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The buzz about the beekeeping club at Menlo School

By Angela Swartz

It's not every day that you hear a transfer student say they switched schools, in part, to join a beekeeping club, but that was the case of Amory Healy, now a sophomore at Menlo School in Atherton.

Healy, 15, who also wanted to transfer to the private school for its academic rigor and theater program, found the group by searching through clubs on Menlo's Instagram account.

"I love how relaxing and fun the club is — at any given time there are no more than 10 of us in the room harvesting the honey, and I really enjoy having a positive atmosphere to relax and socialize while doing a fun activity," she explained in an email. She attended Palo Alto High School her freshman year. "I also have always loved bees, and really enjoy being able to learn more about them and participate in such a specialized activity."

There are 36 members of the unique club, established in 2014 by biology teacher Tanya Buxton. The private school's three hives are not in the vicinity of

where students hang out (one is located near the faculty parking lot), but keep the students busy year-round, producing 36 pounds of honey during harvests about three times a year, she said in her classroom Tuesday afternoon.

She hopes students take away a genuine concern for the environment and a realization that any human-caused disturbances can greatly affect our pollinators, which, in turn, impacts our food supply. Fears of bee extinction are growing as the number of species has dropped 25% from the 1990s, according to a recent Bloomberg article. Bees "ensure the reproduction of thousands of plant species and 85% of cultivated crops," the article states.

"Honeybees get a bad rap," she said, wearing a shirt reading "Follow the bees and you get honey." "You can get stung. People who are allergic have to be much more careful. They're non-aggressive; as long as you stay still, you shouldn't get stung."

The bees are the western honeybee, the *Apis mellifera* genetic variety, and do well in this region, she said.



Magali Gauthier

Beekeeping club adviser and biology teacher Tanya Buxton and junior Alea Marks, co-leader, cut pieces of honeycomb out of a hive frame at Menlo School in Atherton on Sept. 21.

How the club started

Buxton has been beekeeping for 12 years and keeps bees at her home. She first brought bees to Palo Alto's Ohlone Elementary School when she taught K-5

science there. With a farm on campus, she taught lessons on gardens and animals.

In the flesh, Buxton conjures up the image of Miss Frizzle from "The Magic School Bus,"

an animated children's series that followed the adventures of a cheerful and eccentric science teacher who brought her

See **BEEKEEPING**, page 18

Proposal to ban development in parks falls short

By Kate Bradshaw

A proposal to ban development in city parks fell short Tuesday when a majority of Menlo Park's City Council members failed to coalesce around whether and how to ban future development in city parks.

The council voted 2-3, with council members Cecilia Taylor, Jen Wolosin, and Vice Mayor Betsy Nash opposed, on a motion to pass an ordinance dedicating the city's parks as parklands that could not be developed upon unless a majority of residents votes to do so.

Following the failure of the vote, Councilman Ray Mueller said,

"We'll be meeting with residents to figure out our next steps."

The topic of developing housing in city parks rose to the fore of the community discourse after Housing Commission Chair and Sharon Heights resident Karen Grove said in recent public meetings that the city should discuss the possibility of using underutilized parts of city parks for affordable housing, and cited as an example an undeveloped corner of Sharon Park.

She noted that the city is obligated through the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA for short), a state-mandated process, to plan for the development of nearly 3,000 new homes at a range of

affordability levels citywide over the next eight years, including nearly 900 units of very low-income housing.

In a Sept. 21 email to the City Council, she explained that she had come to a different perspective since suggesting the idea.

"I've looked into the idea some more, and learned that (California's Housing and Community Development Department) would reject our housing element if we were to reduce our park land to meet our goals. I've also learned that in 2012 our city attorney at the time came to the same conclusion. I think that settles the question," she wrote.

In between when Grove's comments were made for and against

the idea, a coalition of other residents formed and circulated a petition called "Save Menlo Park Green Spaces" that generated about 1,700 signatures. The petition called on the city to permanently preserve city parks from development and expressed support for developing housing in other areas of the city, including at the Sharon Heights Shopping Center, existing multifamily apartment complexes in Sharon Heights, or downtown parking lots.

Go to is.gd/parkspetition to read the full petition.

Are parks threatened?

One of the key points of discussion within the council

Tuesday was whether city parks are really under threat of development due to the housing element.

According to Mueller, the parks may still be threatened despite the verbal commitments of City Council members to preserve parks because of a loophole that allows councils to develop parkland if the city is the developer and the development is for municipal purposes.

In addition, he pointed to a bilingual informational pamphlet that the city of Menlo Park mailed to all residents just this week that includes, as part of a list of possible ways for the city to meet state housing mandates, the consideration of public land for housing.

See **PARKS**, page 18

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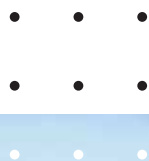


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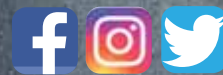
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Local News

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Magali Gauthier

A masked pedestrian walks past unmasked cyclists at Stanford University on Sept. 16.

Stanford welcomes largest-ever incoming class as university reopens

Fall quarter started Monday with classes resuming face to face

By Zoe Morgan

When Saga Helgason was admitted to a graduate program at Stanford University last year, she was faced with the prospect of taking classes from her home in Iceland, which would have meant a seven-hour time difference.

Helgason instead decided to try to wait out the pandemic and defer her admission until this fall. She's now on campus,

getting ready to start a one-year master's program in Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies.

"Here I am, in the same time zone and getting to meet people — that's part of the whole Stanford experience," Helgason said as she stood outside the campus bookstore last week. "It's not just taking classes, it's also meeting people and being here."

She is one of thousands of Stanford students who have

returned to campus for face-to-face classes this fall. Stanford's fall quarter began Monday, Sept. 20. This year's incoming undergraduate class is the largest in Stanford's history, with 2,131 first-year students and 66 transfer students, according to the university.

Since March 2020, most of Stanford's classes have been conducted remotely. Instruction is now resuming in

See **STANFORD**, page 20

San Mateo County supervisors OK new resolution on equity

By Kate Bradshaw

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors recently passed a resolution laying out its next steps to promote racial equity countywide.

The resolution was developed throughout a six-month process that involved the input of about seven committees and coalitions, according to David Canepa, president of the Board of Supervisors.

Among the priorities laid out in the resolution are to develop a system for stakeholders and community members to engage with the county's equity effort; to continue the chief equity officer position; to create an "Office of Racial and Social Equity" with an action plan for it to implement; to use equity-based performance metrics in the county's budgeting process; and to report the equity impacts of policies that supervisors consider alongside financial impacts.

Highlighting the impacts that supervisors' policy decisions will have on matters of equity was an appealing part of the proposal for Supervisor Warren Slocum, who represents District 4, which includes North Fair Oaks, East Palo Alto and part of Menlo Park.

"One of the things I'm most excited about in this board resolution is that hopefully we're

going to ask our department heads to include in all of their memos to the board, regardless of the topic, an equity impact analysis, similar to the fiscal impact statements we have in our current board memos. ... I think that will be very beneficial," he told the other board members Sept. 14.

About 64% of the county's residents are people of color, and about 35% are foreign-born. Twenty-one percent of the immigrant population is undocumented, and 46% speak a language other than English at home, according to Shireen Malekafzali, chief equity officer for San Mateo County.

Inequities by race are pervasive in San Mateo County, noted Malekafzali in a presentation to the supervisors.

In the county, the median household income for white and Asian households is two times that of Black and Latinx households, while the life expectancy gap between Black and white individuals is four years, according to Malekafzali. In addition, countywide, overcrowding is more than 11 times higher in Latinx and Pacific Islander populations, and between two times and five times higher in the Black, Asian and American Indian/Alaska Native

See **EQUITY**, page 14

Convicted murderer John Getreu's own words pointed to his guilt in cold-case slayings of two women on Stanford land

By Sue Dremann

Convicted murderer John Arthur Getreu revealed multiple times during a law enforcement interview that he had knowledge of the murders of two women found on Stanford University land in the 1970s.

Getreu lied repeatedly to Santa Clara County Sheriff Detective Noe Cortez during his 2018 interrogation related to the 1973 murder of Leslie Marie Perlov. Her body was found on Stanford property located in

Santa Clara County.

Getreu's interrogation was presented earlier this month during his trial in San Mateo County Superior Court for the strangulation murder of Janet Ann Taylor, who was found in a San Mateo County ditch on Sand Hill Road and Manzanita Way in 1974, just 13 months after Perlov's murder. On Sept. 14 during closing



John Getreu

arguments, Deputy District Attorney Josh Stauffer again reminded the jury of Getreu's inculpatory statements by presenting excerpts from the interrogation.

When Cortez asked if he was ever arrested, Getreu said no. Yet, Getreu, at age 18, had been arrested in 1963 for the murder of his classmate, Margaret Williams, and was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in a German prison. He also was convicted of statutory rape after accepting a plea deal in the 1975 rape of a Palo Alto teenager,

Stauffer noted.

Getreu continued to lie about the Williams murder.

"Did you tell them you did it?" Cortez asked.

Getreu said no.

Getreu conceded he was arrested for raping Palo Alto teen "Diane Doe" after being confronted by Cortez.

"I was just accused, interviewed and that's it," Getreu said.

In fact, Getreu was arrested, convicted and pleaded guilty. He received a six-month sentence and was allowed to serve his jail

time on weekends.

Doe testified at the trial that Getreu had strangled her and threatened to kill her if she made any noise while he raped her in her parents' home.

"I didn't serve any time that I know of. It was so piddly," he claimed.

Getreu also revealed that he knew more about the murders of Perlov and Taylor than someone without any involvement would know, Stauffer noted.

When shown a photograph of

See **GETREU**, page 20

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NEWS

CRIME BRIEFS

Argument escalates into stabbing during party

A stabbing during a party in Menlo Park's Belle Haven neighborhood early Sunday morning left a man hospitalized with serious injuries, police said.

Officers responded to a reported stabbing in the 1300 block of Sevier Avenue at about 1:40 a.m. They found a man who was on the ground and suffering from multiple stab wounds, according to police.

Officers rendered medical aid as firefighters and paramedics were called to the scene. The man was transported to a hospital to be treated for serious injuries that were not considered life-threatening, police said.

A preliminary investigation showed the man was involved in an argument with the suspect, who took out a knife from his pocket and stabbed the man multiple times, according to police. The suspect left the area on foot, last seen heading toward Ivy Drive, and has yet to be located as of Sunday morning.

Anyone with information about the stabbing is asked to call the Menlo Park Police Department at 650-330-6300 or the agency's anonymous tip hotline at 650-330-6395.

—Jamey Padojino

Two arrested in connection with vandalism incidents

Police in Menlo Park on Sept. 16 arrested two suspects in connection with vandalizing several vehicles with BB guns.

The 18- and 21-year-old men, both from East Palo Alto, were arrested on suspicion of 14 counts of vandalism, according to the Menlo Park Police Department.

On Sept. 16 at 8:17 p.m., officers received three reports of windows of vehicles being smashed.

See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 19

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Parent Education Series talks

To coincide with National Suicide Prevention Month, San Mateo County Health, StarVista, Sequoia Healthcare District and nonprofit The Parent Venture will host a webinar to offer information for parents, caregivers and supportive adults about suicide prevention, including warning signs, risk factors, and how to support a young person who is struggling on Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Panelists include Jenny Bratton, manager of grants and programs at the health care district; Dr. Karen Li, director of school health at the health care district; Brook Pollard, a mental health clinician; and county health planner Sylvia Tang.

If you need support during or after the presentation, please call your local crisis hotline or the National Suicide Lifeline at 800-273-8255. For San Mateo County, call StarVista's Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention hotline at 650-579-0350.

For more information, go to suicideprevention2021shd.eventbrite.com.

The Parent Venture, alongside Sequoia Union High School District and Peninsula and Sequoia health care districts, will also host a Wednesday, Sept. 29, talk on the upcoming book "The Stolen Year: How America's Covid Response Failed Kids, and How We Can Fix It" by Anya Kamenetz, an NPR education correspondent.

She examines the impact of the pandemic on children's learning and mental health.

The event runs from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Watch at anyakamenetz2021tpv.eventbrite.com.

Early Learning Center openings

The Early Learning Center (ELC) has openings in school-day classrooms at Oak Knoll School in Menlo Park and Laurel School in Atherton for children 3 to 5 years old.

Classes run from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Visit the ELC's website at district.mpcsd.org/Domain/562 for details or contact 650-463-1236 to enroll or learn more.

Las Lomitas Education Foundation recruiting

The Las Lomitas Education Foundation is looking for volunteers who can help in a variety of roles, according to a Sept. 19 Las Lomitas PTA newsletter.

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 18

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Coronavirus central: FDA advisory panel declines to support COVID vaccine boosters for most people

By Embarcadero Media staff

FDA panel votes against booster shots for most people

A U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisory panel voted Sept. 17 to endorse COVID-19 booster shots for high-risk demographics such as those age 65 and older but declined to support offering booster vaccine doses to all eligible U.S. residents.

The panel of third-party experts voted 16-2 against a plan endorsed by President Joe Biden's administration to begin offering third doses to eligible people later this month, arguing that targeting booster vaccination efforts is more appropriate.

The panel also voted unanimously to support booster doses for people ages 65 and older or those at high risk to contract the virus and develop serious illness.

Federal officials that had endorsed the booster shots plan had argued that — given the propensity for the high level of immunity offered by the two-dose Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines to reduce over time while still preventing serious illness and death — the third doses would be necessary to continue battling new variants of the virus and prevent hospitals from being overrun across the country.

Even if the panel had approved the booster shot plan, approval from officials with the FDA and

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would still be required before doses could go into arms.

Last month, FDA and CDC officials approved the administration of booster doses for people who have weakened immune systems due to an assortment of factors such as people who are being treated for cancer, organ transplant recipients and people with HIV.

The plan to offer booster shots to all fully vaccinated people also received support last month from a swath of officials within the federal Health and Human Services Agency.

The group included CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky, FDA acting Commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock, U.S. Surgeon

General Dr. Vivek Murthy and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci.

“Our top priority remains staying ahead of the virus and protecting the American people from COVID-19 with safe, effective, and long-lasting vaccines especially in the context of a constantly changing virus and epidemiologic landscape,” the group said in its joint statement.

The administration of booster doses in western countries has drawn the ire of the World Health Organization, which has argued that many non-wealthy countries across the world have yet to even receive their initial vaccine doses.

“Because manufacturers

have prioritized or been legally obliged to fulfill bilateral deals with rich countries willing to pay top dollar, low-income countries have been deprived of the tools to protect their people,” WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus said in a news briefing earlier this month.

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.

‘Back in the saddle’: Woodside council resumes in-person meetings

By Angela Swartz

For the first time since March 2020, Woodside council members sat together in the same room during their meeting Sept. 14. Mayor Brian Dombkowski said it felt good to get “back in the saddle — to use a Woodside reference.”

With a new hybrid model, the Town Council will meet in person going forward, with audience members watching from home or in person themselves. During this meeting, three council members attended in person, while four attended virtually, said City Clerk Jennifer Li.

“I think it will create the most accessible local government in the history of Woodside,” Dombkowski said. “We are on the front end of this and other town staffs have come to check out the technology and may use us as spearhead on this. ... I love that we're in a leadership position.”

Dombkowski said the council

has spent 18 months in a remote environment, but planned for the eventuality of returning to meeting in person in the spring. Holding online meetings was made possible by an executive order from Gov. Gavin Newsom in June that waived certain provisions in the state's open meetings laws. The order was set to expire Sept. 30, at which point local governments would largely have to return to in-person meetings that are open to the public. Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 into law last week, extending the order to apply when governments declare a state of emergency.

The town spent \$43,000 on audiovisual equipment from Coda Technology Group to enable the Town Hall conference room to function as a “Zoom Room”; to replace the existing projector with a laser projector in Independence Hall; and to add streaming/recording equipment and outdoor speakers, according to a report prepared by staff.

Staff found, through discussions with other San Mateo County city clerks, that Coda Technology Group has installed audiovisual systems for other local governments, including Redwood City, San Mateo, Santa Rosa, Novato and Vallejo. After contacting Coda, staff found that many cities and towns likewise are rapidly adopting a hybrid meeting model and that the Zoom Room is the current option of choice.

The 2020-21 budget includes \$140,000 for information technology equipment and building improvements, of which \$44,000 remains. The approved equipment upgrades for Independence Hall were supported by these budgeted funds.

The budget includes \$60,000 for general office supplies in the overhead department. Due to COVID-19 and the by-appointment business model at Town Hall, office supply expenditures are projected to be at \$30,000 for the full fiscal year. This \$30,000 savings, in addition to



Magali Gauthier

Independence Hall in Woodside, where the Town Council has resumed meeting in person for the first time since the pandemic began.

a projected \$20,000 in budget surplus in administration contractual services, would cover the cost of additional Zoom Room expenses.

Dombkowski said he hopes other towns follow Woodside's lead, as it's a “great way to get access without having to spend your evening until 11 p.m.” in council chambers. He said he's seen a different set of people attending meetings since residents have been able to tune in from home, allowing for more voices to be heard by the council.

“The silver lining from the remote operating environment is that a much more diverse group of people were able to participate in, and have their voices heard, in the local government process,” he said. “We're taking the best of both worlds: the technology and the communication and problem-solving you can only get from the in-person experience.” **A**

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

Newsom signs housing bills that reform single-family zoning

Governor backs SB 9 and SB 10, key components of Democratic lawmakers' housing plan

By Gennady Sheyner

Two days after he repelled a recall attempt, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed on Sept. 16 two contentious housing bills that have been at the top of the agenda for Democratic lawmakers, including one that would allow more dwellings on

properties designated for single-family zoning.

Senate Bill 9, which will allow homeowners to subdivide their properties to construct up to four housing units, and Senate Bill 10, which permits cities to allow construction of developments with up to 10 housing units in transit-rich areas,

both cleared their final hurdle with Newsom's signature last week. Authored by Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, D-San Diego, and state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, respectively, the two bills were boosted by California YIMBY and other pro-housing groups. They were also opposed by cities

like Palo Alto, where city leaders have consistently characterized them as an attack on local control.

Newsom had given little indication before the state recall election whether he would sign the bills. In endorsing them on Sept. 16, he said in a statement that the “housing affordability

crisis is undermining the California Dream for families across the state, and threatens our long-term growth and prosperity.”

“Making a meaningful impact on this crisis will take bold investments, strong collaboration across sectors and political

See **HOUSING BILLS**, page 14

E-bike shop Pedego celebrates Menlo Park grand opening

By Kate Bradshaw

It took nine and a half months, but Menlo Park's mayor this year, Drew Combs, finally had his first chance to enjoy one of the perks that comes with the title: cutting ribbons to celebrate the grand openings of new businesses in town.

This grand opening, held the afternoon of Sept. 17, was to celebrate Pedego, an electric bicycle shop in downtown Menlo Park at 807 Santa Cruz Ave. The store sells, rents and services electric bicycles, also known as e-bikes, and has already been operating quietly in town for months.

"It speaks to the reality of being mayor during the pandemic," Combs said, of the fact that there haven't been very many new business openings to celebrate in Menlo Park this year. "It's great to be here to support a new business."

Menlo Park's economic development consultant, Angela Tsui,

said that Pedego is one of a few new businesses in Menlo Park, and that there are some others coming soon.

"I'm excited to have such a great new business downtown encouraging mobility," she said.

The new shop's owner, Jeff Scanlan, is a Half Moon Bay resident and lifelong cyclist. He's also a former nonprofit executive who most recently worked as executive director of the Silicon Valley chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

After experiencing some of the changes that hit nonprofits during the pandemic, he said, he wanted to try something different.

That something became a mission to bring an e-bike shop to Menlo Park. He aimed to start a business on the Peninsula, his home of 25 years, while combining his leadership experiences with his passion for cycling.

He said he chose to focus on e-bikes because the industry is exploding with growth and

demand for e-bikes is growing faster than for traditional bikes. Menlo Park also serves as a good location for a shop because of its bike lanes and proximity to cycling routes in Portola Valley and Woodside, he added.

Pedego CEO Don Dicostanzo is on a tour hosting ribbon cuttings and customer appreciation parties at shop locations across the U.S., and greeted event attendees in Menlo Park Sept. 17. E-bicycles can help people — especially those who don't currently enjoy riding bikes — rediscover the joy of cycling, he said.

E-bicycles may also provide a unique compromise in a community where bicycling is often touted as an environmentally superior way to get around town compared to driving. With an e-bike, people can get where they need to go without the traditional downsides of riding a bike — like showing up to work sweaty, explained Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Fran Dehn.



Courtesy Fran Dehn

Attendees celebrate a ribbon cutting during the grand opening of e-bike shop Pedego in Menlo Park.

"It's the perfect opportunity to get your car off the road," she said.

"(Pedego) leans into how Menlo Park sees itself as a multi-modal city," Combs added.

Pedego is open Mondays and Tuesdays by appointment only, Wednesdays through Saturdays

from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. E-bike rental rates start at \$25 per hour. Go to pedegoelectricbikes.com for more information.

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

Officials urge greater road safety awareness after two collisions involving young bicyclists

By Angela Swartz

A third grader and a teen on bike rides collided with cars in Menlo Park over the last two weeks, local school district officials are reporting. Police and school officials are reminding drivers to be careful and patient — especially in the mornings and afternoons when more children are walking and biking to and from school with the full return to campuses this fall.

On Sept. 13, a driver hit an Encinal School third grader while he was biking home on the 800 block of Laurel Street in Menlo Park, according to a Sept. 15 Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) newsletter. He had been following behind a car traveling southbound and when the driver turned right into the parking lot, using her turn signal, the bicyclist collided with the vehicle. He suffered a bloody nose and some scratches and sore teeth, but was otherwise OK, said Parke Treadway, the district's public information officer.

"Fortunately, the student was back at school in good spirits later this week," the newsletter

states. "Menlo Park police and fire departments and another Encinal parent who was driving by at the time came to assist. We are all grateful that this student was not seriously injured, thanks in part to wearing a bike helmet."

Another Encinal parent driving by at the time stopped to help the boy and called his mom, Treadway said. The driver who hit the student wasn't another parent, Treadway said.

On Sept. 8, a driver was turning from southbound Johnson Street to eastbound Santa Cruz Avenue (near Menlo Church) in downtown Menlo Park when a 13-year-old bicyclist entered the roadway and ran into the vehicle, said Menlo Park Police Department spokesperson Nicole Acker in an email. The bicyclist sustained non-life-threatening injuries to his face and head and was transported by ambulance to the hospital, she said.

Menlo Park police have "received safety concerns regarding students being dropped off and picked up at schools, students biking to school, and non-adherence to signs and crosswalks," officers wrote in a

letter last week. "While we know school zones can be tricky to navigate due to congestion, we are providing these safety tips and traffic reminders to help prevent potential hazards and to possibly avoid collisions, and avoid traffic violations."

The incidents have prompted the district to alert the community to pay extra attention to safe driving, biking, and walking. Officials not only reached out to parents through their district and school-based newsletters, but also sent an alert to their full list of community voters for which they have email addresses, according to a Tuesday district press release.

The district plans to host bike rodeos, which teach students proper biking safety with courses set up at the school campuses, in the coming weeks, the release states.

"MPCSD thanks the community for helping keep everyone's children safe as we adjust to society's continued reopening, together," the release states.

Police offer traffic safety tips

In a letter, Atherton Police Department's School Resource Officer Dimitri Andruha urged



Courtesy Caryn Wasserstein

Children and parents from 16 families rode their bikes to Laurel School Lower Campus in June 2018 accompanied by Menlo Park Police Department escorts.

drivers to put their phones away while at the wheel and to give pedestrians right of way when they are in crosswalks.

"I am reminded of a bumper sticker I saw as a child growing up in San Francisco. The bumper sticker was all yellow and in black writing it stated, 'School's open, Please drive carefully.'"

He advised children to always wear a helmet while biking (it's the law for those under 18) and reminded motorists to obey the rules of the road, such as stopping at traffic signs, signaling when they will turn, and staying within lane markings. Other tips he offered for students: Walk facing traffic (against the flow) to see the vehicles coming in your direction; use a forward-facing headlight and a flashing taillight while riding your bike

at dusk or dark; and don't try to cross the road in the middle of the street.

Menlo Park police recommended in the letter that bicyclists increase their visibility to drivers by wearing fluorescent or brightly colored clothing. Police also reminded bicyclists to ride in the same direction as traffic.

There are also locally created tools that can help kids learn about pedestrian safety. The San Mateo County Office of Education created a "Star Wars"-themed virtual escape room, Baby Yoda's Safe Journey, to help children learn to navigate the streets safely on foot or by bike. 📧

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

HANNA SHACHAM'S SALES IN AUGUST 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2021



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Three arrested for spree of robberies, purse snatches that targeted Asian women

Thefts spanned four Bay Area counties

By Bay City News Service

A yearlong, multijurisdictional investigation involving a group that allegedly targeted victims of Asian descent in muggings in four Bay Area counties has culminated with three arrests, police and prosecutors said Sept. 17.

The San Jose Police Department's robbery unit, with assistance from the department's covert response unit and detectives from the Hayward Police Department, concluded the investigation by initiating the arrests and eventual apprehension of the three suspects, who worked in concert to commit

dozens of robberies throughout Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Asian females were frequently targeted, and many of them were injured in the robberies. Anthony Michael Robinson, 24, of Stockton; Derje Damond Blanks, 23, of San Jose; and Cameron Alonzo Moody, 27, of East Palo Alto have been arrested and charged in connection with the crimes.

More than 40 purse snatchings and robberies were recorded in the spree, which covered the cities of Campbell, Dublin, East Palo Alto, Fremont, Hayward, Milpitas, Newark, San Jose, San Leandro and San Pablo, according to the District Attorney's

Office, which has charged the men for the thefts and hate crime enhancements.

The spree started in late 2020, and in some cases, the defendants allegedly referred to the victims with ethnic slurs, according to the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. They allegedly followed the women as they walked in parking lots to their vehicles, waited until the victims were in their car and either smashed a window or opened a door to take a purse from the passenger seat.

Robinson and Blanks were located and arrested in San Jose on Sept. 8. During apprehension efforts, Robinson fled in a vehicle, ran a red light and collided

with another vehicle — which injured a 2-year-old girl and her father. Robinson and Blanks were booked in Santa Clara County jail on over 70 counts of felony robbery and have appeared in court for arraignment hearings last week. They were also scheduled for arraignment on Sept. 20, according to online court records.

On Sept. 16, Moody was located and arrested in Union City by members of the covert response unit. Two loaded firearms were recovered. One of them was a homemade "ghost gun." Moody was booked into Santa Clara County jail for a multitude of felony robbery charges and was scheduled to appear in court for

an arraignment Sept. 21.

"I want to thank all of our department members, as well as the outside agencies who assisted with this long and complex investigation," said San Jose Police Department Chief Anthony Mata. "Thanks to their hard work, there are three less predators targeting members of our community. We are sensitive to the hate aspect targeting Asian females. I commend District Attorney Jeff Rosen for pursuing hate crime enhancements. We have tenacious investigators, and a dedicated apprehension team that was tasked with bringing these suspects to justice."

Anyone with information about this case is asked to contact Detective Estantino of the San Jose Police Department's robbery unit at 408-277-4166, or Detective Niedenthal of the Hayward Police Department at 510-293-7167. ■

Out of time: California legislators won't extend eviction ban

By Manuela Tobias/CalMatters

California's eviction protections will almost certainly not be extended once they expire after Sept. 30, the state Assembly Housing chairperson said Sept. 16.

The legislative session ended Sept. 10, the last day that lawmakers could've pushed off that deadline. But the political appetite just isn't there to act, according to David Chiu, a San Francisco Democrat who spearheaded the previous efforts to stall the displacement of tenants amid the pandemic.

"I believed our eviction pro-

tections for tenants should be extended beyond Sept. 30. The delta variant and the end of many unemployment benefits make that even more urgent," Chiu told CalMatters. "Unfortunately, some of my colleagues feel differently, and there's not enough consensus for that."

The current round of eviction protections were extended on June 25, just days before they were set to expire. At that point, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon said he hoped the economy would be in full swing so that another moratorium would not be necessary. Rendon's office declined to

comment on the absence of another extension.

"The Legislature has kind of set a trap for itself because it won't be in session when that expires," said Brian Augusta, legislative advocate for the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, who has been lobbying for stronger protections throughout the pandemic. "So, that means, what we see is what we get."

Augusta said the governor could still call a special legislative session to extend protections before the end of the month, or issue an executive order as he did at the beginning

of the pandemic to pause court proceedings relating to evictions. But he said that's unlikely.

'About 753,000 families are behind on rent, and owe a cumulative \$2.8 billion.'

ANALYSIS BY RESEARCH GROUP
POLICY LINK

The governor's office also declined to comment.

The eviction protections in place state that tenants will have a defense in court should their landlord evict them over nonpayment of rent through Sept. 30. They still have to submit a declaration saying they are unable to make full rent, and pay at least 25% of their monthly rent since Sept. 1, 2020, in installments or in bulk, by Sept. 30.

The protections are tied to \$5.2 billion in federal aid for rent relief. People making less than 80% of their area median income who were financially affected by COVID-19 can still apply for the full amount of missed rent and stave off eviction. They can also now apply for three months of forward rent.

But distribution of those dollars remains a problem. While the state has received applications for about \$1.9 billion in rental aid, it has distributed only about \$491 million. Still, that's about a 500% increase since the current moratorium passed at the end of June, according to Russ Heimerich, spokesperson

for the state's Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

According to a recent analysis of California's rental debt by Policy Link, an Oakland-based research group, about 753,000 families are behind on rent, and owe a cumulative \$2.8 billion.

"I think everybody's hope was that more families would have received the funds by now, and that the people who didn't apply or were denied were a minority, as opposed to an overwhelming majority," said Francisco Dueñas, executive director of Housing Now!, a tenant advocacy group.

Existing law has some stopgaps that, in theory, should prevent the tsunami of evictions tenant advocates and researchers have predicted. Heimerich said tenants will be shielded from an eviction procedure by the courts for 15 more days to apply for their missed rent — a provision that extends through March 2022.

To take advantage of those protections, tenants will have to show evidence they applied for the rental assistance program in court, Heimerich said. He said the state agency is working closely with the Judicial Council to inform judges of the procedure.

While the stopgap might seem promising on paper, tenant advocates are leery of its application.

"The problem with relying on the courts is it requires people to go to court," Dueñas said. "And a lot of people don't respond to a court notice. They just move." ■




INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (IRC) VACANCIES

Setting the electoral boundaries

The City of Menlo Park is seeking Menlo Park residents to apply for the IRC.

The Commission shall be comprised of seven (7) commissioners and two (2) alternate commissioners. Alternates may fully participate in Commission deliberations but may not vote and may not be counted toward the establishment of a quorum. Alternates are subject to the same qualifications, restrictions and standards of conduct as all other Commissioners.

The IRC's responsible for setting Menlo Park's electoral boundaries for City Council districts following the 2020 census.

Redistricting determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a district for purposes of electing a city councilmember

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Finley Sumner Still

May 30, 1989 – September 30, 2020

Finley was born in Denver, Colorado on May 30, 1989 to Elizabeth and George J. Still, Jr. At four months of age he moved to Seattle, Washington and then on to the Bay Area in California in time to celebrate his 4th birthday. Whatever his age, Finley exhibited wisdom far beyond his years:

“Finley is an amazing person and the older he gets the more amazing people will realize he is.” (4th grade teacher)

“Finley shows unadulterated brilliance.” (9th grade physics teacher)

“It is amazing to see you go up against the greats like Freud and be dead right.” (college professor)

Much more than any brilliance, Finley demonstrated love and compassion for his fellow man. If you were homeless and hungry on the streets in Hollywood and ran across Finley, he took you out for a meal and listened to your story; if you were in an abusive relationship and needed a safe place to stay, Finley's place was yours. If you had no money for rent and needed a home, Finley had spare room. If you were pregnant, unwed, and a recovering meth addict lucky enough to meet Finley in a Starbucks, you found a friend who would aid you through your pregnancy, hold your hand in the delivery room throughout labor and witness the birth of your first child. Finley tutored children in homeless shelters, he taught foster children how to play the guitar. Finley gave of himself to this world, but this world was a difficult place for him; creating music provided him a deep reservoir of solace, an opportunity for expression and for hope.

Finley attended Canterbury Christian School, Trinity School, Menlo School, Musician's Institute, Santa Monica City College and California Institute of the Arts. He loved learning and studied music, computer programming, English literature and art. He participated in the inaugural Entrepreneurship Program at Draper University and thoroughly enjoyed it; thanking Tim Draper he wrote, “I find myself relating the moment to Draper Questions such as, “Why am I doing this?” and “What matters?”

Among the few possessions he had at the end of his life were the following books whose titles are included here because they reveal more of Finley's character: *And What Would You Say If You Could?* by Haviland N. G. Whiting, *The Gallows Pole* by Benjamin Myers, *The Smell of Rain on Dust* by Martin Prechtel, and *Lao Tsu: Tao Te Ching*, translated by Gia-Fu Feng

and Jane English.

Finley was always original, always curious, always caring and always ready to lend a hand to a fellow human in need. He cared passionately about the rights of those oppressed here and abroad and about vulnerable children. He had no patience for hypocrisy. He wasn't much on small talk, but if you needed the small talk or if you were ready to talk about something meaningful he was all in.

Finley had physical ailments that medicine could not effectively identify the causes for or treat. Though those symptoms grew to include mental illness, Finley bravely continued to work very hard his entire life.

Finley had a smile and laugh that were like the morning's spreading sunlight. He had a rich sense

of humor and enjoyed the comical in everyday life. He got beaten down by life, by a mood disorder and by a lack of understanding. He left us on September 30, 2020 in Los Angeles, California. He was, and is, so loved by his family: by his beloved twin, George III and George's fiancée, Boriana Boyanova who was so kind to him; by his devoted brother John T., his treasured sister Ellie; by his mother and father Elizabeth and George Still, forever humbled by him and proud to be his parents; and by his loving maternal grandparents, Billy Ruth and Finley Van Brocklin, for whom he was named. His family rest assured Finley entered the comforting arms of God the Father and Jesus, and was welcomed to heaven by his paternal grandparents, Zenaide and George Still, MD, who delighted in him. A small outdoor service led by Frank Vanderzwan of Menlo Church was held on October 14, 2020.

A retreat center for extended stays offering community, life skills lessons and various therapies including music therapy and art therapy is being established in Finley's memory. In the meantime, if you would like to make a gift in his memory, please consider Compassion International, International Justice Mission, Musicians On Call or a charity of your choice.

International Justice Mission:
IJM.org

Musicians On Call:
Musiciansoncall.org

Compassion International:
Compassion.com



Howard Middleton

August 29, 1927 – April 20, 2021

Howard Wieden Middleton passed away peacefully on April 20, 2021. He was 93 years old.

He was universally beloved for his affability, his optimism, and his infectious laugh.

Howard was born in 1927 in Tacoma, WA to Howard and Hazel [Wieden] Middleton. The family moved to the San Francisco area, where Howard and his sister Donna grew up in Alameda and Oakland. After high school, he enlisted in the Merchant Marine; he enjoyed regaling family and friends with stories of adventurous forays at sea and in foreign ports. Later, Howard studied business at Cal, was a proud member of the Psi Upsilon fraternity, and managed the Cal Men's Crew team. He is commemorated at the entrance to the Cal Boat House. Howard loved nothing more than cheering on his beloved Golden Bears at football games.

Howard served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, stationed in Virginia for most of his tour of duty. It was while on the East Coast that he met a spirited beauty named Arla Mellen, who became his wife of 56 years. The couple moved to Santa Maria, California, where Howard had a job with Caterpillar tractor. He would remain in the heavy equipment business for most of his career, rising to manager of Terex's western division. His career involved many moves; he and Arla raised their growing family in Southern California, Ohio, Davis, and Portola Valley.

Howard was a dedicated member of his church, serving in various volunteer capacities at Christ Church Portola Valley, including as senior warden. He was an enthusiastic mentor to students through the campus ministry at Stanford University.

In retirement, Howard and Arla reveled in traveling the world and visiting their children and grandchildren. Howard also continued to play golf and was particularly proud of his hole-in-one at Pebble Beach. Gregarious and friendly, Howard enjoyed many friendships among fellow residents of the Sequoias, Portola Valley. He also treasured every member of the extended Middleton and Mellen clans and loved attending family reunions in the Pacific Northwest.

Howard always enjoyed a challenging project, so, at age 85, he built a beautiful mountain house in Mount Shasta. He loved to gather there with family and friends and would spend hours gazing out his front window to take in the changing hues of the majestic 14,000-foot peak.

Howard is survived by two of his three children, Craig Middleton and wife Holly of San Rafael, and Hilary Wills and husband Geof of Los Angeles. His daughter, Debbie Hamilton, passed away in 2019. He had four grandchildren (Ella Middleton, Roxanne Wills, Casey Hamilton, and Will Hamilton) and three great grandchildren (Alissa, Breanna and Treyson Hamilton).

A memorial service will be held on September 25 at 2 p.m. at Christ Church Portola Valley.

Donations may be made to the Peninsula Open Space Trust.



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Helen J. Carey

Helen J. Carey, devoted wife of the late Honorable Judge Robert E. Carey and mother of their deceased daughter, Ann Elizabeth Carey, died peacefully at her home in Atherton, California at the age of 100.

Helen was born and raised in Colma, California and was one of five children of Thomas J. Callan. She graduated from the Immaculate Conception High School in San Francisco and the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in History. While at Berkeley, Helen was introduced by her sister, Mary, to her future husband and love of her life, Robert E. Carey, who was the President of Newman Hall at that time. Helen and Robert instantly fell in love and were later married at Chandler Air Force Base in Arizona.

Subsequently, Helen taught first grade at Lincoln Elementary School and was a substitute teacher at St. Raymond and St. Joseph Catholic Elementary schools before joining her father in the family business. Helen was an astute businesswoman and experienced great success in real estate investment and management over 60 years. Passionately committed to her real estate career, Helen was known for appearing before the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and other governmental boards to present her case on zoning laws and advocate for land use rights.

Throughout her life, Helen enjoyed traveling with her family, playing golf, and attending sporting events. She was a charter member at Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club and was a member of the 9-hole golf group. She enjoyed watching her daughter Ann dive for the Stanford diving team, her son Thomas play water polo for Santa Clara University and Bellarmine College Preparatory and her son Robert play football for Bellarmine. More recently, she loved to cheer for her two granddaughters at their numerous swim meets. In addition to watching her family's athletic events, she loved to attend the Big Game with her husband to support their alma mater, the Golden Bears, as well as root for her beloved San Francisco Giants.

Helen was a devout Catholic who participated in multiple local religious organizations. She was a volunteer and a lifelong supporter of the Oakwood Retirement Community adjacent to the Schools of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California and was a dedicated member of the Society of Sacred Heart's Children of Mary Sodality group in Atherton, California. She also enjoyed connecting with her community and local parishioners by attending the senior luncheons held at St. Denis church in Menlo Park.

Helen was a woman of deep faith who loved spending time with her family and friends. She had a thoughtful and loving heart and was always giving of her time and resources to help others.

An exceptional wife and mother, Helen is survived by her two sons, Robert E. Carey, Jr. (and his wife Kathryn) and Thomas J. Carey. She was also a proud grandmother of her two granddaughters, Michelle Freedman and Elizabeth Carey.

A Rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 27th, at St. Denis Church, 2250 Avy Avenue, Menlo Park. The Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 28th, at St. Denis Church. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation be made in Helen's memory to the Religious of the Sacred Heart-Oakwood Retirement Community (140 Valparaiso Avenue, Atherton, CA 94027) or to Corpus Christi Monastery (215 Oak Grove Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025).



PAID OBITUARY

HOUSING BILLS

continued from page 7

courage from our leaders and communities to do the right thing and build housing for all," Newsom said in a statement.

While many housing advocates have long called for the loosening of rules surrounding single-family zones — a step that has already been taken in cities like Berkeley and Minneapolis — prior efforts to achieve major zoning reforms in the Legislature had struggled to advance in recent years. In January 2020, the Legislature killed Wiener's bid to increase zoning in transit-friendly and jobs-rich areas when it voted down SB 50.

SB 10 advanced after lawmakers agreed to make several amendments to address criticisms that the legislation is an attack on local control. Palo Alto was among the cities that have criticized a provision of the bill that allows cities to use SB 10 to override existing zoning restrictions that were put in place through voter initiatives. Palo Alto's letter of opposition argues that such legislation "echoes more of Russia than of California."

Supporters of the bill have noted that cities are not required to rely on the provisions of SB 10 if they don't want to. Those that do cannot apply it to parkland or open space. And cities that want to use the bill to override zoning restrictions imposed by local initiatives would need to secure

a two-thirds majority from their legislative body.

Wiener said in a statement that SB 10 provides "one important approach: making it dramatically easier and faster for cities to zone for more housing."

"It shouldn't take five or 10 years for cities to re-zone, and SB 10 gives cities a powerful new tool to get the job done quickly," Wiener said. "I want to thank the Governor for signing this essential bill and for continuing to lead on housing."

In his message for SB 10, Newsom touted its "potential to increase housing development at a time when the state is experiencing a significant shortage of the units needed to meet the needs of Californians." He also warned, however, that while the benefits are promising, "certain provisions may have unintended impacts on affordable housing projects that use density bonuses, as well as possible Fair Housing implications based on how jurisdictions may choose to implement its provisions."

He wrote that he is directing the Department of Housing and Community Development's newly established Housing Accountability Unit to "vigorously monitor the implementation of this bill at the local level, and if needed, work with the Legislature to proactively address any unintended consequences, should they arise."

SB 9 also seeks to boost California's housing supply by allowing property owners to split

their lots and to build up to four homes (which includes two accessory dwelling units or junior accessory dwelling units) on a lot where currently one exists. A report from the Turner Center for Housing Innovation at University of California, Berkeley described SB 9 in July as "the most significant housing bill coming out of California's current legislative session," noting its potential to "expand the supply of smaller-scaled housing, particularly in higher-resourced, single-family neighborhoods."

In analyzing a similar proposal, SB 1120, which faltered on the final day of the prior legislative session, the Turner Center estimated that about 6 million properties would be eligible for the bill's provisions. If 5% of those parcels created new two-unit structures, that would have resulted in 597,706 new homes, according to the report.

Atkins said in a statement last week that SB 9 will "open up opportunities for homeowners to help ease our state's housing shortage, while still protecting tenants from displacement."

"And it will help our communities welcome new families to the neighborhood and enable more folks to set foot on the path to buying their first home," Atkins said. "I'm grateful for the Governor's partnership, and our shared determination to turn the corner on California's housing crisis." ■

Email Staff Writer
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EQUITY

continued from page 5

populations, compared with the white population, she added.

Currently, Malekafzali said, white supremacy may not look like it used to, in the form of things like the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazism and individual acts of hate and violence; it can also take the form of sociopolitical systems and structures in which white people carry certain advantages over people of color.

Ways that people of color can be disadvantaged can be small or large, but range from people's ability to wear their hair naturally or covered with a scarf, or the potential to be profiled by law enforcement officials based on implicit bias. Race continues to be a key determinant in many life outcomes, even when factoring in economic and educational differences, she added.

The resolution, she said in an email, is a codification of the Board of Supervisors' commitment to advancing racial equity.

"San Mateo County is committed to building a deep sense of belonging for BIPOC (an

acronym referring to those who are Black, Indigenous and people of color), where everyone can seed families and extend roots for generations to come with stability, having authentic power to advance aspirations, influence decisions that impact their lives, and be a fully empowered part of the fabric and narrative of the county," the resolution states.

The next step is to create an internal, interdepartmental Core Equity Team to start creating a Racial and Social Equity Action Plan, according to Malekafzali.

That plan will likely involve crafting a tool to assess equity impacts, an inventory with data and sources related to equity, strategies to hire and procure resources in an inclusive manner, a tool to develop equity-focused community engagement, and opportunities for staff to gain training around equity-related issues, she said in an email.

Later this year, the county also plans to develop a community advisory body to work on ironing out the details related to the county's new Office of Racial and Social Equity, she added.

Slocum also suggested that the

county manager review the titles for the various equity efforts going on within the county and try to figure out a way to clarify the purposes of the different initiatives.

"We know this work is urgent and are doing what we can to advance the work as quickly and thoughtfully as possible. We are building something new in the County and we'll be learning as we go. ... But we will continue to engage the community and be transparent about our plans," Malekafzali said in an email. ■

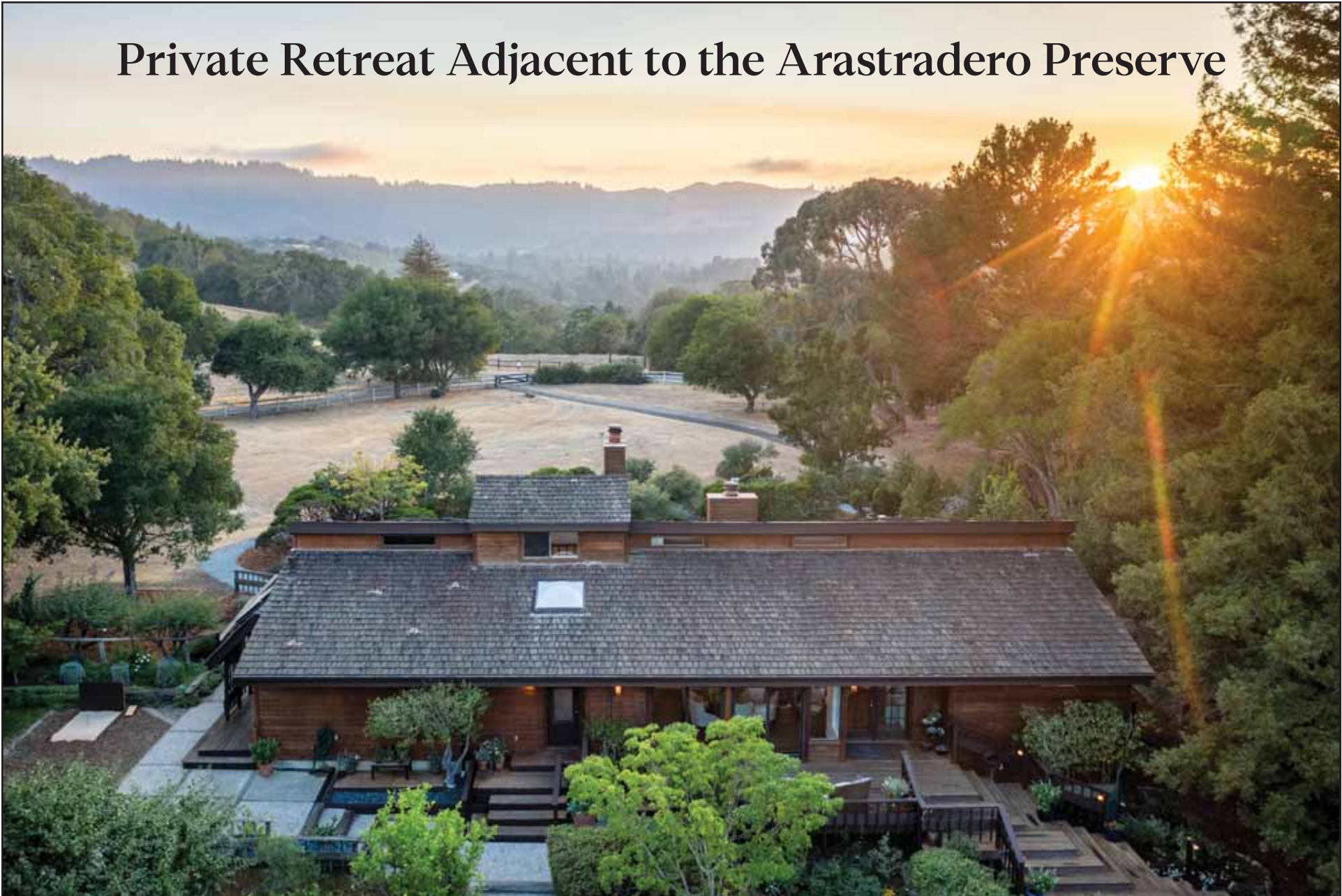
Email Staff Writer Kate
Bradshaw at kbradshaw@
almanacnews.com.

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Howard Wieden Middleton**, 93, a Portola Valley resident and active member of the Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside, on April 20.

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

Private Retreat Adjacent to the Arastradero Preserve



6 Arastradero Road | Portola Valley | Offered at \$6,495,000 | www.6Arastradero.com



PROPERTY: Total livable area of 3,225 sf on approx. 2.81 flat acres

- On private, quiet centrally-located cul-de-sac; walk to Alpine Inn (Zotts)
- Irrigated rear gardens; large flat rear yard; "Poet's Grove" in redwoods
- Large 2-car garage (approx. 900 sf) with built-in work room & storage

Out your back door to hiking, biking and riding trails, plus minutes to Alpine Inn, Highway 280, Portola Valley Shops and Restaurants, and Stanford University

MAIN HOME: 4 BR, 2 BA; approx. 3,225 sf; flowing one-level floor plan

- Host of upgrades: new carpeting, painting, refinished hardwood floors
- Large, light-filled high-ceilinged adjoining family & dining rooms
- Updated kitchen with full range of appliances
- Primary Suite on main floor: outside deck, tub, shower, walk-in closet
- Dedicated Home Office with entrance to large rear deck
- Second floor bonus room (office, exercise) and storage area

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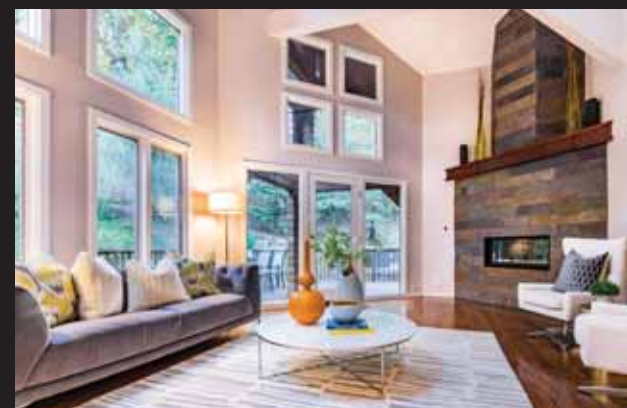
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11665 DAWSON DRIVE
LOS ALTOS HILLS



STUNNING RETREAT ON OVER 1.6 ACRES

Over 1.6 acres of verdant land envelops this contemporary masterpiece that exemplifies the rustic elegance synonymous with Los Altos Hills. Evoking the feel of a five-star mountainside retreat, this home offers over 3,600 square feet of luxurious interiors, a modern floorplan, and ample privacy. Beautiful hardwood floors extend throughout expansive gathering areas made for entertaining, and spectacular walls of windows stretch to the tops of soaring ceilings to fill the home with natural light. Both the living room and family room include a fireplace with a slate tile surround, the chef's kitchen features top-of-the-line appliances, and the media room offers great space for enjoying movie nights. Four spacious bedrooms provide the accommodations, including the primary suite with a spa-inspired bathroom, and one bedroom that easily converts into office space to work from home in style. Outside, a gorgeous deck encircles the home and offers outstanding space for indoor/outdoor living while taking in the all-encompassing natural beauty of the home's magnificent setting. Plus, the grounds of the home include a hot tub, as well as a pathway leading to the Rancho San Antonio nature trails. And though this home enjoys an incredibly private feel, you will still be just moments to downtown Los Altos, a short drive to Interstate 280, and have access to top-ranked Los Altos schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.11665Dawson.com

Offered at \$4,488,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent

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

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



25680 ELENA ROAD
LOS ALTOS HILLS



LUXURY AND PRIVACY ON OVER AN ACRE

The all-encompassing privacy that only Los Altos Hills affords offers the ideal backdrop for this stylish home nestled on over an acre of gated grounds. High, detailed ceilings create an airy ambiance throughout over 4,800 square feet of living space filled with luxurious appointments including hardwood floors, fine millwork, new carpet, and marble finishes. The expansive floorplan is highlighted by the living room anchored by a fireplace, the vast kitchen with appliances from Wolf and Sub-Zero, and the family room with a fireplace and wet bar. The home's 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms include the sizable primary suite with a spa-like bathroom, as well as a convenient guest suite, while a 2-room office suite offers great space to work from home in style and may also serve as a 5th bedroom. Outside, the backyard provides sweeping terraces adorned with tall trees and colorful plantings, while the attached 3-car garage and extended driveway ensure ample parking. This spectacular retreat-like property will have you feeling far removed from the fast pace of Silicon Valley, yet you will still be a short drive to the Los Altos Village, the Los Altos Golf & Country Club, and have easy access to Interstate 280. Plus, children may attend top-ranked Los Altos schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

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BEEKEEPING

continued from page 1

students on exciting field trips — including an episode in which her class travels inside a beehive.

In 2013, a Menlo School student asked her to start a beekeeping club at the school. A year later, after Buxton consulted with neighboring residents and the school nurse (who would make teachers aware of who is allergic to bees on campus), the club came into fruition.

During twice yearly sales on campus, the club sells candles, lip balm, soap, honey sticks, wax

food wrap and honeycomb, in addition to jars of honey. (During the pandemic, the students moved the sale online.)

Buxton said the students gain a new appreciation for bees (honeybees and native bees) and become less fearful of them.

Senior Alina Hernandez had a fear of bees when she joined back during her freshman year. Now a club leader, she has learned an appreciation for the insects.

“It’s a very chill club,” said Hernandez, 18. “Being able to have such a hands-on experience and see how much these products come into our everyday lives.”

Building the hives

Buxton has ordered bees from University of California at Davis, but also has gotten hives from local beekeepers.

About once a year, bees will swarm on campus and Braxton, known as the school’s resident beekeeper, will be called on to collect them. Swarming occurs when a large group of honeybees leaves an established colony and flies off to start a new colony, essentially creating two from one, according to Iowa State University. It’s a natural process, the university notes. Buxton explained swarms are

not aggressive.

She was able to capture a swarm on a redwood tree on the east border of campus. She shook the branch the swarm was attached to and collected them in a box.

She calls beekeeping “more of an art than a science.”

“You experiment and learn what works,” she explained. “Sometimes you lose hives.” For example, she’s noticed hives will die with construction nearby or on days in which the air quality is poor.

Buxton said anyone can start their own hive, but it’s best to

be informed before you start it, as it’s important to know how to prevent spreading disease among the bees. She has connected with the Beekeepers’ Guild of San Mateo County and Santa Clara Valley Beekeepers Guild for guidance. The San Mateo group also offers beekeeping classes on its website, sanmateobeeguild.org.

Check out the club’s Instagram account at [instagram.com/menloschoolbeekeeping](https://www.instagram.com/menloschoolbeekeeping). **A**

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

PARKS

continued from page 1

“Downtown parking lots and other publicly owned lands, such as parks, could be considered a potential tool to meet our RHNA — particularly affordable income units where land cost is often a barrier,” the pamphlet states.

When asked whether parkland may be rezoned to permit housing, California Housing and Community Development department spokesperson Alicia Murillo told The Almanac that, “What gets zoned, to what use, and where, is entirely in the purview of the jurisdiction. That

said, there might be easements or other conservation provisions that would inhibit the jurisdiction from making the zoning change from parks to residential. For the housing element we are looking for the program to rezone to residential use if they identify one of these spaces. If it is city owned property, the jurisdiction must demonstrate how it is adhering to the surplus lands act.”

Marie Summers, an author of the petition to permanently preserve parklands from development, said she was surprised and disappointed by the council’s vote Tuesday.

“If any parks are in fact safe, I don’t understand why it’s not

feasible to just put it in writing ... if the parks are truly safe, then it should be no big deal to just close those loopholes,” she said.

Summers talked about how she had also helped to circulate a petition on the same matter in 2012, noting that back then, she had been told that Sharon Park was off-limits for development.

“I feel like this is going to happen over and over again,” resident and local Realtor Maya Sewald told the council Tuesday. “We’ve lost a lot of institutional memory. This happened years ago with Sharon Park (and I) don’t want it to continue another eight or nine years from now.”

Summers said she and a group of neighbors in Sharon Park have had discussions about bringing the matter forward as a possible ballot measure.

“This could have been resolved last night,” she said. “We have decided we are regrouping. We will be having a meeting to discuss our next steps.”

The ordinance

Mueller had proposed that the City Council ask the city attorney to draft a “Parks Preservation” ordinance that the council could consider in the future that would make all of the city’s parks “dedicated” parks and close legal loopholes that permit development in parks under some circumstances, as well as require a majority of the public’s vote for the city to permit parklands to be used for “municipal purposes.”

Wolosin proposed an alternate but similar motion to direct staff to analyze and draft a zoning ordinance prohibiting the use of city parks for other municipal purposes. She said she wasn’t interested in discussing ballot measures and perpetual park protections at the moment because it wasn’t one of the City Council’s stated goals at the start of the year and because staff resources are limited.

In a Sept. 15 video Wolosin created to explain the housing element to residents, she said that one of the main ways the city has been able to get

affordable housing built in city limits has been through its inclusionary housing policy, which means that for every 100 new housing units that get built, 15 are required to be set aside for low-income residents. By that ratio, it will take far more housing growth for the city to reach that low-income goal than even the state mandated numbers suggest, she explained.

Access Wolosin’s video at [is.gd/wolosinhousing](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dWol0s0n8g).

If the city doesn’t comply with the mandate to develop realistic plans for how to build those new units, it could be on the hook to pay tens of millions of dollars in fines, Wolosin explained.

Mayor Drew Combs acknowledged the significant challenge ahead of the city in “getting housing at a variety of different income levels, especially some of the lower levels,” because Menlo Park, “unlike a lot of other communities, doesn’t have lots of excess land that it owns.”

“I have to also be responsive to the fact that lots of residents are rightfully angry because without any real context from the city, this very specific idea has been thrown out there and had legitimacy,” he added.

According to City Attorney Nira Doherty, the crux of whether parks can or cannot be developed depends on the terms under which the city acquired the parkland and what legal language was used in defining how the parkland could be used when the city first came to own the park. She said she hadn’t yet ironed out which parks were fully protected by this policy and which might be legally vulnerable to conversion to other land uses.

Those who didn’t support Mueller’s ordinance agreed they didn’t want to build housing in parks, but rather pointed to the topic as a non-issue, or as Complete Streets Commission member Katie Behrooz put it, “a red herring.”

They argued that instead, the City Council and community should be focused on the city’s upcoming housing element and

ironing out how to ensure that parks remain accessible and equitable as the city plans for new residents as mandated by the state.

Nash, who voted against Mueller’s proposal, said she was “100% committed to preserving and expanding parks for all our Menlo Park residents,” and added “it’s important for everyone to know that parklands are not viable sites and cannot be used to meet housing element requirements.”

As a result, she said, she found the creation of an ordinance or ballot measure to be “an unnecessary exercise.”

Resident Brittani Baxter said she favored the community directing its political energy toward working on identifying other affordable housing sites in Menlo Park’s District 5, such as at the Sharon Heights Shopping Center, which petition signers said they favored as a potential site for new housing units in the neighborhood. That would require working with the parcel’s owner to develop the site, she added.

The city of Menlo Park was also scheduled to host a community discussion on the housing element the evening of Thursday, Sept. 23, after The Almanac went to press. Go to almanacnews.com for the latest updates.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

The roles include: an annual giving campaign co-chair, foundation ambassadors, a graphic designer, leadership co-chairs, a marketing chair and more.

Many of these roles have co-chairs, so the time commitment is minimal (one to three hours a week on average).

Sign-up at llef.org/volunteer or email the foundation at president@llef.org.

— Angela Swartz

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

NEIGHBORHOOD PIZZA GUY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 288752

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Neighborhood Pizza Guy, located at 1929 Menalto Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County; Mailing address: PO BOX 401, San Carlos, CA 94070.

Registered owner(s):
NEIGHBORHOOD PIZZA LLC
1929 Menalto Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
California
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 2, 2021.
(ALM Sep. 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 2021)

MORGAN HILL REAL ESTATE
MORGAN HILL COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 288736

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Morgan Hill Real Estate, 2.) Morgan Hill Commercial Real Estate, 3.) HICARE Broker, located at 503 Trinidad Lane, Foster City, CA 94404, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ANNETTE MARIA DIRESTA
503 Trinidad Lane
Foster City, CA 94404
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business

name(s) listed above on 8/8/2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 1, 2021.
(ALM Sep. 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 2021)

BC HANDYWORKS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 288855
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
BC Handyworks, located at 120 Scenic Drive, Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
BENJAMIN C CAMPOS
120 Scenic Drive
Redwood City, CA 94062
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 14, 2021.
(ALM Sep. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 2021)

JLCZ TRANSPORTATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 288893
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
JLCZ TRANSPORTATION, located at 2065 California St. Apt. 46, Mountain View, CA 94040, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
JORGE LUIS CUEVAS ZAVALA
2065 California St. Apt. 46
Mountain View, CA 94040
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 17, 2021.
(ALM Sep. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 2021)

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

CRIME BRIEFS

continued from page 6

Investigators determine the damage had been caused by a BB gun.

At 10:12 p.m., officers received another report of a vehicle window vandalism that had just occurred on O'Keefe Street.

Responding officers were able to obtain a possible description of the suspects from witnesses.

At 10:22 p.m., an officer located the suspects in the area of Willow Road and Gilbert Street.

Police detained the suspects and found two loaded BB handguns in their possession.

Police also found additional vehicles that had been vandalized by the suspects with the BB guns.

—Bay City News Service

Bicyclist steers clear of attempted robber

Palo Alto police are investigating a Saturday morning robbery attempt after a man reportedly tried to take a bicycle from another man.

The incident occurred at 8:55 a.m. on the pedestrian/bicycle bridge over San Francisquito Creek near the 700 block of Clark Way, police said Monday in a press release. The bridge separates the cities of Menlo Park and Palo Alto and goes through a wooded area.

A man in his 30s was riding his bicycle south when another man blocked his path, demanded the bicycle and attempted to grab the handlebars, police said. The bicyclist was able to get past the man and rode away. As the cyclist left, the man spat on his back and threw a beer can at him, which didn't strike the victim, police said. The attempted robbery was reported to police dispatchers at about 10:45 a.m. The bicyclist wasn't injured.

The perpetrator is described as a Black man in his 30s and about 5 feet and 10 inches to 6 feet tall with a medium build. He was unshaven; dirty or unkempt; and wore a gray sweater, gray shorts and possibly a blue beanie.

The bicyclist said it was possible the man was under the influence of alcohol as his movements were not well coordinated when he attempted to grab the handlebars. No similar crimes have been reported recently in Palo Alto. Detectives are actively investigating the case.

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

—Sue Dremann



RESOLUTION NO. 2261 (2021)

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

Lands of Mckelvy

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 system which is proposed to operate on the parcel 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: October 13, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit A

DATE: 01-26-2021
ANNEXED TO: WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
NAME OF ANNEXATION: WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION
LANDS OF MCKELVY
AND PORTIONS OF SHAWNEE PASS
PROPOSED WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ANNEXATION
1.53 ACRE +/- PARCEL

ALL THAT REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEING ALL OF LOT 12 BLOCK 2, AND PORTIONS OF SHAWNEE PASS, AS DESIGNATED ON THE MAP ENTITLED "TRACT NO. 761, ARROWHEAD MEADOWS UNIT NO. 2, SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, BEING A PORTION OF THE RANCHO EL CORTO MADERA SUBDIVISION", FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA ON MAY 29, 1958 IN BOOK 48 OF MAPS AT PAGES 48 TO 49, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE MOST SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT THENCE ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT NORTH 07°58'13" EAST 137.75 FEET (1);
THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID WESTERLY LINE NORTH 03°30'00" WEST 40.00 FEET (2) TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT;
THENCE LEAVING SAID WESTERLY LINE NORTH 86°30'00" EAST 300.00 FEET (3) TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID SHAWNEE PASS, 50 FEET IN WIDTH;
THENCE ALONG THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID SHAWNEE PASS SOUTH 03°30'00" EAST 250.43 FEET (4) TO A POINT OF THAT CERTAIN ANNEXATION RESOLUTION NO. 2090, SAID POINT LYING ON THE WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 1, BLOCK 5 OF SAID MAP AND THE BEGINNING OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT WITH A RADIUS OF 275.00 FEET;
THENCE ALONG SAID CURVE THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 31°45'00" AN ARC LENGTH 152.39 FEET (5);
THENCE LEAVING SAID EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY AND SAID ANNEXATION DOCUMENT, SOUTH 34°45'00" WEST 50.00 FEET (6) TO A POINT ON THE WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID SHAWNEE PASS, TO THE BEGINNING OF A NON-TANGENT CURVE TO THE RIGHT, TO WHICH A RADIAL BEARS SOUTH 54°45'00" WEST;
THENCE ALONG SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY THROUGH SAID CURVE WITH A RADIUS OF 325.00 FEET, THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 31°45'00", AN ARC LENGTH OF 180.10 FEET (7);
THENCE NORTH 03°30'00" WEST 75.43 FEET (8) TO THE SOUTH EAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12;
THENCE LEAVING SAID RIGHT OF WAY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT, SOUTH 86°30'00" WEST 277.39 FEET (9) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 1.53 ACRES +/-

FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. THIS DESCRIPTION OF LAND 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.

EXHIBIT A

03-22-21

PAGE 1 OF 2

Exhibit B

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
EXHIBIT "B"
SITE LOCATION
130 SHAWNEE PASS
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA
GRINDER SYSTEM

(1) Grinder Pump System
200 Gallons Per Day (GPD)
APN: 077-033-030
Lands of Mckelvy
130 Shawnee Pass
Portola Valley, CA
Location of System: End of driveway
on north side of property

OWDZ Pump System
OWDZ Force Main

03-BY-SA

STANFORD

continued from page 5

person, with only a few classes offered online, university spokesperson E.J. Miranda said in an email. He declined a request for this news organization to interview a university administrator about the reopening.

Stanford requires all students to get vaccinated against COVID-19, except those who receive a religious or medical exemption. Any unvaccinated student has to get a COVID-19 test twice per week, while those who are fully vaccinated must still test once a week.

Masks are required indoors, including in classrooms, and are strongly recommended in crowded outdoor settings where 6 feet of distance can't be maintained between people.

Freshman Kwame Ocran was glad to be on campus last week and said he felt good about the vaccine and testing requirements, but added that it can sometimes be uncomfortable navigating how to socialize with other students. "You want to stay safe," Ocran said. "And you can't guarantee that other people are taking the same procedures."

Indoor student parties are officially banned until Oct. 8, although gatherings in individual dorm rooms or apartments are allowed, so long as they don't exceed four times the regular number of occupants.

Classes resume

Throughout the spring, undergraduate classes were mostly remote, Miranda

said, with graduate instruction "almost entirely remote." The start of the fall quarter marks the first time since the pandemic hit that face-to-face instruction is the norm.

Some courses will remain fully remote this fall "for pedagogical reasons due to masking requirements," according to the university's website. That includes certain language and music classes. One of Helgason's classes, a language learning course, is being held online.

"I would much prefer to have it in person, but because of the mask mandate, it might be easier for us to learn when we can see the professor's face," she said.

Transmitting COVID-19 is unlikely among masked and vaccinated people, the university has said in messages to students and staff.

"Such an environment — highly vaccinated, with mask wearing in many settings — is what we expect to have at Stanford this fall," Associate Vice Provost of Environmental Health and Safety Russell Furr wrote in a Sept. 2 update.

If anyone who attended an in-person class tests positive for COVID-19, the full class will be notified that there was a positive test, according to the university's protocols.

"Because face coverings are required and vaccination rates are high, students and instructors in a class are not considered high-risk exposure close contacts and will not be asked to take special measures unless they have been identified as a high-risk exposure close contact in an additional setting outside

the classroom," according to the university's guidance on courses this fall. "They will be encouraged to continue testing, monitor for symptoms, and stay home if feeling sick and get a COVID-19 test."

Welcoming new students

Undergraduates moved into their dorms earlier this month during pre-scheduled one-hour move-in appointments, with two guests allowed to enter per student.

According to Ocran, the move-in process went better than he expected. Freshman Biak Tha Hlawn similarly said she was pleased with the process.

"Everything was efficient and convenient," Hlawn said. "It was good."

She also praised the university for creating a welcoming environment, particularly pointing to the FLI student orientation, which is for first-generation and low-income students. Hlawn said it was uplifting and made her feel supported.

One hiccup in Stanford's return this fall has been that resident assistants announced they were going on strike earlier this month. The RAs allege that the university didn't meet demands related to compensation, COVID-19 safety protocols and a new undergraduate alcohol policy, according to the student news outlet The Stanford Daily. The RAs object to the requirement that they report underage drinking to the university.

The striking RAs refused to attend training, but helped prepare dorms and welcomed residents to campus. The

Stanford Daily reported. Miranda said in an email that "undergraduates are moving into their housing as planned."

At sophomore convocation on Sept. 19, a group of more than 150 sophomores protested the university's new drug and alcohol policy and its response to sexual violence, including raising a banner reading "Stanford Protects Rapists," The Stanford Daily reported. The protesters objected to an original version of the new policy, which they feared would lead students not to report sexual violence for fear of facing disciplinary measures for underage drinking or drug use. The policy has since been updated to address some of the concerns, according to The Stanford Daily.

In a statement, university spokesperson Pat Lopes Harris said that students who report experiencing sexual violence won't face disciplinary action because of alcohol or drug use connected to the incident.

University administrators and student speakers celebrated the incoming class at an opening convocation ceremony on Sept. 14. Stanford President Marc Tessier-Lavigne spoke about rising to meet the challenges we are collectively facing, according to an article about convocation from the university.

The university is also hosting "We are Stanford: A Festival of Reflection and Renewal" Sept. 30 through Oct. 10 to mark the broader campus reopening this fall. The events include concerts, yoga classes and meditation sessions. ■

Email Staff Writer Zoe Morgan at zmorgan@paweb.com.

THE ALMANAC OPEN HOMES

ATHERTON

327 Stockbridge Avenue \$12,988,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/6.75BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

LOS ALTOS HILLS

11665 Dawson Drive \$4,488,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

25680 Elena Road \$4,988,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

MENLO PARK

1971 Menalto Avenue \$1,788,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 2BD/1BA
DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

226 Oak Court \$2,388,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 3BD/3BA
DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

6 Lassen Court \$3,950,000
Sat 12:30-4:00 3BD/2BA
Coldwell Banker 650-400-5800

888 Harvard Avenue \$3,695,000
Sat 2:00-4:00 4BD/3BA
Compass 650-400-8424

PALO ALTO

1060 Colorado Place (T) \$1,488,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 2BD/2.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

1181 Lincoln Avenue \$3,995,000
Sun 2:00-4:00 3BD/2BA
The Dreyfus Group, Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 650-485-3476

1319 Tasso Street \$5,995,000
Sun 2:00-4:00 4BD/3.5BA
The Dreyfus Group, Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 650-485-3476

147 Walter Hays Drive \$3,495,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/2BA
Compass 650-804-6942

4126 Park Boulevard \$1,995,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/2BA
DeLeon Realty 650-459-3888

552 Kellogg Avenue \$6,495,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
Compass 650-465-5958

1436 Hamilton Avenue \$4,988,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/4.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-459-3888

1585 Edgewood Drive \$8,250,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/5.5BA
Compass 650-465-5958

1629 Edgewood Drive \$5,498,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/3BA
Sereno 650-400-2718

2303 Cowper Street \$7,500,000
Sun 2:00-4:00 5BD/6BA
The Dreyfus Group, Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 650-485-3476

4150 Orchard Court \$4,934,650
Sun 2:00-4:00 5BD/7BA
The Dreyfus Group, Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 650-485-3476

900 N. California Avenue \$5,988,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/4.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

1420 University Avenue \$10,988,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 6BD/7.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

SAN JOSE

58 Ryland Park Way (T) \$1,150,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 3BD/2.5BA
Coldwell Banker 650-400-2918

GETREU

continued from page 5

where Perlov had parked her car to gain access for a hike in the Stanford hills, Getreu said he "never went up in the hills. I've always been on this side, not the other side."

But how would he know what side of the open space area her body was found? Stauffer said.

Cortez showed Getreu a portrait photograph of Perlov and a crime scene photo of her facedown in the dirt, her skirt hiked above her naked hips.

"She's cute, anyway," Getreu said, chillingly.

"Did you ever fantasize about murder or raping girls?" Cortez asked.

"That's what it looks like," Getreu replied.

When asked if he would pass a lie detector test, Getreu replied, "It depends on what questions you ask me."

Getreu also began talking about a second murdered girl during the interview.

Cortez never brought up two girls, Stauffer noted.

Cortez was, in fact, only investigating Perlov's killing. Getreu admitted his knowledge of a second crime, Stauffer noted.

Looking at the photograph of Perlov lying facedown, Getreu admitted some presence in the crime.

"OK, I had involvement, but I don't remember it," he said.

He tried to cover for mentioning a second girl by claiming that the portrait of Perlov he was shown looked

like a different girl than the one of Perlov lying dead.

"It doesn't match. It doesn't even look like the same girl," he said.

He also tried to say the second girl he was referring to was Arliss Perry, a woman who was found stabbed to death in Stanford's Memorial Church in 1974. (Getreu is not connected to that crime. The main suspect died by suicide shortly before his arrest in 2019.)

Cortez noted that Getreu had taken responsibility for the murder of Williams in Germany and the rape of Diane Doe in Palo Alto, but why was he not taking responsibility for these other crimes?

"You had to have known this was coming," Cortez said.

"Yeah, I knew that," Getreu said, but he didn't understand "why it took so damn long?"

Getreu also thought that detectives would never be able to show he had a past conviction for Margaret Williams' murder and rape in Germany.

The original situation that led to his arrest wasn't true and he wasn't there, he said, not realizing that police had received all of the case files from Germany — and a confession he made to German authorities.

"What do you think your chances are ... that your DNA is there?" Cortez asked, referring to the Williams murder.

"There's a brick wall. You found out, but you couldn't find out," he said. ■

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

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).

Agents: submit open homes at AlmanacNews.com/real_estate

Big financial challenges ahead for Menlo Park schools

By Erik Burmeister and
Sherwin Chen

GUEST OPINION

The last two years have shown the central role public schools play in our thriving community. In homes throughout our town, teachers became heroes and our schools became lifelines.

We are incredibly proud of how well Menlo Park City School District — Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll and Hillview schools — managed the pandemic, opening before any other Bay Area districts and keeping children safely engaged in in-person learning since September 2020. While the pandemic is by no means over, we have stabilized and are familiar with how to operate during COVID. Now, we must also focus on tackling long-term financial challenges.

As a community-funded district, MPCSD receives nearly 90% of its revenue from local

sources: property and parcel taxes and philanthropic giving. MPCSD enjoys strong support from the community, but is not without threats to the district's future ability to offer robust programming and attract the best educators. Here are four challenges, along with an invitation to engage in partnership to further understand and address them.

1: MPCSD recently lost federal "Title 1" funding used to support students from low-income families, of which there are many within our schools. Due to a quirk in the federal government's allocation of Title 1 funds, two of the 24 school districts within San Mateo County — San Carlos and MPCSD — do not receive Title 1 funds, even as wealthier, less diverse school districts do. This resulted in MPCSD losing out

on \$600,000+ in federal COVID aid. As future federal aid is likely to be tied to Title 1 eligibility, MPCSD may continue to miss out on hundreds of thousands of dollars.

2: Over the next four years, California will require all school districts to provide transitional kindergarten (TK) for all 4-year-olds. MPCSD believes in the benefits of TK. However, community-funded districts like ours will receive no additional funding to pay for the added grade level, facilities or staff to educate all district 4-year-olds.

3: MPCSD will likely lose the \$1.5 million in annual funding for the Tinsley Voluntary Transfer Program, through which 200 students attend our schools from neighboring Ravenswood. Much has changed in the 36 years since the TVP's inception, yet the funding model written into the

law has not kept up. Without a fix, MPCSD and several surrounding districts stand to lose an important source of funding on which they depend.

4: Perhaps most concerning for MPCSD's long-term budgeting is the city's proposal to add 3,000 new housing units, nearly all within Menlo Park City School District boundaries. School board and district staff recognize the need for more housing and support the spirit of the state-mandated effort to increase and diversify housing options. However, MPCSD does not have the capacity to house the students that 3,000 new units would bring. Unlike many neighboring districts with unused properties, MPCSD is nearly at capacity at all of its school sites, with very little acreage left on which to build. Once TK is added, MPCSD schools — already the largest elementary schools by

enrollment in San Mateo County — will have zero capacity to meet the enrollment increase that 3,000 new units will bring.

These are big challenges, but MPCSD has shown that as a community we can do hard things together. We can ensure that MPCSD continues to attract families to the area, support our property values, and develop the next generation of leaders, problem solvers, and thinkers. The board invites community members to learn more about public school funding at a study session with the board from 4 to 6 p.m. on Oct. 4 over Zoom. See the district's community engagement webpage, district.mpcsd.org/ for details.

Erik Burmeister is the superintendent of the Menlo Park City School District, and Sherwin Chen is the school board president.

How to get on board with Menlo Park's climate action plan

By Brielle Johnck and
Steve Schmidt

GUEST OPINION

The Environmental Quality Commission has delivered a climate action proposal to Menlo Park, and the next steps will be crucial for success. For the council to approve an ordinance requiring a switch from gas appliances to electric appliances, there needs to be a robust educational program that prepares residents. We have been Menlo Park residents for over 50 years, who live in a 103-year-old house that has a 100 amp service and even some knob and tube wiring. We have questions as to how we get started.

Does our home have the electrical capacity?

This ordinance isn't about the easy choice of paper or plastic shopping bags. The primary question is whether a home has sufficient electric power to service new electric appliances. If not, the first step is to hire a licensed electrician to get a permit and work with PG&E to upgrade the home's electrical service. Not all residences in Menlo Park have sufficient electrical power

capacity to run electric water heaters, electric space heaters, induction cooktops and ovens. Many older homes run on 100 amp, not the basic 200 amp needed.

Does a water heater need a dedicated circuit?

Do water heaters, space heaters and induction cooktops and ovens need dedicated circuits? Won't an electric car charger require its own circuit? Even a home with 200 amp service will need dedicated circuits to be wired to new high-demand electric appliances. Now, this is getting complicated!

Do we have the basic facts?

It's Thanksgiving night, the gas water heater dies. Can we simply buy and plug in a new electric water heater? Not so fast! Our old electric panel doesn't have the capacity to power a new electric model. Making the required panel upgrades could take weeks. Homeowners should not buy an electric water heater before knowing if the home has the

power and a dedicated service to run one.

Getting started

City-sponsored tutorials are needed with experienced electricians and utility engineers to explain how to get started. A free home visit by an electrician provided by the city to evaluate the home's current electrical power would help. It's not as simple as purchasing and plugging in electric appliances — it's more complicated. There's the option of including a heat pump, which calls for additional research and a thorough reading of the brilliant Almanac blog by Sherry Listgarten at tinyurl.com/w4cbeshz.

Steps for success

To make the climate plan ordinance successful, the city might start with identifying the number of homes that first need panel upgrades. The city's job is to educate, and to provide incentives for taking the first step of upgrading panels. Public tutorials, free home assessments of electrical capacity, and an easy-to-understand list of steps to follow are essential. BayREN rebates don't include

basic panel upgrades, so many residents will be left out.

Hold off on mandates

The decision by Menlo Park to mandate the replacement of gas appliances for electric appliances should wait until the groundwork is first laid. A ballot measure on the Environmental Quality Commission's plan would be a delay and a distraction. The council has the authority to increase the utility users tax to 3% for a program to

assist low-income homeowners. The nexus between the utility users tax and the move to a carbon neutral city is made to order.

Menlo Park is on the right path, and the steps to take and their sequence are crucial for success.

Brielle Johnck is a former Environmental Quality Commission member and Steve Schmidt is a former mayor of Menlo Park. They reside in Menlo Park.

What's on your mind?

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

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

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

You can also submit a longer piece of 450 to 600 words for consideration to publish as a guest opinion column.

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

The Almanac



1971 MENALTO AVENUE MENLO PARK



ABUNDANT CHARM ON AN EXPANSIVE LOT

Intrinsic charm and a great location in the sought-after Willows neighborhood of Menlo Park make this delightful 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom home an excellent choice for Silicon Valley living. Beautiful hardwood floors extend throughout most of the home's nearly 1,200 square feet of living space, with a floorplan that includes the living room with a fireplace, the dining room that opens to a patio for al fresco dining, and the kitchen with a Viking range and dishwasher. The spacious backyard offers the perfect setting to relax and unwind with patio space, a lawn, and towering shade trees, while the nearby garage is adjoined by an office to meet all of your work-from-home needs. Plus, this home rests on a sizable lot of 7,300 square feet, providing ample opportunity for expansion. Just minutes to Willow Oaks Park, this home is also a short drive away from downtown Menlo Park and Palo Alto, and offers access to acclaimed Menlo Park schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.1971Menalto.com

Listed at \$1,788,000

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Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



226 OAK COURT MENLO PARK



STYLISHLY REMODELED AND A GREAT LOCATION

On a peaceful non-through street in the sought-after Willows neighborhood rests this impeccably remodeled home offering stylish interiors, a modern floorplan, and excellent space for indoor/outdoor living. A slate pathway leads to the front door, and inside, Brazilian mahogany floors extend through open living space, and numerous windows, glass doors, and skylights fill the home with natural light, creating a fresh, inviting ambiance that permeates throughout. A cathedral ceiling crowns the living room, the dining room flows into the kitchen with appliances from Kenmore Elite and GE Profile, and the media room provides great space for enjoying movie nights. Multiple rooms, including the primary suite, open to the serene grounds of the home and its numerous slate patios perfect for al fresco enjoyment, and this home also includes a detached studio ideal for use as an office or fitness center. This incredible location is just a bike ride away from local shops, cafes, and downtown Palo Alto, a short drive to downtown Menlo Park, and convenient to Facebook. Plus, children may attend acclaimed schools including Laurel Elementary, whose upper campus is just steps away (buyer to verify eligibility).

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www.226Oak.com

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147 PATRICIA DRIVE ATHERTON



LUXURY, HOSPITALITY, AND ELEGANCE ON OVER 1 ACRE

Exemplary grounds of over an acre provide an intimate setting for this spectacular Atherton estate, custom-built in 2017 by renowned builder Lencioni Construction. Natural tones create a warm, welcoming ambiance that puts you at ease from the moment you step inside, with a quiet elegance that emanates throughout over 9,300 total square feet of interior space filled with high-end appointments and finishes. The modern floorplan offers grand-scale formal rooms made for entertaining, as well as a gourmet kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances, a convenient office, family room with wet bar, theater, wine cellar, and much more. An impressive 5 bedrooms and 7 bathrooms include the detached pool house, as well as 4 en suite bedrooms in the main home highlighted by the primary suite with a spa-like bathroom and stunning walk-in closet. Enjoy true indoor/outdoor living as numerous glass doors open to impressive grounds filled with vast heated terraces, a fireplace, grilling station, and a lap pool. Plus, ample parking for family and guests is always available thanks to a gated motor court and oversized 4-car garage. Just moments to downtown Menlo Park, this estate is also within easy reach of downtown Palo Alto and Stanford University, with the venture capital firms of Sand Hill Road close at hand.

www.147Patricia.com

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Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

STREET SCENES

PAUL GRAHAM CHANNELS A 16TH-CENTURY MASTER IN CONTEMPORARY URBAN PHOTOS ON VIEW AT PACE GALLERY

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

It might be a stretch of the imagination to correlate Pieter Bruegel the Elder's most famous paintings, *The Seasons*, with Paul Graham's large-scale photography series of the same name. A visit to Palo Alto's Pace Gallery, where Graham's work is on view until Oct. 16, will change your mind.

"I didn't start out thinking, 'Bruegel' but, as I started the work, I thought, 'This reminds me of those wide landscapes with the multiple scenes going on. And, it's interesting because you are flipping 16th-century life in Northern Europe with 21st-century life in New York City — from farming to finance,'" Graham said.

Graham, who was born in rural England and is basically self-taught, became famous for three photography books created in the early 1980s. He traveled around his native country, taking pictures of people in unemployment offices and then went to Northern Ireland, where he turned his lens on the "Troubles." Both the subject matter and technique were shocking to the British art establishment, mainly because color photography was seen as trivial and certainly not an appropriate way to portray such serious topics.

After relocating to New York in 2002, Graham took a Robert Frank-like trip around the United States to see what makes us who we are. (The Swiss-born Frank's unflinchingly honest photographs assembled in the 1958 book *"The Americans"* are considered iconic in the

medium.) Graham shared with me that he found most Americans to be kind and empathetic, but was surprised at the level of poverty to be found in rural areas of this country.

Graham decided to continue his observations of American life with a series that took place in the heart of our economy, the banking headquarters along New York City's Park Avenue. Standing in the median area ("a great place to avoid getting hit by cars"), he took hundreds of pictures of ordinary New Yorkers going about their day. In order to frame the series like Bruegel, he was there during each season of the year. He described his technique as follows: "Classic street photography: good camera, good lens, but no tripod. Standing there and then — click!"

Graham, who said he has "no problem" with digital, still does everything in the darkroom himself. This series had to be large in scale (averaging 117 x 162 centimeters) and framed in dark black frames, as an homage to Bruegel. They are also hung low, at eye level, which gives the viewer a sense that you can walk right into the picture. And if you notice that a few are a bit crooked, that's fine, said the artist. "Some are wonky; I leave that in and embrace it."

In the past, renowned street photographers like Lee Friedlander, Helen Levitt, Garry Winogrand and Diane Arbus all worked in black and white. Graham explained that his preference for color is because of "The ability of high-quality photography to record every detail, every

color, every skin tone, every hair — and I want people to see that."

A walk around the gallery reveals a chronology of a place in real time. The pedestrians are walking, some in groups but mostly alone. There are well-dressed executives, blue-collar workers, bicycle messengers and women with strollers. Depending on the time of year, their clothing reflects the season, just as in the Bruegel paintings. In fact, each photograph is titled like the paintings: "Early Summer: Harvesting" and "Spring: Return of the Herd."

When asked if the prints are intended to be a historical record of how we live today, Graham replied, "There are a lot of parallels of activity. It's fascinating to me how much has changed since I took these pictures (they were undertaken in 2018). Two of the buildings captured have been completely demolished. And of course, this was pre-pandemic, so no masks."

Along with *The Seasons*, Pace is showing a series Graham created in 2005 entitled *Sightless*. Once again, the subjects are ordinary New Yorkers emerging onto 42nd Street during a busy workday. Graham shared that he went there specifically because he loves the soft light of the late afternoon. These prints, in contrast to *The Seasons*, are quite small. They consist of color portraits of people with their eyes

closed. Yes, you read that correctly.

When I pointed out to Graham that, for most of us, these would be rejected and taken again, he laughed and said, "Yes, I love that." He admitted that he, at first, dismissed them and then realized, "This is more interesting. There is a notion of blindness or a trance-like moment."

Indeed, the subjects of these photographs look like they are caught in meditation or prayer, rather than just alighting from the subway and hurrying home. They are mesmerizing for their quiet simplicity and evoke questions like "Are they happy, where are they going?" Graham explained that these are completely

candid shots and that his presence was not at all noticed. And like *The Seasons*, they do reflect an earlier time period, with just one flip phone in evidence.

Graham shared that his fascination for the idea of sightlessness stemmed from an early childhood accident, which left him blinded temporarily. He also said the series is about "people who are choosing not to see."

Both *The Seasons* and *Sightless* embrace the idea of candid street photography that captures the quotidian. Graham pointed out that, while Bruegel's bucolic country scenes conveyed a "slightly romantic fantasy," his work focuses on real situations. And if viewers question why these ordinary, everyday people on the streets of a large city are interesting, Graham offers this suggestion.

"Be open, be curious, look around at the activities that are going on. I hope people will see the connection to Bruegel and how there is a timelessness to the activities of our life. After 500 years there is still a cycle of life. You may start to see your own life in it."

Pace Gallery is located at 229 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. For more information, visit pacegallery.com/exhibitions. ■

Email Contributing Writer Sheryl Nonnenberg at nonnenberg@aol.com.



Top: Photographer Paul Graham focused on capturing slices of life along New York City's Park Avenue in photos such as "WINTER (Hunters in the Snow), Citibank, 399 Park Avenue." **Above:** Graham's show at Pace Gallery features photos from his "Sightless" series, such as this untitled work from 2008. All photos by Paul Graham, courtesy Pace Gallery.



96 HEATHER DRIVE ATHERTON



MAGNIFICENT LINDENWOOD ESTATE ON NEARLY AN ACRE

Private, gated grounds of nearly an acre envelop this majestic Lindenwood estate overflowing with impeccable details and opulent comforts. Evoking the feel of a five-star Tuscan resort, this grandiose residence enjoys several high-end appointments that wrap you in luxury from the moment you step inside, with elegant, grand-scale spaces offering ideal venues for either entertaining or extraordinary everyday living. Nearly 14,700 square feet of space includes a gourmet kitchen, a theater with 8 luxury recliner seats, and a fitness center with an adjacent recovery room featuring a sunken spa and sauna, plus a 2,000+ bottle wine cellar, pool house, and an oversized 6-car garage perfect for auto enthusiasts. Sanctuary awaits in the 8 extravagant bedrooms highlighted by the primary suite with a custom-built, Roman-style tub/shower as well as two massive walk-in closets. Plus, nearly all of the bedrooms offer a full en suite bathroom, and one bedroom easily converts into stylish office space. Incredible grounds offer seemingly endless options for outdoor enjoyment with a vast lawn, a saltwater pool with separate spa, a vineyard terrace, and an outdoor kitchen. And this incredible location is just moments to downtown Menlo Park, downtown Palo Alto, Stanford University, and top private institutions including Sacred Heart and Menlo School.

www.96HeatherDR.com

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900 N CALIFORNIA AVENUE
PALO ALTO



BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION WITH AN OUTSTANDING LOCATION

An expansive corner lot encircled by blooming white roses provides the setting for this newly constructed and luxurious home. Consisting of nearly 3,340 square feet of living space, this contemporary jewel presents unparalleled build quality, chic appointments, and an inviting ambiance from the moment you step inside. Excellent use of glass fills the home with natural light, and dazzling light fixtures illuminate many rooms, highlighting stylish white oak floors that extend throughout. The open floorplan unfolds with gathering areas ideally suited for both entertaining and everyday living, highlighted by the living room with a centerpiece marble fireplace, the family room with an 85" TV for enjoying movie nights, and the spectacular kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances and temperature-controlled wine storage. Five bedrooms include the palatial primary suite with a balcony perfect for enjoying your morning coffee, while additional accommodations include three guest suites and a bedroom with a private outdoor entrance. Find great space to relax and unwind in the peaceful backyard with a covered patio, lush lawn, and privacy trees. Plus, this home also includes an attached garage wired for EV charging as well as a hand-set paver driveway for added parking. Find yourself just moments to Rinconada Park and Gamble Garden, a short drive from University Avenue and Stanford University, and convenient to both Caltrain and US 101. And, top public and private schools including Greene Middle and Stratford School are just blocks away.

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Food & Drink

FOOD HALL FORAGE:

What we ate at State Street Market in Los Altos

Kumamoto oysters, margherita flatbread, Tin Pot Creamery ice cream and more

By Sara Hayden

State Street Market is now open in Los Altos. Anticipation has run high with the arrival of the area's own food hall that will ultimately have 20,000 square feet dedicated to a mix of food vendors, a restaurant, a speakeasy and a teaching kitchen.

The State Street Market team is working hard to get everything fully up and running, starting with service from a limited number of eateries. Dining there? We snagged a table during opening week. Here's what to expect.

Check out what's open

When we came for lunch, food and drink options were available from Banks & Braes, Murdoch's, Grains & Greens, Ostro and Tin Pot Creamery. Each eatery has a special menu for the opening.

Others will follow, including Bao Bei by Meichih and Michael Kim and El Alto by Traci Des Jardins. In the future, some retail options will also be available so you can take a taste of the market home with you.

Come early to dine outside

The day we visited, State Street Market opened at 11 a.m., and traffic picked up for lunch for a lively atmosphere.

Takeout is available, but one of the most promising draws of the market is the opportunity to enjoy the physical space and gather with others. That was one of the sources of inspiration for the project developed by Los Altos Community Investments.

"One of the reasons why we created the State Street Market

is because I love the Los Altos community," LACI principal (and 23andMe's CEO) Anne Wojcicki said in a prepared statement. "I envision a place for people of all ages to spend time together, eat, and enjoy the community."

The indoor hall isn't open to the public at this time, but tables are available outdoors, a nice option to enjoy the architecture outside. Design firm Gensler redesigned the space that used to house a food market, taking cues from the property's original designer with the idea that architecture can transform everyday life.

Red brick, wooden furniture, wrought iron details, and colorful tiles with pops of blue, yellow and white make for a bright, sunny space during the day. Ropes of lights and heat lamps lend warmth to the evening.

Bring your phone

To reduce physical contact during the COVID-19 pandemic, many dining establishments have moved away from paper menus. State Street Market is one of them. To place an order, you may need to use a smartphone.

At the market, scan a QR code on posted signs. From a single website, you can order food and drinks from any of the open eateries and bar in one transaction. If you run into a technical bug and need help, the team is at the ready to help guide you through. After they've prepared your order, they'll bring it to your table.

Keep an eye out for the self-serve area

Napkins, cups, water and to-go boxes are available near the outdoor seating area. Grab what you need on your way to your table.

Eat, drink and be merry

Digging in is one of the best parts. Here's a snapshot of what we ate from the vendors that were open when we visited during opening week. Be sure to check out their hours and menus for the most up-to-date options.

Beverages: State Street Market's beverage menu includes draft beers, wines by the glass or carafe, coconut water, kombucha and both alcoholic and non-alcoholic

cocktails. The In Season Crafted Non-Alcoholic Cocktail has ice-cold pomegranate shrub, cardamom and orange juice. With a fresh slice of citrus, it has a fine fizz that makes the orange sing next to the tartness of the pomegranate.

Banks & Brae: At Banks & Brae, find flatbreads, burgers, roasted chicken and mussels. We opted for a margherita flatbread, lured by the simplicity of a tomato's tang and basil's herbal aroma on sweet mozzarella.

Murdoch's: Named after Prohibition-era bootlegger Steven Murdoch from Los Altos, this eatery has small shareable plates like olives, corn nuts, kettle chips and fries, as well as mac and cheese, fresh vegetables and salads. Served with a vegetable and fruit cup, meals for kids are also available, including a gluten-free mac and cheese option.

For something bigger to share around the table, go for a "grazing board," available with vegetable, meat and cheese options. The latter features cheeses from Cowgirl Creamery including Mount Tam, Red Hawk, Chimney Rock and Wagon Wheel cheeses, as well as crunchy, rich walnuts, bright, crisp slices of bell peppers, plump raisins, dried figs and softly floral honey.

Grains & Greens: This restaurant showcases produce from area farms in salads, grain bowls, wraps and smoothies. In the Madras Curry Roasted Cauliflower and Chickpea bowl, mint raita adds bright freshness and golden raisins add sweetness to crunchy chickpeas and cucumber, tender cauliflower and quinoa.

Ostro: This is a purveyor of sustainable seafood and wines. On the opening menu, Ostro had a selection of three oysters. Served on crushed ice, each oyster has a ripple of tender meat. The Kumamoto is exceptionally creamy; the Marin Miyagi and Hama Hama have a soft saltiness reminiscent of sea breeze. Enjoy straight off the shell, or add lemon, champagne mignonette or cocktail sauce.

Tin Pot Creamery: This ice cream shop has Los Altos roots, launched in founder Becky



Sara Hayden

Oysters on the half shell from Ostro, one of several eateries now open at State Street Market in Los Altos.



Sara Hayden

A cheese "grazing board" from Murdoch's at State Street Market, featuring selections from Cowgirl Creamery, nuts and dried fruits.



Courtesy Los Altos Community Investments

"I envision a place for people of all ages to spend time together, eat and enjoy the community," says Los Altos Community Investments Principal Anne Wojcicki. State Street Market offers indoor and outdoor spaces for people to gather.

Sunseri's kitchen. The market's Tin Pot outpost scooped vanilla bean and rich chocolate during opening week. We went for the intriguingly named "Cookie Monster" flavor. Topping it off with a waffle cone for extra crunch, we enjoyed its playful presentation — candy eye balls,

cookie dough bites, cookie crumbs and all. **■**
State Street Market, 170 State St., Los Altos; statestreetmarket.com.

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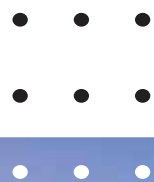
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CUSTOM-BUILT HOME IN A SOUGHT-AFTER NEIGHBORHOOD

Nestled in the peaceful enclave of Crescent Park, one of the most sought-after areas in all of Palo Alto, this elegant Mediterranean jewel offers luxurious living space and a floorplan perfect for a modern lifestyle. Custom-built in 2016 and offering outstanding build quality throughout, this home envelops you in a lush ambiance from the moment you step inside, with high-end appointments including floors of both marble tile and hardwood, fine millwork and moldings, and lofty ceilings that create a wonderfully open feel. Nearly 2,800 square feet of living space includes the living room with a centerpiece fireplace, the marble-appointed kitchen with high-end appliances, and the family room with a full-wall entertainment center. Find comfort in the home's 5 bedrooms and 4.5 bathrooms including the expansive primary suite with a spa-like bathroom, plus multiple guest suites, and a bedroom that easily converts into an office. Outside, the backyard provides a heated deck and drought-friendly synthetic lawn, while the detached garage, carport, and extended driveway ensure ample parking. Just moments to Eleanor Pardee Park, close to University Avenue and downtown Palo Alto, and convenient to Stanford University, this home is also served by top-ranked schools Duveneck Elementary, Greene Middle, and Palo Alto High (buyer to verify eligibility).

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327 STOCKBRIDGE AVENUE ATHERTON



LUXURY AND PRIVACY ON OVER AN ACRE

Tucked away in complete privacy on gated grounds of over an acre, this spectacular estate offers luxurious living and a quintessential Atherton lifestyle. A stone pathway through a vibrant garden entrance leads to the front porch, and inside, high-end rustic charm evokes the feel of a mountainside retreat, with appointments that include gorgeous hardwood floors, fine millwork, and soaring beamed ceilings. Offering 5 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, and over 8,500 square feet of space, including the guest home, this estate provides expansive spaces perfect for both entertaining and everyday living. Highlights include the living room centered by a stone fireplace, the gourmet kitchen with appliances from Viking, Thermador, and Bosch, the handsomely appointed office, and the family room with a delightful wood-burning stove. The expansive primary suite offers a spa-like bathroom, while additional bedrooms including a guest suite provide comfort and convenience for friends and family alike. Plus, the guest house features a full kitchen, bedroom suite, and an attached exercise/yoga room. And for true indoor/outdoor living, multiple points throughout the estate open to the immaculate grounds with a sprawling lawn, pool, outdoor kitchen, and fire pit, all shaded by towering trees along the perimeter.

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

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