

# The Almanac

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

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## Antiques Roadshow draws 2,500 to Filoli

By Angela Swartz

A power outage and heat wave couldn't stop thousands of people, lugging wooden chairs, paintings, cabinets on wheels, lamps and more, from turning out at the Filoli Estate in Woodside for the Antiques Roadshow.

The show, which searches for America's hidden treasures, stopped at the 654-acre property on Wednesday, June 22, and so did 2,541 guests over the course of the day (the first ticket in was for 7:30 a.m. and the last guests entered at 4:30 p.m.). The Edgewood Fire knocked out power at Filoli the day before and it had not yet been restored the day of the show. Fortunately, the Antiques Roadshow always has a backup plan, according to producers, and used generators run out of trucks.

"It was a truly impressive

production day that went off without a hitch despite the power outage," said Filoli Marketing Manager Dani Hiel-scher in an email.

All appraisals were held outside on the lawns because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Filoli includes a 54,000-square-foot Georgian revival-style mansion and 16 acres of English Renaissance gardens.

When guests entered the venue, staff assigned them category codes for their appraisals. The 23 categories included paintings, sports memorabilia, toys, rugs, furniture and clocks. Each was allowed to bring two items. By the end of the day, the crew had filmed about 150 appraisals.

Arlie Sulka, a glass expert who specializes in Tiffany & Co., sat down with one

See **FILOLI**, page 14



Magali Gauthier

Janeanne, left, listens to jewelry expert Katherine Van Dell as she appraises an amber necklace at the filming of an Antiques Roadshow episode at the Filoli Estate in Woodside on June 22.

## The Almanac's guide to local Fourth of July celebrations

Peninsula events return in person with fireworks, festivals and parade

By Miles Breen

Events across the Peninsula will be taking place in person this year to mark Independence Day. From concerts to fireworks, there are a variety of ways to enjoy Fourth of July festivities over the course of the holiday weekend, with some events returning after a two-year absence due to the pandemic.

Check out our guide to Independence Day weekend in the Midpeninsula, organized by city.

### MOUNTAIN VIEW

#### Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular

July 4, 8-11 p.m. Shoreline Amphitheatre, One Amphitheatre Parkway; [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org).

Revelers can cap off their Fourth of July celebrations at Shoreline Amphitheatre with a concert and a fireworks spectacular, presented by the San Francisco Symphony. The program will include pieces from children's movies, such as "Coco" and "Frozen" and, of course, "The Star-Spangled Banner."

### PORTOLA VALLEY

#### Ice Cream and Brass Band Celebration

July 3, 7-8 p.m. Ladera Community Church UCC, 3300 Alpine Road.; [laderaucc.churchcenter.com](http://laderaucc.churchcenter.com).

Ladera Community Church hosts a brass band celebration. The event, open to everyone, will also feature an ice cream social.

Guests are encouraged to bring their favorite ice cream topping to share. Before the event, the church will host an outdoor worship service at 6 p.m. for those interested.

### WOODSIDE

#### 70th Annual Woodside Junior Rodeo

July 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County, 521 Kings Mountain Road; [mpsmc.org/rodeo](http://mpsmc.org/rodeo).

Celebrating 70 years, this Woodside tradition will feature events such as barrel racing and pole-bending. For non-competitors, there will be pony rides, a petting zoo and a mechanical bull.

See **FOURTH OF JULY**, page 15



Natalia Nazarova

The annual San Francisco Symphony concert and fireworks show at Shoreline Amphitheatre in Mountain View returns this year.

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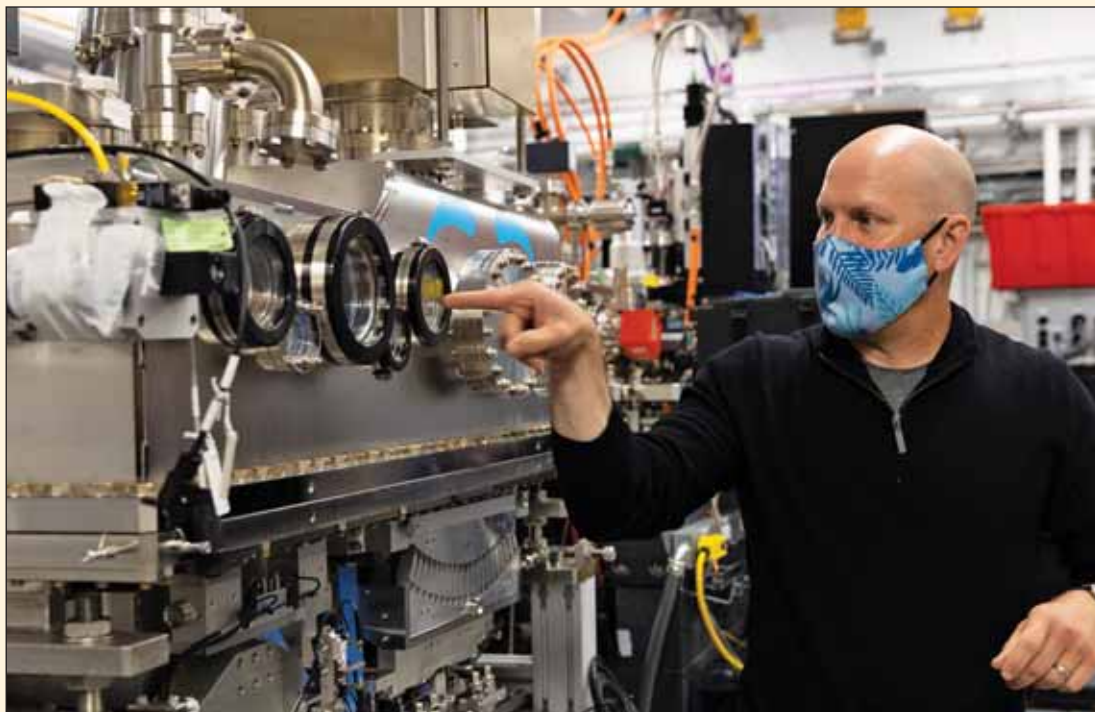
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EVENT & COMMUNITY

# Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

Mike Minitti, senior staff scientist at Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in Menlo Park, said the ability to make its superconducting X-ray colder than the coldest point in the solar system could revolutionize science and lead to innovations in everyday products like cell phone batteries.

## One of the coldest points in our solar system is in Menlo Park

SLAC's particle accelerator reaches a frosty -456 F, advancing research possibilities in everything from vaccines to energy grids

By Cameron Rebosio

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) has made revolutionary discoveries over the years, but its recent development has made a 1-kilometer stretch under Menlo Park colder than most of space.

A superconducting X-ray able to take videos of atoms

can revolutionize science, not just at the grand scale of analyzing molecules, but in improving everyday products such as phone batteries and energy grids, according to Mike Minitti, senior staff scientist & LCLS Soft X-ray department head.

Such advances are possible now that SLAC has successfully lowered the temperature

of the accelerator to 2 Kelvin, or -456 F, which is lower than the coldest point in our solar system, Uranus at -371 F.

The superconducting accelerator, known as the Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS-II) is an innovation itself, but it's also a precursor for further development.

See **SLAC**, page 19

## Menlo Balance initiative faces council scrutiny, resident complaints

By Cameron Rebosio

Menlo Balance's initiative to prohibit the Menlo Park City Council from redesignating lots zoned for single-family homes without a resident vote has verified all the signatures needed to appear on the November ballot. Rather than immediately vote to place the initiative on the ballot, the council at its June 28 meeting decided further information was needed and authorized a study on the impacts.

Eight residents came to voice

their opinions on the Menlo Balance initiative, with seven speaking in opposition and imploring the council to order a report on its impacts. Menlo Balance is a grassroots organization created by two Menlo Park residents with the goal of preventing the council from rezoning single-family lots for multi-unit development. If the initiative passes in November, any rezoning would have to be put to a public vote.

Belle Haven resident Vicky Robledo said that the Menlo Balance initiative would

disproportionately affect residents in her neighborhood, which is Menlo Park's most diverse, according to 2020 U.S. Census demographic data.

Robledo said that Belle Haven is already the site of 4,000 units of housing development and by passing the initiative, projects that would more equally distribute housing in other areas of Menlo Park could be blocked. She also pointed out that Belle Haven has the worst air quality in the city.

See **MENLO BALANCE**, page 10

## How Emerald Hills horses got to safety during the Edgewood Fire

By Angela Swartz

Woodsider Chris Romano was working in her home office when she heard what sounded like a loud crack around 2:20 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21. Her neighbor, Carrey Oberti, immediately picked up her phone to make sure Romano's elderly horse, Fudgy, could be evacuated safely.

That cracking sound preceded the Edgewood Fire, which burned 20 acres on the first day of summer in Emerald Hills, bringing an early start to a fire season that typically begins in July. Thousands of residents were forced to evacuate and four firefighters suffered minor injuries during the fire, which was 100% contained as of Monday, June 27.

Another neighbor, Celeste Stoker, loaded Fudgy, an Icelandic horse, 35, into a borrowed truck (Stoker's was in the shop) and away from the neighborhood on the the southern edge of Edgewood Park. Romano is legally blind and can't drive, so her neighbors wanted to

make sure Fudgy, described as a beloved, docile animal who loves children, had a way to get to safety.

He was one of four horses that stayed with the horseback riding group Junior Riders on the other side of Interstate Highway 280 in Woodside, according to Kathi Dancer, the group's program director. Fudgy returned home on Friday, June 24.

This marked the first time in their three decades in town that they've had to evacuate.

"I'm so lucky and very, very happy to be in my house," said Romano. "After the CZU (Lightning Complex) fires, I said, 'I've got to keep a go-bag.'"

Given Fudgy's age — 35 in horse years is closer to 100 in human years — Romano opted to have him stay closer to home. He'd also had four teeth extracted earlier in the day.

The group helped evacuate thousands of animals during the CZU fires in 2020. Camozzi's group helps transport animals to holding areas when people

See **HORSES**, page 8



Courtesy Chris Romano

Miniature horse Katie, left, and horse Fudgy, graze together near their homes in Emerald Hills. They both evacuated during the Edgewood Fire on June 21.

## Bear Gulch

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

Beginning August 1, 2022, the water bills of California Water Service (Cal Water) customers in the Bear Gulch District will reflect a pass-through of higher wholesale water charges and higher groundwater replenishment charges by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the state agency that regulates Cal Water, has determined that expenses for wholesale water are not under the company's control, and that a pass-through of those costs to customers is just and reasonable if properly calculated.

On or around June 29, 2022, Cal Water will file Advice Letter 2454 to request authority to increase its annual revenue in the Bear Gulch District by \$3,396,126, or 5.5%. Pending the CPUC's review of Cal Water's calculations, the increase will be effective on August 1, 2022. With the increase, a typical monthly bill for a Bear Gulch residential customer with a 5/8" x 3/4" meter who uses 11 CCF of water (which is 1,100 cubic feet, or approximately 8,228 gallons) per month will increase by \$5.61, or 5.5%.

A copy of Advice Letter 2454 will be available on the internet at <https://www.calwater.com/rates-advice-letters/> (please select the Bear Gulch District from the drop-down menu), and may also be obtained from the company's local office by calling (650) 561-9709. You may also contact the company's headquarters by mailing the Rates Department at 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598, or by calling (408) 367-8200 and asking for the Rates Department.

Cal Water offers many programs to help you manage your water bill including a Customer Assistance Program (CAP), (formerly, low-income ratepayer assistance program (LIRA)), water conserving appliance rebates, and other conservation programs. Please visit our website at [www.calwater.com](http://www.calwater.com) to take advantage of these opportunities.

Protests and Responses. Anyone may respond to or protest this filing. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in its evaluation. A protest objects to the filing in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based, and shall provide citations or proof where available to allow Commission staff to properly consider the protest. The grounds for protests are:

1. The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the filing.
2. The relief requested in the filing would violate statute or Commission order, or is not authorized by statute or Commission order on which the utility relies.
3. The analysis, calculations, or data in the filing contains material error or omissions.
4. The relief requested in the filing is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding, or
5. The relief requested in the filing requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the filing process, or
6. The relief requested in the filing is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the Commission).

A response or protest must be made in writing and received by the Commission's Water Division by July 19, 2022, the end of the comment period. The response or protest should be sent to the CPUC (by email to [water.division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:water.division@cpuc.ca.gov), or by mail to the Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd Floor, CPUC, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102) and to Cal Water (by email to [cwsrates@calwater.com](mailto:cwsrates@calwater.com), or by mail to the Rates Department, California Water Service Company, 1720 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95112).

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#### CRIME BRIEFS

### Woman in critical condition after being struck by SamTrans bus

A woman suffered life-threatening injuries after she was struck by a SamTrans bus on El Camino Real in Menlo Park during early morning hours on Wednesday, June 29, at 1:20 a.m., according to Menlo Park police.

The bus collided with the woman on southbound El Camino between Encinal and Valparaiso avenues, police said. The woman was reportedly walking in the right lane of the roadway at the time of the collision.

Menlo Park first responders showed up at the scene and administered first aid and transported the woman to Stanford Hospital, police said.

Southbound lanes on El Camino were closed for several hours, requiring a traffic detour until they were reopened shortly after 7 a.m. Menlo Park's police traffic unit is currently investigating the collision and "reconstructing" the incident, police said.

The woman has been identified but her name has not been released as of Wednesday.

Anyone who witnessed the collision is asked to call the Menlo Park Police Department at 650-330-6300.

—Cameron Rebosio

#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Portola Valley Library to open seven days a week

The Portola Valley Library will begin offering seven-days-a-week service on Tuesday, July 5, to give community members more chances to borrow materials and use technology, including computers, a 3D printer, laptops and hotspots, according to a June 28 San Mateo County Libraries press release. The new schedule includes expanded evening hours and opening the library on Sundays for the first time.

"We wanted to make this happen for our community members and it couldn't come at a better time," said Portola Valley Mayor Craig Hughes in a statement. "Portola Valley Library is well-loved year round, and in summer it becomes an everyday destination. Families wanting to keep their kids reading over the break, teens preparing college applications and anyone who wants a cool, quiet place to read or reach other services can seek out the library any day of the week now."

Most county libraries resumed all-week services in December 2021, according to the press release.

The library will be open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. For more information go to [smcl.org](http://smcl.org).

### Hillview students to paint mural in Redwood City

Redwood City has selected a group of Hillview Middle School students, including Ash, Sasha, Natalie, Lucas, Alexa D., Alexa H., and Lily, to create a mural for the city. It will be on display in early July, according to a Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) newsletter.

The kids chose birds and butterflies, painted in various pride flags, as symbols of freedom and the San Francisco skyline to represent California, according to students.

### SamTrans Art Takes a Bus Ride winner

Hillview seventh grader Caitlin Regan won the SamTrans' Art Takes a Bus Ride art contest, according to the MPCSD newsletter.

Her artwork will be featured on SamTrans buses for one year.

### Oak Knoll finalist in best schools for healthy students

Oak Knoll School in Menlo Park has been named in the Top 10 shortlist for World's Best School Prize for Supporting Healthy Lives by T4 Education

The winners will be announced in October 2022 at World Education Week. ■

—Angela Swartz

# Firefighters fully contain Edgewood Fire after six days

Wildfire in the Emerald Hills area of Woodside and Redwood City displaced residents, came close to homes

By Leah Worthington and Angela Swartz

On Monday morning, June 27, Cal Fire CZU announced via social media that the Edgewood Fire in the Emerald Hills area of Woodside and Redwood City was 100% contained, six days after it started.

All alerts and advisories were called off for residents and power had been restored, fire officials said Friday, June 24.

The fire erupted in an area bounded by Woodside, Redwood City and Edgewood Park and Nature Preserve on

Tuesday, June 21, the blisteringly hot first day of summer. It brought an early start to the Peninsula's fire season, which typically begins in July. It triggered local evacuation orders and left thousands of residents without power, some for days.

The fire reached within roughly 100-200 feet of the nearest houses, burning about 20 acres, according to Redwood City Fire Chief Ray Iverson. Four firefighters suffered minor injuries from the blaze.

"This is the first fire of that type in decades, where it came to a point where it threatened that many structures and caused that

much acreage to burn," Iverson said.

Emergency responders from around the Bay Area came out to support the local Cal Fire CZU team, fighting steep terrain, triple-digit temperatures and unpredictable winds. Last Tuesday, some 200 personnel were on the ground, including the Redwood City and Woodside fire departments, strike teams from Cal Fire SCU, LNU and Mendocino, as well as hand crews from Marin County Fire, Monterey Bay and Blue Ridge.

Two inmate crews from the Ben Lomond Conservation Camp were also dispatched to



Courtesy Cal Fire

A member of the Blue Ridge firefighter hand crew from Cal Fire LNU mops up the Edgewood Fire.

battle the blaze.

PG&E was investigating the cause of the fire. There have been multiple reports from area residents who heard a loud explosion immediately followed by a power outage just prior to the

fire starting.

Incident commander and Battalion Chief Bob Simmons said his crews "hit it really hard" during the first day, working right

See **EDGEWOOD FIRE**, page 10

## During wildfire's blackout, Emerald Hills resident charges up the community

By Cameron Rebosio

After evacuation orders for the Edgewood Fire were lifted, some returning residents' problems weren't over thanks to power outages. Emerald Hills resident George Whitehill and his family decided to assist the community where they could, in the form of electricity.

Whitehill, who powers his home with a generator during outages, ran an extension cord to a surge protector placed on a table on his front porch, and invited people to charge their devices throughout the day and a half that the neighborhood was without power.

"I thought it would be a great way to help the neighbors and it also turned out to be a great way to get to know my neighbors

even better," Whitehill said. "I had people that I had never really talked to before come over and while their phone was charging we would be talking about the fire and the power outage."

Whitehill said he bought a generator for his home after his family lost \$400 worth of food in a power outage. Deciding to share the benefits, he began setting up the neighborhood charging station when PG&E had planned public safety power outages that left many neighbors without electricity.

"Sometimes when the power is out like this, the only thing you really have these days is your phone," Whitehill said. "If you get low on battery or run out, then you have nothing."

Rich Goldberg used the station to charge his phone when

power was out at his home. He called Whitehill's charging station an "oasis" for those who were completely in the dark, especially as residents tensely waited for updates on the fire.

"With no power and no internet, your phone is really the only connection to the outside world," Rich said. "We could find out what was happening and monitor whether or not we had to evacuate — that was crucial."

One neighbor, Lori Bedford, used the power from the generator to blow dry her hair as she prepped for her first in-person meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

"George was kind enough to string an extension cord so I took my dryer and my mirror over in the morning and did my hair in his backyard," Bedford said. "(It was) kind of a lifesaver for us."

Whitehill also provided ice to neighbors and offered space in his refrigerator for those worried about food spoiling.

"I really take for granted sometimes our home and family and pets and all our possessions and you just think it's a given that they're always going to be there," Whitehill said. "It was just very scary to think that all of that could've gone away just because of the wind direction or because of an accident. (The fire) has given me a renewed appreciation and gratitude for everything I have." ■

Email Staff Writer Cameron Rebosio at [crebosio@almanacnews.com](mailto:crebosio@almanacnews.com).



Cameron Rebosio

Emerald Hills resident George Whitehill shared power from his home's backup generator with neighbors affected by the blackout during the Edgewood Fire last week.

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# Facing a surge in puppies needing a home, nonprofit seeks foster families

By Aliana Mediratta

Menlo Park resident Molly McComas began fostering dogs with her mother Sue when she was 15 years old, after adopting from Pound Puppy Rescue. Now, 12 years and more than 100 puppies later, her 7-year-old daughter learns about respecting and caring for animals through the same process.

Founded in 2001, Pound Puppy Rescue is a San Francisco-based nonprofit operating throughout the Bay Area that saves roughly 300-400 puppies, pregnant and nursing dogs every year. Fully run by volunteers, the rescue relies on local foster families to provide temporary care for puppies while they are available to be adopted into their forever homes.

Recently, the number of pets in shelters has increased dramatically, leaving the organization in serious need of more foster volunteers. Volunteer Indrani Stangl said that during the early days of the pandemic, shelters were nearly empty due to a sudden widespread desire to get a dog while stuck at

home. Stangl has volunteered with the organization for 15 years, serving as president for three, and currently serves as a contact for shelters to connect rescue animals with foster families.

She noted that, in the past year or so, many dogs who were adopted mid-pandemic have been abandoned or surrendered.

"I probably get pinged 20 times a day about a puppy or a litter or a pregnant dog, and I have to say no because I don't have the resources to take them," Stangl said.

McComas describes the experience of fostering as truly rewarding, citing the feeling of saving a life and being directly involved in the process of placing a puppy with a loving family.

"Everyone always says to me, how do you let the dogs go?" McComas said, "I always tell them, the best part is getting to interview all these different families and you just meet these great people that you just know instantly, they're gonna give the best lives to these dogs."

Colleen Kaiser, a Belmont resident who has fostered with

Pound Puppy for nine years, expressed similar sentiments about the value of contributing to a puppy's life by getting to know them.

"They all have such unique personalities, they're all special in their own way," Kaiser said.

She's fostered nearly 50 dogs, and called the feeling of placing a puppy fantastic.

"It feels so good," Kaiser said, "and then a lot of times you get these follow-up pictures of the puppy settling in, I even get Christmas cards from some of the families, with the puppies on it."

While both McComas and Kaiser note the effort that fostering takes, both mentioned the value of Pound Puppy's strong support system. On June 23, McComas took in an approximately 8-week-old puppy named Socks, who she described as super snuggly and very smart. A few days later, Kaiser took Socks in for a few days to help out due to a planned trip, an example of volunteer support that occurs occasionally.

When a foster family takes in a puppy, Pound Puppy covers all expenses and works with



Courtesy Colleen Kaiser

Eight-week-old Socks is being fostered through Pound Puppy Rescue and is available to be adopted.

its volunteer network to help fosters when they need it, from dropping off food to coordinating transportation.

"It's a pretty tight community," Kaiser said, "we have a Facebook page where we can ask each other questions or get support."

In shelters throughout California, puppies are regularly put down due to the amount of effort necessary to take care of them, part of a nationwide trend of rising euthanization numbers. Pound Puppy gets a

significant number of puppies from shelters and individual contacts in Central California, including Fresno and Coalinga. By placing puppies with foster families, Pound Puppy works to reduce the number of puppies being euthanized as well as reduce crowding at shelters.

Unlike some programs that offer a "foster-to-adopt" program, which allows families to have temporary custody over a pet to determine if they are a good fit, Pound Puppy uses foster families solely to provide care while looking for a permanent adoptive family.

Unlike some programs that offer a "foster-to-adopt" program giving families a trial run before eventually adopting the animal, at Pound Puppy, the end goal of every foster placement is to find the best possible new home for each pet with someone else. More information on Pound Puppy, including how to apply to foster or to adopt, is on its website, [poundpuppyrescue.org](http://poundpuppyrescue.org) or by emailing [info@poundpuppyrescue.org](mailto:info@poundpuppyrescue.org). Its Facebook page regularly posts descriptions and photos of puppies available for adoption. ■

Email Editorial Intern Aliana Mediratta at [amediratta@almanacnews.com](mailto:amediratta@almanacnews.com).

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## HORSES

continued from page 5

either don't have an evacuation plan or a way to get animals out — if, for example, their trailer is broken.

Camozzi said most people in Emerald Hills already have plans for where to move their animals in case of an emergency. Most people kept their horses locally at the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County, Portola Farms and Woodside Horse Park, she said. Some people didn't move their animals because the evacuation order was downgraded to an advisory by 9 p.m. the day the fire ignited.

Dancer said she gave Emerald Hills residents the gate code and said "come on in" when she started getting texts asking for their horses to stay at Junior Riders.

"There's a good network of neighbors where we all know each other," Dancer said. There are even cartoon drawings of Fudgy (Romano is a cartoonist), who was part of Junior Riders' riding program years ago, up on the bulletin board.

Camozzi, who's kept horses her entire life and who runs Half Moon Bay Feed and Fuel (which also runs horse boarding facilities), got involved in

large animal evacuation after a large fire in Santa Cruz in 1998.

"We were told we weren't certified to cross fire lines," she said. "I couldn't stand the idea of animals being left." She's been running the San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation for 12 years.

Camozzi prefers moving animals as far away from the fire as possible because it can be more stressful for an animal to have to move multiple times, and acclimate all over again, than moving once. For example, during the CZU fires, horses spent three and half weeks with the evacuation group. During the Tubbs Fire in 2017, moving animals 10 miles wasn't far enough, she said.

"We're always going to pick something a little farther away because it's going to be safer and long term," Camozzi said. "With all the trees and the brush and kindling (in Edgewood Park), you don't know what way that fire is going to go."

The best way to contact the animal evacuation group during an emergency is to call 911 and ask for large animal evacuation, Camozzi said. ■

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

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**MENLO BALANCE**

*continued from page 5*

“It seems that (the city) tend(s) to focus on Belle Haven, like it is the only space to build and it isn’t, and we are literally being poisoned in our own communities,” Robledo said. She called the decision to concentrate development in Belle Haven a little bit of “modern-day redlining and racism.”

Multiple residents took to public comment to say that they agreed with Robledo’s stance and that affordable housing in the city should be built outside of Belle Haven.

Other residents complained of being fed misinformation by Menlo Balance’s canvassers, including false reports that

council members and city staff have given their support to the initiative.

“As one of those Belle Haven residents who was given misinformation by the canvassers, it really concerns me that even the people that are promoting this may not understand what it is,” resident Pam Jones said.

This initiative has the potential to impact the Flood School housing development, a proposal that could build up to 90 units of affordable housing at the site of the former James Flood Magnet School. The former school property is zoned for single-family housing.

Council member Jen Wolosin went on the record to say that she opposes the measure.

“I am eager to hear the results of the report in terms of unintended consequences that may not have been fully considered by myself and others,” Wolosin said. “However, given the known impact to the Flood School site, I am opposed to this ballot measure.”

Rebecca Barnes, manager at MidPen Housing mentioned that Menlo Park had previously been cited for non-compliance by the state for its housing element, a state-mandated plan for accommodating housing growth over an eight-year period. She said that the ballot initiative could only make the problem worse.

“Requiring a vote of the people in order to produce new affordable homes will have a detrimental effect on affordable housing

development, and preclude the development of church and school sites, which are some of the best places to consider due to being mission-aligned or already held as a public asset,” Barnes said. “We are deeply concerned that this ballot measure as is will be a step backward for the city.”

The current housing element has identified sites for potential affordable housing development that have single-family zoning, but they don’t have existing homes — they are churches, a school and a vacant lot.

The City Council had the option to adopt the initiative, submit the initiative to citizens for a vote or order a report on the effect of the initiative. The council elected to order a report on the potential

impacts of Menlo Balance’s initiative on racial and economic equity, educational equity, ability to comply with state housing laws, climate and traffic impacts, and impacts on the current sites included in the draft housing element.

Council member Drew Combs implored the staff not to allow any bias when analyzing data.

The motion for the report, proposed by Combs, passed unanimously. The report must come back in 30 days, after which the council will take further action.

The initiative can be read at [menlobalance.org/ballot-initiative](http://menlobalance.org/ballot-initiative). ■

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**EDGEWOOD FIRE**

*continued from page 7*

up against the fire, going in with hoses, scratching out a protective barrier around the perimeter and sending aircraft to dump water and fire retardant overhead.

“We got really lucky there (were) no other major fires in Northern California,” he said. “We weren’t fighting for aircraft with anybody else.”

Simmons and his team worked the fire until 10:30 p.m. last

Tuesday night, wearing headlamps in the dark. By the following day, just over 60 firefighters were on-scene putting out residual hotspots and fortifying the containment line.

**The fire’s implications**

Fire Marshal Don Bullard of the Woodside Fire Protection District said dense fuel on the south side of the canyon remains, since aircraft dropping water bombarded the southern portion to protect housing. Fuel — dry

grasses, brush and trees — on the northern portion burned off.

It wasn’t the only fire in Emerald Hills to break out that day. The Colton Fire, on Colton Court, was extinguished within hours and burned a couple of acres.

In a way, fire crews “lucked out” that the smaller Colton Fire broke out around the same time because Cal Fire had already sent two air assignments that could then join forces against the Edgewood Fire, Bullard said.

“Our saving grace was that we

had aircraft to put water on the fire,” but future grants, possibly through PG&E, will be needed to mitigate the fuel on the south side, he said.

About 18 Woodside fire personnel were onsite to fight the Edgewood Fire.

Bullard said the Edgewood Fire is the most comparable to the Skeggs Fire, which burned about 50 acres at Skyline Road and Skeggs Point, 3 miles west of Woodside, in September 2017. It was also a difficult fire to access — firefighters had to hike in. But

that fire didn’t burn as quickly and the vegetation was much moister than it is now, he said.

“(The Skeggs Fire) started in the evening,” Bullard said. “We had time to plan for what we were going to do for it the next day. ... (With Edgewood) it was 102 degrees, with 15-17% humidity. Our one saving grace was not having to contend with the wind. Fuel, weather and topography drive fire. ... The only changing factor is the weather and wind is one of the big driving forces.” ■



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## Leonore Rooney Daschbach

June 11, 1929 – June 24, 2022

Leonore Rooney Daschbach, a long-time resident of Atherton, passed away peacefully at her home on June 24, 2022. A loving wife to her husband of 59 years, Howard M. Daschbach, Jr. (who passed away in 2012) and loving mother of 6, grandmother of 18 and great grandmother of 16. Although an only child herself, Leonore will be remembered as the matriarch of her large family and all their friends.



Leonore, a fourth generation Californian, was born to Theodore and Lillian Rooney, on June 11, 1929, in San Francisco. At the age of five, her family moved to Atherton, to the home that Leonore lived in until her death. Her family believes that at the time of her death she was the longest living resident of Atherton. Leonore lived in her home on Winchester Drive for 87 years.

She attended the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Atherton and completed her education at Lone Mountain College in San Francisco, so it was only fitting that she died on the Feast Day of the Sacred Heart.

Leonore met Howard at the Neuman Club on Stanford Campus in the fall of 1952 and the two were married at the Carmel Mission on February 5, 1953. Leonore will be missed by her children LeeLee Cusenza (Steve), Rooney Daschbach (Claire), Lisa Fuerst (Rory), Laura Pitchford (Mark), and Mark Daschbach (Liz). Her youngest child Michele Fast passed away in 2011. She will also be missed by her eighteen grandchildren and their spouses, Siena, Michael (Shane), Marisa (Tyler), Tave, Holly, Eric (Roxy), Leah (Todd), Rory (Lindsay), Brady (Kendall), Connor, Trevor, Doyle, Rooney, Sarah, Andrew, Patrick (Yaneth), Laura (Kyle) and Lisa. And her sixteen great grandchildren Hailey, Jasper, Cleo, Sebastian, Ayla, Reese, Vance, Ward, Levi, Emme, Leo, Jaime, Tatum, Cody, Florence, and Warren. She will be missed by many friends as well.

Life for Leonore centered on her family and her family home in Atherton. She loved horses, dogs, playing tennis and loading her kids and their friends into the family station wagon for spontaneous adventures. She especially loved her anniversary trips to Hana Maui with Howard and her annual family trips with her lifelong friend, Jane Rothchild Turner, and her family. The Turner/Daschbach families have traveled together annually for over 60 years.

In earlier days, Leonore was active as a docent at Filoli, and as a member of the St. Raymond Mother's Club, the Children of Mary, the Peninsula Volunteers, and the Menlo Circus Club. She was also a walking encyclopedia of the San Francisco Peninsula history.

The family wishes to thank Betty and Lose, her longtime care givers and Kris, Lole and Nani for caring for her in her last days.

A private family mass will be celebrated for Leonore at her beloved Convent of the Sacred Heart followed by the burial at Holy Cross Cemetery in Menlo Park.

In honor of Leonore's generous spirit, in lieu of flowers, donations should be made to St. Raymond School, Menlo Park; Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton; Oakwood, Atherton; St. Francis Center, Redwood City, The Monterey Bay Aquarium; Guide Dogs for the Blind, San Raphael, or Filoli, Woodside.

A private family mass will be celebrated for Leonore followed by a burial at Holy Cross Cemetery in Menlo Park.

PAID OBITUARY

## Bay restoration project gets \$1M grant for flood control

Funding would go toward protecting properties in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park

By Sue Dremann

A project to protect and restore more than 500 acres of critical shore area habitats in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park received a \$1 million grant from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, the San Francisco Bay Joint Powers Authority announced on June 24.

The grant will help fund the Strategy to Advance Flood Protection, Ecosystems and Recreation along San Francisco (SAFER) Bay Project, leading up to the preparation of an environmental impact report.

This grant will enable the creek authority to evaluate ways to protect 4,900 parcels in the two San Mateo County cities from tidal flooding and sea level rise and help protect and restore more than 500 acres of critical shoreline habitats. Improving recreational access is also part of the project.

"We are grateful for this funding and are excited to advance the environmental and technical studies needed for the SAFER Bay project. We are eager to establish our outreach program and to hear and learn from our diverse community of stakeholders," Tess Byler, SAFER senior project

manager, said in the statement.

The creek authority is a local government agency comprising the cities of East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Palo Alto, the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District. It works to protect residents of Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and Palo Alto from creek and tidal flooding and enhance wildlife habitats while improving recreation.

More information about the creek authority and its project can be found at [sfjcpa.org](http://sfjcpa.org). ■

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

## Betty Maurine Robarts

July 19, 1924 – June 20, 2022

Betty Maurine Robarts was born in Portland, Oregon in 1924 but grew up in Utah. In 1942 she travelled from Ogden, Utah to Berkeley, California where she attended the University of California. While there, she was a member and officer of the Chi Omega Sorority. It was there that she made many friends and created many long-cherished memories. Throughout her life she remained a devoted



Golden Bear. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Captain Robert Robarts, who was at that time flying for Pan American Airways in support of the war effort. They were married in 1945 in Piedmont, California. Bob's job with Pan Am resulted in changing base assignments and their first home was in Miami and then Greenwich, Connecticut. They finally put down roots in Atherton in 1964. While in Greenwich and Atherton, Betty enjoyed being a room mother at her children's schools as well as scout and brownie mother. She did volunteer work at Stanford Children's Hospital. She and Bob were members of the Circus Club in Atherton where they made many long-lasting friendships. They enjoyed travelling all over the world on Pan Am and had many lifetime friends within Pan Am. They always looked forward to spending time at their home on the big island of Hawaii. In 2003 Betty and Bob moved into the Vi in Palo Alto. Betty was predeceased by her parents Maurine and Vernon Brown and by her husband Bob who passed in 2018. She is survived by her daughters Rebecca Wilson (Rick) and Carolyn Roth (Dennis Chinn) of Menlo Park and her son Douglas Robarts (Lisa) of Elk Grove. She is also survived by her nine grandchildren and eight (soon to be nine) great-grandchildren – all of whom she treasured and brought great joy to her life. The family would like to thank the nurses, social workers and doctors of Mission and Pathways Hospice for their care and support.

PAID OBITUARY

## FILOLI

continued from page 1

attendee, Erin, to examine her green stained glass Tiffany lamp, which she inherited from her father. Sulka estimated the item is worth between \$35,000 and \$45,000.

One of the 70 appraisers on site examined a Baltic amber necklace from Germany, worth around \$125, from one attendee, Janeanne. She said she was surprised it wasn't worth more but was still grateful for the appraisal. This is her second time attending an Antiques Roadshow event; she was at the show's visit to San Francisco in 2002.

"People are happy to be here," Janeanne said after her appraisal. "It's a lovely atmosphere; we kind of need that nowadays. We're getting back (to normal from the pandemic)."

Mother and daughter Janet and Megan brought an orange cameo ring and a gold charm bracelet, worth about \$150, that Janet's father gave her when she turned 18. Of course, the pair find the bracelet priceless for its sentimental value, Megan said.

The appraiser said the cameo ring is unique in that it is carved from coral.

The Filoli visit will air between January and May of 2023, according to producers. ■

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

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**FOURTH OF JULY**

*continued from page 1*

**REDWOOD CITY**

**Chalk Full of Fun 2022**

July 3-4, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Courthouse Square, Hamilton Street; [rwcparade.org/chalk-full-of-fun](http://rwcparade.org/chalk-full-of-fun).

Visitors can stop by Courthouse Square to check out — or make — some chalk art. Whether professional or amateur, everyone is welcome to draw on the square and on the street, as long as space is available. Those who wish to pre-register can reserve their spot on the website.



Courtesy Khoi Huynh

Redwood City Chalk Full of Fun chalk festival taken July 4, 2019.

**Pancake Breakfast**

July 4, 8-11 a.m. Marshall Street fire station, 755 Marshall St.; [parade.org](http://parade.org).

The first of many events in Redwood City, the pancake breakfast at the Marshall Street fire station will benefit the Redwood City Firefighters Association. Breakfast is \$10.

**Fourth of July Festival**

July 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Downtown Redwood City; [parade.org/festival](http://parade.org/festival).

Visitors to the Redwood City Fourth of July Festival can browse arts and crafts vendor booths for paintings, fine jewelry and pottery and more. On Broadway, families can enjoy face painting and a kids' stage, featuring performances from Phil Ackerly the Magician.

**Annual Independence Day Parade**

July 4, 10 a.m. Downtown Redwood City, at Brewster Avenue and Winslow Street; [parade.org/parade](http://parade.org/parade).

The parade, which bills itself as the biggest in Northern California, will get underway at the corner of Brewster Avenue and Winslow Street at 10 a.m. The parade route winds downtown Redwood City

and participants will include floats, bands, drill teams and baton corps.

**Fireworks Extravaganza**

July 4, 9:30 p.m. Port of Redwood City, 675 Seaport Blvd.; [parade.org](http://parade.org).

Redwood City will finish its day of festivities with a fireworks display at the Port of Redwood City — a show that's visible around the Midpeninsula.

The city of Los Altos Hills presents its 11th annual Fourth of July Parade, starting at the Town Hall on Fremont Avenue. The parade will finish at Gardner Bullis Elementary School, where guests will be treated to watermelon. Parade-goers are asked to leave their fossil-fueled vehicles and horses at home. ■

*Email Editorial Intern Miles Breen at [mbreen@almanacnews.com](mailto:mbreen@almanacnews.com).*

**PALO ALTO**

**July 4th Celebration**

July 4, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mitchell Park, 600 E. Meadow Drive.; [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org)

The city of Palo Alto hosts a free festival in the park. Attendees can enjoy music from Radio the City All-Stars and DJ Verz. The city isn't hosting its annual Chili Cook-off this year, but there will still be plenty of food, with food trucks on hand that include Twister Food Truck, The Cookout 650 and The Waffle Roost. The event also offers games and activities for kids.

**LOS ALTOS HILLS**

**Fourth of July Parade**

July 4, 9:30-11 a.m. Los Altos Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Ave.; [losaltoschamber.org](http://losaltoschamber.org).

**OBITUARIES**

Local residents who died recently include **Sayre E. Stevick**, 53, a former Atherton resident, on April 15; **Mary Ann Herbert**, 90, a former Portola Valley resident of almost 40 years, on April 23; **Yolanda Astarita Patterson**, 89, a 60-year Portola Valley resident, on May 26; **Leonore Rooney Daschbach**, 93, a longtime Atherton resident, on June 24; and **Cynthia Roberts**, 94, a longtime Menlo Park resident, on June 27.

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



**Cynthia Roberts**

April 5, 1928 – June 27, 2022

Cynthia Roberts – a resident of Menlo Park for nearly 65 years – passed away on June 27, 2022 at the Brookdale Senior Living Facility in Redwood City, California. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on April 5, 1928, she was the third of six children of Anita and Frederick Brenk. She attended Marquette University and graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She soon moved to Sausalito and San Francisco, where she met her husband of many years, Kenneth Roberts (who pre-deceased her). They were married in 1957 and she moved to Menlo Park to join Ken and his three daughters, Elizabeth, Katherine, and Susan (now deceased).

Cynthia is remembered as a dedicated member of the League of Women Voters and as a supporter of Visiting Angels. She volunteered for many years at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford and was an artist in her own right, creating beautiful sculptures in both wood and stone. She also spent many hours on the ski slopes and swimming laps in her favorite pools.

She leaves behind five children (David Roberts, Barbara Louise Roberts, Thomas Roberts, Cynthia Roberts, and Julia Perrine), two stepdaughters (Elizabeth Ducot and Katherine Reilly), eleven grandchildren (Robin and Greg Ducot, Joshua and Jeremy Evans, Marie Kacmarsky, Conner and Shawna Perrine, Dylan and Dane Roberts, and Omar and Aida Mohamed) and seven great-grandchildren (Katerina, Anna, and Sebastian Ducot, Lindsey Goffen, Kaden Evans, and Robert and Nicole Kacmarsky). She is survived by her sisters (Mary, Barbara, and Roberta), her brother Fred, and many nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at Nativity Church, Menlo Park, on July 5th at 11 AM.

PAID OBITUARY

**OPEN HOMES**

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<b>1725 Fremont Street</b>	<b>\$1,669,000</b>
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**Town Administrative Offices**  
 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, California 94027  
 650-752-0500

### **DRAFT HOUSING ELEMENT NOW AVAILABLE**

All California cities and counties are required to prepare a Housing Element of their General Plan for approval by the State of California that shows how the jurisdiction will meet its share of regional housing need. The Town of Atherton's Draft Housing Element for the 2023-31 cycle is now available for public review and comment. To view the Draft Housing Element and submit a comment, please visit the Town's webpage at:

<https://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/627/Housing-Element-Update>

Comments may be submitted online, via email or phone by 5:00 p.m on **July 11, 2022**.

Mail, email and phone comments may be submitted to:

Ralph Robinson, Associate Planner, 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027, [rrobinson@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:rrobinson@ci.atherton.ca.us), 650-752-0544

During the public review and comment period, the Planning Commission held a meeting on **June 23, 2022 at 1:00 pm**.

The public may participate in the next Regular City Council Meeting being held on **July 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm**. Meeting via Zoom Meeting using the details provided below.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://zoom.us/j/506897786>

**Meeting ID:** 506-897-786

**Dial In:** +1 669 900 6833, 506897786

#### **Remote Public Comments:**

Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. The following email will be monitored during the meeting and public comments received will be read into the record.

**Email:** [sbertollo-davis@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:sbertollo-davis@ci.atherton.ca.us)

The City Council will review the Draft Housing Element and submitted comments at its **July 20, 2022** meeting. More information on public meetings can be found on the Town's Housing Element webpage.

ATHERTON CITY COUNCIL

*/s/ Anthony Suber*

Anthony Suber, Deputy City Manager

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE**  
**2955 WOODSIDE ROAD**  
**WOODSIDE, CA 94062**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**JULY 6, 2022 6:00 PM**

PURSUANT TO WOODSIDE TOWN RESOLUTION NO. 2022-7494, PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AS HYBRID MEETINGS WITH THE OPTION TO ATTEND BY TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCE OR IN PERSON. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT WISH TO ATTEND AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING MAY DO SO IN PERSON OR BY JOINING THE ZOOM MEETING [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/86068472736](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736) PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED BOTH IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM MEETING. ANY EMAILS SENT TO [SHARPER@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:SHARPER@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG) WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION PRIOR TO THE MEETING. IN THE EVENT THAT ANY MEMBER OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION PARTICIPATES IN A MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE OR VIDEO CONFERENCE, PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT, GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953, ALL VOTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION SHALL BE BY ROLL CALL.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting:**

#### **One tap mobile**

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+1 301 715 8592

+1 312 626 6799

+1 646 558 8656

#### **Meeting ID: 860 6847 2736**

**Weblink:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736>

#### **Remote Public Comments:**

Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. The following email will be monitored during the meeting and public comments received will be read into the record.

**Email:** [sharper@woodsidetown.org](mailto:sharper@woodsidetown.org)

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

3. Carter Warr, CJW Architecture ASRB2022-0006; VARI2022-0004; X2DR2022-0001

221 Highland Terrace

Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner

Presentation and consideration of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review (ASRB2022-0006), to construct a new main residence with an attached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), garage, and other site improvements on a vacant lot.

The project requires a Variance for encroachment into slopes exceeding 35%, a Glens Ministerial Setback Exception, and a Second Driveway Exception.

4. Arvind Tailor, California Water Service CUSE2021-0003; VARI2021-0009

APN: 072-083-110 (near 575 Summit Springs Road) Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner

Presentation and consideration of a proposal, requiring a Conditional Use Permit (CUSE2021-0003), to install a new emergency generator within the required 50-foot side setback at an existing water pump station (Cal Water Bear Gulch Station 25), and associated site improvements (grading, retaining wall, ancillary equipment, etc.). The project includes the review of a Variance (VARI2021-0009), to allow the generator within the 50-foot side setbacks on a lot that is 75 feet wide by 150 deep located adjacent to 575 Summit Springs Road (APN: 072-083-110).

THE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING SARAH FILIPE AT [SFILLIPE@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG](mailto:SFILLIPE@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG)

# County officials vow to support abortion rights

By Thomas Hughes/ Bay City News Foundation and Sue Dremann

Electing officials in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties vowed to protect women's rights to abortion and reproductive health care after the Supreme Court voted on June 24 to overturn Roe v. Wade and leave the decision regarding whether to ban abortions up to individual states.

Santa Clara County officials and others gathered at the Robert Peckham Federal Building in downtown San Jose just hours after the Supreme Court's decision, affirming their support for abortion rights and urging voters to elect officials around the country who will do the same.

Several speakers at the rally, organized by Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, also called on Gov. Gavin Newsom to support an amendment to the state constitution that would protect the right to have an abortion.

"We are vowing to protect the lives of women and girls, not only in California, but to keep this fight going across the country," Chavez said.

Chavez said California cannot be an island and urged supporters to expand their outreach to voters living in other states. She predicted that if Republicans win control of Congress and the presidency, abortion would be outlawed nationwide.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg said county leaders would do everything they could to increase access to reproductive health care.

"For those who may live in a state where the right to choose has been cruelly snatched away, you are welcome to Santa Clara County to receive the care you need," Ellenberg said.

Stacy Cross, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, said the local chapter was ready to provide care to an additional 250-500 patients a week, after receiving a \$3 million boost in funding from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

San Jose City Council member Dev Davis, who described herself as perhaps the most conservative member of the body, said she cried tears of sadness, fear and anger upon hearing the decision. She said she valued personal liberty and said she was

angry that her daughter would have to consider health care access when choosing where to attend college or get a job.

Davis also said the city will continue to enforce two ordinances previously passed to restrict picketers at abortion clinics and within 300 feet of a residence.

Many of the lawmakers signed a letter from Chavez and Davis to Newsom last month, urging the state to be prepared for the impending decision overturning Roe v. Wade after a draft of the Supreme Court's opinion was leaked in early May.

The letter asked the governor to announce his support for Assembly Bill 2091, which would prohibit local law enforcement from sharing information about patients seeking an abortion with out-of-state authorities. The letter also

called on the governor to establish the funding and logistics to help ensure patients coming from out of state can receive care regardless of their financial situation.

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen affirmed he would reject any request to cooperate with such an investigation by another state, city or county.

"If women aren't free, then none of us are free," Rosen said.

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors also vowed action to protect women's reproductive rights, as affirmed by San Mateo County Supervisor David Canepa in a written statement.

"The assault on women's reproductive freedoms ends at the California border! While the SCOTUS decision today gives red states the green light to ban abortions, here in California we must fight harder than ever to protect and expand women's rights," Canepa said.

On June 14, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors approved the Women's Reproductive Freedom and Healthcare Privacy Action Plan to provide financial support for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte to deliver increased abortion care; create a buffer zone ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the county; develop an advocacy agenda; establish the Reproductive Rights and Healthcare Privacy Subcommittee to include Supervisors

**'If women aren't free, then none of us are free.'**

SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
 DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
 JEFF ROSEN

# Bill to end police radio encryption faces pushback

As legislation moves through Assembly's Public Safety Committee, law enforcement agencies signal opposition

By Gennady Sheyner

An effort by state Sen. Josh Becker to restore media access to police radio communications encountered resistance on June 21, with several members of the state Assembly Public Safety Committee warning him that the measure is unlikely to win passage without stronger support from law enforcement agencies and backing from the state Department of Justice.

Becker's bill, Senate Bill 1000, is a response to the recent trend of police departments across the state fully encrypting their radio communications, thereby blocking the media or the public from monitoring police activities. In adopting the encryption policies, law enforcement agencies point to an October 2020 memo from the state Department of Justice, which ordered them to protect personally identifiable information such as Social Security numbers, license plate numbers and criminal records from radio transmission.

The DOJ memo allowed law enforcement agencies to meet the memo's objective by either encrypting their radio communications or adopting policies that protect private information but transmit most other

communications through open channels. The Palo Alto Police Department is one of dozens around the state that chose full encryption.

While Palo Alto has publicly supported SB 1000, other law enforcement agencies are fiercely opposing the bill. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department is among them. Sgt. Julio de Leon said his department had spent millions of dollars to encrypt its radio communications and thousands of personnel hours.

"Now with this bill, the legislation will be forcing us to decrypt communications once again, which will cost us several millions of dollars to accomplish this task and thousands of hours," de Leon said. "This is simply unfair."

The two Republicans on the committee, Vice Chair Tom Lackey and Assembly member Kelly Seyarto both said they will oppose the bill. Lackey noted that the push to encrypt was prompted by a state Department of Justice mandate and argued that the remedy must similarly come from the state department. Proponents of the bill, he said, need to work out the solution with the DOJ.

"I understand their frustrations but I totally believe (what

is) being proposed here creates a greater problem in compliance, and I believe law enforcement is truly caught in the middle on this thing and it's unfair to them, as an agency, to comply with privacy (requirements) and also reach out and engage in transparency," Lackey said.

Seyarto argued that requiring police officers to add additional frequency just for sharing information could create a barrier for their safety if they have to switch frequency while under duress.

"For me, paramount in all of this is the safety of the police officers," Seyarto said.

Though similar arguments came up during Senate hearings, SB 1000 enjoyed a relatively smooth path through the Legislature's upper chamber, which on May 26 voted to approve the bill by a 25-8 vote, largely along party lines. The June 21 meeting suggested that getting through the Assembly level may prove to be tougher.

Even though the committee voted 3-2 along party lines to advance SB 1000, those who supported it suggested that the bill's proponents need to work closer with law enforcement agencies to reach a compromise.

Assembly member Reggie

See **ENCRYPTION**, page 18

# Employment

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# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

APOLO DAY CARE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291259

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Apolo Day Care, located at 450 Bell St., E. Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
MARIBEL AGUILAR TORRES  
450 Bell St.  
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 1st, 2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 2, 2022.  
(ALM June 10, 17, 24; July 1, 2022)

NIMBLE FOX MANAGEMENT  
NIMBLE FOX  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291025

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Nimble Fox Management, 2.) Nimble Fox, located at 1239 Portola Rd., Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County; Mailing address: 2995 Woodside Rd. #620598, Woodside, CA 94062.  
Registered owner(s):  
STEPHANIE CARLSON  
1239 Portola Rd.  
Woodside, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 11, 2022.  
(ALM June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 2022)

POPIKO TUTORING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291238

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Popiko Tutoring, located at Tuolumne Rd., California 94030, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
RYAN CHRISTOPHER HUIE  
1330 Tuolumne Rd.  
Millbrae, California 94030  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 31, 2022.  
(ALM June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 2022)

J LANDSCAPING SERVICE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291200

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
J Landscaping Service, located at 51 Stategate Rd. (PO Box 752), Pescadero, CA 94060, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
ARNULFO JIMENEZ NAVARRO  
51 Stage Rd. PO Box 752  
Pescadero, CA  
This business is conducted by: An

Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 25, 2022.  
(ALM June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 2022)

RTC MARKETING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291382

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
RTC Marketing, located at 476 Hanover St., Daly City, CA 94014, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
RISE THE CHOY INC.  
476 Hanover St.  
Daly City, CA 94014  
CA  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.

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 June 14, 2022.  
(ALM June 24; July 1, 8, 15, 2022)

PATTURNS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291341

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Patturns, located at 675 Sharon Park Drive, Apt. 208, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
JEAN BARONAS  
675 Sharon Park Drive, Apt. 208  
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 June 9, 2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 10, 2022.  
(ALM 24; July 1, 8, 15, 2022)

JEEPSILOG  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 291213

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Jeepsilog, located at 3733 Palos Verdes Way, South San Francisco, CA 94080, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
BAY AREA FOODS INC.  
3733 Palos Verdes Way  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
CALIFORNIA  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/17/2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 26, 2022.  
(ALM June 24; July 1, 8, 15, 2022)

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## ABORTION RIGHTS

continued from page 16

Dave Pine and Warren Slocum; and launch an information campaign to inform patients that San Mateo County Health continues to offer reproductive health services.

The action plan was developed in conjunction with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, which serves residents of northern California, including San Mateo County. Planned Parenthood Mar Monte has three clinics in San Mateo County that provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, gender-affirming care, behavioral health and family medicine services. The clinics serve about 13,000 San Mateo County residents a year, according to a statement from the Board of Supervisors.

According to a report released in October 2021 by the Guttmacher Institute, overturning Roe v. Wade would likely result in 26 states banning abortion. Out-of-state patients seeking abortion care in California

would increase from 46,000 to 1.4 million, an increase of nearly 3,000%, the supervisors noted. Between July 2021 and last month, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte provided abortion care to 87 out-of-state patients. Five of those patients received services at clinics in San Mateo County.

"We are at a precipice and the time for action is now. These financial investments to Planned Parenthood Monte Mar will allow for more women to make decisions about their bodies, particularly those living in states set to ban abortion. What we have done today is monumental in this effort," Slocum said in the June 14 statement.

The financial investment includes \$1 million allocated in two tranches. The first batch, \$549,312, would support the purchase of technology and equipment to accommodate increased patient capacity at the Planned Parenthood clinics. The second batch of funding, up to \$450,688, would be held in reserve and used as needs emerge.

The supervisors also plan to consider a draft buffer zone ordinance for unincorporated San Mateo County clinics to protect patients and employees from harassment, intimidation and obstruction when they access a Planned Parenthood clinic while also balancing First Amendment rights. The ordinance will be brought to the Board of Supervisors at its meeting this Tuesday, June 28.

The county also plans to develop a women's reproductive freedom and health care privacy advocacy agenda in coordination with the Commission on the Status of Women, County Attorney's Office, county staff and the board subcommittee, which would be considered at the board's Aug. 2 meeting.

The county also plans to lead an information campaign to let patients know that San Mateo County Health continues to offer reproductive services.

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



Magali Gauthier



Angela Swartz

Left: Andrea Feung, a recent doctoral degree graduate from Stanford University, holds up a sign at a rally for abortion rights outside of Stanford School of Medicine on June 27. Right: A crowd listens to speakers at a rally for abortion rights outside of the Li Ka Shing Center at the Stanford School of Medicine on June 27.

## In their scrubs and white coats, Stanford doctors rally against Roe v. Wade decision

By Angela Swartz

Hundreds gathered outside of the Li Ka Shing Center at the Stanford School of Medicine on a hot Monday afternoon, June 27, to rally for abortion rights following the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

During the event, titled "Rally for Reproductive Rights," Stanford physicians, some in scrubs and white coats, spoke about the importance of the procedure for their own patients, while others held pro-choice signs. A doctor held a coat hanger with the words "Never Again!" in reference to unsafe means for carrying out an abortion. Another had a sign reading: "Misogyny kills more people than abortion."

Dr. Kate Shaw, who works in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at Stanford, shared the diverse stories of pregnancies she's helped terminate: She treated a 42-year-old mother of three whose IUD failed and a 26-year-old woman who had a 50% chance of dying if she carried out her pregnancy.

"We've all known, loved and taken care of someone who's had an abortion," she said. "Hundreds of thousands of



Angela Swartz

Dr. Metty Markwei, a first-year Stanford obstetrics resident, speaks to the assembled crowd at a rally for abortion rights outside of the Stanford School of Medicine on June 27.

pregnant people will no longer be able to decide. Restricting abortion only makes it unsafe (to get one)."

Shaw also is worried about

the future of contraceptives in the hands of the Supreme Court.

Dr. Hayley Miller, a fellow in maternal-fetal care medicine at

Stanford, said abortion bans are built on disinformation.

"Without abortion, women will die," she said. "As someone who takes care of the highest

risk pregnant women, I will always fight to protect their right to abortion care."

Metty Markwei, a first-year Stanford obstetrics resident, shared how surprised she was to be spending her first day of residency speaking at a Roe v. Wade rally. She noted that she chose to train based on where abortions would be allowed if Roe v. Wade were to be overturned.

Stanford professor Jill Helms held a sign reading, "Abortions are being banned before assault rifles. It's not about 'sanctity of life,' it's about control and power."

Jaqueline Martinez, a summer research intern in Stanford's sociology department who's from Nevada, said after the rally that it was important for her to take a stand on the issue and that she has family members who would have died had they not gotten abortions.

The Supreme Court's decision has left Martinez frustrated. "We fought in the 1900s, and women are still out here fighting in 2022 for women's rights?" she asked. ■

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

### ENCRYPTION

continued from page 17

Jones-Sawyer, who chairs the Public Safety Committee, told Becker that his biggest challenge will probably be getting the bill out of the Appropriations Committee and resolving whether the legislation will cost millions of dollars for law enforcement to implement.

"Hopefully, you can get there, otherwise you'll have a difficult time to get out of Appropriations

and get off the floor," Jones-Sawyer said.

Becker emphasized at the hearing that SB 1000 provides a host of options for law enforcement agencies wishing to transmit private information over secure channels to ensure officer safety. They could, for example, follow the lead of the California Highway Patrol, which adopted a "hybrid" approach in which personally identifiable information gets transmitted through secure channels while other communication

remains publicly accessible. He argued that the law is necessary to ensure transparency.

"Law enforcement can in fact protect private information without putting the public in the dark," Becker said at the hearing.

SB 1000 states that agencies may comply with the confidentiality requirement by using an encrypted channel for dissemination of confidential information; by transmitting the information by a mobile data

terminal, tablet or other text display device; or by communicating it through a telephone or other private device-to-device communication.

Jennifer Seelig, director of news and programming at KCBS and board member at the Radio Television Digital News Association, called Becker's bill "critically important to the safety, security and well-being of the public" because it restores an essential tool that journalists rely on to provide information.

"Journalists have a responsibility to inform the public in real time," Seelig said. "The decision by a number of law enforcement agencies to fully encrypt their scanner communication greatly limits the ability of journalists to serve the public during natural disasters, evacuations, mass casualty incidents and other news events." ■

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at [gsheyner@pawebkly.com](mailto:gsheyner@pawebkly.com).

## SLAC

continued from page 5

Dan Gonnella, leader of the Superconducting Linac Physics Group, cites a change in the way that scientists are able to analyze viruses and molecules in motion in ways that could affect daily life. SLAC even had a hand in imaging the COVID-19 virus in the early stages of the pandemic.

“The users of this facility are a wide spectrum. There’s a lot of biology work that goes on,” Gonnella said. “There’s also a lot of material science that would feed into new technology, just in general, the technology from building these kinds of things is useful in other fields.”

## So how does it work?

The first step in this innovation is the cooling process. To keep the X-ray at such a drastically low temperature, scientists lower the temperature of liquid helium from room temperature to only 2 degrees Kelvin, putting the atoms at a near standstill.

This is done at the cryoplant. Two tons of gaseous helium are used in its operation and stored outside the plant. One truck of liquid nitrogen is delivered to SLAC every day for this process.

The cooling process begins outside the cryoplant in what is called a “cold box,” where the helium is mixed with oils for lubrication and compressed to begin lowering the temperature. Then the cold oil is removed since the helium has to be pure when it goes to the accelerator.

The interior cryoplant is run by a control room upstairs from the machinery in which 5,000 sensors and actuators send messages between the machines and the control room. Inside is where the helium cools from 80 Kelvin to 4 Kelvin.

There are only six of these machines in the world, and two of them are at SLAC’s campus.

SLAC collaborated with several labs including Jefferson Lab in Virginia and Fermi Lab in Illinois.

One of SLAC’s two systems to chill helium is currently running and the second should be turned on this summer.

## The accelerator

The LCLS-II sits below ground right beside the cryoplant. Above the conductor, a metal building called the gallery holds the machinery required to make everything run smoothly, stretching 3 kilometers, so long that you’re not able to see either end.



Left: Viswanath Ravindranath, a cryogenic process engineer, works in the cryoplant’s control room at SLAC in Menlo Park on May 13. Right: Cryogenic group leader Eric Fauve walks past machinery inside SLAC’s cryoplant that is capable of cooling helium to the extremely low temperature of 2 Kelvin, on May 13. Only six machines in the world are capable of producing such low temperatures, and two of them are at SLAC.



Photos by Magali Gauthier

Scientists at SLAC have torn out 1 kilometer of the old copper accelerator and installed the superconducting accelerator in its place.

The liquid helium from the cryoplant comes to the distribution box in the gallery before flowing through an array of valves and circuits within the distribution box. From there, the helium is pushed down into the underground tunnel housing LCLS-II, according to Gonnella.

In the tunnel, there are 37 orange tubes called cryomodules that are responsible for the acceleration of the electrons. Inside each cryomodule is a gray structure made of niobium, a superconductor. The niobium is responsible for the acceleration while the cryomodules hold helium at -456 F, nearly 100 degrees colder than Pluto.

“It’s much more efficient from an energy standpoint,” Gonnella said. “So one of the benefits of building this accelerator is what we can get out of it compared to if you had the old one.”

When LCLS-II is turned on, it’s able to stay on, as opposed to the old accelerator which was only capable of running for milliseconds. If the older equipment, 1 kilometer of which is still in use, is left on for longer, it would quickly overheat and melt, whereas the new one is capable of running for longer periods and can not only snap images of atoms but also take videos.

LCLS-II operates at 4 billion electron volts a second, and the plan is to increase that in the future. Higher levels of electron volts correspond to stronger X-rays. For context, an X-ray in the doctor’s office runs on kilovolts, a million times less powerful than LCLS-II’s gigavolts.

“The way I like to think about it is in the doctor’s office the X-ray machine is (smaller) and it can look at your teeth, but

here, it’s a kilometer long so it can look at atoms,” Gonnella said. “It kind of scales that way, the bigger you get, you can look at smaller things.”

SLAC plans to reach 8 billion electron volts in the next six years, and its staff is already working on adding cryomodules.

## The experiments

Three miles away from the cryoplant is one of SLAC’s seven experimental stations. Here, the superconducting science is able to have impacts on daily life.

“This is huge because it’s big for the (different) types of energy, like frontier materials that make better memories for your camera, better optics, just better, faster computers,” Minitti said. “It revolutionized the way we look at viruses ... when COVID hit we got emergency use from the (U.S.) Department of Energy to study the structure of COVID-19 and that helped inform some of these RNA studies.”

“The technology that superconducting technology will enable is our ability to track electron or molecular dynamics in new, novel materials,” Minitti said. “Those materials will go to your computer, go to your battery, so if we can think of ways of optimizing that material ... that makes your power grid more efficient, makes your battery last longer.”

However, the experimental benefits of superconducting technology go beyond the images that the X-ray analyzes. Scientists at SLAC have been researching ways of using superconducting technologies at higher temperatures to improve energy grids. If it was possible to run this same technology at higher temperatures, it could be used to reduce or eliminate energy lost during transmission, Minitti said. As

it stands, this can only be achieved in cold conditions.

For now, superconductivity takes too much energy to power itself.

One benefit of the superconducting accelerator is that it is able to send data to more than one experiment at a time, according to Gonnella. At the previous linear accelerator, there was always a long wait for time for the X-ray to run experiments. With recent developments, more researchers should be able to use the LCLS-II at once, and the experimental lab can expand for additional research in the future.

The experimental stations allow scientists to analyze the molecules in ways that can impact our understanding of their structure, watching electrons and nuclei respond to

energy. SLAC even has the first experimental station that can combine two free-electron lasers at once, seeing how they interact and affect each other. The experiment should be up and running soon, according to Minitti.

SLAC continues to use the LCLS-II for experiments that monitor the way that atoms and molecules move and interact with each other, giving researchers a better understanding of the nature of subatomic particles.

“This has re-revolutionized the landscape of free electron and X-ray science, so it’s nice to have it here in our backyard,” Minitti said. ■

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## Great America site sold to developer

By Bay City News Service

The owners of the land that’s home to California’s Great America amusement park in Santa Clara has been sold and the park will eventually close, according to Cedar Fair L.P., the sellers of the property.

The parcel was sold for \$310 million with a lease agreement, Cedar Fair announced on June 27. The park could remain open for as long as 11 more years, the company said, as part of a “wind-down” towards its eventual closure.

The property’s buyer, Prologis, Inc., is a Bay Area real estate company. Prologis could not be immediately reached for comment.

Cedar Fair said it began looking into “maximizing the value” of its existing

properties in 2021 and the sale is part of that strategic plan. Cedar Fair purchased the land at California’s Great America in 2019 from the City of Santa Clara. The company owns and operates amusement and water parks throughout the lower 48 states, with revenues at more than \$1.3 billion annually, according to their website.

The sale is an attempt to bring down debt, according to the company.

“Cedar Fair intends to use proceeds from the land sale transaction to accelerate progress on its strategic priorities of reducing debt to achieve its \$2 billion target,” a spokesperson for the company said. This will involve upgrading other properties as well.

Cedar Fair is based in Sandusky, Ohio. ■

## Taking the pain out of pointe

How dancer, designer and author Kelly Schmutte found the secret to saving ballerinas' feet

By Kate Bradshaw

**D**ancer and designer Kelly Schmutte was 11 years old when she finally got permission to go en pointe.

She remembers being thrilled. She was a kid growing up in Davis, California, and had taken a liking to ballet right away for its mix of technicality and artistry, she said in a recent interview.

"There's a very creative artistic side to it, and it's also a very technical dance form and requires a lot of concentration, thinking about form and technique," she said.

Getting to go en pointe is considered a rite of passage for many young dancers.

"It's this coming-of-age moment in the ballet world. It's really special," she said.

But when Schmutte actually went to put on her first pair of pointe shoes, it wasn't the beautiful experience she'd thought it would be.

In fact, it was painful.

"I pretty clearly remember thinking, 'There's got to be a better way to do this,'" she said.

Traditionally, dancers should be at least 10 years old, have a certain amount of strength in their feet and flexibility in their arches before being permitted to go en pointe, she said.

"You can damage your feet if you go en pointe too early," she said.

Dancing en pointe can cause foot injuries like bunions, hammer toes (when toes become permanently curled up), blisters, soft and hard corns, and bruised or lost toenails, she said.



Magali Gauthier

PerfectFit Pointe founder Kelly Schmutte drew on her ballet background and design school skills to create customizable pointe shoe inserts.

"No podiatrist is going to tell you, 'This is a good thing. You should dance en pointe,'" she said.

But ballet is an old-fashioned art, and over the years, dancers have developed their own tools to make pointe shoes more bearable, from packing lamb's wool, gels or paper towels into their shoes, or using numbing products, all toward the goal of easing the pain of a shoe that's designed for beauty, not comfort — each shoe has a squared-off toe box and there's no right or left pointe shoe — they're interchangeable.

The degree of discomfort dancers experience depends on each dancer's foot and toe shape, Schmutte said.

"It was never, never a comfortable thing for me," she said.

It wasn't until years later, though, when Schmutte was a budding product design student at Stanford, that she decided to tackle the challenge of how to make pointe shoes more comfortable as a student capstone project.

Schmutte tried out different materials, working with fluids in small pouches and continuing to experiment after college, where she worked at a dance shop helping to fit pointe shoes. There, she tried out different materials like cork pastes, foam, putty and heat-moldable ski boot foam.

After testing out the foam for about a year, she determined that it wasn't moldable enough to provide the level of comfort she wanted.

"It was really disheartening to kind of realize this foam wasn't going to work," she said.

So she went back to the drawing board, starting by acknowledging the constraints of the pointe shoe, she said.

"At the end of the day, the whole reason you dance en pointe is to make you look more beautiful. It's all about aesthetics. It's about extending the line of your foot," she said. "You have to work within the constraints of that world and respect the honoring of aesthetics."

Eventually, she came back to a material she'd overlooked: polyvinyl siloxane, a putty-like substance that, when mixed together, chemically cures into a rubbery texture over seven minutes — just enough time for dancers to customize the shape of the putty to fit around their feet in ballet shoes.

She got great early feedback having dancers test out the product around the Davis and Sacramento area. But marketing her product was its own challenge. It was harder to sell top-level folks at dance studios of the importance of her product than it was to dancers themselves, she said.

She decided to put the business on hold and went back to Stanford to attend graduate school for product design. But she couldn't give up on her product. In 2015, she started an e-commerce shop called PerfectFit Pointe, selling customizable



Magali Gauthier

Stanford graduate Leilani Tian poses en pointe wearing shoes fitted with PerfectFit Pointe. The shoe inserts were created by fellow Stanford grad Kelly Schmutte to make dancing en pointe more comfortable.

pointe shoe insert kits and started marketing the shoes to elite dancers on Instagram.

One of the dancers who said yes to trying out the inserts was celebrity ballerina Sara Mearns, a principal dancer at the New York City Ballet.

Over a stressful series of days, she said she saw Mearns post on Instagram about making her custom toe pads, but then several days passed without her review. Schmutte was beginning to fear Mearns hadn't liked them when she wrote back saying she loved them. Shortly thereafter began a whirlwind trip to New York City to introduce more elite dancers to the product.

Ten years after completing her first prototype from a classroom in Stanford, she said, she finally let herself dream. "I think it's gonna be real in the world," she said she remembered thinking about PerfectFit Pointe.

Over the past few years, Schmutte has been busy balancing the demands of running an e-commerce shop and being a lecturer at Stanford's d.school, also known as the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design, which is part of the university's engineering school. She also co-authored a book, "Navigating Ambiguity," with fellow d.school lecturer Andrea Small, which was released recently.

### Having an impact

For Chantelle Pianetta, a dance teacher at Menlo Academy of

Dance and elite dancer herself, PerfectFit has been helpful in her own dancing and for one of her students in particular as she begins to dance en pointe, she said in a recent interview.

"New pointe shoe technology is hard to come by these days," she said. "They allow my foot to grip in the shoe way better than any of the other kinds of toe pads I've tried."

Young dancers are taught that pointe shoes are not entirely comfortable; they're a little awkward, tight-fitting, snug and rub the sides of one's toes, she said.

Today, Schmutte is in discussions to lease a business space in Menlo Park that could provide consultations and fittings and is looking for part-time marketing, operations, business planning and strategic visioning employees, as well as high school students who can help to assemble the kits. Looking ahead, she's interested in possibly developing a men's line of pointe inserts or working on how to make climbing shoes more comfortable, she said.

"I've always felt that this has been really purposeful work, because it has knit together skills that I've learned in school, and in my life, and my passion for ballet — and this very clear need in the ballet world," she said. ■

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Magali Gauthier

PerfectFit Pointe kits create shoe inserts from a putty-like substance that hardens into a rubbery texture, allowing dancers to mold the putty to the shape of their feet in pointe shoes.



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# Food & Drink

## A downtown sampler

Mountain View's Castro Street opens up for an eat-and-greet to rally support for businesses

By Malea Martin

A line spilled out the door at Blue Line Pizza on June 22 as Taste of Mountain View event-goers waited to try the Castro Street restaurant's authentic Chicago-style deep dish pizza. Eyes lit up as Blue Line Manager Eric Chan brought out a freshly made White Pie, one of the restaurant's signature pizzas loaded with gooey mozzarella, feta, roasted zucchini and fresh tomatoes atop a garlic-infused olive oil base.

Blue Line Pizza was one of 19 Castro Street businesses that opened their doors to the community that Wednesday evening, each offering bite-sized samplings of their most-loved menu items accompanied by local wine and beer vendors. The event, put on by the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce and the Mountain View Downtown Business Association, brought about 600 people into downtown to enjoy the second iteration of Taste of Mountain View. The food, wine and beer walk first started last November.

"The exposure is great," Chan said during the event. "We're talking to all kinds of people from different parts of the Bay Area, some people from out of town."

Restaurant bloggers Lala Mayjer and Michael Leadon came from San Jose to experience Mountain View's culinary scene, and after trying a bite from Asian Box next door, Blue Line was next on the list. Leadon said he's been before, so he already knew he was in for some delicious pizza.

Mayjer said she appreciated the attention to detail put into the Taste of Mountain View goodie



Magali Gauthier

Casa Lupe co-owner Kevin Thompson said the Taste of Mountain View event held in November made a real difference for his business.

bags. The mini purple tote bag came equipped with hand sanitizer, a set of utensils, a reusable plastic wine glass, compostable plate, a map of participating businesses and a raffle passport that patrons could get stamped at each stop and then turn in for a chance to win prizes.

"The goodie bag, the whole stamp passport thing, it's like a game. It's fun," Mayjer said after finishing off her pizza slice.

Leadon, an avid foodie, has tried almost every restaurant on Castro Street, so he was surprised to discover a place he hadn't been to before: Rootstock Wine Bar.

"It's funny because I've driven over this street, and I've never seen that place," Mayjer added. "So now I know there's a wine place there."

Chamber CEO and President Peter Katz said that's the goal of the event: to help folks discover restaurants in Mountain View that they've either never heard of or just haven't had a chance to try yet. The event has no limit on how many food, wine and beer tastings ticket holders can try.

"The idea is really to get people inside the businesses' doorsteps so they can showcase what they do, be introduced to what the business is all about, and hopefully come back," Katz said. "A lot of the businesses said they would do special deals that night, which is good to get people back. I think that the real benefit of this is that it showcases Mountain View and

showcases the small businesses, giving them a chance to shine and be in the spotlight."

Casa Lupe co-owner Kevin Thompson, whose restaurant has served up Mexican comfort food for the last 24 years, said participating in the event last November "really did make an impact," so doing it for a second time was an easy choice.

"The community has been so good to us. It almost gets me emotional, because during COVID there were a lot of businesses that closed," Thompson said as event-goers stopped by to snag some chips and fresh salsa, Casa Lupe's offering for the night. "But our patrons came and supported us, did whatever they could to make sure that the doors stayed open. ... You get a lot of people that attend this that really aren't familiar with all the restaurants, so we have got a lot of new (patrons) just because they come to the Taste of Mountain View."

Retail store owners had the opportunity to open their doors too, offering small bites and drinks to bring people in and promote their small businesses. The chamber helps facilitate a partnership with a local restaurant, winery or brewery so that retail stores can "feel a part of this as much as everyone else," Katz said.



Magali Gauthier

Pietro Buttitta, owner of Prima Materia, serves one of his wines to a Taste of Mountain View participant on Castro Street.

"It's not their product that people are eating or drinking but it is their products in their store that people are surrounded by," he said. "They look around and say, 'Oh my gosh, I never knew this was here.' A lot of them (business owners) report an increase in sales that night and in subsequent months."

The next Taste of Mountain View is scheduled for this November.

"The Downtown Business Association, the chamber, and the city are all committed to looking for more events and more creative ways we can bring vitality and foot traffic and commerce to downtown and other areas of the city," Katz said. "It's likely we'll do something similar in other parts of the city in the future." ■

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Magali Gauthier

Restaurant bloggers Lala Mayjer, left, and Michael Leadon clink glasses before eating slices from Blue Line Pizza.



Magali Gauthier

Blue Line Pizza worker Erin Yarwood serves Raechel Harnoto a slice of pizza.

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