

# The Almanac

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## Our better nature: Six ideas to diversify the outdoors

José González, founder of Latino Outdoors, dissects the misguided assumptions and hidden disparities that leave many families off Peninsula trails

By Kate Bradshaw

The past year has been in many ways a devastating one for the Latino community, which has been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 nationwide. It's also brought unprecedented changes in the outdoors community as the pandemic has triggered widespread shutdowns of open recreation spaces, followed by reopenings that drew record numbers of visitors as people sought out refuge in the great outdoors.

For those leading the intersection of those communities, like José González, the pandemic period has triggered some complex conversations.

González, a conservationist and educator who founded the organization Latino Outdoors, recently talked about his work and about what the region is doing right — and wrong — to make the outdoors and the environmental movements more inclusive, particularly for the Latinx community. He prefers the gender-neutral term Latinx to refer to people of Latin American cultural or ethnic identity.

Latino Outdoors, a San Francisco-based organization, was

founded in 2013 and is focused on developing conservation and outdoor education leaders nationwide. It works to address the fact that although the Latinx population is the fastest-growing demographic group in the U.S., it is also among the least represented groups in conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental education initiatives, according to its website.

While González doesn't work as executive director of Latino Outdoors anymore, he continues to serve as an ambassador for the program, as well as a volunteer and adviser. And he's considered a thought leader when it comes to the outdoors and inclusion. In fact, he is set to be recognized at the Bay Nature Institute's 2021 Local Hero Awards on Sunday, April 11, from 5 to 6:15 p.m. Sign up for the free event at [is.gd/baynature](https://is.gd/baynature).

Here are a few key points González made.

**1. We should broaden our definitions of what "outdoorsy" means.**

Oftentimes, people think of hiking, camping, backpacking or other activities featured in the REI catalog as traditional "outdoorsy" activities, but it's important to think of other ways that



Michael Estrada

José González, founder of Latino Outdoors, lead an outing in San Mateo County several years ago as part of a collaboration with the Latino Community Foundation.

people are connected to land, he said. Many people in the Latinx community have their own rich histories of working with land and deep connections to the landscape, he said.

It's useful to understand that

there's a spectrum of interest in outdoor engagement, and that "being outdoorsy" doesn't have to apply only to those seeking out extreme mountain experiences. It can also include people who enjoy

nature nearby, he said.

For many people in the Latinx community, he said, "This sense of being with nature outdoors is not new. We want to push

See **GONZÁLEZ**, page 13

## After attacks on Asian Americans, state lawmakers push to expand hate crime laws

By Byrhonda Lyons and Robert Lewis/CalMatters

Since 2017, California lawmakers have introduced more than a dozen bills aimed at hate crimes, including attempts to improve data, train police and establish a hotline.

Most of those bills died in committees, never getting a

floor vote, according to a CalMatters analysis.

But in the wake of recent, highly visible crimes targeting Asian Americans, lawmakers are introducing some of the same measures their colleagues once rejected.

"There wasn't the same level of urgency that I think is true today," said Assemblymember David Chiu (D-San Francisco),

who is reintroducing his bill from 2017 that would require the state attorney general to maintain a toll-free number where people could report hate crimes.

"The Atlanta shooting woke up much of the rest of America to what those of us in the Asian American community have been experiencing for quite some time."

**Hate crimes data elusive**

Hate crimes data is spotty at best. A recent California State University, San Bernardino study showed an uptick in anti-Asian hate crimes reported to police in 18 large American cities from 2019 to 2020. The numbers, however, are small. San Jose reported a rise from four to 10, while Los Angeles saw an increase from seven to

15, the study showed.

Experts say hate crimes are widely underreported and, even when they are, police officers sometimes fail to document incidents involving bias as a hate crime.

"We know that reporting rates of hate crimes by victims are really low," said Phyllis

See **HATE CRIME LAWS**, page 21

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT  
500 LAUREL STREET  
MENLO PARK, CA 94025**

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the District Board of West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in the District's Board Room located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park and by Zoom or telephone <https://zoom.us/j/98246432426?pwd=TTF4aFZlazZjT2dyC0ZlZXUxRTZzd09> Meeting ID: 982 4643 2426 Passcode: 162687 or telephone 669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 982 4643 2426 Passcode: 162687

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a proposed increase in sewer services charges for fiscal year 2021/2022. Additional information is available through the District's website at [www.westbaysanitary.org](http://www.westbaysanitary.org) and on the official notice that was mailed to every parcel address that pays District rates.

The annual sewer service charge will increase from \$1,224 per single family residence to \$1,255 in fiscal year 2021/2022. Approximately 80 homes in the Portola Valley area (located within the On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone) who pay higher charges for the maintenance of their STEP or Grinder Sewer Collection Systems will increase from \$1,694 per single family residence to \$1,875 in fiscal year 2021/2022 in order to realign charges with the cost of service, charges for the maintenance of the STEP/Grinder Sewer Collection Systems. Non-residential rates will increase proportionately according to loading characteristics. The increased charges are required to fund needed maintenance, reconstruction to the sewer system, levee improvements, and expenses for the Silicon Valley Clean Water regional wastewater treatment plant.

Protests against the proposed rate increase must be submitted in writing by 4:00pm on April 28, 2021, and signed by the property owner, must identify the owner(s) of the property for which the protest is entered, and must include the property address and assessor's parcel number (APN).

/s/ Sergio Ramirez

Sergio Ramirez, District Manager

**THE 35TH ANNUAL PALO ALTO WEEKLY**

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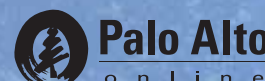
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# Local News

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Magali Gauthier

**Jeferson**, a first grader at Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy, listens to a class on an iPad at the Boys and Girls Club in East Palo Alto on Sept. 16. Schools in the Ravenswood district, including Belle Haven Elementary, are set to reopen this month.

## Ravenswood prepares to reopen schools districtwide

By Elena Kadvany

The Ravenswood school board, with some reluctance from two trustees, approved a plan to reopen schools districtwide for the first time since closing due to the pandemic last March.

The board voted 5-0 on March 25 to start reopening schools on April 12. Board President Mele Latu said she was “on the fence” due to health and safety concerns,

and trustee Bronwyn Alexander had reservations about reopening the district’s sole middle school, but both ultimately supported the plan.

Teachers will be required to return to work, but the four schools will have the flexibility to decide what kind of a model to implement, either livestreaming, a half-day of in-person instruction or a full day. Families will still have the option to keep their children at home for fully remote learning.

The board talked about reopening at length during a study session March 23, the discussion reflecting an ongoing tension between teacher concerns and students and families who are desperate to get back to face-to-face learning. The majority of about 680 parents who responded to a survey want their children to go back to school, but there are not enough teachers willing to

See **RAVENSWOOD**, page 10

## Portola Farms founder, longtime Woodside resident Glenn Atkinson dies at 96

By Angela Swartz

Longtime Woodside resident and local business owner Glenn Atkinson died at his home on March 11. He was 96.

Atkinson was a lifelong horse lover. He founded Portola Farms, a horse boarding complex located on “30 peaceful acres at the base of Woodside’s Western Hills and the edge of a Nature Preserve,” in 1987 with his wife Nancy, according to Portola Farms’ website.

“Woodside has lost one of

its great characters,” said Mayor Brian Dombkowski during a March 23 Town Council meeting.

Born Nov. 11, 1924, in Okeechobee, Florida, Atkinson got his first pony at age 5, when he and the pony were about the same height, according to The Almanac’s archives. It was love at first sight.

“I’d been riding probably since



Glenn Atkinson

I was in diapers,” Atkinson told The Almanac in 2008. His father was a horseman, but, he added, “It’s different when you own (the pony).”

Atkinson left school before high school graduation, enlisting in the Army after military school, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

As a member of the 101st Airborne Division, he fought at the Battle of the Bulge in 1944, according to The Almanac’s archives. Armed with a bazooka,

See **ATKINSON**, page 8

## Vaccine appointments may be backed up for several weeks

By Barbara Feder Ostrov and Ana B. Ibarra/CalMatters

Californians frustrated by the never-ending hunt for COVID-19 vaccine appointments may have to wait several weeks until appointments are more readily available, Blue Shield’s CEO said in an interview on March 26.

Blue Shield, the insurer tasked to oversee the state’s vaccine distribution, is aware of Californians’ frustrations and health care providers’ complaints, and

is working to quickly expand distribution so that everyone who wants a dose can get one, CEO Paul Markovich said days after the state announced COVID vaccine eligibility would open to everyone ages 50 and

older April 1 and to everyone 16 and older two weeks later.

“Immediately on the first day, there probably won’t be availability for everybody, just because ... when you make millions of people eligible overnight, there’s not millions of appointments immediately available at that moment,” Markovich said. “But I would say by the time we get to the end of April, or potentially early May, I don’t think that’s going to be an issue.”

Blue Shield says California now has the capacity to administer 4 million vaccines a week. But to meet that capacity, manufacturers have to deliver the vaccine supply they have promised, Markovich said.

The scope of California’s vaccination push is massive. To date, 16.4 million vaccine doses have been administered, more than the amounts that some entire countries — Russia and Germany — have administered. About 18% of Californians are fully vaccinated, but far more are needed to achieve the herd immunity that will ease pandemic restrictions.

In San Mateo County, nearly 284,000 people have received

a dose of COVID-19 vaccine, or 44.2% of residents age 16 and older, and nearly half of them — 135,000 — are fully vaccinated, San Mateo County Health announced on March 31.

California is expected to receive 2.5 million vaccines per week in early April and close to 3 million by the second half of the month. That’s a substantial increase from the approximate 1.8 million vaccines a week the state is currently receiving. The boost allows California to expand eligibility to residents

‘When you make millions of people eligible overnight, there’s not millions of appointments immediately available.’

BLUE SHIELD CEO  
PAUL MARKOVICH

who are 50 and older starting April 1, and then to everyone 16 and older beginning on April 15.

At the same time, two mass vaccination sites in Oakland and Los Angeles run by federal and state agencies are expected to

close April 11, California officials announced on March 26. The federal-state pilot project ends then, although the local health agencies may take over the sites.

California’s no-bid, abruptly announced contract with Blue Shield to oversee vaccine distribution has been controversial. Some counties refused to sign a contract with the insurer, fearing giving authority to a private company. Counties now are allowed to sign modified agreements with the state to join Blue Shield’s network.

In a troubleshooting meeting on March 26 for vaccinators, some doctors complained that they had tried to sign up with Blue Shield yet couldn’t get doses for their patients.

But that’s by design, Markovich said. Blue Shield first will bring on board the clinics and doctors who can reach the most people, he said.

“We’re certainly going to get back to everybody who’s interested,” Markovich said. “But some of that delay has been intentional. We didn’t see a lot of point in making them go

See **VACCINES**, page 13



## Las Lomitas Elementary School District Bond Oversight Committee

The District is currently searching for members of the Las Lomitas Elementary School District Community to serve on a Citizens' Oversight Committee for Bond Measures to fulfill the criteria of:

- One (1) member who shall be a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District.
- One (1) member who shall be active in a senior citizens' organization
- One (1) member of the community at large

Individuals interested in being appointed to the Bond Oversight Committee can access application information online at [www.llesd.org](http://www.llesd.org), by emailing [sfuentes@llesd.org](mailto:sfuentes@llesd.org) or calling 650-854-6311.

**Deadline for Application: April 16, 2021 by 4pm.**

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

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Go to: [AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](http://AlmanacNews.com/obituaries)

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## CRIME BRIEFS

### Man sentenced in Sharon Heights robbery case

A Redwood City man has been sentenced to serve three years in state prison after he was found guilty of robbery at an apartment complex in Sharon Heights, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office.

Last April, a custodian at an apartment complex on Sharon Park Drive saw a man and woman who were not tenants taking packages from the complex's mail room, according to prosecutors.

She confronted them, and the man, later identified as Andrew Robert Gardner, a 32-year-old Redwood City resident, grabbed her from behind, covered her mouth to prevent her from screaming and held her. The female accomplice called the female custodian a vulgar name and continued to load the packages into their car, prosecutors said.

After seven packages were stolen, the man and woman fled. As they drove away, the custodian took a photo of the robbers' vehicle, including the license plate. The vehicle was registered to Gardner and the custodian identified him as the robber, according to prosecutors.

After a five-day trial ending Feb. 25, a jury found him guilty of felony robbery. He remains in custody on \$50,000 bail. He was sentenced to three years in state prison, with credit for 197 days of time served. He is also required to pay about \$770 in restitution to two victims and more to other victims in amounts still being determined.

See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 9

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### County survey on natural threats

San Mateo County is updating a plan looking at natural hazards and how to mitigate them.

People are invited to fill out the survey at [surveymonkey.com/r/RG5GTPS](http://surveymonkey.com/r/RG5GTPS).

The survey assesses people's attitudes and experiences with — as well as preparation for — natural disasters.

Learn more about the project at [is.gd/smchazardplan](http://is.gd/smchazardplan).

### New library book club launched for African American women

The Menlo Park Library has launched a book club for African American women called the Melanated Reads Book Group.

The group, moderated by city staff members Natalya Jones and Sarah Sandoval, launched in early February and is aimed at creating "a safe space for African American women to speak, vent and enjoy honest and open conversation," according to library staff.

The club meets monthly and selects books by African American authors.

"Our goal for this community-based group is to introduce a variety of African American writers who will help build a love of reading in a positive environment while meeting new people and gaining new perspectives," staff said.

This month's selection is "The Vanishing Half" by Brit Bennett. The next monthly meeting is set to take place virtually on Monday, April 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Access more information at [is.gd/bookclub1](http://is.gd/bookclub1).

The library is also considering other book group concepts, such as a Spanish-language literature and discussion group, according to staff.

—Kate Bradshaw

### Woodside Arts & Culture online talk

The April edition of Woodside Arts & Culture's First Friday

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 20

## CORRECTION

In last week's issue, actor Coco Jimenez was misidentified in a photo caption for the review of Pear Theatre's production of "Under Milk Wood" on page 19. The caption should have read: Ali-Moosa Mirza, left, and Coco Jimenez perform in the Pear Theatre's production of Dylan Thomas's "Under Milk Wood," available online through April 11.

# Offer vaccines to hard-hit communities ahead of April 15, state senator says

By Astrid Casimire/  
Bay City News Service

State Sen. Josh Becker, D-Menlo Park, on Monday urged California health officials to expand vaccine eligibility in San Mateo County's vulnerable communities ahead of April 15.

In a news release, Becker requested that the state allow vaccinations for all residents 16 and older in communities like East Palo Alto and North Fair Oaks, which have had higher infection rates and lower vaccination rates compared to the rest of San Mateo County. The goal is to make it as easy as possible for people to get vaccinated, Becker said.

While the state plans to expand eligibility to allow all adults 16 and older to receive the vaccine starting April 15, Becker wants that expansion to happen earlier in hard-hit communities so that vulnerable residents can get vaccinated ahead of the expected rush.

"Communities like East Palo Alto are home to large numbers of essential frontline workers

who have heroically stepped up and supported all of us through the entire pandemic but remain largely unvaccinated," Becker said in a statement.

Vaccination rates in East Palo Alto continue to lag behind the average in San Mateo County. As of March 25, 23.8% of eligible East Palo Alto residents have been vaccinated so far compared to 44.2% countywide.

In terms of infection rates, East Palo Alto represents about 4% of the population in San Mateo County but has had 10% of COVID-19 cases overall. In the last 30 days, 8% of the county's cases were in East Palo Alto, according to county data updated March 26.

In San Mateo County, residents eligible for the vaccine include health care workers, residents 50 and older as of April 1 and essential workers in the education, child care, food and agriculture and emergency response sectors.

The county is also vaccinating people experiencing homelessness and jail inmates, while some health care providers are

providing vaccinations for people 16 to 64 years old with underlying medical conditions.

Becker said that expanding eligibility will make it easier for other workers to get vaccinated.

"Firstly, roles like construction worker, housekeeper, and gardener are not listed," Becker said. "Secondly, many in East Palo Alto may, for example, take care of kids but may not be a licensed childcare provider. These people are not coming in if they think they may not be eligible because they don't want to take someone else's spot."

Expanding eligibility would also help families who live together get vaccinated.

"When you have a hard-hit community with massive community spread and folks living in crowded homes together, it doesn't make sense for a 49-year-old to drive a 70-year-old and [for] that 49-year old not to get vaccinated," Becker said.

This isn't the first call for increased vaccinations in East Palo Alto. In a news conference March 1, Becker and other local



Magali Gauthier

**Monica Magana and Adriana Castaneda** prepare syringes with the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at Ravenswood Family Health Center in East Palo Alto on Jan. 30.

leaders called for the state to increase vaccine clinics in East Palo Alto given its low vaccination rate. Since then, the county announced weekly vaccination clinics in East Palo Alto through the Ravenswood Family Health Center.

San Mateo County also canceled its mass vaccination clinics for the foreseeable future to focus on smaller clinics in vulnerable communities.

Becker commended the county for its efforts and said, "Now we just need to make it as easy as

possible for people in these communities to get vaccinated and that's why I'm calling for this expanded eligibility."

People can sign up at MyTurn.ca.gov to be notified when they become eligible for the vaccine. A MyTurn help line is available at (833) 422-4255.

San Mateo County's notification tool is also available online at [bit.ly/3cxZNjY](http://bit.ly/3cxZNjY).

Those struggling to make an appointment can also contact Becker's district office at (650) 212-3313. ■

## Coronavirus central: Eligibility expands, but supply concerns abound

By Embarcadero Media staff

San Mateo County as of Tuesday had 40,385 cumulative cases of COVID-19, with 547 deaths. There were 25 people hospitalized. Santa Clara County as of Tuesday had 114,482 cumulative COVID-19 cases and 1,940 deaths. There were 114 people hospitalized, 17 of which were new.

### State expands vaccine eligibility

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced on March 25 that all Californians 50 and older will be eligible to be vaccinated on April 1, while everyone 16 and older will qualify two weeks later, on April 15.

The governor also said that effective April 1, the state will loosen requirements in lower-income communities for doctors and other health care providers to use their discretion to vaccinate anyone they think should get one, regardless of age or medical condition.

The state expects a surge in supply next month: approximately 2.5 million first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccinations per week in the first half of April, and more than 3 million in the second half of the month.

That is a substantial increase from the 1.8 million doses the state receives per week. Health

officials have long said supply was the biggest constraint, and that the state has capacity to administer about 3 million vaccines per week and should be able to administer up to 4 million by the end of April.

The expansion means that the state is about to open up to vaccinating all adults. It comes before May 1, when President Joe Biden had anticipated the move nationwide.

Even with this expansion in eligibility and supply, it will take several months to vaccinate everyone who wants a vaccine, health officials warn.

It also is likely to spur a rush for appointments, leaving many people frustrated that they are unable to line up vaccinations.

Health officials in Santa Clara County said that while they'll expand vaccinations to people 50 and older starting April 1, and to everyone April 15, there are still far too few doses available.

Louise Rogers, chief of San Mateo County Health, said in a statement last week that the county's focus "will remain equity, speed and scale in our local approach."

"If the opening of eligibility aligns with much more supply to the County, we would expect to continue to mobilize locally targeted clinics in our most vulnerable communities, as well as offering mass vaccination at high-throughput sites such

as the SMC Event Center and the SFO Long Term Parking garage," she said. "Our work during the last several weeks to mobilize both targeted and large-scale vaccine efforts positions us well to scale up and achieve even greater reach more quickly — if there is more supply of the vaccine."

Sutter Health, one of California's largest health systems, can vaccinate more than 25,000 patients daily but also has too few doses to meet demand, said spokeswoman Angeline Sheets.

Previously, Californians 65 and over and people with certain serious health conditions were eligible, along with health care workers, educators, food industry workers and a few other types of essential workers.

The state has largely followed guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on vaccine prioritization. Still, the state has received some pushback on its vaccination game plan — most recently, people with some underlying medical conditions questioned why their conditions were left out. People with Type 2 diabetes, for example, are eligible now, but not those with Type 1 diabetes, which is usually diagnosed early in life and is related to an autoimmune reaction.

The state's expansion means Newsom himself will be eligible for a vaccine on April 1. He said he would take whichever vaccine

is available for him, acknowledging concerns that some vaccines are better than others.

### 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.*

## REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman

### Should I Allow Preemptive Offers?



**Dear Monica:** My house just went on the market this weekend and some agents have already written offers. Should I wait to give others a chance to make an offer?  
**Emily G.**

**Dear Emily:** The market is very active and buyers are jumping on properties as soon as they come on the market. Listing agents who haven't set

a time for offers are finding that buyers are making offers as soon as they can. These "pre-emptive" offers are usually very strong and sellers are willing to accept the one that suits them best. If you receive early offers, you can decide what the comps would support along with other factors such as cash vs. loan. It's a good market for sellers and this will benefit you.

Contact me at [monica@monicacorman.com](mailto:monica@monicacorman.com): Office: 650-465-5971, COMPASS. WSJ Nationally Ranked. Real Trends Bay Area Top 100 Agents

# Gary Riekes, founder of Riekes Center, dies at 69

By Kate Bradshaw

**G**ary Riekes, founder of the Riekes Center for Human Enhancement in Menlo Park, died March 24, a little more than a week shy of his 70th birthday.

He was known widely as someone who fostered a compassionate community that believed in the powerful potential of every person and dedicated his life to helping people achieve their goals. He received a local Jefferson Award for Public Service, was inducted into the Menlo School Athletic Hall of Fame, and impacted many lives for the better, according to an obituary compiled by Riekes Center staff and his family.

Riekes was born April 4, 1951, in Omaha, Nebraska, to parents Dorothy and Max, who were a classical violinist and a former college football player, respectively. He quickly followed in their footsteps. By age 10, he played as a professional musician on the saxophone, clarinet and singing



Courtesy the Riekes Center for Human Enhancement

**Gary Riekes, who founded the Riekes Center in Menlo Park, was a musician, athlete, coach and mentor.**

with a pop, ragtime and swing group. He later joined the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, where he played oboe and English horn.

He went on to attend Stanford University, where he played in the symphony, ran track and played on the football team as a wide receiver.

In college, he sustained an injury that led him to spend the next decade or so developing his own physical rehabilitation, when the specialties of sports medicine and therapy were still developing. During that time, he created student programs and managed multidisciplinary training facilities, at times offering a recording studio, cutting-edge gym equipment and landscaping projects. During those years, he worked to develop and refine his mentoring curriculum that later became the foundation of the Riekes Center.

Riekes also worked as a professional football coach. He coached the New York Knights in the World Football League and was a coaching consultant for Menlo School, Woodside High School and Sequoia High School.

The Riekes Center, which Riekes founded in 1996, is now located at 3455 Edison Way, and has served more than 100,000 alumni since Riekes first began mentoring people in 1974. It continues to serve about 7,000 people annually.

“What Gary created was really special,” said Brian Tetrud, a young man who was mentored by Riekes and worked for him for about seven years.

Riekes had “a way of being 100% present in his conversations” and helping youth tackle their core problems and goals, he said.

Many teens and children, some of whom came from disadvantaged or difficult family circumstances, found tools to develop their athletic or musical passions at the Riekes Center that they otherwise might not have the resources to access, he said.

For some, he added, “Gary was the father they never had.”

“He had the resources to get them away from these bad situations and put them in a more nurturing environment,” Tetrud said. “I think that really turned around the lives of just hundreds, if not thousands of kids.”

He added that even though he wasn’t disadvantaged as a youth, he was a bit lost. Riekes encouraged him to pursue music

and athletics, which, he said, “changed my life.”

To this day, he said, he plays a violin that belonged to Riekes’ mom.

Others shared similar kind words about Riekes.

“Gary was always the nicest guy. So energetic and generous,” said Brady Gallagher, who participated in programs at the Riekes Center.

“He had a way of making everyone feel important and special,” said Laura Stein, former human resources director at the Riekes Center. “He built an empire of love and kindness. It’s so heartbreaking to see him gone.”

Riekes is survived by his sister, nephews, and the staff and students he worked with closely.

A celebration of his life and legacy will be held in the future. People are invited to email celebration@riekes.org for updates. ▀

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

## ATKINSON

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Atkinson ran from foxhole to foxhole and took out five German tanks. He was hospitalized for months after the battle after getting hit by an enemy shell and almost lost a leg. He was awarded the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his efforts, according to the Chronicle.

After the war, he studied architecture at University of Southern California through the GI Bill,

according to his family. While at USC, he paid his bills by managing a horse facility and married his first wife, Constance Smith, his family said.

He raised five children on Concar Ranch in Hillsborough, according to his family.

Atkinson played polo at the Menlo Circus Club in Atherton for 50 years with his brother, according to The Almanac’s archives.

He was named “Horseman of the Year” by the Mounted Patrol

of San Mateo County, a men’s equestrian organization, in 2007. The award cited his service to the equestrian community and his support in preserving the county’s equestrian traditions, trails and stables.

Atkinson served as vice president and general manager of San Mateo-based construction firm L.C. Smith and Company, according to The Almanac’s archives. He helped build parts of Interstate 280 in the 1970s. His construction expertise and

love for horses conveniently converged.

“I’ve built six or seven barns that hold about 200 horses in Woodside,” he told The Almanac in 2008. “I’m still doing it.”

The Atkinsons would often open Portola Farms to local schools and charities for fundraising events, which have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, according to The Almanac’s archives.

Although training is optional at Portola Farms, six professional hunter/jumper trainers offer full training, lessons, grooming, turnout services, school horses and summer camps. In addition the facility hosts several weekend clinics a year with world-class trainers, according to the Portola Farms website.

In 1975, he married Nancy Reed, whom he met through their mutual admiration for horses, the same year they bought their home in Woodside. Their first wedding present was a ton of hay from Glenn’s brother Bill and his wife Carol, according to Nancy.

During his over 45 years in Woodside, Atkinson served on the town’s Architectural Site Review Board from 1999 to 2010, according to the town. He was known for wearing his Stetson cowboy hat during his Thursday nights at the Parkside Grille in Portola Valley, according to the Chronicle.

He served on the Cow Palace board from 2008 to 2016, his family said. While on the board he met Quentin Kopp, a retired judge and former state senator.

“He (Atkinson) was a man who loved to serve people without

compensation,” Kopp said. “He proved that during WWII and he proved that as a Cow Palace director with his love of animals and his brilliant business mind. He was a great American.”

Atkinson is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Nancy; children Larry Atkinson, Jeff Atkinson, Greg Atkinson, Vickie Montgomery and Carrie Atkinson. His family also listed as survivors barn manager George Zepeda and personal bartender Robert Norwood.

A celebration of his life is planned to be held at Portola Farms, but the date is pending. ▀

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

## OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Sally Childs Randall**, 98, an Atherton resident and volunteer at the Artisan Shop at Allied Arts Guild, Peninsula Family Services and Peninsula Volunteers, on Dec. 2; **Robin Quist Gates**, 93, a Woodside resident and former trustee of the San Francisco Modern Museum of Art, on March 21; and **Mar Dayag Balmon**, 67, a former Mountain View and Menlo Park resident, on March 21.

To read full obituaries, leave remembrances and post photos, go to Lasting Memories at [almanacnews.com/obituaries](http://almanacnews.com/obituaries).

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# County juvenile justice commission gives high marks to youth facilities, COVID-19 response

Commissioners also publish guidebook to aid parents of arrested children

By Sue Dremann

**S**an Mateo County's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission gave positive reviews to the COVID-19 response at county youth detention and delinquency-prevention facilities in its 2020 annual report and noted its own work had made progress toward its goals to support youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system and prevent delinquency.

The annual report, which included summaries of inspections at three facilities, found that existing substance abuse, mental health and other services are sufficient to offer programs to all youth who are in the juvenile justice system, but more work should be done to ensure those services are being used when youth are on the outside.

The recently published handbook for parents and guardians, "How to Help Your Child After Arrest," was a two-year effort that began in 2019. The guidebook helps parents navigate the legal system and addresses questions starting from the time of the child's arrest. Topics covered include whether the child should talk to a probation officer about the crime, what charges mean, immigration status concerns, getting an attorney, where to go for answers when confused, court hearings, probation, visitation at juvenile hall, how to keep the child out of the justice system, finishing high school and other related matters.

In addition to the guidebook, the commissioners cataloged existing substance abuse, mental health, and transition services available to youth who have had contact with the juvenile justice system. After interviewing 10 providers to find gaps in services,

the commission concluded that due to a declining number of young people in the system and good coverage of county services, programs are available to all youth who come into contact with the system. Outside of the facilities, however, such services are optional and aren't fully utilized, they said.

"The biggest gap appears to be getting needed mental health and substance abuse services and support to boys transitioning from juvenile hall. Our work in 2021 will be directed at identifying solutions to address this gap," they wrote.

The commissioners also conducted state-mandated inspections of the county's facilities, the Youth Services Center and Camp Kemp for girls and Canyon Oaks. They gave all three facilities overall positive reviews for their effort to provide trauma-related services designed to provide the children with support, guidance and structure.

They also identified gaps. "There continues to be a need to address the vocational and educational needs of youth who have graduated from high school or otherwise achieved equivalency," the commissioners wrote.

The pandemic has also affected the juvenile justice system in significant ways. The Youth Services Center, which houses up to 180 youth, had just 10 young people in January 2021. The Camp Kemp for girls had just four youth out of a capacity of about 30, according to a January commission report. The plummeting numbers are due to safety measures the probation department and other agencies took to protect young people from COVID-19. County agencies were not detaining youth unless they committed a serious offense. The reduced numbers of children in the facilities has led to

staffing constraints.

Due to safety protocols, there were almost no COVID-19 infections among youth and staff, the commissioners noted in their annual report. At the Youth Services Center, a few young people who entered the facility arrived infected with COVID-19, but they were tested and quarantined on entry and the virus did not spread. The staff at the Youth Services Center also did a good job of reducing the potential impacts of isolation and stress during the pandemic while having to keep the young people in their rooms for more hours, the commissioners noted in a separate December inspection report.

Their annual report noted, however, a concern that the girls from Camp Kemp were now sleeping at the Youth Services Center due to the plummeting numbers. In April 2020, Camp Kemp, which focuses on helping girls process trauma and offers an educational program the commission highly lauded, began transferring the girls to the Youth Services Center in the evenings. The commission was not informed of this development.

Staff said the nightly transfer was done in a way to minimize retraumatizing the girls and they were kept away from girls in the locked-down Youth Services Center. The transfer is "a major change," and the commission should be informed "of changes impacting the housing of the youth or other significant changes," the December inspection report noted.

"This is not an ideal situation and should be rectified as soon as possible," the commissioners said in their annual report.

The commission also worked in 2020 to recommend a better strategy for truancy in county public schools, an effort that is ongoing.

"We believe that keeping students in school is key to preventing delinquency. Our goal is to develop recommendations on how to effectively address truancy, increase student attendance, and thereby increase the percentage of students graduating from high school," they wrote.

A task force consisting of representatives from the county Office

of Education, school district boards of trustees, mental health and legal advocacy professionals, and others involved in education has been meeting to assess best ways for reducing truancy and will continue the work in 2021. ▀

Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at [sdremann@paweekly.com](mailto:sdremann@paweekly.com).



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## CRIME BRIEFS

continued from page 6

### Man struck by Caltrain identified

A 76-year-old man from Redwood City was fatally struck March 25 near the Menlo Park and Atherton border, according to the San Mateo County Coroner's Office. His name was Daniel Sorbi.

He was struck by a northbound train around 11:45 a.m. near the Watkins Avenue crossing in Atherton and the Encinal Avenue crossing in Menlo Park.

Additional information about the circumstances surrounding the strike was unavailable, according to a spokesperson for the Coroner's Office.

—Kate Bradshaw

### Selling alcohol to minors

A sting operation cited two clerks Sunday, March 28, for selling alcohol to minors in Menlo Park.

The citations were part of a minor decoy operation run by Menlo Park police and agents from the state Alcoholic Beverage Control. The operation

involved young people under age 21 — under the supervision of authorities — attempting to purchase alcohol from 12 businesses in or near the city.

The two clerks cited face a minimum fine of \$250 and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation.

In addition, the state has the authority to take action against the business where alcohol was sold to a minor. That may include a fine, a suspension of the sales license or the loss of the license.

—Bay City News Service

# Dog may have been attacked by a mountain lion

A possible mountain lion attack involving a dog was reported on the evening of March 25 to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. This is the second reported mountain lion attack since March 17.

Around 9 p.m. in the area of Alpine Road and Interstate Highway 280 near Portola Valley last week, the Sheriff's Office received a report that a medium-sized domestic dog was possibly attacked outside

and carried off by a mountain lion.

At around 9:45 p.m. March 17, a Woodside resident, who lives near Raymundo and Marva Oaks drives, scared off a mountain lion attacking her

dog. This attack was not far from Huddart Park.

The most recent attack wasn't witnessed, but a mountain lion was seen leaving the area around the time the dog was noticed to be missing,

according to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputies were not able to locate the mountain lion or the dog.

—Angela Swartz and  
Bay City News Service

## RAVENSWOOD

continued from page 5

volunteer to teach in person to serve them all.

Superintendent Gina Sudaria advocated for a full reopening, citing improving public health conditions in San Mateo County and East Palo Alto and vaccination rates among staff. The district received priority from the county to get staff vaccinated, and 63% of employees have received at least their first vaccine shot.

"We've been doing style preference based on teachers and I think we need to start doing style preference based on our student needs. We've been very conservative and very cautious about how to proceed," she said March 23. "We are now in a place where we can serve our kids based on families' preference. I'm prepared to stand that ground: We need to start

servicing our families."

The district also is seeing alarming trends among students. Chronic absenteeism, defined as a student who's absent for 10% of the school year, has spiked at 33% compared to 18.5% in 2019. More middle school students in particular are missing classes. It's also been difficult to measure and monitor student progress, staff said, because students are not showing up to take or not completing online assessments. High percentages of students remain below their grade level in literacy, for example.

But attendance and engagement have improved among students who have been able to return to campuses for supervised distance learning at the district's learning hubs, staff said.

Until last week, Ravenswood was the only elementary school district in San Mateo County

that hadn't reopened district-wide or approved a plan to do so, Sudaria said.

"School districts all around us have opened. How much more of a gap are we creating? Are we putting our kids at a disadvantage or creating more of a disparity between us and the ones around us?" trustee Jenny Varghese Bloom asked.

Latu expressed concern about the number of overall vaccinations in East Palo Alto, and said she was worried about teacher and staff safety. Alexander said she had concerns about the middle school schedule and also urged the district to support all teachers who have health or safety risks that may prevent them from coming back to work in person.

Ronda White, president of the teachers union, urged the board to preserve flexibility for teachers as more schools reopen.

"Just for the record, teachers

always have kids' best interests at heart, whether it appears or seems like that," White said. "We will continue to work with the district."

White also asked the district to adhere to 6 feet between students in classrooms, despite the new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and California Department of Public Health that recommends 3 feet between masked students. Staff said the new spacing guidance means that the district will be able to safely fit a full class size into classrooms.

Ravenswood started slowly reopening schools for small groups of students in January. Only teachers who volunteered had to return.

The districtwide reopening will start on April 12 with a phased-in approach through May 5.

Ravenswood will continue

opening additional classrooms at the four schools in different models. Costaño School of the Arts will bring back seven more classes on April 12. Five new classes will return at Belle Haven Elementary School on April 12 in a livestream model, meaning teachers will provide simultaneous in-person and remote instruction. First through fifth graders at Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy will go back in a half-day model either two or four days a week.

Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School, meanwhile, will offer in-person instruction for 21 sixth graders with moderate to severe disabilities starting April 20. The students will learn with a teacher in the morning and then move to an on-campus learning hub for the afternoon. ▣

Email Staff Writer Elena  
Kadvany at [ekadvany@paweekly.com](mailto:ekadvany@paweekly.com).

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**GONZÁLEZ**

*continued from page 1*

and expand the idea of what you have to look like or be wearing to be considered outdoorsy.”

**2. Conservation and outdoor leaders should avoid making assumptions about the Latinx community.**

Sometimes, Latinx community members are left out of outdoor and conservation initiatives because of cultural presumptions, he said.

He shared a story from an early effort between Latino Outdoors and MROSD (Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District) to bring Latinx families from Mountain View to some of the district’s open space preserves. Organizers, he said, had been a bit worried that the families wouldn’t like the space because it didn’t have traditional “park” recreation features like a soccer field.

He told them to just invite the families and give them an opportunity to provide feedback. The families, he said, were thrilled to learn about a new place and discover the natural features of the landscape.

It’s unproductive to make assumptions about the Latinx community to explain their underrepresentation in the outdoors, he said.

For instance, it isn’t accurate to treat everyone in the Latinx community as someone who is undergoing a “new immigrant” experience. “You forget that they’ve been here forever,” he said.

Sometimes people assume that Latinx individuals who work outdoors full time don’t want to also play outdoors, or that some individuals are concerned about their documentation status and don’t want to engage with public agencies. That may be the case for some people, but that’s simply not the case for everyone, he said.

**3. The obstacles aren’t just about cost.**

When it comes to obstacles the Latinx community faces to accessing the outdoors, he said, common barriers that are frequently discussed relate to the cost

of accessing outdoor spaces, including transportation and gear.

“Not everyone has disposable income in that way,” he said, adding that programs aimed at providing free passes or transportation support can help.

But helping everyone feel welcome in open spaces is not as simple as just removing cost barriers. Sometimes, he said, people are “given that look, or feel that they’re intruding in a space, or are not wearing the right thing or not acting the same way that lets them know they’re not welcome.”

Such instances, he said, can manifest as overt racism, as happened with two Black men last year: Ahmaud Arbery was killed while out for a run in Georgia, and Christian Cooper, who was birding in Central Park, had police called on him by a white woman after he asked her to leash her dog. In the Bay Area, racism in the outdoors sometimes appears when people of color are disproportionately accused of not following the rules, he said.

Other times, the lack of welcome can be more subtle, like when parks don’t provide information in multiple languages, said González.

**4. Latinos have played important — but sometimes forgotten — roles in the history of conservation.**

How the history of conservation is told can be incomplete and leave out the Latinx community, González said. Often, it is presented as a narrative about protecting land and species from development and environmental degradation, with mostly white protagonists, but that’s not the full story.

Many people are familiar with Rachel Carson’s 1962 book “Silent Spring” and the environmental work that followed to remove DDT from the environment and protect raptors.

But what’s often missing or left out from that narrative, he said, is the story of Ralph Abascal, a public interest attorney with California Rural Legal Assistance, who filed a lawsuit in 1969 on behalf of six nursing mothers who were field

workers that eventually led to the banning of DDT.

“We leave out the farmworker heroes in some of these larger environmental wins,” González said. “They still have to keep fighting.”

**5. In the Bay Area, the conservation movement could focus more on equity and inclusion.**

Across the region, there are plenty of contradictions and tensions between the conservation-oriented mindsets of residents and the current state of reality, he said.

“You have the blessings of a lot of open space that’s been preserved in a ring around the Bay ... even as inequities have ... set in,” he said. “And you can look at work that says (that) some of the most segregated communities are in the Bay Area.”

At the same time that some wealthy Peninsulans choose to spend lots of money to protect land, there may be many other voices left out of the conservation conversation about how that land is used. Sometimes it’s because lower-income people have to work harder to keep a roof over their heads in a place where the housing supply remains extremely limited and costly, he said.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the existing inequities for the Latinx community in the Bay Area became even more stark, said González.

Part of why the Latinx community has been so impacted by COVID-19 is because they often live in households with more people and more often are

essential workers, he said. Park closures earlier in the pandemic may also have disproportionately burdened under-resourced communities, he argued in an April opinion piece in High Country News.

**6. Outdoors leaders can start by showcasing the value of experiencing nature to underrepresented communities.**

One industry report, he said, found that even though the Latinx community is underrepresented in the outdoors, those who did show up tended to spend the most time outside and the most money on gear.

Families will find ways to spend money on things they value — that’s why people who pay hundreds of dollars for a pass at Disneyland may also balk at the \$80 fee for a National Parks pass, he explained.

“We also have to be conscious that Black and brown does not mean broke and broken,” he said. “A lot of communities will pay. They show up.”

**More information**

González moderated a recent Peninsula Open Space Trust discussion with Dolores Huerta and Luis Valdez, which can be viewed at [is.gd/posttalk1](https://is.gd/posttalk1).

The Peninsula Open Space Trust is set to host the final event of its Wallace Stegner lecture series this year with José Andrés, a chef, restaurateur, humanitarian and disaster relief leader on April 6 at 7 p.m. Go to [openspacetrust.org/wsls-Jose-andres](https://openspacetrust.org/wsls-Jose-andres) to buy tickets. 🗨

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

**VACCINES**

*continued from page 5*

through the work if they were going to then have to potentially wait three or four or more weeks” for doses.

As of March 25, only 20 of the 61 county and city health departments had signed onto the new network. Only Kern and Orange counties signed up directly with Blue Shield. Blue Shield’s network so far includes 270 providers with 2,100 sites, including hospitals, pharmacies and community clinics.

Markovich said he expects all counties and more providers to make the switch.

Doctors and other providers must sign onto the Blue Shield network to continue getting doses.

For months, the state has been dogged by concerns over equity as Latino and Black Californians hardest hit by the pandemic are being vaccinated at lower rates than white people.

A study published on March 26 found that the age-based approach in California helped white people more than people of color. That’s because California’s older

population is more white.

Vaccinating all Californians 75 and older would have prevented the deaths of two-thirds of white people compared to 42% of Black people’s deaths and 35% of Latinos’ deaths, according to the study.

“An age-based approach in California benefits the state’s older white populations at the expense of younger BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and people of color) populations with a higher risk of death from COVID-19,” wrote the researchers from the University of California at San Francisco, University of Minnesota and other institutions.

The study suggests that California’s more recent move to put more focus on disadvantaged neighborhoods will improve this inequity.

California last month began earmarking 40% of its vaccine doses for the state’s lowest income and most diverse communities. 🗨

*Andrea Gemmet contributed to this report. CalMatters.org is a nonprofit, nonpartisan media venture explaining California’s policies and politics.*

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*Quick access to downtown Menlo Park, Stanford University & it’s world class healthcare, luxury mall, public transport and I-280 for easy commute into Silicon Valley or San Francisco. Walk to Sharon Heights coffee shops, grocers, pharmacy and nearby restaurants in West Menlo Park.*

**Offered at \$1,028,000**  
2.5% commission paid to buyer’s agent

[www.realpowerestates.com/CA/Menlo-Park/2140-Santa-Cruz-Avenue/property/2484710](http://www.realpowerestates.com/CA/Menlo-Park/2140-Santa-Cruz-Avenue/property/2484710)



**Nadine Shridhar**  
Broker/Manager, B.Arch., MUP, DRE #01233165  
Realpower Estates  
650-714-6486 | [nadine@realpowerestates.com](mailto:nadine@realpowerestates.com)  
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# 242 Oak Grove Avenue, Atherton



## Grand Atherton Estate on Over 1.3 Acres

Nestled in absolute privacy on over 1.3 sweeping acres, this grand, two-level estate of nearly 5,800 square feet offers ultimate luxury and a sought-after Atherton lifestyle. High-end appointments including detailed ceilings, intricate moldings, and oak floors wrap the home in elegance from the moment you step inside. A fireplace highlights the spectacular living room, the chef's kitchen includes appliances from Wolf and Sub-Zero, and the family room features a fireplace all its own plus access to the grounds. Enjoy the convenience of 5 comfortable bedroom suites, including the master suite with a fireplace and private balcony, as well as a main-level bedroom suite ideal for office use to work from home in style. The grounds of the home offer incredible space for outdoor enjoyment, with a fireplace, kitchen, and pool, plus a lush, sizable lawn perfect for pick-up sports. Adding the finishing touch, this great location is just moments to downtown Menlo Park, and is close to top-ranked Menlo Park schools including Laurel Elementary and Menlo-Atherton High.

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:

[www.242OakGrove.com](http://www.242OakGrove.com)

Offered at \$8,998,000

**Easy and safe access for potential buyers and Realtors®**

**Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Atherton**

Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in Atherton, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

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

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

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



# 97 Ridge View Drive, Atherton



## Grand Atherton Estate on 2.16 Acres

European grandeur and sophistication await in this spectacular gated estate, nestled in supreme privacy on 2.16 acres. Introduced by a courtyard entrance with a cascading 9-tier waterfall, this home wraps you in elegance from the moment you step inside. Luxurious appointments include stained and leaded glass, crystal chandeliers, gilded accents, hand-forged ironwork, and custom wall coverings. Offering 5 bedrooms, 6.5 bathrooms, and over 9,100 square feet of living space, this estate includes an in-home apartment, while a beautiful 1-bed, 1-bath guest home offers 700 square feet of living space. Entertain guests with ease thanks to gathering spaces scaled for entertaining, a gourmet kitchen, and incredible grounds with a pool and swim-through grotto. Work from home in style in the executive office, and unwind in the whimsical Parisian wine cellar and Old English bar. The palatial master suite features a fireplace and spa-like bathroom, while 3 additional guest suites are perfect for friends and family alike. Convenient to Stanford University, Sand Hill Road, and both downtown Menlo Park and Palo Alto, this impressive home is also served by acclaimed Las Lomas schools, with top private schools close at hand.

For virtual open houses & more photos, please visit:

[www.97RidgeViewDr.com](http://www.97RidgeViewDr.com)

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**ATHERTON | \$7,250,000**

Located on Atherton's eponymous street, 140 Atherton Avenue unites classic & timeless elegance w/today's luxury, while maintaining the home's circa 1926 heritage. A gated entrance and ivy-covered wall offer complete seclusion from the street beyond & lead to this extra-deep lot in a beautiful location. A well-appointed 2-bedroom guest house w/full kitchen is located at the rear of the property.

**Hugh Cornish & Associates** 650.619.6461 | hcornish@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #00912143

**Stephanie Elkins Van Linge** 650.400.2933 | stephanie.elkins@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #00897565


**PORTOLA VALLEY | \$3,850,000**

This beautifully remodeled 2-story shingled Portola Valley Ranch home blends the traditions of the past with a fresh, contemporary aesthetic.

**Hugh Cornish & Associates** 650.619.6461 | hcornish@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #00912143

**Stephanie Elkins Van Linge** 650.400.2933 | stephanie.elkins@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #00897565


**SAN JOSE | \$1,425,000**

This inviting 3br/1.5ba home w/cathedral ceilings, French doors, backyard patio, 2-car garage & a side yard storage shed is sparkling clean and ready for the next homeowner. Fantastic location on a beautiful street. Close to shopping centers and all that Willow Glen and Silicon Valley have to offer!

**Camille Eder**  
650.464.4598  
camille.eder@gmail.com  
CalRE #01394600



**SAN JOSE | \$1,199,000**

Welcome to this spectacular end-unit executive townhome in the heart of Silicon Valley! This is the largest unit in the Parkside complex. Spacious & sophisticated 3br/3ba end-unit townhome with 2 fireplaces, a versatile bonus room, and a luxurious master suite.

**Dana Willson**

650.917.4256  
dwillson@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #01292552



**LOS ALTOS | \$1,198,000**

Beautiful and remodeled, well-located condo on a peaceful yet convenient, tree-lined street in the heart of downtown Los Altos. The small complex offers a pool, with a cozy bright foyer entrance and elevator, secured underground parking, extra storage, and an additional one open space parking.

**Farideh Zamani**

650.814.6433  
farideh.zamani@cbnorcal.com  
CalRE #01364595



**EAST PALO ALTO | \$1,099,000**

1 property, 2 homes! Main house - 3br/2ba - kitchen w/granite & SS appliances + separate, detached 1br/1ba home. This is an ideal location just moments to shopping, transportation, schools and a short drive or bike ride to Google, Amazon, and Facebook. Don't miss out on the opportunity to own this prime piece of property in Silicon Valley.

**Miriam Porras** 408.644.5041

CalRE #02002039

**Amelia Middel** 650.704.3064

CalRE #01103989



# RESOLUTION NO. 2238 (2021)

## RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

### Lands of Murphy

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
  - X. All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or
  - Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

**IT IS RESOLVED** by the District Board as follows:

- 1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
- 2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: April 28, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices, 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025 & via Zoom

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

- 3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i).
- 4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
- 5. The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

#### Exhibit A

**Wade Hammond**  
Civil Engineering and Land Surveying  
36660 Newark Blvd, Suite C  
Newark, CA 94560 Tel: 510-579-6112  
wade@whlandsurveyor.com www.wadehammondpls.com

EXHIBIT A

11-25-2020

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF PORTOLA VALLEY, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ALL OF LOT 12, IN BLOCK 2, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED TRACT NUMBER 814 ARROWHEAD MEADOWS UNIT NUMBER 6 BEING A PORTION OF THE RANCHO EL CORTE MADERA, FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAN MATEO COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ON NOVEMBER 29, 1963 IN BOOK 59 OF MAPS AT PAGE(S) 18 AND 19, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12, SAID CORNER LYING ON THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF CHEYENNE POINT AS SHOWN ON SAID MAP; THENCE ALONG THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 12

(1) SOUTH 37°55'00"EAST A DISTANCE OF 233.27 FEET;  
TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 12

(2) SOUTH 57°21'36"WEST A DISTANCE OF 181.19 FEET;  
TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12; THENCE ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 12

(3) NORTH 45°26'28"WEST A DISTANCE OF 215.23 FEET;  
TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12, SAID CORNER LYING ON THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF CHEYENNE POINT AS SHOWN ON SAID MAP; THENCE ALONG THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 12

(4) IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION WITH A NON-TANGENT CURVE TURNING TO THE RIGHT WITH A RADIUS OF 375.00 FEET, HAVING A CHORD BEARING OF NORTH 48°19'16"EAST AND A CHORD DISTANCE OF 49.21 FEET, HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 07°31'28" AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 49.25 FEET; THENCE (5) NORTH 52°05'00"EAST A DISTANCE OF 159.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 43629 SQUARE FEET OR 1.002 ACRES MORE OR LESS.  
END OF DESCRIPTION

AS SHOWN ON EXHIBIT "B", ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

APPROVED  
SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION COMMISSION  
455 COUNTY CENTER  
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063  
EXHIBIT 1 PAGE 1 OF 2

PAGE 1 OF 2

#### Exhibit B

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT  
EXHIBIT "B"  
SITE LOCATION  
30 CHEYENNE POINT  
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA  
GRINDER SYSTEM

(1) Grinder Pump System  
200 Gallons Per Day (GPD)  
APN: 077-242-190  
Lands of Murphy  
30 Cheyenne Point  
Portola Valley, CA  
Location of System: Front of property

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

series offers a personal look at one artist's journey. San Francisco-based artist Rhonel Roberts discusses his upbringing and the influences that led to a career in art in "An African American Artist's Experience," an online talk on April 2, 7-8 p.m.

Roberts grew up near Stockton and got started in art at a young age at school, using India ink. Though the monochromatic medium doesn't reflect the vibrant and colorful works he would go on to create, Roberts credits ink drawing for teaching him layering and shading skills, according to his website.

Roberts studied art at the University of the Pacific and worked in design at Lockheed Martin for nearly a decade before deciding to focus on art. He also began working as an interior designer at this time.

Roberts' many partnerships include projects with Apple, Google, Fillmore Jazz Festival, the San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Public Library and Papyrus card and stationery company.

"It is my dream and passion that my art has 'living impact,'" he says in his mission statement.

For more information, visit [woodsidesartandculture.org](http://woodsidesartandculture.org).

—Heather Zimmerman

### Black holes talk

Black holes, how they form, where they are located and how they interact will be the topic of the Portola Valley Nature and Science Committee talk by Stanford University physics professor Roger W. Romani.

Join the discussion on April 8 at 7 p.m. A link to the meeting can be found at [bit.ly/blackholetalk](http://bit.ly/blackholetalk).

### Coffee with Portola Valley Mayor Maryann Derwin

Portola Valley Mayor Maryann Derwin will be hosting an online "Coffee with the Mayor" on April 7 at 8:30 a.m. A link to the meeting will be posted online at [portolavalley.net](http://portolavalley.net).

### Atherton police appoint new commander

Daniel Larsen is now a commander for the Atherton Police Department (APD) as of March 17, according to a town newsletter. He replaces Joe Wade, who recently retired. Larsen will also take over Wade's role as public information officer for the department.

Larsen joined the APD as an officer in 2013. He was promoted to sergeant in 2017. Larsen's past roles include school resource officer, range master and defensive tactics instructor.

—Angela Swartz

## HATE CRIME LAWS

continued from page 1

Gerstenfeld, California State University, Stanislaus criminal justice professor and author of several textbooks on hate crimes.

“We’re not doing enough to reach out to potential victims, in part because victims don’t know about the laws, they don’t understand them, or they don’t feel comfortable talking to police for a wide variety of reasons,” Gerstenfeld said.

California Department of Justice figures show that the state averaged 31 anti-Asian hate crimes a year between 2015 and 2019, as reported by local law enforcement agencies. It’s a slight uptick from the years before, though the figures fluctuate and were higher in the early 2000s, when anti-Asian hate crimes accounted for more than 60 incidents a year.

State data on 2020 isn’t available, so the full impact of racist rhetoric surrounding the pandemic remains unclear. Still, some widely covered crimes have Asian American communities on edge and officials looking to act.

In Oakland’s Chinatown, video of a 28-year-old man slamming a 91-year-old Asian man to the ground went viral. In San Francisco, a 75-year-old woman garnered national attention when she fended off an attacker with a wooden paddle. In Sacramento, police are investigating whether the vandalism of an Asian-owned gelato shop — the third such incident at his business in a year — is a hate crime.

## The charging obstacles

Even when police label a case as a hate crime, prosecutors can have a hard time proving motive in court.

“Hate crimes are among some of the scariest and most vile crimes we deal with, and they’re some of the most difficult to prove,” said San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin.

In Long Beach, the Long Beach City Prosecutor’s Office and the Long Beach Police Department received a prize from the Anti-Defamation League for its role in combating hate. The office filed hate crime charges in all of the cases referred to its office. City Prosecutor Doug Haubert attributes the city’s success at prosecuting hate crimes to having trained officers who know what to look for.

“We handle so many cases so quickly, that unless the report itself or the officer noted that,



Courtesy Kalee Whitehouse

**Children** hold up signs in protest of anti-Asian hate crimes at a rally outside Palo Alto City Hall on March 28, one of several such events held on the Peninsula over the weekend.

“Hey this could potentially be a hate crime,” it’s unlikely to go noted by the prosecuting office,” Haubert said.

Some organizations — including the California District Attorneys Association — are trying to make it easier for prosecutors to bring such cases, and to increase penalties.

Larry Morse, legislative director for the association, said it’s time to examine the laws on the books and determine whether they are adequate.

“We haven’t introduced many bills along that line because this Legislature has not been inclined to create any new crimes or to increase punishment for any conduct,” said Morse, former Merced County district attorney.

The DA’s association last month threw its support behind a bill by Democratic Assemblymember Jim Cooper of Elk Grove to increase penalties for some hate crimes. The group also opposed a measure to soften penalties for some robberies, suggesting the bills would “lessen the consequences for violent crime and would directly benefit the predators currently committing hate crimes against Asian Americans,” according to a statement from the association.

California does have a number of sentencing enhancements written into the penal code, such as adding time for a variety of crimes targeting victims on the basis of race, gender or bias. There’s also a law making a hate crime a standalone misdemeanor.

Since 1978, California has made it a capital offense to kill someone because of their race, religion or for another bias-related reason.

Gerstenfeld, the CSU Stanislaus professor, said the state has plenty of laws that aren’t being used that often, and the key to success with hate crimes

prosecution is getting people to report them.

“If people don’t feel comfortable dealing with the police, nobody is ever going to be aware that these crimes happened,” she said. “Better training for police officers and prosecutors is also key.”

## Lawmakers circle back

These are all things California lawmakers have pushed for in the past. Improving reporting is one reason Assemblymember David Chiu is reintroducing his hate crimes hotline bill. He thinks it failed because of concerns over cost.

But that’s changed.

“It’s reached a point where we have to take action as a state, certainly as an Asian American,” Chiu said. “What we’ve seen in this past year has been horrifying and cries out for response.”

He is also co-author of a bill that would push law enforcement agencies to better track hate crimes. It follows a 2018 state auditor report that found “underreporting and misreporting of hate crimes among law enforcement agencies.”

Chiu, whose parents immigrated from Taiwan, grew up in the Boston area in the 1970s. He said anti-Asian racism was a regular experience. He said good data is critical to understanding what minority communities often face.

“There are also many incidents of hate that don’t rise to the level of a hate crime, but are disturbing nonetheless and need to be documented and understood for us to consider other policies to address them,” he said.

California generally has strong laws meant to fight hate crimes, said Beth Holtzman, a lawyer with the Anti-Defamation League.

“The issue,” she said, “is with implementation.” ■

## William John Gardner

June 8, 1933 - March 18, 2021

William John Gardner of Portola Valley passed away peacefully surrounded by family. John born in Oakland to William John and Lois M. Gardner, grew up in Piedmont and attended Piedmont High School where he played basketball and maintained lifelong friendships with teammates and coach.

John graduated from Stanford University in 1955 then served as a lieutenant in the Navy. He returned to Stanford to earn an MBA in 1959 and worked as a utility consultant for Tilden Engineering for over fifty years.

John married Eleanor Tilden in 1958. They lived in Palo Alto for 10 years before settling in Portola Valley with their three children. Devoted to his kids, he served on the Alpine Little League Board, coached and refereed AYSO soccer and acted as den leader for the Cub Scouts. John volunteered for Portola Valley’s Emergency Preparedness and Traffic and Safety committees and the Woodside Fire Board. He was an active member and volunteer at Christ Church Portola Valley.

John is survived by his wife Ellie of Portola Valley, son Scott and his wife Ann Marie and daughter Samantha of Greenbrae, son Mark of Portola Valley and daughter Lynn Holthaus and husband Randy and three sons Wesley, William and John of Portola Valley.

Donations on his behalf can be made to Alzheimer’s Association - [act.alz.org](http://act.alz.org) or Christ Church Portola Valley - [ccpvw.org](http://ccpvw.org).



PAID OBITUARY

## Sally Childs Randall

October 28, 1922 - December 2, 2020

Sally Childs Randall passed away in her sleep on December 2, 2020 at The Sequoias in Portola Valley, California. She was 98 years old.

Sally was born on October 28th, 1922 in Hood River, Oregon, to Hazel Holmes Childs and Leroy Childs. She was the youngest of three children, pre-deceased by her husband, Dick, her parents, her eldest brother Leroy Winston Childs, and her brother Alison Childs. Sally attended Hood River High School, then attended the University of Oregon, graduating in 1945 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Sally enjoyed being part of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

In Hood River in November 1948, Sally married Charles Dickey Randall (Dick), who was born in Chicago and resided in Los Altos, California. During their 65 years of marriage, they lived 48 years in Atherton, and enjoyed parties, horseshows, and playing bridge with friends at the Menlo Circus Club. They lived in California, and in Charlottesville, Virginia, and Moorestown, New Jersey. They maintained lifelong friendships based upon those cross-country experiences.

Sally is survived by daughter Susan of Carmel, son Peter (Patti) of Redwood City, and her grandsons Tyler (Danielle) of Sacramento and Greg of San Francisco.

Sally was an active volunteer. She volunteered at the Artisan Shop at The Guild in Menlo Park. Acting on her love of gardening and floral arranging, she was a docent at Filoli. She was also a volunteer for Peninsula Family Services and the Peninsula Volunteers. Donations in Sally’s honor can be made to The Society for Science and The Public ([www.societyforscience.org/tribute](http://www.societyforscience.org/tribute)) and The National Parks Conservation Association ([www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org)).

PAID OBITUARY



# ClassGuide Spring 2021

The pandemic may have changed the meaning of “normal life,” but it hasn’t hampered the plethora of local opportunities available for those looking to take up a new hobby or learn a new skill. Local gyms, art studios and schools have all made the pivot to online learning to cater to the community in a time of social distancing. But the spring also welcomes the reintroduction to a few in-person classes this year: Dance outdoors, ride horses or learn an instrument in person. It’s all here in the 2021 Spring Class Guide. Be sure to contact or check the listing’s website for the latest information.

## Dance

### Captivating Dance by Nona

1923 Menalto Ave., Menlo Park  
650-980-8555  
captivatingdancebynona.com  
Captivating Dance by Nona instructs youth of various ages and abilities in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, hip hop and other styles and skills. Classes are in-person or virtual. The studio also is offering in-person dance camp. Register online.

### Dance Expressions

701 Laurel St., Menlo Park  
650-450-3209  
danceexpressions5678.com  
DanceExpressionsMP@gmail.com  
Dance instruction for students ages 3 and up, focusing on jazz technique at various experience and skill levels. The studio offers outdoor lessons.

## Sports & Fitness

### Menlo Swim & Sport

Burgess Pool, 501 Laurel St., Menlo Park, Belle Haven Pool, 100 Terminal Ave., Menlo Park  
customerservice@menloswim.com  
menloswim.com

Youth, adult and community programs at Burgess and Belle Haven pools, including year-round swim lessons, youth swim teams, masters swimming, water polo and water exercise, as well as other sports programs. Contact Menlo Swim to see class availabilities.

### One Heart Yoga

Little House Activity Center, Fitness Room, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park 415-494-7021  
oneheartyyoga.com  
Weekly classes in Kundalini yoga and meditation, aimed at helping students increase flexibility and strength, learn breathing techniques to calm and focus and reduce anxiety and depression. The studio currently offers classes via Zoom. View schedules and register for classes online.

### Isola Riding Academy

3639 Alpine Road, Portola Valley  
805-857-5464 isolastables.com  
Hands-on programs teaching riders to groom their horses, tack and provide riding instruction depending on individual riding level. Both private and small group lessons are offered.

## Spring Down Equestrian Center

725 Portola Road, Portola Valley 650-851-1114  
springdown.com  
sdecenter@aol.com  
Spring Down Equestrian Center educates children (beginning at age 3) and adults on horses and horseback riding. Instruction in basic riding, jumping, dressage, western riding and horsemanship is offered. Classes and camps held year-round. Registration for spring camp is open.

### Webb Ranch Riding School

2720 Alpine Road, Portola Valley  
650-854-7755  
webbranchinc.com  
lessons@webbranchinc.com  
Instruction for beginning and intermediate riders in both group and private settings. Specialties include Western riding, dressage and hunt-seat riding. There also are a number of weeklong camp sessions for children ages 7 to 18. Registration for summer riding camp is now open.

## Language

### Language Pacifica

1528 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo 650-321-1840  
languagepacificacom  
esl@languagepacificacom  
Language Pacifica teaches English to non-native speakers in both full-time and part-time intensive courses. Classes are well-suited for Test of English as a Foreign Language exam preparation and learning English for business or personal enrichment. The school has currently shifted to a live virtual format via Zoom.

## Music, Arts & Crafts

### Music Together Menlo Park

75 Arbor Road, Suite N, Menlo Park 650-799-1624  
admin@mt-mp.com  
mt-mp.com  
Music Together holds classes exploring music and movement for children from birth up to age 5 and their guardians at the Allied Arts Guild. Spring semester is from April to June and now

open for enrollment. In-person and virtual classes are available.



### Old World Designs

727 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park 650-321-3494  
info@oldworlddesigns.com  
oldworlddesigns.com  
In addition to stocking supplies and giving private lessons in stitching, Old World Designs organizes project classes and “stitch-ins.” Year-round group and private lessons are currently virtual. Some events and private instruction will be in person. Contact the store for more information.


### Palo Alto School of Chamber Music

600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto 650-766-5084  
paloaltoschoolofchambermusic@gmail.com  
schoolofchambermusic.com  
Palo Alto School of Chamber Music offers year-round coaching sessions and concerts for all ages, including adults. The sessions are taught by musicians with years of experience both in the music industry and teaching. Summer camps start June 8. Register online by April 15.

## Education


### Emerson School

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto 650-424-1267  
emersonschool@headsup.org  
emersonmontessori.com  
Emerson School provides a year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Lessons draw from classical subjects and other areas, including art, music, foreign language, physical education, communication, life skills and more. Classes are remote and in-person. Apply online.



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# Class Guide Spring 2021



## HeadsUp! Child Development Center

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto  
650-424-1221  
kkostepen@headsup.org  
emersonmontessori.com

HeadsUp! Child Development Center serves infants, toddlers and preschoolers (to age 6) with a full-day program, year-round. The Montessori curriculum focuses on building thinking skills and personal values. Classes are remote and in-person. Call or visit the website for more information.

## Littlest Angels Preschool

1095 Cloud Ave., Menlo Park  
650-854-4973  
preschool@bethany-mp.org  
bethany-mp.org/preschool

At the preschool, children ages 2 to 5 follow a Christian curriculum that encourages creative, emotional, intellectual, physical and social development. Contact the school for the latest updates.

## Lydian Academy

815 El Camino Real,  
Menlo Park 650-321-0550  
lydianacademy.com

Lydian Academy is a middle and

high school offering individualized instruction to prepare students for college. Lessons include a mix of one-on-one teaching and group sessions. It also offers tutoring and after-school programs. The school opens for in-person learning April 12. Enrollment is ongoing.

## Phillips Brooks School

2245 Avy Ave., Menlo Park  
650-854-4545 ext. 137  
admission@phillipsbrooks.org  
phillipsbrooks.org

Phillips Brooks School is a coeducational day school teaching children in preschool through fifth grade and integrates social learning and individual instruction. In addition to core subjects, children can also study science, technology, music, art, library, physical education and Spanish. Instruction is on-campus and virtual. To find out more about admissions, call or visit the school website.

## Sand Hill School

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto  
650-688-3605  
info@sandhillschool.org  
sandhillschool.org

Located at the Children's Health Council, Sand Hill School teaches second through eighth-grade children with language-based

learning differences and assists with attention and social difficulties. The school currently offers distance and hybrid learning formats. Learn more about the application process online.

## Career Prep

### JobTrain

1200 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park  
650-330-6429  
info@jobtrainworks.org  
jobtrainworks.org

JobTrain has a variety of training programs for adults — providing instruction in the culinary arts, business administration, health care, web technology, construction and other fields — as well as programs specifically for youth, to help with GED preparation, job placement and vocational training. Classes are online. View currently available workshops on the website.

## Sequoia District Adult School

3247 Middlefield Road,  
Menlo Park 650-306-8866  
sesas.org

Sequoia District Adult Education holds classes in English as a second language and computer and business skills. Students can also earn a high school diploma or GED certificate. Counselors

are available to help students transition to college programs. Classes are virtual. Visit the website to register.

## Seniors

### Little House, Roslyn G. Morris Activity Center

800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park  
650-272-5000  
penvol.org/littlehouse

Little House Activity Center offers classes for adults of all ages on various topics and activities, including health and wellness for seniors; fitness exercises like line dancing and Pilates; ceramics, drawing and other arts; languages; history and culture; and computer skills. Classes are currently virtual. Register online.

## Enrichment

### The Riekes Center for Human Enhancement

3455 Edison Way, Menlo Park  
650-364-2509  
riekes.org

A nonprofit organization, the Riekes Center provides a number of programs focused on self-enhancement for youth and adults: strength and speed fitness courses, adaptive sports,

a class for musical bands, photography workshops and nature exploration, among other opportunities. Enrollment for summer camp is now open.



## The Class Guide

is published quarterly in the Almanac. Descriptions of classes offered in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside are free, subject to editing and given priority.

To inquire about submitting a listing for the next Class Guide, email Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at llee@paweekly.com or call 650-223-6526. To place a paid advertisement in the Class Guide, call the display advertising department at 650-326-8210.

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# Rise in youth suicide needs joint effort from educators, health providers

Assemblyman Marc Berman's bill would help support youth health post-pandemic

By Tracy Mendez/CalMatters

## GUEST OPINION

Youth in California are struggling with trauma, anxiety and isolation brought about by distance learning, the COVID-19 pandemic and widespread economic distress falling most heavily on vulnerable and disenfranchised communities. Both educators and health care providers see a crisis, but often feel helpless to address it.

Emergency rooms and crisis hotlines reported an uptick in youth suicide ideation and attempts in the fall, and many of the stressors leading to this increase have continued into 2021. The California Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission released findings in October spotlighting the urgent need for statewide support for school-based mental health services amid — and beyond — the COVID-19 pandemic.

The commission report, “Every Young Heart and Mind: Schools as Centers of Wellness,” found that 1 in 6 high school students report having considered suicide in the past year, and that 1 in 3 high school students report feeling chronically sad

and hopeless. The report urges the state to move quickly to assist schools in becoming “wellness centers” for students.

School-based health centers — small, full-service health clinics on school campuses — are one such model and are already responding to the current crises by providing health and mental health services to young people via phone, telehealth and social media. School-based health providers are regularly checking in to ensure that students are not despairing and that they know of resources if they or their friends feel like they cannot cope.

School health providers — most of whom are working remotely from other clinic sites or home — tell us they are seeing dramatically more suicidal ideation than in years past, and that it is harder to monitor symptoms or identify risks when youth are not physically present in school every day.

For example, one mother in Fresno had to bring her son to his school's health center after his friend died by suicide.

The mother said her son had been distant and did not want to talk about what had happened. When the clinic evaluated him, they realized he was at grave risk and they were able to refer him to a behavioral health specialist right away. If it had not been for the student's mother bringing him in, the risk may have gone unnoticed by school and health center staff.

With all the challenges youth are facing, having staff trained to pick up these nuances and get children and teens the care that they need should not be a luxury. Yet, California only has 293 school-based health centers for more than 10,000 public schools. Our state has invested heavily in school mental health in the last two decades, and we are encouraged by additional significant investments proposed in the governor's budget for 2021-22.

The California School-Based Health Alliance is partnering with children's advocates from around the state to co-sponsor Assembly Bill 563, introduced by Assemblymember Marc Berman, a Democrat from Menlo Park, and Assemblymember James Ramos, a Democrat from Highland, that would create an Office of

School-Based Health Programs in the California Department of Education. If passed, this legislation would ensure better coordination between siloed health and education departments to support youth through this storm and others to come.

Much more is needed, including many more school-based health centers for students and communities under greatest stress. But AB 563 and the measures introduced by Gov. Gavin Newsom are part of a good start. California School-Based Health Alliance, our partners, youth, schools and families will continue to build support for the health and well-being of California youth.

*Tracy Mendez is the executive director of California School-Based Health Alliance and can be reached at [info@schoolhealthcenters.org](mailto:info@schoolhealthcenters.org). This piece was first published by CalMatters, a nonpartisan, nonprofit journalism venture that works with media partners throughout the state, including The Almanac.*

# California needs an equitable strategy for transitioning to all-electric buildings

By Ethan Elkind and Ted Lamm/CalMatters

## GUEST OPINION

Tens of millions of Californians live and work in buildings that burn natural gas to power their air heating and cooling, hot water and cooking equipment. This energy use in turn causes about 10% of statewide greenhouse gas emissions and substantial amounts of harmful indoor air pollution.

To improve California's indoor air quality and fight climate change, some state and local leaders are now starting to consider ways to transition these buildings to all-electric energy sources in the coming decades. More than 40 California local governments have already answered the call with ordinances to phase out building natural gas use, from all-electric new construction mandates in Oakland, San Francisco and San Jose to electric-ready requirements in places like Richmond and San Luis Obispo.

But a patchwork of state initiatives and local ordinances may result in a slow or incomplete electrification transition, with wealthier Californians the first to benefit from new construction and retrofits. Lower-income communities, which face significant barriers to adopting efficient and electrified building technologies, could be left behind.

Despite the state's ambitious commitment to statewide carbon neutrality by 2045 and concerns for ensuring that all residents benefit from climate progress, California lacks a clear, strategic state timeline to phase out the use of this fossil fuel in our homes and offices.

The time is ripe for state leadership.

Electric heat pumps, electric water heaters and induction cooktop appliances are widely available and becoming increasingly affordable. And newly proposed bills would direct local governments, state facilities and state incentive dollars to promote building electrification.

To avoid inequitable outcomes and maximize the benefit of public expenditures while ensuring California is on a pathway to carbon neutrality by 2045, state leaders should develop a systematic strategy for the long-term phaseout of natural gas in our buildings.

Policymakers should begin with high-priority communities, targeting incentives and programs for lower-income communities with the least financial resources and the most to gain from improved air quality; areas with new construction and/or aging gas infrastructure already in need of replacement; communities with an expressed willingness to transition; and areas rebuilding from wildfire damage.

This strategy should include a firm timeline for the transition to complete electrification, in order to limit the risk of developing stranded assets in the natural gas distribution network. Otherwise, these assets could increase costs for a shrinking group of customers who can't afford to make the switch quickly and could undermine the long-term viability of utility investments and system maintenance.

State leaders should also develop a

structured plan for a just transition for gas system workers, including funding and retraining support in fields that pay sustainable wages.

The task won't be easy. California has millions of pre-1990 homes, and although all-electric appliances can reduce energy bills in the long term, the upfront costs of retrofitting existing buildings can still be prohibitively high. The challenge is greatest in lower-income communities, which have more renters, more multifamily buildings and older construction. And a range of stakeholders, from utilities operating under decades-old business and regulatory models to residents wary of loss of service, may resist the transition.

State leaders can begin to address some of these barriers by clarifying utilities' legal “obligation to serve” to ensure that electrical service can be substituted for gas service, limiting expansion of the existing gas system, and better communicating the air quality benefits and long-term savings of electric appliances. But to ensure a timely and equitable transition, the Legislature, Public Utilities Commission, Energy Commission, local governments and others will need to craft a comprehensive and coordinated approach.

As California works to decarbonize its electrical grid through increasing deployment of renewable energy, with a mandate for zero-carbon power by 2045, this all-electric transition will help the state meet its long-term climate goals. Equally importantly, it will spare residents significant indoor air pollution while making our neighborhoods safer

from vulnerable infrastructure, particularly in high-priority communities. It's time that state leaders take the steps needed to make it happen.

*Ethan Elkind and Ted Lamm co-authored the new report “Building toward Decarbonization: Policy Solutions to Accelerate Building Electrification in High-Priority Communities.” Elkind is the director of the Climate Program at University of California at Berkeley's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment and can be reached at [eelkind@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:eelkind@law.berkeley.edu). Lamm is a senior research fellow at the center and can be reached at [tlamm@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:tlamm@law.berkeley.edu). This piece was first published by CalMatters.*

## What's on your mind?

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

Tell us what's on your mind by sending your letters to [letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:letters@AlmanacNews.com). Or snail-mail them to: The Almanac, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306. Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

Questions? Email editor@AlmanacNews.com, or call 650-223-6537.



# Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## Mythology in metal, stories in stone (and on social media)

Mountain View jeweler Kelly Morgen melds art nouveau style, mystic traditions with modern business savvy

By Karla Kane

The artwork of Kelly Morgen is small in scale but rich in meaning. While perusing her collection you will encounter ancient goddesses, fairy-tale figures, Arthurian legends and animal talismans, made from precious metals, tiny jewels and recycled piano keys. The Mountain View jeweler draws from mythology, folklore and psychology, as well as the art nouveau and arts and crafts movements, with their emphasis on ornate, graceful designs inspired by nature.

“Every piece has a story,” Morgen said. “People seem to really resonate with my work on a deeper level.”

While her pieces may be ethereal in style and mystical in nature, their physical creation comes from hard work and painstaking craftsmanship.

Starting with a flat sheet of sterling silver, Morgen uses a small hand-saw to carve out the first layer, then saws out the small decorative details and solders them together with a flame torch to fuse the metal. She scrimshaws the faces of her portraits on ivory keys gleaned from her grandmother’s old piano (or occasionally mother of pearl or opal). Behind it all, she often sets a colorful stone, making each necklace reversible. Being completely hand-crafted, each piece, depending on its complexity, takes from weeks to months — or more — to finish.

She happily takes commissions, but Morgen said she often works intuitively, following her initial inspiration with an investigation into who or what the design might turn out to be, feeling a sense of recognition when she’s on the right track.

“I usually sketch the goddess first, from an idea in my mind, and her companion animals, her symbols,” she explained. “Then I do some research and look up who that goddess is and so many times it’s like, ‘Oh yeah!’ Oftentimes I feel that it’s just sort of magically

happening. I’ve never not found a goddess, I’ve always found the one she’s supposed to be.”

Personal favorites in her pantheon include fellow animal lovers Artemis and Diana, the (Greek and Roman, respectively) goddesses of the wilderness and the moon.

“They’re very independent and free-spirited,” she said. She’s also partial to her “Astrea” design — “the big, expensive, elaborate one,” she said with a laugh — a depiction of a celestial figure bedecked in golden stars and small diamonds, its details much more complex than any she’d done before.

“Astrea” is based on the painting “Zodiac” by art nouveau master Alphonse Mucha, Morgen’s all-time favorite artist. In fact, she’s one of only two jewelers worldwide licensed by the Mucha family, whom she met in England after a monthslong metalsmithing workshop in 2015, to recreate his work.

“That’s the accomplishment I’m most proud of,” she said.

Making a living as an independent artist is a difficult prospect, and calls upon other skill sets in addition to talent and diligence. Morgen said she

also has a knack for business: making spreadsheets, crunching numbers and record keeping (growing up in a family of mathematicians may have helped).

“And there’s a bit of creativity to business, to say, ‘OK, what else could I do?’” she said.

Willingness to experiment with new marketing tools and technology has become all the more valuable during the coronavirus crisis, she said, with her usual income source — participating in about 10 art fairs and festivals a year, including in Palo Alto, Mountain View and Los Altos — cut off indefinitely, forcing her business completely online.

Through her website and her social media channels she now shows off such skills as videography, photography and even voice-over, filming promos for each piece and holding livestream events to showcase her collection. She admitted she’s not fully comfortable with selling via social media yet — “I feel a little bit like a talk show host,” she said — but so far, so good.

“I just have this passionate persistence; whatever I’m really passionate about, I just keep at it;



Courtesy Kelly Morgen

Kelly Morgen’s “Astrea” design is based on the painting “Zodiac” by art nouveau master Alphonse Mucha.

I try every different avenue until it works. And I’ve done OK, I’ve managed to keep it working,” she said.

Morgen grew up in Marin County, then headed east to Williams College, where she majored in art and psychology — twin interests reflected in her current practice — and began to explore what would become her signature style.

“I’ve always been obsessed with drawing and painting, and art nouveau is so timeless, so feminine. And I was interested in the psychology perspective, of giving art meaning just

beyond being something beautiful,” she said.

During a study abroad term in Florence, Italy, Morgen took her first metalsmithing course, which she loved so much, she ended up getting an apprenticeship with the master goldsmith there and staying for a year.

“That’s what I want to do; I’m 100% going to be a jeweler,” she recalled telling herself.

Back in the U.S., she met artist, silversmith and Cherokee medicine man Heyoka Merrifield, who became her biggest mentor.

“He was the one who taught me how to infuse my work with meaning and to work with archetypes,” she said.

She founded her business, Kelly Morgen Jewelry, in 2005, and has been based in Mountain View, where she said she enjoys the youthful demographic and lively art scene, since 2010.

Thinking back over her career and journey thus far, “there’s a sort of kismet to it as well. I’ve been lucky. I think a lot of it is just connecting with people who resonate with the things you love,” Morgen mused. “We all have these kinds of needs for stories and archetypes in our life; fairy tales and folktales. It fulfills something we all are searching for inside.”

More information is available at [kellymorgen.com](http://kellymorgen.com). ■



Courtesy Kelly Morgen

Mountain View jeweler Kelly Morgen creates her pieces entirely by hand, often incorporating keys gleaned from her grandmother’s old piano.

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane at [kkane@paweekly.com](mailto:kkane@paweekly.com).

# Food & Drink

## Coming soon, Humphry Slocombe ice cream and New York-style BBQ

Plus, a customer is taking over Palo Alto's Vino Locale

By Elena Kadvany

In the latest news on the Midpeninsula food scene, Humphry Slocombe confirmed plans to bring its wildly popular ice cream to downtown Redwood City, the owners of Vino Locale wine bar in downtown Palo Alto are handing over the business to a customer, and a recent transplant to Mountain View is opening a craft barbecue pop-up featuring an upstate New York specialty.

### Ice cream expansion

San Francisco ice cream favorite Humphry Slocombe is coming to downtown Redwood City this fall.

Humphry Slocombe will open its first Peninsula store at 2075 Broadway, Suite 1, co-owner Sean Vahey confirmed.

"After opening two locations in SF and two locations in the East Bay, the natural area to expand is the Peninsula," Vahey said. "Our fans have been asking us for a location further south for a while and we found the perfect location in Redwood City. Broadway is such a great, dynamic street for food and we felt like there were a lot



Courtesy Humphry Slocombe

**Humphry Slocombe is opening an ice cream shop in Redwood City.**

of complementary businesses there."

Vahey and Jake Godby opened Humphry Slocombe in 2008. Godby had worked as a pastry chef in San Francisco and Vahey was a food and beverage manager at the Hyatt and the Four Seasons. They soon became known for their inventive, often-changing ice cream flavors — in particular the "Secret Breakfast," bourbon ice cream with cornflake cookies mixed in. Other flavors have included balsamic caramel, brown sugar fennel, Meyer lemon pound cake and strawberry candied jalapeño.

Humphry Slocombe has been delivering pints on the Peninsula since 2019, when the owners joined DoorDash's shared commissary kitchen in Redwood City. Humphry Slocombe also now delivers out of a ghost kitchen in Palo Alto.

In the months leading up to opening the Redwood City shop, the owners plan to bring an ice cream truck to Broadway to serve scoops, sundaes and floats.

Vahey and Godby are using a nontraditional approach to raising funds to open the Redwood City location: a San Francisco crowdfunding platform called



Veronica Weber

SMBX, through which people can invest as little as \$10 and get paid back in monthly installments with interest. Humphry Slocombe is aiming to raise \$250,000 through SMBX, half to refinance existing debt and the other half for the new store.

### Customer to take over Vino Locale

The owners of Vino Locale have sold the downtown Palo Alto wine bar to a customer with a passion for food and wine.

Co-owners JC Andrade and Debra Szecsei will be turning over the charming Victorian house on Kipling Street to Nima Alizadeh, they announced in an email. Alizadeh is a "customer-turned-owner who appreciates the unique charm and potential of Vino Locale," they wrote. He also owns Beta Lounge, a bar in Berkeley. Alizadeh will be refreshing the space and making some changes, the email reads.

The original owners, Randy Robinson and Harry Johnson, opened Vino Locale 16 years ago. Szecsei and other co-owners took over in 2012. In 2018, they opened a second Vino Locale in Santa Cruz, where Szecsei lives.

Szecsei said it became difficult running the Palo Alto wine bar from Santa Cruz, and she also decided to retire. Andrade left Vino Locale in 2019 but returned during the pandemic to help manage the wine bar.

"We've been through so much this past year, and we really appreciate just how special Vino Locale is to the community," Szecsei said. "Nima plans to continue what Randy and Harry started back in 2005. I really believe that Palo Alto needs a place like Vino Locale: an old Victorian turned



Courtesy Brandon Irwin

**Above:** A selection of meats from B's Craft Barbecue pop-up in Mountain View.

**Left:** Co-owners Debra Szecsei and Emily Matthews at Vino Locale in Palo Alto.

into a wine bar, with outdoor garden seating year-round, offering local food, wine, art and music. It's home to so many."

Vino Locale adapted during the coronavirus shutdown by making food for people in need, delivering 2,600 donated meals to local shelters and low-income people.

The wine bar is open again for indoor and outdoor dining as well as takeout and delivery. Live music will return to the backyard garden patio soon. Go to [vinolocalepaloalto.com](http://vinolocalepaloalto.com).

### Barbecue from Texas, Kansas and ... New York?

In upstate New York, where Brandon Irwin grew up, the spiedie sandwich reigned supreme.

The skewered chicken is typically marinated in herbs and vinegar for three days, grilled over open flames until charred and served on Italian bread. People compete to make the best spiedies at the state fair, along with other regional barbecue dishes.

"Upstate New York, to me, is one of barbecue's best kept secrets," Irwin said.

Irwin is bringing a taste of upstate New York barbecue and other styles to the Peninsula at B's Craft BBQ, a pop-up he's launching out of his Mountain View home this weekend.

Irwin is a former sports coach, university assistant professor and community organizer who was raised by a chef. Before moving to California, he spent time in Maine, Kansas and Los Angeles.

As a newcomer to Mountain View during the pandemic, it was hard to find work, so Irwin decided to start his own venture. He was surprised at the relative dearth of quality barbecue in the

Bay Area, besides spots like Horn Barbecue in Oakland, Capelo's Barbecue in Redwood City and Mesquite & Oak in San Jose.

Irwin said his barbecue is rooted in upstate New York but also reflects Texas and Kansas styles. He makes smoked brisket with miso peach barbecue sauce, bone-in chuck short ribs and St. Louis-style pork ribs with jalapeño honey glaze. He cooks all the meats in an offset smoker, which has a fire box where wood burns, requiring skilled supervision.

"You're managing that fire by hand. You're usually cooking in smaller batches," he said. "That, to me, is what craft barbecue means. ... learning the craft of fire management and how it impacts the flavor and texture of a piece of meat 18 hours later."

The smoked meats — sourced from Creekstone Farms in Kansas — all come with pickled onions, brown butter cornbread and cider pickles. Irwin also makes a mac and cheese, cooked over live fire.

Whole cuts of smoked meat, fresh or cooled and vacuum sealed, are also available for purchase.

"I think of it as a project, an experiment," Irwin said of his pop-up. "The things I do well are grounded in this low and slow, Texas-style barbecue. I'm in the process of experimenting with combining these barbecue (styles) and these different flavors."

Going forward, he plans to release menus on Mondays for curbside pickup in Mountain View on Saturdays. Orders will close on Tuesdays or when sold out.

To order for opening day on Sunday, April 4, go to [bscraftbbq.com](http://bscraftbbq.com). And look for the spiedies the following Saturday, April 10. ■

### LEHUA GREENMAN



"Wishing you Peace, Love and Happiness at Easter and always!"

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## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

WHAT THE BIKE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 286966  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
What The Bike, located at 1271 Bellair Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):

SHERIF TADROS  
1271 Bellair Way  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2021.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 16, 2021.  
(ALM Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2021)

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

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

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



## 461 BURGESS DRIVE #8, MENLO PARK



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

[www.461Burgess.com](http://www.461Burgess.com)

Offered at \$1,198,000

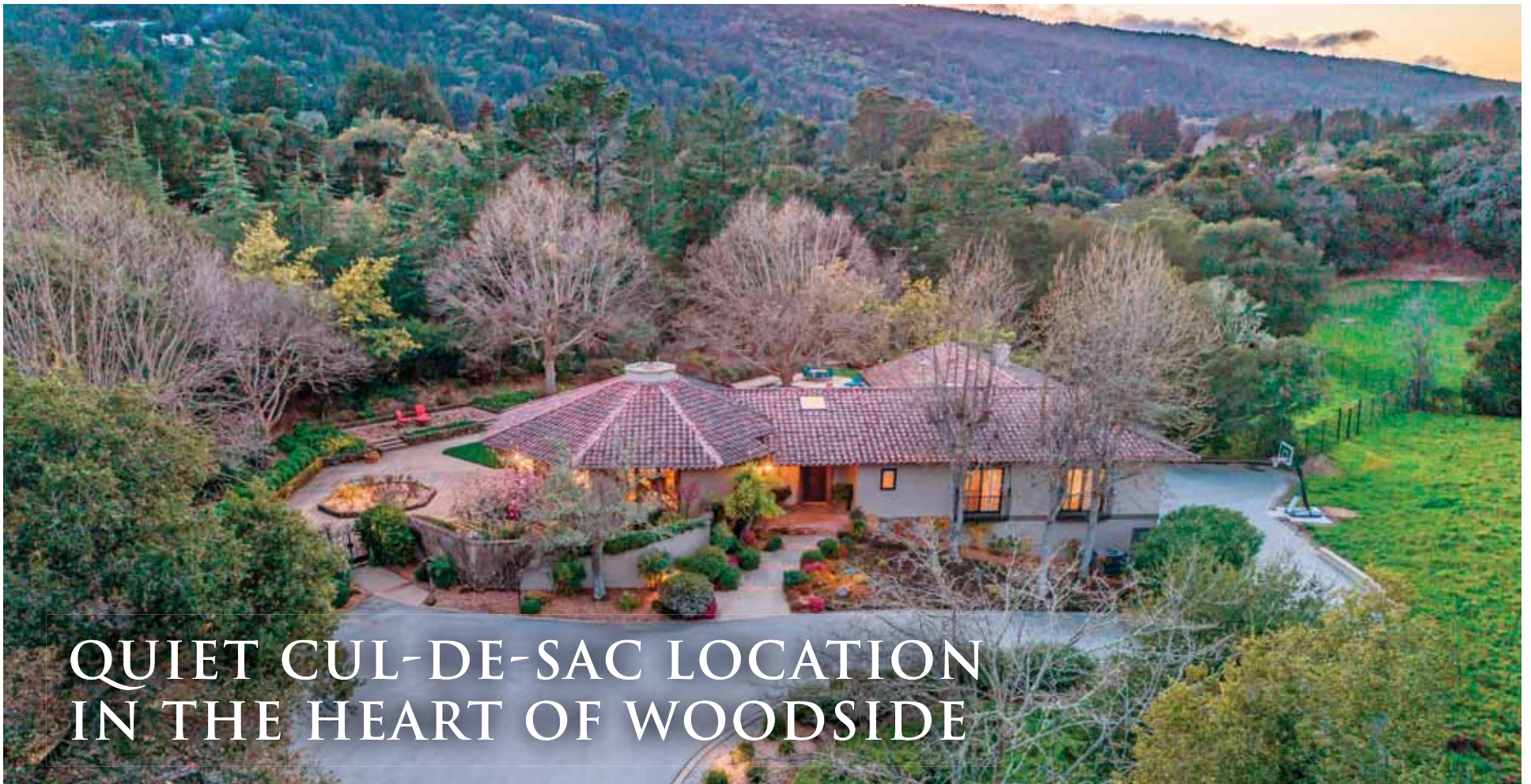
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Data from BrokerMetrics® based on MLS sales from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, in Menlo Park, residential properties, with no off-MLS sales included in the rankings.

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For more information contact: Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 我們精通國語和粵語  
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | [www.deleonrealty.com](http://www.deleonrealty.com) | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



# QUIET CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION IN THE HEART OF WOODSIDE

170 FOX HOLLOW ROAD  
WOODSIDE

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- Premier central location just blocks to town center
- Approximately 3 acres located at the end of a cul-de-sac
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- 4 bedrooms, office, family room, and 4 baths
- Total square footage: 6,420
  - Main house: 4,125 square feet
  - Garage: 1,830 square feet
  - Storage: 465 square feet
- Numerous updates throughout, including all-new luxurious primary suite bath
- Main level: foyer, living room with fireplace, dining room, bar, kitchen, laundry room with full bath, family room with fireplace, bedroom suite, two bedrooms with shared bath, primary bedroom suite with office
- Lower level: garage with 6 side-by-side entrances with room for additional cars plus workshop and storage space
- Privately located swimming pool with automated cover
- Vast level areas for entertaining, lounging, and play
- Fenced rear yard ideal for pets
- Woodside Elementary School (K-8)



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