

The Almanac

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

NOVEMBER 26, 2021 | VOL. 57 NO. 11

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Tuning into happy holidays

THE SEASON BRINGS EXTRA CHEER IN 2021 WITH THE RETURN OF IN-PERSON SHOWS AND EVENTS

Performances

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play TheatreWorks Silicon Valley presents the story of classic holiday film "It's a Wonderful Life" reimagined as a 1940s radio broadcast.

When: Dec. 1-26

Where: Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Also offered via on-demand video.

Info: theatreworks.org.

The Thanksgiving Play & Eight Nights

The Pear Theatre presents two nontraditional holiday plays running in repertory: Larissa FastHorse's "The Thanksgiving Play," a satire about a group of white people trying to plan a school Thanksgiving pageant that isn't offensive to Native American people and Jennifer Maisel's "Eight Nights," which follows a woman who survived the Holo-

See **HOLIDAYS**, page 19

By Heather Zimmerman

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley is ringing in the season with a classic more commonly seen on screens than on stages — though right now, the same could be said for many holiday shows. That's because, unlike the Zoom-only festivities of December 2020, in-person plays, concerts and events are back.

TheatreWorks is among the many companies that have recently been welcoming audiences back to theaters, though it's also continuing to offer a virtual option. For the holidays, the company is staging "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play," which reimagines the classic film as a 1940s radio broadcast. The play offers both the heartwarming holiday tale and a fun, behind-the-scenes look at an old-time radio show.

But still at the crux of the story: When good-hearted everyman George Bailey despairs that he's let everyone down, he gets a chance to learn how much his family, friends and town need him.

He gets a peek at the alternate world that could have been had he not existed and it's bleak (except for the part where his would-have-been-wife becomes a librarian, because librarians actually seem pretty cool.)

Like George, local arts groups and cultural institutions — including libraries — rallied heroically during the last 19 months, shifting to online and other creative ways to safely reach people. These new options continue to give groups the ability to expand audiences and make their offerings more accessible.

But now that we've all seen what life is like without in-person theater, concerts, galleries and other cultural spaces, this is our collective George Bailey moment for the arts: a chance to come back together in long-missed spaces with renewed joy and appreciation.

Read on for a collection of holiday performances and events — most now presented in person, as well as some virtual options. Many venues require proof of vaccination or a negative test



Courtesy Paciano Triunfo/TheatreWorks

The cast of TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" plays dozens of roles. The show is presented Dec. 1-26 in Palo Alto.

within 48 hours; as always for in-person events, check for COVID-19 protocols before you go.

Woodside land use measure passes by five votes

By Angela Swartz

By a five-vote margin, Woodside residents passed an initiative to allow two sites in the Town Center area to be considered for outdoor community gathering spaces, according to official Nov. 2 election results. Measure A required a simple majority to pass.

The San Mateo County Elections Office reported that 1,160 people voted yes on the measure, while 1,155 voted no. The race grew closer following a 20-vote difference on election night. The results were certified on Friday, Nov. 19.

Voter turnout was about 54%,

according to a county press release. Some 2,316 of the 4,270 registered voters in Woodside voted on the measure.

There is no provision in California law for an automatic recount in any election, according to Jim Irizarry, assistant chief elections officer for the county.

An application for a recount would need to be filed within five calendar days after the certification of the election on Nov. 19, which was Wednesday, Nov. 24. No one had filed for a recount as of The Almanac's Tuesday afternoon press deadline. The county estimates it would cost about \$6,000 to conduct the recount. The requester bears all costs of

the recount if the results do not change, he said.

Alex Tauber, one of the Measure A authors, said his goal was always to be able to have a discussion about the two elements of Measure A.

"No, it is not the end of the world as we know as the 'No' vote led everyone to believe," he said in an email. "Discussions are a healthy part of figuring out how to become more adaptable. ... At every major path that leads to the future, there are a thousand guards appointed to preserve the past. You were able to see those thousand guards (the No vote) in their full splendor during the election."

Measure A amends current land use regulations that limit two residentially zoned pieces of land adjacent to the Town Center, a town-owned complex along Woodside Road from Whiskey Hill Road to Roberts Market that includes government buildings and commercial businesses, and Cañada Corners at the Cañada Road intersection (owned by Roberts Market). Because the rules were established by ballot measures J and I in 1988 and 1989 respectively, only voters could overturn the restrictions.

The measure allows the property behind Cañada Corners to be outfitted with surface parking to accommodate per-

manent outdoor dining, trails and play structures, which were previously prohibited. It would also allow for the possible construction of a public building — an amphitheater or gazebo — for community events in the residentially zoned Town Center area. Measure J prohibited development of commercial or office space on a then vacant, town-owned parcel near where Town Hall is located. It also required residential properties within and adjoining Town Center to remain in residential use unless commercial parking on those properties had been permitted before June 1988.

Measure I created an exception to Measure J, allowing resi-

See **MEASURE A**, page 18

INSIDE

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Read up-to-the-minute news on AlmanacNews.com



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Right now, in this moment of uncertainty, there's a promise we can count on: together, we'll continue to rise to the challenge and find a way forward.

Stanford Medicine, made up of Stanford Children's Health, Stanford School of Medicine, and Stanford Health Care, is working to end this pandemic.

We're answering the uncertainty with an unwavering commitment to our community, and meeting this moment with courage, compassion, and innovation.

Thank You, Bay Area, for standing with us, together.

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We are here for you.



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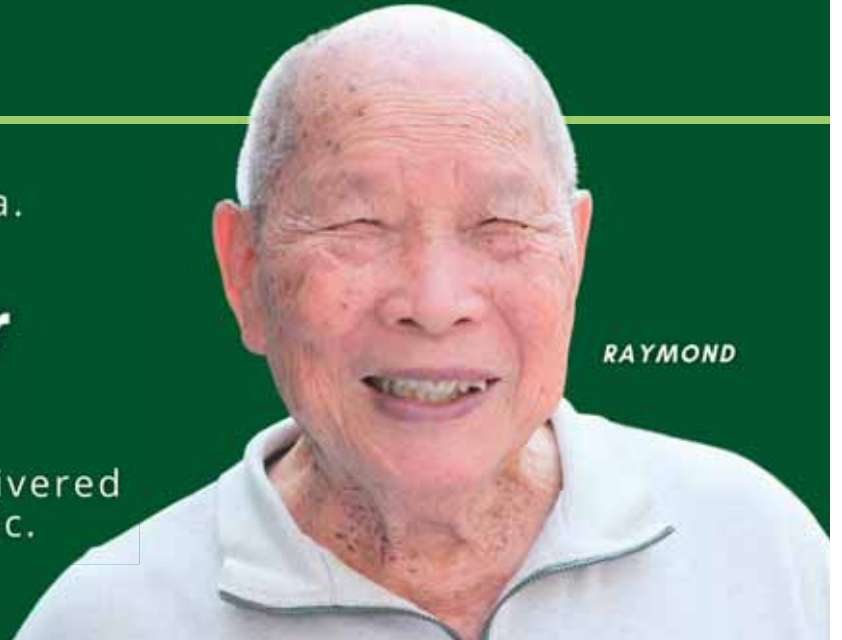
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Aging seniors still most affected

We've shared an historic journey together since March 2020. As we all learn to live with COVID -19, aging seniors are still most affected, and the challenges are now much larger in scope for our diverse senior community.

Peninsula Volunteers, Inc.'s vital services for seniors are more critical now than ever. The pandemic's disproportionate impact on older adults has led to more widespread loneliness, isolation and health vulnerabilities. **Hunger has more than tripled in Bay Area counties**, jeopardizing the health and well-being of older adults. **Now nearly 1 in six seniors is facing hunger risk and cannot cover the cost of basic needs.**

Your generous impact is ongoing

You have been with us every step of the way. Because of you, we extended our reach during the pandemic, preparing and home delivering almost **288,000 nutritious Meals on Wheels** from our Menlo Park kitchen; placing over **47,500 wellness care calls and visits**; holding **12,462 combined virtual and in person sessions** with active seniors and with Alzheimer's clients to engage in exercise and stimulating learning activities; providing **4,093 transportation rides** for medical and grocery needs and **23,750 volunteer hours**. We continue to partner with local companies and restaurants to secure additional meals for those in need and continue to envision new and better ways to expand our support for our senior community in the new environment.

You may ask "how can I help local seniors like Raymond right now"?

Join us as we continue strengthening the senior community by helping us provide high -quality programs that keep your loved ones and neighbors fed, engaged, and living independently. Your gift of any size* made securely online at penvol.org/donate will change the lives of seniors now.

* A \$500 donation will support: one month of daily Meals on Wheels for two seniors; or full services for a week at Rosener House for an adult with Alzheimer's; or sixteen 30-minute personal training sessions at Little House; or 100 transportation rides at the subsidized rate.



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PROGRAMS FROM YOUR PHONE.

For nearly 75 years, Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., a duly recognized 501 © (3) non-profit organization, has enabled seniors to age in place, driven by a profound legacy of caring and our core values of respect, commitment, trust, dedication, and compassion. Our essential programs serve over 6,000 Peninsula households and address the most pressing issues of aging adults by offering critical services to sustain their daily physical, nutritional, emotional, and mental health while achieving dignity and independence in their lives. PVI's innovative programs: Nutrition Services/Meals on Wheels; Adult Day Services at Rosener House; Health, Wellness and Lifetime Enrichments offerings at Little House; and on-demand Transportation Services at Little House., the Roslyn G. Morris Activity Center.

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Local News

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Magali Gauthier

Anne Baxter, The Foster co-executive director, talks about Tony Foster's "Bluebells — Looking WNW near the Top of Luxulyan Valley" (2014), in Palo Alto on Oct. 12. The piece is part of the "journey," or series of works, called "Exploring Beauty: Watercolour Diaries from the Wild."

Discovering wilderness and watercolors at The Foster

Palo Alto's hidden museum honoring one adventurer's stunning artwork

By **Kate Bradshaw**

As a kid, Palo Alto Jane Woodward dreamed of living in a museum. She spent her summers visiting her grandmother in Manhattan and loved to fantasize about what it would be like to live in the Metropolitan Museum, like the characters did in her favorite book, "From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler" by E. L. Konigsburg.

Woodward grew up to study geology at the University of California, Santa Barbara and business at Stanford University, but always retained her love for art and museums alongside her love of the wilderness, especially of the American West. She now teaches energy and environment courses at Stanford and is a founder and managing partner at MAP Energy, a renewable energy and natural gas investment firm, according

to Stanford.

Decades ago, she said, she went to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and was struck by a chance encounter with some of watercolors by Tony Foster, near the museum restrooms. They depicted California's High Sierras on a journey that Foster, a British watercolorist and explorer, had taken along

See **THE FOSTER**, page 16

Peninsula's I-280 listed as deadliest in state for wildlife

UC Davis report on roadkill urges legislators to take action

By **Olivia Wynkoop/Bay City News Service**

More wildlife have been killed by vehicles along Interstate 280 between Cupertino and San Bruno over the past five years than in any other stretch of highway in the state, according to a new report by University of California at Davis. The Road Ecology Center of UC Davis released a report on roadkill hot spots on California

highways earlier this month, based on 44,000 wildlife-vehicle collisions from California Highway Patrol and 65,000 reports sent into the California Roadkill Observation System between 2009 and 2020.

According to the report, the 31-mile stretch along the Peninsula has racked up an estimated \$5.8 million in damage annually.

Wildlife vehicle collisions are defined as incidents in which

animals cross roadways and pose a threat to driver safety, the report states. In such incidents, the driver may get injured or the car may be damaged from hitting an animal or swerving to avoid them. In addition, busy intersections can severely impact the wildlife populations that surround them.

The problem of wildlife vehicle collisions is significant, the

See **ROADKILL** page 18

Three elected Peninsula leaders enter race to represent 14th Congressional District

By **Gennady Sheyner**

Burlingame City Council member Emily Beach announced Monday that she will run for Congress, joining the race to fill a seat currently occupied by Rep. Jackie Speier, D-San Francisco/San Mateo.

Beach, who joined the Burlingame council in 2015 and who served as the city's mayor in 2020, announced on Twitter that she has filed to run for the District 14 seat, which currently stretches from the southwestern portion of San Francisco to Redwood City and which also includes East Palo Alto and the eastern portion of Menlo Park. The district lines are currently being redrawn, with the new boundaries set for adoption in late December.

Beach said in a tweet on Monday that she plans to formally announce her candidacy next week. She joins a field that already includes San Mateo County Board of Supervisors President David Canepa, who announced his candidacy Saturday, and Assembly member Kevin Mullin, D-South Francisco, a former district director for Speier who on Tuesday announced his own candidacy for the seat. Speier, who has represented the district in Congress since 2008, said last week that she will not run for another term after her current term expires in 2022.

Beach, who also chairs the San Mateo County Transportation Authority's board of directors, called Speier "indomitable" and said that her "fearless, compas-

sionate legacy must continue."

"As a @USArmy veteran, mom of teens, environment champion, business exec and pandemic Mayor, I am qualified and ready to lead," Beach tweeted. "I'm ready to fight for environmental protections, immigrant rights, early child ed, mental health, reproductive freedom, higher wages, and a more fair and collaborative economy. I hope you will join me."

In a press release announcing his bid, Canepa said, "I'm running for Congress because San Mateo County's values can be an example for folks in D.C. We are leading the nation in COVID vaccination rates because we value science and the community hospitals such as Seton which have saved lives and provided care for the elderly and disabled during the pandemic. We see the value of providing free community college for all to help our young people recover and emerge stronger than ever from the pandemic. We value our essential workers by investing in affordable housing. We value our environment with investments to mitigate climate change. We see the value of our diversity, embrace it and celebrate it. If D.C. can start focusing on and investing in our neighborhoods, towns, cities and counties again, so people can see with their own eyes the benefits it brings them, as we do here in San Mateo County, I truly believe we can restore faith in government."

Canepa also serves on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Bay Area Air Quality Management District, among other regional and local boards. If elected, Canepa is interested in joining the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and House Education and Labor Committee.

Speier, who has served seven terms, announced earlier this month that she is stepping down to be with her family. She said in an interview with the



Emily Beach



David Canepa



Kevin Mullin

See **CONGRESS** page 14



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom on the following:

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY AMENDING 15.04.20 [AMENDMENTS TO THE BUILDING CODE] OF TITLE 15 [BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION] OF THE PORTOLA VALLEY MUNICIPAL CODE

The Town Council will consider amendments to Chapter 15.04 to address fire safety and add recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Wildfire Preparedness Committee into the Building Code. The proposed amendments would extend the provisions of Chapter 7A to additional construction projects in Town and implement best fire-safe practices for elements such as roofing material, exterior wall coverings, and fences.

Information pertaining to the proposed ordinance may be viewed by contacting Laura Russell, Planning & Building Director at lrussell@portolavalley.net. The agenda and staff report will be published at <https://www.portolavalley.net/town-government/town-council/minutes-and-agendas> in advance of the meeting.

Public Hearings provide the general public and interested parties an opportunity to provide testimony on these items. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Town Council to be heard via the Zoom platform. If you challenge a proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at a Public Hearing(s) described above, or in written correspondence delivered to the Town Council at, or prior to, the Public Hearing(s).

Publication Date: November 26, 2021

Sharon Hanlon, Town Clerk



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URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY AMENDING Title 17 [Subdivisions] and Title 18 [Zoning] of the Portola Valley Municipal Code to Establish Regulations Implementing SB 9 Urban Lot Splits and Development of up to Two Housing Units on QUALIFYING LOTS; THIS ACTION IS EXEMPT FROM THE California environmental quality act.

This Urgency Ordinance will implement a recently passed State law requiring towns to grant lot splits on qualifying lots and to apply ministerial review to the development of up to dwelling units of at least 800 square feet on a single lot. Because these regulations must be in place before January 1, 2021, the effective date of the new State law, it is being adopted on an urgency basis. Information pertaining to the proposed ordinance may be viewed by contacting Laura Russell, Planning & Building Director at lrussell@portolavalley.net. The agenda and staff report will be published at <https://www.portolavalley.net/town-government/town-council/minutes-and-agendas> in advance of the meeting.

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The Almanac

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Atherton, Portola Valley,
and Woodside for over 50 years

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MENLO PARK BRIEFS

State of the City

Menlo Park's mayor during 2021, Drew Combs, will be giving a State of the City address on Tuesday, Nov. 30, to reflect on the past year. The event will be held via Zoom starting at 6 p.m.

Go to is.gd/CombsSOTC21 for more information and for the Zoom link.

Bezos awards \$10M to local homelessness-fighting programs

Two local organizations working against family homelessness, LifeMoves and Destination: Home, recently received \$5 million each from the Bezos Day One Fund, which provides grants to organizations offering shelter and hunger support to young families. LifeMoves is a Menlo Park-based nonprofit combating homelessness in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, and Destination: Home in Santa Clara County is working to end homelessness in Silicon Valley through public-private partnerships. The program provided \$96.2 million to 32 organizations in 21 states this year.

Pickleball courts now offered at two local parks

The popular and fast-growing sport of pickleball can now be played at two modified Menlo Park tennis courts in Nealon Park and Kelly Park.

A pilot program to convert one tennis court at Kelly Park at 100 Terminal Ave. for pickleball began in late 2020. This past summer, a second court, Court 5 at Nealon Park, located at 800 Middlefield Ave, underwent a three-month pilot program as a pickleball court, according to Nick Szegda, assistant library services director.

At Nealon Park, the court is set aside for drop-in pickleball play from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Afterward, until 10 p.m., the court is shared with tennis. The Kelly Park court is also open for free drop-in visits. No key is needed to access the courts. People can check out paddles and balls from the Menlo Park Library for free. The program is set to be reviewed by the city's Parks and Recreation Commission in January, according to Szegda.

— Kate Bradshaw

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Menlo Park district increases pay for subs

The Menlo Park City School (MPCSD) governing board approved raising its substitute teacher pay to start at \$200 per day at a Nov. 18 meeting.

Staff noted in a report prepared for the meeting that the district's substitute pay, \$180 per day, was at the lower end for San Mateo County.

The current average substitute teacher daily rate in San Mateo County is approximately \$198 per day, with a range of \$166 to \$275, according to the district.

"MPCSD is feeling the impact of the nationwide substitute teacher shortage and while we do not believe raising the rate will completely solve our problem, we do believe it will have a positive impact and help us fill daily vacancies more consistently," staff noted.

Substitute teachers require a California teaching credential or 30-day substitute permit to work.

For more information, go to tinyurl.com/mpcsdsubspay or email hr@mpcsd.org.

Ravenswood tutoring program changes its name, announces new programs

The Ravenswood City School District tutoring and mentoring program All Students Matter will now be called Ravenswood Classroom Partners.

The new name better reflects what the organization has done since it was founded in 2008 to support students in eastern Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, according to a press release. Volunteers tutor over 450 students weekly during the school year through the group.

"Our new name also embodies our commitment to the Ravenswood community, as we exclusively support students in the Ravenswood City School District," said Executive Director Angie Holman in a statement.

The group announced a new model for its TK-5 literacy tutoring program called "high-dosage" tutoring: one-on-one tutor-

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 17

Menlo Park OKs countywide plan for natural disaster prep

By Kate Bradshaw

Led by San Mateo County's Department of Emergency Management, a group of 36 county departments, cities, towns and special districts partnered to develop a plan to among other things, fight sea level rise.

The Menlo Park City Council voted 4-0 Nov. 15 to approve the city's portion of that countywide plan, with Councilwoman Jen Wolosin absent.

The council's approval of the plan means that it remains eligible to continue to apply for and receive funding from FEMA's hazard mitigation assistance program. Menlo Park has received \$5 million to improve a pump station on Chrysler Drive near the Bay and has applied for \$50 million in funding as part of the SAFER Bay project to protect the community from sea level rise.

Each jurisdiction created its own "annex" to the countywide plan, laying out specific

long-, medium- and short-term actions to reduce high-risk hazards within city boundaries; in Menlo Park, those hazards include floods, earthquakes and sea level rise/climate change.

A number of those actions in Menlo Park's piece of the plan are already underway, including updating the pump station on Chrysler Drive, making a map that considers the risk of flooding due to climate change, updating the city's stormwater master plan and implementing the city's water system master plan and climate action plan, according to Public Works Director Nikki Nagaya.

While the city of Menlo Park has been affected by a number of environmental and natural disasters in recent decades, the city reports that the financial impacts of those disasters are unknown for all but the El Nino event of December 2012, which caused \$3 million in damage to private properties in creek bank erosion and \$820,000 in damage to homes and businesses,

according to plan documents. The financial costs to the city from the Loma Prieta earthquake in October 1989, the infamous El Nino flooding event of February 1998, the severe winter storms of February 2017, the COVID-19 pandemic and the poor air quality from wildfires from mid-August to the end of September last year all remain unknown, according to the report.

Of the likely natural hazards to strike Menlo Park, flood, earthquake and sea level rise/climate change ranked highest, with flood ranking as the highest-risk hazard citywide.

In the City Council's discussion of the plan, Councilwoman Cecilia Taylor expressed her interest in the city adopting the state's "CalEnviroScreen" tool in its future plan updates and to evaluate environmental justice. The CalEnviroScreen is a recently updated system showing cumulative environmental

See **DISASTER PREP**, page 17

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Outbid By Hedge Funds

Dear Monica: We have made a few offers on houses lately and twice have been outbid by a hedge fund. Is this something new?

Ryan G.

Dear Ryan: Hedge funds buying real estate is not something new but the volume of such sales has increased. Hedge fund buyers have strong buying power and have often squeezed out individuals buying properties for themselves. Hedge funds usually pay cash and waive all contingencies.

Some individuals do this too but many cannot. For the long term, it is best not to take more risk than is prudent.

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

Ravenswood teachers get 10% raise, bringing salaries on par with neighboring school districts

By Angela Swartz

Ravenswood City School District teachers are receiving a 10% pay boost this school year, bringing their salaries on par with other nearby school districts.

The raise, approved by the district's governing board with a 5-0 vote at a Nov. 18 meeting, is their first since 2019. The pay bump also comes with a new evaluation process. The system will allow teachers to "move more quickly up the salary scale based on their performance evaluations," according to a district press release.

Ravenswood Teachers Association (RTA) President Ronda White called the raise "huge" in a statement. At the meeting, White said she is grateful district administrators and the teachers union have moved past their previously contentious relationship.

"There was a time when we sat across from the table and yelled," she said. "Now don't get it twisted — the teachers are a little nervous. It's change. But we're all up for the challenge. We're here because we love these



Veronica Weber

The Ravenswood City School District's administrative offices, located on Euclid Avenue in East Palo Alto.

kids. And some of these kids are our own kids. They are personal to us."

The raise, retroactive to July 1, will cost the district \$1.3 million, according to the district. It will be offset by a grant from the Ravenswood Education Foundation. The contract runs through June 2022.

Longer term, the district plans to lease two properties to cover

the majority of the cost of compensation increases.

Superintendent Gina Sudaria called the contract "a major step toward correcting a longstanding, inequitable gap between teacher pay in Ravenswood versus other local districts, which previously could be \$10,000 to \$30,000 per year."

See **RAVENSWOOD**, page 15

Avenidas wants that one in a million!

Avenidas welcomes you to nominate outstanding leaders who deserve to be considered for the **Avenidas Lifetimes of Achievement** award. Whether it is in education, science and technology, the arts, the environment or with non-profits, these are people who have truly made an impact in the community.

Nominees should be 65+ and live on the mid-Peninsula. You will find the nomination form for the Avenidas Lifetimes of Achievement Award at www.avenidas.org.



Contact mdavis@avenidas.org for more information.

The deadline for a complete nomination is November 30th.

Mail to Avenidas
450 Bryant Street, Palo Alto



Pets in Need director to resign

Decades-old shelter weathering turbulence in the wake of animals' deaths

By Sue Dremann

Al Mollica, the executive director of beleaguered animal advocacy organization Pets in Need, will resign, the nonprofit confirmed.

His decision to leave comes during a tumultuous period for the 55-year-old animal rescue organization, which was rocked three months ago after seven puppies died in an overheated, poorly ventilated van. Twenty other dogs survived but required treatment for heat exhaustion after a transport rescue from the Central Valley on Aug. 2. A lone guinea pig, which was kept in the passenger compartment with three staff members in air conditioning, was not affected.

Palo Alto police announced on Oct. 26 that the three managers who brought the dogs to the Palo Alto Animal Shelter at 3281 E. Bayshore Road were being charged with failing to give proper care and attention to an animal and animal cruelty, inhuman transportation of an animal by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. Since then, Pets in Need (PIN) has come under intense public scrutiny.

The organization's public responses, often attributed to Mollica, have been notably resentful of the police department's involvement and scathingly critical of the city of Palo Alto, which hired Pets in Need in 2018 to take over operations

at the city-owned shelter. On Nov. 15, Mollica informed the city that Pets in Need would terminate its contract and cease services at the Palo Alto shelter at the end of 2022, blaming the city for failing in its contractual agreements to upgrade the facility.

The city has denied those allegations, saying it spent \$1.5 million to upgrade the medical suites and has added multiple improvements to the kennels. The city has completed the new kennel building design and is in the process of purchasing the new kennels, the city said in a Nov. 16 statement.

Another bombshell dropped late last week after word came out that Mollica would leave.

He "has informed the organization of his intention to resign. PIN's board and Al are currently working out details including the exact date of his departure. The board will be meeting over the next few days to determine an interim management structure, plans for the recruitment of a new executive director, and other important transitional items," the organization said in an email statement.

"The organization will have more information to share early next week. As always, Pets in Need appreciates the continuing support we continue to receive from the community for our important work," the organization said.

Redwood City-based Pets in

Need began its relationship with Palo Alto after the City Council unanimously approved a deal with the organization in late November 2018 to take over animal services, including management of the city's shelter.

Under a five-year contract, the city agreed to pay \$3.7 million to Pets In Need, which took over operations in January 2019. Palo Alto also agreed to pay \$3.4 million for capital improvements, including an expanded medical suite, 16 new dog kennels and a modular office and classroom. The improvements were designed to keep the aged shelter functional while Pets In Need worked to secure funding through a multiyear campaign to build a new facility. The city completed construction of the shelter's medical suite in September 2020 but rebuilding the new kennels faced a funding gap of about \$500,000, according to city staff.

In March 2020, Pets in Need closed its shelter due to shelter-in-place orders during the COVID-19 pandemic. It transformed into a remote operation with a pared-down staff to continue providing shelter and medical services.

The shelter reopened to the public in June 2021 as Santa Clara County relaxed public health restrictions on businesses.

Mollica has been Pets in Need's executive director since 2014, according to his Linke-



Veronica Weber

Al Mollica, executive director of Pets In Need, speaks to people gathered at the organization's shelter warming party to officially kick off the opening of the new no-kill shelter in Palo Alto on March 7, 2019.

In page. His responsibilities include planning and implementing the organization's strategic plan; budget preparation and oversight; fundraising and communications management; achievement of financial objectives; and adherence to existing policies and procedures. He is also principal of Mollica Consulting Group, which offers professional consultation services to nonprofit organizations.

Mollica could not immediately be reached for comment.

Puppies likely died from heat stroke, asphyxia, report says

The seven puppies that died likely succumbed from heat stroke and/or asphyxiation, three reports concluded.

The bodies of three of the puppies were sent for analysis to multiple board certified veterinary anatomic pathologists

at the University of California at Davis. Their conclusions, but not the full reports, appear in Palo Alto police investigators' 37-page redacted report.

The pathologists could not determine a specific cause of death because the natural process of decay had begun, they wrote. But heat stroke and/or traumatic asphyxiation (in which the nose and mouth are covered) were the top considerations for the cause of death.

The puppies had no evidence of known disease or sickness, the necropsies found. The animals were happy, healthy and active when they were given to Pets in Need staff members Patricia Santana Valencia, Margaret Evans and Ingrid Hartmann, according to the police report. A video made by the Chowchilla Animal Control volunteer who gave the puppies to Pets in Need also supports

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that observation, according to the police report.

The police report, which redacted the last names of the witnesses and others interviewed by the investigators, sheds additional light on the hours before the puppies died during transport from the Central Valley, with temperatures in the 90s, and what occurred once they and 21 other animals arrived at the Palo Alto Animal Shelter.

The puppies, a mix of black Labrador retriever and pit bull, had been born to the dogs of Chowchilla residents, the police report states. Wanting to surrender them for adoption, the residents called a Chowchilla Animal Control officer, who is named Michelle in the report, and she in turn reached out to an experienced volunteer, Sandy, for help locating shelters that could take the puppies.

Pets in Need said they could and that Shelter Operations Manager Patricia Santana would be coming to the area to pick up other dogs on Aug. 2. Michelle arranged to pick up the puppies from the owner that morning at around 11 a.m. and to deliver them to Sandy, who would keep them until it was time to hand them off to Pets in Need.

Michelle told a police investigator the puppies were kept

indoors in the garage and house and were in an empty kiddie pool and pen. They were happy and healthy. Michelle brought the puppies to Sandy's home and the two women vaccinated the dogs and placed them in a large, shaded kennel area of the backyard, she told police.

A video taken of the black-and-white pups, which this news organization viewed, shows them wagging their tails and bounding and jumping up against the kennel to lick a person's hand. Their eyes look bright.

Sandy told police she noticed the puppies had large bellies, indicative of worms, which is not unusual for puppies of their age. They happily ate treats and food, she told police.

Planning to meet Pets in Need staff at a truck stop at 4 p.m., she placed the puppies in four kennels with plenty of room for them to stand up and lay down, she told police. Her car was air-conditioned.

When she arrived at the truck stop, she checked on the puppies. Two had been carsick. One had vomited and another had defecated. She was cleaning up the animals when the Pets in Need crew arrived. Santana, Evans and Hartmann each took one or two puppies and placed them in the Pets in Need van. Sandy said

she didn't see how many crates the puppies were placed in.

A long, hot journey crammed into a single, covered crate

Santana, Evans and Hartmann placed all of the puppies into a single crate with internal dimensions of approximately 29 inches long, 19 inches wide and 23 inches tall, the police report stated. The kennel was covered with a towel or cloth to prevent any possible disease transmission, the report noted. The van had air conditioning sufficient to cool the front of the van where the staff was located, but it didn't have a system capable of adequately cooling the back.

The trip, which can last more than four to six hours depending on traffic, took place during a hot day. The recorded temperature for Madera County that afternoon was 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The recorded temperature at Los Banos at 5:45 p.m. when the van made a stop for gas was 95 degrees, according to the police report.

During the trip and their Los Banos stop for gas, the Pets in Need crew didn't remove any of the animals to let them go to the bathroom. They didn't provide the animals with any water, although they did check on them, they told police. One



Contributed photo

This puppy crate, which measures 30 inches long, 18 inches wide and 22.5 inches in height has a 40-pound capacity. It held seven puppies weighing a total estimate of 70 pounds.

staff member said the puppies became quiet during the one-and-a-half-hour trip from Los Banos to Palo Alto.

Shortly after the van arrived at the Palo Alto shelter, staff heard the three women screaming. They pulled the puppies out of the van and placed them on the shelter floor. The animals were stiff and hot to the touch. Staff tried to resuscitate them, poured water and placed cold, wet towels on them to bring their tem-

peratures down, but the puppies could not be revived, according to the police report. The single kennel the puppies had been in was full of vomit and diarrhea, a witness told police.

Other witnesses who work at the shelter helped bring in the 20 remaining dogs and a guinea pig, which were still in the van. The inside of the van was still extremely hot even though the doors had been open for 15 to 20 minutes, multiple witnesses told police.

One of the witnesses said she remarked to Santana how hot the back of the van seemed.

"Yeah, I know, there's no vents back there," she said Santana had replied.

Almost every kennel had vomit in it and a number had excrement inside, this witness said. There were no water bowls in any of the cages.

All of the remaining dogs were panting heavily and appeared to be in distress. They were hot to the touch, multiple witnesses told police. Staff began treating these dogs for heat stroke by cooling them down with water and giving them water bowls, they said.

That evening was "the most horrible sight in my whole life," a witness told police.

See **PETS IN NEED**, page 14

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Give back locally

with a gift to the Holiday Fund



Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed \$260,000 from more than 170 donors for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

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

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

Boys & Girls Clubs

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

Ecumenical Hunger Program

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

Fair Oaks Community Center

This multi-service facility, serving the broader Redwood City community, provides assistance with child care, senior programs, citizenship and immigration, housing and employment, and crisis intervention. Programs are available in Spanish and English.

LifeMoves

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

Literacy Partners — Menlo Park

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

Ravenswood Family Health Center

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

Second Harvest Food Bank

The largest collector and distributor of food on the Peninsula, Second Harvest Food Bank distributed 52 million pounds of food last year. It gathers donations from individuals and businesses and distributes food to more than 250,000 people each month through more than 770 agencies and distribution sites in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

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

StarVista

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

Upward Scholars

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

The organizations below provide major matching grants to the Holiday Fund.



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Two new members join Portola Valley school board

Former trustee and local attorney appointed to five-member board

By Angela Swartz

The Portola Valley School District (PVSD) governing board chose Aimee Armsby and former trustee Bob Bauer as its newest members of the five-member board last week.

The board appointed the two during a meeting on Nov. 17. They replace board President Brooke Day and trustee Jeff Klugman, who resigned in September, effective Nov. 20. Armsby and Bauer will fill the rest of Day and Klugman's terms, which

end in November 2022.

Armsby is an attorney and former Portola Valley Schools Foundation board member. Armsby's children attended district schools.

She said during the interviews that she "threw her hat in the ring" now because, until September, she had a conflict of interest working for the San Mateo County Counsel's Office, where she advised governing



Aimee Armsby

boards on legal matters.

Bauer, who served on the PVSD governing board from 1979 through 1987, is a retired technology executive and physicist and former district parent.

Key issues during Bauer's previous board tenure included the inception of the local parcel tax, district property sales, labor group contract negotiations, settlement of the voluntary transfer



Bob Bauer

program litigation and the budgetary implications of the passage of Proposition 13, according to his application. Prop. 13 "drastically" limited property taxes, which meant they were no longer a major source of funding to public schools, according to EdSource.

Bauer describes the period when he was on the board as "very difficult and challenging."

"When I saw that there was a vacancy for a year and the challenges that the district and the board have in front of them coming out of the pandemic, and the

construction at the same time, plus declining enrollment and a few of the other things I learned, it seemed like this year (if you) had somebody that kind of knew the ropes, so to speak, (it) would be useful," he told the board during the interviews.

The board interviewed three other candidates: Ron Dolin, a lecturer at Harvard Law School; Terry Lee, district parent and the Nueva Schools associate head of school; and Amod Setlur, a former pandemic recovery working group member.

Two other applicants, Tom Bochnowski and Sarah Raffaelli, withdrew their applications on Nov. 17 before the interviews. ■

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

Part the Cloud breaks fundraising record for Alzheimer's research

Delayed Woodside event raises more than \$30 million

By Kate Daly

The pandemic may have postponed Part the Cloud's gala fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association by a year and a half, but when it finally happened on Oct. 16 under a tent in the redwoods at a home in Woodside, organizers and donors were delighted to gather at last and celebrate record-breaking results.

More than \$33 million has rolled in, a combination of what guests paid and contributors

gave last year and this year. The amount raised by the event has enabled the group to reward four more research grants of up to \$750,000 to scientists searching for causes, cures and treatments for brain disease, said founder Michaela Hoag of Atherton.

"We're hoping the money will be going out in a few weeks," she said.

This will bring the total to 63 clinical trials so far that Part the Cloud funds have underwritten in nine different countries. "It's

really moving the needle in science," she added.

Both of Hoag's parents suffered from Alzheimer's disease, and when she launched the local event in 2012, she had little idea it would become the Alzheimer's Association's largest fundraiser in the world, and turn into a global effort.

A series of Part the Cloud luncheons and galas has raised more than \$60 million over the years, and "the follow-on funding has made me proud; we are close to a billion dollars," Hoag said.

"What I've been told by the researchers is we are the gold seal of approval," she said, explaining that Part the Cloud grants have helped jump-start research, and often the recipients then go on to secure additional funding from other sources such as the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging, and venture capital firms.

This year's gala was sold out with close to 275 in attendance, many wearing black tie for the first time in months, and glad to be coming outside for dinner and dancing.

Stephanie Harman and Heather Pietsch co-chaired the gala.

Warriors guard Stephen Curry and coach Steve Kerr and their

wives attended, and announcer Bob Fitzgerald helped with the bidding process. Deirdre Bosa with CNBC's "TechCheck" emceed the evening. Platinum singer-songwriter Andy Grammer performed.

Hoag said the next gala will take place in the spring of 2023. She recognizes a growing need for fundraising and awareness, describing Alzheimer's as "the new tsunami of health care."

According to the Alzheimer's Association, the nation's cost of providing health care and long-term care to people with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia currently stands at \$355 billion. ■

Email Contributing Writer Kate Daly at katherinemunroedaly@gmail.com.

Coronavirus central: Gov. Gavin Newsom encourages adults to get booster

Western States science group recommends booster for all adults

By Embarcadero Media staff

Adults encouraged to get booster

Gov. Gavin Newsom encouraged the state's adults on Monday to get a COVID-19 vaccine booster if they are eligible now that state and federal officials have lifted most requirements for getting a booster.

Nearly 5 million state residents have received a booster, according to Newsom, including 58% of the 1.4 million people who received a vaccine dose last week.

In total, 91.3% of adults across the state have received at least one vaccine dose, which Newsom credited along with precautions like the use of masks for helping the state reduce its COVID-19 cases over the last

two weeks.

"We saw, a few weeks ago, some troubling signs with case rates going up, (test) positivity rates going up, hospitalizations and (intensive care unit admissions) going up," Newsom said Monday, during a briefing at a vaccination site in San Francisco's Mission District.

"That said, in the last 10 or 11 days, we've seen some stability, some good signs ... in fact, today we lay claim to having the lowest positivity rate in the United States of America — 1.9%," Newsom said.

Adults in the state are encouraged to get a booster dose if it has been at least six months since their second vaccine dose or at least two months since their single Janssen/Johnson &

Johnson shot.

Some demographics are also being prioritized for boosters, including J&J recipients, people over age 65 and people with underlying medical conditions.

While the three available vaccines remain highly effective at preventing serious COVID-19 illness and death, public health officials at all levels have argued that their protection begins to wane after several months, and that preemptively boosting the immune responses will maximize protection against existing and potential variants of the virus, which could become more contagious and even circumvent vaccine protections.

Newsom noted that only about 17% of the state's booster doses

have been administered to Latino residents and argued that the state must do more to ensure that hard-to-reach and disadvantaged communities are included in booster vaccination efforts. Latinos make up about 39% of the state's population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In the past, the state has launched a series of public service announcements on the safety and efficacy of the available vaccines and partnered with ethnic media outlets and community-based organizations to address vaccine hesitancy.

"There is no substitute for meeting people where they are — knocking on doors, quite literally going into communities, not asking people to come to a (vaccination) location but going to them," Newsom said.

State residents can find information on how to get vaccinated against COVID-19 via their local public health department or the state's vaccination scheduling website at myturn.ca.gov.

Vaccination information can also be found by contacting the state at 833-422-4255.

Science group recommends booster for all adults

Newsom on Saturday announced that the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup is recommending that all adults fully vaccinated with Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines receive a six-month COVID-19 booster shot.

The working group concurred with recent federal recommendations that booster doses be given to anyone ages 50 and older or residing in a long-term care facility and anyone 18 to 49 years old.

Individuals who received a Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine should receive a booster dose two months after their first shot. The workgroup provided its report to the governors of California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington on Saturday.

"As we approach the winter season and another potential surge, it's critical that people get their booster to strengthen

See **CORONAVIRUS**, page 12

San Mateo County approves gun buyback program

Owners can receive up to \$200 per weapon

By Leah Worthington

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a grant of up to \$208,000 to create a gun buyback program to encourage individuals to turn in their firearms to law enforcement, no questions asked.

Individuals could receive up to \$200 per semi-automatic rifle and up to \$100 for handguns,

shotguns, and rifles. Recipients can choose to keep the cash incentive or donate it to selected nonprofit organizations.

The grant will support a series of gun buyback events through 2023. The program will be supported by an additional \$100,000 from the Sheriff's Office and \$67,000 raised by Citizens for a San Mateo County Gun Buyback, a local community group.

The first of five planned events will be held on Dec. 11 in San Carlos. County officials hope to get about 450 guns back from the community at their first event, which will provide an opportunity for the safe disposal of unwanted or unsecured firearms, especially by gun owners who would not otherwise know how to do so, according to a county press release.

San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine said that gun violence remains an ever-present danger

in local communities.

"By taking guns out of circulation, coupled with strong local safety policies, we can continue to reduce the prevalence and availability of guns," he added.

The county of San Mateo hosted three such successful events in 2018 and 2019, collecting 1,254 firearms.

In addition to removing firearms from the community, gun buyback events also provide an opportunity to educate the public about safe firearm storage

and other gun safety protocols for the home and distribute free gun locks, according to a press release.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office will oversee the buyback events.

San Mateo County Sheriff Carlos Bolanos said, "Gun violence reduction is a major component of public safety, and by taking these weapons out of circulation, we will continue to keep San Mateo County a safe place to live, work, and play." ■

Email Staff Writer

Leah Worthington at

lworthington@rwcpulse.com.

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Email: sharper@woodsidetown.org

San Mateo County sheriff ends ICE transfers, effective immediately

By Leah Worthington

San Mateo County Sheriff Carlos Bolanos said earlier this month that his department will end transfer requests from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a decision that comes amid public backlash and less than a week after the annual TRUTH Act Forum where dozens of residents spoke out overwhelmingly against the practice.

Bolanos said Nov. 9 that the decision, which takes effect immediately, was made in part due to his desire to maintain a trusting relationship with the public.

"It simply is not worth losing the trust of many members of the public by continuing to process these requests from ICE," Bolanos said in a statement. "This change is being made after we heard from hundreds of residents who shared their perspec-

tive on how we will all be safer when the entire community understands the Sheriff's Office is here to protect the public, not enforce immigration laws."

Dozens of residents spoke during the public comment portion of a special Board of Supervisors meeting, the TRUTH Act forum, an annual meeting required for any county that voluntarily releases immigrants to ICE custody.

Prior to the meeting, community members and advocates gathered to protest Bolanos' continued cooperation with ICE.

The Sheriff's Office reported that it released 15 immigrants to ICE in 2020, accounting for 62% of all Bay Area transfers and more than any other individual county. ■

Email Staff Writer

Leah Worthington at

lworthington@rwcpulse.com.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Town-wide

Town of Woodside

MCAM2021-0002 and ZOAM2021-0005

Planner: Sage Schaan, Principal Planner

Review and Approval/Denial of a Resolution of Intention and Recommendation to the Town Council to Amend Chapters 151 (Site Development) (**MACAM2021-0002**) and 153 (Zoning) (**ZOAM2021-0005**) to bring the Woodside Municipal Code into compliance with recently enacted legislation (SB9, Atkins), which becomes effective on January 1, 2022. This legislation amended zoning/site development regulations State-wide by allowing ministerial approval of two residential units that are at least 800 square feet each, and up to four feet from side and rear property lines, on any single-family residential lot that meets certain objective requirements.

2. Town-wide

Town of Woodside

Planner: Jackie Young, Planning Director

Review and Approval/Denial of a Resolution of Intention and Recommendation to the Town Council to Adopt Objective Design Standards for SB9 projects to comply with recently enacted legislation (SB9, Atkins), which becomes effective on January 1, 2022. This legislation amended residential density in single-family zoning districts State-wide by allowing ministerial approval and objective design review only of certain two unit (attached or detached) residential projects. This Item is a continued discussion from the Planning Commission meeting of November 17, 2021.

THE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING SAGE SCHAAN AT [SSCHAAN@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:sschaan@woodsidetown.org) OR JACKIE YOUNG AT [JYOUNG@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:jyoung@woodsidetown.org)

CORONAVIRUS

continued from page 11

their immunity and protect themselves from COVID-19," Newsom said.

Because unvaccinated individuals remain at much higher risk of COVID-19 than those who have been vaccinated, the science group continues to strongly support vaccination against COVID-19 for everyone age 5 years and older.

Last week, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized expanding booster shot eligibility for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, and the CDC affirmed that decision.

The working group reviewed and affirmed the federal decisions in meetings last week.

The working group is made up of nationally acclaimed scientists with expertise in immunization and public health. It will continue to evaluate other COVID-19 vaccines as they go through the federal process.

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. ■



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\$14,988,000 | 5 Bd | 6.5 Bth
www.199Mapache.com

51 CRESCENT DR
PALO ALTO



\$14,500,000 | 5 Bd | 8 Bth
www.51Crescent.com

410 8TH AVENUE
MENLO PARK



\$1,825,000 | 5 Bd | 3.5 Bth
www.4108thAve.com

1360 CLOUD AVENUE
MENLO PARK



\$3,100,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
www.1360Cloud.com

327 STOCKBRIDGE AVE
ATHERTON



\$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 8 Bth
www.327Stockbridge.com

97 RIDGE VIEW DR
ATHERTON



\$13,488,000 | 6 Bd | 7.5 Bth
www.97RidgeViewDr.com

2415 SHARON OAKS DR
MENLO PARK



\$2,050,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
www.2415SharonOaks.com

1251 COLLEGE AVENUE
PALO ALTO



\$4,988,000 | 5 Bd | 4.5 Bth
www.1251College.com

1420 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
PALO ALTO



\$8,988,000 | 6 Bd | 7.5 Bth
www.1420University.com

97 SANTIAGO AVENUE
ATHERTON



\$9,788,000 | 1.43 Acre Lot
www.97Santiago.com

835 WESTRIDGE DRIVE
PORTOLA VALLEY



\$8,988,000 | 5 Bd | 7.5 Bth
www.835Westridge.com

303 ATHERTON AVE
ATHERTON



\$19,988,000 | 7 Bd | 8.5 Bth
www.303AthertonAve.com

147 PATRICIA DRIVE
ATHERTON



\$17,988,000 | 5 Bd | 7 Bth
www.147Patricia.com

96 HEATHER DRIVE
ATHERTON



\$13,488,000 | 8 Bd | 12 Bth
www.96HeahterDR.com

99 OAK HAVEN WAY
WOODSIDE



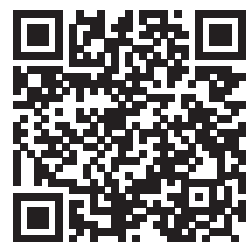
\$4,488,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
www.99OakHaven.com

11665 DAWSON DRIVE
LOS ALTOS HILLS



PENDING
\$4,488,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
www.11665Dawson.com

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PETS IN NEED

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A lack of protocol and alleged errors

The police report doesn't indicate that any of the acts leading to the puppies' deaths were intentional.

The Second Chance Animal Shelter in Selma, California, where the 20 dogs were picked up, told police it never had any issues dealing with Santana, who has been in charge of the transport runs, and Pets in Need. Witness reports also describe the emotional distress of the three staff members who were on the trip when they discovered the dead puppies.

But the incident raises many questions about how the transport of the puppies by a 55-year-old animal advocacy agency could have gone so wrong and the need to change protocols — something that at least one staff member told police he was



Veronica Weber

A volunteer with Pets in Need gives treats to dogs up for adoption on March 7, 2019. The organization's executive director has announced his resignation after seven puppies died in an overheated van in August.

already starting to implement a day after the incident.

With the exception of Hartmann, the human resources manager, the other two employees had experience with animals and transporting them. Hartmann had only been hired about

three months before and was on the trip to learn about how the transport operation worked. Evans, the behavior manager, had worked for Pets in Need for two years and had been on other transport runs with Santana. Santana, the shelter operations

manager, had worked for Pets in Need for 20 years at the organization's Redwood City shelter, the police report noted.

Santana has recently been put in charge of operations at both the Palo Alto and Redwood City shelters. Executive Director Mollica terminated the prior Palo Alto operations manager. The termination was not related to the puppy incident, according to the police report.

Cody Macartney, the city's lead animal control officer, who is employed by the police department, filed the initial complaint to police for investigation of animal cruelty on Aug. 3 after learning about the puppy deaths. Macartney, an animal control officer for 19 years, told police he would never have transported seven large puppies in a single crate of that size.

Pets in Need didn't have any specific protocol or checklists for their transporters, employees told police. The organization supposedly followed national guidelines for pet shelters and transportation. According to those guidelines, animals should not be lying on top of each other and should have enough room to sit and stand independently.

Although Santana, Evans and Hartmann knew the van had inadequate ventilation, they took the van — the smaller of two — because it could accommodate Hartmann on the trip, they told police. The van had air conditioning in the front but no vents or air conditioning in the animal compartment, the police report noted.

The witnesses said Pets in Need didn't as a rule give animals water during transport trips; Santana had said it was because the animals would vomit. But one person interviewed by police said she has suggested in the past they could give the animals water in suspended drip bottles and therefore take in the water more slowly. The suggestion was never implemented.

Multiple staff members wrote the Pets in Need board of directors a letter after the puppy deaths criticizing the incident and alleging the transport trip was riddled with failures.

Pets in Need has provided only limited statements and answers to multiple questions about the allegations. Asked to comment on the police report and necropsy findings, Pets in Need reiterated its frustrations with the city in an email it provided this news organization.

The city's shortcomings have led the shelter operator to announce that it would terminate its contract with Palo Alto and would no longer provide services after 2022.

In a statement, the shelter said "this decision was driven by the city's unresponsiveness and delay on important issues that would enable us to fulfill our responsibilities under the contract.

"That unresponsiveness has continued throughout the investigation into the events of Aug. 2. Pets in Need did not receive the Sept. 14 police report until Nov. 3, and even now the full results of the necropsy reports have not been shared with us. We need this information to fully understand what happened and how we can make changes and improvements necessary so that a tragedy like this is never repeated. We remain at a disadvantage when certain aspects of these reports are shared selectively — but not with us."

The city did not respond to this latest assertion. It refuted Pets in Need's characterization after the contract termination was announced. ■

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

Patricia B. Ichelson

March 24, 1932–November 16, 2021

Passed into heaven on November 16, 2021.

Patricia Badali Ichelson was known for her extraordinary dedication to family and helping to create a Hewlett-Packard baseline during the 1950's when women were not always accepted in the engineering industry. Her legacy will live on through her work at Hewlett-Packard and Agilent Technologies.

Patricia was born in Chicago, Illinois to parents (Samuel) Leo Badali, a barber and Gerda Nelson, a registered nurse. She lived in Chicago until her parents settled in the Crystal Lake area and bought their first home. Patricia's sister Bonnie and her enjoyed many playful summers swimming in the lake, and during the winter, skating when Crystal Lake was frozen. Patricia always told stories of the fun she had with her sister and friends in her revered home town.

In 1950, Patricia graduated from Crystal Lake High School and then attended Moser Business College in Chicago. She commented that she took the train into the city daily for school and that school helped her learn a lot about finance. She then worked at Arlo Engineering in Marengo, Illinois for several years.

In 1954, Patricia and Bonnie's mother, Gerta Nelson Badali died in a winter car accident. This devastated the family with her unexpected death and was a center of pain and grief for the rest of Patricia's life. She spoke lovingly of her mother and the heart ache her death caused. Shortly afterwards, Patricia moved to California and began work at Hewlett-Packard in Palo Alto.

In 1958, Patricia met and married David L. Ichelson, MD. They have two children. Maryjane Ichelson Gertz of Menlo Park, and Beth Ichelson of San Carlos.

Patricia spent many years as a home maker in Portola Valley. She was an active member of the Ormandale PTA, a 4H leader teaching sewing and cooking to countless 4H members through the years. She dedicated many years to caring for the family and making sure that her children received

the best of everything she could provide. She spent summers up in Willow Creek fishing and camping, and in the winter the family went skiing or went crabbing at Dillon's Beach. In 1971 Patricia and David divorced.

In 1972, Patricia returned back to Hewlett-Packard in the Test Division as a Systems Administrator. She worked very hard as a single mom. She gave everything to make sure her children had their needs met and stressed that education was very important. College was a non-negotiable in the household, everyone needs to attend when they get out of high school. She set the standard for successful strong women. Her children followed her lead and were always honor students knowing that a woman must take education seriously in order to be successful in life.

In 1982, Patricia met and married Robert Williams, a painter and pro-bowler, well known at San Carlos Bowling Alley who often toured in bowling tournaments and gave lessons. Patricia and Bob were very busy balancing his tours with her work schedule. They were great soul mates and traveled all over the US. Patricia recalled that her happier times were watching him win several tournaments. Patricia had a strong relationship with all of her step-children in the combined family: Patsy, Debbie, and Linda Williams, and Suzanne Ichelson.

Upon retiring, Patricia spent her time bowling and visiting with family. She liked to bake and do ceramics with her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She traveled with the family and went on many vacations. Her later years were spent on the landscape committee at Brittan Heights and baking cookies with her great grandchildren on holidays.

Patricia is survived by her sister, Bonnie Goldman of Illinois; daughters Maryjane Gertz and Beth Ichelson; grandchildren Charlene Brennan, Christina, Cherise Marshall; great-grandchildren, Angelie Brennan, Audrina English, Cassidy, Justin, Sarah and Shailey Marshall all of Menlo Park.



PAID OBITUARY

OBITUARIES

Patricia Badali Ichelson, 89, a former Portola Valley resident and former systems administrator at Hewlett-Packard, died on Nov. 16.

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

CONGRESS

continued from page 5

Sacramento Bee last week that a climate of toxicity in D.C. has soured her, particularly when it advocates violence. Speier was shot in the 1978 People's Temple mass murder-suicide in Guyana, a traumatic event that led her to devote her life to public service.

Bay City News Service contributed to this report. ■

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

RAVENSWOOD

continued from page 7

A new teacher will now be paid a starting base salary of about \$60,000, and experienced teachers can earn up to \$133,950, according to the contract.

On average, a new teacher in the Menlo Park City School District earns \$67,459. An experienced teacher's salary caps at \$133,788.

In the Las Lomitas Elementary School District, which has one school in Atherton and one in Menlo Park, the base salary for a new teacher is \$62,805 and experienced teachers can earn up to \$98,730.

In addition to the raise, Ravenswood teachers who completed the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years are receiving a one-time payment of \$2,000. Each teacher employed on May 28, 2021, will receive a one-time payment of \$1,827.

The final proposal was ratified with support from 83% of RTA members, according to the press release.

New evaluation process

The new compensation system offers the opportunity for teachers who demonstrate mastery of their skills to advance up the salary ladder more rapidly.

"The system is designed to be flexible and fluid, reflecting the growth of unit members throughout the year," Sudaria said in a statement. "It will help us retain high performers — keeping our best teachers in our classrooms year after year. And it will help us recruit for all positions, especially those hardest to fill."

Staff will create portfolios of evidence throughout the year, including professional goals, informal and formal observations, self-reflection and student and family feedback.

The process differentiates between staff members who are still developing their skills and those who have demonstrated strengths and are "integrating and innovating on their craft," according to the press release.

Previous raises

The district last gave teachers and classified staff raises in 2019. The raises included a 2% salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2018, and a 5.5% raise that went into effect July 1, 2019.

The salary increases in 2019 came after two years of budget cuts and discord amongst some teachers and staff who had voiced dissatisfaction with the district's former superintendent, Gloria Hernandez-Goff, who ultimately resigned. ▣

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

Eric Anderson Young

February 3, 1956 – October 23, 2021



Of all the things Eric was involved with, accomplished and enjoyed — and there were many of each — his role as father and husband was, for him, by far the most important and fulfilling. He met his wife, Jean, on a blind date in 1989. They married August 3, 1991, and built a partnership and family that was absolutely at the core of their 30+ years together. Their son, Ryan was born in 1994, and Connor followed in 1997. Nothing brought Eric more joy or pride than this foursome.

Eric loved the role of teacher and mentor across his life, and particularly with his sons. He shared and instructed Ryan and Connor in the outdoor activities he loved so much, and the family spent much of their spare time fishing, hunting, skiing, hiking and traveling. He taught them golf, the etiquette and mechanics, analyzing swings and hole play and providing tips for improvement. He shared his love of music with live concert attendance starting when the boys were very young, evolving from jazz, ZZ Top and Earth Wind & Fire concerts to Metallica and AC/DC. He also loved all things fast, riding motorcycles and racing cars, and introduced dirt biking to his sons.

Like everything else his boys showed an interest in, Eric embraced Boy Scouts, becoming a Troop 57 Assistant Scoutmaster, leading annual backpacking trips to the Sutter Buttes, and guiding fishing expeditions. He taught the shotgun merit badge for years and helped in the development of a rifle range at BSA's Camp Oljato. A former Scout himself, Eric was incredibly proud of his two Eagle Scout sons. He also traveled to many, many sports matches in which his boys played, always serving as an informal "team photographer." A SJ Sharks season ticket holder since their inaugural season and hockey player in his youth, Eric especially loved watching Connor in goal for Bellarmine College Prep and his club team.

Born in Michigan to Gerald and Shirley Lund Young, Eric grew up in the Midwest and western New York with his parents and sister, Heidi. The family moved seven times in five states as his father pursued a steel industry career, after which Eric lived in six more cities before settling in Palo Alto in 1987. Eric attended high school in Ohio and New York. At Cornell University, he earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering and was a proud member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Then, knowing he was interested in a more broad-based business career, Eric attended Northwestern's MBA program.

At Northwestern, Eric was recruited by General Electric, initially working in sales, marketing, and as General Manager for one of their Bay Area turbine companies. When offered a role in GE's brand-new venture capital group, Eric jumped at the chance. He opened their West Coast office, returning him to the Bay Area he loved, and Silicon Valley, which held so many tech-based investment opportunities. Five years later, he and three partners spun out of GE and founded Canaan Partners, where he was a General Partner for 32 years.

At Canaan, Eric loved helping build organizations and developing leaders — both internally at Canaan, and with the firms in which they invested. Culture was incredibly important to him, and he fostered organizations built on positive values and a belief that every person should be listened to, respected and appreciated. He set a standard of excellence and integrity. Per his colleagues, "Eric was and will always be the heart and soul of Canaan."

Eric's passion for entrepreneurship, experiential education and mentoring along with his venture capital mentality informed a broad range of involvements — including many for which he saw a need, developed a plan and provided seed funding to get the opportunity going. At Bellarmine, where he regularly spoke to students about venture capital, he identified a need for more technical education and hands-on experience, so worked with school administration to create an Innovation and Design Program with both curriculum enhancements and a student Innovation Lab.

At his and his son Connor's alma mater, Cornell, Eric was a pillar of the entrepreneurship community for 25+ years. He served as an active Advisory Council member to the Entrepreneurship at Cornell program, most recently as vice-chair. His input was deemed invaluable, and he helped lead the fundraising efforts to build a new co-working space for student entrepreneurs. Noting that PhD students often lacked opportunities to get out of the lab and do real customer discovery on their inventions, Eric also helped define and establish the Cornell PhD Commercialization Fellows program to directly address this deficit. He served on several other advisory boards including the College of Engineering Council and Red Bear Angels. Eric was also a top-rated guest lecturer on entrepreneurship for two decades and mentored undergraduate and graduate students through six different Cornell programs.

At Northeastern University, where his son, Ryan, studied, Eric was introduced to Scout, a student-led design studio providing design services to early-stage ventures in the university's entrepreneurship program. Eric believed Scout's designers should think of

themselves as entrepreneurial leaders, not just great designers. Over many years, he mentored Scout's leaders on using an entrepreneurial mind-set to drive their organizations as they helped clients develop distinctive brands and take products to market. The students responded with great innovation and energy. Eric always delighted in their personal growth; they were honored by the keen interest he showed in them. Eric was also one of the founders of Mosaic, the network of student-led organizations bringing innovation and entrepreneurship across Northeastern. He served for many years on the Mosaic Council and the President's West Coast Council.

At both universities, as well as Stanford and Northwestern's Kellogg, Eric showed clearly how much he loved to interact with students — often staying well past a scheduled talk to answer questions and discuss their business ideas both ad hoc and via structured programs. He continued to actively mentor individual students after they graduated college as they became successful entrepreneurs.

Across his involvements and successes, Eric was known for his kindness, generosity, humility and integrity. Colleagues, entrepreneurs and students alike uniformly commented on the genuine interest he took in projects, opportunities and hurdles, giving generously of both time and knowledge. He listened intently and respectfully, absorbing and analyzing information until the end, then offered insightful comments and always-constructive feedback. He was honest without judgment, and made people feel like valued equals. These were the key attributes that made people seek him out.

Retirement was prime time for Eric to do all the things he loved: spending time with their black lab, Maverick, taking numerous fishing and hunting trips every year, and traveling, all with Jean, their sons, and friends. Eric's face beamed with unmitigated joy as he shared his passions with those most important to him.

Eric's sons have benefited from a lifetime of lessons and love and will always remember his teaching the importance of a strong work ethic, being accountable, and, again, acting with integrity. When asked about his accomplishments, Eric replied "proud father of two fine young men."

Eric is survived by his love, partner, and wife of 30 years, Jean, his sons, Ryan and Connor, his sister, Heidi Young Nash (Tim), and nephew and nieces Sean, Kristen, and Meredith Nash. He will be remembered and missed by many friends, colleagues, and others who had the chance to interact with him across his many involvements.

The memorial service will be private, by-invitation only due to space constraints. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to one of his favorite causes: Cornell University [Entrepreneurship @ Cornell], Northeastern University [Scout Fund], BSA Camp Oljato [Fund #1442 through Silicon Valley Community Foundation] or California Wildlife Foundation [Wetlands Fund- Lower Klamath Refuge Project].

PAID OBITUARY

THE FOSTER

continued from page 5

the John Muir Trail.

Her encounter with those artworks launched within her a passion for the painter's work that would, decades later, lead her to create one of the Peninsula's premier museums, and one of the only museums dedicated to a living artist in the world, The Foster.

Despite its 14,000-square-foot footprint, it's easy to miss The Foster if you're not looking for it. A converted ambulance storage facility for Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, the museum is nestled in a nondescript corner of Palo Alto's warehouse district at 940 Commercial St.

The museum's exterior is covered with climbing vines, an apt exterior for a facility celebrating wilderness art, while its interior, which has no natural light, is perfect for housing light-sensitive watercolors. Walk inside the space and it's easy to lose track of time, absorbed in Foster's bright, engaging plein air works created over 17 journeys around the globe.

The Foster houses the permanent collection of the Foster Art & Wilderness Foundation, founded by Woodward, and displays two of those 17 "journeys" of Foster's works, collections titled "Sacred Spaces" and "Exploring Beauty." Each journey represents a complete trip's worth of collected watercolors. Entrance is free.

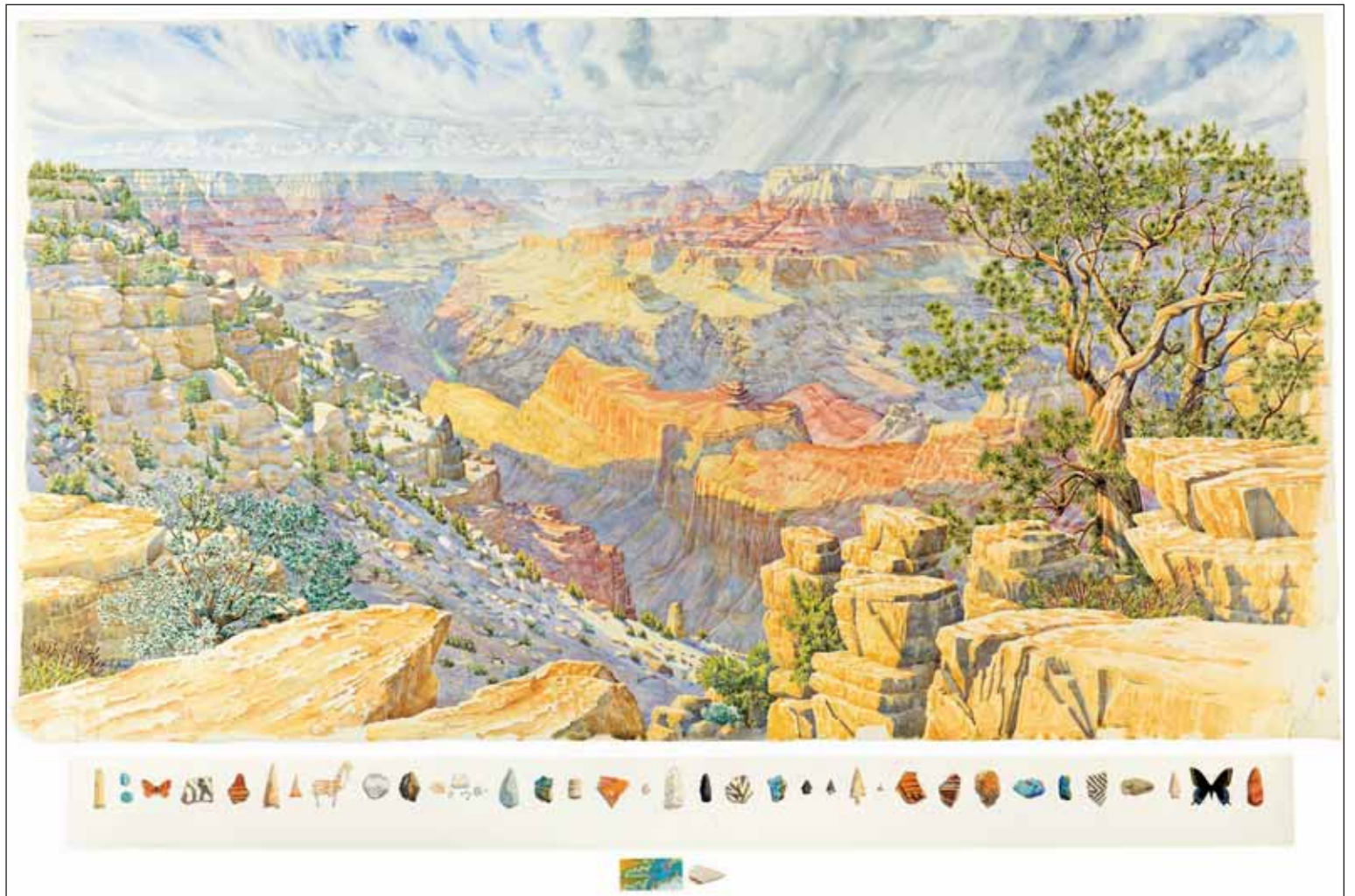
The artworks

Tony Foster is a unique artist for a number of reasons, museum co-directors Eileen Howard and Anne Baxter explained while giving a recent tour of the museum. The painter from Cornwall carries art supplies all over the world with him, using lightweight materials and a tiny paint box, but always with a full set of paintbrushes and — as a proper Englishman — adequate supplies for afternoon tea.

Painting in extreme environments, he has also pioneered new watercolor techniques, such as mixing gin into the water at very high elevations while painting in the Himalayas, or using plastic vellum and colored pencils to paint underwater coral reefs.

Kristin Poole, artistic director of the Foster Art and Wilderness Foundation, writes that Foster's work builds on the traditions of artists like J.M.W. Turner that emphasize nature's ferocity and man's insignificance, as well as explorer artists like Thomas Moran, George Catlin and William Henry Jackson.

His process "necessitates being able to withstand grueling physical conditions as well as significant patience while waiting for site, weather and time of day to cooperate, reinforces the messages that none of this



Courtesy The Foster

Tony Foster's "Twenty-Three Days Painting the Canyon — From West of Navajo Point" (2013) is a watercolor and graphite piece on paper. Displayed below the painting are a small map and a stone arrowhead by Homer Etherton.

— whether it's the act of truly seeing, locating and translating site, or honoring the humbling forces of nature — is easily accomplished," she said.

One signature of his work is that included alongside his paintings are what are called "souvenirs" — little mementos, whether taken or rendered, that highlight the details of whatever environment Foster was in. For instance, there might be a study of leaf colors with a painting of an autumn forest, or little vials of water samples framed alongside a river painting.

The Sacred Spaces collection represents Foster's 15th journey, into the Four Corners region of the American Southwest. The Exploring Beauty collection represents Foster's 16th journey, in which he asked various luminaries in science, exploration,

writing and the environment to nominate what they thought were the most beautiful places in the world. He then went to those places and painted them from his own perspective.

Becoming a patron

After that first sighting of Tony Foster's artwork, Woodward worked diligently to find out more. The museum provided few curatorial details about the art, so she kept calling the museum to learn more. Eventually, she learned that Foster was represented by Montgomery Gallery in San Francisco. Over the years, she became a dedicated buyer of Foster's work. Many years later, Woodward invited Foster to join a trip she was organizing on the San Juan River.

While on that trip, Woodward recalls, she began to reflect that

there was a sort of "market failure" that there was no artistic institution with enough space to show a full "journey" or complete set of artworks from one of Foster's trips.

"It was a very organic evolution, to recognize that if I wanted to hold Tony's journeys intact, and share them with the public, we needed a space. It's only been in the last few years that we've called it a museum," she said. The museum, she added, is also used as a type of staging area for other, potentially larger museums to see what one of Foster's journeys looks like in full from a curatorial perspective. The foundation also works with other museums looking to showcase Foster's work, and provides curatorial support through Howard's and Baxter's shared expertise.

Since the museum opened in 2016, Woodward said, one of the most gratifying things has been hearing from friends and visitors to the museum who told her that the art had evoked memories of specific places they'd been to or inspired them to get out into the wilderness on their own.

"I love Tony's art because it's just beautiful to behold, but I like using it to have these conversations about all these layers around place," she said. "...I believe strongly that reflecting on place and why it's important to protect is really important."

Weathering the pandemic

Howard and Baxter were calmer than expected while talking about how the pandemic has affected museum operations.

Yes, The Foster was closed for a long time, and it's been hard to get the word out that it's open again by reservation, but overall, there have been some benefits, they said.

For starters, because travel has been restricted, Foster himself has actually been more available than he might otherwise be for interviews and archival works, they said.

Foster also busied himself during the pandemic with a project titled "Lockdown Diaries," while facing a strict quarantine in England that limited time outdoors to one hour a day. During that hour, he would find new pedestrian routes to walk around his neighborhood and new objects to study in his artworks. Over time, he created some beautiful small studies, including one set of 56 days' worth of drawings that has been made into a print that the Foster is selling to support wilderness-focused nonprofits both locally and internationally.

Dealing with the travel restrictions from the pandemic, he said, "has made me study my backyard more profoundly, and I have found great joy in the close study of small subjects. The closer you look the more you see!"

See **THE FOSTER**, page 17



Magali Gauthier

Luxulianite granite and other rocks are displayed below Tony Foster's "Bluebells — Looking WNW near the Top of Luxulyan Valley."

THE FOSTER*continued from page 16*

Foster said that one lesson that he plans to carry forward is: “Be patient and find joy where you are — even if confined to a small area.”

Back at the Palo Alto museum, Howard and Baxter said that they’re trying to get the word out that the museum is not only open again, but that each reservation almost guarantees visitors to have the museum to themselves

for about an hour.

A shifting planet

Foster’s next journey, slated for the Green River, was postponed this year, but there is a special exhibit of his work being shown now at the Royal Cornwall Museum called “Fragile Planet: Watercolour Journeys into Wild Places.”

In recent years, those who are familiar with Foster’s work also say that he has become more vocal about advocating

against climate change. While his work has long espoused the “leave no trace” principle, he has expressed shock at the environmental changes he’s seen in more recent journeys, Baxter said.

“For nearly 40 years I have made my art in the world’s great wildernesses — rainforests, deserts mountains, canyons, the Arctic and the tropics. Nobody can spend long periods of time in these places without becoming concerned about their future,” he said in an email.

“Whilst painting in primary rainforest I heard chainsaws whining and enormous trees crashing to the ground. I canoed down clear rivers where gold dredgers poison the water with mercury; camped in pristine deserts knowing the prehistoric water tables were being sucked dry. In the Arctic, as the ice melts, mining companies are moving into pristine landscapes. Sitting underwater on scuba, I have drawn myriads of fish of unimaginable variety and beau-

ty to find a year later the corals bleached and the fish gone.

“I hope when people experience my work they will be moved to strengthen their desire to protect the planet’s ecosystems. I am speaking out more clearly now whenever I am offered a platform.”

Go to thefoster.org for more information or to make reservations. **A**

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS*continued from page 6*

ing multiple times each week.

The program will include assessments of student progress.

Ravenswood Classroom Partners is also adding support for the district’s new science lessons. Science support volunteer tutors will partner with an assigned K-5 grade teacher to support hands-on science in the classroom each week.

“Students will explore and apply concepts in science in a way that is much more interactive than before,” Program Director Keri Tully said in a statement. “The program uses an inquiry approach to teaching and learning which allows for active student investigation.”

For more information, go to ravenswoodclassroompartners.org.

Atherton Library to close before grand opening of new facility

Atherton’s temporary library will be closed starting Sunday, Dec. 5, for a two- to three-month period as the library readies for the opening of a new \$19.1 million, 10,000-square-foot facility in the civic center, according to

a San Mateo County Libraries (SMCL) press release.

Officials will begin to pack up and organize the existing library collection, which has been housed in a temporary trailer since 2018, in the coming months. The library will offer mail-out services on holds during this time.

“As is typical for new libraries, there are a lot of details to prepare to welcome the public into their new space,” said Katie Woods, SMCL communications manager. “We will also need to remove and transport all the equipment and technology so it is ready for installation at the new library.”

The new library is set to open sometime this spring. It will include a maker space and cafe.

— *Angela Swartz*

Rain barrel program sells out

A countywide program to distribute 50-gallon rain barrels to 330 households sold out quickly, according to an announcement from Flows to Bay, the public outreach arm of the countywide water pollution prevention program. The program comes from a partnership between the City/County Association of Govern-

ments of San Mateo County, or C/CAG for short, the county of San Mateo and the individually incorporated cities and towns throughout the county. All of them share what’s called a “National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System” permit required to prevent harmful pollutants from entering the stormwater system and local water bodies, according to the program website.

The program was launched in late September and sold out in just four weeks, according to the announcement. The rain barrels went to residents in 18 of the county’s 20 cities, towns and unincorporated areas, according to C/CAG spokesperson Reid Bogert.

The barrels help to capture rainwater that can then be used for outdoor irrigation or watering houseplants.

Another benefit of the program is that captured rainwater can improve the water quality of local creeks, because rainfall otherwise becomes runoff, flowing along streets and collecting pollutants on those surfaces, which can then flow into storm drains and nearby waterways without treatment.

About 200 county residents remain on a waiting list, and

Flows to Bay plans to restock more rain barrels once inventory is available.

“As seen through the tremendous interest in and enthusiastic turnout for this unique pre-order rain barrel campaign event, our residents are thirsty for ways to improve their sustainable use of water, help protect the environment, and buffer the effects

of climate change, locally and beyond. We’re thrilled with the results of this pilot campaign, and look forward to expanding it in future years,” stated Marie Chuang, chair of the C/CAG Board of Directors and Hillsborough council member.

Go to flowstobay.org/rainbarrel for more information.

— *Kate Bradshaw*

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

MARY M SCHMIDT FUNDRAISING COUNSEL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 289342
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Mary M Schmidt Fundraising Counsel, located at 75 El Vanada Road, Redwood City, CA 94062, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MARY M SCHMIDT
75 El Vanada Road
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 August 1, 2021. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 28, 2021.
(ALM Nov. 12, 19, 26; Dec. 3, 2021)

LIFE-HYPNO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 289404
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Life-Hypno, located at 624 Berkeley Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MARIE PIERRE MATHEVON
624 Berkeley Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 8, 2021.
(ALM Nov. 26; Dec. 3, 10, 17, 2021)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MARYANN SMETZER
Case No.: 21-PRO-00632-A
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MARYANN SMETZER. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: ROBERT J. KIDWELL in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO. The Petition for Probate requests that: ROBERT J. KIDWELL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to

administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 12/07/2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 11 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Alexandra Gadzo, Esq. Gadzo Law, P.C. 220 State Street, Suite E, Los Altos, CA 94022 (650)397-9300 (ALM Nov. 12, 19, 26, 2021)

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

DISASTER PREP*continued from page 7*

impacts in California communities by census tract.

The fourth version of that map was recently released and shows that most of Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside and Portola Valley are in the 10% for the least environmentally burdened districts, while those in Belle Haven, East Palo Alto and North Fair Oaks range between being in the 60% to 90% most environmentally burdened census tracts statewide. The city is in the process of creating its first environmental justice “element,” or citywide plan for how to work toward a more fair and healthy environment throughout the community.

Nagaya said the county developed its plan using a similar

tool, called the Social Vulnerability Index. The local hazard mitigation plan will be updated annually. **A**

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

Marketplace

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MEASURE A*continued from page 1*

dentially zoned parcels in the Woodside Road Whiskey Hill Road Parking Assessment District to be improved to provide access, parking and open space, so long as at least 50% of the residential parcels were maintained in open space. It allowed the town to construct parking and access improvements for Town Hall, commercial businesses and the public.

The Roberts would need to submit plans to the town's building department to make any

changes to the property behind Cañada Corners.

As for the town-owned complex along Woodside Road, Tauber expects the Town Council will appoint a subcommittee to review any proposal that is created for the space and hold public meetings. It would be reviewed by the Planning Commission and Town Council, among other committees.

"Not a speedy process, particularly with nothing on the horizon as of yet," he said.

The Woodside Town Council's state of emergency ordinance allows the town to waive the res-

taurants' parking requirements that are part of a conditional use permit. Gov. Gavin Newsom issued an executive order that extends parts of his March 4, 2020, COVID-19 emergency proclamation through March 31, 2022. The town operates under the state umbrella.

The town must take action every 60 days to continue the state emergency on a local level, said Mayor Brian Dombkowski. Outdoor dining is likely to be extended (assuming the council continues to renew the 60-day resolutions) through March 2022, which was set to occur regardless

of the outcome of Measure A.

When the emergency declaration ends, the town must once again enforce the parking requirements, he said.

Woodside resident and Measure A opponent Alan Watkins believes Measure A was not needed to preserve outdoor dining since there are many ways to compensate for 14 fewer full-size parking spaces, such as simply restriping the parking lot for compact cars, he said.

"Similarly, for 'community connection' there are existing alternatives to building a gazebo such as using the town hall deck right next door, or the Village Hub which during the daytime usually has at least a dozen people connecting," he said in an email.

Menlo Park City School District tax measure

Voters in the Menlo Park City School District passed parcel tax Measure B with well over the

required two-thirds majority needed, with 6,022 or 74.4% in favor.

"The community of Menlo Park showed up strong. An overwhelming majority of voters chose to pay it forward, setting up an entire generation of children to benefit from the excellent programs that have become a hallmark of our community," said Measure B Campaign Manager Azadeh Rasmussen. "Thanks to Measure B, we have confidence our schools will continue to deliver superior education while maintaining the financial stability of the district."

Voter turnout stood at 44.8% of 18,093 registered voters.

The results of the election are certified upon completion of the canvass of the vote during the 30 days following an election, which includes a 1% manual tally of the votes to confirm the accuracy of the results. ▣

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

Midpen Wants Your Redistricting Map Feedback!

Let us know what you think about our draft ward maps

Midpen desea recibir sus comentarios acerca de los mapas de redistribución de distritos!

Háganos saber lo que opina acerca del borrador de nuestros mapas de distrito electoral.

Like other public agencies, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is governed by a board of elected officials. Each board member represents a ward of approximately the same number of constituents. We're now looking at the changes in the communities within our boundaries over the past 10 years and redrawing ward boundaries to ensure equitable representation. Based on new 2020 census data, we now have new, draft maps that our Board is considering.

An easy way to provide feedback!

Midpen is offering a new online tool to get your feedback on proposed new ward boundaries.

Midpen's MyDistricting tool lets you add comments on an interactive map to provide input, share ideas and suggest things to consider when defining the new boundaries of each director's ward.

Go to openspace.org/redistricting to access our Ward Redistricting website, access the MyDistricting tool and sign up for notifications.



We need your feedback by **Friday, December 10**, to ensure your input is considered in our analysis. From the app, click "show me how" to watch an instructional video.

Staff contact: GIS Program Administrator Jamie Hawk, jhawk@openspace.org or 650-691-1200.

**ROADKILL***continued from page 5*

report states. Within the past five years, 302 mountain lions were involved in reported crashes. The report notes that this figure does not represent all mountain lions killed on highways and should only be considered as the minimum, as there is no formal requirement for residents to report roadkill incidents.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is currently reviewing mountain lions as a potential candidate under the California Endangered Species Act and already has conservation plans to protect the 2,000 to 3,000 wild cats still living in the states.

"Like most species at the top of the food web, mountain lions are especially vulnerable to (being struck by a vehicle) because they move around a lot and cross roads and highways. Mountain lions are important ecologically because they are the only large, widespread predator in most California ecosystems," reads the report. "They are also important socially, with great interest in their well-being in southern California and Bay Area urban regions."

The report also notes that roadkill incidents should not only be framed as an environmental issue, as these collisions can pose a real economic impact. The report estimates that wildlife vehicle collisions cost state residents \$1.1 billion to \$2.2 billion within the last five years.

By identifying dangerous stretches of highway, the study aims to assist Caltrans and other transportation agencies in developing strategies to lessen roadkill. Some solutions with the best success rates include

reducing speed limits in areas where plenty of wildlife live and building fencing or passageways for animals to safely cross above or below the highway, according to the report.

"Wildlife-vehicle collisions continue to be an under-recognized and under-reported threat to wildlife populations and to drivers in certain areas," the report states. "Even common species like mule deer may be experiencing unsustainable levels of mortality. The state should spend its ample transportation funds to solve this traffic safety and sustainability issue."

So how much would it cost to implement these mitigation strategies? Less than what wildlife vehicle collisions have already cost the state in the past 10 years, the report estimates.

Fencing in 1,275 miles of high-risk highway would take a little over \$175 million, meaning the reduced value of crash costs would exceed mitigation efforts in 10 years, according to the report.

But the report calls on legislators to take concrete steps to quickly invest in projects that reduce wildlife vehicle collisions by using transportation funds, not limited wildlife, parks and environmental budgets.

Additionally, Road Ecology Center researchers encourage Californians to report roadkill sightings at wildlifecrossing.net/california to contribute to more accurate data analyses.

"Monitoring wildlife movement and mortality is critical for improving wildlife connectivity and survival of wildlife species in the face of the combined threats they face, such as transportation systems, climate change, rodenticides and habitat loss," the report said. ▣

Tuning into happy holidays

THE SEASON BRINGS EXTRA CHEER IN 2021 WITH THE RETURN OF IN-PERSON SHOWS AND EVENTS

HOLIDAYS

continued from page 1

caust through eight decades of Hanukkah celebrations.

When: Through Dec. 12.

Where: The Pear, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View.

Info: thepear.org.

Terrible Adult Chamber Orchestra Holiday Sing-along

The Terrible Adult Chamber Orchestra (TACO) performs Christmas and Hanukkah music. The Community Women's Chorus will join TACO and lead a free public sing-along.

When: Nov. 28, 3-4:30 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

Info: tacosv.org.

Pacific Ballet Academy's "The Nutcracker"

Pacific Ballet Academy presents its 30th annual performance of "The Nutcracker." This production offers a shortened performance for children, featuring just Act I, and a sensory-friendly performance of Act II with scaled-down lights and sound.

When: Nov. 26, 6 p.m.; Nov. 27, 1 and 6 p.m.; Nov. 28 children's performance, noon, and sensory-friendly performance, 2 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View

Info: mvcpa.com.

The Christmas Ballet Smuin Ballet presents its Christmas-themed performance, incorporating classical ballet and contemporary dance with traditional carols and pop favorites.

When: Dec. 2-3, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 4, 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 5, 2 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View

Info: smuinballet.org.

Every Brilliant Thing

Los Altos Stage Company presents a one-person show that celebrates the things that make life worth living, in a surprising, personal story that delves into depression, suicide, grief, healing and falling in love.

When: Dec. 3-19.

Where: Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos.

Info: losaltosstage.org.

Friends of Music at Stanford Holiday Musicales 2021

The Friends of Music at Stanford present their annual holiday showcase with performances by Department of Music soloists and ensembles, including the Stanford Philharmonia and the Stanford Chamber Chorale.

When: Dec. 4, 2:30-4 p.m.

Where: Stanford Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford.

Info: music.stanford.edu.

California Bach Society A performance of the seldom-heard "Weinachtshistorie" ("Christmas



Courtesy Tomásean Foley's Celtic Christmas

Irish music and dance is featured in "A Celtic Christmas" Dec. 22 at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts.

Story") by 17th-century composer Heinrich Schütz for six-part choir, soloists and Baroque ensemble. The concert also features a retrospective of favorites from the society's "Christmas Around the World" concerts, with songs, carols, and choral works.

When: Dec. 4, 8 p.m.

Where: All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto

Info: calbach.org.

Holiday Traditions Concert

The Bay Choral Guild performs modern settings of carols from Britain, Central and South America, a choral arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite and Christmas compositions, including the premiere of Sanford Dole's "Peace on Earth."

When: Dec. 4, 8 p.m.

Where: First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto.

Info: baychoralguild.org.

Ballet America's Nutcracker

A shortened production of the favorite holiday ballet, coming in at one and a half hours, aims to keep the youngest audience members engaged. Featuring a cast of 75 local dancers.

When: Dec. 4, 2 and 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 5, 1:30 and 4 p.m.

Where: Carrington Hall, 1201 Brewster Ave., Redwood City.

Info: americanballet.com.

Three Bachs of Christmas

Area choir Soli Deo Gloria presents Christmas music written by Johann Sebastian Bach and two of his sons, including cantatas by J.S. Bach, a short oratorio by J.C.F. Bach, and a Magnificat by C.P.E. Bach.

When: Dec. 4, 3:30 p.m.

Where: Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverley St., Palo Alto.

Info: sdgloria.org.

Peninsula Ballet's Nutcrackers

Peninsula Ballet presents a trio of "Nutcracker" productions: "Nutcracker Sweet," an abridged production for young audiences; "Hip-Hop Nutcracker," which mixes iconic pieces of the story and Tchaikovsky's score with hip-hop dance; and a full-length production of "The Nutcracker."

When: Nutcracker Sweet Dec.

4-5 and Dec. 11-12, 11:30 a.m., 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.; Hip-Hop Nutcracker Dec. 17, 7 p.m. and Dec. 18., 2 p.m.; The Nutcracker Dec. 18, 7 p.m. and Dec. 19, 2 p.m.

Where: Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City.

Info: peninsulaballet.org.

Christmas at the Fox

Singer-songwriter Brandon Pasion performs an evening of Christmas songs and original music. The night includes signature Christmas drinks and caroling.

When: Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City.

Info: brownpapertickets.com.

Gil Shaham Stanford Live presents a solo program by violinist Gil Shaham featuring pieces by Johann Sebastian Bach, Scott Wheeler, and Max Raimi.

When: Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Bing Concert Hall, Stanford.

Info: live.stanford.edu.

Western Ballet Nutcracker The company presents the beloved holiday ballet.

When: Dec. 10, 7 p.m., Dec. 11 at 1 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 12, 1 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

Info: westernballet.org/.

A Jazz Tribute to the Music of 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

Stanford Jazz Workshop presents a tribute to Vince Guaraldi's soundtrack album to "A Charlie Brown Christmas," the classic 1965 TV special.

When: Dec. 10, 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 12, 2 p.m.

Where: Campbell Recital Hall, Braun Music Center, Stanford.

Info: sto.stanfordtickets.org.

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal: A Ceremony to Celebrate Being Together

The Peninsula Women's Chorus presents a holiday concert featuring Alice Parker's setting of "Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal" as well as works by Brahms, Brit-



Veronica Weber

Festive decorations and lights outside of a house on Christmas Tree Lane in Palo Alto. For the 2021 edition, visitors are asked to stay in their vehicles to tour the street of decorated homes.

See HOLIDAYS, page 20



Magali Gauthier



Courtesy Gino De Grandis Photography/Filoli

Attendees leave the annual Mountain View Community Tree Lighting Celebration in 2018. This 2021 event takes place Dec. 6 at Civic Center Plaza.

HOLIDAYS

continued from page 19

ten, other choral favorites such as "Ave Maria," carols and seasonal songs.

When: Dec. 11, 2:30 p.m.

Where: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto.

Info: pwchorus.org.

CSMA Merit Scholars Holiday Concert The Community School of Music and Arts Merit Scholarship Student Ensembles perform favorite selections to celebrate the holidays.

When: Dec. 11, 5 p.m.

Where: CSMA's Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View and streaming on CSMA's YouTube channel.

Info: arts4all.org.

Fire & Ice Silicon Valley Boy-choir presents a winter concert.

When: Dec. 12, 3:30 p.m.

Where: Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverley St., Palo Alto.

Info: svboychoir.org.

Stanford Holiday Organ Concert Stanford University organist Robert Huw Morgan presents a concert of seasonal music.

When: Dec. 12, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford.

Info: events.stanford.edu.

LEHUA GREENMAN



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Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

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Ragazzi Boys Chorus The chorus performs "Mysteries and Miracles," a program of yuletide favorites and contemporary festive pieces. Performed in person in San Francisco and livestreamed.

When: Dec. 12, 4 p.m.

Where: Livestreamed

Info: ragazzi.org

A Chanticleer Christmas San Francisco's men's choir presents its annual holiday celebration.

When: Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Memorial Church, Stanford.

Info: live.stanford.edu.

Holiday Concertos: Bach, Corelli & More Voices of Music presents their signature holiday program of concertos, including the Bach violin concerto in A Minor BWV 1041 performed by Rachell Ellen Wong.

When: Dec. 17, 7 p.m.

Where: First Congregational Church, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto

Info: voicesofmusic.org.

The Gingerbread Man Palo Alto Children's Theatre presents a storyteller-style play for young audience members, suggested for ages 2 to 6.

When: Dec. 18, 10 a.m. and noon; Dec. 19, 10 a.m. and noon; Dec. 20, 10 a.m.

Where: 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

Info: cityofpaloalto.org.

The Snow Queen Bayer Ballet Company presents a ballet danced by young artists about a child who embarks on a magical journey to save their best friend from the spell of the Snow Queen.

When: Dec. 18, 7 p.m. and Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

Woodside's Filoli estate features sprawling gardens and a historic mansion all decorated for the holidays.

Info: bayerballet.com.

Woodside Village Band The band performs a holiday concert.

When: Dec. 18, 3 p.m.

Where: Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside

Info: windband.org/woodside.

A Celtic Christmas Irish storyteller Tomáseen Foley leads a cast of dancers and musicians in a re-creation of a night before Christmas in the west of Ireland in the 1940s, where neighbors would gather to dance and play music.

When: Dec. 22, 7 p.m.

Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View

Info: mvcpa.com.

Community Gatherings and Special Events

Ernie's Trains John Bianco is continuing his late father's tradition of putting on a holiday model-train display.

When: Weather permitting, five tracks will run trains every evening (except Mondays) Nov. 25 through Dec. 25, 6:30-9 p.m.

Where: 2387 Adele Ave., Mountain View.

Holidays at Filoli The Filoli estate celebrates the holidays with decorated gardens and holiday decor inside the historic mansion. Activities include Santa Weekends (Dec. 4-5, 11-12 and 18-19); Monday theme nights, including everything from Hanukkah Lights to a Holiday PJ Party, and a chance to relax on the terrace by a fire with refreshments such as spirits and cider.

When: Open daily, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (except Dec. 24-25)

through Jan. 2.

Where: Filoli Historic Home & Garden, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside.

Info: filoli.org.

IllumiOdyssey CuriOdyssey offers a winter light display for children and families, with laser art, hands-on exhibits and a forest of touchable, glowing sculptures.

When: Through Jan. 9

Where: CuriOdyssey, 1651 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo.

Info: curiodyssey.org.

Sharing the Healing Light of Hanukkah Jewish Family and Children's Services offers a program of stories, teaching, song, humor and ritual that explores the meaning of Hanukkah.

When: Nov. 30, 2 p.m.

Where: Online.

Info: tinyurl.com/akea6626.

Hanukkah Celebration at Stanford Shopping Center A celebration that includes music and a puppet show by Octopretzel, crafts for kids, dreidel games and a candle lighting ceremony.

When: Dec. 2, 5-6:30 p.m.

Where: Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto.

Info: paloaltojcc.org.

City of Palo Alto Tree Lighting Live entertainment, tree lighting and a toy drive are featured at this city celebration.

When: Dec. 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Where: Lytton Plaza, University Avenue and Emerson Street, Palo Alto.

Info: cityofpaloalto.org.

BayLUG Holiday Show The Bay Area LEGO User Group and BayLTC, the Bay Area L-Gauge Train Club, will showcase their annual holiday miniature scene, this year with a jungle theme.

When: Dec. 4-Jan. 9 (Sat.-Sun, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m, closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1)

Where: Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto.

Info: baylug.org.

Caltrain Holiday Train Caltrain's festive Holiday Train will make nine stops along the Peninsula, with lights, entertainment, characters and a chance for locals to donate a new, unwrapped toy to the annual toy drive.

When: Dec. 4-5

Where: The train will stop in Redwood City, 6:10 p.m., and Mountain View, 6:50 p.m., on Dec. 4 and in Menlo Park at 7:25 p.m. on Dec. 5.

Info: holiday-train.org.

Hometown Holidays Redwood City's annual celebration includes a community parade, a snow lot, holiday vendors, and performances from local entertainers, culminating in a tree lighting.

When: Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Where: Downtown Redwood City.

Info: hometownholidays.org.

Gamble Garden Festival of Trees Visitors can stroll among holiday trees decorated by creative individuals, groups, and organizations. The event also includes wreath sales, holiday arrangements, a bake sale and music. All trees are available for purchase by silent auction to benefit Gamble Garden.

When: Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Where: Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto.

Info: gamblegarden.org.

Menorah Lighting at Palo Alto

See **HOLIDAYS**, page 21

HOLIDAYS

continued from page 20

City Hall A Hanukkah celebration in front of Palo Alto's City Hall, sponsored by Chabad Palo Alto, with crafts and activities, a chocolate gelt drop, latkes and donuts.

When: Dec. 5, 4:30 p.m.

Where: Palo Alto City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

Info: chabadpaloalto.com.

City of Mountain View Tree Lighting

Local performances, tributes to multicultural and diverse traditions, free refreshments, a train ride, the lighting of the community tree and a visit from Santa.

When: Dec. 6, 5:30-8 p.m.

Where: Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

Info: mountainview.gov.

Christmas Tree Lane

Since 1940, Fulton Street (off Embarcadero Road) in Palo Alto has transformed into "Christmas Tree Lane," full of lights and decorations. For safety, the 2021 edition will be a drive-thru and visitors must remain in their vehicles at all times.

When: Dec. 11-31, 5-11 p.m. each night

Where: 1700 and 1800 blocks of Fulton Street in Palo Alto.
Info: christmastreelane.org.

Holiday Markets & Galleries

FabMo Holiday Artisan Showcase

An online showcase of creations by local artisans that features unique clothing, fine art, accessories, jewelry, home decor, gifts, toys and holiday items, all crafted at least in part from FabMo's stock of discontinued designer samples that have been rescued and repurposed.

When: Through Dec. 23

Info: fabmo.org.

Gallery House Paintings, ceramics, statues, jewelry, and cards by local artists.

When: Through Jan. 1

Where: 320 S. California Ave., Palo Alto

Info: galleryhouse.art/.

Paly Winter Glass Sale

Palo Alto High School Fiery Arts holds a sale featuring handcrafted ornaments, candy canes, pumpkins and other items. Proceeds benefit the Paly sculpture program.

When: Dec. 3, 3-6 p.m. and

Dec. 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto.

Info: sites.google.com/site/palyglass.

Christmas Market at Allied Arts Guild

Handcrafted goods such as knitted sweaters, soap and lotion gift packs, belts and bags from local vendors and artists. The event also offers a silent auction featuring themed Christmas trees, activities and treats and a chance to visit Santa.

When: Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park.

Info: alliedartsguild.org.

Palo Alto Art Center Studio Holiday Sale

Jewelry, ceramics, paintings, prints and other artwork created by local artists working in the Art Center's studios at the Palo Alto Art Center. Proceeds benefit the artists, studios, and the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation.

When: Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto.

Info: paacf.org.

German Holiday Market

German International School of



Courtesy Keith Sutter/Smuin Ballet

Smuin Ballet artist Tessa Barbour blows a kiss in Rex Wheeler's "Christmas Tree Rock," part of Smuin's "The Christmas Ballet," coming to the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts Dec. 2-5.

Silicon Valley's annual Germany holiday market is back in person this year, offering an array of traditional German holiday treats, gifts, food and music. Proceeds benefit the school.

When: Dec. 11, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Where: Mountain View

Caltrain station, 600 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View

Info: germanholidaymarket.org. 📍

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman at hzimmerman@almanacnews.com.

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Food & Drink



Alexandre Trouan, owner of Artisan Macaron, hands change back to customers at Bon Marché, a French-inspired outdoor market, on Santa Cruz Avenue in downtown Menlo Park on Nov. 10. The market runs from 3 to 7 p.m. every Wednesday.

A PORTAL TO PARIS

Strolling through Menlo Park's Bon Marché market

Story by Almanac staff | Photos by Magali Gauthier

Bon Marché, downtown Menlo Park's new French-themed midweek farmers market, is heading into winter with earlier hours and a rotating cast of vendors. The brainchild of Bistro Vida owner Ali El Safy, Bon Marché launched Oct. 27 and is open Wednesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. on the 600 block of Santa Cruz Avenue.

A recent walk through the market found stalls selling classic French treats like crepes and macarons as Yves Montand singing "Sous le Ciel de Paris" played over the sound system. Little Sky Bakery was doing a

brisk business selling bread, and surrounding stalls held tempting displays of produce, honey, mushrooms, flowers and gelato. The market picked up around 5:30 p.m., and as day turned to night, string lights strewn across the top of the market lit up, giving things a glowing hue.

The market is one of the latest pilots in Menlo Park to reimagine life as people have needed greater physical distance and gravitated outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was organized with the city, West Coast Farmers Market Association and Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce. ■



Some patrons of the market stroll through, while others stop to dine or gather with friends and family.



Mike and Niki's Honey worker Laurel Godley speaks with Nicki Poulos at Bon Marché.



Gio Gelati worker Teresa Mastropalo scoops gelato while Guido Mastropalo, her father and owner of the business, watches.



Flavored honey sticks for sale from Mike and Niki's Honey at Bon Marché, a French-inspired outdoor market.



Brooke, 3, hands her friend a vanilla-flavored macaron at Bon Marché in downtown Menlo Park.

We just want to say

THANK YOU

to the hundreds of you who decided to support local journalism and become members during our first **Fall Membership Drive.**

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and happiness this holiday season
and throughout 2022*

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