

The Almanac

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

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Local News

MENLO PARK | A THERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Michiko Kealoha, the student life and leadership manager at Cañada College, with husband Chad and daughter Kohana, stand outside their apartment on campus on July 19. The community college district wants to expand its staff and faculty housing.

Community college district looks to boost workforce housing in Woodside

A quarter of the town's proposed housing units are designated for Cañada College

By Angela Swartz

It's moments like watching her 1-year-old daughter Kohana take her first wobbly steps on the Cañada College campus that make Michiko Kealoha really feel part of the community.

Kealoha, an employee of the community college, moved with

her family into a two-bedroom, below-market-rate apartment in the Cañada Vista complex on campus in October. The development is located at 1 Olive Court on 3.8-acre of land annexed from Woodside to Redwood City in 2008.

"Visiting with my colleagues has really meant a lot," said Kealoha, a student life and

leadership manager at Cañada. She moved in when she was returning from maternity leave when the campus reopened following the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. "Housing in the Bay Area is difficult, impacted and expensive. The timing worked out beautifully.

See **STAFF HOUSING**, page 12

Here's what you need to know about California's composting law

By Magali Gauthier

On an early February morning, the sun rises as a huge trailer filled with food scraps, soiled paper and yard trimmings is hoisted to a near vertical position at Recology's Blossom Valley Organics composting facility in Vernalis in San Joaquin County. Immediately, 25 tons of organic waste tumbles out. It'll soon get sorted by machinery and workers to remove any inorganic materials from the mix. Then starts the two-month-long decomposition process before it becomes compost. About 1,500 tons of organic waste are delivered to the facility every day.

California has a problem with organic waste in landfills, which is responsible for about one-fifth of the state's methane emissions. The state's solution: SB 1383, a law that went into effect in January that requires organic waste to be diverted from landfills and processed in other ways. Recology's Vernalis facility is one example.

The law, which was signed in 2016 by Gov. Jerry Brown, sets targets for diverting organic waste from landfills. These targets are based on the 2014 benchmark of 23 million tons of disposed organic waste. By 2020, California was supposed to divert 50% of its organic waste, or 11.5 million tons. According to CalRecycle,

the state agency in charge of keeping the law on track, California did not meet that goal. It estimates the amount of organics going to landfills actually increased slightly over that 2014 baseline. By 2025, the state is supposed to divert 75% from 2014 levels.

Beyond diverting all the organic waste, the other issue is where to process it all. There are a total of 199 facilities, CalRecycle representatives said in an email earlier this year. That's not enough to deal with the estimated 18 million tons that California wants diverted from landfills by 2025.

"CalRecycle estimates the state will have about 10 million tons of new organics processing capacity by 2025," the agency said in an email.

But that still leaves 8 million tons with nowhere to go.

This August, cities and counties across the state will need to have figured out how much organic waste they're generating and where it's going to be processed. Capacity reports are due to CalRecycle by Aug. 1.

Many Bay Area cities and counties already had composting ordinances prior to the law. So are people supposed to do anything differently? We've got answers to common questions about how this law impacts you now.

See **COMPOSTING**, page 31

Amid worries over horses and fire risk, Portola Valley sends draft housing plan to the state

By Angela Swartz

Fears about the loss of horse stables and scenic corridors, along with increased wildfire risk were all part of an hours-long discussion on July 13 in Portola Valley before the Town Council approved its draft housing element.

The draft will be sent to the state, pending revisions the council requested to address concerns about displacement of the Isola Riding Academy, and adding limitations to the opt-in rezoning program to limit projects to four units per site (rather than four units per acre) and requiring a discretionary review process.

The town is assigned to plan for 253 new units in the 2023-31 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), compared to just 64 last cycle.

Jeremy Levine, a local housing advocate and policy manager for the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, said Portola Valley's plan is the only one of the nine draft housing elements in the county his organization recommends for certification.

He believes the town, which has hosted over a dozen meetings on the topic, made a good faith effort to meet the housing needs of the community. He noted that the children of locals, teachers, blue-collar workers and others are

being priced out of Portola Valley — where the average home now sells for \$4 million — and said the housing plan is a good start toward making the town more inclusive.

Councilman Jeff Aalfs said cities across the state have seen the same pattern that has limited housing development in California.

"At the end of the day we're elected officials, if we get 50 people adamantly opposed to it and five or 10 potentially supporting it, we're probably not going to do it, and every jurisdiction is like that," he said. "The result is we're very, very short of housing." The difference during this housing cycle is that the state Legislature has made housing a priority and is

being stricter on how towns plan for housing, he said.

He also noted that town staff and the Ad Hoc Housing Committee made a series of compromises to create the best housing element possible.

Isola Riding Academy

The town received a number of written comments from people concerned about the 29 units of housing designated at the Glenoaks site at 3639 Alpine Road, which is home to the Isola Riding Academy. Because of this feedback, the Town Council asked staff to follow up with the property owner and tenant to look into

options for maintaining horse operations.

"Woodside and Portola Valley are some of the last equestrian bastions in the Silicon Valley area," Brigitte Hajos said in a June 16 email to the town. "They are horse land and closing still more horse riding facilities pushes horses and equestrians out of the valley. Too many public riding facilities have been closed and we are losing precious opportunities to save the sport and these precious animals. When riding facilities close, horses are sold off. Many are put down or end up in slaughterhouses if there are no imminent buyers. Horses

See **HOUSING PLAN**, page 29

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The Almanac

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NEWS

CRIME BRIEF

Four arrested in \$50K leggings heist

Four people who allegedly stole about \$50,000 worth of merchandise in a shoplifting spree that hit three lululemon stores on the Peninsula were arrested at Stanford Shopping Center on Sunday, July 17. A fifth person was still at large, Palo Alto police said.

Police dispatch received a call around 6 p.m. on Sunday from the retailer lululemon reporting a theft in-progress at the Stanford Shopping Center store at 180 El Camino Real, police said in a press release. Officers detained four suspects, police said. Police said they also recovered 100 pairs of leggings valued at over \$12,000.

According to police, five people entered the store, though at first they were only aware of four people, until further investigation revealed the fifth.

Officers located the suspects' vehicle, a blue 2007 Hyundai Entourage, in the parking lot, along with several bags full of stolen items. The bags contained 300 items valued at \$38,000 that had been reported stolen earlier in the day from lululemon stores in Burlingame and San Mateo.

Two Sacramento residents, an 18-year-old man and a 22-year-old man, and a 20-year-old Carmichael woman were arrested on suspicion of felony organized retail theft, felony possession of stolen property, and felony conspiracy.

The fourth person is a 16-year-old girl who was booked into juvenile hall on suspicion of the same offenses.

Anyone with any information about the case, including the identity of the fifth suspect, is asked to call the Palo Alto Police Department's 24-hour dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be emailed to paloalto@tipnow.org.

—Bay City News Service



Courtesy Palo Alto Police Department

The man seen in this surveillance image was arrested for allegedly shoplifting from the lululemon store at Stanford Shopping Center in Palo Alto on July 17.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pace Gallery to close Palo Alto location

International art gallery group Pace Gallery is shuttering its Palo Alto location. A newsletter from the gallery, sent out on July 19, indicated that its latest exhibition, "Brice Guilbert: Fournez," will be the final show at the downtown Palo Alto space, located at 229 Hamilton Ave. The new show, a solo exhibition of paintings by Brice Guilbert, opened on Thursday, July 21, and is set to close Sept. 2.

"This presentation will also mark the final presentation at the gallery's Palo Alto location as the gallery will be consolidating its operations on the west coast from its gallery in Los Angeles," the newsletter said.

Pace, which specializes in modern and contemporary works, opened its Palo Alto gallery in 2016, but had begun establishing a presence in the community in 2015 with a pop-up location, according to Adriana Elgarresta, Pace's director of public relations.

When asked for comment, Pace CEO Marc Glimcher said in a statement that the gallery had built "strong and lasting relationships" with local artists, collectors and other institutions and that engaging with the local technology industry had made a significant impact on the gallery and accelerated Pace's work with experiential (sometimes called immersive or interactive) art.

"Through connecting with new collectors from the technology and financial industries, we worked hand-in-glove with individuals to build many private art collections from scratch, and staged meaningful programming through partnerships with Stanford and local educational institutions," Glimcher said.

Pace opened its Los Angeles gallery in April. Other locations include the gallery's headquarters in New York, as well as London, Geneva, Seoul, and Hong Kong. Pace also holds seasonal shows in East Hampton, New York and Palm Beach, Florida.

"Brice Guilbert: Fournez" is on view July 21-Sept. 2 at Pace Gallery, 229 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. For more information, visit pacegallery.com.

—Heather Zimmerman

Two Woodside council incumbents are running for reelection

Also, former Councilman Paul Goeld pulled papers to run for vacant seat

By Angela Swartz

Woodside Mayor Dick Brown and Councilman Brian Dombkowski are seeking reelection this fall.

The Town Council, which is currently a seven-member body, will make the move to five members when it switches from the "from-district" to a "by-district" elections system beginning on Nov. 8.

There will also be a special election for a two-year term this fall to replace the vacancy in District 4 left by John Carvell, who resigned on July 1. Former Council member Paul Goeld pulled papers to run for that seat.



Paul Goeld

Only two council members will be elected for new four-year terms, even though the terms for council members Brown, Dombkowski and Sean Scott are all expiring. Scott now lives in District 1, which will be on the ballot in 2024. He could choose to run then, but he is not eligible for any of the seats on the ballot this November, according to Town Manager Kevin Bryant.

Dombkowski and Brown both joined the council in 2018. Goeld joined the council in 1999 and served until November 2007, according to Town Clerk Jennifer Li.

Dick Brown

Brown said he's inspired to run partly because of his concerns about the state mandate to allow more housing to be built in town. He has vocally supported giving local control back to towns.

Woodside's 2023-31 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) brings a significantly larger increase in the number of units to plan for than in cycles

past. The town is required to plan for 328 additional housing units over the eight-year period, compared to 62 units over the last cycle.

"It would put a lot more pressure on traffic and our services," he said. "We need the housing for firemen, teachers, people who work in the town. ... The more houses we have, the more pressure it puts on to get every possible solution in place to protect from wildfires."

Brown said he does feel more comfortable about building new housing since he heard from the Woodside Fire Protection District that new construction is more fire resistant than older homes. Setbacks and driveway width requirements of new construction are also more stringent.

"Every house could be a huge problem, particularly if it's built in the wrong place," he said. "There are too many trees and other materials."

He said four years on a council may seem like a long time, but things move slowly in government and he's just starting to see projects he worked on two or three years ago come into fruition.

The town has expanded its equestrian trail system quite a bit to "really build on our rural character and heritage," said. It's also improved Kings Mountain Road and Portola Bridge.

"I see myself as an activist councilperson," he explained. "I can't just sit back and vote yes or no on something."

Brian Dombkowski

Dombkowski, who last served as mayor in 2021, joined the council in 2018. If elected, he would represent the new District 2.

He said he's willing to work hard and bring his institutional knowledge to the council during



Dick Brown

a transformational time for the town, which is facing increased state housing mandates.

The council needs to find a balance between accessible and affordable housing while respecting the history of the town, which will be the "greatest challenge of this generation's community leaders."

"If done properly, there are outcomes we can all be proud of," he said. "Housing density will dominate the agenda for years."

The town made national news earlier this year when it declared itself a mountain lion habitat to void Senate Bill 9 duplex projects. Dombkowski said he now sees that these projects will help the town meet its housing goals.

He said he does have concerns about wildfire risk with increased housing stock. The Edgewood Fire in Emerald Hills in June brought the risk of wildfire to Woodside's doorstep. He noted that the town has had a program for defensible space to mitigate fire hazards for over a decade.

Dombkowski said he is proud of resolving the town's pension liabilities by putting \$1.8 million into retirement accounts in 2020 when pandemic market conditions created a long-term investment opportunity for the town.

He is also proud of the council's crime prevention efforts. For example, next week the council will look at finalizing a plan to install automated license plate readers around town. He notes that a lot of neighboring towns, like Atherton, Menlo Park, Redwood City and Portola Valley, already have them installed. ■

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

Menlo Park and Burgess Pool operator reach deal on stalled contract

By Cameron Rebosio

Tim Sheeper of Menlo Swim and Sport and Menlo Park city staff have come to an agreement regarding the contentious contract negotiations for operating Burgess Pool.

The two parties reportedly have agreed to a one-year contract between Sheeper and the city, and the terms will be presented before the Menlo Park City Council at

its upcoming July 26 meeting according to an email sent out by Sheeper.

The exact terms of the agreement had not been made public, but more information was to become available in Menlo Park's City Council agenda packet to be published on July 21, after The Almanac's Wednesday press deadline. Most of the terms remain the same as in the current contract, according to an email

City Manager Justin Murphy sent to a resident.

Multiple attempts to reach Sheeper for comment were not successful.

If a majority of the council votes in favor of the terms, Sheeper will continue management of Burgess Pool through Aug. 31, 2023. ■

Email Staff Writer Cameron Rebosio at crebosio@almanacnews.com.

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Rising Interest Rates

Dear Monica: I want to buy a house but am put off by rising interest rates. Should I buy now or wait to see what happens?

Ted S.

Dear Ted: If you want to buy a property that you plan to own for at least five or more years, you shouldn't be deterred by rising interest rates as long as the house you want to buy fits your needs and budget. It's likely that interest rates will rise again so buying now could be advantageous.

A good strategy would be to buy now and if interest rates do come down in the future, you can refinance and take advantage of a lower rate. Homeowners typically refinance every five to seven years anyway.

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

TOWN OF WOODSIDE
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NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General and Special Municipal Election will be held in the Town of Woodside on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, 2022, for the following officers:

A member of the Town Council to fill the office now held by Brian Dombkowski, from District 2, for a full term of four years expiring November 2026;

A member of the Town Council to fill the office now held by Richard "Dick" Brown, from District 3, for a full term of four years expiring November 2026.

A member of the Town Council to fill a vacancy, from District 5, for a partial term of two years expiring November 2024.

The filing period for candidates opens on Monday, July 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. and closes on Friday, August 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. If an incumbent fails to file his or her nomination by the close of filing on Friday, August 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. (the 88th day before the election), the filing period will be extended for five (5) days, ending Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. (the 83rd day before the election) to nominate candidates other than the person(s) who are the incumbents for that incumbent's elective office. This extension is not applicable where there is no appointed or elected incumbent eligible to be elected. If no one or only one person is nominated for an elective office, appointment to the elective office may be made as prescribed by Section 10229, Elections Code of the State of California.

All interested candidates must be registered voters of the Town of Woodside. Nomination papers for the elected position of Woodside Councilmember must be obtained from the City Clerk's office, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, California by appointment. For further information please contact Town Clerk, Jennifer Li, at jli@woodsidetown.org.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Vote By Mail and Provisional Ballots for the Election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, shall be tallied at the County of San Mateo, Registration & Elections Division at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402. The polls on Election Day will be open from 7:00 a.m., to 8:00 p.m.

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Candidates jump into Midpeninsula council races with flood of new filings

By Cameron Rebosio and Angela Swartz

Monday, July 18, marked the first day candidates could pull papers to run for office in the Nov. 8 general election.

Here's a roundup of those who decided to throw their hat in the ring.

Menlo Park

Seats in Districts 1, 2 and 4 are up grabs in Menlo Park this fall.

Mayor Betsy Nash has pulled papers to run for reelection in District 4.

Councilwoman Cecilia Taylor has announced she plans to run for reelection in District 1.

As of The Almanac's Wednesday afternoon press deadline, Councilman Drew Combs had yet to

respond about whether he will seek reelection to his District 2 seat.

Atherton

Incumbents Rick DeGolia and Bill Widmer pulled papers this week to seek reelection.

DeGolia served as mayor in 2021 and 2022 and first joined the council in 2013. Widmer has been on the council since 2010.

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE
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PLANNING COMMISSION
JULY 27, 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 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.

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Email: sharper@woodsidesidtown.org

PUBLIC HEARING

1. 3154 Woodside Road

WCF2022-0001

Peter Hilliard, On Air, LLC for Verizon Wireless

Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal, requiring Planning Commission review of a Wireless Communication Facility (WCF) Permit (WCF2022-0001), to construct a new Verizon Wireless telecommunication facility. The project consists of installing new antennas and remote radio equipment within the church spire at the Village Church.

2. 303 Grandview Drive

PCDR2022-0001; VARI2022-0005; NCOU2022-0001

Carrie Lukatch

Planner: Sarah Filipe, Associate Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal, requiring Planning Commission Design Review (PCDR2022-0001) to construct a new pergola with an outdoor kitchen, and a new swimming pool within the minimum required 50-foot front yard setback, which requires a Variance (VARI2022-0005) to the setback requirements; and a partial conversion of an existing nonconforming shed (located within the front setback) to a bathroom on a lot with an existing single family residence (NCOU2022-0001).

3. 455 Old La Honda Road

ASRB2022-0013; GRAD2022-0001

Humming Bird Hill, LLP

Planner: Sage Schaan, Deputy Planning Director

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review (ASRB2022-0013), to demolish an existing barn and construct a new barn adjacent to the hillside. The barn would not be used for horses, but for smaller livestock, such as sheep and llamas. The proposed basement would include storage for livestock feed and equipment, and a room for emergency generators. The lot is currently developed with a recently completed single-family residence and ADU. The site also includes a pool, pool changing building under construction, and the reconstruction of an existing nonconforming ADU (2nd ADU), and associated site improvements. Due to ongoing development overtime, this last phase of development will put the overall project over 1,500 cubic yards of site grading, requiring Planning Commission review of a Grading Exception (GRAD2022-0001).

THE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING SARAH FILIPE AT SFILIFE@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG OR SAGE SCHAAN AT SSCHAAN@WOODSIDETOWN.ORG.

Bob Polito, who is serving out the rest of former Vice Mayor Mike Lempres' term that ends in November, stated when he was appointed that he does not intend to run this fall. Polito has not pulled papers.

Portola Valley

Council members John Richards and Maryann Derwin have told The Almanac they will not seek reelection. Mayor Craig Hughes said he plans to run this fall.

Mary Hufty, Planning Commissioner Judith Hasko and Dale Pfau pulled papers to run for the Portola Valley Town Council.

Hufty last ran for council in 2020. The town removed Pfau as the Wildfire Preparedness Committee's vice chair in April, but didn't explain why.

Menlo Park Fire Protection District

Three seats are up for election this fall. No candidates have pulled papers yet to run in November.

Residents have until 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 12, to file candidate papers for the council race. For offices without eligible incumbents seeking reelection, the candidate filing period is open for an additional five calendar days and closes at 5 p.m. on Aug. 17.

Candidates may file in person or provide the elections office a written request to receive candidate filing documents electronically. ■

Email Staff Writer Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com

and Staff Writer Cameron Rebosio at crebosio@almanacnews.com.

Local Rep. Jackie Speier arrested at protest

Rep Jackie Speier was one of two U.S. representatives from the Bay Area who were among 17 members of Congress and 35 people overall who were arrested Tuesday afternoon in an abortion rights protest outside of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.

Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, and Rep. Speier, D-San Francisco/San Mateo, were among those arrested as part of a group of demonstrators who were blocking a street near the Supreme Court building on July 19. Speier's district includes a portion of Menlo Park and parts of Woodside, and runs from San Francisco south to East Palo Alto on the Midpeninsula and San Gregorio on the Coastside.

They were arrested on suspicion of crowding, obstructing or incommoding, according to U.S. Capitol Police.

The protest comes after last month's Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, which gave constitutional protections for pregnant people seeking an abortion across the nation and prompted some states to quickly ban abortions.

Lee wrote on social media in a post that shared photos, "One has a moral responsibility to push back against unjust laws. Today, I am standing up for reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy with the millions who have had their rights stripped away by inhumane policies."

Speier wrote on Twitter, "I've never been arrested before but I can hear the late congressman John Lewis imploring me to get in good trouble. We must be willing to speak out for patients who have the right to health care, and the fundamental right to bodily autonomy."

She also posted a video to her @RepSpeier Twitter account of her speaking at the protest, and chanting "We won't go back."

Other members of Congress arrested included Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York, who shared on social media that Lee was the first person arrested at Tuesday's demonstration and that the members of Congress made it back in time for votes on bills later in the day.

—Bay City News Service



Via @RepSpeier Twitter account

Rep. Jackie Speier, in white jacket, was one of two Bay Area congresswomen arrested at an abortion rights protest outside the U.S. Supreme Court on July 19.



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650.400.8424 | talia@taliacitron.com

#1 Agent ENTIRE Bay Area *RealTrends, 2021*
#5 Small Team ENTIRE Bay Area *RealTrends, 2022*
#27 Small Team Nationwide *RealTrends, 2022*

COMPASS

David Harry Osborne

December 23, 1936 – July 7, 2022

David Harry Osborne passed away on July 7, 2022 at the age of 85. He was born in San Francisco on December 23, 1936 to Ramona Whitfield and David Harry Osborne, Jr. Raised in San Francisco, he went to Lincoln High School where he was a basketball stand out and earned All City, which led him to the University of California, Berkeley on a basketball scholarship. He was in the Class of 1959—the year Cal's basketball team went to the NCAA finals and won the National championship under coach Pete Newell. Dave had developed a bad knee and sadly did not play with the team in the year of that historic game. Dave loved Cal—and cherished the many friends he made at Berkeley. He went on to be a big supporter of the University. He joined the University of California, Berkeley Foundation Board of Trustees in 1983 and served as the Chair of the Board during the "Keeping the Promise" campaign from 1987-89. He served 2 terms as Advisory Trustee from 1991-97 and also chaired the Foundation's Investment Committee. He received the Wheeler Oak Meritorious Award in 1990 and the Chancellor's award in 1993. Along the way he was President of the San Francisco Grid Club which supports Cal football. In addition to his dedication to Cal, he was on the Board of Trustees at Menlo School, in Menlo Park from 1984-1993. Prior to the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, he was the Northern California fundraising Chairman for the U.S. Olympic Committee. The whole family packed up and went to the '84 Olympic Games for two wonderful weeks.

He married his wife of 57 years—Phyrne McKennan in 1965. They have 3 children: Peter (Janet); Wendy (Ivan) and David (Beth); 5 grandchildren: Pete, Nick (Monique), Jack, Charlie and Mary Jane; 4 great grandchildren: Annabelle, Maddie, Joe & Charlie, sister-in-law Gail Cronan and several nieces and nephews.

Dave joined Salomon Brothers in 1966, moving the family to Los Angeles in 1967 to run the office there. He became a General Partner of the firm in 1972. The family returned to San Francisco in 1974 and made their home in Woodside. Dave was with Salomon Brothers until its merger in 1981. Later he was a Managing Director with Bechtel Investments (now the Fremont Group) until he retired.

Dave loved his friends and had a passion for golf. He was a longtime member of the San Francisco Golf Club, The Bohemian Club, and the Menlo Country Club. He and Phyrne had a second home on the Big Island in Hawaii at the Mauna Kea—which provided many wonderful family gatherings over 28 years. Hawaii, and friends made there, were very special to Dave. He and Phyrne are former members of Nanea Golf Club on the Big Island. The "151" Golf tournament brought many of their friends together for over 35 years.

Dave was a very loved husband, dad, grandpa, great grandpa and uncle. The family wants to thank his dedicated caregivers from the last few years: Malina Kama & Anne Vao. A celebration of Dave's life will be held at a future date at the San Francisco Golf Club. In lieu of flowers, any donation to the U.C., Berkeley Foundation/Cal Athletics Fund, 1995 University Avenue, Suite 400, Berkeley, CA 94704 in Dave's honor would be welcome.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, any donation to the U.C., Berkeley Foundation/Cal Athletics Fund, 1995 University Avenue, Suite 400, Berkeley, CA 94704 in Dave's honor would be welcome.



Courtesy NASA, ESA, CSA and STScI

NGC 3324 in the Carina Nebula, captured in infrared light by NASA's new James Webb Space Telescope.

Webb telescope is lightyears ahead of Hubble. A NASA Ames scientist explains why

Webb's early images put deep space into focus

By Malea Martin

The first image revealed from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope on July 11 isn't just the deepest and sharpest infrared glimpse that humans have of the distant universe so far. It's also a peek at 4.6 billion years into the past.

"Whenever we look at a picture of something in the universe, we are looking back in time, because light travels at a finite speed," NASA Ames astrophysicist Dr. Thomas P. Greene, a co-investigator on the NIRC2 and MIRI science instruments of the Webb Telescope, said in an interview. "Space is big, light is fast, but it's not infinitely fast."

Light from the moon is delayed about 2.5 seconds, Greene said. When you look up at the sun, you're seeing what the center of our solar system looked like nine minutes ago. But the galaxy cluster SMACS 0723, known as Webb's First Deep Field and whose images were revealed to the public by President Joe Biden, is almost incomprehensibly old.

"The images really span a lot of different astrophysical environments, all the way from right after the Big Bang," Greene said. "Those are the really distant ones," like SMACS 0723.

Webb isn't the first telescope to show us galaxies from right after the universe's creation. The NASA Hubble Space Telescope revealed stars that are as ancient as 13 billion years old. What makes Webb remarkable is how it's bringing these galactic formations into focus — and the speed at which it's doing so.

"It's got about five times the area of its mirror (compared to) Hubble, so that means it collects five times as much light," Greene said, making Webb's images far sharper.

And while Hubble can capture infrared light at about three times redder than the human eye can see, Greene said, Webb captures light that's 30 times redder, revealing cosmic cliffs, clusters of millions of glittering young stars and distant planets in sharper detail than ever before.

Webb also works faster, thanks to its location. While Hubble orbits the Earth, Webb will orbit the Sun, about a million miles away from our home planet.

"The images show in just a few hours about the same depth that Hubble went to in weeks of observations of the deep, distant universe," Greene said. "The expansion in the wavelength, or the color range, also allows us to see many more molecules in the

atmospheres of planets. Where Hubble gave us a little peek about what was going on in the universe, this is going to give us a lot more information and fundamental understanding.

The images revealed so far are just a sliver of what Webb will deliver over the next couple decades and beyond.

"It's sort of like if you go to a winery, they'll give you a little bit to taste. Just a splash in your glass," Greene said. "That's what we're getting here. We're not getting the full bottle. This is really showing what's to come with Webb. We've got maybe up to 20 years or more of observations coming out of it."

Email Staff Writer Malea Martin at mmartin@mv-voice.com.

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **David Harry Osborne**, 85, a Woodside resident, on July 7; and **Robert (Bob) Lindblom**, 96, a Menlo Park resident, on July 8.

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

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MARY JO MCCARTHY
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265 Portola State Park Road, La Honda
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Developer seeks public feedback for planned SRI redevelopment

By Cameron Rebosio

The developer behind the Parkline project, a large mixed-use revamp of the SRI International site in Menlo Park, is doing an outreach tour for residents to weigh in on plans to build housing, new offices and public open space on the campus. The developer, Lane Partners, held events on July 13 and 16 to reach out to concerned community members regarding architectural styles, community amenities and housing density.

The meetings gave residents a chance to weigh in on one of three options, with a menu of preferred public amenities. Attendees heavily favored food trucks at Parkline, along with an interest in a soccer field, event lawn and exercise stations.

"It's better to try to understand what people think early on in the process," said Mark Murray, principal of Lane Partners. "It's a really engaged community. We've had good attendance and a lot of constructive feedback that we can use."

Questions related to architectural style only applied to the commercial buildings, while lead architect Thomas Yee said that the housing style would be inspired by the "roots" of Menlo Park. The current project design shows residential buildings as tall as six stories for a total of 400 to 600 units. One building would be all-affordable housing.

"This is a community that cares a lot about affordable housing," Murray said. "We've heard that from so many people that they care about other folks in

the community having adequate housing, which is really great."

The Parkline project also has a focus on sustainability, according to the developer. Water usage would be significantly reduced, and one of three remaining SRI buildings would be fully electric. Through the revamp and new development on the campus, open space would make up 48% of the property, up from just 10% today.

"If you look on Google Earth, at the existing conditions, this is like a sea of asphalt and rooftops

and we're basically taking down 35 buildings and replacing them with five buildings," Murray said. "You're really kind of shaping up a new neighborhood that'll be kind of characterized by open space and green space."

Parkline plans to upload the outreach exercises to its website, and its current community survey can be found at menloparkline.com/survey. ■

Email Staff Writer Cameron Rebosio at crebosio@almanacnews.com.

STAFF HOUSING

continued from page PB

My spouse just started at a brand new job in Redwood City and we are able to build up a community which has been so incredible."

She said she's been saving about \$800 to \$900 a month by living on campus, in addition to not having to fill up her gas tank to commute from her former home in Pacifica. She intends to stay through her seven-year lease.

More housing could be coming to the Woodside community college. A quarter of Woodside's proposed housing element plan (328 units total) includes developing 80 staff and faculty apartments at the college.

The San Mateo County Community College District has identified several locations on the Woodside campus where it could

develop housing. There are already portions of campus designated for multifamily zoning, which was approved by the town during the 2015-23 housing element.

Cañada Vista

The Cañada Vista development includes two, three-story buildings with a mix of one-, two- and three-bedroom units, and a community/recreation center, according to the project developer's website. A one-bedroom unit rents for \$1,175 to \$1,400 monthly, while a two-bedroom costs \$1,450 to \$1,600 per month, according to Ana Maria Pulido, the college district's director of public affairs. The average rent in Redwood City in February was \$3,255, according to Rentcafe, an apartment listing service.

On-campus district housing is available, for up to seven-year leases, to faculty and staff members

who plan to be first-time homebuyers in the future, according to the district website. Employees are strongly encouraged use the money they save on reduced rent toward a down payment for a house in the area. The district also has a loan program for first-time homebuyers that helps supplement a down payment.

In the 2015 housing element, Woodside town staff said the land in the 2015 multifamily housing overlay at Cañada College could be used to develop affordable senior housing, which was not built during its eight-year cycle.

Town staff said in a recent memo to the Woodside Town Council that in the San Mateo County Community College District's draft facilities master plan, there is a need for 250 units across its three campuses. The district noted that it doesn't yet have the funds to construct all those units.

The master plan does not specify a number of proposed housing units at each campus location, though an official with the district said it would be fair to assume about 80 units, roughly one-third of the needed 250 units, could be at Cañada College if funding becomes available, the memo states.

Other community college housing projects

The college district also opened the College Vista housing project at College of San Mateo in 2005, according to a town staff report.

The district is building 30 units of housing at Skyline College in San Bruno. College Ridge is a three-story complex on a 2-acre site located on campus, according to the district website.

There will be one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments in two 15-unit buildings. The buildings

connect to two native landscape outdoor areas.

For more information on district housing, go to tinyurl.com/housingsmccd. ■

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

From Cañada Vista renter to homeowner

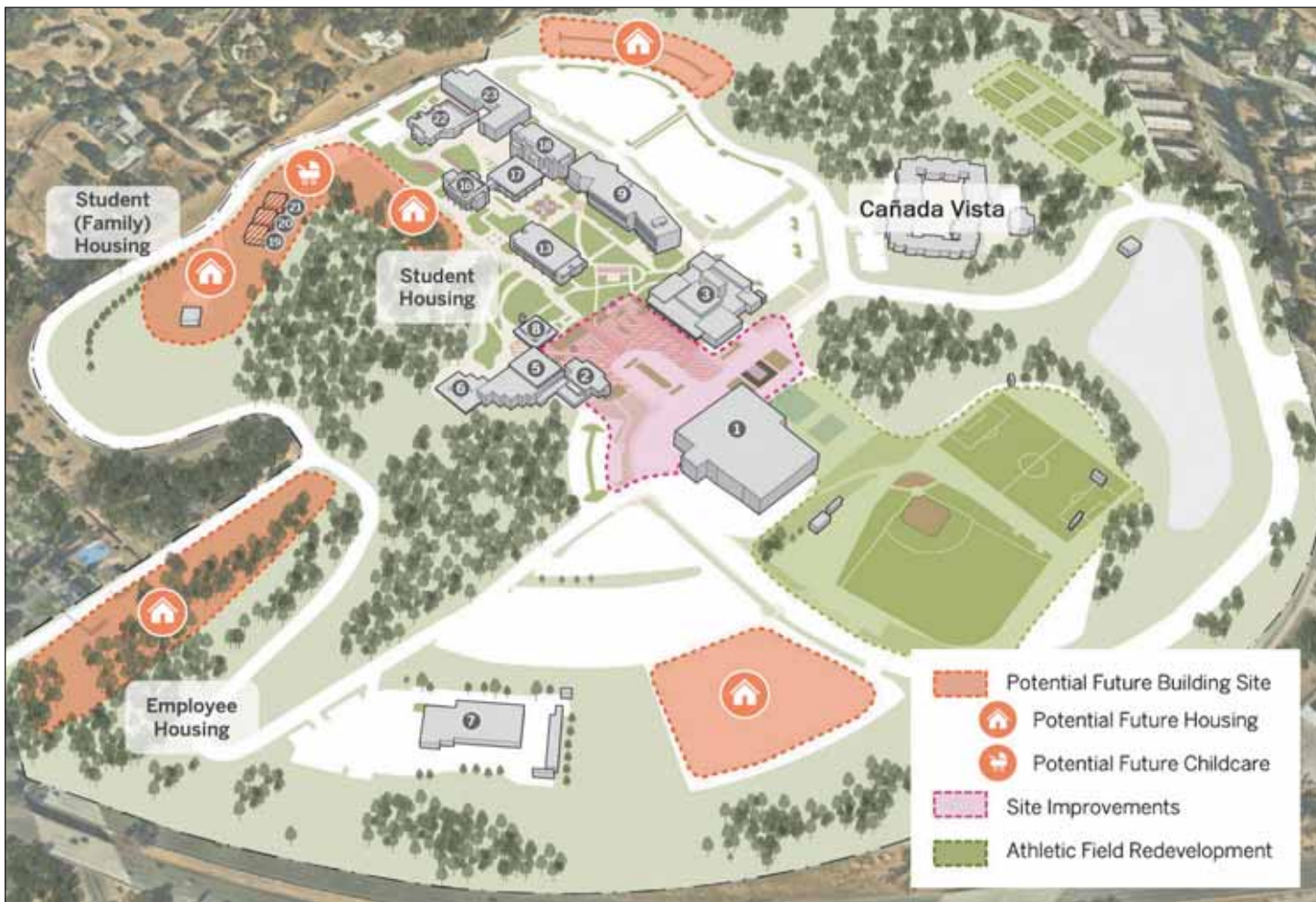
Megan Rodriguez Antone, director of community relations and marketing for Cañada College, lived at the Cañada Vista for almost five years before saving enough money to buy a home in Castro Valley in 2020. She and her husband were on the waiting list for the below-market-rate housing complex for a little under a year.

"I wouldn't have been able to save money at the rate I did without the savings living at Cañada Vista," she said. She estimates they saved about \$1,000 a month. "Now that I'm commuting I really miss living close. ... It was a seven-minute walk from my apartment door to my office door. ... I had the opportunity to get to know other colleagues from other colleges; you see them when walking your dog."

The college district doesn't track which employees who had lived in the rental housing have since bought homes, according to district spokeswoman Ana Maria Pulido.

As part of the agreement between Woodside and Redwood City, 24 of the 65 housing units required to be built in Woodside between 2007 and 2014 through the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process were transferred to Redwood City's allocation. Under the agreement, Woodside's RHNA number was reduced from 65 to 41 and Redwood City's number was increased from 1,832 to 1,856.

— Angela Swartz



Courtesy San Mateo County Community College District

The long-term vision for Cañada College facilities. There are currently 60 units of housing at Cañada College's Cañada Vista. There is the potential to build 80 more units during the next housing cycle.

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Enjoy the ride

Meet the 2022 Winners!



**Almanac
Readers' Choice
contributors**

Editors

Linda Taaffe
John Bricker

Designer

Douglas Young

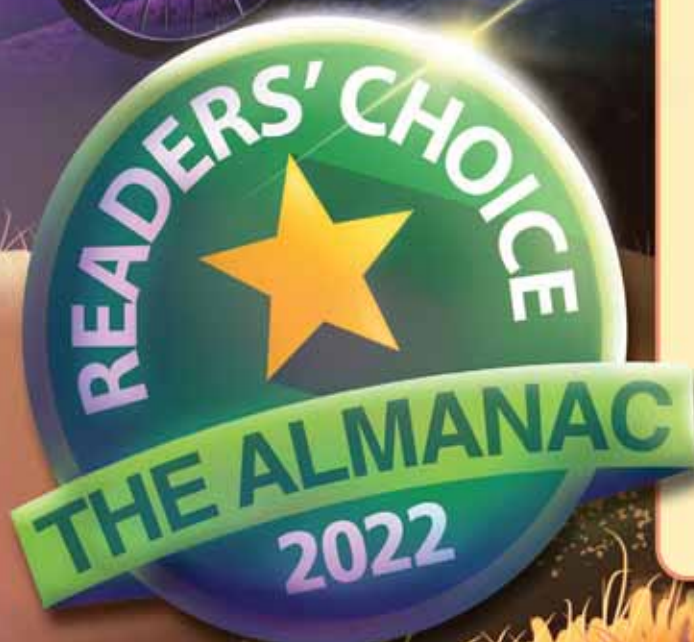


Get ready to enjoy the ride this summer as you explore the restaurants, retail shops, service providers and other businesses that rose to the top as the 2022 Almanac Readers' Choice winners.

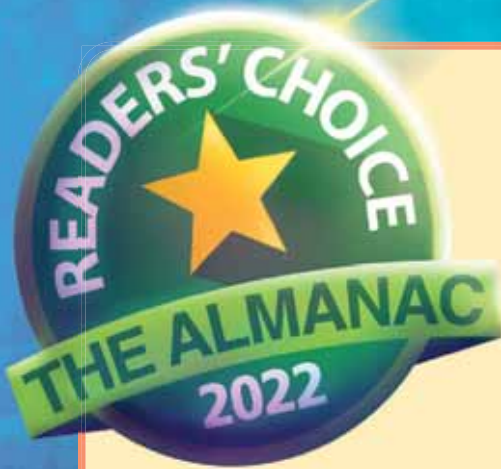
From innovative dining options to the return of in-person workouts and live theater to a plethora of expanded hybrid services, this year's winners have once again shown the grit and creativity needed to go above and beyond the notion of business as usual no matter the times.

And once again, readers have recognized these businesses by casting 13,066 votes for their favorite places to eat, shop, work out or spend time with family and friends for the Almanac's annual Readers' Choice edition.

This year's list of winners includes some familiar favorites as well as some new places we're anxious to explore. Here's your crowd-sourced guide to the very best of Menlo Park, Woodside, Portola Valley and Atherton.



Readers' Choice Winners 2022



Arts & Entertainment

LIVE MUSIC

Pioneer Saloon

2925 Woodside Road, Woodside

PLACE FOR A DATE

The Village Pub

2967 Woodside Road, Woodside

PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE

Cafe Borrone

1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

Food & Drink

BAKERY

Woodside Bakery

325 Sharon Park Drive,
Menlo Park

BREAKFAST

Buck's of Woodside

3062 Woodside Road, Woodside

DESSERT

Mademoiselle Colette

816 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

HAMBURGERS

Dutch Goose

3567 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park

HAPPY HOUR

Left Bank

635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

ICE CREAM/FROZEN YOGURT

Baskin-Robbins

863 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

INDEPENDENT COFFEE & TEA HOUSE

Konditorei Cafe

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

PIZZA

Amici's

880 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

PLACE TO BUY MEAT

Draeger's Market

1010 University Drive, Menlo Park

SANDWICHES

Bianchini's Market

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

TAKEOUT

Chef Kwan's

630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park

Restaurants

AMERICAN

Alice's Restaurant

17288 Skyline Blvd., Woodside

ASIAN

Chef Kwan's

See Food & Drink, Best Takeout

CASUAL DINING DINING WITH KIDS

Amici's

880 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

FRENCH

Bistro Vida

641 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

ITALIAN

Ristorante Carpaccio

1120 Crane St., Menlo Park

JAPANESE

Naomi Sushi

1328 El Camino Real #4211,
Menlo Park

MEXICAN

Cafe Del Sol

1010 Doyle St., Menlo Park

OUTDOOR DINING

Cafe Borrone

1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

Bistro Vida

641 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

Retail

BICYCLE SHOP

Menlo Velo Bikes

433 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

BOOKSTORE

Kepler's Books & Magazines

1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

BOUTIQUE

PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY

Shady Lane

325 Sharon Park Drive, Sharon
Heights Shopping Center, Menlo Park

FLOOR COVERINGS

The Oriental Carpet

773 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

FRAME STORE /ART GALLERY

Peabody Fine Art Gallery & Framing

603 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

GIFT SHOP NURSERY

Ladera Garden & Gifts

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

GROCERY

Draeger's Market

1010 University Drive, Menlo Park

HARDWARE STORE

Menlo Hardware

700 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

HOME DECOR & FURNISHINGS

Anthem Home

889 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

PLACE TO BUY SHOES

Fleet Feet

859 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

PRODUCE

Sigona's Farmers Market

2345 Middlefield Road, Redwood City

SPECIALTY STORE

Cheeky Monkey Toys

640 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park

Services

AUTO REPAIR

Portola Valley Garage

4170 Alpine Road,
Portola Valley

BARBER

Menlo Park Barber Shop

2100 Avy Ave., Menlo Park

DAY SPA

LaBelle Day Spas & Salons

Town & Country Village #33 & #95,
Palo Alto

DRY CLEANER

Ladera Cleaners

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

FITNESS CLASSES GYM

Studio K-Fit

3708 Florence St., Redwood City

FLORIST

Ladera Garden & Gifts

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley

HAIR SALON

Diane's Beauty Salon

3130 Alpine Road Ste. 330,
Portola Valley

HOTEL

Rosewood Hotel

2825 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park

MANICURE/PEDICURE

A Touch of Elegance Nail Care

1150 Crane St., Menlo Park

PLUMBER

Guy Plumbing & Heating

1265 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park

YOGA

YogaSource

158 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto



Readers' Choice Winners 2022

Arts & Entertainment

LIVE MUSIC

Pioneer Saloon

The history of Pioneer Saloon is as lustrous as its wooden decor and nostalgic “Wild West” ambiance. In operation since 1880, the landmark saloon has become a local destination for its Live Music Sundays. Open seven days a week, Pioneer features tap and craft beer, local and international wines, a full bar and a variety of non-alcoholic options.

What's new: “We now have an outdoor wraparound patio seating area.”

2925 Woodside Road,
Woodside, 650-851-8487;
pioneersaloon.com

PLACE FOR A DATE

The Village Pub

The Village Pub's Michelin Star cuisine and wine and spirits program have been well-loved nationally and locally since the restaurant opened in 2001. The restaurant sources roughly 80% of its produce directly from a partnership with SMIP Ranch located in the hills above Woodside, all of which is grown without pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers.

2967 Woodside Road,
Woodside, 650-851-9888;
thevillagepub.net



Courtesy Pioneer Saloon

Pioneer Saloon, Best Live Music

PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE

Cafe Borrone

With outdoor dining in a plaza complete with a fountain, live jazz music and art exhibits, Cafe Borrone has been a beloved neighborhood landmark in the heart of downtown Menlo Park for decades. The cafe is known for its prepared-from-scratch food made from organic and sustainable ingredients.

1010 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park, 650-327-0830;
cafeborrone.com

Food & Drink

BAKERY

Woodside Bakery

Woodside Bakery offers pastries, cakes, cookies and other baked goods that have kept customers coming back for more than three decades. The

family-owned European bakery makes its baked goods from scratch every day — from delightfully buttery croissants and fresh fruit tarts to mile-high old-fashioned apple pies.

325 Sharon Park Drive,
Menlo Park, 650-854-6207;
woodsidebakery.com

BREAKFAST

Buck's of Woodside

For more than three decades, Buck's Restaurant has been a one-of-a-kind community institution drawing generations of families as well as Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, heads of state and famous actors. The dining room is a museum of the weird, and the menu features down-home meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner, including ranchero breakfast bowls, double smash burgers, fish tacos, burgers, soups and dishes like the Big

Buck with silver dollar pancakes, bacon and eggs.

What's new: The MacNiven brothers, who took over the restaurant from their parents in 2020, added an outdoor wood-fired pizza oven and outdoor dining. On some summer evenings, the restaurant hosts a bluegrass band.

3062 Woodside Road,
Woodside, 650-851-8010;
bucksrestaurant.com

DESSERT

Mademoiselle Colette

This pastry shop, inspired by traditional Parisian cafes and unique French flavors, serves breakfast, lunch and aperitifs as well as pastries to go. Its traditional and creative cuisine is made from fresh, organic, local and seasonal produce.

816 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park, 650-644-8469;
mademoisellecolette.com

HAMBURGERS

Dutch Goose

Since opening in 1966, Dutch Goose has been the go-to place for Certified Angus Beef burgers, brews and pizza in a family-friendly atmosphere, where the staff “call you by name and not a number or a text.” Dutch Goose is open for delivery, takeout and outdoor seating.

3567 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Menlo Park, 650-854-3245;
dutchgoose.net

HAPPY HOUR

Left Bank

With its outdoor terrace and late happy hour from 9 p.m. until closing, it's no surprise that

Left Bank's happy hour is once again a Readers' Choice winner. In addition to an assortment of cocktails, this authentic brasserie serves a diverse selection of simple and fresh Southern French cuisine.

635 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park, 650-473-6543;
leftbank.com

ICE CREAM/ FROZEN YOGURT

Baskin-Robbins

This shop is a classic and familiar spot to grab ice cream, milkshakes and other frozen treats. The shop also offers customized cakes, pre-packed and fresh-packed ice cream quarts and DIY sundae kits to take home.

863 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park, 650-323-9335;
baskinrobbins.com

INDEPENDENT COFFEE & TEA HOUSE

Konditorei Cafe

This relaxed neighborhood cafe offers breakfast items, pastries and outside seating in a soothing ambiance seven days a week. The shop also displays and sells works by local artists.

3130 Alpine Road,
Portola Valley, 650-854-8616

PIZZA

Amici's

Amici's has been serving up pizza — along with pasta, soup and salad — to Menlo Park patrons for the past decade. The thin-crust New York-style pies are cooked in traditional brick ovens next to an open flame.

880 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park, 650-329-8888;
amicis.com

PLACE TO BUY MEAT

Draeger's Market

This high-end supermarket offers upscale food, wine and housewares, a floral department and an onsite cooking school. It also offers holiday meals that can be ordered in advance. The family-owned market has been in operation in the Bay Area for more than 90 years.

1010 University Drive,
Menlo Park, 650-324-7700;
draegers.com



Courtesy Dutch Goose

Dutch Goose, Best Hamburgers



Courtesy Amici's

Amici's, Best Pizza, Best Casual Dining, Dining With Kids

SANDWICHES

Bianchini's Market

Since 1998, shoppers have counted on Bianchini's Market for fresh local produce, gourmet cheeses and groceries from small producers whose items aren't found at chain stores. Readers praise the family-owned market for its meat counter and deli sandwiches, which can be ordered online and are ready for pickup on arrival. The market also offers delivery in as little as one hour.

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, 650-851-4391; bianchinismarket.com

TAKEOUT

Chef Kwan's

Chef Kwan's offers a full menu of authentic Mandarin and Szechwan-style Chinese dishes and lunch plates made to order. Among the restaurant's more popular dishes are General's Chicken, Chinese chicken salad and dry sautéed string beans. The restaurant is open for takeout seven days a week.

630 Menlo Ave., Menlo Park, 650-322-4631; chefkwans.com

Restaurants

AMERICAN

Alice's Restaurant

This sustainability focused restaurant serves classic food like burgers, fries, scrambles and pie from a rustic-looking cabin among the redwoods. Alice's offers woodfired pizza Wednesday through Sunday with gluten-free options available.

17288 Skyline Blvd., Woodside; 650-851-0303; alicesrestaurant.com

ASIAN

Chef Kwan's

See Food & Drink, Best Takeout

CASUAL DINING DINING WITH KIDS

Amici's

See Food & Drink, Best Pizza

FRENCH

Bistro Vida

Inspired by the Parisian bistro culture, Bistro Vida serves up French-influenced dishes with a slight Mediterranean twist. Owner Ali El Safy, a native of Cairo, Egypt, who lived in Paris before moving to the Bay Area, said his mission is to bring the enjoyment of life, comfort and community found in Paris to Menlo Park.

What's new: "We continue to expand and improve our outdoor dining space and started the Bon Marché artisan market to add some entertainment and activity in the middle of the week to the 'French Quarter.' We will continue to bring new vendors with artisanal foods, seasonal produce and local live music for a fun family event that we look forward to growing."

641 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-462-1686; bistro-vida.com.

See **READERS' CHOICE**, page 18



Thank you to all who voted us #1 Seafood Restaurant in Mountain View.



The Village at San Antonio Center
545 San Antonio Rd., Ste 34, Mountain View
(650) 941-1810

PACIFICCATCH.COM



All of us at Carpaccio recognize the honor of being voted Best Italian Restaurant for another year and appreciate your ongoing support. Come join us for inside dining or our beautiful Carpaccio On the Alley.

Carpaccio
Northern Italian Cuisine

1120 Crane Street | Menlo Park | 650.322.1211
www.carpaccios.com



Courtesy Bistro Vida

Bistro Vida, Best French Restaurant, Most Romantic Restaurant



READERS' CHOICE

continued from page 17

ITALIAN

Ristorante Carpaccio

Ever since Ristorante Carpaccio opened in downtown Menlo Park in 1988, it has consistently won Readers' Choice for best Italian restaurant. Carpaccio features weekly lunch and dinner special menus, while also offering a full range of appetizers, soups, salads, pastas and meat and fish dinners.

What's new: "Our outside dining space, Carpaccio On the Alley. (It) has beautiful awnings, European artwork, overhead lighting, heaters, music and is surrounded by planter boxes filled with gorgeous plants, trees and herbs."

1120 Crane St., Menlo Park;
650-322-1211; carpaccios.com

Readers' Choice Winners 2022



Courtesy of Buck's of Woodside

Buck's of Woodside, Best Breakfast

JAPANESE

Naomi Sushi

Naomi Sushi offers dining and takeout and has been recognized for its outstanding cuisine, excellent service and friendly staff. The restaurant serves modern interpretations of classic Japanese dishes and insists on using fresh

ingredients.

1328 El Camino Real #4211,
Menlo Park; 650-321-6902;
naomisushimenlopark.com

MEXICAN

Cafe Del Sol

This cafe offers a cheerful atmosphere and serves south-of-the-border dishes like fish

tacos, tostada salads, fajitas and tamales, as well as vegetarian items and soups. The restaurant is currently accepting takeout orders only, according to its website.

1010 Doyle St, Menlo Park; 650-326-2501; menupages.com/cafe-del-sol-restaurant/
1010-doyle-st-menlo-park

OUTDOOR DINING

Cafe Borrone

See Arts & Entertainment,
Best Place to Meet People

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

Bistro Vida

See Restaurants, Best French
Restaurant

Retail

BICYCLE SHOP

Menlo Velo Bikes

Menlo Velo Bicycles is committed to making cycling the best it can be for riders of all levels and types. The shop sells a wide variety of bikes — from road and comfort to electric — and provides maintenance services, too.

433 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park; 650-327-5137;
menlovelobicycles.com

BOOKSTORE

Kepler's Books & Magazines

With its broad collection of books, magazines and literary events, Kepler's Books &

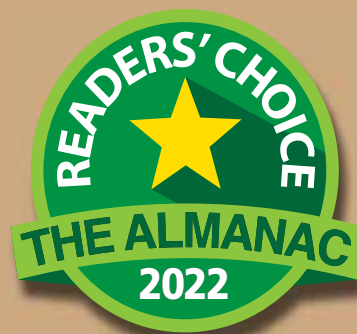


Ladera
Garden
and
Gifts

3130 Alpine Road, Portola Valley
650.854.3850

2029 Ralston Avenue, Belmont
650.232.7154

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Magazines has been a beloved cornerstone in the community since it opened in the 1960s.

1010 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park; 650-324-4321;
keplers.com

BOUTIQUE PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY Shady Lane

At Shady Lane, customers can browse jewelry, wood carvings, textile art and more. The shop specializes in local artisan creations but also showcases offerings from around the globe. A local artisan is always on staff.

What's new: Shady Lane now offers a "Shop" tab on its website to make it easier for customers to make online purchases, as well as preview store items prior to visiting the store in person.

325 Sharon Park Drive,
Sharon Heights Shopping Center,
Menlo Park; 650-321-1099;
shadylanegallery.com

FLOOR COVERINGS The Oriental Carpet

Since 1973, The Oriental Carpet has provided customers a selection of traditional and contemporary, hand-woven



Courtesy photo

The Oriental Carpet, Best Floor Coverings

Oriental and Persian rugs. Customers say they enjoy the myriad services that the store offers, from hand cleaning to custom rug production. The shop also makes home visits, allowing customers to see how carpets look in their own homes.

What's new: "We are approaching 50 years in business

and are planning a party and massive anniversary sale to celebrate."

773 Santa Cruz Ave,
Menlo Park; 650-327-6608;
theorientalcarpet.com

See **READERS' CHOICE**, page 22

Thank you for voting us Best Produce!



Supporting local farmers and vendors for over 45 years!



The Sigona Family: Carmelo, Rob, Paul, Jim and John Jr.

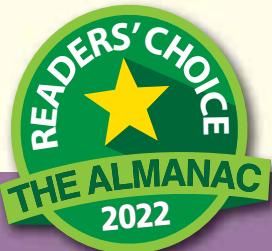
Sigona's is an open-air, family-owned market with fresh produce, seasonal olive oils, gourmet ingredients, artisan cheeses and more. Visit us in Redwood City and Palo Alto.



local | fresh | family



www.sigonas.com



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FRESH COFFEE • BAGELS • PASTRIES • BOBA • ICE CREAM

Located at the Ladera Country Shopper
3130 Alpine Rd, Portola Valley | Hours: 6:30AM-1:30PM
www.konditorei.dine.online/ | 650.800.1945





990 BERKELEY AVENUE MENLO PARK



BRIGHT AND LUXURIOUS ON MORE THAN 1/3-ACRE

Over a third of an acre in the bucolic Menlo Oaks neighborhood sets the stage for this luxurious home offering 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, and almost 3,400 square feet of refined living space, including a detached guest house. Craftsman-style architecture creates outstanding curb appeal, and inside, the home is luxuriously appointed with engineered hardwood floors and crown molding. The light-filled floorplan features a 2-way fireplace in the living room and family room, the large dining room perfect for dinner parties, and the eat-in chef's kitchen with appliances from Wolf, Bosch, and Sub-Zero. An outdoor oasis awaits in the backyard, where a lush lawn, hot tub, and sprawling patio provide outstanding space for entertaining and play. Plus, the detached guest house provides convenience as a potential office, and the home also includes an attached 2-car garage. Find yourself less than 10 minutes away from downtown Menlo Park, within walking distance of Flood Park, and less than a mile from US 101, with access to top-ranked Menlo Park schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

**OPEN HOUSE WITH A FUN ACTIVITY FOR KIDS
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM**

990Berkeley.com

Listed at \$4,488,000

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

Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 精通中英文和粵語
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc.





865 MENLO OAKS DRIVE
MENLO PARK



CLASSIC ELEGANCE WITH A MODERN TWIST

Nearly a half-acre of land in the peaceful enclave of Menlo Oaks provides the perfect setting for this expansive 5-bedroom, 3-bathroom, steel-framed home that combines timeless elegance with a modern floorplan. A pathway past beautifully landscaped grounds leads to the front door, and inside, luxurious appointments such as hardwood floors, crown molding, and marble finishes can be found at every turn. Almost 4,100 square feet of light-filled living space enjoys highlights such as 2 fireplaces, expansive formal rooms perfect for entertaining, an eat-in chef's kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances, and comfortable bedrooms including the primary suite with a spa-inspired bathroom. The sun-swept backyard offers southern exposure and a resort-like setting with a pool, spa, multiple covered and heated patios, and even a bocce ball court. And though this incredible location provides a distinctly private feel, you will still be just a 5-minute drive from downtown Menlo Park, within walking distance of Flood Park, a mile from US 101, and have access to top-ranked Menlo Park schools, many of which are within close proximity (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE WITH LIVE MUSIC
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

865MenloOaks.com

Offered at \$6,288,000

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

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Menlo Park **Downtown Los Altos**
650.328.7975 **650.941.6043**
www.cheekymonkeytoys.com





READERS' CHOICE
continued from page 19

**FRAME STORE
/ART GALLERY**
**Peabody Fine Art
Gallery & Framing**

Since 1989, the skilled designers at Peabody Fine Art Gallery & Framing have been working one-on-one with customers to help create one-of-a-kind framed designs for any project.
**603 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park; 650-322-2200;
peabodygallery.com**

**GIFT SHOP
NURSERY**
Ladera Garden & Gifts

Ladera Garden & Gifts is a one-stop shop for garden supplies, gifts and flower arrangements. Juan and Mercedes Navarro, who have operated the



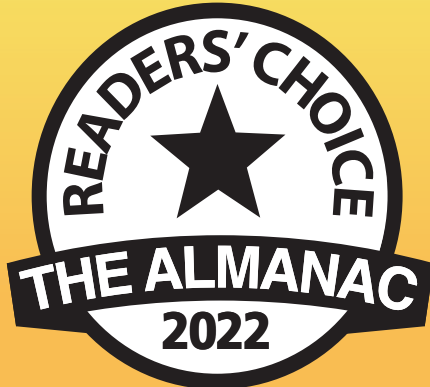
Courtesy Labelle Day Spas & Salons

LaBelle Day Spas & Salons, Best Day Spa

full-service nursery for nearly 40 years, provide custom floral arrangements as well as home goods and nursery items.

**3130 Alpine Road,
Portola Valley; 650-854-3850;
laderagardenandgifts.com**

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Readers' Choice Winners 2022



Courtesy Lisa Taggart

Fleet Feet, Best Place To Buy Shoes

GROCERY

Draeger's Market

See Food & Drink, Best Place to Buy Meat

HARDWARE STORE

Menlo Hardware

Menlo Park Ace Hardware has been the go-to hardware store for home, garden and building supplies since it

opened in 2005. In addition to offering housewares and tools, the independently owned shop offers services, including key cutting, custom glass and acrylic sheet cutting, blade sharpening, window screen repair, propane exchange and product assembly and delivery.

700 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park; 650-325-2515;
menlohardware.com

HOME DECOR & FURNISHINGS

Anthem Home

Whether you're entertaining, decorating, looking for bedding or shopping for a gift, Anthem Home has got you covered. The family-operated business has offered a wide selection of homegoods, decor

See **READERS' CHOICE**, page 24



Let's French!



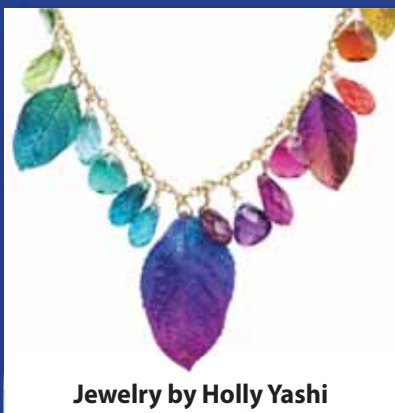
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leftbank.com | @leftbankbrasserie
635 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park | 650.473.6543

Shady Lane

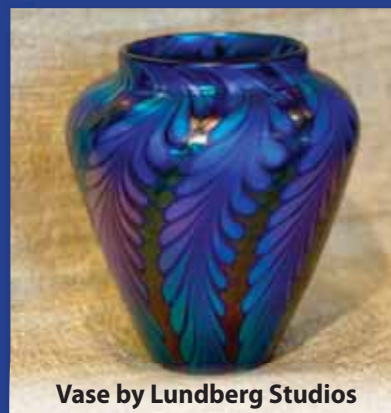
GIFTS from LOCAL ARTISANS and BEYOND



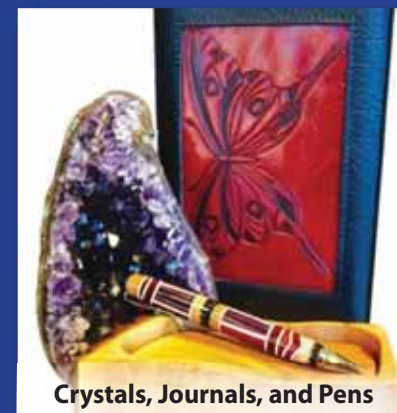
Jewelry by Holly Yashi



Pearls and Wood Boxes



Vase by Lundberg Studios



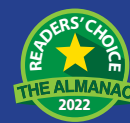
Crystals, Journals, and Pens



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shadylanegallery.com • 650-321-1099 • Facebook/ShadyLaneGallery



READERS' CHOICE

continued from page 23

and furniture in downtown Menlo Park since 2017.

889 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park; 650-440-7400;
anthemsf.online/pages/
locations-2022

PLACE TO BUY SHOES

Fleet Feet

Fleet Feet in Menlo Park is committed to enhancing local running and walking communities and helping customers find products that improve their fitness experience. The shop can assess foot type and gait cycle and has 3D scanners to measure feet, making its footwear recommendations uniquely tailored to each customer.

What's new: "After a two-year pause, we are so excited to get back to group runs! We've brought back our weekly free,

drop-in fun run (Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.) and will soon bring back our paid, multi-week training group classes geared toward a particular race."

859 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park; 650-325-9432;
fleetfeet.com

PRODUCE

Sigona's Farmers Market

Founded in 1975, Sigona's Farmers Market is a small, family-owned produce and specialty grocery store that provides shoppers the opportunity to experience an old-fashioned, open-air market. The market offers locally grown, organic and seasonal produce with many varieties of cheeses, flowers, microbrews, wines, olive oils, balsamics and more.

Staying power: Partnerships with local artisans and farmers to provide items exclusive to its markets.

2345 Middlefield Road,
Redwood City; 650-368-6993;
sigonas.com



Courtesy Ladera Cleaners

Ladera Cleaners, Best Dry Cleaner

SPECIALTY STORE

Cheeky Monkey Toys

Cheeky Monkey Toys is a family-owned shop that specializes in finding "just the right toy" for each customer. Since opening its doors in Menlo Park in 1999, the shop has provided interactive toys designed to stimulate children's minds.

640 Santa Cruz Ave.,
Menlo Park; 650-328-7975;
cheekymonkeytoys.com

Services

AUTO REPAIR

Portola Valley Garage

Portola Valley Garage's skilled technicians have been providing minor tune-ups and major overhauls since 1948. In addition to repair services, the garage offers 24-hour vehicle drop-off, online appointments and loaner cars.

4170 Alpine Road,
Portola Valley; 650-851-7442;
pvgarage.com

BARBER

Menlo Park Barber Shop

The barbers at Menlo Park Barber Shop pride themselves on developing close relationships with clients, giving excellent cuts and "blending craft and tradition with a strong dose of humor."

2100 Avy Ave., Menlo Park;
650-391-9008;
menloparkbarbershop.com

DAY SPA

LaBelle Day Spas & Salons

For decades, LaBelle Day Spas & Salons has helped

Silicon Valley clients to look and feel their best from head to toe. Moisturizers, serums and oils; treatments for problematic skin conditions, such as rosacea; scrubs, toners and eye care — everything for the face and body is available here with a one-on-one approach. LaBelle's custom-designed facials that are created from ingredients from the salon's own Bella Schneider Beauty Skincare line are a customer favorite.

What's new: LaBelle has remodeled, expanded and opened a new location in Town & Country Village where all of its services are now located.

Town & Country Village #33 &
#95, Palo Alto; 650-327-6964;
labelledayspas.com

DRY CLEANER

Ladera Cleaners

For more than 30 years, Ladera Cleaners has helped customers properly care for their clothes, coats, comforters and other delicate handmade items. The shop, which has been a Readers' Choice winner year after year since 2015, offers one-day dry cleaning, mending and reweaving services, as well as alterations for wedding dresses and other items.

3130 Alpine Road,
Portola Valley; 650-854-2291;
laderacleaners.net

FITNESS CLASSES, GYM

Studio K-Fit

Studio K-Fit offers high-intensity but low-impact

workouts focused on strength, mobility and cardio through high-intensity interval training (HIIT). Class sizes are small so that instructors can focus on each individual. The studio also offers lifestyle coaching and personalized nutrition guidance.

What's new: "We've introduced an assisted stretching service called K-Fit Stretch, which is a one-on-one session with a certified stretch therapist and posturist."

3708 Florence St.,
Redwood City; studiokfit@gmail.
com; studiokfit.com

FLORIST

Ladera Garden & Gifts

See Retail, Best Gift Shop, Best Nursery

HAIR SALON

Diane's Beauty Salon

Diane's Beauty Salon provides services that make customers look and feel good from head to toe. The salon provides color, cuts and blow outs, waxing, manicures and pedicures and more.

3130 Alpine Road Ste 330,
Portola Valley; 650-854-6544;
kellenriley7.wixsite.com/
dianessalon

HOTEL

Rosewood Hotel

Rosewood Hotel has been a Readers' Choice winner year after year. The 16-acre hotel

See READERS' CHOICE, page 28

Thanks so much for all your support!



We are thrilled and honored to once again be voted "Best Dentist" in 2022 after having been awarded the "Hall of Fame" designation for our wins from 2013 to 2018.

Thank you!



Christine Hansen, DDS

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Fitness Programs at Little House

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- Hybrid one-on-one personal training sessions

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For nearly 75 years, Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., a duly recognized 501 (c) (3) non-profit, has enabled seniors to age in place, driven by a profound legacy of caring and our core values of respect, commitment, trust, dedication and compassion. Our four core programs serve over 6,000 households and address the most pressing issues of aging adults by offering critical services to sustain their daily physical, nutritional, emotional and mental health while achieving dignity and independence in their lives. PVI's programs include Nutrition Services/Meals on Wheels; Adult Day Services at Rosener House; Health, Wellness and Lifetime Enrichment offerings at Little House; and on-demand Transportation Services at Little House. | Tax ID # 94-1294939

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38th Annual

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SPECIAL

SAVE \$5

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MOONLIGHT RUN & WALK

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EVENT & COMMUNITY



5K 10K HALF MARATHON

The Almanac

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THANK YOU!



We are honored to be The Almanac Readers' Choice 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022 winner for Best Sandwiches! From our family of employees to you, thank you for keeping it local and voting us The Almanac Readers' Choice Winner once again in 2022!

ONLINE SANDWICH ORDERING IS NOW AVAILABLE

Scan the QR code below to order your fresh deli sandwich online!

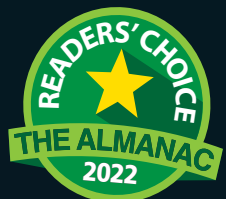
PORTOLA VALLEY 3130 Alpine Rd, Portola Valley, CA 94028
SAN CARLOS 810 Laurel St, San Carlos, CA 94070

f / BIANCHINISMART.COM



BEST AUTO REPAIR

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pvgarage.com



Readers' Choice Winners 2022



Courtesy Studio K-Fit

Studio K-Fit, Best Fitness Classes and Best Gym

READERS' CHOICE

continued from page 24

features an award-winning spa, Michelin-starred dining at Madera and 121 luxurious guest rooms and suites for business and leisure travelers.

**2825 Sand Hill Road,
Menlo Park; 650-561-1500;
rosewoodhotels.com/en/
sand-hill-menlo-park**

MANICURE/PEDICURE

A Touch of Elegance Nail Care

Customers can expect quality service, a friendly staff and reasonable pricing at A Touch of Elegance Nail Care, a longtime favorite of Almanac readers. In addition to manicures and pedicures, A

Touch of Elegance also offers facials and other services.

**1150 Crane St., Menlo Park;
650-321-0679**

PLUMBER

Guy Plumbing & Heating

Guy Plumbing & Heating is a fourth-generation family-owned business that provides a wide range of services and operates a full-service showroom specializing in the sales and installation of Toto washlet bidet seats, as well as parts for Hansgrohe, Kohler and House of Rohl.

**1265 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park; 650-323-8415;
guyplumbing.com**

YOGA

YogaSource

YogaSource was built on

the belief that "the practice of yoga should be both demanding and gratifying." It boasts a wide curriculum of yoga classes, including vinyasa, power, yin, restorative, hot 26, pilates and much more.

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**158 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto;
650-328-9642; yogasource.com**

All information was obtained from business owners, company websites and past Almanac coverage.



File photo

Cheeky Monkey, Best Specialty Store

Man gets 40-year prison sentence for mailing bombs as revenge against law enforcement

One of two bombs was sent to East Palo Alto

By Bay City News Service

A man received a 40-year prison sentence for mailing bombs intended to kill or injure Bay Area law enforcement officers in acts of revenge, federal prosecutors said on July 14.

In the fall of 2017, Oakland resident Ross Laverty, 61, mailed two improvised explosive devices. One was sent an East Palo Alto man with the same name as one of his targets and another to an Alameda police officer who arrested Laverty in 2013, according to prosecutors.

The explosion of the first device left the man with bleeding hands and blisters on his stomach,

prosecutors said. The victim still suffers from ringing in his ears, hand cramps and difficulty concentrating, according to prosecutors.

The explosion of the second device injured the Alameda police officer's wife. She suffered head injuries after opening the package that contained the bomb, prosecutors said. The woman still suffers from pain and ringing in her ears, according to prosecutors.

"My heart goes out to the innocent victims of these horrific acts," U.S. Attorney Stephanie Hinds said in a statement. "Ross Laverty not only injured the victims, he put mail carriers and handlers and numerous others at risk of serious injury and death."

"The public must be protected from such reckless, violent crimes," Hinds said.

A jury convicted Laverty in October 2020 of mailing explosives twice with the intention of killing or injuring the targets, according to prosecutors.

Prosecutors said at the trial that an expert testified that the explosives were victim-activated devices that were supposed to go off when the victim opened the package.

According to prosecutors, the devices were designed to "(shoot) off like a projectile" similar to a "bullet would out of gun."

Laverty sent the first package to take revenge on a corrections officer for strip-searching Laverty

when he was in San Mateo county jail in 2014, prosecutors said, citing trial evidence.

The second package Laverty sent was to the home of an Alameda police officer who conducted a probation search of Laverty's home in 2013 that resulted in Laverty's arrest, prosecutors said, citing evidence.

But the first package ended up at the home of an East Palo Alto man who was a grocery store clerk at Whole Foods Market, according to prosecutors. Prosecutors said the victim opened the package in his backyard on Oct. 19, 2017. It exploded, blowing a hole in the fence, prosecutors said.

The wife of the Alameda police officer opened the package

addressed to her husband on Nov. 24, 2017, according to prosecutors. She saw wires inside and threw it, prosecutors said, and it exploded.

The return addresses on both packages were jewelry stores, according to prosecutors.

"This desperate and shocking attack on our partners in law enforcement did real harm to customers of the U.S. Postal Service," said acting Inspector-in-Charge Kevin Rho of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, San Francisco Division. "Today's sentence demonstrates our unity of purpose in protecting the public from dangerous items in the mail."

Attorneys for Laverty declined to comment for this story. ■

HOUSING PLAN

continued from page 5

are majestic creatures with therapeutic powers far beyond most people's understanding."

Opt-in zoning

After residents of the Nathhorst Triangle area vehemently opposed plans to "upzone" the density of housing in their neighborhood in an earlier iteration of the draft element, the town decided to create an opt-in zoning program would allow single-family residential parcels 1 acre or greater to rezone to allow up to four dwelling units per acre. The town is considering adding in a clause that the owner opting for rezoning has to live on-site to prevent developers from buying up land.

But some residents expressed their concerns to the town that upzoning "creates powerful economic incentives to fundamentally alter" the environment and wildland habitats of Portola Valley.

Resident Sylvia Thompson told the town on June 23 that the program allows developers to profit from urbanization and "harnesses fear and greed to encourage rapid development."

"Neighbors are forced into an

economic prisoner's dilemma: the first up-zoner in a neighborhood reaps a financial windfall at nearby property owners' expense," she wrote. "The only way to reclaim some of the value lost to the new high-density project next door is also to up-zone and move out, ideally before someone else does. The ensuing race for the exits depresses land values, benefiting developers and cascading into the sort of overnight over-development seen in other formerly pristine places."

On Wednesday, the council considered removing the opt-in program and adding a small number of Senate Bill 9 units, but staff advised that they probably won't be financially viable for residents to through this program (SB 9 units are limited to 800 square feet in size in town). The state's so-called duplex law that took effect in January requires local agencies to grant ministerial approval to certain lot splits and up to two primary units on each resulting lot, with 4-foot side and rear setbacks.

Ford Field and Ladera Church sites

The council decided that planning for Dorothy Ford Field and the Ladera Church property will take place together about two

years into the 2023-31 cycle. This will allow the town to first evaluate how the plan's implementation is progressing.

In a June 16 email to the town, Ford's widow Susan Ford Dorsey, said her husband gave the land under two conditions: the land remains as open space and that the park be named after his mother, Dorothy B. Ford.

"I believe that the town would be breaking that promise to him and our family by developing it," she said. "That land is a place of solace for our community and it needs to be kept intact. Like every family in our community, our family has benefited from the beauty and recreation afforded by the park."

While both Susan Ford Dorsey and many residents have stated

the town has a moral obligation to keep the property in open space, but other than the two deed restrictions governing the baseball field which expire in 2031, there is no legal impediment to changing the use of the open space portion of the site.

Town staff confirmed that there is not a proposal to build housing over the Ford Field baseball diamond. There may be an opportunity to rearrange the uses at the site and improve the baseball facilities with the overall project.

Staff has had preliminary conversations with a nonprofit affordable housing developer about the feasibility of developing the site. For the purposes of financing and operations, affordable housing developers typically

require approximately 50 units to make these types of projects feasible. ■

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

LEHUA GREENMAN



"Sometimes in life, a sudden situation, a moment in time, alters your whole life, forever changes the road ahead."

650.245.1845 COMPASS

THE ALMANAC OPEN HOMES

LOS ALTOS

1520 Tiptoe Lane **\$4,988,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

LOS ALTOS HILLS

13581 Wildcrest Drive **\$5,988,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/4.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

MENLO PARK

990 Berkeley Avenue **\$4,488,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

865 Menlo Oaks Drive **\$6,288,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/3BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

PALO ALTO

741 Ellsworth Place **\$1,988,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 2BD/1BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

531 Thain Way (C) **\$1,988,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 3BD/2BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

1030 Palo Alto Avenue **\$8,988,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

PALO ALTO

2951 Bryant Street **\$5,388,000**
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:30 4BD/4.5BA
Coldwell Banker 650-208-3722

545 Georgia Avenue **\$2,750,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/2BA
JLee Realty 650-857-1000

610 Chimalus Drive **\$3,488,000**
Sat 1:30-4:30 4BD/3BA
DeLeon Realty 650-459-3888

941 Addison Avenue **\$4,488,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

3513 Waverley Street **\$5,498,000**
Sat 1:30-4:30 5BD/5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

750 Lincoln Avenue **\$5,488,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/4.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

REDWOOD CITY

1108 Haven Avenue **\$1,388,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/4BA
DeLeon Realty 650-684-0887

SUNNYVALE

898 Persimmon Avenue **\$2,988,000**
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/2.5BA
DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822



Embarcadero Media file photo

Portola Valley's welcome sign. The town is sending its draft housing element to the state.

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T). Agents: submit open homes at AlmanacNews.com/real_estate

What were we all breathing? Local air quality reached 'hazardous' levels in July 4 fireworks hot spots

Data shows some communities saw high concentrations of fine particulate matter

By Sue Dremann

Bay Area air quality from thousands of fireworks explosions on and around July 4 reached dangerously unhealthy levels in some local neighborhoods, according to air-quality data.

Measurements by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District found high levels of fine particulate matter in various communities — small particles of substances that can easily be inhaled and can lodge in the lungs. The district sensors in four regions recorded the highest hourly fine particulate at levels of 2.5 parts per million on the night of July 4 and into early-morning hours of July 5. On an Air Quality Index scale of green, yellow, orange, red, purple and brown, going from clean air to hazardous, East Oakland ranked 199 (red — unhealthy); southern Santa Clara Valley hit 127 (orange — unhealthy for sensitive groups) and Pleasanton reached 124 (orange — unhealthy for sensitive groups).

In comparison, the air quality in the days and hours leading to the fireworks incidents was in the “good” range (green), with numbers in the single digits or teens, according to district data. But those numbers don't tell the whole story. PurpleAir, an online application that measures air quality



Courtesy Ken Schultz

Spectators watch Shoreline Amphitheatre's July Fourth fireworks show from Shoreline Lake in Mountain View on July 4, 2022.

on a neighborhood level from air sensors set up by ordinary people at individual homes and businesses, found even higher concentrations of particulates than the district.

In cities such as East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, sensors found particulate levels to be “hazardous,” according to PurpleAir, which uses the same Air Quality Index standards as the district.

Menlo Park's Hamilton Avenue sensor, located near Bayfront Expressway, reached a whopping 913 on July 3 at about 5:20 p.m. and 769 on July 4 at 5:10 p.m. In East Palo Alto, sensors showed an area of Glen Way in the neighborhood at 389 on

July 4 around 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. Any number above 300 ranks as “hazardous” on the Air Quality Index.

East Palo Alto's Lincoln Street reached 206 at 12:20 a.m. on July 5 and Jasmine Way reached 221 at 10:30 p.m. on July 4, both ranking “very unhealthy,” according to PurpleAir. On July 4, Ruth Court ranked 192 at 9:30 p.m. and Westside East Palo Alto reached 167 at 10:50 p.m. or “unhealthy.”

Redwood City, which overall ranked “good” air quality on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District sensors, showed an “unhealthy” reading on July 4 at 11:10 p.m. on Chestnut

Street, rising to a score of 175. Synapse School in North Fair Oaks reached 116 at 10:40 p.m. on July 4, ranking it “unhealthy for sensitive groups.”

In Palo Alto, Corina Way reached 115 at 11:50 p.m. on July 4, or “unhealthy for sensitive groups.”

Some parts of Mountain View also had high numbers. On July 4 at 5:40 p.m. Plymouth Street ranked 151, “unhealthy” and Monta Loma reached 109 at 10:50 p.m. or “unhealthy for sensitive groups.”

What were we breathing?

Fireworks — even those called “safe and sane” — contain dangerous metals, according to air district data. The 2021 Independence Day Air Quality Assessment by the South Coast Air Quality Management District found high levels of several toxic metals in the Los Angeles Basin from fireworks, a benchmark for the kinds of materials that become airborne by exploding fireworks. These included arsenic, barium, chromium, copper, potassium, manganese, titanium and zinc. Potassium nitrate is used as an explosive in firecrackers; barium and copper compounds produce blue and green colors, for example, in mortars and Roman candles.

These hazardous materials weren't only concentrated

locally. They were present in fireworks smoke that drifted across the LA Basin, although the levels didn't exceed health-based standards, the study found.

Some of the hazardous metals can also be more prevalent depending on the year. In 2021, arsenic and potassium were found in higher concentrations than in 2020 due to changes in the composition of fireworks, the study noted.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District noted that exploding fireworks result in elevated levels of particulate matter (and toxic metals) close to the ground, making it difficult for people to breathe. The smoke and irritating particulates can trigger asthma attacks, coughing, wheezing and eye irritation. Safe and sane fireworks, such as those purchased at pop-up fireworks stands, contain metal salts used to produce colors, but they also cause excessive smoke. Sensitive groups of people are particularly affected, including children and the elderly, according to the district.

Breathing high levels of fine particulate matter can lead to a wide variety of vascular and respiratory effects, including heart attacks, asthma and decreased lung function, the Los Angeles study also noted. ■

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

East Palo Alto to tow RVs and expand housing options

City Council adopts a resolution to help housed and unhoused residents better coexist

By Aliana Mediratta

After moving to East Palo Alto in December 2020, Christopher Kao took to running on the Bay Trail as a way to exercise and meet neighbors as he familiarized himself with his new community. To avoid ongoing construction on Bay Road, Kao accessed the trail from his home on Pulgas Street by using Weeks Street.

That all changed this spring when RVs began parking along the street. Trash and increased pollution from the vehicles made Kao feel unsafe, so he decided to avoid Weeks Street.

Kao is not alone: East Palo Alto residents living near Weeks and other popular RV parking areas have spent the past two years coexisting alongside unhoused community members as conditions from the pandemic worsened the already tense housing crisis. Residents on and near Weeks voiced concerns and complaints to city council

members about pollution and garbage on the street as a result of the vehicles' constant presence. Photos show trash, large bags and unusable or broken items strewn from the sidewalk to the road.

Following months of coordination, San Mateo County officials and local organizations acting as service providers and the city's Public Works department launched an effort to rid public spaces of trash without leaving unhoused individuals no place to stay. From March to early June, cleanup efforts took place in six locations, starting at two San Francisquito Creek sites and Bay Road. After the project was completed in Bell Street Park on May 24, crews carried out final cleanings at Cooley Landing and on Weeks.

Unhoused residents of the Bell Street encampment were either offered housing vouchers beforehand or day-of the cleanup, as the city worked with local shelters to open up beds.

Kao expressed his happiness about the noticeable difference in the community's use of Bell Street Park after the cleanups.

“I see kids playing there now,” he said. “There were like five or six kids; that was something I never saw before.”

‘The residents here know people are in need of a better housing situation. They're not trying to make their lives any tougher.’

CITY MANAGER PATRICK HEISINGER

In addition to cleanup efforts, the East Palo Alto City Council approved on June 7 a resolution that works to find a more permanent solution for RVs currently on the streets.

Starting on July 15, the city will begin towing oversize

vehicles in accordance with the law for the first time since the pandemic began. To develop infrastructure to create longer-term housing solutions, the city also is planning the expansion of its RV Safe Parking program through April 2023 and the development of what will be called the Master Temporary Use Permit (“Master TUP”) Program. The latter will give grants to subsidize permit fees so that participating property owners can provide various types of shelter for those in RVs, similar to the permanent structures that currently exist through nonprofits.

Safe parking and more

The city worked with the nonprofits WeHOPE and LifeMoves to create an RV Safe Parking Program, which started in 2019 and operates a space on Bay Road with a capacity for 20 oversize vehicles, providing unhoused people with safe

parking, showers, toilets and other amenities and support services.

While there is a stated goal to have more RV Safe Parking spots available as towing begins, interim City Manager Patrick Heisinger told the council on June 7 that there are no guarantees, hence the hope that property owners will be enticed by the ease of the Master TUP program to shelter unhoused people.

The goal of Master TUP is to make it easier for interested applicants to get information about the permit process, which will be streamlined and treated as a high priority by the city. Ideally, the program would make it significantly easier and less bureaucratic to host RVs on one's property, opening up the amount of space available as vehicles begin getting displaced.

“One of the main goals of

See **RV TOWING**, page 31



Magali Gauthier

Clockwise from above: A worker sorts through organic waste by hand at Recology's Blossom Valley Organics composting facility in Vernalis on Feb. 3; The organic waste sorting machinery at the composting facility in Vernalis; Piles of unsorted organic waste; Robert Reed, Recology's public relations manager, lifts up a pile of compost.

COMPOSTING

continued from page 5

Are my trash rates going to go up because of this new law?

It depends where you live. In Mountain View, "there are costs associated with SB 1383 that impact the city's trash rates," said Jennifer Cutter, the city's solid waste program manager. Menlo Park's public engagement manager Clay Curtin said rates are not expected to go up by a lot.

Do I need a countertop compost bin?

You can use anything to hold your food scraps. A special compost bin is not required, but can be useful because it takes a few days to fill it up. An uncovered bowl on your kitchen counter may need to be emptied every day to avoid attracting bugs.

Can I use green compostable bags in my countertop bin? What about other compostable plastics?

It depends on where you live

and what company services your waste.

For customers in Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton, mixed compostable plastics should go into the gray cart with food scraps. Everything gets sorted at GreenWaste's Materials Recovery Facility.

Customers serviced by Recology should note that BPI-certified compostable bags are accepted, "but we prefer paper," said Jocelyn Baird, Recology's waste zero manager for Mountain View.

Other types of compostable plastics are not welcome in Recology's green bin. Why? They take longer to break down than food scraps, yard trimmings and soiled paper.

To avoid using compostable bags, lining your bins with paper napkins is a good way to soak up some of the liquid food scraps can create.

Can I compost meat and animal products?

Yes. Both Recology and

GreenWaste accept meat and animal products. Products made of glass and traditional plastic should never be placed in green bins. For more detailed lists, check the websites of Recology for Menlo Park or GreenWaste for the towns of Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton.

If I compost, will it really help the climate crisis?

Landfills are responsible for one-fifth of the state's methane emissions. Even with Californians following SB 1383, there's not going to be a sudden dip in those emissions in the near future. That's because there's still a lot of organic waste already in landfills that is going to decompose and create methane.

The state expects that if Californians are consistent about diverting food and soiled papers and yard trimmings from landfills, methane emissions will decrease over time.



What happens if I don't start composting? Will I get fined?

It's mostly up to cities and counties to get us to change our behaviors around trash sorting. But the state is going to start fining cities and other jurisdictions that are not complying with the law, up to \$10,000 per violation

per day. By 2024, jurisdictions need to start imposing penalties on residential and commercial customers who don't follow the law.

For a deeper dive into what composting will do for California, find our video explainer online at almanacnews.com. ■

RV TOWING

continued from page 30

creating this specific application is just to speed things up from getting what we need as a reviewing agency to be able to approve the application," said Housing and Economic Development Manager Rachel Horst.

The application was created in collaboration with Menlo Fire and East Palo Alto's Planning, Housing, and Building divisions and asks applicants to provide the details of their proposed site. As an incentive, Horst stated that staff members are recommending that the city reimburse the \$10,375 permit

fee, which usually falls to the applicant.

Problem-solving with empathy

Navigating the balance between supporting unhoused individuals and maintaining an agreeable living environment for community residents is not a new issue for East Palo Alto community members, nor does the city's latest strategy present a straightforward solution.

At the council meeting, two East Palo Alto residents voiced their opinions. Both expressed their gratitude for the cleanup that occurred at Bell Street Park, with one stating that her organization was excited to host a soul-food party at the

now-available location.

Resident Q Smith spoke to the importance of finding a healthy solution despite the difficult learning process and thanked Heisinger for providing alternative ideas.

"Being transparent and educating the city's residents is really important," Smith said, "and the few people that I've spoken with are appreciating the fact that we are doing something for ... the less fortunate and unhoused."

Smith went on to say that everyone in the community is important and deserves help, echoing comments made by public officials.

"People matter," Smith said. "They're in the city with us. Just like we save the whales and the

beaches and all that stuff, we need to save each other. Thank you for again keeping in mind that people matter, we matter, everybody matters."

Heisinger spoke to the empathy of the residents as problems have proliferated.

"In other communities, the second an RV parks on the street, you have people calling and complaining," he said. "That's not how it is here. The residents here know people are in need of a better housing situation. They're not trying to make their lives any tougher, but they're saying 'We need to live here as well.'"

In mid-June, Kao's strong feelings about public infrastructure

in his community led him to run for and be appointed as East Palo Alto's Public Works and Transportation commissioner. Looking to the future, Kao said he remains optimistic about Weeks Street due to the positive impact of policy changes and cleanup efforts. Despite the cleanup this spring, roughly seven RVs remain parked on Weeks, complete with open hoods and laundry hung on nearby fences, but Kao is hoping that one day the street will be clean, and he'll feel safe enough to run on it again. ■

Email Editorial Intern Aliana Mediratta at amediratta@paweeekly.com.

We support Flood School housing compromise

By Mele Latu, Gina Sudaria
and William Eger

GUEST OPINION

Menlo Park City Council member Ray Mueller recently released a reasonable compromise to develop teacher and staff housing at the former Flood School Site while also minimizing traffic impacts to adjoining neighborhoods. The three of us believe this is a good compromise with a practical approach to building badly needed housing capacity, mitigating traffic and helping the Ravenswood City School District level the financial playing field with neighboring school districts.

Let's agree to the concepts proposed by Mueller, hammer out the details and work together to begin to address the inequities in our community.

How did Ravenswood get here? Nearly a year ago, the school board approved issuing a public procurement process to explore uses for the site. The

most compelling offer came from Alliant Strategic Development, who proposed an affordable housing project of up to 90-units, three- to four-stories tall. This would allow our teachers and staff at the Ravenswood school district to be first in line to rent an apartment whenever an opening arose (currently 75% of Ravenswood staff are renters).

This project helps the district achieve two essential goals. First, when accounting for student need, Ravenswood gets less than half the funding per student as Menlo Park City School District and other surrounding districts, and it's worth remembering that one-third of Ravenswood students are Menlo Park residents. The proposed project would bring in about \$500,000 of operating funds annually. These funds would make a small but meaningful dent in closing those funding gaps.

Second, Ravenswood need to be able to recruit and retain high quality staff within our community in the face of rising housing costs. This spring the district surveyed its staff on their housing opportunities and the results were bleak. Only one-third of staff report having a "safe, secure, and affordable housing option." Of the respondents, 2% are currently unhoused, 43% are considering leaving the district because of their housing situation and 85% of our staff have incomes (less than \$149,100 for a family of four) that make them eligible for affordable housing.

We have continued to receive positive support from all corners of Menlo Park. As more facts about the proposed opportunity have come out, arguments against the project have weakened. For example, despite initial concerns about traffic, a recent study from the City of Menlo Park found that the proposed development would

represent 200 daily trips less than it would as a school.

Based on the mediation efforts led by Council member Drew Combs, Mueller proposed the following:

■ The city of Menlo Park would work with Caltrans and LifeMoves to open an additional access road to the site from Van Buren Road

■ Ravenswood would install a removable physical barrier that halves the site, allocating vehicle traffic from the site to two entrances. (For the Suburban Park community, this would mean at rush hour there would be one additional car every 3.5 minutes.)

■ Proponents of a ballot initiative designed to slow or stop this project would withdraw the measure from the November election.

Of course, there remain important details to resolve such as obtaining approvals from Caltrans and the Menlo Park Fire Protection District,

understanding and mitigating the impact to nearby Haven House, and other impacts to neighbors.

Ultimately the three of us support this proposal because it is a win-win for everyone. The school district can attract and retain high quality staff, the traffic impacts are minimized and the neighborhoods will enjoy a vibrant new community to replace an empty lot eyesore. If other interested parties want to suggest creative ideas that allow for productive and realistic uses of this publicly owned land, then the three of us are open to them. Meanwhile, we invite our neighbors to sit down with us and nail down the details of this insightful compromise.

Mele K. Latu is president of the Ravenswood City School District school board. Gina Sudaria is superintendent of the school district, and William Eger is its chief business officer.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

ETALON DIAGNOSTICS
ETALON EQUINE GENETICS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 291431

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Etalon Diagnostics, 2.) Etalon Equine Genetics, located at 485 Seaport Court, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

ETALON
485 Seaport Court
Redwood City, CA 94063
California

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 21, 2022.

(ALM July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2022)

RED TOWER ADVISORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 291406

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

Red Tower Advisors, located at 1150 White

Oak Way, San Carlos, CA 94070, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
RED ENVELOPE FINANCIAL PLANNING, INC.
1150 White Oak Way
San Carlos, CA 94070
NV

This business is conducted by: A Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/15/2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 16, 2022.

(ALM July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2022)

HAIR BY ERNEST
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 291478

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Hair by Ernest, located at 4060 El Camino Real Suite A, San Mateo, CA 94403, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):

ERNEST VAPPIE

7 West 41st Ave. #315

San Mateo, CA 94403

This business is conducted by: An Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/27/2022.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 27, 2022.

(ALM July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2022)

By David Gildea

GUEST OPINION

Menlo Park's contract with Menlo Swim and Sport, aka Tim Sheep-er, to manage Menlo Park's pools expires Aug. 31. Sheep-er has managed these pools for the past 16 years, and there is healthy pro and con debate on Nextdoor and elsewhere as to whether Menlo Park should give Sheep-er a new contract going forward.

There are lots of details in the contract and the details are important, but the pro and con debate seems more about values and personal viewpoints than the details. The con side is mostly made of two groups. One says it was wrong in the first place, and it is still wrong, to have a private company manage a pool that was built by the public with public funds. They say a private company inherently puts profits before people. A second wants more space at the pool for the public and less for athletic teams.

The pro side is mostly made up of people who swim a lot and have a lot of experience around swimming pools. They say Sheep-er is doing a really good job creating and managing swim programs as compared to other pools where they have experience. They are less concerned with whether the management is private or

public. They say if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

An Almanac article included criticisms that Sheep-er does not give enough time to the public and gives too much to teams. Looking at the pool schedule I don't see this criticism as fair, but readers can judge for themselves by going to menlo-swim.com/pool-schedule. The users of the pool are Aqua Fit, open swim, lap swim, lessons, kids' summer camps, youth swim team, adult swim/triathlon team and mavens (women's) water polo. Which do you cut back?

Menlo Park City Council member Ray Mueller says that the criticism is really an indication of how successful Sheep-er's programs have been to attract so many users. The youth and adult swim teams pack four to seven swimmers per lane.

The fundamental problem seems to be that the Burgess pools are not big enough to handle the success of the swim programs. In 2003 when the pools were in the late planning stage, Sheep-er tried to have Menlo Park build one of the two pools at Burgess to a larger size (50 meters instead of 25 meters) than was planned. He spearheaded a drive that raised contributions of \$1 million at the time for the extra

costs. Menlo Park architect Sam Sinnott drafted architectural site drawings for Burgess that included the bigger pool. For various controversial reasons, Menlo Park rejected this idea and built the very good, but smaller, Burgess pools that are very crowded today.

Stanford has many pools including two 50 meter pools that are often half-used or not in use. Maybe Stanford could chip in a little pool space for the community. We are all looking forward to the Menlo Park Community Center (MPCC) pool that is being built in Belle Haven. Maybe the new MPCC pool will share some of the load when it is completed.

Most critics concede in a general way that Sheep-er has provided good swim programs for Menlo Park for the past 16 years. He is credited for restaffing the pools quickly after COVID, much more quickly for a much more difficult operation than Menlo Park's publicly managed gymnastics program. Our City Council is now in the process of deciding who will manage Menlo Park's pools going forward after the current contract with Sheep-er expires Aug. 31. As a frequent swimmer I am hopeful that Sheep-er and Menlo Park continue their partnership this year and for many more years.

Dave Gildea is a Menlo Park resident and a longtime swimmer at Burgess pool



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MUSICAL MOMENTUM

Free documentary film series highlights musicians making a difference

By Heather Zimmerman

The “Moving Forward with Music” summer series brings together music and filmmaking in free weekly screenings of documentaries about musicians who are breaking new ground, crossing borders and championing human rights.

The series takes place Thursdays through Aug. 4 with in-person screenings at the Coupa Cafe at the Stanford Golf Course.

“We are really happy to present these films because they’re dealing with a beautiful way of presenting human rights issues through the music,” said Jasmina Bojic, a Stanford University educator and founder and director of Stanford Arts’ Camera as Witness program, which is presenting the film series. The Camera as Witness program uses documentary film as an educational tool to explore important topics such as the environment and human rights.

Bojic is also founder and executive director of the United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF), a documentary film festival focused on human rights that is presented annually in the fall by the Camera as Witness program. The festival, which is slated for Oct. 20-30, will be marking its 25th anniversary this year.

The “Moving Forward with Music” series offers a chance to catch up on a few of the films featured during the 2021 edition of UNAFF. The series’ name is a riff on last year’s theme, which was “Moving Forward.”

The summer series’ focus on films about music and musicians aims to offer audiences a lighter, more “cheerful” perspective on some challenging subjects, Bojic said.

“These are serious topics, but it’s much easier to have a look and enjoy the music



Courtesy Patchwork Films

“Los Hermanos (The Brothers)” documents the parallel lives in New York City and Havana of virtuoso musician brothers violinist Ilmar Gavilán, left, and pianist Aldo López-Gavilán.

and then also (get a better understanding of) what’s happening in the world,” she said.

The series launched with a pair of stories about groundbreaking women, with films about Fanny, the first all-women band to release a full-length album on a major label (“FANNY: The Right to Rock”) and “The Conductor,” a look at the career of conductor Marin Alsop, who has shattered numerous glass ceilings in classical music, among them being the first woman appointed as music director of a major symphony.

Music, family and U.S. foreign policy come into play July 28 with “Los Hermanos (The Brothers),” by San Francisco filmmakers Marcia Jarmel and Ken Schneider. The film tells the story of two musician brothers, violinist Ilmar Gavilán and pianist Aldo López-Gavilán, who spent their childhoods together in their native Cuba but were separated in their early teens. Older brother Ilmar was sent out of the country for musical training and eventually settled in the U.S. while Aldo ultimately stayed in Havana, where he studied with Cuba’s jazz and classical master musicians. Both brothers became virtuosos in their own right, but due to the limits on travel between the United States and Cuba were unable to reunite for years until U.S. policy on Cuba changed during the Obama Administration. They have since faced additional obstacles after a more restrictive policy was reinstated under the Trump Administration.

“Los Hermanos (The Brothers)” documents the brothers’ parallel lives in the U.S. and Cuba, and of their reunion and first performances together.

“(The film tells) how they performed

together after 30 years, how they succeeded and performed together, and it’s actually telling this awesome story about the relationship between the United States and Cuba,” Bojic said.

The film received an award for Best Cinematography at the 2021 UNAFF. Filmmakers Jarmel and Schneider will be on hand for the screening.

The series closes on Aug. 4 with “Sing Your Song,” which was first shown as part of UNAFF about a decade ago and has become an important part of Bojic’s curriculum as an educator.

“That’s the one that I use also for my classes at Stanford, when I teach documentary filmmaking focusing on human rights issues,” she said.

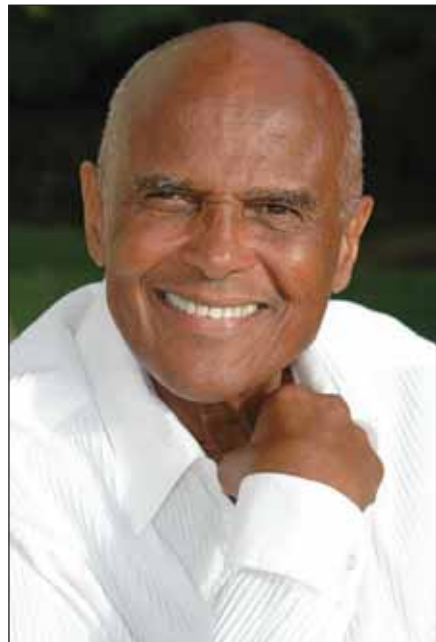
“Sing Your Song” explores the career of musician Harry Belafonte and his lifelong activism for human rights, including marching with Martin Luther King Jr., standing against apartheid in South Africa and fighting hunger in the United States.

At last year’s UNAFF, the festival virtually honored Belafonte, along with Bay Area Rep. Barbara Lee, with its Visionary Award in recognition of their work for human rights.

The showing of “Sing Your Song” will be followed by a conversation with Clayborne Carson, founder of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute at Stanford University.

Screenings, which will be held outdoors, will take place at the Coupa Cafe located at the Stanford Golf Course. Each screening will be preceded by a reception.

“Los Hermanos (The Brothers)” shows July 28 and “Sing Your Song” shows Aug. 4. Receptions start at 5:30 p.m., with



Courtesy UNAFF

The lifelong political activism and dedication to human rights of musician Harry Belafonte is the focus of the film “Sing Your Song.”



Courtesy UNAFF

Jasmina Bojic, founder and director of Stanford Arts’ Camera as Witness program.

screenings at 6 p.m. Coupa Cafe at Stanford Golf Course is located at 198 Junipero Serra Blvd., Stanford. Screenings are free. For more information about the “Moving Forward with Music” film series, visit unaff.org/2022/special.html. ■

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



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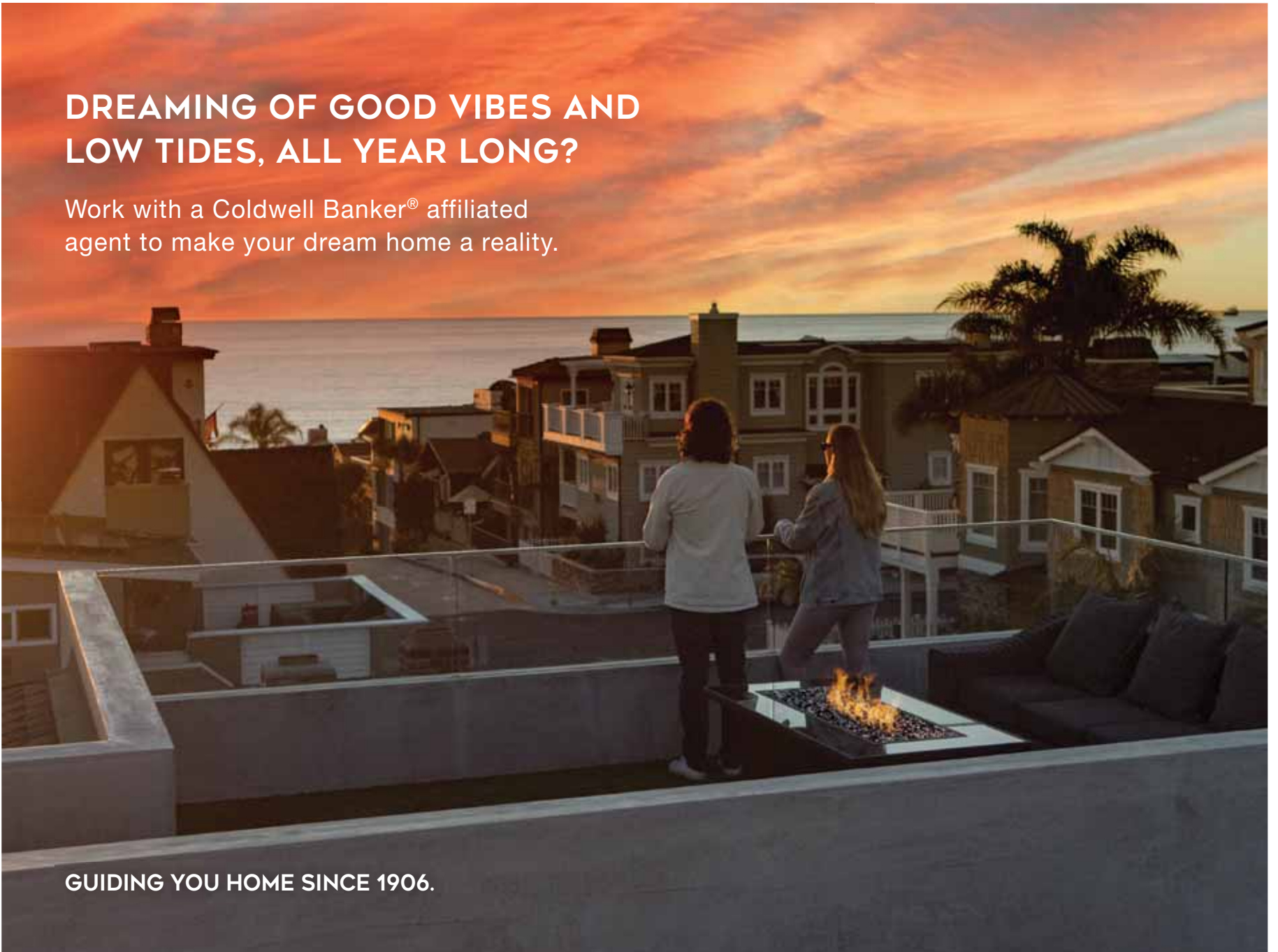
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Food & Drink

‘Bagel bucks’ fill funding hole for new factory

Boichik Bagels lures community investors to prepurchase thousands of bagels

By Anthony Shu

In a region filled with tech unicorns and initial public offerings, Silicon Valley’s most sought-after investment opportunity might come topped with sesame seeds and cream cheese.

Boichik Bagels founder Emily Winston is eyeing a bagel plant and wholesale business, and community members are shelling out thousands of dollars to support the construction of her bagel empire.

The Foodist wrote about Boichik Bagels in January, when Winston first announced a West Berkeley bagel plant and upcoming retail location in Palo Alto’s Town & Country Village, which is set to open this fall. She’s now raising capital from local residents through two different mechanisms: “Bagel Bucks,” gift cards offered at a discounted price (“bagel futures,” in Winston’s words), and a \$1 million bond offering conducted on SMBX, a crowdfunding site that pays interest to backers and has hosted campaigns from other Bay Area food businesses, including Poppy Bagels and Pyro’s Pastrami. Bagel Bucks can be purchased in increments of up to \$3,500, and the SMBX campaign has already raised over \$200,000 after beginning on June 23.

Relying on community support means that Winston can maintain control of her small business.

Most of the funds from the Bagel Bucks and the bond offering will support the construction of Boichik’s West Berkeley bagel plant, an approximately \$5 million project that will produce the raw dough for each retail store (the dough will then be boiled and baked at each location) and for bake-and-freeze bagels intended for wholesale (the frozen bagels are already available at limited locations including Bianchini’s Market and Piazza’s Fine Foods.) According to Winston, producing the dough is a technical endeavor that lends itself well to automation.

About half a million dollars will be spent on refrigeration, as Winston believes that if bagels can’t be enjoyed fresh, they are at their best frozen and reheated. That’s why she’s selling frozen bagels at grocery stores. “I can’t

stand bagels sitting in plastic bags at room temperature. It makes me twitch,” she said.

The factory also will serve bagels onsite. Winston hopes that guests will be enthralled by the automated assembly line that will form up to 12,000 bagels an hour and resemble the open kitchens at Krispy Kreme.

Winston began baking bagels in her home 10 years ago. Her

house turned into a destination for East Coast transplants and anyone craving the taste of a New York bagel until she opened her first storefront in Berkeley in 2019.

Winston, who initially started out baking just a few bagels each day, said she appreciates the overwhelming support that has allowed her business to grow.

“It definitely is daunting, but



Courtesy Emily Winston

A platter of bagels and spreads from Boichik Bagels.



Courtesy Emily Winston

The big macher party platter from Boichik Bagels includes sable and different varieties of lox.



Courtesy Emily Winston

Emily Winston is opening up the first Peninsula location of her popular bagel shop Boichik Bagels in Palo Alto’s Town & Country Village.

it just feels like everything has fallen into place,” Winston said.

Regarding the Town & Country location, Winston is now aiming for a September opening

due to permitting delays.

Boichik Bagels (opening in September), 855 El Camino Real, Suite 115, Palo Alto; Instagram: @boichikbagels.

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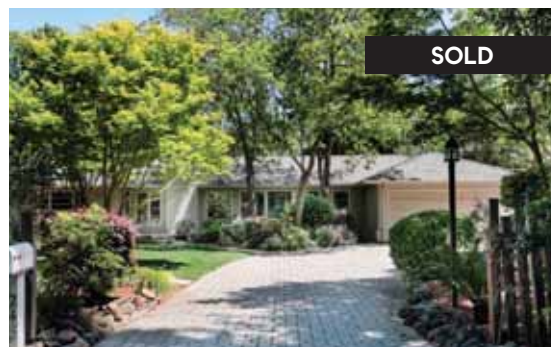
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