan, which includes health care workers at risk of exposure to the virus and residents of long-term care facilities. On Wednesday, state health officials announced that all residents 65 and older are now eligible to receive the vaccine, following direction from the federal government that states open vaccinations to people 65 and over and those under 65 with a pre-existing condition. California's new guidelines do not include people under 65 with preexisting conditions.

During a report to the county's Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Dr. Anand Chabra — medical director of the Family Health Services Division and lead for the county's vaccination efforts — described the county's vaccination progress.

Chabra said 16,502 county residents had received the vaccination as of Sunday. That number only includes San Mateo County residents, not those who work in the county but live elsewhere and may have been vaccinated elsewhere.

Health systems like Kaiser Permanente and Sutter Health are responsible for administering the bulk of the vaccinations for their workers and individuals covered under their health plans.

For those not covered under health plans, the county is using its allotment of 22,300 vaccine doses to fill the gap.

San Mateo County Health Chief Louise Rogers said the county is "focused on being the safety net (and) immunizing those populations that are not reached through the

health care system."

To boost vaccination efforts, the county launched a vaccination clinic Monday for eligible health care workers and long-term care residents who cannot receive the vaccine through other means. The clinic is closed to the general public but available by appointment only for eligible health care workers and long-term care residents eligible under Phase 1A. Eligible individuals must complete an eligibility attestation form before signing up.

Through Saturday, the clinic has the capacity for almost 2,000 appointments per day. Chabra said there were 952 vaccinations during the clinic's launch on Monday and approximately 1,300 appointments were scheduled for Tuesday.

In addition to the clinic, the county also partnered with Walgreens and CVS pharmacies to provide vaccinations at skilled nursing facilities.

Chabra said 15 of 17 nursing facilities in the county are scheduled for vaccinations this week into early next week.

Walgreens and CVS will also help provide vaccine opportunities for 60 other facilities countywide, such as assisted living and congregate care facilities.

The county partnered with Safeway to provide vaccination to 1,300 residents and staff at dialysis centers in assisted living facilities. So far, 209 staff members from this group have been vaccinated, Chabra said.

During the board meeting, some supervisors expressed concerns about public outreach regarding the vaccine and communities who might be skeptical about the vaccine.

Instead of using the 211 phone line for vaccine questions, Rogers encouraged people with questions about the vaccine to email the county. County Manager Mike Callagy suggested creating a public service announcement about the vaccine.

Rogers said an equity working

See **VACCINE**, page 15



Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

## Wildland Fire Resiliency Program Draft Environmental Impact Report

**Public Comment Period: January 15 - March 1, 2021**  
**Virtual Public Hearing: Thursday, Feb. 25, 5 - 7 p.m.**

The goals of this program are to proactively expand Midpen's ecologically sensitive vegetation management to establish healthy ecosystems, reduce wildland fire risk and facilitate fire suppression.

For details on how to review and comment on the environmental analysis in the draft report, and participate in the public hearing with the Midpen board of directors, please visit the project webpage below.

Contact: 650-691-1200, [info@openspace.org](mailto:info@openspace.org)

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### CRIME BRIEF

#### Weekend burglary in Atherton

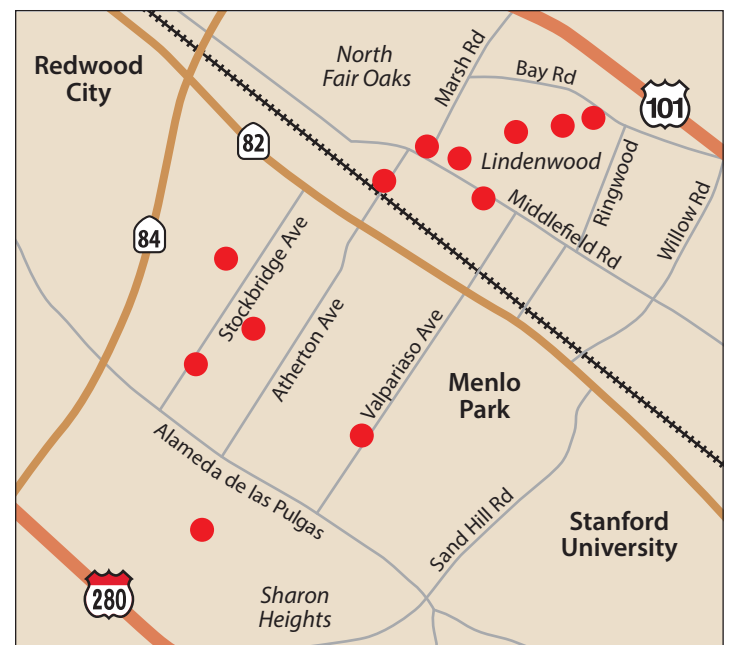
Atherton police reported a burglary in town last weekend, the 11th since Oct. 1. The string of incidents includes the theft of \$800,000 worth of jewelry stolen from a home on Dec. 8.

Between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9, someone broke into a home on Heather Drive between James and Irving avenues, according to a Jan. 9 police news bulletin. The burglar gained entry into the single-story house by shattering a master bedroom window. It is unknown exactly what was taken from the residence, police said.

The home's burglar alarm activated, but the alarm company did not report the activation to police until 10 minutes after the alarm was tripped, police said. Police arrived four minutes after they were notified, but the burglars were already gone.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Atherton Police Department at 650-688-6500.

—Angela Swartz



Crime information via Atherton Police Department

**Residents have reported 11 burglaries and one attempted burglary in Atherton since Oct. 1.**

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Missing 14-year-old from Menlo Park

Wynne Lee, a 14-year-old from Menlo Park, vanished from their family's home on Jan. 11, according to an alert from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children issued Jan. 13.

Lee, who may go by the nickname "Sage," may be traveling with a juvenile companion. Lee is 5'6" tall, 110 pounds, and has brown eyes and brown hair that may be dyed different colors.

Anyone who has information about Wynne Lee is urged to contact the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office at 650-363-4911 or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678. Check [almanacnews.com](http://almanacnews.com) for updates.



Wynne Lee

#### Seven arrested for purchasing alcohol for minors

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, Menlo Park police officers and agents from California's Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control arrested seven people for purchasing alcohol for minors in or around Menlo Park, according to a police department announcement.

To catch adults who purchase alcohol for those under 21, a minor supervised by a police officer stands outside a liquor or convenience store and asks visitors to buy them alcohol, indicating that he or she is not old enough to purchase it. The police department received a grant from the Alcoholic Beverage Control department to conduct these decoy operations in an effort to reduce underage drinking.

If adults agree to buy the alcohol, they are arrested and cited for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty is a minimum of \$1,000 and 24 hours of community service.

—Kate Bradshaw

# County's major renovation of Middlefield Road through North Fair Oaks to start in spring

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

Years in the making, a San Mateo County public works project to overhaul a busy half-mile of Middlefield Road through North Fair Oaks is set to start in the spring.

The project, currently estimated to cost \$28.9 million, will narrow the hectic stretch of the road between Pacific Avenue and Fifth Avenue from four lanes to three, with a center turn lane and one lane in each direction.

The county will widen sidewalks to 12 feet, reconfigure parking so that it is parallel rather than angled, and add buffered bike lanes that are 6.5



Courtesy AECOM/County of San Mateo

**A rendering** of the proposed improvements to a half-mile stretch of Middlefield Road between 5th Avenue and Pacific Avenue. San Mateo County is currently accepting bids for the project.

feet wide. Other elements of the project include replacing sewers from Douglas to Sixth avenues and putting overhead utilities

underground from MacArthur to Fifth avenues.

New trees, stormwater-absorbing landscaping, bike

racks, and road and pedestrian lights are also planned. To improve pedestrian safety, the county plans to extend curbs at intersections and add high visibility crosswalks with flashing lights to alert drivers when pedestrians are crossing.

The county Board of Supervisors first started funding the project back in July 2013, according to Ann Stillman, deputy director of engineering and resource protection with the county's public works department. At that point, the project was estimated to cost \$12.5 million and had a more limited scope, focused mainly on safety improvements and signage, according to county reports.

Approval for the project involved working with many local, state and federal agencies, as well as Union Pacific Railroad, and getting all of the necessary permits and licensing agreements from those agencies was time-consuming, Stillman explained in an email.

It's a big project, and construction is likely to cause some disruptions, she said.

To minimize impacts to the road, construction is set to take place on only one side of Middlefield Road, in segments of two blocks at a time. Delivery and service vehicles will continue to have access to businesses, and emergency vehicle access

See **MIDDLEFIELD**, page 11

## New community center in Belle Haven wins approval

By **Kate Bradshaw**  
Almanac Staff Writer

The Menlo Park City Council on Tuesday, Jan. 12, gave the green light for Facebook to move forward with its plans to rebuild the complex at 100 Terminal Ave. into a multigenerational community center. The council voted 4-0, with Mayor Drew Combs recused, to grant final approval to the project.

Currently, the complex offers a fitness center, a senior center, the Onetta Harris Community

Center, Kelly Park, a pool and a youth center. The new plan is to consolidate the indoor uses all into one building, with an added library and lots of flexible space, and increase the square footage overall by a little under 9%.

The city is responsible for rebuilding the pool, but is still ironing out the designs, according to staff. The council is expected to vote on final designs for the pool later this month.

Facebook has been in Menlo Park for 10 years now, said Ferguson O'Shea, director of campus development at Facebook. "This

really is an investment in the community," he said. "We're delighted to have the opportunity to build this."

Plans for the new community center have come together remarkably quickly, as far as development proposals go in Menlo Park, and especially given the pandemic-driven tumult of 2020. Facebook announced its offer to build the project in October 2019 and it was approved in a little over a year.

"This has been a really terrific, intensive and collaborative process," said project architect

Eron Ashley of the architecture firm Hart Howerton, which has been working with Facebook to design the development.

While the current campus can feel a bit disjointed, the new community center is intended to draw people of all ages to use the different areas of the facility, with space for people to hang out in, Ashley said.

There's a sound-protected teen area, a library, a makerspace, a ground-floor children's library and terrace to offer easy stroller access, a gym, a movement studio for dance or yoga classes,

a playground, a senior dining room, an outdoor dining and event space. The new center is set to have 164 parking spaces and about 20 bike parking spots, according to a staff report. Another plus is that it will connect more easily to Kelly Park, which is currently behind the community center and a bit hidden, he said.

Despite approval by the City Council, the project still has to be fully reviewed before permits are issued, and the existing

See **COMMUNITY CENTER**, page 13

## Coronavirus central: State OKs vaccinations for everyone 65 and up

Scam text messages offer chance to jump the waiting list for vaccine

By **Embarcadero Media staff**

San Mateo County as of Jan. 12 had 29,664 cumulative cases of COVID-19, with 268 deaths. There were 199 people hospitalized. Santa Clara County as of Wednesday had 87,045 cumulative COVID-19 cases and 1,011 deaths. The rolling seven-day average of new cases ending Jan. 5 was 1,302. There were 689 hospitalized, 87 of which were new.

### Vaccine for ages 65 and up

California is opening COVID-19 vaccines to all residents 65 and older — an announcement that comes amid a slower-than-expected vaccination rollout and growing frustration among seniors most vulnerable to the virus.

State health officials had previously ordered that California

focus on vaccinating health workers and nursing home residents, with seniors 75 and older and certain essential workers to follow. But people over age 65 make up the majority of hospitalizations and nearly three-quarters of the COVID-19 deaths.

Next week, the state will launch a text-and-email notification system so Californians can keep track of when they're eligible to sign up for their shot, according to the state's public health department.

The announcement comes a day after the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared that the federal government would no longer reserve doses for the second shot — both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine require two doses.

Production has reached a point where there is now enough

to start releasing more doses to states as they become available, Azar said. He directed states to open vaccinations to people 65 and over and to people under 65 with a preexisting condition, noting that many states were being "too prescriptive" and not distributing vaccines fast enough.

California's new guidelines do not include people under 65 with preexisting conditions. State health officials have not yet explained why.

As of Tuesday, California had administered just over 816,600 doses — about 30% of the doses it has in its possession, according to the state's public health department. A federal tracker shows that most states are vaccinating people at a faster rate than California.

Last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom set a goal to administer an additional 1 million vaccines

by this weekend, enlisting four mass vaccination sites: Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, Petco Park in San Diego and Cal Expo in Sacramento.

The new guidance throws the state off its meticulously designed vaccine tier system, but more vaccine allotment is good news for the state, said Dr. Mark Ghaly, the state's health secretary, in a press call on Tuesday.

"Having more vaccines, inviting more to be vaccinated, will allow California to go faster and quicker through our population and get that vaccine out of our freezers and into the population to get that protection," Ghaly said.

This announcement could provide some much needed clarity to seniors who for weeks have sought answers.

André Rivers, for one, is anxious to get her COVID-19

vaccine. The 74-year-old has asked her primary care doctor and her rheumatologist when she'll be able to get one. Neither has been able to provide an answer.

Her wife, Carly Rivers, who has Alzheimer's, got hers last week through the Berkeley PACE Center, part of a state program that helps seniors coordinate care so they can live in their own home instead of a skilled nursing facility.

"Now that Carly has it, it makes sense that I should have it; we do everything together," Rivers said. "When I do go out, she goes with me."

Instead Rivers, like many other seniors in California who have spent the last 10 months mostly isolated from friends and family, has been patiently waiting her turn.

See **CORONAVIRUS**, page 10



**Tabetha Torres**, a Woodside High School junior new to the team, center, jumps during practice at Woodside High School on Dec. 10.



**Jillian Peterson**, a Woodside High School junior and second-year team member, jumps during practice at Woodside High School in Woodside on Dec. 10.

## Finding cheer in a tough year

Woodside High's cheerleading team finds ways to keep its spirits up

Story and photos by  
**Olivia Treynor**

It's been a cheerleading season like no other for the student athletes at Woodside High School.

The normal group bonding trips to the movie theater in downtown Redwood City, flights to national competitions in Southern California, and performances at Friday night home games have come to a halt due to the coronavirus pandemic. Now, cheer practices begin with temperature checks. Without physical contact, stunts and tumbling are absent, which both require spotting to prevent injuries.

"It's changed," said Woodside High School cheer coach Jaymie Guillena. "A hundred percent."

**'Cheerleading is not meant to be learned through Zoom.'**

JAYMIE GUILLENA,  
WOODSIDE HIGH SCHOOL  
CHEER COACH

It's been a long road to practicing in person for the Woodside cheer team, even with the precautions the team is taking. Guillena said the initial shutdown felt like a "gray area." She said at first she thought the pause of in-person

schooling and sports was only going to last for a few weeks, but adapted to the change by teaching cheer on Zoom.

"I had Zoom practices five days a week," she said. "Cheerleading is not meant to be learned through Zoom. My students were struggling."

In the summer, the team was able to resume in-person practice once a week and then two days a week starting in September. Resuming in-person practices involved "a huge thing of hand sanitizer," said Guillena. Two graduated seniors returned to help administer temperature checks. The team now has dedicated pods, as recommended

by San Mateo County health guidelines, and some cheer team members choose not to attend in-person practices at all and rely on other team members to remotely teach them the dances.

Guillena describes the lost season as being hard on the team. "I wish I could hug everyone sometimes," said junior and third-year cheerleader Faith Soltero. "And stunting is probably the funnest thing ever and getting your stunt group. You start clicking with people and they become like your little family. So we don't really get that. We're kind of

just separated from people."

Guillena has decided not to send the competition team to Nationals, which is scheduled to take place in early March, because she doesn't see the team having enough time to practice.

"It breaks my heart, because I have two seniors on the competition team," said Guillena.

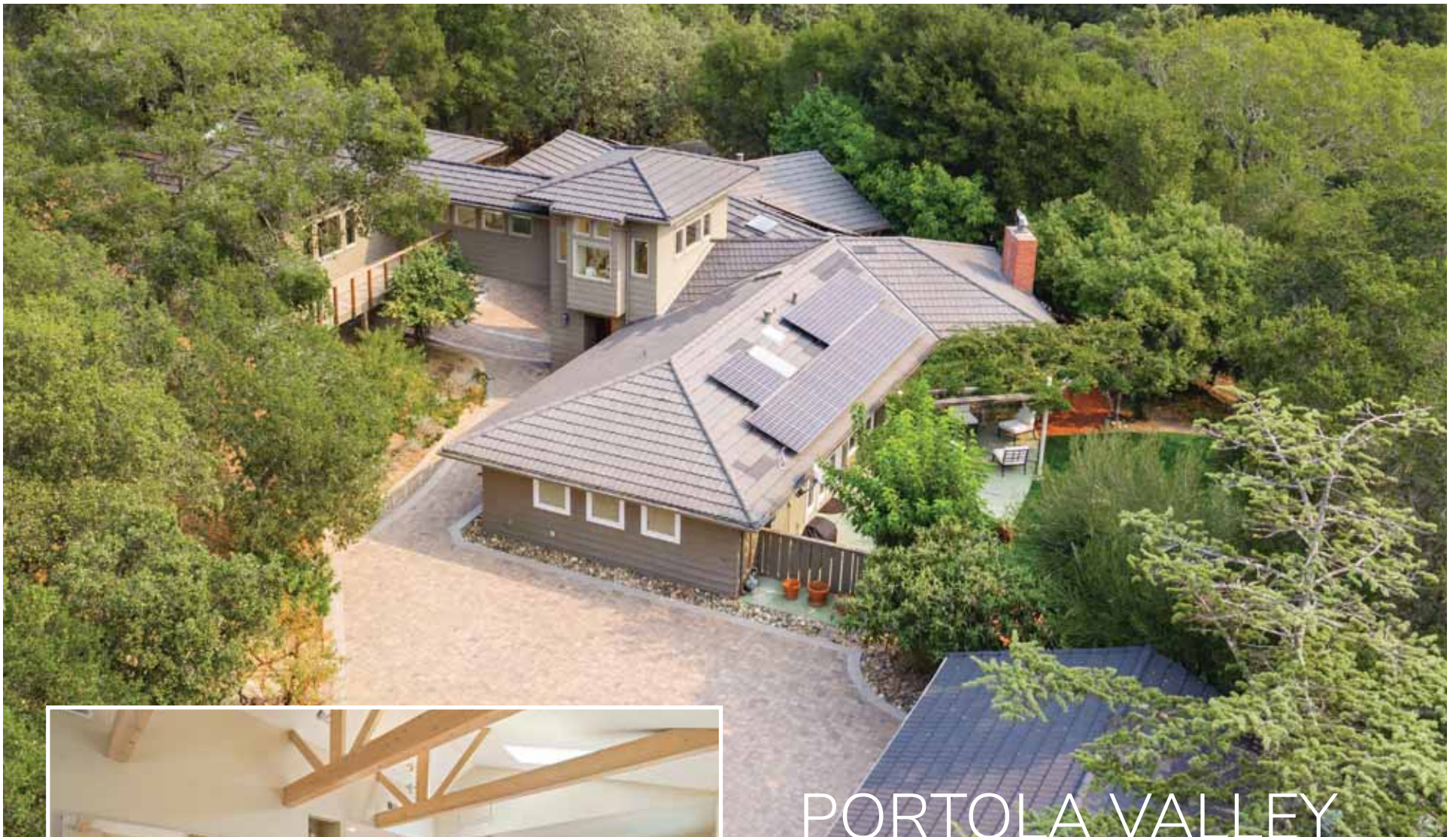
But she remains optimistic and hopes to have her team back to normal soon. "I love the kids. I love the atmosphere. It's great. And my Friday nights there, and I just, I want that back," said Guillena. ▣



**Coach Jaymie Guillena** takes the temperature of sophomore and first-year team member Miku Sato on Dec. 10, something she does at the start of every practice.



**Paisley Hyland**, a Woodside High School freshman, practices a routine on the Woodside campus on Dec. 9.



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# Resident raises concern Atherton police officers are flouting mask rules

By Angela Swartz  
Almanac Staff Writer

A local resident said she is concerned Atherton Police Department officers aren't wearing face masks while on the job, potentially putting themselves and the people they encounter at risk of contracting COVID-19.

She told The Almanac that she has noticed Atherton Police Department officers who weren't wearing face masks make traffic stops several times. She's a resident of unincorporated Menlo Park and agreed to speak out on the condition that her name be withheld for fear of retaliation.

Atherton Police Chief Steve McCulley said officers often put their masks on as they're getting out of their patrol cars and might not necessarily be wearing one when they initially stop their car.

(Officers, like residents, are not required by the health order to wear a mask while driving.)

McCulley said the department's 21 officers are required to wear masks during traffic stops and other contacts with the public.

The resident said someone stopped by a police officer might feel too intimidated to ask that a mask be worn during the interaction. She's also seen maskless officers gathering roadside. In these cases everyone is outdoors, "but it still seems less than ideal," she said.

Officers should not be congregating at other locations with or without masks, McCulley said.

Department policy specifically states that personnel are required to wear surgical masks during health-related crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. N95 masks are mandatory when interacting with anyone who is known to

be, or reasonably suspected of being, infected with an infectious disease.

McCulley said he has yet to have to issue a warning to an officer, but sends general reminders to officers to wear masks. Officers are subject to discipline for violations of the department's mask policy. The discipline would depend on the situation, but after a warning the department would offer counseling.

David Metzger, president of the Atherton Police Officers Association for 2021-22, said officers are allowed to not wear their masks while taking breaks to eat or drink. Aside from that, he said officers are required to wear masks.

"We need to set the example (for the public) and oftentimes that means going above and beyond what's normally called for," he said. "It's not a perfect world, but



Magali Gauthier

**Atherton Police Department Officer Dan Rojas** wears a mask while chatting with another officer on the force outside the police department in Atherton on April 7.

we strive for everybody to wear a mask in public with heightened (COVID-19) numbers."

Two Atherton police officers and one support staff member tested positive for the virus in early December, but have since returned to work. It is unknown how the officers and

staff member became infected, McCulley said.

The town's officers are expected to receive one of the COVID-19 vaccines toward the end of January, McCulley said. ▀

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

## CORONAVIRUS

continued from page 7

COVID-19 has taken the biggest toll on older adults. Early in the pandemic, seniors were advised to shelter in place

because of their vulnerability, even before the entire state went on lockdown. In California, close to 75% of all COVID-19 deaths are of people 65 and older.

Soon after vaccines began to arrive in California, counties

reported they were inundated with calls from older residents seeking information.

From day one, California vowed to distribute vaccines in a fair manner, carefully targeting people based on risk. But

those equity efforts hindered distribution.

"Part of the process we've set up in California — really thoughtful, trying to focus on risk and exposure and equity — have led to some delays in getting vaccines out into our communities," Ghaly said.

Secretary Azar said states are being confined by the original guidance from the Centers for Disease Control's immunization advisory committee, which recommended that states target health workers and nursing homes first.

"Some governors have overreacted and have taken them in an overly prescriptive manner and this is a logistical issue, it's an operational issue," he said. "If you try to be too micromanaged, too tailored, too focused, you let the perfect be the enemy of the good in mass vaccine campaign like this."

Some counties did not wait for state instruction. Following the federal announcement, Orange County announced on Tuesday it would start offering vaccines to residents 65 and over.

texted that link to an untold amount of people.

"We know this because we had a huge amount of people show up to Berger (vaccination site) who didn't have an appointment and they told us they were able to get on the appointment list by getting access to CalVax without going through our typical system," county Executive Jeff Smith said.

Smith said a link is given to those who are eligible for vaccination only after they have completed a declaration that they meet priority requirements.

The county is currently investigating the erroneous text messages. Smith said whoever sent it did not hack the system and instead was able to "inappropriately" get access to the link.

The county's vaccination systems and information are secure, Smith assured the county's Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

To access more vaccine information for Santa Clara County, people can visit [sccfreevax.org](http://sccfreevax.org).

## Comprehensive COVID-19 coverage

View interactive charts tracking the spread of the coronavirus in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties online at [paloaltoonline.atavist.com/tracking-the-coronavirus](http://paloaltoonline.atavist.com/tracking-the-coronavirus). Find a comprehensive collection of coverage on the Midpeninsula'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.

## Fake texts about vaccines

Santa Clara County officials warned this week of unofficial texts inviting residents to make a vaccination appointment in the county.

The texts wrongfully claim an "extra" supply of vaccines and provide a link to register for one of the county's vaccination sites.

To the county's knowledge, someone was able to access the link that goes to the state's vaccination platform, CalVax, and



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 Stanford MEDICINE

**IMPEACH**

*continued from page 5*

“Future generations are not going to know the names of each member who is voting in the chamber today, but they will know what we did and why. We must impeach the president because he incited a mob that attacked the Capitol of our democracy. He is incapable of honoring his oath and our Constitution, and he has proven to be unfit and dangerous. I will vote to impeach this traitor to our country,” she said.

The House voted 232-197 for impeachment, with 10 Republicans joining the majority. The articles of impeachment could now be forwarded to the Senate for a hearing and vote on whether to convict Trump.

During a phone interview on Wednesday afternoon, Eshoo said the mood in the Capitol is “somber.”

“Make no mistake about it. What took place a week ago today was historic. There has never been a domestic attack in the Capitol,” she said. “They came to kill and they did.”

Eshoo called for an in-depth investigation. Several factors suggest there was cooperation from the inside, but authorities investigating the breach and insurrection have not identified whether there was cooperation from inside the Capitol police or the Sergeant at Arms Office or elsewhere, she said.

“There has to be a broad and deep investigation. There was a



Courtesy J.M. Giordano

**Supporters of President Donald Trump** showed up to a rally he hosted in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 6. Many attendees participated in a riot that stormed the Capitol.

massive failure, not just a security failure. We were defenseless,” she said.

This week, the nation’s capital is fortified for any potential assault in the days before Biden’s inauguration.

“Look out the window — it’s an armed camp. There are 10,000 to 15,000 security agents,” she said.

While some of her Republican colleagues called for healing after the attack, Eshoo said they must engage in more than mere words.

“You have to have accountability before you can heal. You have to accept the facts. We owe it to the American people,” she said.

Eshoo thinks the effort to remove Trump from office is gaining momentum, perhaps even among Republicans. Of a Senate trial and conviction,

she believes “they will and they should.”

The argument that a Senate trial is too time-consuming is belied by how swiftly Amy Coney-Barrett’s confirmation hearing was accomplished.

“Anyone complaining and saying it’s gonna take time ... you confirmed a justice of the Supreme Court in a matter of hours over five days,” Eshoo said.

If the Senate does vote to convict Trump, whether he can pardon himself remains a question, she said. The Constitution grants the president the ability

to pardon someone else, but it’s an open question whether that would apply to a president pardoning him or herself, she said.

If the Senate doesn’t convict Trump, he will still face a host of charges across the legal spectrum, including in New York related to financial dealings and possibly in Georgia over his alleged attempts to illegally overturn the state’s presidential vote, she said.

Eshoo voted to ask Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment, which would have removed Trump from office with the approval of a majority of his cabinet on grounds that he is unfit or unable to carry out his duties. Pence would then have taken over the presidency. The House approved the resolution on Tuesday night, although Pence had said in a letter released hours earlier that he does not intend to invoke the amendment.

Eshoo’s first preference was to see the president resign, she said.

“It would be the best thing for the American people. They could take a deep breath” and feel safe before the transfer of power, she said.

As legislators wrestle with Trump’s possible conviction, efforts to avoid disrupting the work of the incoming president

and the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, Eshoo said she is concerned about the future. But “I have faith we can do more than one thing at a time,” she said.

The pandemic, and moving vaccines forward, is a paramount concern as new record numbers of infections and deaths are made every day.

“We need to do everything we can to fight this tiger to the ground,” she said.

When Biden takes power, Eshoo said she hopes he will put the Defense Production Act in place to rapidly ramp up vaccine production and that the federal government will make sure to help small businesses and local governments. Eshoo, who was once on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, said she understands what they face.

“Our states and local governments really need help. They have exhausted their rainy day funds,” she said.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also taken “a horrible toll” on small businesses, said Eshoo, who understands the challenge on a personal level: Her father owned a jewelry business.

“I told my sister, ‘Imagine if Daddy still had his business. He would’ve lost it,’” she said. ▣

*Email Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com*

**MIDDLEFIELD**

*continued from page 7*

will be provided, according to county staff.

Over the years the project has been in development, public input was collected from about 2,100 people, who said they favored wider sidewalks, bike lanes and parallel parking, according to the county website. The main concerns people raised during the approval process were the impacts the project will have on on-street parking and about the impacts to businesses during construction, Stillman said.

The project is set to eliminate about 50 parking spots, but the county has already added 43 parking spots at the surface lot at Middlefield Road and Second Avenue, and plans to add 16 more at the Berkshire Road and Huntington Avenue lot.

The timing of construction may be hard on small businesses along Middlefield Road, given the pandemic’s

ongoing toll.

“The business situation is currently extremely precarious for many,” said Everardo Rodriguez, chair of the North Fair Oaks Community Council, when the project was discussed in November.

The county’s Office of Community Affairs is planning outreach to the community, to keep residents informed about the project and what kinds of disruptions to expect, via website, text, signage, social media and items like door hangers or posters, according to Jose Moreno, management analyst with the county.

Community council member Blair Whitney also suggested using one of the billboards along the project area to alert residents about its progress.

The deadline for bids to be received was Jan. 14 at 2:30 p.m. Construction is estimated to begin between February and April and last 12 to 18 months, Stillman said. ▣

*Email Kate Bradshaw at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com*

**Menlo Park Yearly Market Report**  
January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

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TOP 10 SALES*			
1. \$14,750,000 1394 San Mateo Drive	2. \$8,500,000 375 San Mateo Drive	3. \$8,000,000 2355 Tioga Drive	4. \$7,268,000 1780 Oakdell Drive
5. \$6,900,000 750 Sharon Park Drive	6. \$6,400,000 2304 Warner Range Avenue	7. \$6,300,000 765 Cotton Street	8. \$6,275,000 1015 Monte Rosa Drive
9. \$6,050,000 1185 Klamath Drive	10. \$5,800,000 1745 Stanford Avenue		

**ACTIVE LISTING**

Y20: 330 (-3%)  
Y19: 340

**PENDING LISTING**

Y20: 344 (-12%)  
Y19: 390

**SOLD LISTING**

Y20: 331 (-15%)  
Y19: 388

\*Year 2020 compared to Year 2019

**AVERAGE SALES PRICE**

Y20: \$2,785,026 (+4%)  
Y19: \$2,674,717

**AVERAGE SOLD DAYS ON MARKET**

Y20: 24 (-20%)  
Y19: 30

**SALE/LIST PRICE**

Y20: 100.50% (-1%)  
Y19: 101.40%

**AVERAGE SALES PRICE/SQ Ft**

Y20: \$1,313 (+1%)  
Y19: \$1,306

**MONTHS OF INVENTORY**

Y20: 1.30 (+86%)  
Y19: 0.70

\*If no further home/condos were to come to market, the area would be SOLD OUT of residential real estate in the number of MONTHS shown

**30 YEAR MORTGAGE RATE**

Y20: 2.95% (-24%)  
Y19: 3.90%

12/25/2019: 3.90% 12/31/2020: 2.95% Source: Bankrate

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# Give to The Almanac Holiday Fund

Your gift helps local children  
and families in need



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

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

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

## Boys & Girls Clubs

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

## Ecumenical Hunger Program

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

## Health Connected

Serves over 5,000 students and their families each year through comprehensive sexual health education programs. Students learn to have ongoing communication with parents and to make informed decisions that will apply to their lives, now and in the future.

## LifeMoves

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

## Literacy Partners — Menlo Park

Supports literacy programs and projects through fundraising and community awareness. Helps community members enhance their reading, writing and related skills and education to improve their economic, professional and personal wellbeing.

## Ravenswood Family Health Center

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

## St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

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

## St. Francis Center

Helps low-income, working families become self-supporting members of the community by providing long-term solutions through educational programs for children and parents, as well as after-school programming at Siena Youth Centers. St. Francis Center also provides housing, food and clothing services to address short-term needs.

## StarVista

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

## Upward Scholars

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

The organizations below provide  
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The Almanac will make every effort to publish donor names for donations unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.

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# Thank you for donating to the Holiday Fund

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As of Jan. 12, 170 donors have contributed \$261,427 to the Almanac Holiday Fund.

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Changes or corrections to listings may be made by contacting Kali Shiloh at kshiloh@almanacnews.com.

**DONATE ONLINE:** [siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund](https://siliconvalleycf.org/almanac-holiday-fund)



Courtesy Facebook/Hart Howerton

The entrance of the recently approved new community center in Belle Haven is shown in this rendering.

### COMMUNITY CENTER

continued from page 7

facilities need to be closed and emptied before demolition. The plan is to have the project done and ready for a grand opening by the end of February 2023.

Facebook is contributing about \$40 million to the project, and the city plans to invest nearly \$16 million to add extra amenities, like replacing the old pool, adding emergency backup power so the site can be used as an evacuation center, putting utilities underground and building solar carports, a renewable energy microgrid and other sustainability features.

The council favors using existing Measure T general obligation bonds that were passed to improve recreation facilities on this project, and the Menlo Park Library Foundation has indicated it also plans to launch an ambitious fundraising campaign to raise \$2 million to \$3 million.

People offered a few suggestions for the project.

Harry Bims, a Belle Haven resident, said he thought the city should start now to think about what kinds of programs should be offered at the new community center, getting residents' input and evaluating current trends with city programs and services. He added that he supported and applauded the effort to "create something special."

### BACKLASH

continued from page 1

been negative, with Tinsley's pro-Trump photo in circulation on social media bearing a message urging viewers to "Show that Menlo Park/the Bay Area doesn't tolerate this domestic act of terrorism and blatant display of white supremacy. Don't shop at sugar shack."

In addition, Yelp, the business review website, has temporarily disabled posting about

"They didn't have to do any of this," he said, referring to Facebook's offer.

Jacqui Cebrian, a complete streets commissioner and former library commissioner, recommended making the teen center larger — a bit of feedback she'd collected from other libraries in the region when the city was discussing the possibility of rebuilding the Menlo Park main library several years ago, after receiving an offer from John Arrillaga to fund the bulk of the effort.

Councilwoman Jen Wolosin said she'd like to see consideration for the community center to also offer coffee or snacks to encourage people to stay longer.

Councilman Ray Mueller noted that it's possible that, had the city moved forward with plans to rebuild the main library, it wouldn't have had the funds needed for this project. Ultimately, there was a general consensus that the Belle Haven neighborhood needed to see library improvements more urgently than the rest of the city, and with that priority set, the Arrillaga offer was rescinded. "It was a decision about equity then that we're seeing the fruits of today," Mueller said.

"It's amazing to see this come to fruition," said Vice Mayor Betsy Nash. "It'll be even more exciting when it's built." ■

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

Sugar Shack in response to "unusual activity" from people commenting about recent events.

On Jan. 8, the shop was closed and a TV network filmed a story. In the background, against the shop window, someone had placed yellow posters with apparent messages of support, saying "God Bless Sugar Shack!" and "Keep Menlo Park a Loving Place." ■

Elena Kadvany and Charles Russo contributed to this report.

# Stanford Shopping Center a hot spot of public health violations

By Lloyd Lee

Eighteen stores in the Stanford Shopping Center were fined for violating Santa Clara County COVID-19 health orders over the Black Friday weekend, according to county documents obtained by The Almanac's sister paper the Palo Alto Weekly.

Violators included various types of businesses at the major shopping hub on El Camino Real, including the California Pizza Kitchen restaurant and Pinkberry, a frozen yogurt shop. But most stores that were fined in late November were retailers, such as Crate & Barrel, Peloton, Bath & Body Works and Tesla's showroom.

A representative for Stanford Shopping Center declined

to comment for this story, and the county's public health inspector did not respond to interview requests. The violation documents were requested by the Palo Alto Weekly in early December and received from the county in early January.

The violation notices came after the county had already warned in a press release that enforcement would increase during the holiday shopping season.

"From Thursday through Sunday of this week, fines issued will not have a grace period and additional compliance staff will be visiting high traffic shopping areas to look out for the public's safety," the Nov. 24 press release statement said.

In addition to the county-wide warning, the Stanford

Shopping Center management team had given heads-up to stores about the increased enforcement efforts, according to a store supervisor of Frette, a bedding and bath linen retail store at the mall, who asked to remain anonymous.

"We were told literally the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, from mall management, that the health department was going to be here that weekend," she said. Frette was not found to have any violations.

Most businesses were handed \$250 fines for failing to submit a Social Distancing Protocol document, which outlines how proprietors have made sure to adjust their operation to comply with the county health officer's orders. Others failed to post "revised social distancing protocol signage," which is another \$250 fine.

Some stores faced up to \$1,000 fines for violating multiple parts of the health order.

Marimekko, a Finnish clothing and furnishing store, for example, was required to pay at least \$1,000 for not submitting the social distancing protocol document, posting appropriate signage and putting up capacity signage that shows the maximum number of people allowed in the vicinity, which is a \$500 fine.

The fines double in amount each day the violations are not corrected and can go up to \$5,000 per violation each day.

All the notices of violation were issued on Nov. 27, or Black Friday, when visits to the shopping center spiked. The mall became the fourth most-visited spot in the county during the holiday shopping day.

According to foot-traffic data from SafeGraph, which was presented in a Dec. 8 county Board of Supervisors meeting, about 18,000 people visited the shopping center, representing an increase of visitors when compared to the previous four-week average.

Stores that violated county health orders include:

■ Marimekko for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document, post protocol signage, and put up required capacity signage. \$1,000.

■ Peloton for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document, post protocol signage, and put up capacity signage. \$1,000.

■ QD Gallery for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document, post protocol signage, and put up capacity signage. \$1,000.

■ Wilkes Bashford for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document, post protocol signage, and put up capacity signage. \$1,000.

■ Bath and Body Works for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Brighton for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ California Pizza Kitchen for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Crate and Barrel for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Drybar for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Flexa for failing to post capacity signage. \$500.

■ Jamba Juice for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ L'Occitane en Provence for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Lucky Brand Dungarees for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Pinkberry for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Tesla for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Tonal for failing to submit a social distancing protocol document and post the protocol signage. \$500.

■ Brooks Brothers for failing to post protocol signage. \$250.

■ Yucca De Lac Restaurant for failing to post protocol signage. \$250. ■

Email Lloyd Lee at [lleee@pawebweekly.com](mailto:lleee@pawebweekly.com)

## Joseph Horne Jeppson

March 6, 1932 – December 27, 2020

On Sunday morning, December 27, 2020, Joseph H. Jeppson, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and brother gently passed away at his home in Redwood City, CA.

Joseph was born on March 6, 1932 to Judge Joseph G. and Zorah (Horne) Jeppson in Salt Lake City, Utah. He was the 4th generation first born son to be named Joseph; three more would follow.

At the age of 15, an Eagle Scout by then, he was 1 of 2 boys selected from among 10,000 Boy Scouts to make the Utah Centennial Pioneer Trek and 50 years later he made the trek a second time.

After graduating from East High School (Salt Lake City) in 1949, Joe went on to get his undergraduate degree from University of Utah. He returned to attend law school and obtained his J.D. degree in 1956; he passed the Utah Bar the same year.

In the early 1960's Joe and his family relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area where he continued his education and received an M.A. in History from Stanford University. While at Stanford, he and a group of Mormon scholars founded Dialogue, A Journal of Mormon Thought; a forum intended to express varying viewpoints on Mormon culture and history. It is now the oldest independent journal in Mormon studies. Joe's interest in exploring and writing about the historicity of the Church continued throughout much of his life.

Professor Jeppson joined the faculties of College of San Mateo (1963) and Cañada College in Redwood City (1968) as a History and Law professor. He passed the California Bar in 1966 and was awarded his PhD in Higher Education

from U.C. Berkeley in 1973. He remained at Cañada College for 32 years teaching, mentoring, and providing legal assistance to students until his retirement in 2002.

Professor Jeppson also operated Community College Tours, an educational travel company. Over the years, he and his good friend Cloyd Chamberlain travelled to all 7 continents: from Siberia to Antarctica, Newfoundland to Nepal.

Joe's grandmother, Alice Merrill Horne, must have passed on her appreciation for art to him; during his travels he explored every major art museum in the world.

That same grandmother was a Democratic Utah State Representative and the link to his proud affiliation with the Democratic Party.

When he wasn't traveling, Joe kept busy with a variety of pastimes: playing tennis (a shout out to the Red Morton Park regulars), reading, writing,

attending the opera and ballet, relaxing on the Oregon Coast; watching basketball, Ken Burns and wildlife documentaries, enjoying his vast CD collection, visits from Diane, and the company of kids.

Joe is survived by his wife Mary, his sister Mary Alice Clark, daughters Diane Rose and Elizabeth (Scott) Calfas, sons Joseph (Dianne) Jeppson, Steven (Kannika) Jeppson, David (Vivian) Jeppson, Michael (Nairi) Jeppson, Mother of children, Ruth Sitton Eakin, Stepchildren Ian (Yuko) McNesby,

Maggie (David) Roberts, Ross McNesby, an abundance of grandchildren and great grandchildren and many nephews and nieces.

Celebration of Life at Cañada College, Redwood City, CA at a later date to be determined.



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## Employment

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

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**VACCINE**

*continued from page 5*

group will meet Thursday for the first time to discuss equity and transparency regarding vaccinations, especially for communities on the lower spectrum

of the Healthy Places Index. The goal is to provide culturally competent and science-based communications, Rogers said.

“We know that vaccine take-up in many of our lowest quartile Healthy Places Index communities is going to be

challenging because of the distrust of the vaccine,” Rogers said. “In addition to mobilizing messages for those communities with the input of representatives of those communities, we expect — similar to the testing work — that we would enlist local community leaders to be messengers to those communities.”

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise countywide and statewide, Rogers warned that the surge might not be over.

“We do not believe that we have yet seen the full impact of the holiday surge,” Rogers said.

Almost one-third of the county’s total COVID-19 cases have occurred in the last 30 days. That’s 9,276 cases in the last 30 days out of 29,199 cumulative cases.

The county’s data dashboard shows that 66 out of 68 ICU beds are in use as of Tuesday, with an additional 88 ICU surge beds available. However, ICU capacity changes daily

— as patients are admitted, discharged or transferred — and surge capacity depends largely on staffing.

“Having the beds in theory is not the same as being able to staff them,” Rogers said, adding that at least one county hospital has so far requested staffing assistance from the state.

In December, the county partnered with AMI Expeditionary Healthcare and Dignity Health’s Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City to staff 10 extra ICU beds, which have already been used, Rogers said.

People should continue to

observe COVID-19 safety precautions, which include wearing a face mask in public, practicing social distancing, washing hands frequently and avoiding gatherings.

“Even those residents that have received their first vaccination, or even potentially their second, are expected to continue wearing face coverings and respecting social distancing and so on, so that we can continue to reel this thing in,” Rogers said.

For more information on the county’s vaccination rollout plan, people can visit [smchealth.org/covid-19-vaccination](http://smchealth.org/covid-19-vaccination). ▀



Magali Gauthier

**Channing House resident** Barbara Clark receives the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine from Na Chen, a CVS pharmacist, at the retirement community on Dec. 28.

## Stephen Salvatore Cusenza

June 3, 1954 – January 2, 2021

Stephen Salvatore Cusenza passed away on January 2, 2021 in Walnut Creek, CA, surrounded by his loving family.

Steve was born in Visalia, California on June 3, 1954 to Jasper and Evelyn Cusenza.

He attended George McCann Elementary and Mt. Whitney High School. As a young man growing up in Visalia, Steve spent endless hours working in his father’s hardware store while enjoying his free time with friends hiking in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Steve lived in Visalia until his college years where he attended Santa Clara University and studied Civil Engineering. At Santa Clara, Steve met LeeLee Daschbach, his wife of 42 years.

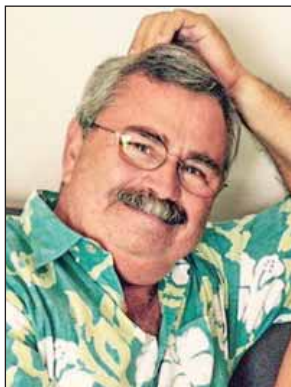
Following Santa Clara, Steve’s career in Civil Engineering focused on the planning and design of public utilities for the cities of Santa Cruz, Taft, and ultimately Pleasanton where he spent 21 years with the City of Pleasanton Public Works Department.

Throughout his life, Steve found joy and freedom traveling the world with his family and many friends. He often played the role of tour guide, where he created countless memories for those traveling along with him. His recently acquired dual Italian citizenship often brought him and LeeLee to Sicily where he reunited with his Italian roots.

Along with travel, a constant throughout Steve’s life were his friends. His kind smile, genuine approach, and jovial demeanor warmed the hearts of those he met. From Visalia to Pleasanton and everywhere in between, he treated his friends as his own family.

In every role he played within his family, he was beloved. As a husband, father,

father-in-law, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, son-in-law, and brother-in-law, his family often leaned on him for guidance, friendship and love. In expressing love, Steve was known to communicate through his service to others. For friends and family, he could often be found helping them solve their problems, checking in at times of need, and even playing the role of “Mr. Fix-It” for various house projects.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Jasper and Evelyn, and is survived by his wife LeeLee and their three children, Siena, Michael, and Marisa along with his daughter and son in-law, Shane Salvata and Tyler

Johnston. Steve’s grandchildren, Hailey, Jasper, Sebastian, Cleo and Ayla will forever remember Steve as their “Popo”, especially Hailey who Steve was helping raise in his own home with Siena and LeeLee. Steve is also survived by his brother Joe Cusenza, and sisters Jane Creech and Mary Ann Cusenza, along with brother-in-law Randy Creech and many admiring Cusenza, Creech, and Daschbach in-laws, nieces and nephews.

To know Steve, was to love Steve, and he will be remembered by his glowing smile, humble nature, giving heart, quick wit, and easy laughter. He was a favorite of many and loved by all. Although he left us too soon, the impact of his love and friendship will live on through his family and friends forever.

A funeral will be held to honor Steve on January 16th at 10:30 at The Church of the Nativity in Menlo Park, California. Due to capacity restrictions of the pandemic, the funeral will be viewable virtually. Please contact his family for details.

We love you, Popo.

### NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given for the purpose of pre-qualification; sealed Responsibility Questionnaires will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Portola Valley School District up until the close of business on the date indicated below for:

**Project Description:**

Corte Madera – Restroom, Computer Lab, & Distribution Renovation

**Pre-Qualification Packages Due Date and Time:**

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 5:00pm at RGM Kramer, Inc., attention: Cheryl Demeyer, 4020 Moorpark Avenue, #220, San Jose, CA 95117.

**Pre-Qualification of Trade Contractors**

To receive plans and bid, Trade Contractors must possess a current and active license to perform the work listed, submit and certify the required Responsibility Questionnaire information, and be pre-qualified by the District.

General Trades

A or B License Required

**Only Pre-Qualified Contractors will be permitted to bid.**

Pre-Qualified Contractors will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-bid Conference scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 11:00am at the Corte Madera School, 4575 Alpine Rd, Portola Valley, CA 94028. Opening of the sealed bids submitted by pre-qualified bidders is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2021 at 1:00pm at the Portola Valley District Office, 4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028. Pre-qualified contractors are advised to verify dates and times of the mandatory pre-bid conference and bid opening prior to the above listed dates. Responsibility Questionnaires and instructions for submission can be obtained by emailing Cheryl Demeyer at [cheryld@rgmkramer.com](mailto:cheryld@rgmkramer.com). Contracts will require a 100% Performance Bond, a 100% Labor and Materials Bond and a Bid Security in the amount of 10% of the submitted bid. The project is subject to the State Labor Code. Labor Code 1720-1861 regarding DIR registration, the payment of prevailing wages and submission of certified payroll statements will be enforced. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Contractors are allowed, according to PCC sec. 22300, to submit securities in lieu of retention. Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise, in accordance with Education Code Section 17076.11, the Portola Valley School District has “a participation goal of at least 3% per year of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the school district for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise”. Thus, all contractors bidding on this project are required to make a good faith effort to achieve this 3% participation goal. Requirements for demonstrating that this good faith effort has been made are included in the Project Manual.

## NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given for the purpose of pre-qualification; sealed Responsibility Questionnaires will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Portola Valley School District up until the close of business on the date indicated below for:

### Project Description:

Corte Madera & Ormondale – New Classrooms and Courtyard Renovations

**Pre-Qualification Packages Due Date and Time:** Friday, January 22, 2021 at 5:00pm at RGM Kramer, Inc., attention: Yasmin Rouholiman, 4020 Moorpark Avenue, #220, San Jose, CA 95117.

### Pre-Qualification of Trade Contractors

To receive plans and bid, Trade Contractors must possess a current and active license to perform the work listed, submit and certify the required Responsibility Questionnaire information, and be pre-qualified by the District.

A. General Trades	A or B License Required
B. Earthwork and Paving Trades	A or C-12 License Required
C. Underground Utility Trades	A or C-34 License Required
D. Electrical and Low Voltage Trades	C-10 License Required
E. Plumbing Trades	C-36 License Required
F. HVAC Trades	C-20 License Required
G. Fire Protection Trades	C-16 License Required
H. Flooring Trades	C-15 License Required
I. Cabinet and Millwork Trades	C-6 License Required
J. Site Concrete Trades	A or C-8 License Required
K. Painting Trades	C-33 License Required
L. Landscaping Trades	C-27 License Required

**Only Pre-Qualified Contractors will be permitted to bid.** Pre-Qualified Contractors will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-bid Conference scheduled for Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 9:00am, 10:00am, 11:00am, or 12:00pm at the Corte Madera School, 4575 Alpine Rd, Portola Valley, CA 94028. Groups of no greater than eight people will be led through the Pre-Bid Conference in each time slot. Confirm your attendance at the pre-bid conference including your desired time slot to [yasminr@rgmkramer.com](mailto:yasminr@rgmkramer.com) and [djhalbert@rgmkramer.com](mailto:djhalbert@rgmkramer.com) as soon as possible. Time slots will be approved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Opening of the sealed bids submitted by pre-qualified bidders is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 1:00 PM at the Portola Valley School District Office, 4575 Alpine Rd, Portola Valley, CA 94028. Pre-qualified contractors are advised to verify dates and times of the mandatory pre-bid conference and bid opening prior to the above listed dates. Responsibility Questionnaires and instructions for submission can be obtained by emailing Yasmin Rouholiman at [Yasminr@rgmkramer.com](mailto:Yasminr@rgmkramer.com). Contracts will require a 100% Performance Bond, a 100% Labor and Materials Bond and a Bid Security in the amount of 10% of the submitted bid. The project is subject to the State Labor Code. Labor Code 1720-1861 regarding DIR registration, the payment of prevailing wages and submission of certified payroll statements will be enforced. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Contractors are allowed, according to PCC sec. 22300, to submit securities in lieu of retention. Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise, in accordance with Education Code Section 17076.11, the Portola Valley School District has “a participation goal of at least 3% per year of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the school district for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise”. Thus, all contractors bidding on this project are required to make a good faith effort to achieve this 3% participation goal. Requirements for demonstrating that this good faith effort has been made are included in the Project Manual.

# 8 ways to keep your New Year's fitness resolutions (while following the stay-at-home order)

By **Kate Bradshaw**

Almanac Staff Writer

Even in the best of years, it's widely acknowledged that New Year's resolutions, especially those focused on fitness, are hard to keep. Many resolutions last no longer than a few weeks.

So with gyms shut down, the pandemic surging and winter blues in full swing, the thought of setting and sticking to any new fitness goals right now might feel exhausting, not inspiring.

In response, we've pulled together a few ideas offered by local resources to boost your health and encourage you to get some fresh air, all without having to step inside a gym.

## Complete the #PixinParks or "Take a Hike" hiking challenges

To encourage folks to get outside, parks departments in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties are offering free swag to people who participate in a series of hikes and collect photographic proof of their adventures.

Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department has launched its annual Pix in Parks challenge for 2021, which invites people to participate in seven different hikes throughout Santa Clara County before Dec. 15. Complete all seven hikes, and send or tag a photo from a specific destination point on each of those hikes, and the department will send you a free T-shirt or bandana.

The hikes this year are at Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch (3.5 miles), Joseph D. Grant County Park (2.1 miles), Rancho San Antonio (3.4 miles), Mt. Madonna County Park (1.5 miles), Lexington Reservoir County Park (1.8 miles), Hellyer County Park (6 miles) and Calero County Park (3.2 miles). Most of the parks permit dogs, but people may substitute a visit to a dog park to complete the challenge as well. Alternative routes for those seeking ADA options are also available. Go to [is.gd/pixinparks](http://is.gd/pixinparks) to learn more.

San Mateo County is also currently running its "Take a Hike" challenge, which includes seven hikes. The deadline to complete the challenge is March 31. Participants who complete four hikes receive a pair of



Veronica Weber

**A bicyclist** rides on the trails during sunset at the Enid W. Pearson Arastradero Preserve.

sunglasses and camp mug, and those who complete all seven receive those items and a picnic blanket.

These routes include San Bruno Mountain (2.7 miles), Sawyer Camp Trail (5 miles), Edgewood Park (3.3 miles), Pillar Point Bluff (5 miles), Wunderlich Park (3.3 miles), Quarry Park (2 miles), and Junipero Serra Park (1.8 miles). Go to [is.gd/takeahike](http://is.gd/takeahike) to learn more.

## Exercise for the environment

The Sierra Club is currently running a virtual "1.5 Challenge," calling on participants every day to exercise for 15 minutes or complete a 1.5 mile walk, jog, bike ride or other movement between Jan. 11 and Feb. 12. The challenge is focused around the "1.5" number because of the science indicating that the planet's temperature rise needs to stay under 1.5 degrees Celsius — or 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit — from preindustrial levels to prevent the worst predicted impacts of global warming. Registration is \$35, but people may sign up to fundraise more. Go to [is.gd/15challenge](http://is.gd/15challenge) to learn more.

## Explore a new trail and earn free postcards

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is offering free artistic postcards to people who take and share photos when they visit the Ravenswood Open Space Preserve in East Palo Alto, located at the bayside terminus of Bay Road. A 0.6-mile trail segment in the preserve was recently completed, linking 80 miles of the Bay Trail throughout the region. Go to [is.gd/ravenswoodchallenge](http://is.gd/ravenswoodchallenge) to learn more.

## Bring the gym home

The city of Palo Alto is offering group exercise classes for adults via Zoom. The program, called Boost!, offers 10 class credits that those under 60 can purchase for \$75 and older individuals can purchase for \$65, to use any time over the course of a year. Classes include aerobics, pilates, yoga, total body conditioning, barre, Zumba and an outdoors in-person exercise class held at the Mitchell Park Community Center courtyard. Go to [is.gd/parecl](http://is.gd/parecl) to learn more.

Many other cities are also offering limited fitness classes, most of which are online. Check your local recreation department for more.

## Start your year off with a 5K resolution run, walk or ride

The city of Mountain View is hosting a virtual resolution 5K with recommended routes, a photo scavenger hunt and finalist medal. Registration costs \$25 and medals will be available for curbside pickup in February. Go to [is.gd/mvrec1](http://is.gd/mvrec1) to register.

## Find a new favorite bike route

The Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition has curated a collection of popular bike routes from Burlingame to Morgan Hill. Many routes are along the Bay and don't require much hill climbing. Go to [is.gd/svbikerecs](http://is.gd/svbikerecs) to learn more.

## Become a neighborhood naturalist

This winter, the Santa Clara County parks department is offering a beginner's natural

# As visitors flock to Foothills Park, Palo Alto restricts access

By Gennady Sheyner

Concerned about the recent surge of visitors to Foothills Park, Palo Alto leaders are restricting access to the once-exclusive nature preserve by closing the entrance gates when the open space reaches maximum capacity on a temporary basis.

The Palo Alto City Council also is preparing to consider additional measures to limit visitation, including charging a parking fee and reducing the number of people that could be at the park at one time from the current limit of 750.

Starting on Saturday, Jan. 9, the entrance gate at the park closed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekends and holidays when the number of visitors exceeds the park's current visitation limit, according to the city. The 1,400-acre preserve, which has long been restricted to Palo Alto residents and their guests, has reached its 750-person limit several times since the city officially opened it to the general population on Dec. 17.

The busiest time at the park has been between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on the weekends, according to the city. This "creates safety concerns and road hazards, and large numbers of visitors have been turned away."

"This temporary measure is to help manage the number of

visitors in the park and provide a safe, enjoyable and consistent experience to parkgoers," the city's announcement stated.

While the city's initial announcement on Jan. 7 had indicated that the entrance would be closed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekends and holidays, officials clarified on Saturday that the restriction would only be put in place on those days when the capacity limit is exceeded. This could also mean restricting access on weekdays when there is high visitation, according to Meghan Horrigan-Taylor, the city's chief communications officer.

"Generally, staff has seen high visitation resulting in the cap being reached on the weekend and holidays though the temporary closure could go into effect on weekdays too," Horrigan-Taylor said in an email.

According to a report from the Community Services Department, visitation to the park has spiked since the Dec. 17 policy change, with the park reaching its 750-person limit several times each day. On the weekend before Christmas, 4,081 visitors came to the park, a roughly six-fold increase from the prior year, when there were 688 visitors.

The main reason for the change is the council's decision in November to abolish a long-standing ordinance that limited access to

Palo Altans and their guests. The council made a move to expand access to Foothills Park in response to a lawsuit from a coalition that includes the American Civil Liberties Union, the NAACP and a group of residents from Palo Alto and other nearby cities.

With the number of visitors rising, staff is pointing to potentially unsafe conditions during peak hours for pedestrians and bicyclists who use the park roads, which are too narrow to safely accommodate them when cars are driving in both directions. The

report also notes that the majority of visitors try to park near the entrance area, Boronda Lake, Orchard Glen, the picnic area and Vista Hill. This results in people "parking and walking in inappropriate locations causing damage to natural areas and creating potentially unsafe conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists."

To limit visitation, city staff is proposing lowering the capacity limit from 750 visitors (or about 280 vehicles) to 500 visitors (or about 185 vehicles). Traditionally, the park had a limit of 1,000

visitors at any one time, though the council had agreed to limit it to 750 for the first 90 days after expanding its access policy.

The council will consider this proposal on Jan. 19. It will also decide whether — and how much — to charge visitors who drive to the park. A proposed ordinance calls for a \$6 parking fee, in line with other parks in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties that charge for admission. The proposal also includes an option for a \$50 annual pass for city residents and \$65 for nonresidents. ■

## Peter Merlyn Llewellyn

May 27 1930 – October 14 2020

Peter Merlyn Llewellyn passed away on October 14th, 2020 at The Sequoias in Portola Valley.

Peter was born May 27th, 1930 in Bristol England to Walter Edward Llewellyn and Lillian (Nancy) Eliza Ann Llewellyn (nee Mainwaring). In 1941, due to heavy bombing in Bristol, he was evacuated to a farm in Cornwall. Peter entered Oxford University in the Fall of 1950 after a period of 20 months in national service as a Lieutenant in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics in 1954, followed by a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy, also in Physics in 1956. His PhD dissertation entitled "Some Applications of Paramagnetic Resonance".

In 1954 he married Sheila Elizabeth Jenkins and in 1956 they welcomed their first child, Mark. Later in 1956, the small family came to Chicago for a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago. The family returned to Bristol in 1958 where Peter began a position as a lecturer in Physics at the University of Bristol. Staying in Bristol from 1958-1962, the family welcomed Richard in 1958, and twins Paul and John in 1960.

In 1962, Peter was offered a position at Varian Associates in Palo Alto, California. The family set off on an Atlantic and Panama Canal crossing aboard the P&O/Orient Line ship SS Orsova, arriving in San Francisco in September 1962. The family settled in Menlo Park and welcomed a girl, Claire, in 1963. The family moved to Portola Valley (Ladera) in 1966 and welcomed a second girl, Kathryn, in 1971. Peter's wife, Sheila, passed away in 1986. In 1988 he married Stannye Miller, acquiring three step-sons, Raegen, Craig, and Weston.

During a long career in various positions with Varian, Peter was a key contributor in the

development of many analytical instruments ranging from Mass Spectrometry to Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR). This work led

to many patents in this field. The early work in NMR led to today's use of MRI in medical diagnostics.

The kindest and mostly loving of gentlemen, even in difficult times, Peter was a Renaissance man. Though he self-identified himself as a scientist, he was a lover of Shakespeare and Bach. He was very widely read, from Dostoevsky and Tolstoy to Dietrich Bonhoeffer and CS Lewis. He brought his love of cricket and rugby from Britain to America and became an avid fan of baseball and football attending many Giants and 49er games. He

was a fan of both Cal and Stanford sports as well. He was a teacher at his core, loving to give classes on diverse and eclectic topics at Avenidas in Palo Alto, Christ Church, Portola Valley and at the Sequoias, and one on one with whomever he conversed. The twinkle in his eye and his passion for learning and expanding the mind will be greatly missed. Peter was always the optimist encouraging the best in everyone. Intellectually curious until near his end, when the ravages of dementia diminished his brilliant mind, he will forever be remembered as one of the "best and brightest".

Peter is survived by his wife Stannye, six children; Mark, Richard, Paul, John, Claire and Kathryn, two daughters-in-law; Alex (Mark) and Sonya (Richard); five grand-children; Geoffrey, Christopher, and Amy (Mark); Samantha and Andrew (Sonya & Richard); and three stepsons; Raegen, Craig, and Weston, three step daughters-in-law; Simone (Raegen), Molly (Craig) and Valerie (Weston); and four step grandchildren; Benjamin and Nicholas (Craig & Molly); and Joseph and Casey (Weston).



## Marketplace

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

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## Public Notices

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

Public Hearing Notices • Resolutions • Bid Notices  
Notices of Petition to Administer Estate  
Lien Sale • Trustee's Sale

Deadline is 5 p.m. the previous Friday.

Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578  
or email [asantillan@paweekly.com](mailto:asantillan@paweekly.com)  
for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

PAID OBITUARY

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE  
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD  
WOODSIDE, CA 94062**

**PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA  
January 20, 2021 6:00 P.M.**

**This meeting is compliant with the Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 4, 2020, allowing for deviation of teleconference rules required by the Brown Act. The purpose of this is to provide the safest environment for staff and the public while allowing for public participation. The meeting will be held by teleconferencing. The public may participate via: Zoom meeting or by coming to Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, where a microphone and speaker will be available to allow for participation.**

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PARTICIPATING BY TELECONFERENCE: BILDNER, DARE, ELFISHAWY, KUTAY, LONDON, AND VOELKE.

<p><b>Join Zoom Meeting:</b> <b>One tap mobile</b> +16699006833,,82333626604# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,82333626604# US (Tacoma)</p> <p><b>Dial by your location</b> +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)</p>	<p><b>Meeting ID:</b> 823 3362 6604</p> <p><b>Weblink:</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82333626604">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82333626604</a></p> <p><b>Remote Public Comments:</b> Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. The following email will be monitored during the meeting and public comments received will be read into the record.</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:sharper@woodsidetown.org">sharper@woodsidetown.org</a></p>
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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Pursuant to Section 65009 of the California Government Code, if you challenge in court the proposed Variance, Use Permit, Subdivision, or other planning application, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission or Planning Director at, or prior to, the public hearing.

**CALL FOR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Items may be removed from the agenda or placed in another order. No items may be added to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Persons wishing to address the Commission on matters not on the posted agenda are invited to do so. Please note, however, that the Commission is not able to undertake extended discussion or to act on non-agenda items. Such items can be referred to staff for appropriate action, which may include placement on a future agenda. As a courtesy to others, the communication should be kept to a three-minute limit.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

All of the items on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be approved, including the Findings and Conditions stated in the Staff Report for each respective item, by one roll call motion without discussion unless a request is made by the Planning Commission, staff or public, at the beginning of the meeting, to have an item withdrawn or transferred to the regular agenda.

- Minutes of January 6, 2021

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- Amidi LLC ASRB2020-0006; GRAD2021-0001; XMAX2020-0004

150 Wildwood Way Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner

Presentation and consideration of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review, to demolish an existing single-family residence, swimming pool, and pool shed; and to construct a new single-family main residence with a basement, pool house, Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), swimming pool, vehicular gate, fencing, and other site improvements. The project requires a Maximum Residence Size Exception and a Grading Exception for grading in excess of 1,500 cubic yards.

- Town-wide ZOAM2020-0004

Town of Woodside Planner: Joseph Balatbat, Assistant Planner

A Resolution of Intent and Recommendation to the Town Council to amend Chapter 153, Zoning, pertaining to emergency generators in the required setbacks; and permitting for back-up power sources.

Report from Planning Commissioners and Staff on Other Meetings

- Staff Communications
- Planning Commissioners Communications

**ADJOURNMENT**

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at (650) 851-6790. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting

Please note that pursuant to the State of California’s Open Meeting Rules, this meeting is being audio-recorded.

**APPEALS**

The applicant or any other interested person may appeal a decision to the Town Council by filing an application with the Town Clerk. Appeals with the accompanying fee must be received at Town Hall within 10 calendar days of a decision. For more information on Appeals, please refer to Section 153.970 of the Woodside Municipal Code.

THE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING ASSISTANT PLANNER JOSEPH BALATBAT AT [JBALATBAT@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:JBALATBAT@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG) OR ASSOCIATE PLANNER SARAH FILIPE AT [SFILIFE@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:SFILIFE@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG)

**WILLOW VILLAGE**

*continued from page 5*

footage of the office space is lower than in earlier iterations of the proposal. Those changes were made in response to community input, Michael Ghielmetti, president of Signature Development Group, said in an interview.

Early feedback to the proposal raised community concerns that the large development would worsen traffic and the community’s already high ratio of jobs to housing units. Ghielmetti said that his team had heard demand from the Belle Haven community and other residents on Menlo Park’s Bayside that a grocery store be built sooner rather than later. Now the plan is to build the grocery store in the first phase of the development. Currently, residents have to cross U.S. 101 to access a full service grocery store, he said.

Of the 1,729 housing units, around 320 are intended to be available to households with low incomes. Of those, 120 units are intended to be affordable to very low- and extremely low-income seniors, according to a press statement.

The development is set to expand employee capacity by 3,400 workers in addition to the existing 3,500 employees who work at the site, nearly doubling the number at the new campus to 6,900, according to developer representatives.

The plan is to use a mass timber construction technique that is considered far more sustainable than the more traditional methods involving concrete and steel, Ghielmetti said. This method is expected to reduce embodied carbon emissions — the amount of carbon used to produce materials — by 52% and save about 27,800 megatons of carbon dioxide emissions. That is about the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide that is sequestered in a year by 36,000 acres of forest, according to a press statement. Other environmental efforts include adhering to LEED Gold standards, making buildings all-electric, using recycled water, and adding solar power, according to the statement.

One key question, with so many employees working remotely while the pandemic rages, is what the future of Facebook’s office presence will look like in Menlo Park.

“I’m assuming they and others will continue to evolve their policies,” Ghielmetti said of Facebook leaders’ current policy to permit some employees to work remotely indefinitely. He added that offices are still

important for defining company culture, fostering collaboration and helping employees feel a sense of belonging.

This development is notable for its emphasis on the public sphere, he added. While the current site is occupied by industrial buildings, warehouses and single-story offices, the new site would centrally feature a town square and main street where the business, housing and ground-floor retail areas would connect, he said. The sidewalks are planned to be wide, with separated bike lanes that are protected from vehicle traffic.

“It won’t feel like an old Silicon Valley campus,” he said.

The Facebook buildings would still be secure and accessible only to employees and guests, he said.

The developer has proposed to build the project in two phases, with the first phase broken down into two sections.

According to documents filed with the city, in phase 1a, the plan is to build 565,000 square feet of the planned office space; the elevated park; 150,000 square feet of retail space, including the grocery store, the hotel, the town square and an associated parking garage; another parking garage near the offices; a grade-separated tunnel under Willow Road; 1,050 housing units; and the public-access park and dog park. Phase 1b would include 1.035 million square feet of office space, 50,000 square feet of retail space and an additional parking garage. Phase 2 would add the remaining 679 housing units.

Ghielmetti said that the next steps are for the draft environmental reviews to be completed and released, which is expected to happen around midyear. After that, the team hopes to conduct more public outreach and is aiming to attain final approval for the project by the end of 2021. Planning for about a year for demolition, utility and foundation work, construction on the first phase would be expected to take about 48 months and reach completion in 2025, and the second phase would be developed afterward. ■

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



**BONILLA***continued from page 1*

Rodriguez's uncle, who died of complications from COVID-19 the same day Bonilla landed in the hospital. They say the uncle contracted the virus after a brief interaction with a relative for whom he was running an errand. His death was part of what spurred Bonilla to seek medical care.

Rodriguez urged him to go to the hospital, telling him to take his health seriously given that the virus had just killed their family member. "I told him I can't do anything for you here (at home) other than call 911. ... He was not going to make any progress on Robitussin and Tylenol," she said.

Bonilla's three children — his 8-year-old daughter and 7-year-old twin boys — were asymptomatic, but his wife became sick in early December, about a week before Bonilla fell ill. Rodriguez's symptoms didn't progress past a fever, aches and exhaustion.

**Feeling like his lungs were 'on fire'**

During Bonilla's week in the hospital, doctors treated him with the antiviral drug Remdesivir intravenously for five days. He said within 20 minutes of taking Remdesivir he felt markedly better. The hospital also administered steroids for seven days to reduce the fluid buildup in his lungs. On day four, the steroids kicked in, he said.

Bonilla, who says his asthma probably further complicated his bout with COVID-19, spent most of his days in the hospital sleeping and doing breathing exercises — blowing into a plastic tube that measures your air flow — to expand his lung capacity. He hardly had time to even think about the fact that he couldn't have visitors because he felt so drained.

"It felt literally like I ran a marathon, but every day," he said. "I didn't want to talk. I had 10- to 15-minute spurts on FaceTime with my kids but then I wanted to get back to sleep. I picked up the phone to try and the person on the other end told me to save my energy."

One good sign was that Bonilla was never hooked up to a ventilator and said that COVID-19 patients don't want to end up on these machines. The ventilator itself can "do damage to the lung tissue based on how much pressure is required to help oxygen get processed by the lungs," Dr. Tiffany Osborn, a critical care specialist at Washington University in St. Louis, told NPR in April.

Back at home, Rodriguez said she felt frightened over Bonilla's condition. One night, Rodriguez became alarmed when Bonilla started sending his friends and family members heartfelt letters.

"It freaked me out," said Rodriguez, who has been married to Bonilla for 12 years. "He talked about how much he loved me; what our life together was like. I can't go back to look (at the letter); it makes me cry. I thought, 'Oh my God, he's doing that just in case' — if he doesn't get a chance to say that, it's in writing."

She had just recovered from the virus herself, but she stayed strong for her small children. She had moments of sheer sadness, she said. She was grieving the loss of her uncle, a man who her children viewed as a grandfather figure, while her husband was battling the same virus that took her uncle's life.

"I did my very best to hold things together," she said. "People came out of the woodwork (to help). Co-workers, friends and family members brought us groceries and food."

Rodriguez started to feel more positive about Bonilla's condition when he began talking about the future and his work. She saw glimmers of his

usual hopeful spirit.

Bonilla left the hospital on Christmas Eve with an oxygen machine.

He said not only did doctors say he was ready to go home, but nurses told him the hospital was beginning to reach capacity and he felt he needed to give up his room for someone who had a greater need to be hospitalized.

"He is a vibrant 42-year-old, strong and tall, and he came home with an oxygen tank, taking his steps slowly," Rodriguez said. "It was hard to watch; none of us have ever seen him like that."

Bonilla noted that you can only have so much optimism when you can't breathe. The nurses reassured him he was on the right path and told him to "fight through it" despite his lungs feeling like they were on fire.

"That was what I needed to hear during that moment," he said. "As strong as you are — I'm 6-foot-6 (inches tall) — the virus is ultimately determining what it wants to do with you."

**'This is not the flu'**

Bonilla wants people to know that contracting COVID-19 is much more serious than the flu, despite some people saying warnings of the health impacts of the coronavirus are overblown.

"This is not the flu," he said. "If you feel as if this is the flu — that's phase one of COVID, and if you stay in phase one, consider yourself very fortunate. I've had the flu; this is nothing like the flu. It's literally a full-on assault on your ability to breathe. Doctors are simply trying to manage you in the hospital."

Bonilla said that his lungs felt like "a spigot was slowly being turned off" inside of them.

"My lungs felt very cold," he said. "Taking air in, it felt like ice into my lungs. It's the most uncomfortable feeling ever."

Rodriguez said some people miss the window to get more

serious medical care, making it impossible to recover. Bonilla was lucky to get treatment during that critical time, she said.

**'Unmanageable volume' of cases**

There is a huge disconnect between what people see on their TV screens and what's actually happening in hospitals, Bonilla said.

"People were coming in every second," he said. "It felt like a battleground. We (patients) looked at each other and you could feel the stress that person was going through; I gave little supportive looks."

Bonilla said he had a realization: When you're being treated, the doctors and nurses are doing everything they can, but the situation has "completely gotten out of everyone's hands."

"They are doing what (they) can just to save lives, but the volume is just unmanageable," he said. "That struck me in my experience."

The real story of the pandemic is the heroism of front-line health care workers, he said.

"They were kind, humane and compassionate from the moment I walked into the hospital to the day I left; they call to check in on me," he said. "They were honest with me about their fears and their concerns. I realized they, too, were stressed. They had loved ones in their families going through COVID, co-workers going through COVID and were caring for these people within the same hospital they were working."

Bonilla thinks back to some of the people he saw in the ER who were in even greater distress than he was.

"Seeing person after person coming in, I saw myself hoping and praying for their speedy recovery," he said. "You could see and feel people who were literally on the line of something catastrophic and fatal for them. As a human being, I

almost felt like it was my duty to fight harder (to get out of the hospital) to ensure people coming in pretty bad (shape) had that help."

Bonilla has a hard time seeing people politicize a crisis that is "so clearly medical."

"There's a lot of pain and suffering out there right now," he said. "It will take all of us coming together as one to get out of this situation. We won't come out unscathed."

**The 'path forward'**

Although Bonilla is no longer using the oxygen machine at home, he still loses his balance, his heart rate is accelerated and he isn't able to breathe normally.

"It's like running up and down a basketball court," he said. "A lot of these symptoms don't necessarily go away right away. I have to see how much damage occurred and how it will impact me long term."

He exercises his lungs by walking around his house and continues with his breathing exercises. He wasn't able to get out of bed until around Jan. 2.

"The path forward is going to take time," he said. "I embrace that like a challenge. Every day I do something to help me move this along. There's things I like to do, like soccer and basketball, that I can't do anyway (because of the stay-at-home order). If they were open, that would mentally be tougher."

Bonilla said people need to work even harder to wear masks, wash their hands and stay home.

"I've always been optimistic and positive and this experience has really elevated that," he said. "I appreciate and understand further the notion that tomorrow is not promised. Whatever you do in life enjoy every second of it — before we know it, it could end." ▀

*Email Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com*

**RESOLUTIONS***continued from page 16*

history class via Zoom, inviting speakers and scientists to teach participants about the geology, native plants and common wildlife of the region. The class is offered on three Wednesday evenings in late January and February. Participants are expected to complete homework assignments, including a four-hour service project. Registration is limited, but the program is offered throughout the year. Go to [is.gd/sccparks3](https://is.gd/sccparks3) to learn more.

There are also plenty of tools available to learn about your surroundings on your own. I've been having fun learning about the plants in my neighborhood through the "Seek by iNaturalist" app, which can identify plants and animals in many cases down to the species level.

**Celebrate the seasons with a new hike each month**

The Peninsula Open Space Trust recently released a curated calendar offering hiking suggestions tailored to each month. For instance, a

waterfall hike in the Santa Cruz Mountains is set for February when the odds of rainfall are best, while the wildflower-rich meadows of Pearson-Arastradero Preserve are reserved for April.

Go to [is.gd/hikescal](https://is.gd/hikescal) to download the calendar. Be sure to check the website of your destination before you go, though. A number of area parks are shut down due to fire damage, while others have restrictions due to the pandemic. ▀

*Email Kate Bradshaw at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com*



Embarcadero Media file photo

**Edgewood Park** in San Mateo County is one of the parks featured in the county's "Take a Hike" challenge this year.

TOWN OF WOODSIDE  
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD  
WOODSIDE, CA 94062

## INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR COMMITTEES

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

**CIRCULATION COMMITTEE** - Meets monthly on the 4th Thursday at 8:00 p.m.; 2-year term; supports the General Plan goal to foster a community of all users of the public roadway system; works with the Town Engineer, Sheriff's Department, and local and regional organizations to encourage "share the road" programs; develops educational programs on traffic safety, promotes safe, convenient access to schools, businesses, public and private institutions, and neighborhoods.

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

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

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

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

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

**THE VOLUNTEERISM/VOLUNTEER LIAISON AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE** - Meets as needed; 2-year term; encourages citizen volunteer participation, including by direct recruitment; assists with volunteer recognition; and researches, implements and administers recommendations; liaises with Town Staff, other volunteer committees, various local school groups and the general public to implement ideas and projects.

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

*These are volunteer positions and serve in an advisory capacity to the Town Council. Interested residents may request information and applications from the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, or email: [jli@woodsidetown.org](mailto:jli@woodsidetown.org). The deadline for applications is Friday, January 29, 2021, by 5 p.m.*

# Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

## Trump deserves impeachment for his role in the Capitol riot

### EDITORIAL

The opinion of The Almanac

Hopes were high among many going into the new year, buoyed by the beginning of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. There was little fanfare but rather a hurry to turn the page to 2021, as if the change in the year would serve as a salve of sorts.

But instead, the pandemic has become a backdrop in the aftermath of an insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

At the behest of President Donald Trump, who called on his supporters to come to the Capitol to "stop the steal" — a reference to his fraudulent and inflammatory claim that the election he rightfully lost was "stolen" from him — a mob stormed the Capitol while Congress was convened on Jan. 6 to certify the Electoral College results. The shock that ensued was not incredulity that this president could incite violence but rather the juxtaposition of the riot at America's capitol, the disturbing sights of the Confederate flag and a "Camp Auschwitz" sweatshirt and white supremacist-caused destruction at a site that's considered the hallowed grounds of democracy. The shock came from seeing how easily this happened, and, as more details emerged, from knowing how much worse it could have been. (And the full effects won't be known for some time, as a growing number of

lawmakers have tested positive for the coronavirus amid reports that some Republicans refused to wear masks while crowded in a secure space that day.)

But it should surprise no one that the president won't take responsibility for his actions, that he said this week that his rhetoric leading up to the insurrection was "totally appropriate." Nor should it surprise people that many Republicans leaders, some of whom have been spreading the lie about the election themselves, are suggesting that Congress move past one of the darkest days in our country's history without any action against the president, all in the name of unifying the country.

Whitewashing over the events at the Capitol Jan. 6 would not only not unify the country, it would go against the oath of office leaders take to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." It would send a message to citizens and adversaries alike that such actions are tolerable, and that our democracy can be trifled with. It could encourage another security lapse with more dire consequences, as law enforcement officials have already warned about armed protests

being planned at all state capitols and the U.S. Capitol in the days leading up to President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration Jan. 20.

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, a resolution for the second impeachment of President Trump came to the House floor, stating that he "gravely endangered the security of the United States and its institutions of Government. He threatened the integrity of the democratic system, interfered with the peaceful transition of power, and imperiled a coequal branch of Government. He thereby betrayed his trust as President, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States."

We agree with the 232 U.S. representatives who voted to impeach Trump a second time. The president should be impeached and removed from office, not only for the reasons cited in the resolution but also because he has demonstrated that he is a threat to our country's security and democracy every day he remains in power.

The rioters and those who aided the mob must also be held accountable. We should come together, as our country has in previous attacks, and unify under the notion that we will not tolerate violence and attempts to interfere with our democracy. ▣

### LETTER

Our readers write

#### The doomsday machine next door

The images of a mob of domestic terrorists invading Congress this past week will long be imprinted in our minds as one of the most devastating attacks on our democracy. Unfortunately, the events of Jan. 6 were not unexpected. The amplification, and viral spread, of the lies and conspiracy theories by social media have polarized this nation to such a dangerous degree that they may well continue injuring our democracy beyond repair. No society can function unless there is enough shared basis of factual reality.

Social media, and Facebook in particular, have prioritized profit far above the sustainability of the country that has incubated them. Their algorithms are

designed to maximize attention, and they well know that polarizing content and rage maximize engagement. A recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology study found that fake news has a six-time advantage over real stories. How convenient, then, that Facebook has continued to resist suppressing dangerous misinformation. Their platform's media have created and empowered a consequential population of conspiracy theorists, including groups the FBI has determined to pose a domestic terror threat. Even though they have 15,000 people moderating the most egregious content like child pornography, their leadership has not done nearly enough to remove dangerous lies and disinformation.

Immediately after the election on Nov. 3, Facebook tweaked its algorithm to prioritize media based on factual verifiable reporting, but they did not continue after the election as

they surely came to the conclusion that it would affect their bottom line. They know how to fix the vile spread of lies and conspiracy theories, but they will not take responsibility. We, their neighbors in Menlo Park, should not be passive or blind to the fact they we live next door to a doomsday machine. At the very least we should start a serious dialogue on what we can do to stop the virus of harmful conspiracy theories and state-sponsored disinformation purposefully designed to exacerbate the fault lines in our society.

Facebook and other social media platforms have all been complicit in excess pandemic deaths and in the events leading up to the Jan. 6 storming of our nation's Capitol. It is long past time for them to take responsibility for spreading hate and lies.

Mark Tuschman  
Santa Monica Avenue  
Menlo Park

# Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## The state in stitches

Fiber artists explore a California theme in new virtual exhibition hosted by Menlo Park library

By Karla Kane

The Menlo Park Library has emerged as one of the MVPs of arts and cultural programming in the COVID-19 era, offering the public a consistent and diverse stream of virtual performances, discussions, classes and presentations despite remaining physically closed.

“Our storytime staff is interacting directly with children and families ... and our adult and teen events are getting higher attendance than ever, with several locals commenting that they’d never attended library events before, due to the local afternoon and evening traffic,” said John Weaver, the senior programming assistant.

Now, the library is presenting its first virtual fine-arts exhibition: “Stitching California: Fiber Artists Interpret the State’s People, Life and Land,” available online through Feb. 15.

The exhibition, featuring 42 artworks made by members of the Studio Art Quilt Associates, celebrates and examines the Golden State from a variety of angles, including its natural resources and history, its culture, its landmarks and its issues. It was originally created for the Grace Hudson museum in Ukiah and has been transformed into an online exhibition thanks to partner Exhibit Envoy, which facilitates touring physical exhibitions and, now, virtual ones.

Visitors to [exhibits.exhibitenvoy.org/stitching-california-menlo-park](http://exhibits.exhibitenvoy.org/stitching-california-menlo-park) can browse through a gallery of art quilts arranged by category, including natural beauty, cultures of California, landmarks, and challenges facing Californians (such as climate change and the housing crisis). They can also click on individual works to read artist statements, as well as use a guide for looking closer at some of the rich details. Additional enhancements include a musical playlist, printable coloring pages and crafts to try at home, and a puzzle.

What makes something an art quilt? On the “Stitching

California” website, Studio Art Quilt Associates defines it as “a creative visual work that is layered and stitched or that references this form of stitched layered structure.”

Art quilts, according to exhibition co-organizer and artist Jennifer Landau, celebrate the “wonders of fabric and color, fiber and composition. Any type of fiber — fabric, paper, wool, plants, synthetics — is a source of inspiration.” While the form is rooted historically in traditional bed coverings, she noted, “the word ‘quilt’ is no longer adequate or appropriate for what this medium allows.”

Fellow organizer Holly Brackmann said she came to art quilting after years of experience in weaving and dyeing.

“It is the freedom of expression, paired with the tactile qualities, that calls to me as an art quilter,” she said.

The works included in the exhibition indeed represent a remarkable range of style and subject matter. Landau’s own eye-catching “Painted Ladies,” made out of felted wool and other materials, is her interpretation of the classic San Francisco vista from Alamo Square, with its stately Victorian houses. “The viewer’s imagination,” her artist statement notes, “must provide the hills.”

Brackmann’s “Pomo Basketry Adaptations” pays tribute to the fine basketry designs of the Pomo Native American culture while incorporating a personalized bright color palette.

“Fault Line,” by Deb Cashatt and Kris Sasaki (the Pixeladies), uses found newspaper and magazine text printed on fabric to create an exploration of California car culture, while a red jagged line across the center symbolizes not only geological fault lines but also cultural divisions in the state, such as the north/south and urban/rural divide.

Susan Else’s sculptural “Hope” shows a cracked-skin figure kneeling in a dry riverbank, cradling a seedling in her hand. The piece, according to Else’s artist statement, began as a comment on California’s recent years of drought, then developed also into a symbol of hope after the 2016 election.

Exhibition juror Karen Holmes (the Grace Hudson museum curator) recalled that she was initially concerned, with such a broad theme of “California” as a call to entry, that organizers would receive “an overabundance of California poppy quilts and not much else.” While the iconic state flower does have a presence in the exhibition, she said



Courtesy Pixeladies/Studio Art Quilt Associates

Art on display at the “Stitching California” exhibition includes “Fault Lines” by the Pixeladies.

she and fellow juror Katie Pasquini Masopust were pleased by the diversity of responses, “from simple admiration of California’s beautiful flora to biting political commentary.”

The categories emerged clearly from the works submitted, and while Pasquini Masopust, an art quilter herself, looked for originality, use of materials and excellence in technique, Holmes, from her exhibit-designer perspective, considered how pieces could best work together on a gallery floor and connect with a wide audience — not just art-quilt aficionados.

“The idea was to build a well-rounded exhibit that addressed different aspects of the state and that could tell a compelling story,” she said in an email interview.

Of course, it’s impossible for a webpage to capture the full experience of the physical exhibition, at which viewers can see the work in three dimensions and witness how they work together in one space. Nevertheless, the organizers said they’re pleased with the way Exhibit Envoy has translated the show online, particularly the interactive aspects.

In addition to the access to the exhibition itself, the library has scheduled a slate of live events including a Jan. 19 talk by Nancy Bavor, the executive director of the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles, on the emergence of art quilts from the 1960s to today; a Jan. 25 presentation by Susan Burton, criminal justice reform advocate; and a talk on the immigrant experience by acclaimed author and professor Francisco Jimenez on Feb. 11.

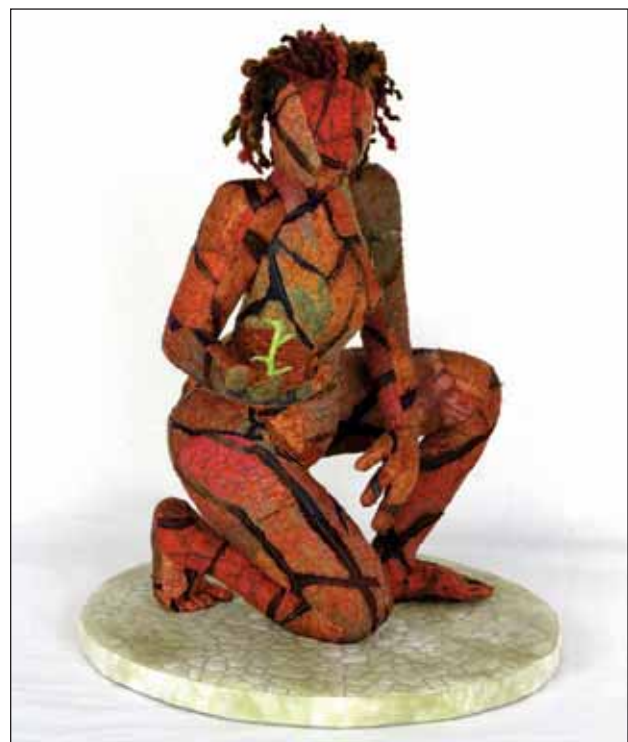
“Stitching California,” Weaver said, “brings together art and history with an eye toward the social milieu, which is a perfect umbrella for the kind of programming we regularly offer.”

Holmes said she hopes online viewers may be inspired to check out the physical traveling exhibit once the pandemic is under control, as well as gain an appreciation for art quilts as a medium and reflect on the “many realities” of California.

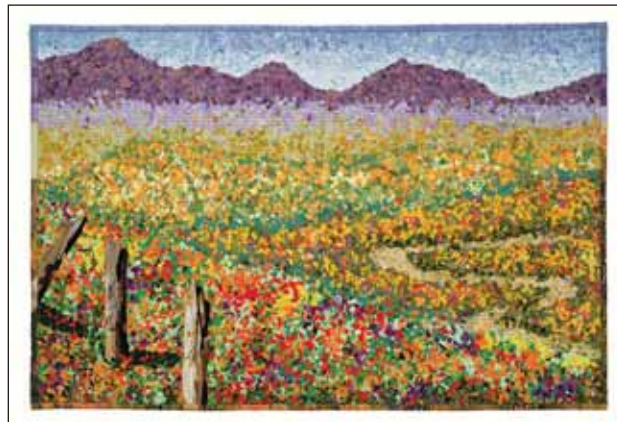
“I would like people to realize how many ways there are to look at things beyond one’s own idiosyncratic view, and that those varied views taken together make up a richer whole and more complete understanding of one’s environment,” she said.

The exhibition, as well as links to the accompanying library events, can be found at [exhibits.exhibitenvoy.org/stitching-california-menlo-park](http://exhibits.exhibitenvoy.org/stitching-california-menlo-park). ■

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Courtesy Susan Else/Studio Art Quilt Associates



Courtesy Denise Oyama Miller/Studio Art Quilt Associates

Above: “Poppy Reserve” by Denise Oyama Miller is part of a virtual exhibition through Feb. 15.

Left: “Hope” by Susan Else.

# Food & Drink

## Local food and drink wrap-up

World Wrapps set to return to Midpeninsula and Kristi Marie's is now JuiceBox wine shop

By Elena Kadvany

This week in local dining news, a revamped World Wrapps is set to bring its fast-casual eateries back to the Midpeninsula, and the former Kristi Marie's in Redwood City is reborn as a wine shop highlighting small producers and natural, organic and biodynamic winemaking methods.

### World Wrapps returns

Twenty-five years after World Wrapps was born in the Bay Area, two of its original founders have revived the fast-casual chain and plan to open two locations on the Peninsula.

World Wrapps will open at Stanford Shopping Center in Palo Alto in late January or early February and at the San Antonio Center in Mountain View in late 2021 or early 2022. Local diners might remember World Wrapps from when it operated on Emerson Street and University Avenue in Palo Alto 20 years ago.

Matthew Blair and Keith Cox, two of the four owners who opened World Wrapps in San Francisco in 1995, recently bought back and revamped the company. (Cox also co-founded and owns sustainable seafood eatery Pacific Catch.)

World Wrapps 2.0, as they call it, serves flatbread that's pressed fresh to order and plant-based Beyond Meat. They dropped smoothies from the menu and

replaced them with boba tea, agua fresca, horchata and mango lassi.

In addition to flatbread wraps, the eatery now serves burrito-sized nori wraps with sushi rice and fillings like yellowfin tuna, furikake salmon, ahi poke, avocado, macadamia nuts and garlic aioli. There are also large versions of summer rolls, rice paper stuffed with proteins including chicken, shrimp, salmon and tahini tofu. All wraps can be ordered as bowls.

They reopened the first World Wrapps location in San Francisco in early 2020. When the coronavirus hit, they pivoted to donating meals to first responders, health care workers and people in need. This effort, combined with the menu's natural disposition to takeout, meant World Wrapps hasn't had to furlough or lay off a single employee during the pandemic, Blair said.

"We're very fortunate to be in fast casual right now. We have small stores. We do have dine-in capability but that's not the majority of our business," he said.

It's also allowed them to keep growing at a time when most restaurants are struggling to survive. There are now three



Courtesy World Wrapps

The revamped World Wrapps menu includes bowls and burrito-sized summer rolls.

World Wrapps in San Francisco, Santa Clara and Corte Madera. The Palo Alto World Wrapps will open next, then another outpost in San Ramon and Mountain View.

Stay tuned on opening dates for the Palo Alto and Mountain View locations.

### JuiceBox wine shop debuts

Local restaurateur and wine bar owner Zu Tarazi is back with a new project: JuiceBox, a Redwood City wine shop focused on small producers.

JuiceBox opened in December at 318 Arguello St., where he and his wife Kristi Borrone ran Kristi Marie's until last March. The couple sold the business in late February, but when shelter in place took effect shortly after, the buyers backed out, Tarazi said.

Tarazi was on his way out from Bottle Shop, a wine bar he opened a few blocks away in 2018, so he decided to open his own shop and tasting room. (Bottle Shop is still open under different ownership.)

"I think more than ever we need to support the smaller producers in light of the fires of 2018 and 2019 and the pandemic," Tarazi said. "A lot of the big guys are going to be OK but these smaller producers are going to struggle — and it's not done yet."

Tarazi began his career as a manager at the longtime, now-closed John Bentley's in Redwood City. He met Borrone while working at her family's iconic Cafe Borrone in Menlo Park. They went on to open two restaurants together, Station 1 in Woodside and Kristi Marie's.

While the majority of the wine Tarazi sells subscribes to the notion of hands-off winemaking with little intervention — often captured in the broad umbrella term natural wine — he doesn't strictly define JuiceBox as a natural wine shop. He wants to highlight "winemakers who respect their land, using organic or biodynamic farming to produce wines with little to no addition, wines that let the terroir and style shine through," the JuiceBox website reads.

Unlike Bottle Shop, which was focused on California wines, JuiceBox's shelves are stocked with bottles from Northern California, Oregon, Italy, France and Mexico. There are wines

made by Jamiee Motley in Sebastopol, who lost nearly her entire vintage of 2019 wine in the Glass Fire this fall; grenache and chardonnay from Florez Wines, an organic producer in Santa Cruz; and syrah from Donkey & Goat Winery in Berkeley, whose biodynamic wines have nothing added except for minimal sulphur.

For now, JuiceBox is only open for pickup and delivery but when public health restrictions allow for it, the shop will offer by-the-glass tastings, winemaker events and Equator Coffee espresso. JuiceBox won't serve food, unless it's slabs of focaccia made by Borrone (a popular offering at Bottle Shop when Tarazi ran it.)

JuiceBox also offers a wine club that comes with three bottles per month for \$90.

Tarazi's goal at JuiceBox is to encourage customers to drink wine as locally as possible.

"The same way you're approaching your food and trying to support local restaurants, I think it's really important that we take that step with buying wine," he said. "I know convenience wins a lot of the time but I hope that there's a little more consideration of where their (customers') buying power is."

JuiceBox is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tarazi offers same-day delivery within 5 miles of the shop for orders placed online before 4 p.m. ■

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Courtesy Zu Tarazi

JuiceBox wine shop is open for pickup and delivery in downtown Redwood City.



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