

The Almanac

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

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June 15 reopening isn't a 'light switch' for businesses

California's pandemic milestone is another step toward normalcy

By Lloyd Lee

For weeks since COVID-19 vaccines became more accessible and health restrictions decreased, businesses have been experiencing a healthy influx of customers — in numbers they haven't seen since the pandemic began.

"We already bounced back three months ago," said Nina Nguyen, owner of Palo Alto Fit, a fitness studio on Portage Avenue that specializes in personal training.

So with California's official "reopening" on Tuesday, allowing fully vaccinated people to take off their masks in most settings and for indoor places to lift all capacity restrictions — businesses didn't suddenly return to a pre-pandemic "normal."

Instead, June 15 set off small but significant shifts for customers, most of whom no longer have to wear masks, and businesses, which can get closer to serving a true full

house of patrons.

Having capacity limits at 100% isn't a major turning point for Palo Alto Fit, which has suffered from but ultimately weathered the pandemic because its business model focuses on appointment-based, one-to-one personal training sessions. But the update does give back clients the comfort of exercising without a sweaty mask on.

"We're very excited," Nguyen said. "We have a little more freedom now especially if everyone is vaccinated."

Nguyen, who opened the studio in 2015, said her gym would verify every client's vaccination status and have them sign a liability waiver if they want to train without a mask on. For the unvaccinated, clients will have to keep their mask on or exercise outside, she said. All clients, however, will still have the option to do virtual training sessions.

See **REOPENING**, page 22



Lloyd Lee

Jenny Ma, owner of MP Mongolian BBQ, fills a takeout order in the Menlo Park restaurant on June 11.

Menlo Uptown development proposal reaches key milestone

By Kate Bradshaw

A proposal by the development company Greystar to build 441 apartments and 42 townhomes near the Bay in Menlo Park hit a milestone when the final environmental studies evaluating the project were released June 11.

The proposed project, located at 141 Jefferson Drive and 180-186 Constitution Drive, would be an average height of 62.5 feet tall and include 553 parking spaces and 21,700 square feet of public open space, according to city staff.

In addition, the developer would set aside 67 rental apartments and six townhomes to be designated as affordable to people earning less than the median income, in accordance

with city policies.

The exact breakdown of whether the below-market-rate apartments would be designated for very low- and low-income households only, or whether some moderate-income households could be eligible for the program has not been decided yet, according to city staff. However, all six of the below-market-rate townhomes would be affordable to moderate-income households.

The developer has also proposed two ideas for community amenities to provide for the public in exchange for greater development allowances than would otherwise be permitted. Those proposed amenities are to either dedicate the planned commercial space at the development — less than 3,000

square feet — to be used by a nonprofit, or to be used specifically by a health care nonprofit to operate an urgent or express care center. In either case, the developer would contribute additional funds to a community land trust or health care network.

One of the most vocal groups raising questions about the environmental impacts of the proposal is the Sequoia Union High School District, because the proposed development is across the street — or as the environmental impact review (EIR) notes, 85 feet away — from the district's recently launched TIDE Academy, a Menlo Park high school focused on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) education set to serve around

400 students across four grades.

A 23-page letter from the district's law firm Lozano Smith in response to the draft EIR raises concerns that the proposal could add around 1,240 new residents to the neighborhood, including an estimated 100 new high school students that the district would have to serve. The rapid increase in student population could require the district to add portable classrooms, the letter noted. It also raised concerns that the proposed development would worsen traffic and vehicle-related safety for students at the school. A separate letter directly from the district raised similar points, including concerns about the noise and air quality impacts of the proposed development.

The authors of the final environmental analysis pushed back on the school's requests, saying that the impact fees the developer would be expected to pay, along with existing regulations aimed at minimizing impacts to schools, would reduce the impacts to a "less than significant" level. In addition, the analysis notes that while the total number of students in all grades at the development would be around 270, based on certain assumptions used in earlier environmental analyses to determine zoning for the area, that is likely a high estimate. That's because about 220 of the proposed units in the development would be one-bedroom housing units

See **MENLO UPTOWN**, page 20

INSIDE

ARTSCENE 23 | FOOD & DRINK 24

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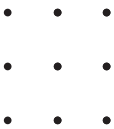
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Kate Bradshaw

Reporter Kate Bradshaw sets up camp at Foothills Park on a recent Thursday evening. She was the only camper there — with the exception of her dog, Willa.

Enjoying Foothills Park after dark

Reporter and her dog had Palo Alto's formerly exclusive open space all to themselves overnight

By Kate Bradshaw

It wasn't a great day to go camping. It was the Thursday night of a long week, and my boyfriend had a last-minute work meeting come up. Then a friend I'd invited to join me at the last minute notified me she had a class to attend, while another friend also canceled for work reasons.

So the roster for the May 6

expedition to overnight at Palo Alto's Foothills Park would be just me — and my trusty canine companion, Willa.

I arrived at the park around 5 p.m., hours after the check-in time of 2 p.m.

Unsure of just where the campsites were, I parked at the bottom of the hill at the Orchard Glen parking area and started hiking in toward the Towle Campground. The campsites

were a solid half-mile away from the parking area, and upon arriving, I realized that there was abundant parking there, and that I could have just driven in along the gravel path the whole way.

While setting up my tent, I was met by a park ranger who walked me through the rules of the campground and had me

See **FOOTHILLS PARK**, page 17

Woodsiders to vote on measure aimed at adding outdoor community spaces

By Angela Swartz

Woodsiders are set to vote on changing zoning to allow for more outdoor community gathering spaces in a Sept. 7 special election.

The citizen initiative qualified when San Mateo County verified 447 signatures out of the 678 signatures on a petition started by resident Alex Tauber to change zoning regulations so a parking lot behind Buck's

Restaurant in Woodside can be developed, according to a report prepared by town staff for a June 8 council meeting. The measure would also allow for a parcel of land next to the Woodside Community Museum to be developed into an outdoor amphitheater. The measure needs a simple majority in favor to pass.

Tauber started the effort in February in search of safe ways to bring community members together outdoors.

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

See **WOODSIDE VOTE**, page 18

Construction begins on Portola Valley school buildings this week

By Angela Swartz

On a blustery June day, Portola Valley School District community members gathered at the town's two public schools to celebrate groundbreaking ceremonies for the district's \$49.5 million bond measure project.

This week, new construction funded by Measure Z commenced at Ormondale and Corte Madera schools. Former superintendent Eric Hartwig, who headed the district when the measure passed in 2018, spoke at the ceremony and said it was gratifying to see the project coming to fruition. He gifted Chief Business Official Connie Ngo a framed pipe that had leaked in Corte Madera's multi-use room as a good luck charm.

Corte Madera Principal Kristin Shima, who is wrapping up her first year heading the school, said at a June 7 groundbreaking ceremony that she was excited to celebrate the occasion in person after over a year of sheltering in place.

"I'm excited our focus is on rebuilding these innovation rooms: our art rooms, our STEM labs, our science buildings, our outdoor learning spaces," she told community members. "To get us back to hands-on learning for our students, especially after this year where our kids have been really

forced to learn online and on Zoom."

Shima asked audience members to pause and take in the scenery of Portola Valley.

"The (construction) plans really have us opening this space up, so we can really look up and look out," she said.

Ormondale, which serves students from transitional kindergarten through third grade, will gain a new entry, courtyard and makerspace patio, according to a June 10 note from Superintendent Roberta Zarea in the town newsletter. Ormondale will have a sensory garden, including plants for play therapy, interactive play spaces, outdoor seating and a new greenhouse, she wrote.

Corte Madera, which serves grades four through eight, will gain a new atrium with a view to Windy Hill, a new fourth and fifth grade classroom that looks out over the Frog Pond, an amphitheater, new landscaping and new lunch seating, she said.

"Over the past three years, we have come together as parents, neighbors, district staff, school board members, and our construction planning partners to design campus improvements that will continue PVSD's heritage of respecting our town's unique beauty while updating our schools and providing the 21st century classroom

See **CONSTRUCTION**, page 20



Magali Gauthier

Principal Kristin Shima speaks to the assembled crowd at a groundbreaking event at Corte Madera School in Portola Valley on June 7. Work funded by the \$49.5 million Measure Z bond started this week.

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Angela Swartz (223-6529)

Embarcadero Media Staff Writers

Sue Dremann (223-6518), Kevin Forestieri
(223-6535), Lloyd Lee (223-6526),
Gennady Sheyner (223-6513)

Contributors

Kate Daly, Maggie Mah

Special Sections Editor

Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

Chief Visual Journalist

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

Visual Journalist Intern

Daniela Beltran

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

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Designers

Linda Atilano, Amy Levine,
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Vice President Sales and Marketing

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The Almanac is published
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3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
Menlo Park, CA 94025

■ Newsroom: (650) 223-6525

Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

■ Email news and photos with captions

to: Editor@AlmanacNews.com

■ Email letters to:

Letters@AlmanacNews.com

■ Advertising: (650) 854-2626

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NEWS

CRIME BRIEFS

Juvenile arrested in assault, robbery

A 17-year-old Stockton girl was arrested June 10 after allegedly slashing a man with a knife in his home in Menlo Park, police said.

Menlo Park police responded May 30 to a home in the 1100 block of Pine Street, where the victim reported the girl cut him in the back of his head by some sort of knife, after he had used an internet service to have a female escort come over. She reportedly stole cash as she left the home.

The man was treated at a hospital and later released.

Investigators were able to identify the girl and on June 10, conducted an undercover operation in San Leandro that led to her arrest. She was taken back to Menlo Park and then booked into a juvenile detention center on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon and robbery.

Her name is not being released because she is a juvenile.

—Bay City News Service

See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 21

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Courtesy Jane Ridgeway

Menlo School seniors walk across Cartan Field to graduate on June 9.

Menlo School graduates its 102nd class

About 140 Menlo School seniors graduated on Wednesday, June 9, on neighboring Menlo College's Cartan Field in Atherton.

During the ceremony, Head of School Than Healy said the school's 102nd graduating class "had a unique and difficult set of experiences" over the last 15 months, according to a school blog post. Last year the school held a drive-in ceremony because of the pandemic.

"Unexamined, this can only be a rough period of your life," he said. "But taking the time to reflect affords us insight into the principles that may guide our lives and the assets we didn't know we had to lean on in pursuit of the good life."

He described the pandemic as "far from a blessing," but praised students for adjusting their expectations.

"No longer is winning a state title your primary goal — but having a season together, or just enjoying the inspiration from Coach Smith is what you most pray for," he said. "Getting the 'A' has been replaced by being in the classroom with Mr. Spence or Ms. Orangio. Having a prom to rival what is shown on TV has been traded for simply being together for a night on the quad, singing your lungs out to different songs at the same time during a silent disco. At any moment you could have chosen defeat over victory, but by discerning what really matters most, you have taught yourselves and the rest of us how to find what is core in a situation."

Speakers at the event included deans Cindy and Tony Lapolla, faculty member Oscar King and senior class President Sareena Sandhu.

The choral program and chamber orchestra shared recorded performances for the occasion.

There were 139 members of Menlo School's 2021 graduating class, according to the school.

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 22

Menlo Park: Council hashes out budget, city recovery plan

By Kate Bradshaw

After cutting tens of millions of dollars from the city of Menlo Park's budget last year, the City Council tentatively agreed to add back the equivalent of 24.5 full-time staff members at a cost of \$3.75 million beyond what the city currently funds.

The City Council's discussion of the proposed budget on June 8 provided additional feedback on a number of proposals relating to which services to bring back after pandemic-related budget cuts last year. However, the 2021-22 budget isn't formally scheduled for approval until the

council's June 22 meeting.

Access the draft budget at is.gd/mpdraftbudget2122.

The format for the proposed budget for the upcoming 2021-22 fiscal year started by establishing a baseline option, setting forward a plan to fund the remaining services that weren't cut during the pandemic. From there, city staff developed a tiered list of options that the City Council could select to enhance services beyond the current level.

After working through those four tiers of options, which included at least 18 service proposals, the City Council tentatively agreed, via straw poll, to move forward with plans to

approve 24.5 new staff members and \$3.75 million to fund those service additions.

Among the service additions are:

- Restoring planning staffing — \$300,000

- Adding an economic development manager — \$250,000

- Adding a sustainability staff member to implement the climate action plan — \$150,000

Council members were a "maybe" on whether to add five full-time employees to maintain the city's downtown area and implement the city's updated Heritage Tree ordinance for \$630,000, a "no" on collaborating with the Menlo Park Fire

Protection District on an emergency preparedness initiative for \$100,000, and a "no" on two proposals related to the police department: to add two full-time employees for traffic enforcement and two civilian public safety personnel members.

Councilwoman Betsy Nash said she opposed the police additions because she wanted staffing discussions to take place when the city goes through an expected process to "reimagine" public safety services.

The council also discussed how to use the \$8.3 million the city is expected to receive in federal funds authorized through the American Rescue Plan Act

or ARPA, which possible additional revenue sources to consider using, and which possible service enhancements should be funded among four different tiers of priority.

A previous report underestimated the expected surplus expected in the city's 2021-22 operating budget, according to Dan Jacobson, assistant administrative services director. Instead of \$9,430, which was reported earlier, the surplus is actually expected to be \$549,430. ■

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

Coronavirus central: State officially aligns with CDC masking guidance

Expenses-paid vacation packages introduced as latest COVID-19 vaccine incentive

By Embarcadero Media staff

Mask enforcement will be on honor system

One of California's top public health officials confirmed last week that the state would align with federal face masking guidance when the state's tiered reopening system was lifted June 15.

The masking guidance, as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, enables fully vaccinated residents to forego wearing a mask in most indoor and outdoor situations unless required by an individual business or local health department.

The updated guidance has exceptions for a handful of

situations, like riding public transit or being in a school, a child care setting, a health care setting or a nursing home.

"Fully vaccinated people can resume everyday activities without wearing a mask, except in a few limited settings that are required by federal and state rules," state Health and Human

Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said during a briefing on the updated guidance.

Unvaccinated residents will still be required to wear a mask or face covering when indoors, Ghaly said, or when attending large outdoor events like concerts or sports.

State officials previously stated

their intent to lift most masking requirements when the state lifted its reopening tier system, formally known as the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, on Tuesday.

While the CDC issued its updated masking guidance on May 13, Ghaly and other state

See **CORONAVIRUS**, page 16

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High school sports roundup

Boys basketball

The **Sacred Heart Prep** boys basketball team did everything it needed to do to win its first Central Coast Section title in seven years, beating visiting The King's Academy 62-48 in capturing the Division IV crown Saturday night.

Offensively the Gators needed to play at their own pace. "They tried to slow us down," SHP senior post Harrison Carrington said. "We just tried to focus on ourselves."

Sacred Heart Prep (15-7) also need production out of their scorers. Carrington and junior Aidan Braccia combined for 39 points.

The Gators needed to slow down The King's Academy star athlete Noah Short, who earlier in the day qualified second in the 100 meters at the CCS track and field semifinals in Soquel. The 100 went off at about 3:15 p.m.

Short, who scored over 70 points in his previous two games, was limited to 12 points thanks to a rotating set of defensive players. Short, headed to West Point to play football, among other things,

may not have had his legs, but he played at full speed.

"The guy works hard," Braccia said. "I have no doubt he could do both."

The Gators also handled themselves with distinction in their willingness to take a charge. Braccia and Mat Bucher each took a charge at key moments of the fourth quarter, when TKA was showing signs of gaining some momentum.

And SHP did not panic when The King's Academy rallied from an 11-point halftime deficit to tie the game at 37 with 2:43 remaining to play in the third quarter.

Braccia hit a 3-pointer, grabbed a key rebound and then hit another basket on a backdoor play and the Gators were never in trouble again.

"This is a great way to go out," Carrington said. "I can't ask for anything better, especially after such a weird year."

Carrington spent most of the past year bonding with his family at home, playing video games and doing a lot of basketball work around the net in front of his house.

"I was always hoping for a season," Carrington said. "At

times I didn't think it would happen but I wanted to stay in shape in case we got the opportunity to play."

Carrington has received some attention from college scouts but has decided to spend a year at a prep school in Massachusetts to build up his muscle and his basketball acumen.

Braccia will be spending his summer traveling to basketball events across the country in hopes of gaining further exposure. He's already received four offers, including one from San Jose State.

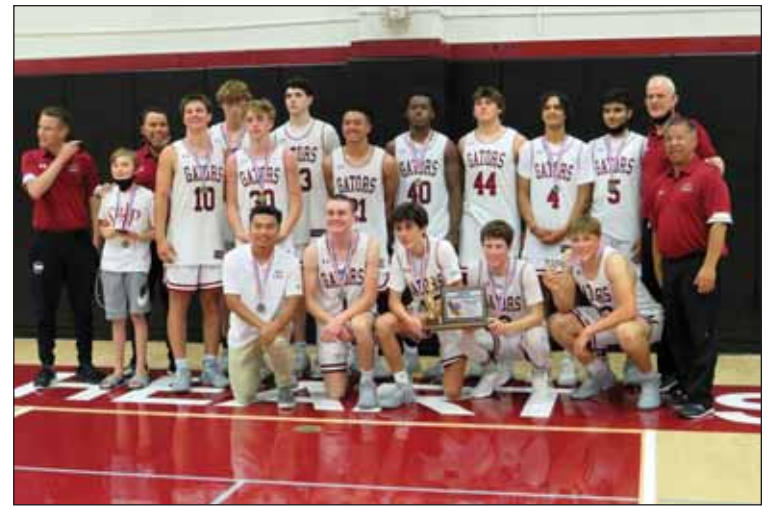
"That's a new coaching staff and I love what they're doing, recruiting locally," Braccia said.

Until then, the Gators can celebrate a successful end to an eventful year.

The West Bay Athletic League was also represented in the Division V boys final, where Pinewood (6-9) fell to visiting Shasta Summit, 68-63.

Menlo boys basketball coach Keith Larsen, meanwhile, looked on the bright side. There's open gym coming up in a few weeks.

"We'll be fine," Larsen said



Rick Eymmer

Sacred Heart Prep is the CCS Division IV boys basketball champion.

after The King's Academy 67-53 victory in the semifinals of the Central Coast Section Division IV ended Menlo's season June 10. "We have 16 (of 18 players) coming back. We can play."

Liking it to a recreation league, Larsen figured this season produced so many turns, twists and curves for most teams that there's no comparison to a regular season.

"First off, I've never coached graduates before and never coached in June," Larsen said, referring to recent Menlo grads Chris Cook and Hunter Riley, who were so busy planning

for finals, proms and graduation, they could drop in for a practice or two. "You talk about senioritis in March and now it's June and they've got so many commitments."

Cook and Riley combined for 23 points. Cook made all five shots he attempted, and Riley added seven rebounds.

"It's hard when you can't practice and can't get the reps," Larsen said. "The seniors still came out here and gave us everything they had."

Lucas Vogel, who led Menlo (7-10) with 16 points, sank

See **SPORTS**, page 10

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SPORTS

continued from page 8

a pair of free throws to put Menlo ahead 43-42 in the final minute of the third quarter after the team trailed for most of the game.

The King's Academy responded by scoring 23 of the next 28 points to take control.

"It's like getting a little taste of playoff basketball," Larsen said. "It's faster, quicker. We'll be fine just as long as we get to next year."

Girls basketball

Aniyah Augmon wanted to spend as much time as she could soaking up everything that made her high school girls' basketball career so special before heading off to New Mexico.

The **Priory** senior, er, graduate joined her new teammates over the weekend for the summer conditioning program. She's also enrolled in summer school there.

"I wouldn't trade this moment for anything," Augmon said after top-seeded Mitty beat the No. 5 Panthers 68-26 in a semifinal game of the Central Coast Section Open Division June 9.

Augmon wasn't, of course, talking about the final score but her overall experience at Priory, which used to be thought of as a nice place to visit but not a sports factory.

It's still not a factory, but both the boys and girls' basketball teams have given Priory some street cred this season, each appearing in the Open Division for the first time in school history.

"Priory used to be a school no one heard of," Augmon said. "We were nothing until Tatiana came, and now we're playing in the Open Division. It's an honor to be here."

That's Tatiana Reese, who graduated from Priory a couple of years ago and went on to Eastern Washington. On June 9, she was back on the bench as the team manager.

Reese took Priory to its first state final as a player but until this year, the Panthers never qualified for the Open Division.

Priory has never been at full strength this year and still managed to finish second to Pinewood in the West Bay Athletic League and win its Open Division debut.

"They were bringing fresh legs every two minutes," Augmon said. "But I liked how we

persevered, playing through injuries. We were so resilient all year. We just decided to come here and give it everything we had."

Priory's starting five went the distance while Mitty, with a deep bench, was able to sub in five at a time over the course of the game.

Augmon, Bineta Diatta, Valentina Saric and Sydney Donovan helped keep Priory competitive in the early going, then Mitty upped its full court pressure and forced turnovers.

Saric led Priory (10-4) with 10 points.

Wrestling

It turned out to be a successful high school wrestling season for several local athletes who competed at the California State Finals Invitational over the weekend in Fresno.

Menlo-Atherton's Alexia Bensoussan reached the championship match of the girls 128 weight class before losing to Swamp Monsters' Janida Garcia.

Swamp Monsters, based in Sacramento, dominated the meet, handily winning the "team" trophy. Bensoussan was the lone M-A wrestler.

Bensoussan reached the final

with a technical fall, an injury default in the third period and a 4-1 decision over Central Catholic's Adrienna Turner in the semifinals.

—Rick Eymer

Track and field

Palo Alto's Aaron Kim and Pinewood's Maia Garcia were the top qualifiers Saturday in the boys and girls high jump at the Central Coast Section track and field semifinals at Soquel High.

Kim, the boys season-leader at 6-8, qualified at 6-4. Garcia, the girls season-leader at 5-8, qualified at 5-2.

The CCS finals take place Saturday, June 19, at Soquel.

In the girls qualifiers, Palo Alto's Hillary Studdert had the second-fastest qualifying time in the 800 at 2:13.55, just behind Isabella Cairns of St. Francis. **Sacred Heart Prep's** Luci Lambert (2:16.78), Castilleja's Samira Kennedy (2:17.90), Paly's Katherine Cheng (2:18.16) and **Menlo-Atherton's** Kendall Olesen (2:22.54) also qualified for the final.

Lambert also has the second-fastest qualifying time in the 1,600 at 5:02.93. **M-A's** Annie Pflaum (5:09.56) moved on to

the final, as well.

Woodside's Katherine Sheldon was second in the 300 hurdles (46.95) and eighth in the triple jump (34-7).

Palo Alto's Lili Wakenshaw (5-2) and **Woodside's** Katherine Meade (5-0) qualified along with Garcia in the high jump. **Sacred Heart Prep's** Keegan Shaw moved along in the long jump, qualifying 10th at 15-9 3/4. **Woodside's** Elle Marsyla qualified in the 3,200 with a time of 11:27.95.

In the boys qualifiers, **Menlo School's** Calvin Katz had the second-fastest prelim mark in the 1,600 at 4:18.24.

Woodside's Maceo Latimer and Luke Buddie both cleared 6-0 to advance in the high jump. Paly's Rishi Tella qualified in the triple jump at 41-3 1/2 as did **Menlo's** William Floyd in the pole vault (11-6).

—Glenn Reeves

Read more online

Get the latest on local prep sports delivered to your inbox Monday through Friday by signing up for The Almanac's Express newsletter at almanacnews.com/express.

Healthy Hearing, Healthy Brain



Michelle Inserra, MD is an otologist with the Earlens Hearing Center. She holds a medical degree from Stanford University and completed a fellowship in Neurotology at the California Ear Institute.

Upcoming webinar:

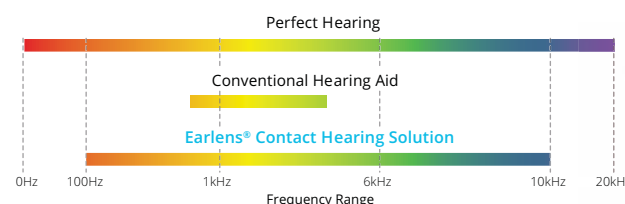
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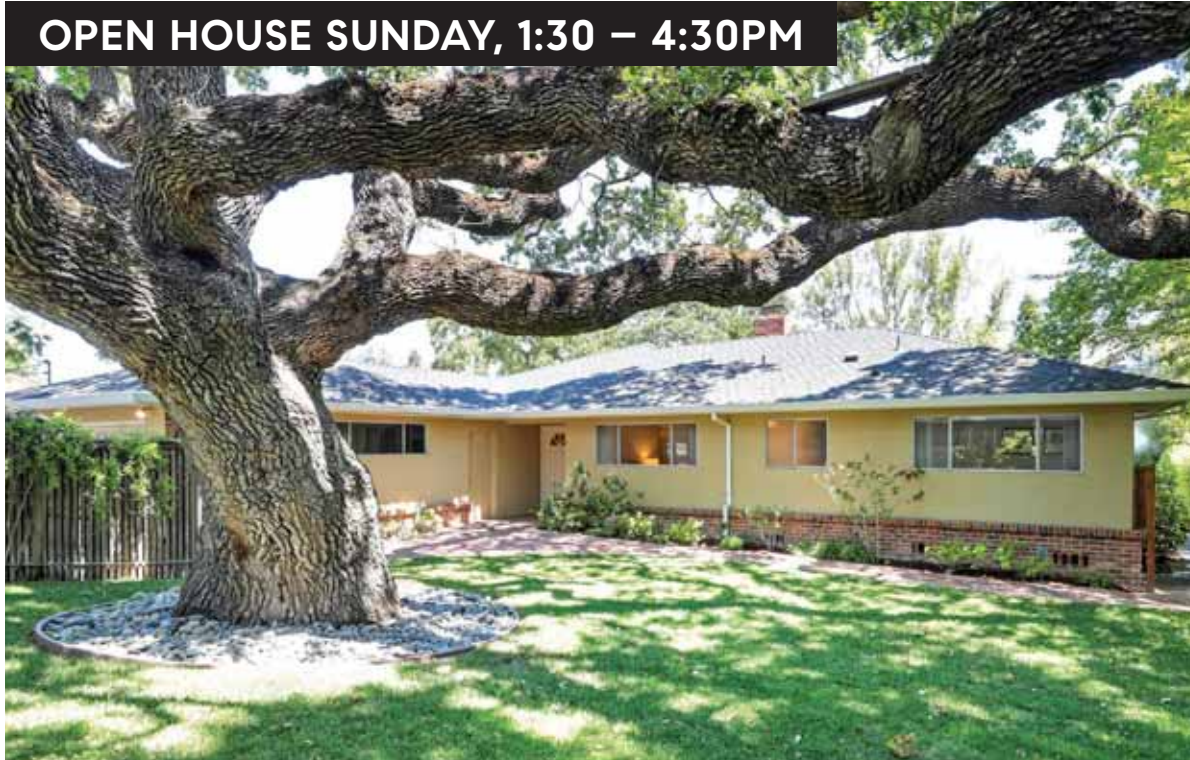
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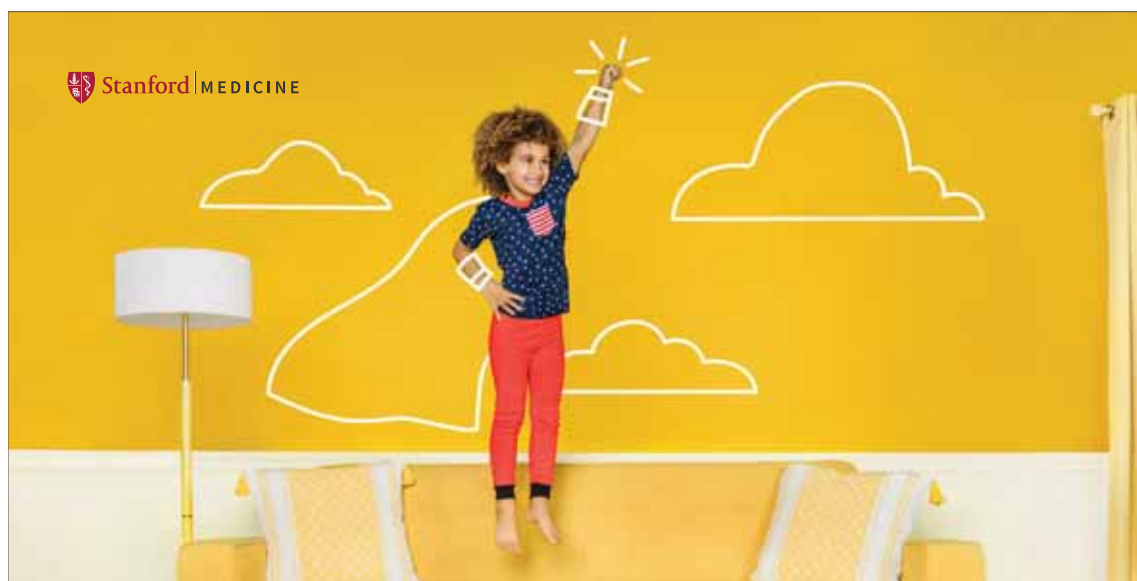


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MENLO BRIEFS

Off The Grid returns

Off the Grid, a weekly food truck gathering, was set to return to Menlo Park on Wednesday, June 16, after The Almanac went to press. Off the Grid is held in the Caltrain parking lot at 1120 Merrill St. in Menlo Park on Wednesdays from 5 to 9 p.m.

Check to see which vendors plan to attend each week at offthegrid.com/event/menlo-park/.

Juneteenth celebration honors WWII hero

The city of Menlo Park is set to celebrate Juneteenth, a day commemorating the ending of slavery in the U.S., with a ceremony in Belle Haven to recognize Karl E. Clark, an African American war hero from World War II and a longtime community activist and mentor.

The ceremony, set for 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 19, at Karl E. Clark Park at 313 Market Place in Menlo Park, will include the unveiling of a storyboard honoring Clark, for whom the Karl E. Clark Park is named.

Set to speak at the event are Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Menlo Park Mayor Drew Combs and City Councilwoman Cecilia Taylor. The event is sponsored by the Menlo Park Historical

Association, Belle Haven Action and the city of Menlo Park.

Donate blood, get a gift card

A community blood drive is scheduled at Tarlton Properties, 1440 O'Brien Drive, in Menlo Park on Wednesday, June 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each donor will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card.

Donors are encouraged to make an appointment in advance at stanford.io/350kn8f or by calling 888-723-7831. Donations from people with Type O blood, particularly O-negative, are in special demand. Donors will be required to wear masks.

"In order to help meet patients' increasing need for blood products at this time, we are working within social distancing guidelines to schedule new mobile blood drives," said Clayton Toller, Stanford Blood Center account manager.

"It's the blood that we have readily available that allows us to save a life at a moment's notice, so we're urging the local community to please consider donating at the Tarlton Properties blood drive. All it takes is about an hour of your time, and you can help save the lives of multiple patients with a single donation," he added.

—Kate Bradshaw

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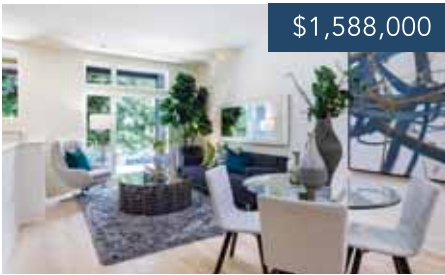
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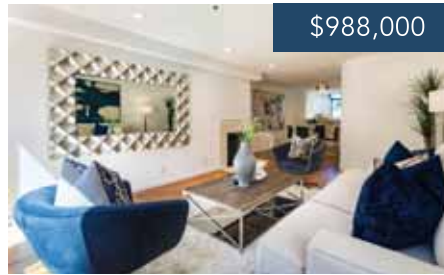
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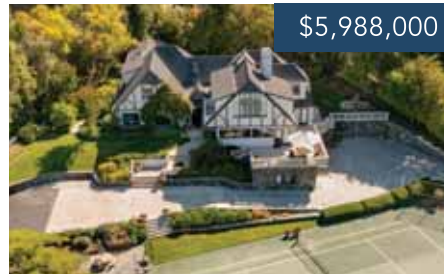
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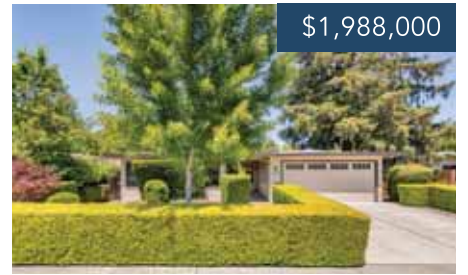
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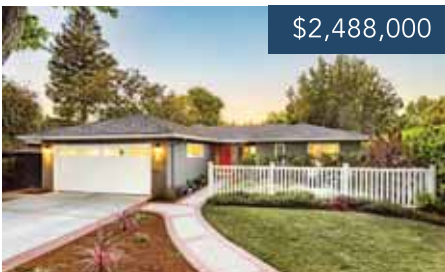
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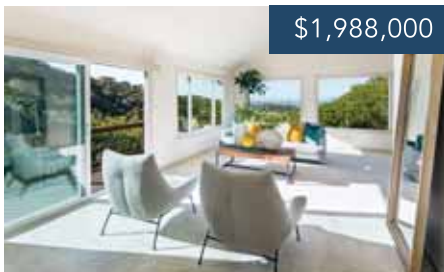
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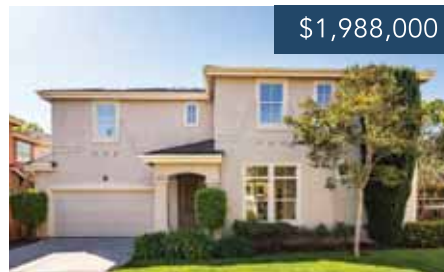
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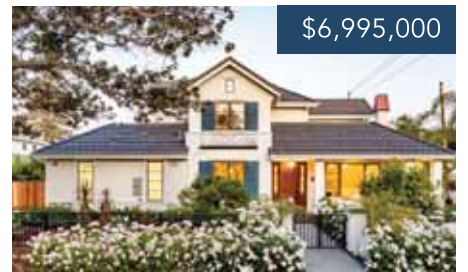
\$1,988,000

632 Palomar Drive, Redwood City
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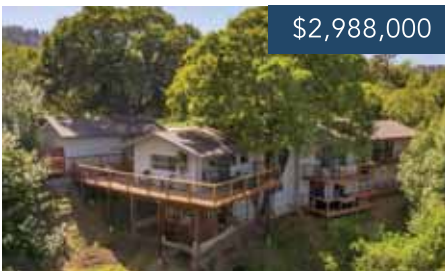
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437 Whisman Park Dr, Mountain View
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www.437WhismanPark.com



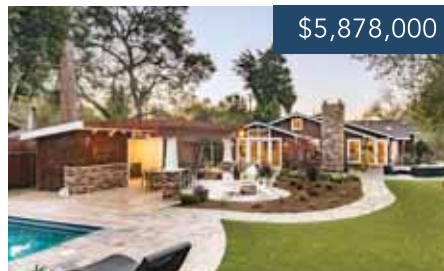
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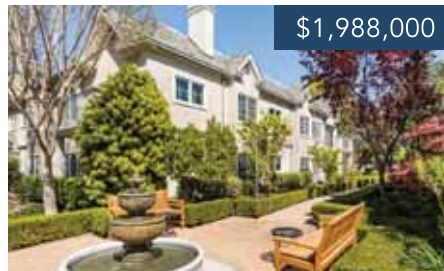
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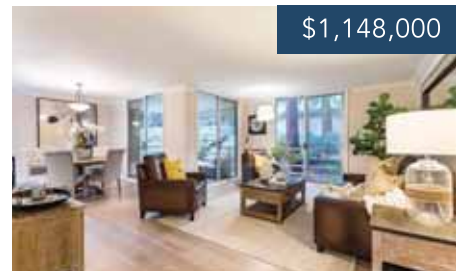
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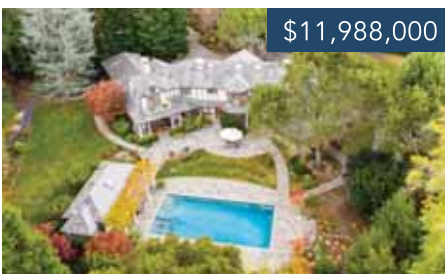
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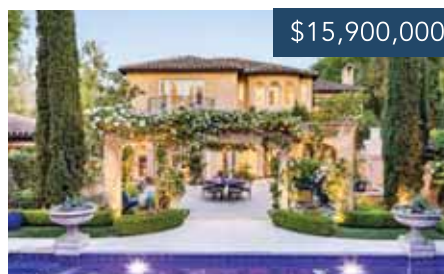
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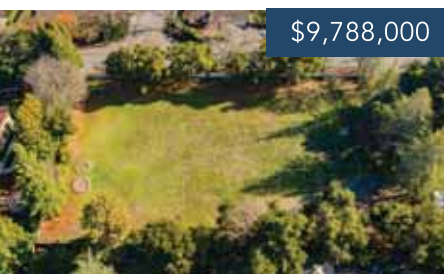
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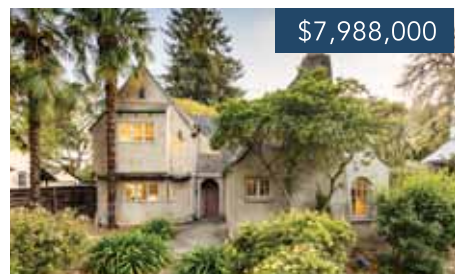
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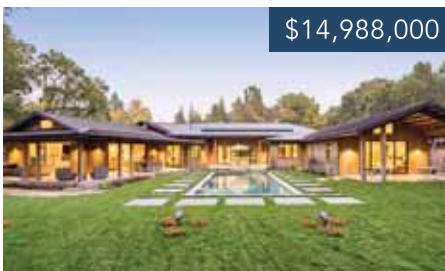
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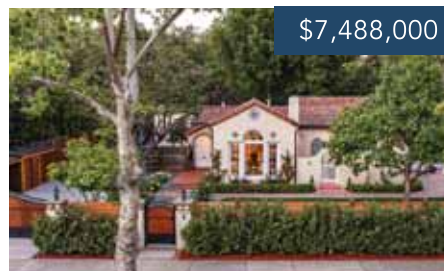
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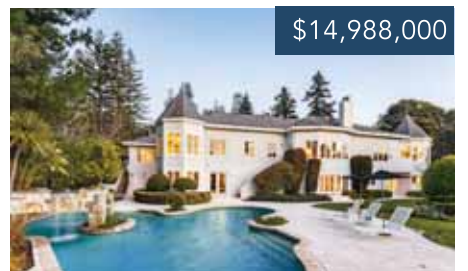
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CORONAVIRUS

continued from page 7

officials said they would hold off on implementing the guidance until June 15 to determine how to enforce the new rules.

On June 9, Ghaly said that enforcement mechanism will be, more or less, an honor system between businesses and their customers, if a business does not require customers to confirm their vaccination status or require all customers to wear a mask regardless of their status.

"Business owners will need to post requirements that people who are unvaccinated are still required to wear masks," he said. "But if somebody comes into their business or their operation without a mask, it should be considered a self-attestation for someone being vaccinated."

The state will also not require most businesses to check someone's vaccination status before they are allowed

inside without a mask.

That latitude will not be afforded to indoor events with 5,000 or more attendees, which will be required through at least Oct. 1 to confirm that attendees are fully vaccinated or have tested negative for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to the event.

Ghaly stayed mum on how the state aligning with the CDC's masking guidance could or should affect the current workplace guidance by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), whose Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, an independent commission, decides on workplace safety rules. In light of the state's direction on face coverings, the board held a special meeting the evening of June 9 and unanimously rescinded guidelines it had just adopted on June 3, which required fully vaccinated workers to wear a mask at all times if they are in a room with someone who is unvaccinated.

The Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board will meet again on June 17 to consider updated rules on masking that better align with the California Department of Public Health and CDC.

Ghaly during his briefing emphasized that the three COVID-19 vaccines available are remarkably effective at preventing serious illness and death related to the virus.

"Making sure that everybody who has decision-making capacity in COVID has those data and details is a No. 1 priority of ours so that we can make thoughtful and important guidelines," he said.

Expenses-paid vacation packages are latest vaccine incentive

State officials introduced another COVID-19 vaccine incentive program Monday, offering six expenses-paid

vacations throughout the state, including in San Francisco.

The state will select six winners on July 1 for trips for four in San Francisco, Palm Springs, Anaheim, Los Angeles and San Diego. In addition to multi-night hotel stays and dining and entertainment options, each vacation package also comes with a \$2,000 cash prize that can be used for expenses during the vacation.

The "Golden State Getaways" packages are the state's latest gambit to encourage more residents to get vaccinated against COVID-19, along with millions of dollars in cash prize drawings and food and merchandise deals with brands like Taco Bell, Chipotle, the Los Angeles Clippers and the Golden State Warriors.

Some 72% of the state's adults have received at least one vaccine dose, Gov. Gavin Newsom said Monday during a briefing at the Port of San Francisco.

"We have seen, week over week, ... a 14% increase in administered doses since we initiated the vaccination incentives," he said, adding that state officials are "confident these vaccine incentives have worked."

The vacation packages are also an effort to aid the state's beleaguered tourism and travel industry, which ground nearly to a halt over the last 15 months of the pandemic.

According to Visit California President and CEO Caroline Beteta, the pandemic erased more than 55% of the state's \$145 billion per year tourism industry overnight.

It will also take roughly four years for the tourism industry to return to 2019 levels, according to Beteta.

"One of the key issues for us to get back on track and shorten this recovery curve is to encourage Californians to travel in California," she said. "It's like a modern-day act of patriotism if we can spend those dollars here."

In San Francisco, the vacation package winners will receive a five-night stay at the Hotel Nikko in Union Square, meals at La Mar, Jaranita, Wilder, Westwood and One Market and four tickets to a San Francisco Giants game at Oracle Park.

All state residents age 18 and older who have received at least one vaccine dose will be eligible for the vacation package drawings. Vaccinated residents are automatically entered into the drawings.

County manager reflects on past year while looking ahead to COVID-19 recovery

June 9 marked the last COVID-19 media briefing with San Mateo County officials, as the county looks towards reopening and recovery.

For more than a year, County Manager Mike Callagy provided COVID-19 updates via Zoom for members of the media.

In the June 9 briefing, Callagy said that vaccine supply is still sufficient to meet demand, which would allow the county to open vaccinations to non-residents soon.

"We will take down any barriers of residency or work requirements in the near future so that anyone, no matter where you're from, if you're visiting here and you want a vaccine, we will get that to you if you show up at one of our clinics," Callagy said.

As of June 13, 84.1% of county residents 12 and older have received at least the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. In total, 1,002,566 vaccine doses have been administered in the county.



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Earl Seymour Douglass

August 13, 1926 – November 27, 2020

The time of the memorial Mass for Earl Douglass has been changed to 9 a.m. on Friday, June 25 at the Church of the Nativity, 210 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park.

PAID OBITUARY

Hertha Harrington

October 3, 1931 – May 17, 2021

Hertha Elizabeth Harrington, nee Gauck, passed away May 17, 2021 in Burlingame, CA. She was born in Richmond, CA to F. Otto Gauck and Louisa W. Gauck (nee Taenzer), both immigrants from Penzlin, Mecklenburg, Germany. Raised in Richmond and Berkeley, she was a graduate of Berkeley High School and the University of California, Berkeley. She had a Master of Criminology from UC Berkeley and attended classes at Stanford.

Married to the love of her life, Judge Walter H. Harrington, Jr. from 1974 until he passed away in 2012. They lived for many years in Woodside, CA. She was also predeceased by her sister, Margaret (Peggy) Harrison as well as her parents. She leaves behind step-daughters Stacey Harrington (Craig) and Sara Harrington, niece Cathy Durfee (Les), nephew Grant Harrison (Diane), great nieces Erin Durfee and Lauren Durfee, sister-in-law Judith Watkins, god daughter Cynthia Van Kleeck, as well as many friends who were like family to her.

Hertha served as a Probation Officer for the County of San Mateo, Juvenile Division from April 12, 1963 to March 28, 1989. She most recently lived in San Mateo at the Peninsula Regent.

Hertha was dedicated to preserving nature, serving as a board member for many years on the Committee for Green Foothills. She contributed to many causes supporting animals, and supporting women in the developing world.

A celebration of Hertha's life will be held June 26, 2021 at Huddart Park, Woodside, Redwood Pavilion (ADA accessible) from 2 to 4 pm. Mention you are joining our memorial and the \$6 entrance fee will be covered.

PAID OBITUARY





Magali Gauthier

Anna Chow, co-owner of Cheeky Monkey Toys, checks orders at the Menlo Park store in April last year. California is requiring unvaccinated people to continue wearing face masks when indoors, but all business owners need to do is post the rules — enforcement is on the honor system.

CORONAVIRUS

continued from page 16

After the last round of second-dose vaccinations at the San Francisco International Airport mass vaccination site, there will be no more mass vaccination events in the county. Vaccinations will continue at community clinics, pharmacies and possibly pop-up events.

Callagy also highlighted some of the county's milestones in the past year, such as having zero new COVID cases reported on June 2.

Since the start of the pandemic, the county has seen 42,214 COVID-19 cases and 581 deaths as of June 10.

Callagy also reflected on some of the county's hurdles of the past year, from quarantining passengers from the Grand Princess cruise ship at a hotel in San Carlos to the shelter-in-place order that lasted for months.

As the county, and the rest of the world, grappled with business closures, remote learning and a shortage of personal protective equipment or PPE, multiple groups and people stepped up to help manage the virus.

One of these were the staff and leaders at the San Mateo County Event Center, which became a spot to set up extra hospital beds, free COVID testing and, eventually, mass vaccinations.

"I just can't begin to explain what an incredible resource that Event Center is," Callagy said.

While Callagy recognized all the efforts of the past year, he acknowledged that the pandemic is far from over.

"I don't want to give anyone the impression that we're at the finish line and we're saying that COVID is over. We've got a long ways to go but we are beating this and we are recovering at this point in time," Callagy said.

And while he does not know what the future holds, he hopes

the county is well on its way to never having another COVID-19 death.

San Mateo County plans to fully align with the state's reopening plan, Callagy said.

For businesses that may want to have stricter restrictions, Callagy said the county will be following the state's guidelines and not making any separate orders.

"It's going to be totally up to the individual owners as to what they do in regard to the customers that come into their businesses. We will not get involved in that," Callagy said.

Moreover, he thanked the community organizations who collaborated with the county to provide resources and programs to help those in need.

For example, the Great Plates program served over 2.5 million free meals to over 4,600 seniors in the county.

Funding for the program ends July 7 but Callagy said the county will "pick it up through the end of the month" and ensure that people with food insecurity will continue to have their needs met.

More information on COVID-19 in San Mateo County is available at smchealth.org/coronavirus. San Mateo County's COVID-19 recovery efforts are listed at smcrecovery.org.

Comprehensive COVID-19 coverage

View interactive charts tracking the spread of the coronavirus in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties online at paloaltoonline.atavist.com/tracking-the-coronavirus. 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. **A**

CalMatters and Bay City News Service contributed to this report.

FOOTHILLS PARK

continued from page 5

sign out a key offering emergency-only exit access from the park.

After getting set up, Willa and I went out to explore the trails, enjoying the gorgeous dusk, where we saw deer, turkeys and other human park visitors.

Back at camp, it became evident that the other party the ranger had told me would be arriving was a no-show. It was just me, alone in this giant park that until pretty recently was off-limits to nonresidents — not the most welcoming of vibes.

Trying not to let my anxious mind get the better of me — though the thought that this would be the perfect setting for "Get Out 2: Rise of the NIMBY Zombies" did still cross it — I cooked my dinner and did some reading. Then, I saw something that really freaked me out: a long row of white lights lined up across the sky. Luckily, there was enough internet signal for me to learn that the lights were just a parade of SpaceX's Starlink satellites, not an imminent alien invasion.

After a fitful night's sleep — Willa kept thinking she belonged inside the sleeping bag too — she repeated her favorite camping routine of pawing at the tent door at 6 a.m. sharp. Not fearing

that we might annoy someone by breaking camp so early, I took down the tent and we set off for a trail run along the Los Trancos Trail.

Out on the trails, my anxious mind calmed as I relished the beauty of the open space I had all to myself.

Upon leaving the park, I returned the key at a small box at the entrance kiosk, picked up some coffee and muffins at Konditorei on my way home, and made it back for my 10 a.m. staff meeting.

It was the perfect weeknight microadventure — (a term coined by British adventurer and author Alastair Humphreys to mean an overnight outdoor adventure that is "small and achievable, for normal people with real lives") — and one I'd highly recommend to anyone looking for some outdoor summer fun.

How to go camping at Foothills Park

Start by making a reservation at is.gd/towlecamp.

Reservations for the camping season, which runs May 1 to Oct. 31, have to be made at least a week in advance, and can be made up to a year in advance. They must be made by an adult 21 or older. Reservations for holidays must

be made through one of the community centers, such as Lucie Stern (650-463-4900). Same-day reservations are not accepted. Sites are \$40 per night.

In keeping with Foothills Park's dog policy, dogs are only permitted in the park on weekdays, so dogs are not permitted camping on Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights.

Each tent-only campsite has a picnic table, water, fire bucket, charcoal barbecue, food storage locker, and pad for tents. Each tent pad holds two four-person tents. The group sites have two pads for up to four four-person tents. There are two campfire circles with benches for use by all campers, but people must bring their own firewood. Fires may also not be permitted depending on fire weather and/or drought conditions.

Campers have to park a half-hour before closing time, and anyone not spending the night at the park is expected to exit the park before closing time.

Portable toilets and zero waste dumpsters (for recycling, compost and landfill) are in the parking lot.

Go to is.gd/towlecamp2 for more information. **A**

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



MIDDLE PLAZA

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

EL CAMINO REAL NIGHT WORK

Starting June 20, the installation of a new main sewer line for the Middle Plaza project at 500 El Camino Real will require **night-time construction and temporary closures of two northbound traffic lanes and sidewalk**. A new main sewer line is needed to increase the sewer capacity to the area and the project.

Caltrans policy mandates that multiple lane closures only take place at night to avoid traffic impacts, hence **work hours will be Sunday – Thursday, 8:00 P.M. – 7:00 A.M.**

Traffic control measures will be in place to ensure safety. Noise levels will be monitored to ensure work is performed within necessary compliance levels.

Day-time pavement and asphalt sawcutting will be limited to one lane closure from June 16 – 20. This work will take place from 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. to limit night-time construction activities. Modern equipment will be utilized to limit noise impacts.

Sanitary sewer line installation will take place from June to September 2021. Water line installation will take place from September 2021 to January 2022. Roadway repaving will follow through February 2022.

For more details and safety information, please refer to the project website www.middleplaza.stanford.edu.

For questions or concerns, email middleplaza@stanford.edu or call Nic Durham, On-Site Construction Manager, at (650) 725-2960.

Thank you for your patience during construction.



RESOLUTION NO. 2242 - (2021)

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

Lands of Donofrio

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

A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.

B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.

C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:

[X] All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or

Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.

D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.

2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

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

Date: July 14, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

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

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98889306440?pwd=OFVYWjBnaGFobyFTmQwRU1zZGIZQT09>

Meeting ID: 988 8930 6440 Passcode: 677645

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

3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i.).

4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.

5. District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A

EXHIBIT "A"

Date: December 17, 2020
Annexed to: West Bay Sanitary District
Name of Annexation: West Bay Sanitary

Geographic Description

All that certain real property, situate in Rancho El Corte Madera, Town of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, described as follows:

Being all of Lot 6, Block 1, "Tract No. 774 Arrowhead Meadows Unit No. 4, being a portion of the Rancho El Corte Madera, San Mateo County, California", filed in the office of the Recorder of the County of San Mateo, State of California on March 17, 1959 in Book 50 of Maps at Pages 45 to 48, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the most Northerly corner of Resolution No. 1234; being also a point on the northerly right of way of Sioux Way (50 feet wide); thence along said resolution northerly line and said right of way, from which a radial line bears North 24°31'14" East, along non-tangent curve to the right with a radius of 575.00 feet, through a central angle of 2°26'27", an arc length of 24.50 feet to the **Point of Beginning**.

From the **Point of Beginning**; thence:

Course 1.) North 61°00'00" East, 222.97 feet; thence
Course 2.) North 84°56'17" East, 144.93 feet; thence
Course 3.) South 03°25'00" West, 134.89 feet; thence
Course 4.) South 49°53'19" West, 199.12 feet to said resolution northerly line and said right of way; thence
Course 5.) Northwestly along said resolution northerly line and said right of way, from which a radial line bears North 49°53'19" East, along non-tangent curve to the left with a radius of 575.00 feet, through a central angle of 22°55'38", an arc length of 230.09 feet to the **Point of Beginning** containing 1.14 acres, more or less.

For assessment purposes only. The description is not a legal property description as defined in the Subdivision Map Act and may not be used as the basis for an offer for sale of the land described.



G:\Correspondence\2020 JOBS\2201668 CTLAPCo\LEGAL EXHIBIT A.docx Page 1 of 2

Exhibit B

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
EXHIBIT "B"
SITE LOCATION
20 SIOUX WAY
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA
STEP SYSTEM



(1) Septic Tank Effluent Pump System
200 Gallons Per Day (GPD)
APN: 077-310-020
Lands of Donofrio
20 Sioux Way
Portola Valley, CA
Location of System: Front of property

© OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA

WOODSIDE VOTE

continued from page 5

ballot measures J and 1 in 1988 and 1989, respectively, residents must submit a petition to the town for a ballot measure to get voter approval.

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 — an amphitheater or gazebo — for community events in the residentially zoned Town Center area.

Local businesses told The Almanac in April they support the petition.

Measure J, approved by the voters in 1988, prohibited development of commercial or office space on a then vacant, town-owned parcel near where Town Hall is now located. It also 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.

Arguments for and against the ballot measure are due to the county on June 22. Instructions for submitting arguments can be found at smcacre.org.

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



1333 Laurel St, Menlo Park
OFFERED AT \$2,938,000
ANNETTE SMITH
650.766.9429 · LIC. #01180954



131 Peter Coutts Cir, Stanford
OFFERED AT \$1,098,000
CHRIS IVERSON
650.450.0450 · LIC. #01708130



3 Redberry Ridge, Portola Valley
OFFERED AT \$15,995,000
THE CAMPI GROUP
650.917.2433 · LIC #00600311



30 Firethorn Way, Portola Valley
OFFERED AT \$6,495,000
MICHAEL DREYFUS
650.485.3476 · LIC. #01121795
NOELLE QUEEN
650.427.9211 · LIC. #01917593



3316 Woodside Rd, Woodside
OFFERED AT \$3,450,000
KIM HANSEN
415.806.8230 · LIC #01927728



11 Bennett Rd, Redwood City
OFFERED AT \$2,875,000
JOHN SHROYER
650.787.2121 · LIC. #00613370



13 Alverno Ct, Redwood City
OFFERED AT \$2,150,000
JOHN SHROYER
650.787.2121 · LIC. #00613370



350 G Street, Redwood City
OFFERED AT \$1,495,000
BRIAN AYER
650.242.2473 · LIC. #01870281



1129 Palm Ave, Redwood City
OFFERED AT \$1,480,000
KIM HANSEN
415.806.8230 · LIC #01927728



1975 Webster St, Palo Alto
OFFERED AT \$20,000,000
GLORIA YOUNG
650.380.9918 · LIC. #01895672
JOHN YOUNG
650.862.2122 · LIC. #02036387



Orchard Park, Palo Alto
STARTING AT \$4,593,100
MICHAEL DREYFUS
650.485.3476 · LIC. #01121795
NOELLE QUEEN
650.427.9211 · LIC. #01917593



555 Byron St #301, Palo Alto
OFFERED AT \$1,785,000
LUCY BERMAN
650.208.8824 · LIC. #01413627



182 Coronado Ave, San Carlos
OFFERED AT \$3,998,000
NICOLE RUCCOLO
650.823.0002 · LIC. #02101054



3316 Brittan Ave #18, San Carlos
OFFERED AT \$1,299,000
KELLY RADETICH
650.303.9589 · LIC. #01229022



1008 Shoreline Dr, San Mateo
OFFERED AT \$1,075,000
BOBBI DECKER
650.346.5352 · LIC. #00607999



2050 Green Oaks Way, Pescadero
OFFERED AT \$7,500,000
MICHAEL DREYFUS
650.485.3476 · LIC. #01121795
JAKKI HARLAN
650.465.2180 · LIC. #01407129

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1250 San Carlos Ave 101

Burlingame Office
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Los Gatos Office
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RESOLUTION NO. 2243 - (2021)

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

Lands of Mitic

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

A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.

B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.

C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:

[X] All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or

Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.

D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.

2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

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

Date: July 14, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

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

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98889306440?pwd=OFVYWjBnaGFobyFTmQwRU1zZGIZQT09>

Meeting ID: 988 8930 6440 Passcode: 677645

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

3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i.).

4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.

5. The District Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A

EXHIBIT "A"

Date: March 10, 2021
Annexed to: West Bay Sanitary District
Name of Annexation: West Bay Sanitary District

Geographic Description

All that certain real property, situate in Rancho El Corte Madera, Town of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, being all of Lot 17 and a portion of the right of way of Grove Drive (50.00 feet wide), as shown on that certain map entitled "Tract No. 608 Stonegate, Subdivision of a Portion of Corte Madera Rancho, San Mateo County, California", filed in the Office of the County Recorder of San Mateo County on September 29, 1948 in Volume 29 of Maps at Pages 31, 32 & 33, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of West Bay Sanitary District Resolution No. 1137, said point also being on the Northeastern right of way of said drive;

From said Point of Commencement:

Course 1.) Along said right of way, North 39°57'00" West, 179.88 feet, thence,
Course 2.) Continuing along said right of way, along a curve to the right with a radius of 150.00 feet, through a central angle of 19°54'16", an arc length of 52.11 feet to the **Point of Beginning**, thence,
Course 3.) Leaving said right of way and along the prolongation of Southeast line of said lot, South 69°57'00" West, 223.39 feet to the South corner of said lot, thence,
Course 4.) Along the Southwest line of said lot, North 75°50'00" West, 168.67 feet to Southwest corner of said lot, thence,
Course 5.) Along the West line of said lot, North 11°05'00" West, 179.80 feet to the Northwest corner of said lot, thence,
Course 6.) Along the prolongation of North line of said lot, South 80°43'00" East, 406.15 feet to said northeastern right of way, being a point on a non-tangent curve to the left to which a radial bears North 80°43'00" West, thence
Course 7.) Along said right of way and said curve with a radius of 150.00 feet, through a central angle of 29°20'00", an arc length of 76.79 feet to the **Point of Beginning** containing 1.35 acres, more or less.

For assessment purposes only. The description is no a legal property description as defined in the Subdivision Map Act and may not be used as the basis for an offer for sale of the land described.

APPROVED
SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION
455 COUNTY CENTER
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

EXHIBIT A PAGE 1 OF 2

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Page 1 of 2

Exhibit B

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
EXHIBIT "B"
SITE LOCATION
155 GROVE DRIVE
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA
GRINDER SYSTEM

OWDZ Pump System
OWDZ Force Main

(1) Grinder Pump System
200 Gallons Per Day (GPD)
APN: 079-011-080
Lands of Mitic
155 Grove Drive
Portola Valley, CA
Location of System: Front of property

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NEWS

CONSTRUCTION

continued from page 5

environments in which today's learners thrive," she said.

Demolition began at both schools on June 14. At Corte Madera, primary access to the construction areas will be through the site's main entrance until the access road from Alpine Road is complete. Temporary fencing around the main parking lot will be set up.

At Ormondale, construction access will be through the circular staff parking area off of Shawnee Pass. Areas of construction fencing will be set up on the sidewalks along Iroquois Trail for accessibility upgrades. Summer school is taking place on the other half of the campus, opposite the construction area, through July 9.

Students headed off to summer break after finishing up classes on Wednesday, June 9. The 2021-22 school year begins Aug. 26. ▀

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

MENLO UPTOWN

continued from page 1

where not many families with high school students would likely choose to live, the document said. TIDE Academy was included in the analysis of other traffic, safety, air quality and noise impacts, the analysis authors, consultants from LSA Associates, noted.

Go to is.gd/menloupdownEIR to access the final EIR. People wishing to comment on it in writing are encouraged to do so before 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, by contacting Senior Planner Tom Smith at tasmith@menlopark.org, or by letter to Tom Smith, Senior Planner, Community Development, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025. Email is preferred.

On June 21, the Menlo Park Planning Commission is scheduled to review the proposal and decide whether to certify the final EIR. At that meeting, people may also weigh in on the document in public comments. After clearing the Planning Commission, the proposal will have to go before the City Council for final approval, since the project is considered a "major subdivision," according to city staff. ▀

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

CRIME BRIEFS

continued from page 6

Indecent exposure arrest

A 36-year-old Mountain View man was arrested by Atherton police Monday, June 14, after he allegedly exposed himself inside his vehicle in front of an 11-year-old girl.

The man, identified as Manuel Salazar Camacho, was arrested in connection with an indecent exposure incident in Atherton on May 24, according to a statement by Atherton police. The man allegedly exposed himself at the intersection of Encinal Avenue and Middlefield Road, near Encinal Elementary School, at the time an 11-year-old girl was walking home from school.

Camacho is the suspect in a similar incident that occurred in Half Moon Bay, and was sought by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, police said.

Camacho was arrested after police reviewed footage from residential security camera footage in the area as well as data collected by automated license plate readers (ALPRs) operated by the town of Atherton. Camacho was on parole at the time and required to register as a sex offender, allowing police to track him down using GPA data from the California Department of Corrections.

Camacho was required by law to register as a sex offender annually, which he had done, police said. He was booked into the Maguire Correctional Facility in Redwood City on suspicion of indecent exposure and parole violation charges.

—Kevin Forestieri

Felon arrested with loaded handgun

Menlo Park police arrested a 26-year-old from East Palo Alto on June 9 after police found that he illegally possessed a loaded handgun, according to a statement from the department.

Officers were investigating falsely displayed license plates when the man became agitated and tried to flee from the officers. While struggling to restrain him, an officer found a handgun in his waistband.

Officers took him into custody and safely retrieved the loaded firearm, according to the statement.

He was booked into jail on suspicion of possessing and carrying a loaded and concealed firearm with a prior conviction and with affiliation with a gang, possessing a firearm without a serial number and obstructing or resisting an officer, according to the statement.

—Kate Bradshaw

More burglaries in Atherton

Atherton police reported two burglaries in town in a June 12 press release.

Around 10:20 p.m. on June 11, two suspects entered a home in the 100 block of Greenoaks Drive by breaking a rear glass door. The resident was home and yelled at the suspects, causing them to immediately leave. Nothing was taken during the burglary and the resident was unharmed, police said.

Sometime between 4:30 p.m. on June 10 and 8:30 a.m. June 11, someone entered a construction site in the first block of Melanie Lane by unlocking a combination lock, police said. Once on the site, the suspect(s) stole approximately \$1,000 worth of copper wire.

Atherton police reported a spike in burglaries earlier this month, saying that thieves tend to be targeting outbuildings and garages, according to a June 3 news bulletin.

Anyone with information regarding the burglaries is asked to contact the Atherton Police Department, 650-688-6500.

—Julia Brown

Human trafficking arrests

A couple was arrested on suspicion of pimping and pandering in connection with brothels in Milpitas, Palo Alto and San Jose, according to police and prosecutors. The South Bay brothels were part of a national network of commercial sex traffickers.

The arrests of David Davies, 57, and Larong Hu, 38, conclude an investigation that started in December 2019, when a Milpitas brothel was identified by Milpitas detectives and Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office investigators.

Additional brothels were found throughout the county and search warrants were served in Milpitas, San Jose, and Palo Alto, Milpitas police said.

Six female victims of human trafficking were rescued, and \$2 million was seized in the investigation. The rescued victims were provided services through Community Solutions, an organization that provides critical services for victims of human trafficking, according to police.

The couple's satellite of brothels trafficked women from China, South Korea and eastern Europe, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office said June 11 in a press release. Over 100 sex

workers circulated through "nondescript apartments" in the county before they were taken to other U.S. cities to continue the illegal work.

The multiagency investigation found that men would visit the apartments for 30 minutes to an hour at a time and prophylactics and other sex work paraphernalia left in the rented rooms.

Sex workers told investigators that they would see 10 to 15 men a day; the men learned about the service through online advertisements and paid Hu via Venmo or PayPal, according to the District Attorney's Office. The workers, who were prohibited from leaving the room, had their passports taken from them and had to pay for their own food and daily necessities.

One woman told investigators that she was working to pay for her mother's cancer treatment, according to prosecutors.

"People do not have the right to treat other people like pack animals," District Attorney Jeff Rosen said in the release. "This county will spare no effort to track down those who exploit others for profit and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law."

Davies, a tech businessman, and Hu were taken into custody in the 100 block of Tiger Lily Drive on suspicion of crimes related to human trafficking, and are being held on \$350,000 bail. They were scheduled for arraignment at the Hall of Justice in San Jose on June 11. If convicted, the couple faces time in prison, according to the District Attorney's Office.

The Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security Services assisted Milpitas police and the District Attorney's Office in the investigation.

Anyone who is a victim of human trafficking, or knows someone who is, should call 911 immediately or call the 24-Hour National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888. Callers can also reach the hotline by texting 233733 to initiate online chats. Human trafficking victims, whether U.S. citizens or not, are eligible for services including immigration assistance.

—Bay City News Service

High-end handbag heist

A group of 11 people took 36 handbags from the Louis Vuitton store at Stanford Shopping Center on June 7 before fleeing in five awaiting vehicles, according to Palo Alto police.

Police estimated that the handbags grabbed in the

coordinated heist are valued at more than \$100,000, according to a news release from the Palo Alto Police Department. The suspects, who wore face coverings, didn't use any weapons or cause any injuries during the shoplift. They remain at large.

Officers learned about the heist through police dispatch, which received a call from a witness at about 5:30 p.m. on June 7, reporting that a large group had just shoplifted from the store. By the time officers arrived, the suspects had left in the vehicles, which were described as a Lexus sedan, a gray Infinity SUV, a white Audi sedan, a black four-door Hyundai sedan and a red two-door Honda sedan.

A witness took a photo of one of the shoplifters as she fled through the mall with the stolen handbags. The suspects were described as Black males

and females who may be in their late teens or early 20s.

Palo Alto police are working with regional partners to see if the same group of suspects may be connected to any similar burglary shoplifts in other cities, according to the news release. While comparable to a case that occurred in Palo Alto at Neiman Marcus on May 19, the vehicles used in that incident were different, police said.

Anyone with information about the theft is asked to call the department's 24-hour dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be emailed to paloalto@tipnow.org or sent by text message or voicemail to 650-383-8984. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through the police's free mobile app, downloadable at bit.ly/PAPD-AppStore or bit.ly/PAPD-GooglePlay.

—Gennady Sheyner

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

BRITISH BANKERS CLUB
THE BRITISH BANKERS CLUB
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287593

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) British Bankers Club, 2.) The British Bankers Club, located at 555 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
ROBERT S. FISCHER
566 Emerson St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/24/2016.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 5, 2021.

(ALM June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2021)

A & A PAINTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287759

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
A & A Painting, located at 1327 Henderson Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
ALEJANDRO ARGUELLO
1327 Henderson Ave.
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 N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 21, 2021.

(ALM June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2021)

24 HR. LEGAL HELP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287734

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
24 Hr. Legal Help, located at 2811 Illinois St., East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County; Mailing address: PO Box 51356, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Registered owner(s):
TYRONE DAVIS
2811 Illinois St.
East Palo Alto, CA 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 May 19, 2021.

(ALM June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2021)

THE LITTLE STORE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287743
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: The Little Store, located at 3340 Woodside Road, Woodside, California 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
RICHARD GEORGE
180 Fox Hollow Road
Woodside, California 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on November 1, 2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 20, 2021.

(ALM June 18, 25; July 2, 9, 2021)

PANCHO'S LANDSCAPING & MAINTENANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 287762

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Pancho's Landscaping & Maintenance, located at 450 Vera Ave., Apart. #16, Redwood City, CA 94061, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
FRANCISCO TOP YAQUI
450 Vera Ave. Apart. #16
Redwood City, CA 94061
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 May 21, 2021.

(ALM June 18, 25; July 2, 9, 2021)

Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email asantillan@pawekly.com for assistance with your legal advertising needs. The deadline is Monday at noon.

REOPENING

continued from page 1

In many ways, the studio reflects how most businesses approach the June 15 update — particularly in how they'll determine who is vaccinated and who is not, since businesses aren't legally required to check vaccination statuses.

In a press conference on June 9, state Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said that, beyond posting signage that notifies how unvaccinated people must wear masks, businesses can rely on the honor system.

"If somebody comes into their business or their operation without a mask, it should be considered a self-attestation for someone being vaccinated," Ghaly said. "We are not requiring businesses to, for example, have somebody at the door checking vaccine status as a way to comply with this."

But some businesses are opting to check their customers' vaccination status anyway.

At La Migliore Salon in Menlo Park, owner Showa Sahle said she likes to pay meticulous attention to the details of her clients' hair salon experience, providing them small amenities like coffee and making sure they're comfortable as they get their hair done.

Vaccination statuses will be a major determiner for how Sahle and her hair stylists interact with their patrons.



Lloyd Lee

Jon Angeles, a personal trainer, guides a client through a set of exercises at Palo Alto Fit on June 11.

"It's not like we're going to refuse a client," Sahle said. "But we're going to know how to handle them."

Vaccination statuses, for example, will help Sahle know if customers can get their hair done without a mask on and if other hair stylists need to maintain a 6-foot distance from the person. Vaccinated people will also be able to wait inside the salon for their appointment, whereas unvaccinated customers will have to wait outside.

"Not to be mean," she said. "But just to be cautious. Protect them and protect ourselves."

Sahle said last week that she would be sending emails to all her clients about how things would shift on June 15.

Business operators seemed

to welcome the small changes that June 15 brought, but Paul Brannon, who oversees operations at MP Mongolian BBQ in Menlo Park, said the reopening date wouldn't be a "light switch" for businesses. Instead, the date is another social signal for the more trepidatious that things are getting safer and it may be OK to sit down inside an establishment.

"I think people will use it as a guide and say, 'OK, now we can start getting ready to go back to normal,'" said Brannon, who has worked at the restaurant for eight years.

That signal could especially be a boon for self-serve style restaurants like MP Mongolian, where customers often have to wait in a line in close proximity and share tongs and

serving spoons with each other. It was only about a month ago, according to Brannon, when the restaurant started to allow customers to serve themselves as opposed to having the staff fill up their bowls for them.

MP Mongolian has also seen an uptick in customers since April when indoor dining was allowed by San Mateo County. For most of the pandemic, the restaurant has depended on takeout, since the location and the format of the business isn't conducive to outdoor dining. But Brannon believes that his restaurant has fared better than other self-serve style restaurants such as buffets, since the food isn't cooked until the customers choose the ingredients they want and a chef cooks them at very high temperatures on a large iron griddle.

"I think people felt more safe with that," Brannon said.

The small buffet portion of MP Mongolian, which Brannon called a "hot table" where diners can serve themselves fried egg rolls, fried rice and sweet and sour pork, remains closed. Customers can still place an order of eggrolls, for example, but until more clear guidance is given from the state or county on buffets, that part of the restaurant will stay closed.

"I don't even know if there is a restriction," he said.

As the state removes restrictions, store operators are eager

to move away from the constant state of uncertainty and flexibility they've had to adopt during the pandemic, which at one point forced businesses to close indoor operations within weeks of reopening.

The Mountain View Chamber of Commerce is advising local business owners to consider continuing some pandemic protocols, even though they are not required, to make customers feel safe.

"You may want to continue to have workers wear masks so that customers feel you are taking proper precautions," the chamber said June 15 in a newsletter. "You may also want to keep seating spaced out."

One challenge that lies ahead as customers come back? Finding more employees.

Sahle at La Migliore said having an extra stylist now would be helpful as walk-in customers become more frequent. At MP Mongolian BBQ, two employees maintain a restaurant that used to be staffed with six to eight workers. The work is becoming physically demanding, Brannon said, but he was grateful at least to see customers return.

"It'll still be a slow, uphill slog, but just the fact that enough people are coming in for us to keep the doors open is a relief," he said. "Now it's hard to find employees." ▀

Email Staff Writer Lloyd Lee at llee@paweeekly.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

Ubuntu scholarship finalists selected

The faculty advisers to the Menlo-Atherton Black Student Union have announced the awarding of financial grants to assist graduating African American seniors with their continued education under the school's new Ubuntu Scholarship Program.

The program, established in 2020, had planned to award two \$5,000 scholarships; however, because of the high quality of the five students selected as finalists, supporters of the Ubuntu program provided additional funds to allow the granting of three scholarships as well as one-time \$1,000 book/miscellaneous expense awards to the two other finalists.

The scholarship winners for 2021 are Ja Corey Stewart, Daujae Degraffenreed, and Keilee Shepard, and the two other finalists are Eric Stuart and Kayli Smith. All three scholarships awardees will be continuing their educations at historically Black colleges and

universities. Stewart will study criminal justice, Degraffenreed and Shepard will pursue careers in nursing, and Stuart and Smith will continue their educations at community colleges.

The Ubuntu Scholarship Program is seeking additional support to continue to support worthy students with their educations. Donations can be sent to Menlo-Atherton High School, c/o Alex Egbert, Treasurer, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton CA 94027; checks should be payable to Menlo-Atherton High School Scholarships, with Ubuntu Scholarship Program in the memo line.

For additional information, contact the Ubuntu Scholarship Program at MABearsUbuntu@gmail.com.

Hillview students receive French honors

Nine Hillview Middle School eighth graders were inducted into the National French Honor Society this year: Stefan Perkovic, Zoe Fong, Mei Miyahara, Isaiah Rassbach, Nia Sadrzadeh, Ella Thomson, Holden Thomson, Callie West and Elsa Teuteberg, according

to a Menlo Park City School District press release. To qualify for this honor, students earned A's in French in at least five out of six, or eight out of nine, trimesters at Hillview.

Additionally, 17 Hillview French students took home honors in the 86th annual Le Grand Concours, a competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Nearly 30,000 students competed in the March 2021 event. There were 11 medal winners and six certificate of honor winners from Hillview, said French teacher Amy Kingsley.

—Angela Swartz

Pilot program to boost EVs for Lyft drivers

San Mateo County's electricity provider Peninsula Clean Energy on Tuesday announced a partnership with Lyft on a \$500,000 pilot program to provide a rental incentive to ride-hailing drivers that would make the cost of renting an electric vehicle comparable to a gas-powered one.

The program, which will launch this fall with Lyft's

rental car partner Flexdrive, seeks to expand EV use to about 100 Lyft vehicles in San Mateo County while getting more drivers used to using electric vehicles and collecting data that can better inform how the EV fleet can be expanded further.

"Partnering with Lyft and Flexdrive in this pilot effort represents a big opportunity to reduce a significant source of heat-trapping emissions in our region," Peninsula Clean Energy CEO Jan Pepper said in a news release. "We believe this can eventually lead to a far greater number of ride-hailing and other drivers on the road who will opt for cleaner electrified transportation options."

—Bay City News Service

Middle school expansion starts

The Ravenswood City School District officially started its expansion of Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School in East Palo Alto, which was celebrated at a groundbreaking ceremony on June 17. The \$50 million project is supported

through bonds. Once completed, the Ralmar Avenue campus will have two new buildings that cover 23,000 square feet and a 10,000-square-foot courtyard.

The district has teamed up with the Forever Young Foundation and Ghilotti Construction to build a new 8 to 80 Zone Esports Center, a facility for students to build skills in technology, esports, gaming and media, according to the foundation's website. The center will be one of a handful established by NFL Hall of Famers Steve Young and Jerry Rice. It will be the first of its kind at a middle school, according to the district. It will also include a new playground being created in collaboration with the Magical Bridge Foundation.

"These exciting public-private partnerships will allow us to transform the back of Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School into a restorative, engaging, and active place that our students deserve," Ravenswood school board President Mele Latu said in a statement.

—Jamey Padojino

Los Altos Stage Company presents searing 9/11 drama

Livestreamed 'Mercy Seat' brings trauma home

By Janet Silver Ghent

On Sept. 12, 2001, Ben Harcourt, necktie loosened, sits hunched on the sofa in a Manhattan apartment. While images of catastrophe flash across the screen, the cellphone in his hand keeps ringing. But he stares into space, neither answering nor calling. Then his lover Abby Prescott, carrying groceries, walks in, shuts off Ben's phone and asks, "So ... did you call?"

Ben means to, but he doesn't. Is it post-9/11 shock, survivor's guilt or something else? Does the crisis present an opportunity to this couple? Can Ben, presumed dead on 9/11, take advantage of his missing-person status and head into the sunset with Abby? Will he phone home and make a clean break with his wife, his children and his mortgage? Will he return to his former life and his office, if it's still there? Or will he sit paralyzed on his lover's sofa, unable to form a coherent decision?

"The Mercy Seat," Neil LaBute's acrimonious day-after drama brought to your home by Los Altos Stage Company, poses these questions. And since you're in your own living room

watching this livestreamed play, you have a choice: Sit spellbound, as I did, or walk out of the room, as did my husband.

The hour and a half, two-person drama, played without intermission, is both mesmerizing and unrelenting. Picture Edward Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" replete with expletives and explicit sex talk but without Albee's prized comic relief. This is "The Mercy Seat," ostensibly about redemption, according to the biblical references, yet packed with unrelenting heaviness. And if you've missed the point, the tragic TV news clips and sirens echo the desolation onstage.

As a newscaster on the screen proclaims, "We are at war," another war takes place inside the apartment not far from the twin towers. It's the war between man and woman, and in this case the woman seems to have the upper hand. Melissa Jones plays Abby, a 40-ish alpha female both in her workplace and in the relationship. She may not carry a whip, but she shows no mercy. Her real-life husband Drew Benjamin Jones plays Ben, her nerdy 30-ish subordinate whose difficult choices sink him into inaction.

"That's what I like about you, Ben," Abby says sardonically. "Your absolutely rigid commitment to being a flake." She tells him he should change his name to "But" because "there's always a 'but' when you talk to Ben Harcourt."

Yet in some ways, Ben may have the upper hand. If he were to return to his wife and family in the suburbs, Abby would be alone. And if he were to go AWOL, would she join him, walking away from her high-powered position?

When "The Mercy Seat" premiered off Broadway in December 2002, starring Liev Schreiber and Sigourney Weaver, the play drew praise from New York critics. It "casts a less-than-glowing light on man's dark side in the face of disaster," wrote Robert Dominguez of the Daily News.

By bringing this dark drama into our homes at the tail end of a pandemic, when audiences are more likely to be ready for something uplifting, Los Altos Stage Company is taking a chance, artistically speaking. This provocative play, pitted with brutal language and graphic sexual references, is not exactly a crowd-pleaser. But the gripping

drama, admirably directed by Los Altos Stage Company Production Manager Allie Bailey, is a brilliant theater piece.

Gary Landis, the company's executive artistic director, takes on the challenges of sound, lighting, set design and livestreaming, adapting a stage drama to the small screen. This powerfully performed play offers a window into the tough choices men and women make, or avoid, amid difficult times.

And if you can't stand the heat onstage, you're already home.

Remaining performances of "The Mercy Seat" will be livestreamed Friday, June 18, and Saturday, June 19, at 7 p.m. and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 20. Tickets are \$30 per device. More information is available at losaltosstage.org. **A**

Email Contributor Janet Silver Ghent at ghentwriter@gmail.com.



Courtesy Los Altos Stage Company

Melissa and Drew Benjamin Jones star in Los Altos Stage Company's current production of "The Mercy Seat," which is being livestreamed June 18-20.



West Bay Sanitary District Wins CWEA State Award of Excellence

The West Bay Sanitary District has been awarded the California Water Environment Association's (CWEA) highest award – Collections System of the Year. CWEA President-Elect Arvind Akela recently made the announcement at a District Board meeting congratulating the District on leading the way in the protection and enhancement of the water environment. "I am happy to announce that West Bay Sanitary District has been performing outstanding work," said Mr. Akela. "With zero overflows, West Bay Sanitary District has demonstrated its excellence in this category and I congratulate all of the staff for doing extraordinary work in protecting public health and the environment and the District Board for supporting the staff's great work."

District Manager Sergio Ramirez describes the award, "The Collection System of the Year award is given in recognition of outstanding maintenance programs, regulatory compliance, safety & training procedures. Congratulations, this is truly a TEAM effort!"

West Bay Board President Fran Dehn said, "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend my congratulations to everyone at West Bay. We are very proud of our staff. It's always rewarding when those outside the organization recognize the value, dedication, and professionalism that each District employee brings to the team. Congratulations to all on this award."

West Bay Sanitary District provides wastewater collection and conveyance services to the City of Menlo Park, Atherton, and Portola Valley, and areas of East Palo Alto, Woodside and unincorporated San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. The District conveys raw wastewater, via the Menlo Park Pump Station and force main, to Silicon Valley Clean Water (SVCW) for treatment and discharge to the San Francisco Bay. The District also owns and operates a Recycled Water Treatment Plant in Sharon Heights.



Food & Drink

Beer garden

BONAZA

Have a drink (and a bit of space) at one of these local open-air destinations

By Grace Stetson

As many Californians prepare to venture out of their homes this summer with rising vaccination rates and eased COVID-19 restrictions, beer gardens, breweries and outdoor bars are great spots to beat the heat (while also maintaining a bit of social distancing).

There are many go-to spots to visit up and down the Peninsula, even as there remains a bit of uncertainty regarding Open Streets programs' longevity, these outdoor mainstays will remain relevant throughout the summer.

Beer gardens and bar patios are great spaces to indulge in a slice of collective calm following this past year's storm, and these local favorites will have everything you need in this new stage of 2021 and beyond.

Alice's Restaurant

A beloved stop along Highway 35, Alice's has long been a favorite of cyclists, motorcyclists and locals alike. During the pandemic, the team has set up more outdoor seating and takeout options for customers. Weekends can be especially busy. Thankfully, there is a lot of space at Alice's, from the patio seating (with heat lamps) to the picnic tables on the lawn.

The menu is top-notch road house fare, from an always great cheeseburger (\$10.75) to (our recent preference) their brisket sandwich (\$12.95). If you can make it on the early side, Alice's has a great breakfast menu (read as: order the Redneck Benedict — made over homemade biscuits and sausage

gravy). Best of all, it's a full bar and their house cocktails are every bit as good as their excellent beer selection.

Alice's Restaurant, 17288 Skyline Blvd., Woodside; 650-851-0303.

Alpine Inn

A tried-and-true favorite of Peninsula locals and Stanford students alike, the Alpine Inn has continued to be a beacon of outdoor drinking and eating throughout the pandemic.

The space is a popular spot both throughout the week and on weekends, but don't worry: The staff has a knack for getting you seated quickly, oftentimes just a little after getting a tasty margarita (\$10) or beer (\$6-\$10) in the reception area. Once seated on the expansive outdoor patio, your servers will explain the COVID-19 policies and procedures — all ordering and payment from your phone — and you'll soon be able to dig in to a ton of great eats and drinks.

To get the full experience, we recommend digging in to a ginger paloma (\$11), a raspberry lemon-grass fizz (\$10), crispy Brussels sprouts (\$6.95) and one of the woodfired pizzas (\$13.75-\$18.75). *Alpine Inn Beer Garden, 3915 Alpine Road, Portola Valley; 650-854-4004.*

Dutch Goose

When you think of the famous dishes at most bars and breweries, "deviled eggs" may not be your first thought. Yet for fans of this longtime Menlo Park establishment, it's the item that keeps people returning again and again.

First opened in 1966, the family-friendly establishment has been serving up comfort food and 12 beers on tap in the time since. During the pandemic, the team has been diligent about spacing out guests on its two patios, and currently includes indoor dining as well, offering guests the chance to play pool or watch the big games as they wait.

Open daily from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. (and until 2 a.m. on weekends), make sure to try the moon burger (\$9), the tater tots (\$6.75) and, of course, the spicy deviled eggs (\$2.95). They'll truly enlighten you as to why this spot

is still bringing in the big bucks 55 years after it first opened!

Dutch Goose, 3567 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park; 650-854-3245

Steins Beer Garden

With 31 beers on tap, craft cocktails and a wine and rare bottle list, it's almost impossible not to find what you're looking for at this Mountain View haunt.

The restaurant elegantly balances its full-scale restaurant status with an impressive menu of modern American gourmet comfort food (courtesy of executive chef Cheke Guzman) and a laid-back German beer hall vibe, inspiring diners and drinkers to stop by for everything from weekday happy hour to late-night weekend drinks. The space is large, especially for a downtown Mountain View establishment, and service is offered both indoors and outdoors on the restaurant's back patio.

For the full experience, we recommend diving into a Beer Garden Cooler (\$13) or one of the famous flights (\$14 for five tastings), and chasing it down with a fresh baked pretzel (\$12, limited quantity).

Steins Beer Garden & Restaurant, 895 Villa St., Mountain View; 650-963-9568.

British Bankers Club

Of our picks, this Menlo Park establishment is definitely at the top in terms of elegance. Located right off of the main drag of the city's downtown, the spot can appear unassuming — but once you head up to its rooftop bar, you'll be blown away.

Open year-round, BBC is committed to making sure its 21+ visitors are able to revel in the beauty and calm of its rooftop space, and in the pandemic safety is of the utmost concern. Although the state's June 15 reopening lifted many mandatory restrictions, individual businesses may still require face masks, social distancing or ask about vaccination status. Once seated, make sure to try one of the team's signature cocktails, such as the Killer Bees (\$14) or the Liquid Asset (\$13), and dig in to the house smoke salmon toast (\$19) or the selection of seasonal oysters (\$21).



Michelle Le

From left, Gourmet Haus Staudt's Weltenburger Dunkel, Weihestephans Vitus and Kostritzer Schwarzbier.



Magali Gauthier

Alice's Restaurant's breakfast shot is made with Jameson Irish whiskey and butterscotch schnapps and topped with a piece of bacon. It evokes the flavor of a stack of pancakes dripping in maple syrup.



Veronica Weber

The British Bankers Club in Menlo Park has outdoor patio seating along with its rooftop bar.

British Banker's Club, 555 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park; 650-382-3191.

Gourmet Haus Staudt

Located just off the beaten path of downtown Redwood City, this beloved Bavarian favorite continues to serve up beers and pretzels. With an outdoor setup in the parking lot, guests can space out and dig in to boots of Bavarians (\$5-\$36), rotating drafts and specialties like the curry basket (\$10) and the schnitzel platter (\$18). *Gourmet Haus Staudt Gifts & Cafe, 2615 Broadway, Redwood City; 650-364-9232.*

Ludwig's Biergarten

Another German beer hall for our list, Ludwig's has used the Mountain View Open Streets program to ensure patrons are able to fully immerse themselves in the experience. Make sure to order one of the restaurant's

delightful appetizers — such as the Jager Pommes (\$9) — and get a round of the seven Bavarian drafts (\$5-\$32).

Ludwig's, 383 Castro St., Mountain View; 650-260-3833.

Oak + Violet at the Park James Hotel

Located in Menlo Park's Park James Hotel, the upscale farm-to-table restaurant provides diners with a whirlwind ride of a tasty experience. Currently, the site offers both indoor and outdoor dining options, along with takeout and to go, with spring menu offerings including beet-root cured salmon (\$18), crispy oysters (\$20) and an extensive wine and cocktail list. *Oak + Violet, The Park James Hotel, 1400 El Camino Real, Menlo Park; 650-304-3880. A*

Email Writer Grace Stetson at grace.stetson@gmail.com.

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Nick@GranoskiWeil.com
DRE 00994196

David Weil | 650-823-3855
David@GranoskiWeil.com
DRE 01400271

Granoski | Weil
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Michael Dreyfus

650.485.3476

m.dreyfus@ggsir.com

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650.427.9211

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MARY 650 888 0860

DRE 00373961

MARY@GULLIXSON.COM

BRENT 650 888 4898

DRE 01329216

BRENT@GULLIXSON.COM