

The Almanac

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Stanford begins clinical trials to expand Pfizer vaccine access to young children

By Kevin Forestieri

Stanford Health Care has begun laying the clinical groundwork to expand COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to the country's youngest children, joining in a nationwide trial to see how safe and effective the Pfizer vaccine is for people ages 2 to 5.

The early-phase study, which involves 144 children, is taking a close look at how young children respond to the Pfizer vaccine and whether they can handle the same dose size or experience the same side effects as adults. No vaccines are currently approved for those under 16 years old, and public health officials say extending the vaccine to children will be a key factor in curbing the spread of the virus.

Pfizer is already moving full steam ahead to get the vaccine approved for use in children ages 12 to 15, and the Food and Drug Administration is

expected to approve the vaccine's use in children in that age category either this month or in May, said Dr. Yvonne Maldonado, professor of pediatric infectious diseases and of health research and policy at Stanford.

'(COVID-19) is deadly and fatal in children. It's not common, but it's not rare either.'

DR. YVONNE MALDONADO,
STANFORD HEALTH CARE

But still in its infancy are trials to determine whether the vaccine remains both safe and effective in children under age 12, which is where Maldonado said Stanford is currently focused. Participants are getting the same Pfizer regimen — two doses three weeks apart — but the first cohort of children are

See **CHILDREN'S VACCINES**, page 30



Courtesy Stanford Health Care

Eloise LaCour, 3, receives the Pfizer shot at Stanford's Clinical and Translational Research Unit on April 14.

Local agencies are preparing for another big wildfire year

Drought sparks concerns as vegetation dries out

By Sue Dremann

Amid the ruins of last summer's CZU Lightning Complex fire, a fire still burns in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Its smoke and flames may not be visible, but it's deep underground, in the root systems of charred redwoods.

The fire would normally be extinguished by winter rains. This year, with 27 inches less rainfall than normal, there wasn't enough water to finally douse it, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's CZU Unit Division Forester Rich Sampson said.

"It's like a peat fire. When you

see a 60-foot redwood, think of a root system that can go out 30 to 40 feet on each side and down deep," he said.

But just because the flames are underground doesn't mean they're not dangerous: Fallen needles and leaves have created a new duff layer, and if there is just enough oxygen, dry weather and wind, the surface will catch fire. Then, burning material carried by the wind can ignite trees, shrubs and grasses, he said.

Such a fire has already broken out. In San Mateo County's Butano State Park, fire moved from the redwoods' underground root systems to the surface, scorching 6 acres on April

2, he said. This year's continued drought is an ominous sign to Sampson and other local fire officials. Last year's dry weather, combined with lightning, caused the 86,509-acre CZU conflagration in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

"We're going to see fires like this in the summer," Sampson said of large wildfires similar to the CZU fire.

Cal Fire has already seen five fires in San Mateo County between March 31 and April 5, the majority caused by people burning piles of vegetation or trash. In one case, a controlled burn of grass that spread 100 feet to the adjacent

timberland before firefighters could extinguish it, he said. The larger, 15-acre North Butano Fire occurred on Jan. 18 when the Bay Area should have been in the midst of its rainy season. Statewide, Cal Fire has logged 2,887 acres burned and 845 incidents, according to its website.

Now some land managers, local agencies and the state of California are seeking to stay a step ahead through their plans to manage vegetation. On April 13, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a \$536 million funding plan to help improve California's wildfire resilience with support from the state Legislature. The funding is welcome news to agencies,

but even as they await the additional funding, they are already taking proactive measures.

Sampson said fire agencies are currently stepping up patrols. Wildfire cameras enable the agency to check areas quickly and remotely. Cal Fire is also adding staffing: In March, Newsom authorized \$80.74 million in emergency funds for 1,399 additional firefighters with Cal Fire to help with fuels management and fire fighting. Some of those seasonal firefighters have already been hired; they usually don't start work until August.

Along Highway 35 in La

See **WILDFIRE**, page 29

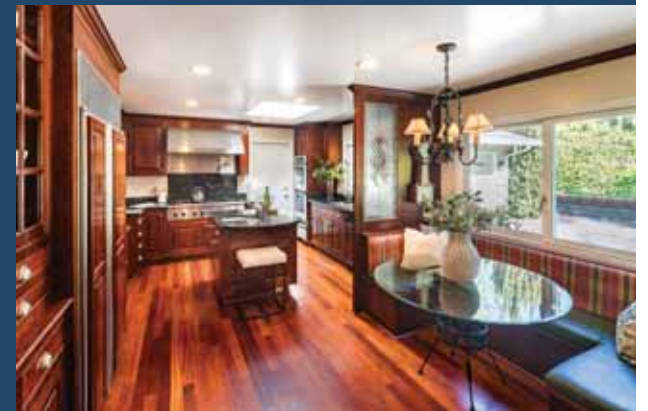
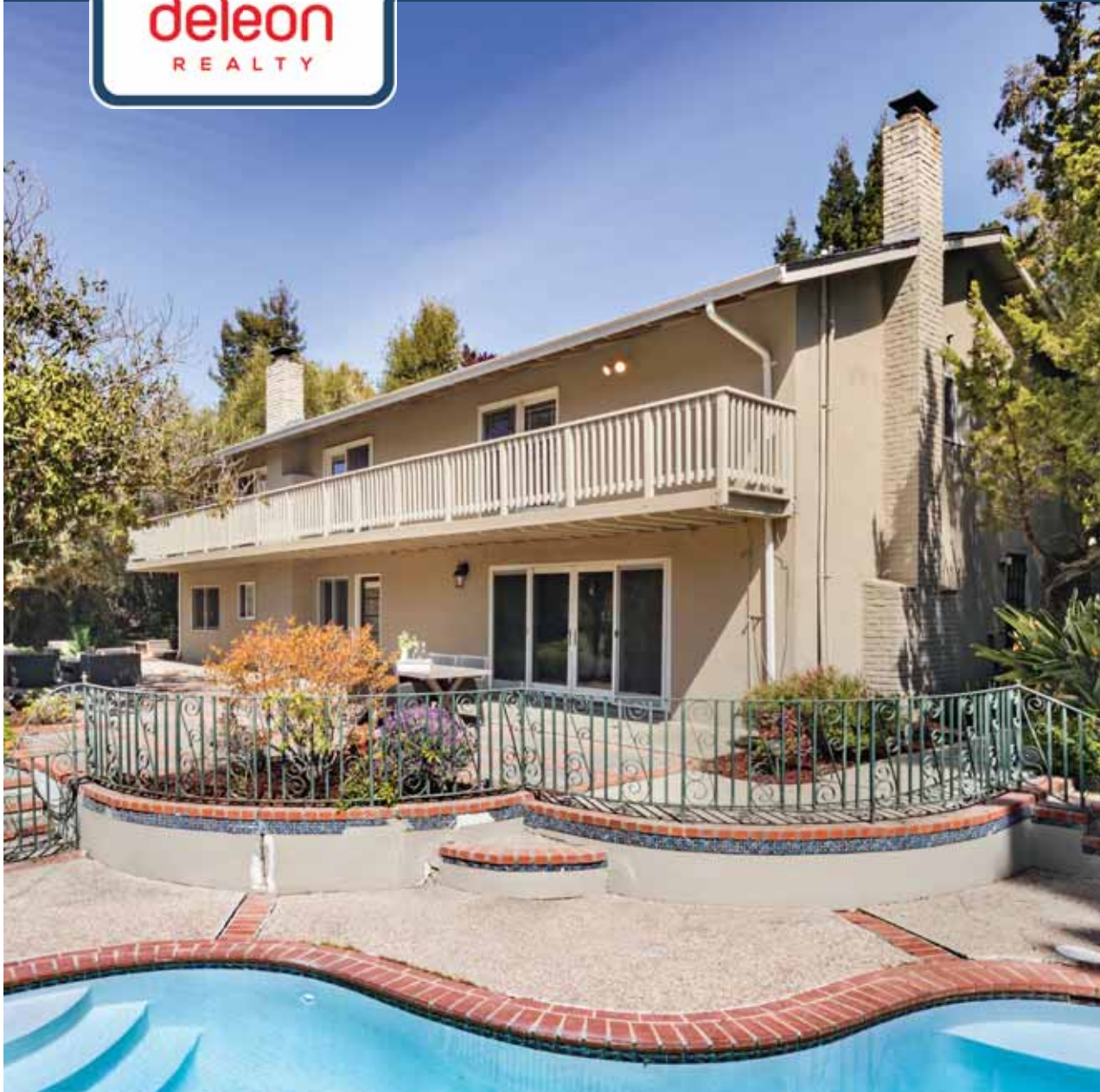
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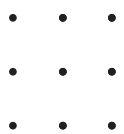
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Magali Gauthier

Terri Givens holds her new book “Radical Empathy: Finding a Path to Bridging Racial Divides” in her Menlo Park front yard on April 7.

It’s time for radical empathy

Former Menlo College provost releases new book on tackling racism

By **Kate Bradshaw**

For Terri Givens, the former provost of Menlo College and a resident of unincorporated West Menlo Park, the key to overcoming racial barriers in America comes down to two deceptively simple words: radical empathy.

As a Black woman who’s been an academic, a professor of European politics, a college administrator, a community member active on local nonprofit boards, and a

mother, sister and daughter in America, she reflects on how perceptions of race have shaped her life experiences in her new book, “Radical Empathy: Finding a Path to Bridging Racial Divides.”

Givens’ book, released in February, shares a number of her personal experiences as she discusses the importance of vulnerability and empathy in her own life and how those traits have enabled her to overcome obstacles and become a leader.

In the book, Givens describes

herself as a girl who grew up in a military family away from her extended relatives in Spokane, Washington. A diligent student, she eventually made her way to Stanford University as a first-generation college student, then UCLA for her doctoral degree. She went on to teach at the University of Washington, then the University of Austin at Texas, where she became a college administrator. She then worked as provost at Menlo College

See **RADICAL EMPATHY**, page 12

County officials hopeful for boost to vaccine supply in coming weeks

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

Following weeks of supply constraints, San Mateo County may get a higher supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses in the coming weeks, officials said Tuesday.

This week, the county received around 31,000 first and second doses overall, which includes allocations to both San Mateo County Health and to multi-county vaccine providers such as Kaiser Permanente and Sutter Health.

Projections from Blue Shield of California show that the county’s weekly vaccine supply could triple by the end of June, according to Dr. Anand Chabra, San Mateo County Health COVID-19 mass vaccination section chief.

Chabra said these are the longest set of projections Blue Shield has provided so far in terms of future supply.

“Those projections are helpful,” Chabra said. “Even though we recognize they can always change, at least it gives us something to work with in terms of planning.”

The Blue Shield arrangement has not been hugely beneficial to the county’s vaccine rollout so far, Chabra said, but they have made it work.

“I feel like we had a good network of providers,” Chabra said about the county’s vaccine rollout prior to Blue Shield’s involvement. “Collectively, we

were getting vaccines out very quickly and we were vaccinating a good number of people and doing it quite equitably, so I don’t think there were a whole lot of problems to fix in San Mateo County.”

Chabra said he looks forward to the day they’re no longer constrained by the vaccine supply.

Given the promising supply projections, County Manager Mike Callagy said that Blue Shield seems to be hitting its stride.

But Callagy acknowledged that the last several weeks have been frustrating given the supply constraints for the health department. In addition, the limited lead time around dose projections made it hard to plan for vaccine clinics.

“It just takes so much coordination and resources to get clinics going, especially the neighborhood clinics,” Callagy said. “And you want to get information out. It’s just so sporadic right now.”

Limited supply prompted the county to pause its mass vaccination sites and focus on neighborhood clinics in the hardest-hit communities.

As soon as the vaccine supply increases, Chief of San Mateo County Health Louise Rogers said, the county is ready to begin mass vaccination sites again.

“We have not dropped the ball on planning these mass vaccination events. We are ready,” Rogers said.

See **VACCINE SUPPLY**, page 30

‘Let’s focus on the fall’

Sequoia principals push back at parents’ pressure to reopen more extensively this spring

By **Angela Swartz**

The Sequoia Union High School District expanded in-person learning to 50% capacity this week, but some parents are expressing frustration that students are not back on campus more regularly. School principals have asked parents to rein in their complaints and have patience.

During an April 14 district governing board meeting,

Menlo-Atherton High School Principal Simone Rick-Kennel explained that it’s complicated to configure the 50 classrooms in use at the Atherton high school with social distancing guidelines — although San Mateo County’s guidance was recently updated to require that desks are placed 3 feet apart, the district submitted its reopening plan in early March with desks 6 feet apart before the change was made. She said it would take

about 30 minutes to remeasure each classroom for the new social distancing guidelines.

Some parents don’t understand why the district doesn’t update its distancing between desks to 3 feet now to allow more students on campus at a time.

“A sense of urgency doesn’t mean tomorrow, but it means it’s a priority,” said Rick-Kennel, who will leave her role at

See **SEQUOIA**, page 31



Magali Gauthier

Menlo-Atherton High School bilingual resources teacher Stephen Ready places a wristband on senior Kiana Pavlovic to show she passed the health screening at the start of the school day on April 6.

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During COVID-19, the Planning Commission meets virtually on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Interested residents may check residency requirements, request information, and submit applications to the Town Clerk by emailing Jennifer Li at jli@woodsidetown.org.

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CRIME BRIEFS

Child molestation trial starts

Jury selection is wrapping up in the lead-up to the trial of Randolph Haldeman, who faces 20 felony charges related to allegations of molesting children at his Menlo Park home and at a community swimming pool between 1988 and 2018, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office.

He was initially arrested in July 2019 on counts of "lewd and lascivious acts" toward boys ranging between 8 and 13 years old at his home and at the Ladera Recreation Center. Later, more people came forward to report that they had also been sexually assaulted by Haldeman, according to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

—Kate Bradshaw

RV lot arson arrest

East Palo Alto police have arrested a 26-year-old man suspected of starting a series of fires on April 10 along a fence bordering the RV safe parking lot on Bay Road, where people were sleeping in their vehicles.

Police said the man allegedly started four separate fires in the early morning hours while walking on a bike path behind the RV safe parking lot at 1798 Bay Road. The lot was established by the city in partnership with the nonprofit Project We Hope as a safe place for people living in their vehicles and trying to regain financial independence.

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District extinguished the fires, which damaged one RV and several parts of the fence, according to police.

Through a joint investigation, fire investigators and police identified the man as a suspect and linked him to four previous fires in East Palo Alto, which were also small in size and quickly extinguished.

On April 13, a patrol officer located the man on the bike path where he allegedly started the April 10 fires. He was arrested and booked into San Mateo County Jail on charges of arson.

—Bay City News Service

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Petition, Earth Day event for Flood Park trees

A petition from a group calling itself "Flood Park Tree Advocates 2021" has emerged in opposition to a proposal by the San Mateo County Parks Department to update Flood Park and remove a total of 72 trees. As of April 21, the online petition had 80 signatures.

The landscaping plan for Flood Park was approved last year and preserves all of its heritage trees and 92% of the trees on-site overall, according to county reports.

The petition urges the county to look for other areas for the planned sports fields, to put the planned amenities in other locations, and requests health reports of each tree planned for removal and an explanation of why each is slated to be removed. The group is also asking for a replacement tree plan to be made public and that a cost-benefit analysis be done before the project moves forward.

The group plans to host an Earth Day and Arbor Day ceremony and information session at Flood Park on Sunday, April 25, at 3 p.m. in the oak meadow near the group picnic area along Bay Road. People are asked to follow COVID-19 safety procedures. Email floodparktrees@gmail.com for more information.

—Kate Bradshaw

Local blood drives coming next week

Stanford Blood Center is planning local blood drives for next week.

On Monday, April 26, the Woodside Fire Protection District will host a community blood drive with the Stanford Blood Center from noon to 4 p.m. at 3111 Woodside Road in Woodside.

"The need for blood is constant," said Phillip Martin, Stanford Blood Center account manager, in a statement. "Even during a pandemic. Currently, there are more than 200 surgeries per day at our partner hospitals, and blood donations are used to save about 12,000 lives a day. ... All it takes is about an hour of your time, and you can help save the lives of multiple patients with a single donation."

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 30

Coronavirus central: County's upgrade to yellow tier unlikely this month

Health officials say residents must continue taking COVID-19 tests, get vaccines to avoid setback

By Embarcadero Media staff

San Mateo County as of Tuesday had 41,221 cumulative cases of COVID-19, with 560 deaths. There were 19 people hospitalized. Santa Clara County as of Tuesday had 117,317 cumulative COVID-19 cases and 2,017 deaths. There were 81 people hospitalized, 15 of whom were new.

Move to yellow tier unlikely this month

San Mateo and Santa Clara counties are approaching lower COVID-19 infection rates that could move them into the most lenient yellow tier for opening the economy under state COVID-19 guidelines by the beginning of May at the earliest.

Much of that continued forward momentum is contingent on the availability of vaccines, continued public involvement in testing for the virus and buy-in to being vaccinated, county officials said.

San Mateo County's COVID-19 positivity rate is about 0.9% overall and 1.4% in the

state's lowest Healthy Places Index census tracts, which tracks community health and poverty, county Chief of Health Louise Rogers told the Board of Supervisors. Counties' positivity rates must remain below 1% in combination with other factors for three weeks before moving into the next least-restrictive tier.

Santa Clara County, which has hit yellow tier numbers at times, saw a slight rise in its overall positivity rate from below 1% to 1.2% in the past two weeks, COVID-19 testing and vaccine officer Dr. Marty Fenstersheib said during his county's Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

The counties still face multiple challenges. Health officers remain watchful as infection rates rise in some other states such as Michigan, Minnesota, Florida, Colorado and Illinois, in addition to New England states. Both counties continue to face precarious vaccine supplies, waning public interest in being tested for the virus and some public hesitancy in getting the vaccine.

About 58% of Santa Clara County residents and 63.2% of San Mateo County residents ages 16 and up have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, health officials said.

In Santa Clara County, Fenstersheib said testing for the virus has gone up "slightly" after a significant decline. In a mid-April statement, he said testing was down 34% from two months ago. Some of the current rise is likely due to Stanford University testing faculty and students regularly, he added on Tuesday.

In San Mateo County, the number of people being tested for the virus has declined by 10% since Rogers' last report four weeks ago, she said.

Testing remains an important way to track how the virus — and its more contagious emerging variants — are spreading in communities, Rogers said. And although the majority of adults have been vaccinated with at least one dose, she cautioned against complacency.

COVID-19 testing should continue until the county has reached its 90% goal of all

residents being vaccinated — and until the science can fully explain the duration and efficacy of the vaccines, she added. People who have been vaccinated can still acquire and transmit the disease. Even in people who have already been vaccinated, it's important they be tested if they show any symptoms, she said.

In both counties, availability of vaccines continues to be uncertain. San Mateo County's supplies from the state have decreased by one-third in the past few weeks, said Dr. Anand Chabra, the county's COVID-19 mass vaccination section chief. The vaccination supply has also been complicated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendation to pause the use of the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine. Also known as the Janssen vaccine, it has been suspected in blood clots in six women ages 18 to 48, with one death, he said.

The county health care system received just 11,080 vaccine doses last week, which does not include doses at providers such as Palo Alto Medical

Foundation, Kaiser Permanente and pharmacies, he said.

Fenstersheib said Santa Clara County's allotment of 300,000 doses through the federal Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), which it received on April 13, enabled vaccinating 40,000 people on April 15, with a seven-day average of 27,000 vaccinations administered per day. The county is currently in discussions with the HRSA to receive a commensurate number of second doses, County Executive Jeff Smith said.

Vaccine hesitancy is also a concern, both county officials said. During Santa Clara County's door-to-door outreach program in census tracts hardest hit by the virus, 8% of those canvassed said they won't or are now hesitant to have the vaccine, and most were young people, said Brain Darrow, a program manager in the County Executive's Office. He posited that with 76.1% of people in the most vulnerable age group of 65 and older having received at least one vaccine dose, some

See **CORONAVIRUS**, page 30

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Chauvin verdict 'a start' toward social justice

Elected leaders react to police officer's murder conviction in George Floyd case

By Bay City News Service

Tuesday's guilty verdict on all three counts against ex-Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin in the death of George Floyd drew swift reactions from Bay Area, state, and national leaders.

"I can't breathe. Those were George Floyd's last words," U.S. President Joseph Biden said on Twitter after the verdict.

"We cannot let them die with him. We have to keep hearing them," Biden said. "We must not turn away. We cannot turn away."

"This can be a moment of significant change," the president said.

Chauvin was charged with

second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter for kneeling on Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes on May 25, 2020, in Minneapolis.

In a statement released Tuesday, Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, called for reform.

"Today, the verdict of justice was served to the family of George Floyd and it echoed across our country. It is a beginning to an effort so long overdue that police killing must be addressed. We feel relieved but we must reform by passing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Our Pledge of Allegiance states 'liberty and justice for all' and now the moment has arrived to make these words a

reality in America."

State Sen. Josh Becker, D-Menlo Park, thanked the jury in a series of tweets, quoting prosecutor Steve Schleicher's closing argument: "This wasn't closing, this was murder."

"Today's verdict is our start toward achieving true social justice," Becker wrote.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said Floyd would be alive were it not for his appearance.

"The hard truth is that, if George Floyd looked like me, he'd still be alive today," Newsom said.

Newsom added that the conviction won't bring Floyd back to life or undo the harm to his family.

"But today's verdict provides

some accountability as we work to root out the racial injustice that haunts our society," Newsom said. "We must continue the work of fighting systemic racism and excessive use of force."

San Francisco Mayor London Breed said, like Newsom, that the verdict won't bring Floyd back.

But she said, "What this verdict does reflect is that the tide is turning in this country, although still too slowly, toward accountability and justice."

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond called the verdict "an important and long-overdue step for accountability, yet tremendous work remains if

we want to truly eliminate the systemic racism that persists in all of our institutions — including public education — and which has denied students and communities justice for generations."

He added, "It is also important to remember that despite today's verdict, our students, educators, and families have experienced extraordinary trauma as they've struggled to make sense of this tragedy, the trial, and everything that transpired in between. I encourage all of our schools in the coming days to create space for open, honest dialogue for students and adults to process their emotions and use their voices to create lasting change." ▣

Woodsiders lobby to increase outdoor dining, build community center

Voters would need to overturn decades-old measures that limit outdoor uses

By Angela Swartz

The increase in outdoor dining during the pandemic has spurred a new effort by local residents: finding a way to change the zoning of some Woodside town parcels to allow for more outdoor community gathering spaces.

Current land use regulations limit two residentially zoned pieces of land adjacent to the Town Center, a town-owned complex along Woodside Road from Whiskey Hill Road to Roberts Market that includes government buildings and commercial businesses, and Cañada Corners at the Cañada Road intersection (owned by Roberts Market). To overturn these rules, established by ballot measures J and I in 1988 and 1989, respectively, residents must submit a petition to the town for a ballot measure to reach voters.

The measure would allow the property behind Cañada Corners to be outfitted with surface parking to accommodate permanent outdoor dining, trails and play structures, all of which are now prohibited. It would also allow for the possible construction of a public building — amphitheater or gazebo — for community events in the residentially zoned Town Center area.

"We don't have a community center (in Woodside)," said Alex Tauber, who has lived in town for about 11 years and helped formalize the effort in February. "COVID brought the idea of, 'How do we get together in an open environment that's safe? How do we create permanent open spaces?' It should be the town's option — depending on how citizens feel — to not be constrained by the zoning code."

So far, Peter Bailey, a Woodside Elementary School Board member, and Tauber have gathered about 400 of the 428 valid signatures needed to qualify the measure to be placed on a ballot, Tauber said. They're hoping to finish gathering signatures, which must come from at least 10% of Woodside's 4,277 registered voters per California law, in the coming weeks. They are aiming to gather 800 signatures. It's been more difficult to canvass during a pandemic, so local restaurants have agreed to put the petitions up for diners to sign.

"We don't have a lot of restaurants or retailers in Woodside," Tauber said. "COVID has affected the few restaurants we have for the worst. One of the things it's done is brought home the notion of doing things outdoors. ... I don't think anybody will be able to invest in outdoor dining

or a community center if it's not (able to be) permanent."

Dylan MacNiven, one of the brothers who manages Buck's, located at 3062 Woodside Road, said he supports the petition and that the family's restaurant suffered at the start of the pandemic. Buck's closed from mid-March until July 2020. Business has picked up again and they are looking to hire wait staff, and he said outdoor dining has been "instrumental" to its survival.

"It would be a way to keep an outdoor dining component in the center of town — it would be a really great thing for the community," he said. "A longer-term approval would help us build a real (outdoor) infrastructure. We could build a true trash enclosure and maybe have something more comfortable than just asphalt, like AstroTurf or tanbark. We have a temporary outdoor pizza oven;

we could see that as something more permanent and built-in."

In June, the business received a \$392,065 Paycheck Protection Program loan to keep the restaurant afloat, according to ProPublica.

Roberts Market president Christine Roberts said the grocer would love for the zoning of the Cañada Corner parcel to change.

"We are in desperate need for some more parking for the shopping center and the grocery store," she said. She noted there are only about 40 parking spots for the store and nearby restaurants. "Over the years our business has grown. We have more employees in the grocery store and of course the restaurants have gotten more popular and everyone needs parking for employees and the customers."

See **PETITION**, page 30

County officials announce free college education for 500 eligible students

The San Mateo County Community College District will offer free community college courses to 500 students through a \$2 million grant from the county.

David Canepa, president of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, made the announcement at a press conference on Monday, April 19, at Skyline College in San Bruno.

"This is a huge investment in our youth who have struggled mightily during the pandemic with many of them seeing their family members lose jobs, battle food insecurity or miss rent

payments," he said.

The free college education is available for students who enroll in the district's Promise Scholars Program, which offers scholarships and support services to first-time, full-time students at Cañada College in Redwood City, College of San Mateo in San Mateo, and Skyline College in San Bruno. Students receive full tuition and fees, as well as credit for \$750 in books per year, according to a community college district press release. The grant will help expand the program from 2,000 to 2,500 students, district officials said.

Participants in the Promise Scholars Program are more than twice as likely to graduate in two years than students not in the program, according to the district.

The grant is being allocated from county Measure K funds.

The application for the fall 2021 Promise Scholars Program is open online at xe-ssb8.smccd.edu, and prospective students can find information about eligibility and applying to the program online at smccd.edu/promise. Students must first apply to the college. ▣

—Angela Swartz and Bay City News Service



Magali Gauthier

Cars drive by the entrance of Cañada College in Redwood City on Feb. 10. Some 500 students within the district will receive free tuition through a \$2 million grant from the county.



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Local high school sports updates

Baseball: M-A tosses a shutout

Menlo-Atherton's Griffin Williams made it a pleasant all-around day for Bears baseball. Gunn's Charlie Deggeller helped turn a bad situation into a walk-off celebration.

Williams pitched a three-hitter, striking out 11 without a walk, and M-A beat host San Mateo 7-0 in a Peninsula Athletic League opener Tuesday.

Deggeller singled in the bottom of the seventh, capping a wild come-from-behind 10-9 SCVAL victory over visiting Mountain View.

Williams retired 12 of the first 13 hitters he faced, including the first four by strikeout. The Bears made it interesting for him, committing back-to-back errors to open the fifth. Williams got the next batter on a flyout and then induced a double play ball, that he started, to erase the only threat of the day.

Williams also helped himself offensively, driving in three runs on a sacrifice fly in the third and a two-run single in the sixth.

John Quinlan had three hits, scored three times and drove in a run. Tommy Eisenstat

contributed three hits, including a double, and Will Cronin doubled, singled and drove in a run.

Williams, who took a no-hitter into the sixth, was efficient on the mound, throwing 87 pitches, 65 for strikes (nearly 75%). He used 13 pitches to complete the seventh, which included two strikeouts and two hits.

Girls soccer

Just over a year after playing in the CCS Division III championship game, Menlo opened its WBAL season with an 8-0 win over visiting Mercy-Burlingame on Tuesday.

Junior Carolina Espinosa converted a penalty kick less than two minutes into the match, and it was all Menlo.

In the first half, senior Stella El-Fishawy added two consecutive goals on assists by Gabby Kogler and finished with five goals.

Espinosa added another goal to start the second half and assisted on another for the Knights.

Ellie El-Fishawy, a sophomore, distributed three assists, including one to her sister

Stella. Junior Ayla Seddigne-zhad got the shutout.

Sydney Adas and Megan Tinsley each scored, and Sacred Heart Prep opened its WBAL season with a 2-0 victory over visiting Priory on Tuesday.

Juliana Rosen assisted on Adas' goal in the eighth minute, and Ellie Brew assisted Tinsley in the 79th minute.

Football: M-A completes undefeated PAL football season

Matt MacLeod completed all seven passes he attempted, two for touchdowns, and Menlo-Atherton concluded an undefeated season by beating visiting The King's Academy, 49-21, in a Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division football contest April 16.

Thomas Taufui, Dwayne Green and Raymond Price III each rushed for a score and Michael Osorio recovered a fumble in the end zone for another touchdown.

Price also threw a touchdown pass, a 34-yarder to Johnny Barbie, as the Bears (5-0) finished the season with an average score of 34-11.

MacLeod threw for 162 yards



Courtesy Bob Dahlberg/@bobd_photo

Menlo-Atherton's Leki Tautua'a pressures The King's Academy's Antonio Gonzalez (3) as the M-A Bears finished an undefeated season with a 49-21 victory on April 16.

and rushed for another 41 yards. Green rushed for 43 yards, and Michael McNack added 42.

Price also completed the only pass he attempted and Billy

Johnson, the third quarterback used, would have been credited with a completion had there not been a penalty called on the play.

See **SPORTS**, page 32

Teens around the world connect over pandemic experiences

Menlo Park resident's project with her niece is like pen pals for the Zoom era

By **Kate Bradshaw**

Last year, when Menlo Park resident Desta Raines contacted an old friend in Italy on behalf of her curious 13-year-old niece, none of them could have predicted that a year later, they'd be leading international video calls with teens around the world hungry to connect over leadership and change-making.

It all started when Dalayna Carr, a now 14-year-old who lives in Virginia, asked Raines

about how people in Italy were managing the pandemic, at the time when the country was being devastated by COVID-19.

Raines contacted her friend Tiffany Hogan, who is an English teacher in Venice, who invited her English-learner students to participate in a group video call to talk about it. About 10 students participated, far more than the one or two Carr had hoped for. They held more discussions, and students from Australia and beyond started to join.

The ability to connect with other students across the world who were also stuck going to school online, disconnected from their friends, and having their lives disrupted helped some students realize that they weren't alone, even if they were stuck at home, or in their home countries, Raines said.

"People all over the world are having the same experience," she said.

At the same time, the lockdown cycles around the world have meant that at any given point over the past year, some students have faced tightening restrictions while others had more freedoms.

And while the conversations may have started out on the topic of COVID, students have since expanded their horizons to other areas of discussion.

Through word of mouth, the conversations snowballed into a grassroots organization now called Teens Connect Global, which has since spread all over the world. The student-led organization regularly hosts conversations with students from places like Ukraine, Pakistan, India, South Korea and Vietnam, as well as other parts of the U.S.

Generally, the calls are held over Zoom and involve guest speakers who present on a topic that the youth have selected, after which the students move into breakout rooms on Zoom to have discussions, Raines said. The number of participants ranges from 10 to 60, with an average of about 20.

"I like to think of it as real-time pen pals," Raines said. With the advent of Zoom and video calls, having international video calls is a modern iteration of the old-fashioned pen pal program that enables students to interact far faster than "snail mail" or email would otherwise

permit, she said.

Raines contributes to the organization as a facilitator who helps moderate the calls, which are restricted to teens ages 12 to 18. The calls have an adult present to supervise the discussions.

For Carr, the conversations have helped her realize that although other teens around the world may come from different cultures, they have many similarities in their day-to-day lives as they study, play sports and engage in extracurricular activities.

In addition, many of the students share a particular passion for the environment, she said.

Because all of the conversations are conducted in English, for many international students, participation comes with the added benefit of an opportunity to practice a language they are still learning.

One tricky piece of the initiative is finding times that work for busy students all over the world, Raines explained. Calls generally happen at 7 a.m. Pacific Standard Time, which may explain why she's had some trouble recruiting students from the West Coast to join the calls, she added.

Topics range widely — the teens have talked about human rights, discrimination and refugees, as well as activism, the environment and LGBTQ+ issues, Raines and Carr said.

Another obstacle the organization faces is in connecting with students in places where Wi-Fi is not as readily accessible. They have been troubleshooting to help some students from Rwanda and Colombia who don't have their own access to technology figure out how to participate as well. Generally though, the students who have logged into the program have had strong enough connections to participate fully in the discussions, Raines said.

Raines said that the program is aimed at fostering youth leadership and has enabled her to mentor her niece and other teens. The partnership between the aunt and niece has brought them closer, both Carr and Raines said.

To learn more about Teens Connect Global, visit teensconnectglobal.org. ▀

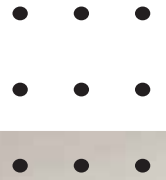
Email Staff Writer *Kate Bradshaw* at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com.

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Kirk Broomhead**, 68, a former Atherton resident and technical writer for VMware, on March 26; **Antonio Javier Espinosa**, 60, a Menlo Park resident and founder of Corlina Inc., on April 8; and **Marjorie Hausmann**, 95, a longtime Portola Valley resident, on April 8.

To read full obituaries, leave remembrances and post photos, go to Lasting Memories at almanacnews.com/obituaries.

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RADICAL EMPATHY

continued from page 5

before starting Brighter Higher Ed, a higher education consulting firm.

At each step, she dissects how her racial identity created ripples and complications for her ambitions. As a child, she saw teachers make assumptions about the capabilities of Black students that “can inhibit their potential for success.”

At Stanford, her racial identity triggered stressful choices, like whether to attend orientation activities specific to Black students, or those focused on getting to know all of the other residents of her dorm.

And even as a professor, her white, male colleagues were often more likely to have endowed chair positions with lighter teaching loads, she said.

In her personal life, she struggled with dating until she reconnected with a college classmate, Michael Scott, who is white, and they fell in love. Now, as parents to biracial teens, she said, they’ve navigated the complexities of helping their children understand their African American and Danish roots.

Along with Givens’ story, she provides broader information about how empathy can be

applied to tackle racism in many different areas of life, including family dynamics, politics, health care, higher education and relationships, adding context with historical details and academic references.

One of the biggest areas where she saw racial inequality manifest in her life was in the health system. Givens said that the questions that would drive her to write the book started after her father died of a sudden heart attack in 2001.

‘Here we are in 2021, and we’re still just breaking into some parts of society.’

TERRI GIVENS

“I would go on to lose several other family members in that first decade of the new millennium — most of them to preventable illnesses,” she wrote.

The impacts of race on health continued to inspire her research and advocacy. Particularly striking is data that African American women, regardless of their class or education, are

more likely to die of maternal mortality than their white counterparts, she said.

While living in Austin, Texas, Givens started “Take Back the Trail,” an initiative that encouraged women in East Austin to get out and exercise and provided them with healthy food donations, check-ins and mentoring.

As further confirmation of the ways that racial inequality shapes health, she said, she finished writing the book in the middle of a pandemic that has disproportionately harmed Black and Hispanic people throughout the U.S. Several of her extended family members are front-line workers who became sick with COVID-19, she added.

Leading with empathy

Givens also describes her experiences with leadership, and notes that there is a significant dearth of women and minorities in leadership positions. She cites a 2018 report stating that there has only been one Black woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company, Ursula Burns of Xerox, who retired in 2016.

“Here we are in 2021, and we’re still just breaking into some parts of society,” she said.

Givens plans to take on her

own guidance as an academic leader and advocate for diversity in a new position she recently accepted at McGill University in Montreal, where she will be teaching as a part-time faculty member and working as provost, academic lead and adviser tackling anti-Black racism. She plans to continue to spend summer and winter breaks in Menlo Park.

While many universities have diversity initiatives, she said, she was especially drawn to this position because of its emphasis on addressing anti-Black racism, which has “been part of our country for 400 years,” she said. “It’s intractable. It’s something we’ve all internalized, and the only way to break it down is if we all take individual responsibility for tearing down structural racism, particularly against Black people.”

“It could change higher ed, if we’re successful,” she added.

Moving forward

As Givens describes it, radical empathy means having two kinds of empathy: emotional empathy, or feeling how another person feels, and cognitive empathy, or understanding how another person sees the world. It also involves taking action to change structural inequality

beyond just being nice to other people, she said.

“We all have to understand that we live in this society that’s built around structural racism ... and it’s not just structural racism, it’s inequality,” she said.

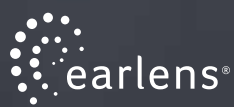
Her recommended steps to build radical empathy are to be willing to be vulnerable, become grounded in who you are, open yourself up to learn about and understand other people’s experiences, practice empathy, take action, create change and build trust.

Despite the daunting inequality and structural racism that persists, Givens said she draws her inspiration to keep fighting them from both past generations and young people.

“I can’t forget that my grandfather was a sharecropper in Louisiana, and my mother was a seamstress, and I got a Ph.D.,” she said. “And my children are going to have great opportunities because of my education, and ... (are) getting great educations. In the end, I do see progress.”

People interested in purchasing the book can access it at is.gd/radicalemphathy. ■

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Denise Simons
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denise.simons@compass.com
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colleen.foraker@compass.com
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650.687.7388
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DRE 0147388

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Anne Wilson Roberts
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awr@wilsonroberts.com
DRE 02036336

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DRE 01399145

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kathleen.wilson@compass.com
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anna.park@compass.com
DRE 0147388

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john@johnforsythjames.com
DRE 01138400



Liz Rhodes
650.722.3000
liz@lizrhodes.com
DRE 01179852

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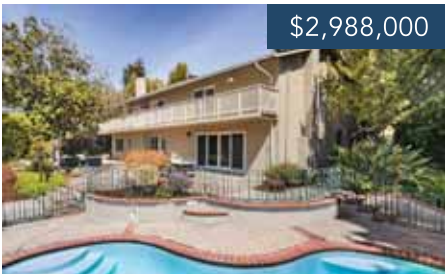
Supporting local restaurants through Community Market Giving.
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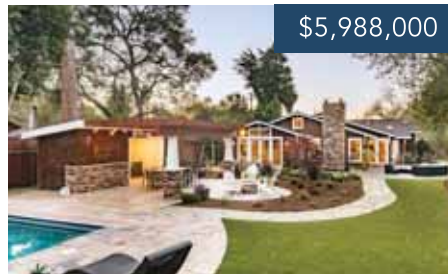
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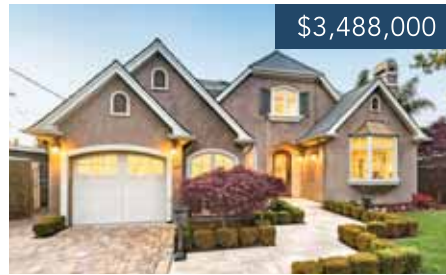
\$2,988,000

1015 Trinity Drive, Menlo Park
5 Bd | 3 Bth
www.1015Trinity.com



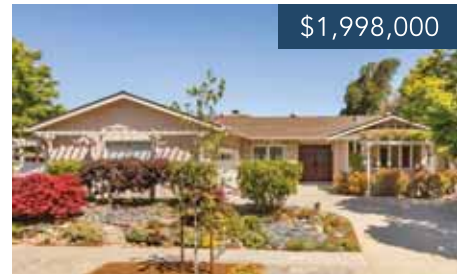
\$5,988,000

1780 Morton Avenue, Los Altos
4 Bd | 6 Bth (4 Full, 2 Half)
www.1780Morton.com



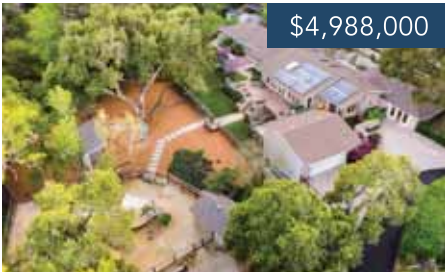
\$3,488,000

631 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
www.631EMeadow.com



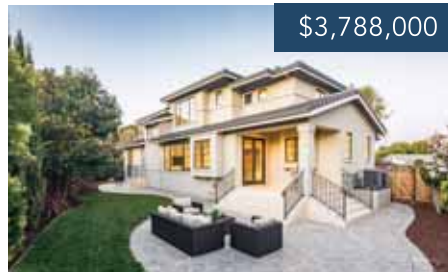
\$1,998,000

713 Saranac Drive, Sunnyvale
3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
www.713Saranac.com



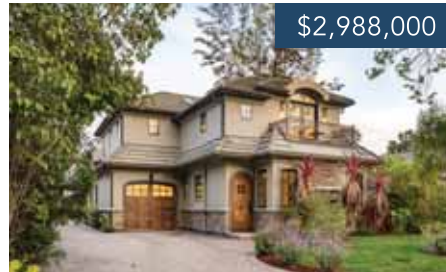
\$4,988,000

220 Todo El Mundo, Woodside
4 Bd | 4.5 Bth
www.220TodoElMundo.com



\$3,788,000

3198 Maddux Drive, Palo Alto
4 Bd | 4.5 Bth
www.3198Maddux.com



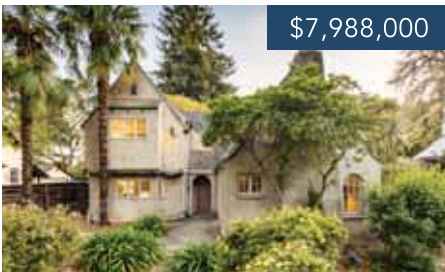
\$2,988,000

140 Tennyson Ave, Palo Alto
4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
www.140Tennyson.com



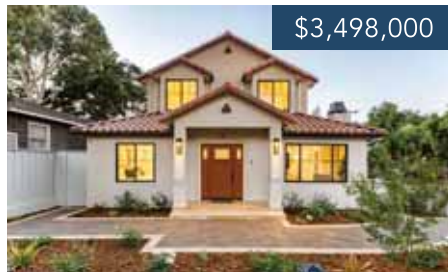
\$5,998,000

13640 Burke Road, Los Altos Hills
3 Bd | 7 Bth (5 Full, 2 Half)
www.13640Burke.com



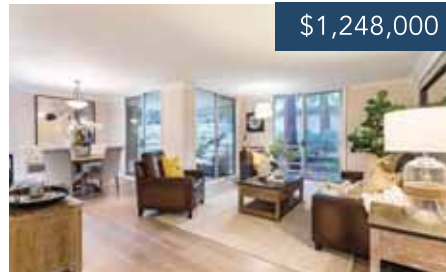
\$7,988,000

1550 Cowper Street, Palo Alto
9 Bd | 7 Bth
www.1550Cowper.com



\$3,498,000

103 Stanford Ave., Menlo Park
4 Bd | 3 Bth
www.103Stanford.com



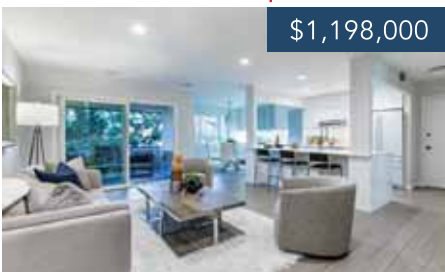
\$1,248,000

1100 Sharon Park Dr #9, Menlo Park
2 Bd | 2 Bth
www.1100SharonParkDr.com



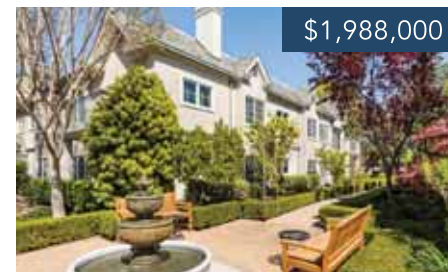
\$4,988,000

307 Walsh Road, Atherton
5 Bd | 4.5 Bth
www.307WalshRd.com



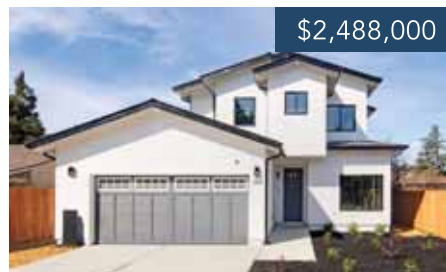
\$1,198,000

461 Burgess Dr #8, Menlo Park
2 Bd | 2 Bth
www.461Burgess.com



\$1,988,000

1 W. Edith Ave. #C116, Los Altos
3 Bd | 2 Bth (for residents aged 55+)
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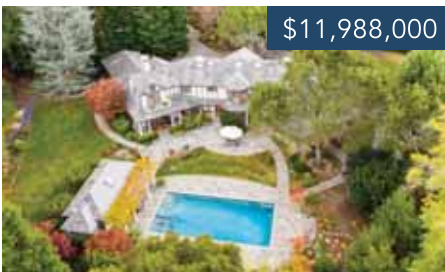
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751 San Benito Ave, Menlo Park
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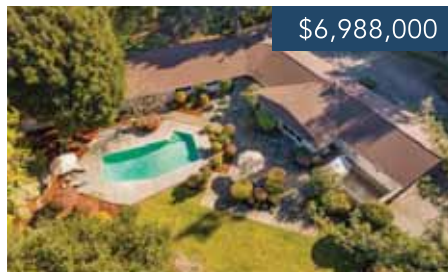
\$5,988,000

26946 Dezahara Way, Los Altos Hills
4 Bd | 4.5 Bth
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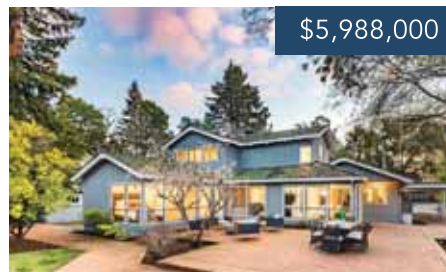
\$11,988,000

3787 Woodside Rd, Woodside
6 Bd | 5.5 Bth
www.3787Woodside.com



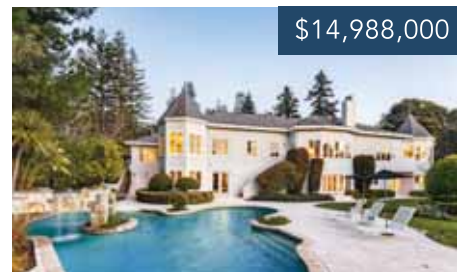
\$6,988,000

35 Edge Road, Atherton
6 Bd | 4 Bth
www.35Edge.com



\$5,988,000

1170 May Brown Ave., Menlo Park
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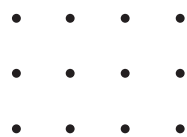
The welcoming foyer draws you inside to an open floor plan, classic oak hardwood flooring and luxurious finishes. A light filled living room flows into a flexible, open great room, each with its own fireplace, accented by raised ceilings, recessed lighting, and stately crown molding. Both spaces flow seamlessly to the expansive outdoor flagstone patio, creating exceptionally integrated indoor/outdoor space for relaxation and family recreation, as well as large gatherings and entertaining.

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Council splits on pilot to deliver vaccines to homebound seniors

By Kate Bradshaw

A proposal from Menlo Park Mayor Drew Combs and Councilman Ray Mueller to partner with the San Mateo County Health Department and Menlo Park Fire Protection District to bring vaccines to homebound seniors moved forward Tuesday night, but not without controversy.

The idea is for the city to work with the county and fire district to hold a pilot program in vulnerable areas covered by the fire district, including Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and unincorporated Menlo Park. The pilot program would likely be limited to just 20 people, Mueller said.

While 76% of Menlo Park residents have been vaccinated against COVID-19, according to county health data, as of about two weeks ago, only about 10% of homebound county residents have received their

vaccinations, Mueller said.

One challenge that county health leaders have faced in providing vaccines to homebound residents is that vaccinations have been required to be provided by registered nurses, and that going into people's homes takes more time than at mass vaccination sites, he said.

The county is interested in the initiative and has contacted Blue Shield of California, which is administering the state's vaccination network, to see if it would be able to get permission to use paramedics, such as those employed by the fire district, to administer the vaccines. The city would participate by conducting outreach and funding whatever parts of the initiative are not reimbursable, he added.

If the pilot program goes well, he said, county health leaders could amplify it throughout San Mateo County, authorizing

fire districts to help vaccinate people who are homebound.

Three council members — Mueller, Combs and Councilwoman Jen Wolosin — ultimately agreed to authorize city staff to talk with county health officials at a meeting scheduled for Wednesday to develop a scope for the pilot project, and remain open to potentially providing some limited support to the initiative, such as funding or public outreach to develop a list of homebound seniors in the city.

Wolosin said she was open to exploring the city's limited participation in the pilot and encouraged the organizers to consult with the county's vaccination equity task force.

However, the proposal generated pushback from others. Vice Mayor Betsy Nash said that she opposed it because vaccinating people is not part of what cities generally do and

because Menlo Park already has a long to-do list. "It's out of the scope of what we normally do and I just don't see taking resources away from something else," she said.

Councilwoman Cecilia Taylor opposed the idea because she has been working with the county's vaccine equity task force and said she didn't agree with the process that Mueller had taken in bringing the proposal forward, arguing that he should have been part of the task force conversations and done more outreach to homebound seniors first.

Lynne Bramlett, board member of MPC Ready, an emergency preparedness community group, objected to the fact that Mueller had left the City Council meeting via Zoom to briefly present information about the proposal to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District board, which also meets on Tuesday

nights but only once per month. She also objected to the proposal based largely on concerns about the process, saying more outreach and research should have been done first.

Separately, but nearly simultaneously, the fire district board ultimately approved a general motion of support for the idea, voting unanimously to express support for local efforts to increase access to COVID-19 vaccinations for vulnerable populations and be willing to work with local governments to support vaccine initiatives so long as they are approved by the San Mateo County Health Department.

The proposal will come back to the City Council for approval once more details are ironed out, Mueller said. ■

Email Staff Writer Kate Bradshaw at kbradshaw@almanacnews.com.

WILDFIRE

continued from page 1

Honda, Cal Fire and the San Mateo County Public Works Department have been cutting back vegetation to create shaded fuel breaks, areas where the understory growth has been thinned out or removed to keep fires from spreading into the tree canopy.

In San Mateo County, work will begin this summer in Huddart and Wunderlich county parks to thin forest floor vegetation, remove dead trees and take out small trees up to 8 inches in diameter. Crews will also clear tall, dense brush along the parks' boundaries, fire roads and residential roads to maintain routes for evacuation, emergency response and firefighting.

The work is being done through a partnership of the San Mateo Resource Conservation District and San Mateo County Parks and funded by Cal Fire as part of the California Climate Investments Program, according to a statement from the county parks department.

The program will treat 218 acres in Huddart and 184 acres in Wunderlich over the next three years. Both sites are located where forest land abuts residences, the so-called wildland-urban interface, the parks department and conservation district said in a joint statement.

"These projects are vital to protecting our local forests. The 2020 CZU fires showed us that fire knows no borders. Forest management at Wunderlich and Huddart county parks will improve the health of these

forest ecosystems, enhance their resistance to catastrophic fire, and help our communities be safer," said Kellyx Nelson, executive director of the San Mateo Resource Conservation District, in the statement.

Improving forest health can also help store an estimated 13,500 metric tons of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change, San Mateo County Parks noted.

'The 2020 CZU fires showed us that fire knows no borders.'

KELLYX NELSON, SAN MATEO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has already been working on wildland fire safety, Leigh Ann Gessner, Midpen spokesperson, said in an email.

It has removed eucalyptus on a critical evacuation route along Page Mill Road in partnership with the city of Palo Alto and the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council. It also created a new, shaded fuel break in Coal Creek Preserve along 2.5 miles of existing roads and trails. Upcoming projects include a proposed ecological restoration project for wildland fire protection and fuels management at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve. The district will hold a public presentation on the project at the April 28 board meeting, she said.

When fire weather strikes, the district will close some preserves and take other precautions to prevent fires being

sparked, she said.

Staff members are also considering a new policy for closing preserves during periods of extremely poor air quality when levels of smoke and other particulates are harmful, such as what the region experienced last summer during the CZU fire, but that plan isn't finalized, she added.

Long term, Midpen's newly developed Wildland Fire Resiliency Program would expand its vegetation management to reduce wildland fire risk and increase fire suppression. The board will consider certifying the program's Environmental Impact Report at a public meeting on May 12 at 5 p.m.

The plan "will enable Midpen to increase its fuel reduction work by over 600%. Additional funding will be critical with the cost of our increased work plan projected to be approximately \$36 million over 10

years," Gessner said.

Funding from the state would also be welcome to jump-start a project goal of the multiple-agency Los Gatos Creek Watershed Collaborative, said Seth Shalet, executive director of the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, a member of the collaborative. The collaborative is hoping for a forest health grant, one of California's targeted initiatives. The project would treat more than 900 acres to reduce fire hazards as part of a multiple-year program, he said.

The FireSafe Council is also just starting to work through a backlog of vegetation management projects that were pushed back due to COVID-19 challenges, Shalet said. Planned projects for this year include work along critical escape routes, including along upper Highway 9 in Saratoga and in northern Santa Clara County along Highway 35 and the Alpine

Road area. The work would start near the Skyline Ridge equestrian parking lot entrance and north along Highway 35 through Russian Ridge until the funds run out, he said.

The council mainly works on less complex projects that involve the public and public education, focusing on defensible space to address what he calls "home-ignition zones." People can clean up their properties to keep them safer from fire should it break out.

Gessner agreed that public awareness is key to preventing wildfires.

"With the dry conditions this year, we all need to do our part and stay vigilant. According to Cal Fire, 95% of wildland fires in California are sparked by people," she said. ■

Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com.



Magali Gauthier

Nicholas Gurr of Cal Fire monitors a fire of burned logs during a controlled burn at the entrance of Huddart Park in Woodside on Feb. 18, 2020.

PETITION*continued from page 8*

Nat Medina, manager of Firehouse Bistro, located at 2991 Woodside Road, said he is “on board with the petition” and signed it since more outdoor space would increase business. In August, the Woodside Town Council allowed the owners of Firehouse Bistro to create additional outdoor seating for diners by exploring a “soft closure,” using a chain to block vehicles, with the idea that the chain could easily be removed by fire or other emergency personnel needing access. Dining areas

would still be protected by solid barriers, but arranged in a way that allows emergency vehicles to get through.

Karey Walker, a spokesperson for San Francisco-based Bacchus Management Group, the owner and operator of The Village Bakery, said in an email that the restaurant supports the petition.

“As an added bonus, the effort will help improve the overcrowded parking situation,” she noted. “It was important to us that the plan did not impact the local horse trails, which are central to the community spirit of Woodside. And even more

importantly, the improved parking will be privately funded by the Roberts family, and not cost residents any money.”

Measure J, approved by the voters in 1988, did two things. It prohibited development of commercial or office space on a then vacant, town-owned parcel near where Town Hall is now located. Second, it required residential properties within and adjoining Town Center to remain in residential use unless commercial parking on those properties had been permitted prior to June 1, 1988.

Measure 1, approved by voters the following year, created

an exception to Measure J’s requirement that residential parcels in Town Center remain in residential use. Upon its approval by the voters, residentially zoned parcels in the Woodside Road Whiskey Hill Road Parking Assessment District were authorized to be improved to provide access, parking and open space — as shown in the 1989 Town Center site plan — so long as at least 50% of the residential parcels were maintained in open space. Approval of Measure 1 allowed the town to construct Town Hall parking and access improvements which now serve

Town Hall, commercial businesses in the Town Center and the public.

There have been no further amendments to these land use regulations in the Town Center since 1989, according to the town.

Conditional use permits would be required prior to making any changes to these parcels.

If an initiative is approved by voters, it could only be modified or repealed in the future by a majority vote of Woodside voters. ■

Email Staff Writer

Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.

CHILDREN’S VACCINES*continued from page 1*

getting a smaller dose. Researchers will test blood samples to check for antibodies and closely monitor patients for signs of a fever, headache, muscle aches and other possible side effects before ramping up dose sizes for later cohorts.

It’s too early to say what the results will be, but Maldonado said she’s optimistic.

“We know that Pfizer did submit data for 12- to 15-year-old (children), and apparently at the adult dose, they did get a very robust immune response,”

she said. “We’re hoping that will be true for the younger kids as well.”

Children will be the last group of people eligible for the vaccine, partly due to the nature of COVID-19 and the threat it poses to them. Early on in the pandemic and at the start of vaccine development, the belief was that children didn’t get infected, and if they did, they didn’t get sick, Maldonado said.

Those views, coupled with the decision to shut down schools and cancel social events, created a perception that children were immune to the virus. But the thinking has changed since

then, Maldonado said. Children do get sick, and they are at risk of serious long-term symptoms after contracting the virus.

“There have been thousands of hospitalizations, and over 300 children have died,” she said. “It is deadly and fatal in children. It’s not common, but it’s not rare either.”

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that more than 2.4 million children age 5 to 17 have tested positive for COVID-19 in the U.S., followed by nearly 500,000 children ages 0 to 4. That’s a total of 2.9 million cases, or 11.9% of all cases in the country.

Researchers are moving fast to extend vaccine eligibility to children in an effort to reach so-called herd immunity, in which at least 70% of the population has been immunized and largely prevents the virus from spreading. Census data shows children under age 18 make up close to a quarter of the population, making them an essential part in reaching that target.

Stanford is expected to participate in trials involving older children later this spring, and the current forecast is that the Pfizer vaccine will be available for children under age 12 by 2022.

“We have pretty strong evidence that approval for (those) 12 to 15 years old might happen before the summer, we’re hoping. But for those under 12, it’s not likely we’ll see something before the end of the year,” Maldonado said.

Though the first phase of the Pfizer trial at Stanford is already fully enrolled with volunteers, residents can still sign up to participate in future phases. Anyone interested can apply online redcap.stanford.edu. ■

Email Staff Writer Kevin

Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS*continued from page 6*

Walk-in availability may be limited, so donors should make an appointment online at bit.ly/wfpd426 or by calling 888-723-7831.

Novo Construction will host a community blood drive with Stanford Blood Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, at 1460 O’Brien Drive in Menlo Park.

Register at bit.ly/novo429 or call 888-723-7831.

Mehta Plastic Surgery is hosting a blood drive in the Bloodmobile at Atherton Square-Mehta Plastic Surgery, 3351 El Camino

Real in Atherton on Friday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Donors at the Atherton event will be offered a voucher for a free sandwich at any Bay Area Jersey Mike’s Subs location.

Register at tinyurl.com/athertonblooddrive.

Contact givebloodSBC@stanford.edu or call 888-723-7831 with questions.

Donors are required to wear a mask and advised to eat well, stay hydrated and arrive with their donor ID or a valid state-issued photo identification. Donors with all blood types are welcome, but there’s always a special need for type O blood. O-negative blood can be used

in recipients of any blood type, and is often used for trauma and pediatric patients.

Portola Valley wildflower series talk

Beginning on Monday, April 26, the Portola Valley Nature and Science Committee will host a six-part, monthly Zoom series on wildflowers. Longtime Portola Valley resident Dan Quinn will show pictures of flowers in bloom that month and provide information about each flower, such its uses for food or medicinal purposes, unique characteristics and how they contribute to the ecosystem.

The presentation will start at

7:30 p.m and will be followed by a Q&A period.

The series continues on May 27, June 24, July 29 and Aug. 26. Join the April 26 event at wildflowertalkapril26.

—Angela Swartz

Ann’s Coffee Shop launches GoFundMe

Ann’s Coffee Shop celebrated its last day of a 75-year run on April 19, as mother-and-son owners Nicki Poulos and George Paplos recruited friends and family to keep their doors open long enough to say goodbye to the community.

Poulos’ son and daughter, Paplos and Elaine Poulos, have

created a GoFundMe campaign to help their mother pay off her mortgage and support her retirement.

“This year, a combination of (COVID-19) and rent prices has put Ann’s, and Nicki herself, in a precarious position,” the campaign states. “The building sold prematurely before the lease’s expiration due to rent spikes, though Nicki had planned to run it for a few more years to pay off her mortgage.”

As of the morning of April 21, it had raised about \$3,700 toward a \$7,500 goal.

People can view the campaign at is.gd/anns21.

—Kate Bradshaw

VACCINE SUPPLY*continued from page 5*

Despite the supply limitations for the health department, Rogers said the county does not appear to be negatively or disproportionately affected compared to neighboring counties.

For example, Rogers said that San Francisco is receiving about 1.3 times the number of doses received by San Mateo County and its eligible population is about 1.2 times that of San Mateo.

As of Monday, 63% of San Mateo County’s eligible

Your COVID-19 vaccine questions — answered

We’ve compiled a list of who can currently get vaccinated in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, plus answers to common questions and links to resources. Access the page at tinyurl.com/COVIDvaccinequestions. Have a question? Send it to editor@pawekly.com and we’ll do our best to answer it.

population had received at least the first dose of the vaccine compared to 64% in San Francisco.

This week in San Mateo County, neighborhood vaccination clinics continued in Daly City, East Palo Alto, North Fair Oaks, San Mateo, South San Francisco and Pescadero/La Honda, which are some of the communities

hardest hit by the pandemic. Just over half — 51% — of individuals in the county’s most vulnerable communities have received the vaccine.

For more information on vaccination efforts in San Mateo County, visit smchealth.org/covid-19-vaccination-program-overview. ■

CORONAVIRUS*continued from page 7*

younger residents are feeling less of an impetus.

Rogers of San Mateo County said while much progress has been made, there are still many variables that could reverse the forward momentum. It’s still a race to get everyone vaccinated before a variant emerges that is resistant to the vaccine or is much more deadly.

“Forty percent of adult residents need to be vaccinated. We still have a long way to go,” she said.

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. 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. ■

CalMatters and Bay City News Service contributed to this report.

SEQUOIA

continued from page 5

the end of the school year to become the district's director of small schools. "It's a priority for summer and it's a priority for fall."

Interim Superintendent Crystal Leach said that the district is aiming to bring students back at 100% capacity in the fall. Of the 9,300 students in the district, those who opted to return to campuses are divided into four groups (A, B, C and D), according to the reopening plan. For example, groups A and B attend Mondays and Tuesdays, and groups C and D on Thursdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays, all students do lessons remotely.

Rick-Kennel also said that the school's "traumatic" lockdown — after someone called in a threat to "shoot up" the school on students' second day back on campus April 6 — has left the school community "reeling" and "recovering."

The incident also highlighted the disconnect between coronavirus protocols and lockdown, in which students and teachers have no choice but to be inside together with doors and windows closed, which limits the ventilation needed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In one case, 18 students locked down in one portable, she said.

Edith Salvatore, Sequoia District Teachers Association president, said she inquired with the district about getting extra COVID-19 testing and whether quarantines are needed, as teachers and students were forced to shelter in place — up to three hours for some — in closed-up rooms. In some cases, students were brought in from the athletic fields and did not have masks.

"I think we have forgotten COVID is still out there, even though the cases are low," she said. "We've got AP (Advanced Placement) testing, we have every athletic team going. I don't know how we're going to contact trace if we have a positive case. ... I have no doubt we will be 100% in the fall if this trend continues, I just want to remind us all this is a reality. I knock on wood that we don't have a positive case, but if we do, everyone's going to get notified."

Sequoia High School Principal Sean Priest shared the same sentiments as Rick-Kennel about the difficulties of reopening during the pandemic.

"Let's start to really focus on the fall and get the work we're way behind on really ramped up," he said.

'Divide' between parents and teachers

Board members and principals expressed their concerns about the divide that seems to have formed between parents, teachers and administrators during the pandemic.

At one point during the meeting, one parent from the group Reopen SUHSD, a coalition of parents, students, teachers and community members that has advocated for in-person learning, said he didn't feel as if students' needs are being prioritized and that the teachers union's role is not to advocate for students.

East Palo Alto Academy Principal Amika Guillaume said that parents have said some "offensive" things about teachers and that reopening is not a simple maneuver. At East Palo Alto Academy, 25% of the student body is back on campus, with many students not being able to return because they're working to support their families or providing child care for family members. Only 77% are attending classes regularly, compared to the usual 94% to 96%, she noted.

"We are nothing without our teachers," she said. "We'll continue to have a divide if we don't call people out for being offensive about what our teachers

do; for truly not thinking of the complexity of what we're trying to get done here."

Newly elected trustee Shawnee Stevenson turned to long-time district employees Rick-Kennel and Bonnie Hansen, assistant superintendent of educational services, during the April 14 meeting for insights on the district's inner workings and guidance on how to bridge the chasm. Rick-Kennel said that district officials have always been good about gathering stakeholder input, but that the pandemic has "thrown us all for a loop because it's impacting everyone so deeply."

"I disagree that the union is advocating only for their teachers; I don't think teachers come in thinking their purpose is not to teach students," Stevenson said. "There is a lot of mistrust between how we interact with each other. We're so frustrated we're not accessing our executive function; we are under stress and don't always get all the details. How do we get on the same page and say 'We are here for the kids.'"

April 19 expansion

Effective Monday, April 19, about 500 students are allowed back on M-A's campus per day, said Rick-Kennel in an

email. M-A's total enrollment this school year is 2,371 students.

The same day, Woodside High School planned to welcome 300 students for the Monday and Tuesday cohort and then another 300 students Thursday and Friday for the remainder of the year, said Principal Diane Burbank in an email. Overall, 33% of the school's roughly 1,906 students opted to return to campus this spring (about 600 students), she said during the board meeting. The return was not equitable, with white students overrepresented by 23% and Hispanic students underrepresented

by 12%. It did not "mirror the school-wide demographic."

The school sorted students so that even at 50% capacity, students have 6 feet distance between desks.

"The break and lunches will be where students need to be reminded about distancing — and to pick up the free morning snack and lunches in the Multi Use Room (MUR)," she said.

Watch the full April 14 meeting at tinyurl.com/seqapril14. ■

Email Staff Writer Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.

Marjorie Hausmann

June 18, 1925 – April 8, 2021

Marjorie Sutherland Hausmann died peacefully on April 8, 2021 surrounded by her family. Marge was born on June 18, 1925 in Portland, OR to William and Helen Sutherland. She and her 2 siblings spent most of their childhood in Portland. She graduated from Grant High School and Oregon State University where she was a Home Economics major. At OSU, she was proud to be a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and the Mortar Board Honor Society which provided her with life-long friendships. After graduation, she moved to San Francisco where she worked for Shell Oil Company and where she met her husband, Robert (Bob) Hausmann. They were married in Palo Alto in 1953 and moved to Los Altos to start their family. In 1962 they moved to Portola Valley where they raised their 4 children. In 2005, after selling the family home, she moved to the Vi at Palo Alto.



Marge was known to all for her generous and positive spirit, always putting others first and her warm welcoming smile. She was a devoted and loving mom. Whether coaching a sports team, teaching cooking in 4H, helping in the classroom or driving on countless field trips, she was always involved. She was also a wonderful Nani to her 3 grandchildren, whom she adored. She was their #1 fan and could always be found at their school and sporting events cheering them on. Family was everything to her and she would gather family and friends for any occasion. She was an excellent baker and her snickerdoodle cookies were an all-time favorite at any gathering!

Marge had numerous interests and was always willing to try something new. She was active in bowling, golf and tennis leagues as well as her hiking groups. The "walkie talkies" could often be seen hiking the many trails of Portola Valley. She loved to travel and saw much of the world, primarily with her children and her sister. She enjoyed the opera and symphony and attended many performances. She was an avid volunteer and was involved with Allied Arts Auxiliary, Lucille Packard Children's Hospital, Filoli Historical House & Garden and Lively Arts at Stanford. She enjoyed gardening— especially tending to her beautiful roses. In her later years, she read constantly and played bridge almost daily. An avid sports fan, she was particularly drawn to the Giants and the Warriors. She loved being a "gamer babe" and at the age of 87 attended the Giants Spring Training in Scottsdale, AZ crossing that off her bucket list!

More than anything, she loved her family very much. There was never a day they didn't know that. She is survived by her four children, Robert Hausmann, Sue (Mike) Davison, Mary (Rob) Levander and John (Eileen) Hausmann as well as her 3 grandchildren Kristen, Melissa and Matthew Davison.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Bob, her sister Helen Jean Sutherland, and brother William Alan Sutherland.

Donations in her memory can be made to:
Lucille Packard Children's Auxiliary, <https://bit.ly/2Qu5FCf>
Or: Windy Hill Open Space Preserve: www.openspace.org/preserves/windy-hill

Stephen T. Dickman

July 23, 1945 – April 7, 2021

Steve Dickman of Woodside passed away on Wednesday, April 7th after a long illness. Steve was born July 23, 1945 in Santa Barbara, California. He graduated from UCSB before attending Long Beach State University to earn his Master's Degree in Physics. While there, he co-published an article in the Journal of Chemical Physics which caught the eye of and earned him a letter from Nobel Prize recipient Linus Pauling.



Steve's career began at Univac in Southern California. He moved to the bay area in 1979 to join Dalmo Victor, which eventually became Northrop Grummon, where he worked until retirement.

A devoted and beloved family man, "Hopppa" enjoyed spending time with his granddaughters and attending every volleyball and basketball game. Famous for his giant campfires, Steve loved camping, golf, classic movies, taco night, lunch at the beach, and his 1958 Corvette. He and his wife visited all 7 continents and 49 states.

Steve is survived by Dawn, his wife of 54 years, son Jacen, daughter Christienne and her husband Graham, daughter Karlee, granddaughters Brighton and Makena, step-grandsons Ethan and Sebastian, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the Woodside Village Chapel and Courtyard on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the Diabetes Research Institute.

PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

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)

LANDA CLEANING SERVICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287097
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Landa Cleaning Service, located at 671 Stanford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ANA L. LANDA VERA
671 Standord Ave.
Redwood City, CA 94063
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 25, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021)

GABRIEL V. GARCIA GARDENING SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287154
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Gabriel V. Garcia Gardening Services, located at P.O. Box 51187, Palo Alto, California, 94303, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 1657 Purdue Ave., East Palo Alto, California 94303.
Registered owner(s):
GABRIEL GARCIA VAZQUEZ
1657 Purdue Ave.
East Palo Alto, California 94303
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 29, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021)

NUCLEATION CAPITAL MANAGEMENT
CLIMATE COALITION
U.S. CLIMATE COALITION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287183
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Nucleation Capital Management, 2.) Climate Coalition, 3.) U.S. Climate Coalition, located at 750 Menlo Avenue, Suite 300, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County; Mailing address: P.O. Box 15, Menlo Park, CA 94026.
Registered owner(s):
KIT VENTURES LLC
18 McCormick Lane
Atherton, CA 94027
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 31, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021)

NELSON CAPITAL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 286974
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Nelson Capital, located at 545 Middlefield Road, #200, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 545 Middlefield Road, #200, Menlo Park, CA 94025.
Registered owner(s):
NELSON CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC
545 Middlefield Road, #200

Menlo Park, CA 94025
CALIFORNIA
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on Not Applicable.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on Mar. 16, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021)

MINT CHIROPRACTIC CARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287217
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Mint Chiropractic Care, located at 600 Mclellan Drive, So. San Francisco, CA 94080, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
KRISTY CARRANZA
600 Mclellan Drive
So. San Francisco, CA 94080
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 2, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 16, 23, 30; May 7, 2021)

BUCIO TRUCKING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287212
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Bucio Trucking, located at 909 Tinsley St. #E110, E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
N&N TRANSPORTATION LLC
909 Tinsley St. #E110
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/14/2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 1, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 16, 23, 30; May 7, 2021)

AERIEL SKINNER OLYMPIC FUND.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287289
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Aerial Skinner Olympic Fund., 2995 Woodside Rd. #400, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
STEVEN FLYNN
2995 Woodside #400
Woodside, CA 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 9, 2021.
(ALM Apr. 23, 30; May 7, 14, 2021)

997 All Other Legals

*** NOTICE OF LIEN SALE ***
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE is hereby given pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the California Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, and Section 535 of the Penal Code. The undersigned, Menlo-Atherton Storage ("MAS") in Menlo Park, CA, will sell via online public sale by competitive bidding the personal property of Henke, Janice C. Property to be sold: Many wood furniture items, sofa, many cardboard boxes (contents not known), bicycle, game table, suitcases, general household goods. The auction will be held online at www.storage-treasures.com. The sale will begin May 1, 2021 at 9am and end on May 5, 2021 at 9am. Goods must be paid for in CASH at MAS and removed at completion of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between MAS and obligated party. Menlo-Atherton Storage, 3757 Haven Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025 650.366.3757. Please refer to www.storage-treasures.com for all other terms and conditions governing the bidding and auction process.
(ALM Apr 16, 23, 2021)

SPORTS

continued from page 10

Jeremiah Earby was MacLeod's favorite target, catching a touchdown pass. Juan Pulido connected on all seven of his PAT tries.

Eric Stuart caused the fumble that resulted in Osorio's touchdown, and Jalen Moss returned a kickoff 67 yards to set up another score.

The Bears completed their third consecutive undefeated league season, last losing a PAL contest in November of 2017.

—Rick Eymer

Football: Sacred Heart takes charge of Valpo Bowl in second half

Menlo School made a game of it in the first half before heavily favored Sacred Heart Prep established order in the second half and pulled away for a 28-7 victory Saturday in the 18th edition of the Valparaiso Bowl.

Menlo (4-1) struck first on a hook and ladder play. On third and 17, Sergio Beltran connected with Chris D'Alencon on a 16-yard completion. D'Alencon lateraled to Carter Jung, who streaked down the left sideline to complete a 61-yard scoring play with 3:29 left in the first quarter.

Menlo's defense did a good job of stymieing the SHP offense for much of the first half. But the Gators put together a 75-yard drive late in the second quarter that culminated with a 37-yard touchdown pass from Teddy Purcell to Zach Freire to make it 7-7 at halftime.

The second half was a different story.

"It was really just the attitude," SHP coach Mark Grieb said. "We started slow. Menlo had a great game plan against us. Attacking them and finding a running game changed the whole complexion of the game."

SHP (5-1) took the second-half kickoff and went 67 yards in six plays to take the lead on a 3-yard run by Andrew Latu. Purcell hit Will Mackie for 21 yards and Beck Anderson for 33 yards on the drive.

Then SHP attempted an onside kick, recovered it, and went 49 yards in seven plays — all on the ground. Latu's 4-yard run made it a two-touchdown lead.

"They did a couple things we weren't expecting in the first half," Purcell said. "We changed up our attack with some double moves and a lot of running up the middle in the second half."

An interception by Ryan

Wong gave the ball back to the Gators, and they scored their third touchdown in three second-half possessions when Paul Barton raced 29 yards on a reverse on the first play of the fourth quarter. Jonathan Martinez's PAT made the score 28-7, which held up.

Beltran completed 17 of 28 passes for 236 yards. But the Menlo ground game, which head coach Todd Smith considered important to his team's chances of pulling off an upset, was held to a net 12 yards.

"We did a good job on defense in the first half," Smith said. "(Purcell) was very uncomfortable in the pocket. They found a chink in our armor and scored late. They were the better football team in the second half."

After a 3-7 season in 2019, Menlo won all four games it played against Peninsula Athletic League Ocean Division competition this season before losing to SHP of the PAL Bay.

"Gratification doesn't come from going 4-1," Smith said. "Gratification comes from what the kids had to go through, the obstacles they overcame with COVID and six sophomores playing."

The Gators rushed for 153 yards. Alec Tonas led the way with 56 yards on 12 carries.

"He came up huge," Grieb said of Tonas. "We had an emotional victory last week (a 29-26 win over Half Moon Bay decided in the final seconds) and it was hard to get fired up, even for this being the Valpo game. But our team rose to the challenge, like they have all year. I'm real proud."

—Glenn Reeves

Will there be CCS playoffs?

Central Coast Section playoffs, once thought to be an extremely unlikely possibility, are now expected to take place for most Season Two sports.

This change came about as the result of a California Department of Public Health directive issued earlier this month that allowed high school sports teams to play teams from anywhere in the state, rather than only within their own or adjacent counties.

Now section playoffs can theoretically take place at a central location.

"I think team sports will all happen," CCS commissioner Dave Grissom said in a phone interview this week.

Grissom made a presentation to the CCS board of managers last week and will need to do so again at an executive committee meeting April 26. He doesn't expect opposition.

"I think everyone feels, if we can pull this off let's do it," Grissom said.

Individual sports face bigger obstacles than team sports. Wrestling and badminton are unlikely to happen at all.

"The guidance prevents playing multiple opponents on the same day, which is what happens with wrestling and badminton," Grissom said. "If you win one match you go on and face someone from another school in the next round. That being said I could make the argument that two wrestlers on a mat might not pose as much of a risk as 11-on-11 football."

Section championships for other individual sports, such as track and swimming, have the chance to take place, but face complicating factors.

"We would blanket the premises in swimming with 100 schools if given approval," Grissom said.

There will be no playoffs for Season One sports — football, girls volleyball, water polo, field hockey, cross country and competitive cheer.

Not all schools are expected to take part. Even with a qualifying team or individual, a school might decide enough is enough and vote not to take part in playoffs, which are scheduled after the school year concludes.

This is a particular issue in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League, which departed from the section's two-season model to create its own three-season schedule. The league set up that three-sport structure in an effort to be fair to all sports and to give all athletes an equal amount of time to compete. The decision was made when all of the Bay Area was deep in the purple tier and the prospects for section and state playoffs appeared dim.

The league also faces possible issues with Title IX after moving girls tennis and girls golf into Season One.

The league's decision to prioritize regular season, rather than postseason play, has drawn opposition from some teams in the league.

"This team we have this year really deserves to go to CCS after missing out last year due to COVID," Palo Alto baseball coach Pete Fukuhara said. "I want to coach as many games with this team as I can."

—Rick Eymer

Read more online

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The Energy Innovation Act will cut pollution and put money in our pockets

By Paula Danz and Mark Reynolds

GUEST OPINION

A few months into the new administration, the federal government is off to a roaring start on climate change. President Biden signed executive orders related to climate change in his early days in office, and the White House just introduced a proposal that elevates climate solutions alongside infrastructure and job goals. In addition, President Biden is planning to announce his upcoming climate plan at his climate summit with world leaders on Earth Day.

The latest exciting development in climate policy is the introduction of legislation called the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 2307). The bill hit the House of Representatives on April 1, led by Florida Democrat Rep. Ted Deutch and 28 original co-sponsors, including local Congresswoman Anna Eshoo. Many thanks to Rep. Eshoo for her many years of tireless work on climate and environmental issues and for her co-sponsorship of this important legislation.

This policy will quickly slash our climate-changing emissions and save American lives by reducing pollution — and that's not all. It will also spur business innovation and lead to affordable clean energy, and it will do all of this while putting money in people's pockets. Let's explore how.

First, the policy puts a steadily rising price on carbon pollution. This price signal will steer our economy away from fossil fuels, leading to a 30% reduction in carbon emissions in just five years. With this policy in place, America will be on the path to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 — a critical target, according to the scientific community. That deadline comes from the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change's game-changing 2018 report, where the authors also specified that carbon pricing, such as the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, is "a necessary condition of ambitious climate policies."

As fossil fuel use drops and emissions decline with this policy, public health will also benefit. We could save 4.5 million American lives over the next 50 years by replacing pollution with clean air. That's why the Lancet Commission endorses carbon pricing, calling it "the single most powerful strategic instrument to inoculate human health against the risks of climate change." The Energy Innovation Act has been endorsed by 214 California health care professionals, including 70 from the San Francisco Bay Area.

While driving these massive benefits, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend

Act will also provide economic benefits to Americans. Each month, people will receive a carbon dividend or "carbon cash back" payment. In other words, the carbon fee revenue will go into people's pockets to spend with no restrictions. With this policy in place, 85% of Americans come out ahead or essentially break even. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen is a longtime supporter of this approach. She affirmed in her January confirmation process that she is "fully supportive of effective carbon pricing," adding, "I know that the president is as well." In District 18, the Energy Innovation Act has the endorsement of Stanford professor and former United States Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, among many others.

This policy is better for business as well. With this bill, the government simply sets a predictable direction for businesses to move: away from carbon emissions. Then it's up to businesses how to move in that direction. Economists expect a policy like the Energy Innovation Act will drive technological innovation, and businesses will provide abundant, affordable, and reliable clean energy in response.

Businesses seem to recognize the value of this approach. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce recently announced its support of a "market-based approach to accelerate emissions reductions," and

the Business Roundtable has explicitly endorsed a carbon price. In District 18, the Energy Reality Project (Menlo Park), Peninsula Democratic Coalition (Los Altos), Silver Mountain Vineyards (Los Gatos), and Tiemann Investment Advisors (Menlo Park) have endorsed the policy.

It's not every day that Congress considers a policy that will reduce emissions, save lives, benefit business, and put money in people's pockets. Every member of California's congressional delegation who has not yet co-sponsored HR 2307 should take a serious look at this bill.

Here in California, we are ready to see results. Public polling shows 70% of people in our congressional district (CA 18) and 64% of Californians overall want Congress to do more to address global warming. That desire defies partisanship, with majority support for climate action from Republican and Democratic voters across the country. The Energy Innovation Act is a good step forward to put America on the fast track to a healthy, prosperous future.

Paula Danz is a volunteer with the Silicon Valley North chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby and a Los Altos resident. Mark Reynolds is the executive director of Citizens' Climate Lobby.

LETTERS

Our readers write

Ann's Coffee Shop

I was saddened to learn that Ann's Coffee Shop would close in downtown Menlo Park ("The end of an era: Ann's Coffee Shop to close," April 9). For decades, it was a valued noontime gathering place for local retirees as well as a friendly breakfast and lunch spot for parents and kids.

Menlo Park is losing many of its longtime small businesses: The Guild Theatre, Village Stationers, The Pet Place, Ann's Coffee Shop, and possibly Feldman's Books. (Editor's note: The Guild Theatre is under renovation to become a music and events venue.) Whether due to the COVID-19 pandemic or downtown redevelopment or the simple inevitability of change, they will be missed. These were not just businesses; they were people serving their neighbors and touchstones for the community. The midnight showing of "Rocky Horror." Personally designed wedding invitations. A place to bring your new pup for "meet and greet." The

out-of-print book. That perfect piece of rhubarb pie.

A sincere thank you to the owners and staff of these businesses. You made Menlo Park a better place.

Maureen Sanders

Skyline Boulevard, Woodside

Yes on S

As Woodside and Portola Valley residents in the Portola Valley School District receive their ballots to vote on Measure S, we have a rare opportunity to cast a "yes" vote that both lowers our tax bill **and** preserves essential funding for our public schools.

Our community has a 30-plus year history of filling in the gap left by state funding and property taxes to support strong schools through a parcel tax. Currently, the direct benefits of our parcel tax dollars are: enhanced core subject instruction, the ability to retain excellent teachers, small class sizes, school library services, and coursework in STEM, music and the arts. All of this is at risk if we fail to pass Measure S.

As a former PVSD trustee and parent of two PVSD graduates

now at Woodside High, I am proud of the work being done in our district. Many will point to our schools' excellent educational programs. Congratulations Corte Madera on being named a California Distinguished School again in 2021!

PVSD also currently has a top-notch administrative team and board who are committed to smart, effective use of funds. After thoughtful study and deliberation, voters are being asked to renew the current parcel tax at a reduced rate of \$471 per parcel. This is a \$110 reduction from the current parcel tax set to expire in June. This reduction by no means reflects that educational costs are decreasing. Great effort was made to review spending, make strategic cuts, and align spending with priorities. This district understands its duty to be good stewards of our public dollars.

Measure S is about one thing: maintaining the outstanding quality of education provided in our local public schools. Please join me in voting yes on S.

Karyn Bechtel

Skywood Way, Woodside

All-electric buildings

Electrifying office and industrial buildings will increase blackouts in California because wind and solar electricity are unreliable ("Guest opinion: California needs an equitable strategy for transitioning to all-electric buildings," April 2). Wind doesn't blow enough at night to provide steady state power. Retrofitting existing office buildings is extremely costly and the money would be better spent developing affordable battery storage, exploring alternative forms of green energy like the solar/hydrogen cycle, and updating our grid and transmission lines. There is also little bang for the buck converting office buildings to all electricity because most of their energy use is for electricity for lighting and cooling. Heating is mostly achieved by the greenhouse effect of windows. The main beneficiary of our prematurely electrifying office buildings will be Austin, Texas, which will welcome our businesses and their tax bases with open arms.

Ed Kahl

Woodside Road, Woodside

Congress must pass action against climate change

It seems like we are having another year of drought in the Bay Area. And all of us living on the Peninsula remember the lightning fires and orange skies of last year. As we ease out of the COVID-19 pandemic, we still need to be concerned once again about breathing unhealthy air later in the year.

In the short term, we hope that PG&E and government resources are clearing brush and taking other measures to limit wildfires as much as possible. But for the longer term we must face up to the effects of climate change in our beautiful area of California.

Recently, with Rep. Anna Eshoo's full endorsement, the new Congress introduced HR 2307, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This bill puts a price on carbon that increases over time. The bill is written to be bipartisan and use market forces to encourage the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Frankly, it's long overdue.

I encourage Almanac readers

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

to register their support for this bill. You can write or phone Anna to help give her the backing of her constituents as she works to implement a policy that more urgently addresses climate change. You can read more about the benefits of carbon pricing online at citizensclimatelobby.org.

*Rob Hogue
Siskiyou Drive, Menlo Park*

What will we say?

What will we tell kids about climate change?

I have been thinking about how our young people will judge us when they look back on how we responded to climate change.

Will they ask if we knew in our hearts that using fossil fuels for energy would kill the planet, but we needed to wait and see the data to prove it?

Will we tell them it was so hard that we couldn't figure out how to safely transition to emissions-free energy despite knowing about a carbon fee and dividend approach?

Will they ask why we could tax cigarettes and alcohol to reduce harmful consumption but not carbon emissions?

Will we say that the oil industry was so powerful that we couldn't get any climate legislation passed?

Will they ask if we knew that many underprivileged communities, which already had so many hardships, were suffering the worst?

Will we say that it seemed OK because big oil companies and wealthy investors were driving the economy and profiting at the expense of our health and the health of our planet?

Or can we take action today that will change their questions — so they instead ask how we created a clean and healthy future?

Will we proudly tell them that we advocated and supported a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend that transformed our energy economy while creating jobs and protecting the vulnerable and the environment?

*Carlos Rodriguez Santiago
Citizens' Climate Lobby
volunteer
Mountain View*

Time to end the Senate filibuster

The filibuster is hot news these days. There is a lot of interest in abolishing it. Originally, it was put in place to prevent civil rights legislation from becoming law. A determined minority in the Senate can gridlock the federal government by using the filibuster and not even allow debate on

a bill. Any senator can signal an objection, and suddenly the Senate has to clear a 60-vote threshold. It makes the Senate a place where little happens and bills die. Every issue you may care about will likely be held hostage by this relic of the past. Please contact your senators and ask them to end the filibuster so they can do the job we sent them to Washington to do.

*Barbara Kyser
Los Altos*

In support of Measure S

I have lived in Portola Valley for 31 years, and Portola Valley schools hold a special place in my heart. One of my children (now a thriving adult) was a special needs student while he was enrolled in the Portola Valley School District. Then, like now, our district offered incredible services that made all the difference for my son. I will always be grateful and amazed at the lengths our district went to in order to best educate him.

Our schools make our community. After my husband passed unexpectedly, I started working in the district as an aide. I got to see firsthand the incredible work that happens in the classrooms. When kids graduate from our schools, they are well-prepared for high school, particularly in math and science. With my granddaughter now growing up in Portola Valley, I can't wait to volunteer in the schools again!

Our schools give us so much, and right now, they need our vote. Measure S is necessary. It will keep great teachers, maintain small class sizes, and fund critical math, science, and technology programs that prepare students to succeed in high school, college, and careers. Measure S is a reasonable ask of our community. It does not increase tax rates. Instead, it simply extends and reduces our existing parcel tax for eight years.

Critical to those in my age group, Measure S allows residents ages 65 and over to support our schools and vote yes without impacting their budgets, especially those living on fixed incomes. It is important to me that an optional Measure S exemption is available for these property owners.

Investing in our kids is investing in the future of our community. I hope you will join me in voting yes on S.

*Chrisi Fleming
Meadowood Drive,
Portola Valley*

Vote yes on Measure S

As a senior and a longtime resident of Portola Valley, I wanted to make sure I understood Measure S before committing to support it.

I've done my homework, and I'm voting yes on S. Here are my top reasons:

■ Measure S is necessary: The school district is only asking for what it truly needs to keep great teachers, maintain small class sizes, and fund critical math, science, and technology programs that prepare Portola Valley students to succeed in high school, college, and careers.

■ Measure S will protect the value of local homes. Good schools maintain property values and keep our community a desirable place to live.

■ Measure S does **not** increase tax rates. Measure S simply extends and reduces our existing parcel tax for eight years.

■ Measure S allows senior citizens 65 and over to support our schools and vote yes on this measure without impacting their budgets, especially those living on fixed incomes. An optional Measure S exemption is available for these particular property owners.

Our PV schools are critical to the families of the town, and Measure S is critical to our maintaining outstanding schools.

I'm not easily convinced, but Measure S is needed. I hope you will join me and encourage everyone you know to vote yes on S.

*Bill Leckonby
Golden Oak Drive, Portola Valley*

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Stanford MEDICINE

A new start for art at Stanford

Cantor Arts Center and the Anderson Collection reopen

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

After more than a year of closure, Stanford University's major art museums — Cantor Arts Center and the Anderson Collection at Stanford — are open again. A visit to campus reveals that, while some things have remained the same (the venerable Rodin sculpture collection, for example), there have been some significant changes at both museums since they last welcomed in-person visitors.

In addition to current health policies such as mask mandates, timed tickets and social distancing rules, perhaps the most notable difference can be found at the Cantor, which is now being led by two interim directors, Elizabeth Mitchell and Maude Brezinski.

Mitchell, who is the curator of prints, drawings and photographs, has worked at the museum since 2010. Brezinski is the executive director of development for the arts and has led capital campaigns and annual giving programs at the university for more than 20 years. She played a key role in fundraising efforts for the university's arts district, which encompasses the two museums, the Bing Concert Hall and the McMurtry Building for Art and Art History.

They were appointed last fall after the departure of former director Susan Dackerman. A lengthy investigation, begun after an exposé in the Stanford Daily, revealed a toxic work culture at the museum and ended with Dackerman's resignation in late November. The university has been circumspect about personnel matters, but did issue a press release at the time indicating that a transition team "will work closely with stakeholders from across the campus and

community to situate the museum for ongoing success."

Mitchell and Brezinski discussed their new roles and goals in recent email interviews with this news organization.

When asked if the Cantor is emulating the administration model of numerous large museums, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, in having two directors — one with management background and one with curatorial expertise — Brezinski responded, "Cantor is using a similar model with the exception that we both closely align with one another in our areas of expertise. The advantage for this current arrangement is that both of us have a long tenure at Stanford/Cantor and understand its history." Mitchell noted, "It has been very useful for us each to tap into our different spheres of experience to connect with staff and work toward institutional goals."

Both indicated that, in addition to their respective skills and experience, just having an extensive history at Stanford has been a major advantage.

"My Stanford colleagues have helped weigh in on a variety of issues from legal documents to instituting timed ticketing for the first time," Brezinski said. "Also, knowing our donors and volunteers has been very rewarding, as they have been incredibly supportive and encouraging."

Mitchell, who served on staff-led committees that addressed the work culture at the museum, noted, "These experiences have helped me thoroughly understand the challenges faced by the museum team in their daily work, and areas in which staff want the museum to grow and flourish."

And how do they plan to address the issues raised last summer?

"We are working closely with the staff with goals of transparency, empowerment and open communications," according to Brezinski. For Mitchell, that means talking regularly with staff "to understand what tools and information they need to be successful in their work, and we use that feedback to strengthen



Courtesy Andrew Brodhead/Stanford University

Visitors walk past Reena Saini Kallat's piece "Woven Chronicle" (2011-2019) in the temporary exhibition "When Home Won't Let You Stay: Migration through Contemporary Art" in the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University.

communication and collaboration across the museum."

Neither would comment on the status of the search for a permanent new museum director but Matthew Tiewes, interim senior associate vice president for the arts, said the university "will launch a search for the next director of the Cantor Arts Center in the next few months."

During the closure, the museums made considerable efforts to remain relevant via virtual offerings, including online exhibitions, tours and lectures. Jason Linetzky, director of the Anderson Collection, said, "The closure provided opportunities for the museums to develop digital content and tours and present virtual programs with contemporary artists, museum docents and Stanford Student Guides." At the Cantor, according to Brezinski, the closure also allowed the staff to spend time planning for the future.



Jason Linetzky

"Exhibition scheduling has also been robust and we will publicize future exhibitions soon. Our membership has been affected, but in comparison to our peers, we have maintained a very good base. Aside from the resignations that occurred last fall/early winter, the staff has remained very stable," she said.

There have also been changes in the past few years for the Anderson Collection, mainly the deaths of founders Harry "Hunk" and Mary Margaret "Moo" Anderson. According to Linetzky, their passing has only strengthened the museum's commitment to sharing the collection and expanding educational opportunities. Only the first floor of the Anderson is currently open, including the installation "Hostile Terrain 94" and "Formed and Fired: Contemporary American Ceramics," while the permanent collection upstairs is packed for temporary storage. The entire museum will be closed again starting May 3 so that gallery ceilings can be resurfaced, the galleries repainted and

the permanent collection reinstalled for an autumn reopening. The temporary gallery on the lower level will then feature the acrylic and resin sculptures of Sam Richardson, who was a highly respected minimalist sculptor and professor of art at San Jose State University.

At the Cantor, among its selection of ongoing and temporary exhibitions, the special exhibition "When Home Won't Let You Stay: Migration through Contemporary Art" is on view through May 31. Richard Serra's sculpture Sequence and the Rodin Sculpture Garden are still available to those who prefer an outdoor encounter with art. Outdoor dining at Cool Cafe has not yet returned but, according to the museum's website, will soon be announced.

All three museum directors are happy to be engaging with the public and encouraging in-person experiences with their collections again. When asked what she wants the community to know about visiting the museum, now and in the future, Brezinski replied, "We want them to feel that it is their second home — that they are welcomed, that they will see beautiful art and learn from our curators, program staff, faculty, docents and volunteers."

The museums are currently open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 25% capacity. Free, timed tickets are required. For more information about updated visitor guidelines and policies, go to the museum's websites: museum.stanford.edu and anderson.stanford.edu. ■

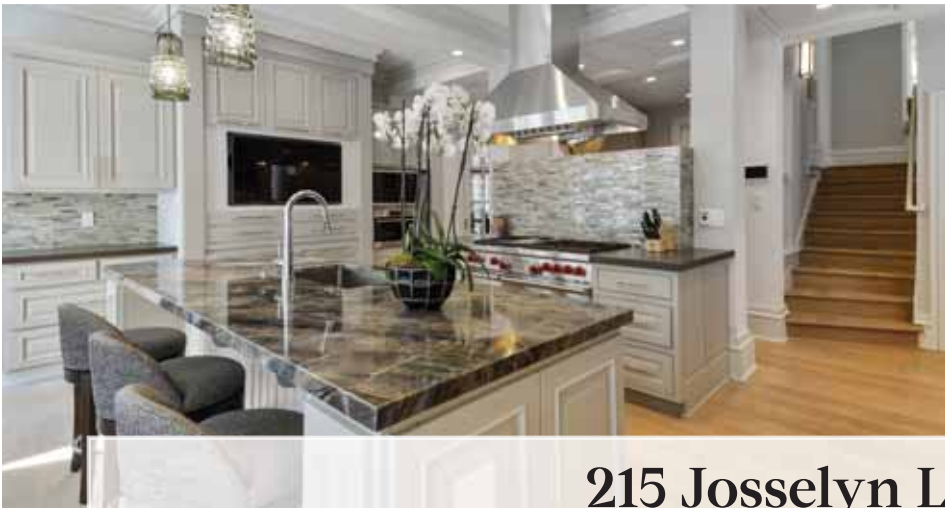
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Courtesy Andrew Brodhead/Stanford University

A visitor in the exhibition "Formed and Fired: Contemporary American Ceramics" at the Anderson Collection at Stanford University.

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Food & Drink

New Peninsula Restaurant Week launches May 14

That restaurants have been hit particularly hard by pandemic-prompted economic fallout is no longer exactly breaking news. Nearly 1 in 6 restaurants nationwide — about 100,000 restaurants — have closed either permanently or long term since March 2020, according to the National Restaurant Association. The Peninsula itself has had to say goodbye to some greats, including Mayfield Bakery & Cafe, Ann's Coffee Shop and Dan Gordon's.

In an effort to provide diners more opportunities to support local restaurants as the Peninsula slowly reopens, Embarcadero Media's Peninsula Foodist is teaming up with Facebook to launch Peninsula Restaurant Week. From May 14-22, restaurants of all stripes along the Peninsula will offer prix fixe deals and other menu specials available for dine-in, delivery or curbside pickup as part of the new dining event.

For more information about Peninsula Restaurant Week, go to peninsularestaurantweek.com.



Magali Gauthier

Bushido Izakaya Restaurant in downtown Mountain View serves up Japanese cuisine.

Restaurant Week interviews:

8 QUESTIONS FOR BUSHIDO'S STEVEN YEN

Longtime restaurant owner on the food industry, his new chef, and the light at the end of the (pandemic) tunnel

By Sarah Klearman

As part of Peninsula Restaurant Week, Embarcadero Media's Peninsula Foodist has asked participating chefs and restaurant owners to share their stories about what the past year has been like for them and where they see the industry headed. This week's Q&A features Steven Yen, owner of Bushido Izakaya Restaurant at 156 Castro St., Mountain View. This story has been edited for length and clarity.

Tell me a little bit about your restaurant. I understand you've been in business more than 10 years now.

It's been a little over 11 years. I try not to count this past year as a year, just with everything that's gone on. Last year was just survival.

We're a Japanese izakaya-style restaurant. Izakaya is like tapas. In Japan, izakayas are essentially Japanese drinking houses, so a lot of people — many of whom



Steven Yen

live in small apartments in Japan — will go to izakayas after work and drink over long periods of time, like, three or four hours, and they just drink and eat tapas, small plates, and share. So that's the general idea of an izakaya. In America, it's a little different — we're more of just a dinner restaurant, but that's where the basis of the idea came from.

Tell me about the course of this year — how many times did you close and reopen?

I want to say we closed three separate times. The first time was when the pandemic started — that time we closed for almost three months. That was a bit of a crazy time, obviously. They first said it was supposed to be two weeks, right? So we were expecting to reopen, but the pandemic kept getting worse. Obviously — at the end of the day, the health and safety of our community always comes first, as does the health and safety of my family. We closed again this winter, too. It's honestly hard for me to recollect exactly, but we just followed the rules. If they said serve to-go only, then we did to-go food only. We did close during the holidays — we did a 10-day closure. We were allowed to stay open for to-go orders only, but cases were surging, so we just closed.

And does this latest reopening feel like it'll be permanent?

I sure hope so. We're going full speed ahead with hiring and everything as if we are going to continue to be open.

Tell me about the biggest challenges you'd say you've faced as a restaurant owner during lockdowns.

Obviously making rent and paying the bills is the hardest thing when there's no income, right? But it was one of those things where it was always about weighing the health and safety of your family versus paying the bills. And it sucked that it had to be that choice. That was the toughest part.

Are there moments or experiences this year you've drawn upon to keep you going?

Oh, 100%. I've had regular customers who have come to Bushido ever since we opened. The only thing I would ever ask the regulars to do is just order takeout from us once in a while. That's all I was really expecting, best-case scenario, but a lot of them were absolutely amazing. Some of them gave us a decent amount of money and said, 'Give this to your employees, take care of them.' I was absolutely floored. Times like these can sometimes bring out the worst in people, but oftentimes it brings out the best in them, too.

Has the pandemic forced any kind of innovation or revelation

in the restaurant space you're excited about?

My restaurant is on Castro Street, and they actually closed the street to through traffic. So essentially we're all able to put tables on the street. It's actually really cool. It turns Castro into a walking street. And obviously additional seating is great, but it's just a great environment. Hopefully, once the pandemic starts winding down, it'll be even more of a (pedestrian) destination.

What should diners expect from Bushido during Peninsula Restaurant Week?

I have a new chef, so I'm leaving it up to him to create the menu. He's actually worked at a lot of Michelin-star restaurants; he's worked at restaurants that are

both Japanese and Korean.

Normally for these things you do some new dishes and some familiar. Because I have a new chef, though, I might just do all new dishes and get customer feedback.

Anything else customers should know about supporting local restaurants during Restaurant Week?

I think (supporting local restaurants) is the most important thing. Of course, we want everybody to do it safely, but I think we're starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. 🍣

Email Writer Sarah Klearman at peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com.



Magali Gauthier

Clockwise from bottom left: Chicken hearts, bacon-wrapped enoki mushrooms, chicken cartilage skewers, okonomiyaki and a brushstroke roll are laid out at Bushido's in downtown Mountain View.

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