

The Almanac

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

AUGUST 5, 2022 | VOL. 57 NO. 48



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Atherton shows up for a Night Out of fun with first responders



Adam Pardee

Atherton residents turned out for the town's National Night Out event at Holbrook-Palmer Park on Tuesday, Aug. 2. The annual events held across the country aim to build ties between the community and their local police and first responders. Above, Menlo Park Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Stancil puts gear on Joey, 7. Top right: Theo, 7, turns the controls of a drone used by the Menlo Park Fire Protection District to see an infrared image of his parents. Lower right: A girl feeds grass to a goat in the petting zoo.



Portola Valley reluctantly settles Brown Act lawsuit

Town Council members denounce legal action, say it amounts to bullying at taxpayers' expense

By Kevin Forestieri

The Portola Valley Town Council approved a settlement Monday, Aug. 1, to resolve a lawsuit against the town claiming its committee members violated the Brown Act, calling the decision an unfortunate but necessary move to stave off expensive litigation.

At issue are multiple messages between committee members and town staff sent during a public meeting.

The council voted 4-0 on Aug. 1 to approve the settlement agreement, with council

member Jeff Aalfs absent. Under the agreement, the town had to adopt new rules governing how Portola Valley runs public meetings, with members of the council and all town committees now prohibited from texting or emailing one another during public meetings.

Town officials maintain that there was no violation of the Brown Act, California's open meeting law, but said the policy is a compromise that will prevent a long, drawn-out legal battle.

Town council members said the lawsuit was a waste of

taxpayer money — the town is on the hook for \$15,000 in plaintiffs' legal fees on top of \$25,000 to defend the claim and lamented that the community's history of collegiality in solving problems has been waylaid by a small group of people engaging in political harassment.

"If we want to continue to be a volunteer-run community, we need to be able to communicate and collaborate with one another directly, not through attorneys and lawsuits," said Council member Sarah Wernikoff at the Aug. 1 meeting. "I feel this lawsuit has been an

unprecedented disruption to the culture of our community and an absolute waste of taxpayer's time and resources."

The lawsuit, filed in June by eight Portola Valley residents, alleges that members of the town's Wildfire Protection Committee had engaged in secret communications, specifically text messages to one another, during a meeting on March 1. The exchanges were revealed during the virtual meeting when one of the committee members did a screenshare. The messages themselves involved a committee member asking another to

make a motion, a committee member asking the town manager a question, and a personal comment venting about a fellow committee member, according to a town staff report.

The committee is responsible for overseeing Portola Valley's policies for preparing for wildfires, which includes the town's home hardening ordinance and identifying funds needed to pay for wildfire preparedness. The committee's work overlaps with hot-button housing issues as towns across the Midpeninsula

See **LAWSUIT**, page 12

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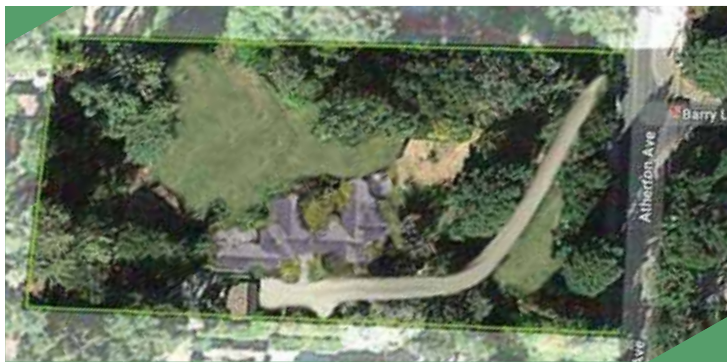
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- / Acclaimed Woodside Elementary (K-8)



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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

Mario Zamora, an athletic director for the Ravenswood City School District, has a number of side hustles and says he still can't afford to buy a house in the area.

How do local teachers afford rent? Side gigs and long commutes

Ravenswood school district staffers
make their case for workforce housing

By Angela Swartz

Gerardo Garcia's workday is not yet done after he shuts the door of his seventh grade science classroom at Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School in East Palo Alto. For the last six years, he's spent two to three hours driving for Uber in the evenings.

Garcia, like many school staffers on the Peninsula, said he has to find alternative means to bring in extra cash to pay for the high cost of living in the Bay Area, exacerbated by the recent spike in inflation. A father of three, he has worked for the district for two decades and rents a house in Redwood Shores with his wife, who is also a teacher.

"We moved about a year and half ago because the rent price went up," he said, noting that his family's basic needs take up 80% of the couple's combined incomes. He said driving for the ride-hailing company takes away quality time with his family. "Gas, food, rent, everything is going up. ... It's

See **TEACHERS**, page 11

Newsom declares state of emergency for monkeypox outbreak

By Eli Walsh / Bay City News Foundation and Sue Dremann

Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency Monday for monkeypox, enabling the state to access more resources to combat the ongoing outbreak.

The declaration on Aug. 1 will assist state and local government agencies collaborate to conduct outreach regarding monkeypox vaccines and treatment, seek more vaccine doses and rapidly open vaccination

and testing facilities.

Emergency medical personnel are also authorized to administer monkeypox vaccines under the proclamation. The authorization is similar to that granted to pharmacists, according to the governor's office.

"California is working urgently across all levels of government to slow the spread of monkeypox, leveraging our robust testing, contact tracing and community partnerships strengthened during the pandemic to ensure that those most at risk

are our focus for vaccines, treatment and outreach," Newsom said in a statement.

Newsom's proclamation comes three days after Dr. Tomas Aragon, the state's public health officer and director of the California Department of Public Health, said state officials had not yet committed to declaring a public health emergency over the outbreak.

Aragon argued Friday in a media briefing that the state is

See **MONKEYPOX**, page 15

New group sets out to defeat Menlo Park initiative on November ballot

Menlo Park Neighbors for Affordable Homes
launches campaign

By Cameron Rebosio

A group of Menlo Park residents celebrated the kick-off of the Menlo Park Neighbors for Affordable Homes campaign on Sunday, July 31. The group formed to oppose the Menlo Balance initiative, arguing that if it passes in November, it would do damage to equitable housing in Menlo Park.

The community group was formed to promote the creation of affordable housing throughout Menlo Park. On the to-do list: oppose another resident-led grassroots organization, Menlo Balance.

Menlo Balance's initiative would revoke the city council's ability to change the zoning of single-family lots. Instead it would require a popular vote in a general election to build multifamily housing on any property currently zoned as a single-family lot. Some critics fear that this could deter or block future developments for high-density housing. A study commissioned by the city of Menlo Park found that zoning would be frozen throughout 80% of Menlo Park without a public vote, including 53 lots eligible for development. Proponents of the initiative say

that it would give residents a voice in large developments.

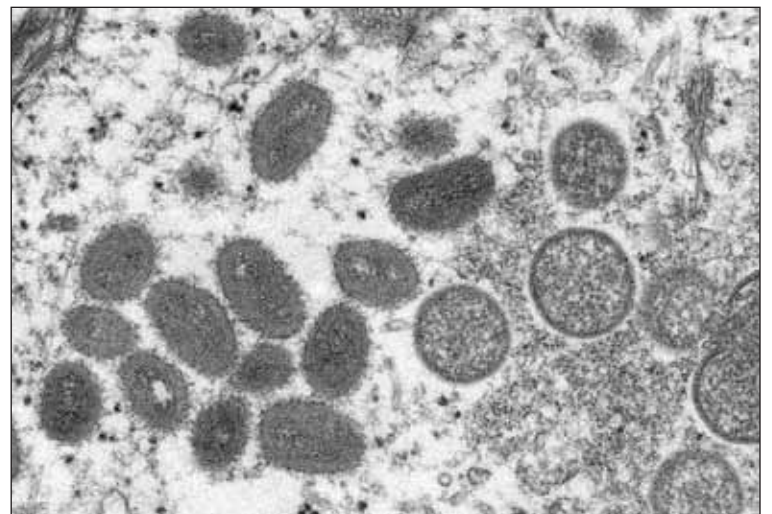
Menlo Park Neighbors for Affordable Homes is campaigning against Menlo Balance's initiative. One development that would be deterred by the passage of the initiative is the Flood School lot, where the Ravenswood City School District aims to create up to 90 units of affordable housing.

Adina Levin, a Menlo Park resident and one of the group's leaders, said that she's worried about the effects of the initiative on both housing in Menlo Park and other local projects, such as rebuilding the Menlo Park Fire District headquarters on Middlefield Road that is currently zoned under single-family housing.

"(I want residents) to know what the ballot measure actually does in terms of preventing affordable housing," said Levin, saying that the effects would be a loss of housing in high-opportunity areas and an impact on non-housing developments such as the fire district headquarters.

Karen Grove, a Menlo Park resident and another of the leaders of the group, said that it was formed a few weeks ago

See **NEIGHBORS**, page 15



Courtesy CDC/ Cynthia S. Goldsmith via Public Health Image Library

This image of the monkeypox virion from an electron microscope image came from a 2003 prairie dog outbreak. The disease is spreading in the Bay Area, Stanford University researchers said.

Atherton's draft housing element banks on ADUs to meet future housing needs

City Council cuts multifamily housing overlays from the plan, which is headed to the state

By Angela Swartz

Atherton is sending its housing element to the state, leaning on accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and SB 9 applications to meet its housing goals through 2031 while shying away from zoning for multifamily housing.

The town will rely on ADUs to fulfill its state-mandated housing requirements following a council decision to remove multifamily housing overlays from the plan during its Wednesday, July 27, meeting. Mayor Rick DeGolia said he realized over the last month that it's infeasible to build affordable townhouses in a place where land sells for \$8 million per acre. Townhouses would sell for about \$5 million in town, he noted.

"I think they want to put us in a box," Vice Mayor Bill Widmer said of the state's ask that towns include multifamily housing in their housing plans. "We're not all San Francisco. It's inappropriate because we are doing a lot for housing and getting people off the streets. I don't know why it has to be constrained. It's BS."

The town must plan for the development of 348 new housing units, per its 2023-31 Regional Housing Needs Allocation, which is a large jump from its designation of 93 units during the previous eight-year cycle.

City Manager George Rodericks warned the council that the town is going to make itself a target not only of the state, but also of housing advocacy groups, if its excuse of not including multifamily housing is the high value of the land. For example, YIMBY Action plans to hold a demonstration during the Menlo Circus Club's Charity Horse Show on Aug. 12 to ask Atherton to build more housing.

Keith Diggs, a housing elements advocacy manager for YIMBY Law, a group that helps enforce state housing laws, said he'd be "shocked" if the state approves the town's plan as is.

"Whatever fair housing is, it's not prohibiting multifamily (housing) across a jurisdiction," he said. "We're in a massive housing shortage. Their intent is just to remain the same wealthy, single-family (home) community they've had for the last century. ... It still remains the center of the hottest sector of the economy. I don't see what they have to worry about in terms of property values falling."

The bulk of the element: ADUs

With the town's current pace of ADU applications, the town forecasts the development of 280 new ADUs over the next planning period, according to a town staff report. That's about 35 new ADUs built per year.

To achieve this, the town plans to expand its ADU program to include pre-approved ADU plans and establish an ADU rental program. In 2021, the town issued 32 permits for ADUs, the same number as in 2020. The town projects 40 ADUs will be permitted this year, according to staff.

The town will amend its zoning code to eliminate a provision that prevents pool houses and guest houses to be rented out as ADUs, further increasing the number of rental units. Council members also directed staff to include a note in the draft element that it would eliminate the ADU application fee of \$1,032 to encourage residents to build units.

The town also plans to partner with a nonprofit organization (such as HIP Housing) to facilitate rental advertising, screening and pairing renters with homeowners.

Council members were disappointed on Wednesday to hear from staff that existing pool houses will not count toward RHNA figures the upcoming eight-year cycle unless they are modified (like adding a kitchen). They still supported changing the town's rental policy to allow for pool houses to be rented out for more than 30 days, as that can help bolster the amount of long-term housing in town that counts toward RHNA.

Dropped multifamily housing overlays

The new overlay zone would have allowed between six and 16 units per acre.

Diggs of YIMBY Law said there are provisions of state law that allow developers to designate part of multifamily housing projects for market-rate units for teachers or others. Building, no matter the cost, still adds housing inventory, he said.

"It is true newer housing tends to be more expensive than older housing, but it's not an argument not to build housing," he said. "If they simply continue banning multifamily (housing) it's never going to get better. I don't believe the fact that some



Screenshot

Atherton City Council's July 27 meeting focused on its draft housing element.

new units would be expensive should be a reason not to build. We can't ignore this problem."

SB 9 projects

The town predicts it can produce 96 units under Senate Bill 9 during the upcoming cycle. The state's so-called duplex law, which took effect in January, requires local agencies to grant ministerial approval to certain lot splits and allow up to two primary units on each resulting lot with minimal side and rear setbacks.

Before SB 9 was adopted, the minimum resulting lot size for a subdivision in Atherton was one acre. By contrast, the state law requires a minimum lot size of 1,200 square feet per parcel following a lot split.

The town approved its first application at 2 Lowery Drive near Menlo-Atherton High School.

So far there have been four applications for SB 9 projects in town, according to the draft element. Residents at 47 Santiago Ave., 190 Selby Lane and a 4-acre site at 170 Atherton Ave. (a site originally included in the multifamily housing overlay) have also expressed interest in lot splits.

Local developer Pacific Peninsula Group has shown interest in developing 170 Atherton Ave., where a total of 16 new housing units could be developed on this property. The developer is considering a conventional subdivision of the 4-acre parcel into four 1-acre parcels, then using SB 9 to further subdivide the property and develop each resulting parcel with two units.

The existing single-family residence will be demolished, yielding a net 15 new housing units. The units would likely be priced for above-moderate income households.

"The town anticipates that SB 9 applications will be more common on lots of at least one acre in size that contain an older residence," according to the staff report.

The town found that there are 606 lots of an acre or greater in size with a residence built before 1970.

"These lots present a tremendous pool of homeowners who may be interested in pursuing SB 9 lot splits," staff wrote. "The town expects sites selected for SB 9 lot splits and the creation of additional units to be distributed throughout the town."

Schools

There are eight schools in town that could develop housing on their properties.

Menlo School has acquired an apartment building locally for faculty housing, according to staff. Its faculty prefers to live close to campus but not on campus.

The school has considered acquiring land adjacent to the school and developing 10 to 20 units within this housing element cycle, according to the town.

Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton, has five apartment complexes on campus for retired nuns at Oakwood. It anticipates the facility will be renovated in the next 15 to 20 years to add faculty rental housing, but that won't come in time to count toward the 2023-31 housing element, according to staff.

Menlo College has 25 units of housing for faculty and staff on campus. The school has signaled interest in adding more housing, but it would need additional funding.

The college is exploring a few options for building new

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

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The Almanac (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County. The Almanac is delivered to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to AlmanacNews.com/subscribe to start supporting The Almanac today.

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Sequoia Union High School District set to consider a more than half a billion-dollar bond measure

By Michelle Iracheta

The Sequoia Union High School District has been seeking public input on a proposed bond measure for the November ballot that, according to early estimates, could authorize the district to seek a bond of up to \$801 million.

A trio of resolutions are up for consideration and are headed to the board on Wednesday, Aug. 3, after The Almanac's press deadline. Option A includes a reduced amount of \$591.5 million with a tax rate of \$14; Option B includes a bond of \$650.5 million with a tax rate of \$16, and; Option C includes a bond of \$801 million with a tax rate of \$19. Each tax rate is expressed per \$100,000 of a property's assessed value.

According to a district spokesperson, the most recent renovations at campuses across the district took place after the Measure A bond passed in 2014, which cost the district \$265 million and passed with a 65.7% vote. Many large projects were completed, but not all classrooms were fully renovated, said Richard Gebin, Sequoia Union High School District spokesperson.

Many schools have not been updated for 50 years, according to district officials. While the individual costs of projects are not yet available, district officials plan to not only make big-ticket upgrades to classrooms and facilities but use funds to upgrade plumbing equipment and electrical ventilation, among other things, Gebin said.



Magali Gauthier

Students in Phil Hopkins's Green Academy physics class at Woodside High School work on a Rube Goldberg project on Feb. 1. The high school district's board is considering asking voters for a bond measure to upgrade classrooms, athletic facilities and plumbing, among other things.

Another big item on the district's list is updating athletic facilities, Gebin said. Earlier this month, the San Mateo Daily Journal reported that a busted water pipe in a basketball court at Sequoia High had caused irreparable damage to the gym floor. The school has already started demolishing its floor, the publication reported. The Almanac's sister publication, the Redwood City Pulse, has reached out to the district for comment.

Since 1996, district voters have approved five bond measures, including a \$165 million Measure J bond in 2008, a \$70 million Measure H bond in 2004, a \$88 million Measure G bond in 2001 and a \$45 million Measure V bond in 1996. The most recent bond measure was in 2014 at \$265 million.

The district currently has

approximately \$460 million in outstanding general obligation bonds, according to the district.

The board can only vote for one of the resolutions on Wednesday's agenda. Should the board approve the resolution, it will be added to the Nov. 8 ballot.

Over the past several months, the district has been studying the feasibility of a bond measure, including gathering public input through surveys, emails, telephone calls and text messages.

The Sequoia Union High School District plans to meet on Wednesday, Aug. 3, in closed session starting at 5 p.m., followed by the public session at 6 p.m. ■

Email Editor Michelle Iracheta at miracheta@rwcpcpulse.com.

Portola Valley woman fatally struck by train

A Caltrain traveling through Palo Alto fatally struck a woman near West Meadow Drive in Palo Alto on Saturday, July 23.

On July 28, the Santa Clara County Coroner-Medical Examiner's office identified the person struck as Julie Allison Kraushaar Zucher, 62, of Portola Valley. The coroner has not yet determined whether the death was by suicide.

Caltrain spokesperson Dan Lieberman said there were approximately 200 passengers on northbound train No. 253 at the time of the collision, which happened at approximately 4:47 p.m. The San Mateo County

Sheriff's Office's Transit Police Bureau is investigating the incident.

Help is available

Any person who is feeling depressed, troubled or suicidal can call 800-784-2433 to speak with a crisis counselor. People in Santa Clara County can call 855-278-4204. Spanish speakers can call 888-628-9454.

People can reach trained counselors at Crisis Text Line by texting 741741.

—Bay City News Service and Almanac staff

LEHUA GREENMAN



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REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



What's Next for Real Estate?

Dear Monica: My house is on the market this summer and the response has been very quiet. Is there anything I can do or is the market the issue?

Patricia G.

Dear Patricia: The market has been very quiet this summer. Buyers are taking a break after two years of a very competitive market that has seen prices rise as well as interest rates. Many people have gone on vacation after months of Covid.

Buyers will be returning soon and if your house is well presented and priced well, you should see some activity. The market has softened and pricing it at the levels we saw in the spring will not be successful. Meet the buyers where they are not where you want them to be.

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Pride Parade: Avenidas Rainbow Collective will have a table at the Silicon Valley Pride event on Aug. 28, and we'll be marching in the parade, so join us for a fun day! Email tkingery@avenidas.org for more info.

Plant & Flower Photography Workshop: Start snapping photos as we visit Gamble Gardens, then gain insights from a productive critique session.*

*For more info on dates, prices, and registration, please visit www.avenidas.org.

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 Avenidas
Re-Inventing Aging

Menlo Park seeks to become regional draw for interior design

By Cameron Rebosio

A new collaboration of Menlo Park businesses is looking to turn the city's downtown into a regional destination for interior design projects, bringing together 20 local design stores for the first time.

The idea for the design district began in spring of 2021 from Alex Beltramo of Teresa's Antiques, a business started by his mother over 40 years ago. Beltramo said Menlo Park has been a center for design far longer than the official collaborations began. When his family business moved to Menlo Park from San Francisco, they advertised themselves not just as an antique store but as one part of a larger collection of design shops that customers could enjoy — even though each shop operates independently.

The creation of the Menlo Park Design District, registered as a nonprofit with political affiliation, has further solidified and

codified the preexisting community between shop owners.

"We really feel like we're more of a part of a community, which makes it feel more meaningful," Beltramo said. "And it's good for business, because now we'll draw a wider range, because it makes sense for people."

The Menlo Park Design District aims to be an alternative to San Francisco's, making it so residents don't have to travel as far to complete interior design projects. Members are also offering free design events on the first Thursday of every month, offered by experts at the various stores in the design district. The first class was set for Aug. 4 at Art Ventures Gallery. The next will be a lesson on countertops at Rocco & Taupe on Sept. 1.

Brian Flegel of Flegel's, said he believes that the history of design in Menlo Park has always been about community and collaboration. Flegel's, which opened in 1954 says it's Menlo Park's first

furniture store, features products from a variety of Menlo Park stores.

"We've always had ... a really good relationship with everybody, because there's always been an ecosystem, right?" Flegel said. "And it always behooved everybody to have Menlo Park, at least downtown, be a destination if you're thinking about doing something for your home."

Flegel also believes that the collaboration will be beneficial to businesses in the long run, compiling knowledge and resources from a variety of shops with different areas of expertise to create a place where everyone can find what they need.

"This is just the start," Flegel said. "But I think that there's a pretty good balance of nobody's really trying to directly do the exact same thing as somebody else. Everybody has their elements."

Ana Williamson, from Ana Williamson Architect, said she

shares the sentiment that the design district is about more than just economics, but coming together as a community.

"(I hope this will) revitalize the downtown and bring in foot traffic and people who are interested in art and design and lifestyle and just inspiring environments," Williamson said. "I'm also hoping that we can create a sense of community among the merchants. You see the storefront but you don't know the owners and this has really made us bring everybody together to do something, to create something together for Menlo Park."

One surprising factor getting credit for the creation of the nonprofit is the pandemic. Elisa Spurlin of Peabody Gallery believes COVID-19 can be credited for bringing merchants together, even after some have worked on the same street for over 20 years and never met face to face.

"A lot of things changed during the pandemic, but one of the

things that happened was, you saw a lot of unique collaborations happen in all kinds of industries" Spurlin said "This gave us a chance, because for a lot of us, we were closed for a while. So in addition to trying to survive, it also gave us a chance to sit back and go, 'What do we do different?'"

Over time, more merchants have caught onto the idea of collaborating and forming the nonprofit design district, a vision of a tight-knit business community that Beltramo said was supported by the late Bob Shrum, another shop owner. Carolyn Ivers of Harvest Furniture emphasized that she felt everyone's voice was heard in the meetings that led to the creation of the district.

More details about the Menlo Park Design District and its events can be found at mpdesignndistrict.com. ■

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

More candidates emerge for November election

By Cameron Rebosio

People who have pulled papers to run for local office in the past week include candidates for the Atherton and Portola Valley councils, and a school district and fire district board in Menlo Park.

Here's a roundup of those who are looking to run in the November general election. Candidates have until Friday, Aug. 12, to file candidate papers, subject to a five-day extension if no incumbents run for reelection.

Atherton City Council

Stacy Holland has pulled papers to run for Atherton City Council as the first non-incumbent to join the race. Holland joined the Environmental Programs Committee (EPC) in June last year and is currently serving as the chair of the committee.

She joins incumbents Rick DeGolla and Bill Widmer in the race for three City Council seats.

Menlo Park Fire Protection District

Chuck Bernstein has pulled papers for reelection to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District Board of Directors, joining Jim McLaughlin, another current member of the

board. Three seats are up for reelection, including that of incumbent Robert Jones, who has yet to pull papers signaling his intention to run again.

Menlo Park City School District

Scott Saywell has pulled papers to run for reelection to the Menlo Park City School District Board of Trustees this fall, joining incumbent Sherwin Chen in the race. Saywell is the current president of the board.

There are three seats currently open for reelection, and Trustee Stacey Jones has yet to pull papers for reelection.

Portola Valley Town Council

Craig Taylor has pulled papers to join the race for Portola Valley Town Council. Taylor currently serves on the Planning Commission, and has served on the Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee.

He joins incumbent Mayor Craig Hughes in the race for three seats, as well as newcomers Judith Hasko, Mary Hufty and Dale Pfau. ■

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

Menlo Park sends off its housing element to the state

By Cameron Rebosio

Menlo Park submitted its draft housing element to the state for review on July 25, putting forth its vision for housing growth over the next eight years under a mandate to plan for 3,830 new units by 2031.

The housing element going to the state is largely similar to the initial proposal created after multiple community meetings. Of units up for development, 2,161 must be affordable housing to meet the city's Regional Housing Needs Allocation, which encompasses very low-income, low-income and moderate-income housing.

California requires that cities and counties throughout the state update zoning and adopt policies to show an adequate supply of housing can be built in eight year cycles, and do not have regulations that dissuade housing projects and accessibility. While not required to produce the units, cities must prove that there is the capability to develop and provide housing for current and future residents, including a percentage in price ranges considered affordable.

The updated Menlo Park Housing Element designates 69 housing opportunity sites made up of 83 parcels, slightly less than the 73 sites and 84 parcels in the first draft.

The city is anticipating 3,644

housing units from "pipeline" projects that are already in the works — either proposed, approved or under construction — of which 594 are designated for affordable housing. Four of those projects are already under construction, comprising 925 units and including 140 of affordable housing. Among those projects is Menlo Uptown on Jefferson Drive, which is an eight-story mixed-use building proposal with about 15,000 square feet of office space and commercial space.

Another 454 units of affordable housing are coming from projects that have been proposed but aren't yet under construction. Some notable ones include the Parkline SRI redevelopment project and Meta's Willow Village. Menlo Park has designated 85 units of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) could be built, of which 77 are affordable housing. One program encourages the city to adopt policies that incentivize the building of ADUs.

There are 2,153 units listed at so-called opportunity sites, where housing could be possible in the future, of which 2,108 are designated as affordable housing. One notable opportunity site is the Flood School lot, which has sparked contentious community debate and become a focal point for both proponents and adversaries of the controversial Menlo Balance initiative, which would revoke

the Menlo Park City Council's ability to change the zoning of single-family lots unless voters approve it in an election. Some critics say that this would halt future developments for high-density housing in large swaths of the city.

The Flood School lot is zoned for single-family housing, but Ravenswood City School District hopes to build 90 units of affordable housing for staff at the vacant site.

One section of the housing element draft aims to identify blockages to fair housing in the city and propose ways to assist in furthering fair housing.

Several high priority issues are listed, along with the programs in place to work toward fair housing access. One of these problems addressed in the housing element draft is housing affordability, with the notation that people of color are more highly impacted by this disparity. One of the programs listed on the list of ways to rectify the disparity is modifying the Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) to encourage building affordable units with incentives.

The housing element has been sent to the state for a 90-day review. The city plans for adoption and certification of the housing element plan in winter of 2022. ■

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

CRIME BRIEFS

Man arrested in fatal stabbing

An East Palo Alto man was arrested on Saturday, July 30, following a fatal stabbing of a man in a home on Cooley Street.

The man, identified as 47-year-old Darnell Mckean, was arrested in San Francisco's Mission District shortly after 6 p.m., and was booked into San Mateo County jail on suspicion of murder, police said in a statement. He is being held without bail, with a court appearance set for Monday at 1:30 p.m., according to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

Police got a report of a stabbing victim inside a home in the 1900 block of Cooley Street at 11:12 p.m. on Friday, July 29, interim Chief Jeff Liu said in a statement released Saturday.

Officers said the victim, a 50-year-old man, died at the scene. He was identified by police as Mario Ventura, who lived in East Palo Alto.

Mckean allegedly stabbed Ventura with a knife during an argument, according to police.

The stabbing marks the fourth homicide in East Palo Alto this year.

—Andrea Gemmet and Kevin Forestieri

Four suspects sought following Woodside home invasion

Investigators with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office are on the lookout for four men suspected in an Aug. 2 attempted robbery of a home in the 100 block of Kenmore Way in Woodside.

Deputies responded to a 8:50 p.m. report of the crime and found the front door of the home damaged. The investigation determined that four men damaged the front door and entered the home but then fled upon realizing that the home was occupied.

Police said video surveillance cameras revealed a vehicle of interest in the area at the same time as the incident. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone who has information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Anonymous Tip Line at 1-800-547-2700.

—Bay City News Service

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Filoli opens vegetable garden to public for the first time

The sprawling 16 acres of gardens at Woodside's Filoli estate have been open to the public for nearly 50 years — or at least most of them have. Starting this week, visitors will get a chance to check out a previously unseen garden that was essential back in the days when Filoli was a working estate: the vegetable garden.

Just in time for the summer harvest, Filoli is welcoming its first ever visitors to the vegetable garden on Friday, Aug. 5. The opening of the garden follows a renovation that included the addition of ADA-accessible berry cages and raised beds, garden plots celebrating the Bay Area's immigrant communities and a shaded seating area with an outdoor classroom and demonstration space.

"We've seen an increased interest in our visitors' desire to connect with nature through both gardening and food. Filoli's commitment to inclusion, horticultural expertise, and strategic focus on public engagement uniquely positions us to meet our community's needs," Kara Newport, Filoli CEO, said in a press release.

Visitors can taste the fruits of this garden in jams, spice blends and hard cider for sale at Filoli's Clock Tower Shop. And for vegetable gardeners who might be struck with produce envy on visiting the garden, take heart: the demonstration garden area will also offer growing tips.

Filoli is located at 86 Cañada Road, Woodside. It is open Monday to Wednesday and Friday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours every Thursday until 8 p.m. Visitors must purchase tickets in advance. For more information, visit filoli.org/visit. ■

— Heather Zimmerman

Sequoia Hospital workers reach deal to end strike

A strike by workers at Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City has ended after 11 days when union members approved a new four-year contract July 29 with management.

With 64% voting yes, union members approved a tentative agreement reached the day before with hospital owner Dignity Health, according to a Aug. 1 news release from the union, Council 57 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Union members had asked for more than the 4% wage increase they said they were offered.

The union's news release did not include details of the new contract, but reported that "The newly ratified contract includes big wins that improve working conditions, wages and patient care. It guarantees an increase in certified nursing assistant staffing levels, which will improve both the quality of care delivered and workplace safety. Management can no longer unilaterally increase employee health insurance costs, a first for a Dignity Health hospital and a huge step towards financial stability for the workers."

Dignity Health said they are "pleased to announce that Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 829 (AFSCME) resumed negotiations on July 28 and reached a tentative agreement on a four-year contract, covering more than 300 technical and service



Leah Worthington

Striking Sequoia Hospital workers Yvonne Haynes, Aisha Hussain and Abigail Knight rally the crowd on July 18.

employees at Sequoia Hospital. Union membership ratified the agreement with a vote on July 29. We are pleased to welcome our AFSCME-represented employees back to work."

Hundreds of workers — including include nurses' assistants, surgical technicians, respiratory therapists, housekeepers, cooks and others — began picketing the hospital and Dignity Health headquarters on July 18.

One week later, Dignity officials threatened to cut off workers' health benefits, saying in an email statement that the hospital system's health plan requires employees to work a full schedule and confirmed those on strike would lose access to the benefit plan.

"Employees who do not meet the benefits plan program

requirements are removed from benefits plans at the beginning of each month. In August, this will include employees who stopped work in conjunction with AFSCME's indefinite strike."

Dignity Health officials also said in the email that employees would have their health care restored once they resume work. The union said the move was unnecessary and was designed to break the strike.

In the news release from the union, Jackie Garcia, a surgical technician at Sequoia Hospital, called the new contract a win for current and future patients and staff.

"This is going to be a stronger, safer and better place to seek and provide care."

—Bay City News Service

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TEACHERS

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very difficult and expensive to support our family.”

Garcia’s experience mirrors that of other staffers in the Ravenswood City School District, according to a survey of 89 of the district’s 300 staff members in May 2022. Twenty percent said the cost of housing is causing them to consider quitting their job. Two percent said they do not have access to reliable housing, and two-thirds of respondents reported they did not have a “safe, secure, and affordable housing option.”

The district gave teachers a 10% raise last year, bringing salaries on par with neighboring school districts, but the bump is not enough to keep up with the cost of living in the Bay Area, they said.

Mario Zamora, an East Palo Alto native and athletic director at Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School, said he is also struggling to make ends meet. He rents out his ponies on the weekends for birthday parties and runs a summer camp called Camp Doza, which offers lessons in basketball, soccer, and farm culture at Ravenswood Ranch in East Palo Alto.

In response to developers purchasing Ravenswood Ranch, Zamora is planning to buy 40 acres of land two hours away, near Jackson, California, in the coming years. He wants to build cabins and bus kids from East Palo Alto there for camps. He said he will probably eventually need to move out himself since he can’t afford to buy a home.

“Our neighborhood is lacking community in the sense that people, when they get in the workforce, they can’t afford to stay there; they leave,” he said. “Outsiders come into our community to teach our kids. If they can’t relate to the kids, they (kids) are never going to give them their full attention.”

“East Palo Alto has always been a little city tucked in the corner,” he said. “The people with the restaurant jobs, cleaning jobs lived there. They’re being pushed out toward the (Central) Valley.”

Zamora, who has two young children, said some of his colleagues spend three or four hours a day commuting, getting up at 3 a.m. just to drive to the Bay Area for work.

“They’re not going to be mentally healthy to do their job because they’re worried about the commute or the rent,” said Zamora, 37. “Housing is critical but at the same time my parents who did buy their

house in ‘96 for dirt cheap — they deserve a good retirement. I’m happy he (my father) can sell his house for \$1 million. It just sucks for us younger generation who are just never going to be able to afford to buy in their community.”

Flood School site

Garcia and Zamora support the district’s proposal to build up to 90 units of workforce housing at the 2.5-acre former James Flood Magnet School site in Belle Haven, close to U.S. Highway 101 next to Flood Park. The school operated from 1980 to 2011.

The plan has received push-back from nearby residents concerned about the project bringing traffic to their neighborhood. The site, at 321 Sheridan Drive in Menlo Park, is currently zoned for single-family homes (as of 1986). At the time, many of the neighbors felt that the residential designation was appropriate for the site given the surrounding area, and that doing so “provided control and protection from future use of the site,” according to the city of Menlo Park.

“I like teaching there, however if this project can not be carried out, we will be forced to move to another area and leave everything behind,” Garcia said. “Many of our colleagues are in the same situation.”

Traffic from operating a school, the original use of the property, would be much heavier than what would be generated by a housing development, a report from the city shows. The traffic impacts of a 90-unit residential development would create 400 new daily trips. By comparison, an elementary school with 275 students, the size of Flood School before closure, would likely produce over 600 trips per day.

Menlo Park is currently facing a state mandate to zone for thousands of new homes, including plans to accommodate more than 1,000 units available for lower-income households. The Flood School project could help meet those affordable housing goals.

“There are certain stigmas or images that come to mind when it comes to affordable housing — racist tropes,” said Will Eger, the school district’s chief business officer. “It was personally powerful reading the responses of our staff (to the survey).”

Ravenswood Teachers Association (RTA) President Ronda White, a reading specialist and instructional coach at CostaOo School of the Arts, said she’s lucky to live in the home she

grew up in East Palo Alto with her two kids and mother.

White said she loves teaching in East Palo Alto, but knows that without affordable housing it’s difficult for other teachers to live in the community they teach in.

“It was where I was born and raised,” she said. “It’s where I get my values and beliefs. ... The location is beautiful and the soil grows everything. ... change is necessary but it can be difficult. To the people who are nervous or confused (about developing housing on the Flood site), through this process, I hope they’ll figure out a way to be a little more compassionate.”

More on the survey

Other key findings in the Ravenswood staff survey showed:

- 43% of respondents are considering leaving the district

because of the cost of housing or the length the of their commute

- Over 70% indicated an interest in workforce housing; over 60% of those responded that housing would make them “much more likely” to stay with the district

- Another 38% said the length of the commute is causing them to consider quitting their job

- 85% of respondents had incomes and household sizes that would make them eligible for affordable housing; of those, a further 85% are interested in workforce housing

The survey also estimated that the district would need over 200 units of affordable housing to meet the needs of staff. Close to 75% of district faculty and staff rent their housing.

Ravenswood school board member Ana Maria Pulido said the survey was very helpful for


understanding the needs of the districts.

“I remember a few years ago when we considered workforce housing, the numbers weren’t strong enough for us to move forward with the project at that time,” she said. “It’s reassuring us we’re in the right direction in terms of that project is concerned.”

In 2018, staff brought a proposal to build below-market-rate apartments at the Flood School site. But further analysis found that the project was not economically feasible, according to the city. All of the bids assumed a higher level of density at the time.

The district last surveyed staff three years ago when it initially explored building workforce housing at the Flood site, Eger said. ■

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



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Shirley Rose Ely

1927 – 2022

Shirley Rose Ely passed away on July 22 after a life filled with family, friends, travel adventures, community involvement, time in the mountains, and 63 years of marriage to her beloved Leonard Wheeler Ely, Jr.



Shirley was born in 1927 to Eileen and David Rose in Oakland, California. She grew up in the East Bay where she and her father spent many weekends riding horses in the hills, often riding all the way to their weekend home in what was then rural Walnut Creek. She attended Anna Heads School and Berkeley High School before entering Stanford as a Freshman in 1945. True to her independent spirit, Shirley insisted on driving herself to Stanford to move into her freshman dorm. There she met lifelong friends and, most importantly, Leonard who had just returned from serving in the Air Force during World War II. They met when Shirley, at 5'2" tall, was playing football and Leonard ran to help her after she was clipped by another player! They married in the Stanford Chapel in 1947 and lived in Menlo Park while Leonard completed his MBA at Stanford. After graduation they moved to the East Bay. Their son Leonard Wheeler Ely III (Len) was born in 1950 and their daughter Margaret Rose Ely (Maggie) in 1953.

In 1955 the family moved back to Palo Alto and a few years later into Leonard's family home on Bryant Street. Their home became the hub for large family gatherings, and with her remarkable attention to detail and true eye for beauty, Shirley masterfully orchestrated many special celebrations for family and friends. Leonard and Shirley also opened their home for community events and no matter the audience, Shirley's generous and gracious hospitality was legendary. She will be remembered for always being exquisitely put together whether to go fly fishing, out to lunch, or to a formal gala, her attire being secondary only to her radiant smile and personal warmth.

Shirley was a lifelong learner with an incredible memory, able to recall precise details of conversations, experiences, and relationships from decades earlier. She enjoyed bridge, the symphony, and skiing, and was involved with every aspect of her children's lives. She volunteered for the Children's Hospital through the Allied Arts Guild, the Red Cross, the Peninsula Ball for the benefit of Peninsula Family Service, and Planned Parenthood. Her greatest role, however, was that of being a perfect partner with Leonard and supporting his many business and community activities. Their shared love of travel took them all around the world. As devoted fans of Stanford, they did not miss a Stanford football or basketball game for decades, except when out of town.

Shirley and Leonard moved to the Vi in Palo Alto in 2009 where they joined many dear friends and met new friends from around the globe. After Leonard passed away in 2011, Shirley continued to be very active with the current events program, exercise, and her "Saturday Night Live" dinners with good friends at the Vi who were a constant support.

Every morning, Shirley checked the weather in all the cities where her family members and close friends lived (or were visiting) just so she would have a glimpse into their day. Her care and attention to detail imbued every part of her life and left an impression on all fortunate enough to have witnessed it.

Shirley was clearly delighted by all her grandchildren, Abby Pringle (Wes Brown), David Pringle (Sara), Will Pringle, and David Ely, and her great grandchildren, Wilder and Quinn Brown, and Oscar Pringle. Happily, she was able to enjoy celebrating Oscar's first birthday just days before she passed away.

Shirley was preceded in death by her sister Jeanne Rose, her son David, her son-in-law Bob Pringle, and her husband Leonard. She is survived by her son Len (Mary), her daughter Maggie (Fred Grauer), and her four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Shirley's family would like to thank the outstanding team that have lovingly supported her over the past years: Karen Eatinger, Jovit Uson, Amparo Banzon, and Enriqueta Noel.

A Celebration of Life will be held in early fall. Donations in Shirley's memory may be made to Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, the Red Cross, Stanford University, or a non-profit of choice.

PAID OBITUARY

LAWSUIT

continued from page 1

are required to zone for additional growth.

Over time, the committee has suffered a string of resignations and struggled to fill vacancies, getting to the point where it could no longer reach a quorum.

Town Attorney Cara Silver said her office concluded that there was no Brown Act violation, as the state's open meeting law does not prohibit council and committee members from texting to one another on an individual basis. Legislative bodies only run afoul with the Brown Act if a quorum of its members communicate via text or email, either directly or serially. Texting between committee members and staff is permitted under the law.

But faced with the lawsuit, Silver said the town has to be pragmatic and act in the public interest. While Portola Valley could fight the legal challenge — a battle that could cost an estimated \$200,000 and would drag staff and volunteer committee members into the dispute — it would be better to settle, pay the necessary legal fees and adopt the new policy prohibiting texting between council and committee members. Silver said such a policy goes above and beyond the Brown Act, and could be seen as a best practice as meetings are increasingly conducted online instead of in-person.

"When you enter into a settlement under the Brown Act, they typically come down to just a cost-benefit analysis," Silver said. "And the question is, is it worth spending taxpayer dollars on unnecessary litigation when everyone agrees on the substance of a local policy."

The history of the lawsuit is marked by poor communication and signs that the plaintiffs were uncooperative. Town staffers told the council on Monday that they had contacted the plaintiffs' attorney, Lawrence A. Jacobson, in early April to work toward a resolution and avoid a lawsuit. The town drafted a settlement document, known as an unconditional commitment, and sent it to the attorney for review on April 26, followed by a month without a response, according to the town.

When Jacobson responded with alternative terms of the agreement on May 25, the town set a closed-session date for the council to meet and discuss the revised proposal on June 8. Prior to the meeting and without warning, the plaintiffs filed a lawsuit on June 2.



Embarcadero Media file photo

Portola Valley officials said fighting the lawsuit brought by residents could cost \$200,000.

The suit was filed on behalf of eight residents: Rusty Day, Kristin Day, Ron Eastman, Bruce Roberts, Shirley Roberts, James Rooney, Jim Vernazza and Ellen Vernazza.

One resident at the Aug. 1 meeting, Bob Turcott, said he applauded the ban on "secret communications" and the residents who pursued the legal action, and that deliberations in public meetings must take place publicly under the Brown Act. "The residents of Portola Valley owe the plaintiffs a debt of gratitude," he said.

But for all four council members at the meeting, it was a reluctant and frustrating vote in favor of the settlement. Council member John Richards said he could see how what took place in the committee may have the appearance of impropriety, it was clearly not a Brown Act violation. He said he was fine with a policy that restricts text and email communications between council and committee members during meetings, but was "disgusted" by the way it came about.

"It makes sense to make sure that such appearances (of impropriety) don't occur regularly, and I'm confident, though, that we would've reached this point without going through this nonsense of the lawsuit and the unnecessary expenditure of public funds, our tax dollars," he said.

Wernikoff, who was at the center of the text-messaging controversy, said none of the exchanges amounted to a Brown Act violation and would have never even been relayed via text if it was an in-person meeting. She said the suggestion that something unethical was going on is "ridiculous."

"The lawsuit has been frustrating, divisive and frivolous, and I worry about its longer-term impact in how it can discourage good people from stepping up to volunteer and get involved at all levels going forward," she said.

Council member Maryann Derwin said she sees the

settlement as the town cutting its losses, and that it's "very sad" that Portola Valley has been forced to adopt a policy that is going to make things more difficult for its committee members.

Mayor Craig Hughes said he believes the lawsuit amounts to deliberate political harassment of town volunteers who had invested numerous hours serving, and that the residents behind the lawsuit avoided the easy solution in order to bully the town and threaten it with huge expenses — all for a policy that, as written, still has some serious flaws. The settlement agreement prohibits council and committee members from texting or emailing "third-party consultants" during a Brown Act meeting, which Town Attorney Silver interpreted to mean consultants hired by the city.

What's more, Hughes said Jacobson, of Cohen and Jacobson LLP, specializes in corporate bankruptcy law and doesn't appear to understand the basic tenets of the Brown Act — specifically, he didn't know that public noticing is required before special council meetings can be held.

The group of residents behind the lawsuit has a significant overlap with the membership of a recently formed political action group aimed at ousting council incumbents and taking a harder stance against housing growth, Hughes said, and it's this group that has now cost the taxpayers close to \$50,000 on top of inordinate amounts of staff time and attention.

"Filing lawsuits to bully each other into doing what a small minority of people want is not how we do things," he said. "We do things by discussion, we do it by consensus and we do it by all agreeing on how to proceed. And this is the complete opposite of that, and it really upsets me." ■

Email Associate Editor Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@almanacnews.com.

ATHERTON HOUSING

continued from page 6

housing on campus, according to a July letter from the college. Demand exists to “easily fill” an additional 18 units on campus, and possibly as many as 40 additional units, according to the school. It estimates such a project would cost about \$20 million, which could be paid for through a tax measure.

“The greatest likelihood for moving an apartment and parking project forward for Menlo College faculty and staff would be for the town of Atherton to support the cost of constructing housing and parking on campus through the identification of a new source of funding, possibly a bond issue that could be supported with a parcel tax,” Menlo College officials said in the letter.

Upcoming demonstration in Atherton

YIMBY Action planned to attend an Atherton polo match earlier this month and demonstrate in favor of housing growth, but the polo club canceled the match when they heard the organization was coming, Leora Tanjuatco Ross said in a July 21 email to the group’s members.

“Atherton is the richest ZIP code in the entire country, but they are hoarding the opportunities that come with that wealth,” she wrote. “They’ve blocked new homes from being built for decades, preventing more neighbors from moving in. They’ve gone to great lengths to make sure that their community stays exclusive, including closing their train station and fighting against their state mandated housing goals.”

The Atherton City Council voted to shut down the historic station in October 2020 because of low ridership over the years and desire to safeguard the town from future legislation similar to the recent Senate Bill 50, which would have required cities to allow high-density housing development near public transit. ■

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

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Kathryn Ann Lentz Cox**, 75, a former Menlo Park resident, on July 22; and **Bernice Holubar**, 94, a Menlo Park resident, on April 8.

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

James Moore Pollock

March 21, 1936 – July 5, 2022

James Moore Pollock was born in Ross, California on March 21, 1936, the firstborn child of Charles Edward and Gertrude Ord Pollock. Sister Gay and brother Ted followed. The family grew up in Marin County and Jim attended the San Rafael Military Academy, Menlo School, and graduated from Hayward High School. He graduated from Stanford University in 1958 where he met and married Deanna Kay Amos. They settled in Portola Valley where they raised their children Jeff and Jennifer. Jim and Deanna eventually divorced but thanks to their relationship with Christ, they remained good friends and celebrated many family events together. Jim met Guila Frazier Leone in Petaluma at the World’s Wrist Wrestling Championships and they married in 1982. Together with their combined family of 5 children - Jeff and Jennifer and Jeff, Dirk and Garth Leone they continue to celebrate family milestones and enjoy an annual family trip with their children, spouses and 10 grandchildren. These trips brought Jim – and all the family – much joy. Jim, who learned to love nature from his father and mother, was instrumental in teaching all their children and grandchildren to appreciate the outdoors and took them fishing and hunting in Montana, Mexico, the Capay Valley, Benicia, the Smith and Lower Sacramento Rivers. He taught them to waterski at their beloved Bucks Lake and snow ski at Sugar Bowl.

In 1960 Jim was hired by The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company in San Francisco and eventually formed Pollock Financial Group. He had the joy of working alongside sons Jeff and Dirk who eventually formed their own financial services companies. For over 60 years he developed the diversified investment approach which became the trademark of his company. His integrity and loyalty to his clients and staff was the primary focus his entire career. Since that time through Pollock Realty Corporation and other entities, Jim purchased or developed approximately 80 projects on behalf of his clients. Projects included office buildings, industrial properties, shopping centers and apartments.

With his individual clients, Jim and his staff prepared and implemented detailed asset allocation plans including investments, real estate and selected insurance products.

Jim’s civic affiliations included board memberships on the Stanford Athletic Board, United Way, Sigma Chi, Sports Challenge, The Let Them Hear Foundation and Peninsula Covenant Church. He assisted in finalizing the purchase of the Blue Oaks development in Portola Valley, where he and Guila have lived for over 20 years. Jim lost his father at age 28. He had the great fortune to be mentored by several elders throughout his life; a legacy he generously passed on to his younger brother, sons and countless young men.

Jim became a believer in Christ’s saving grace in 1986, never looked back and is smiling down on all of us with gratitude from the loving arms of Jesus. He and Guila joined Peninsula Covenant Church where they attended for over 35 years. They journeyed on 7 mission

trips to 3rd world countries, often with grandchildren, where they were able to witness the placing of cochlear implants in hearing-impaired children, experiencing the privilege of being with these precious children and their parents the very first time they heard the spoken word. He and Guila continue to be very supportive of Mercy Ships ministry and had the pleasure of serving on board the ship in Sierra Leone and Liberia. For over 30 years Jim has met on a weekly basis with his Men’s Bible Study group which has been a true blessing to him. As Jim started to decline another group of men formed “Jim’s Team” and met weekly to encourage, love and pray for him.

Jim was an exceptional athlete, having played baseball at Stanford and winning the World’s Middleweight Wrist Wrestling Championship five times, earning him honors in the World’s Wrist Wrestling Hall of Fame. (See the YouTube video of one of the matches – Jim Pollock Wrist Wrestling). He was an outstanding tennis player, water skier and snow skier. In his early years he had a rigid workout schedule and could bench press 350 pounds! He continued to work out until he could no longer do so and always impressed people with his extremely firm handshake to the very end.

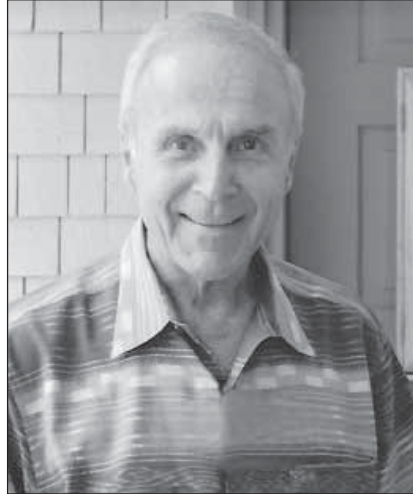
Jim was a world renowned 4 string banjo player having performed for 6 US presidents and at the Supreme Court. He spent many hours performing with his friends from the Bohemian Club, but his favorite times were playing with his songwriter son Jeff at the piano and his daughter Jennifer singing. His music brought much joy to the Pollock family gatherings and to guests at the many parties he and Guila hosted at their home. Jim was nominated for Bay Area Producer of the Year for the San Francisco musical “The Bessie Smith Show.” He was a seasoned poet, often writing poems for those he loved. His story telling and sense of humor bought smiles and joy to his family and others. His work ethic was an example to many, but he always combined that with time for fun!

Jim’s perseverance through the thirteen-year struggle of Parkinson’s has encouraged many. He never complained and accepted each day as it came, knowing the Lord would provide. He also had the assurance of his future home in heaven! Both he and Guila were blessed to have such competent and loving doctors and caregivers.

He adored his wife Guila, their children, Jeff, Jennifer, Jeff, Dirk and Garth, daughter-in-laws Kelly and Nisa and grandchildren Tyler, Elisha (Gabe), Jordan, Brooke, Bryce, Tanner, Brennan, Aiden, Landen and Paige who all lovingly called him Grandpa Banjo. He was also very grateful for the love and care of his brother Ted and his wife Eloise.

A memorial service will be held in September. Remembrances can be sent to his sister-in-law Eloise Pollock at Epollack10@gmail.com.

Donations in his honor may be made to Peninsula Covenant Church, Redwood City (wearepcc.com) or MercyShips.org.





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MONKEYPOX

continued from page 5

using information gathered over the last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic about virus spread and surveillance to combat the monkeypox outbreak.

On Tuesday, Louise Rogers, San Mateo County Health chief, said the extent of monkeypox cases in the county is fortunately limited, thus far. The county is working with other Bay Area health authorities to have a coordinated response as the cases continue to grow throughout the region, she told the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

The cases continue to be prevalent among men who have sex with other men, which leads it to be a regional challenge. The focus is in San Francisco, where the majority of cases are found, she said.

Stemming the spread is difficult because of inadequate vaccine supply from the federal government. The vaccine can prevent the infection or greatly reduce its symptoms, she said.

Rogers said she hoped the state's declared monkeypox health emergency would spur the federal government to make more vaccines available to California. The county has received 650 doses so far, which it shares throughout the San

Mateo County Health System.

Part of the county's vaccine supply is being sent to San Francisco to help control the outbreak there. A July 26 health advisory from the county health department noted the vaccination sharing may include publicly available vaccination sites in San Francisco, Alameda County, and Berkeley and Kaiser Permanente locations in San Mateo County and Stanford Health Care, which serve at-risk patients who are regularly seen through these healthcare systems.

Marc Meulman, director of county public health, policy, and planning, said the county is working collaboratively with regional and state authorities to conduct case investigations and do contact tracing, targeting those persons as the priorities for preventing the spread of infection, he said.

Anyone who is concerned that they might have monkeypox should go to their medical provider, he said.

Statewide vaccine strategy

While state officials have sought to reassure the public that the risk of contracting monkeypox remains very low, efforts to procure more doses of the Jynneos vaccine for smallpox and monkeypox have

hampered a swift effort to curb the outbreak.

The state had received just over 37,000 doses of the two-dose vaccine as of Friday, with the expectation of receiving another 72,000 doses as soon as this week.

Health officials have stressed that the virus is not specific to any sexual orientation and is mostly being spread by skin-to-skin contact rather than more intimate activities.

Los Angeles County has also already received or expects to receive more than 50,000 doses that are not part of the state's total.

But both of those totals are a far cry from the 600,000 to 800,000 vaccine doses Aragon and state Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly requested from the federal government last month.

In a letter to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention, Ghaly and Aragon called that request a conservative estimate of the state's true vaccine demand.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration officials said July 29 the production of vaccine doses is likely to increase substantially in the coming weeks after the agency expedited approval of manufacturing changes and expanded factory capacity.

Until more doses are available, state officials have focused on administering the first of the vaccine's two doses to as many eligible people as possible to ensure those who are high risk have at least some protection.

Those who have already been vaccinated will eventually receive their second dose, but it may be longer than the vaccine's standard four-week waiting period between doses.

"We thank Gov. Newsom for today's state of emergency declaration, which supports California's response and vaccination efforts to protect Californians from monkeypox," said Michelle Gibbons, the executive director of the County Health Executives Association of California. "We continue to urge our federal partners to expedite distribution of crucial vaccines and to provide funding flexibility for local public health departments to protect our

communities from this growing public health threat."

In the greater Bay Area, monkeypox cases have been reported in Alameda, Napa, Contra Costa, San Mateo, San Francisco, Monterey, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma and Marin counties.

According to the CDPH, 786 probable and confirmed monkeypox cases have been reported statewide. Two-thirds of those cases have been reported in just Los Angeles County and San Francisco.

The vast majority of monkeypox cases in California have been among gay or bisexual men between the ages of 25 and 54, according to state data. More than 80% of the total cases have also been detected in white and Hispanic or Latino people.

Health officials have stressed that the virus is not specific to any sexual orientation and is mostly being spread by skin-to-skin contact rather than more intimate activities like kissing or sexual activity.

Information from the CDPH on who is eligible to get tested for monkeypox, who is eligible to get vaccinated and symptoms of the virus can be found at cdph.ca.gov. ■

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

NEIGHBORS

continued from page 5

as residents became aware of the initiative and heard that the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo warned that the initiative could have a regional impact.

"We're especially concerned about this measure because it would have citywide implications and region-wide implications," said Evelyn Stivers, executive director of the county Housing Leadership Council, an organization with the goal of furthering accessible and affordable housing within San Mateo County. "I'm afraid that if it passes and goes into effect, every small city in the Bay Area and in the state is gonna say, 'Oh, yeah, we'll pass one like that too,' and that would be really, really hard on the state for us to meet our housing needs and for us to come up with creative solutions to meeting the needs of our most vulnerable residents."

The launch event included several speeches, including one from Andrew Lie, a trustee from the Jefferson Union High School District where affordable teacher housing has been built in Daly City.

The event also had informational stations on the impact of housing on communities, including one on environmental sustainability.

"Environmental justice and housing justice are inherently connected," said Cade Cannedy with Climate Resilient Communities. "Your first and most immediate environment is your home, and all of the climate effects that we're concerned about, extreme heat, smoke, air quality, flooding, sea level rise, all those issues are going to be mediated by the quality, safety, affordability and accessibility of housing."

Another station laid out the long history of segregation in Menlo Park's school districts and housing. Juanita Croft, who said she has lived in Belle Haven for a long time, said that Menlo Park has a history of redlining and discrimination dating back to the 1940s when Belle Haven and Ravenswood High School were both segregated, according to Croft.

"The issue with Menlo Balance is that, quite frankly, they're using an old discriminatory practice to discriminate against affordable housing, and so they're using the single-family detached

dwelling home as a strategy for segregation," Croft said.

She added that the state has already struck down similar bills as a discriminatory practice, and that Menlo Park

would be liable for a lawsuit if the initiative was to pass.

Information about Menlo Park Neighbors for Affordable Homes can be found at hlcsmc.org/menlo-park

neighbors-for-affordable-homes. ■

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

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PALO ALTO

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Compass 650-740-7954

3003 Marcelli Circle (T) \$1,888,000
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1030 Palo Alto Avenue \$8,988,000
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1820 Channing Avenue \$3,488,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3BA
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3810 Nathan Way \$3,198,000
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610 Chimalus Drive \$3,488,000
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830 East Meadow Drive \$4,498,000
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DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

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

3513 Waverley Street \$5,498,000
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The Almanac



A generational call to action against climate change

By Zachary Meyer

GUEST OPINION

If you were born after 1981, you are a part of the “Climate Generation” — the generation of people who have lived exceptionally aware of anthropogenic climate change. This generation has also grown up with unprecedented access to information and media, which has created a jaded and pessimistic group of people. The younger side of the Climate Generation, Generation Z, also exhibits the highest rate of depression, stress and anxiety of any generation.

Although they may seem apathetic, the Climate Generation is leading the charge when it comes to acting against climate change, whether by donating, volunteering or opposing regressive energy policies like offshore drilling, according to a study by Pew Research Center.

I am a part of this generation, having been born at Stanford Hospital in 2001 and lived my entire life in Menlo Park.

I have grown up passionate and with a desire to make an impact. By joining grassroots

organizations, studying sustainability in college and living my life conscious of the environment, I do as much as possible. However, given that my generation is at the mercy of previous generations’ stranglehold on financial and political capital, activism will only get us so far.

In 2021, people born after 1981 owned only 6.6% of the wealth in the United States. On top of this, only one senator and 39 representatives of the 117th Congress were born after 1981, a mere 7%. About 50% of the US population is under 40 or born

after 1981. There is a severe lack of representation for the group of people most active about climate change, and there is far too little time for us to wait for “the great wealth transfer.” It is up to older generations to pave a path that will allow future generations to thrive.

I ask that those outside of the Climate Generation please invest in youth-led grassroots environmental organizations and voice your support for innovative policies for building decarbonization, renewable energy and multimodal transportation infrastructure.

If you are a politician, please also consider adopting these smart policies or pave a way for younger generations to gain more representation in politics.

Currently I am faced with reading reports of a future where coral reefs will decline by 99%, and the number of heat waves per year are expected to increase by four to eight times. I want a future I can look forward to. Right now, that future is in your hands! ■

Zachary Meyer graduated from Menlo-Atherton High School in 2019 and currently works as an intern at Menlo Spark.

Fewer car trips make school dropoff safer for everyone

By Silja Paymer

GUEST OPINION

Every year when I teach environmental science, one of the first topics we cover is called tragedy of the commons. The concept, first written about by William Forster Lloyd in 1833, observed that the British use of a common field for the community to graze their sheep on could result in the destruction of the field if individuals prioritized their own self interest and put out as many sheep as possible. If each person grazed the maximum number of sheep, the “common,” as the field was known, would be destroyed by overgrazing.

Now, the tragedy of the commons is used to describe the systems that result in the collapse of fish populations, pollution of air and water, unsustainable farming practices, the increasing size of cars and SUVs for passenger safety, and many other scenarios where shared resources are abused by a few people for their own benefit.

I posit that the safety of our streets, particularly during school dropoff and pickup times, is a tragedy of the commons. People who drive cars into a high density of walking and biking children are degrading the safety of others for the sake of protecting their own children and reducing their commute time.

Funnily enough, it turns out that there aren’t any examples of overgrazing tragedies actually happening on British commons. Tight knit communities undermine the expectations of economists that we will all just work in individual self interest. We can choose to enhance our bonds with

each other by making sacrifices for the common goal of safety for our children. We can choose to take the time to teach our children to bike and walk to school safely, and by doing so, actually make it safer for all children to walk and bike.

I know that not everyone has the luxury of time in the morning, and different life situations flare up. So here are some ways we can all improve our school communities as we do our best:

■ Consider picking one day a week (or more) to walk or bike your young children to school or have your older student walk, bike or bus to school. Pick a day where you are least stressed and can support students as they learn a new routine. If everyone who drove their kids to school took alternative methods of transportation just one day a week, there

would be 20% fewer cars around the schools.

■ Connect with neighbors. Kids can walk and bike independently to school much younger if there is a group. Parents can trade off walking the group of younger kids so that it doesn’t have to be a challenge every morning.

■ If you have to drive, park two blocks away to drop off your student or to walk them in. This reduces traffic density at the most critical point where young pedestrians and cyclists are the most dense.

I’ve heard parents say, “Car drop off saves me so much time!” To which I reply, it only seems that way now. All parents will save so much more time if all students can safely make their way to school on their own, and we get to stay home for that extra cup of tea before heading to work. ■

Silja Paymer is a parent and teacher in Mountain View.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 8, 2022, a Governing Board Election will be held in the County of Santa Clara, specifically including the District(s) named below and the office(s) for which candidates may be nominated.

Also, pursuant to Education Code section 5342 and Elections Code section 10400, such election may be either completely or partially consolidated.

To be elected:

Term of Office: Full-Term: 4 years, Short-Term: 2 years

Santa Clara County Special District Offices

West Bay Sanitary District (Two Full-Term Seats)

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

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NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Declaration of Candidacy for eligible candidates desiring to file for elective office may be obtained from the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters’ Office, 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, Candidate Services Division, San José, California, 95112. The Declaration of Candidacy will be available on July 18, 2022 and must be filed with the Registrar of Voters at the above noted address no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2022.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that appointment to each elective office will be made in the event there are no nominees or an insufficient number of nominees for each office and a petition for the election, signed by ten percent (10%) of the voters or 50 voters, whichever is the smaller number in the District, has not been filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 17, 2022.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all active registered voters will automatically be mailed a Vote-by-Mail ballot package beginning on October 10, 2022; the Vote Centers for said election will be open starting on October 29, 2022, through November 7, 2022, for varying hours of operations. Please see our List of Vote Centers hours of operation posted on our website at <https://www.sccvote.org/>. The Vote Centers will be open on Election Day, November 8, 2022, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. All ballots cast in said election will be counted centrally at the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters’ Office, 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San José, California, 95112.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to Elections Code section 15101(b), as amended by AB 860, Vote-by-Mail ballots can be opened and processed for counting beginning on October 10, 2022, at the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters’ Office, 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San José, California, 95112.

Dated: July 26, 2022

Shannon Bushey, Registrar of Voters

8/5/22

CNS-3611260#

THE ALMANAC

LAST PICTURE SHOW

Pace Gallery ends its Palo Alto run with an exhibition of paintings by Brice Guilbert

By Sheryl Nonnenberg



Courtesy Pace Gallery

“Bruce Guilbert: Fourniez,” is on view at Pace Gallery until Sept. 2 and will be the last exhibition at the Palo Alto gallery. Pace is consolidating its West Coast operations at its recently opened Los Angeles gallery.

One might imagine that growing up on a small island where the most notable geographical feature is an active volcano would produce feelings of anxiety and insecurity. Not so for artist Brice Guilbert, who has fond memories of his island childhood and the volcano that has become the main inspiration for his oil-stick-on-wood paintings.

“Bruce Guilbert: Fourniez” is on view at Pace Gallery until Sept. 2 and will be the last exhibition at this West Coast outpost of the New York-based conglomerate.

The show consists of four large-scale canvases and a series of smaller works that all seem

to depict the same thing, a volcano in the process of erupting. While the subject matter may be the same, each painting has a different color palette that ranges from soft pastels to very strong, deep hues. Guilbert was in Palo Alto for the installation of the show and offered some background on his working method and muse, the Piton de la Fournaise, one of the most active volcanoes in the world.

The volcano is located on Réunion Island, which is a French Department located in the Indian Ocean. Its major claim to fame (besides idyllic beaches) is as a climbing destination. The draw for climbers is the Piton de la Fournaise,

which measures over 8,000 feet. Guilbert spent his youth on the southern part of the island and says that because he never actually saw an eruption, “I paint the volcano by imagination.”

Even after leaving Réunion to attend high school in France, the lure of his childhood memories drew him back. “I always work using my roots, my childhood,” he said. Currently living in Brussels, Guilbert said that depicting the volcano also has a practical basis, “By painting fire, while living in a cold place, it brings spring to my long winter.”

The paintings vary in terms of size and color, but all capture a sense of movement and the awesome power of nature. Some are

highly textured and the layering of the color is apparent. Just how Guilbert achieves this is quite unique: he makes his own color sticks.

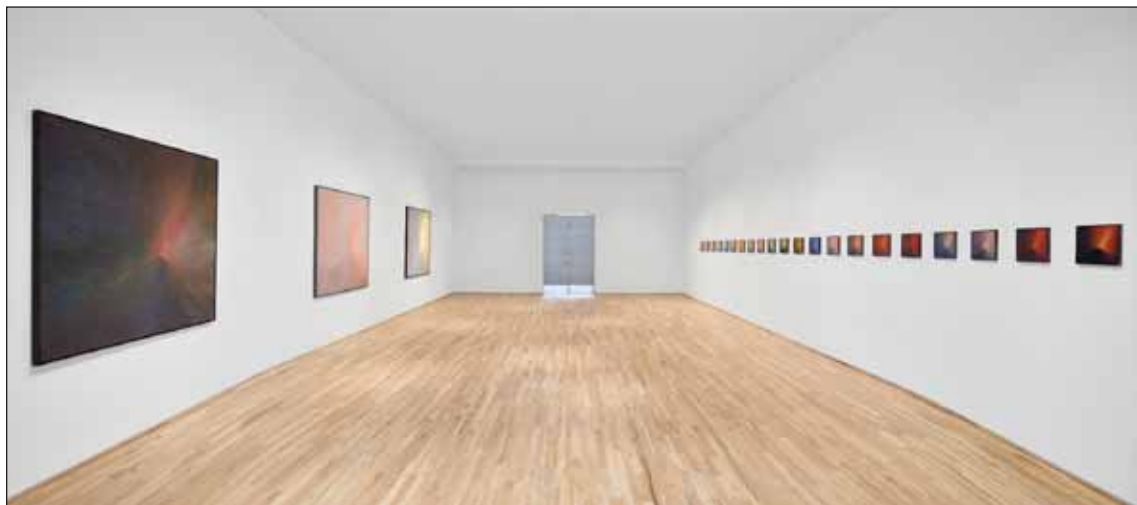
“It’s a creative activity,” he said, “like French Creole cooking, to ‘cook’ my own tools.” A combination of oil and beeswax, the sticks are custom made for a specific reason. “I put a lot of beeswax in my mixture so the result is matte, not glossy.” Guilbert said that he prefers the feeling that he gets using a stick instead of a brush. “I like the link with the hands and not having to hold a brush.” His process also requires that he works with both hands, one holding the oil stick and the other a heat gun.

“I like to paint fire with fire,” he laughed.

Making his own oil sticks also means that his colors are very specific to his needs and not limited to what can be obtained commercially. Looking closely at the paintings, which are done on wood, it is possible to ascertain layers upon layers of pigment, leading to a textured surface.

“I try to find a dialogue with the colors,” he explained. “I never paint the real colors of the volcano,” he said, “Every painting is a projection of an idea, a feeling, an effect.”

In the gallery entry, the large-scale “Fourniez” (all the works bear the same title, the island



Courtesy Pace Gallery

Brice Guilbert's "Fournez" show features four large-scale canvases and a series of smaller works that all depict a volcano in the process of erupting.

name for the volcano) is a powerful, dramatic vision of nature's force in the form of lava spewing from a dark and ominous peak. "This might be the most literal, photographic version," Guilbert explained.

The paintings in the main gallery are more subtle in their depiction and rely more on various gradations of color, from light to dark. They are at once both recognizable in subject and yet abstracted enough that the viewer can ascribe any feeling or mood they want. Guilbert admits that the paintings fulfill both a need to create and to return to the past. "They are a pretext to explore painting,

color and to come back to my roots."

Guilbert said that all the paintings were created specifically for a solo show in Palo Alto but that the timing was a "surprise." Exhibitions previously planned for this space to the end of the year were canceled as a result of the decision, announced last week, to consolidate operations on the West Coast to the new Pace Gallery in Los Angeles, which opened in April.

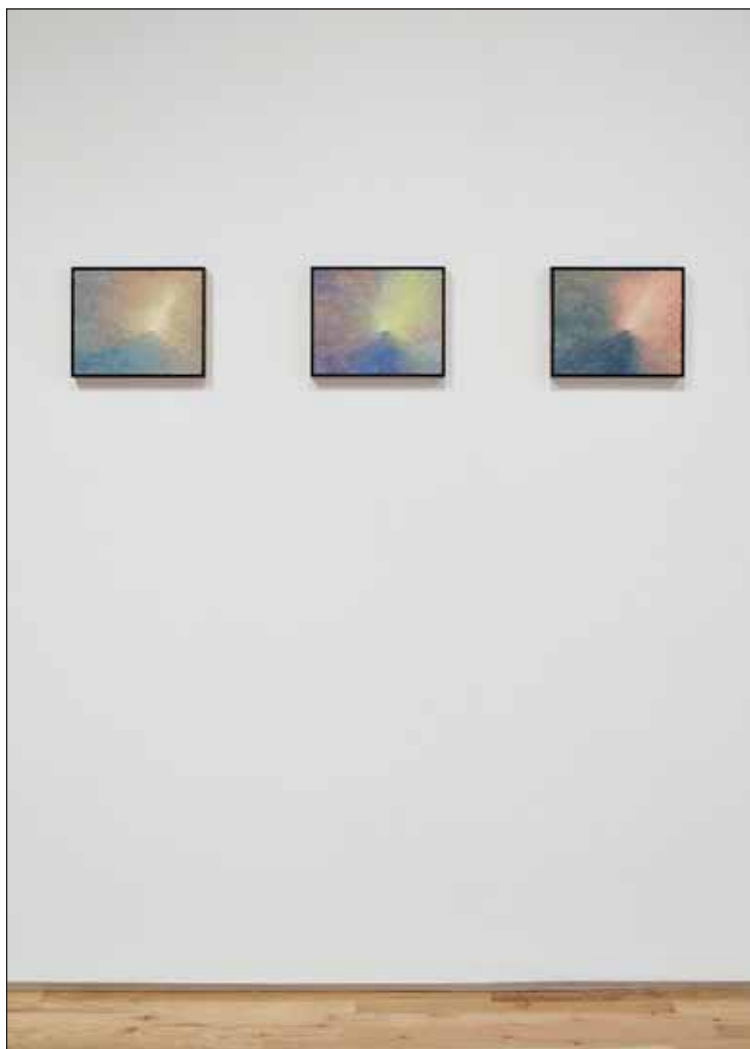
The closing of the Palo Alto gallery is a major loss for the cultural community on the Peninsula. For the last six years, Pace has presented blue-chip, museum-quality exhibitions

that would ordinarily require a trip to a major art center like New York City. There have been exhibitions featuring well-established artists like Pablo Picasso, Louise Nevelson, Agnes Martin and James Turrell as well as younger, emerging artists like Adam Pendleton and Loie Hollowell (both of whom would go on to find recognition in the international art scene and auction sales in the six-figure range). After hosting several pop-up shows on the Peninsula, Pace began its Palo Alto tenure in 2016 with a bang: a huge exhibition of immersive, digital art by Japanese collective team-Lab that attracted over 200,000 visitors.

Over the years, the exhibitions have been varied, interesting and well presented. Reaction to the closure among the art community has been, collectively, one of sadness. Collector and arts advocate Pamela Hornik recalled, "From gathering with friends at a Tara Donovan opening, to hearing Alex Nemerov speak about Picasso, Pace provided museum-quality exhibitions to the Palo Alto community. Liz Sullivan made Pace a welcoming space."

Gallery owner Pamela Walsh commented, "I am so sad to hear that Pace will be leaving Palo Alto. As a neighbor and art lover, it has been such a pleasure to frequent the gallery and enjoy each of their exhibitions. I actually visited the Arlene Shechet exhibition four times and felt more inspired with each viewing. Pace presents a level of art that is rarely found outside a major city, so it is a real loss for the whole community."

Pace has been an important component of the arts landscape in Palo Alto and will be missed, said Palo Alto Art Center Director Karen Kienzle. "We've appreciated the collaborative spirit of their wonderful team. A great example is the recent exhibition showcasing children's artwork from East Palo Alto Charter. I have



Courtesy Pace Gallery

Painter Brice Guilbert took inspiration for his show "Fournez" from Piton de la Fournaise, an active volcano on Réunion Island in the Indian Ocean, where he spent his childhood.

wonderful personal memories of the incredible recent Pablo Picasso and Louise Nevelson exhibitions."

Elise DeMarzio, Director of the Palo Alto Public Art Program, shared Kienzle's sentiments, saying, "I would like to add that Pace has been an amazing partner in public art events such as Code:ART, when they offered special experiences and refreshments for festival attendees and promoted the festival." She added that one of her personal favorite exhibitions was the JR show that opened at the same time his large installation went into SFMOMA. "That opening night was a fun star-studded event I will not forget," DeMarzio said.

Pace Gallery Vice President Elizabeth Sullivan has overseen the Palo Alto gallery since its opening. "Pace Palo Alto has been a jewel of a space to exhibit Pace's lexicon of great artists," she said via email. "Our space

'By painting fire, while living in a cold place, it brings spring to my long winter.'

BRICE GUILBERT

in Palo Alto was very special and we're happy to have been able to introduce our wonderful exhibitions to this beautiful community over the years. We will continue to work with our new partners in Los Angeles to remain committed to the West Coast region and our loyal supporters in the Bay Area."

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

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

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

CLINERS SERVICE METAL 3
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 291663
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Cliners Service Metal 3, located at 221 8th Line, South S. F. CA 94080, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
JOSE DE JESUS LOPEZ SERAFIN
221 8th Line
South S.F. CA 94080
This business is conducted by: An Individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/19/22.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on July 19, 2022.
(ALM Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022)

LET'S BAG IT, LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 291757
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Let's Bag It, LLC, located at 10 Bluebell Lane, Hillsborough, CA 94010, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
LET'S BAG IT, LLC
10 Bluebell Lane
Hillsborough, CA 94010
This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on July 27, 2022.
(ALM Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JOHN DOUGLAS CAHNERS
CASE NO. 22-PRO-00747
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the lost WILL or estate, or both of JOHN DOUGLAS CAHNERS. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LISA CAHNERS in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LISA CAHNERS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's lost WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to

probate. The lost WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 10/17/22 at 9:00AM in Dept. 11 located at 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
ANGELA C. THOMPSON - SBN 238708,
MEISSNER, JOSEPH, PALLEY & RUGGLES INC.
1555 RIVER PARK DRIVE,
SUITE 108
SACRAMENTO CA 95815
8/5, 8/12, 8/19/22
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EVENT & COMMUNITY

Food & Drink

Vegan variety

10 Peninsula restaurants with plant-based dishes to try now

By Stephanie Gerson

For plant-based eaters on the Peninsula, it can often feel like there is a lack of fully plant-based restaurants or eateries that carry substantial vegan options. San Francisco may be home to many innovative vegan restaurants, but there are several establishments on the Peninsula serving up delicious plant-based food. This list is in no way exhaustive, but it provides plant-based options for made-to-order cakes, Chinese food, quick bites and more from Mountain View to Daly City.

Oh Baby Sushi

Tucked away on Roosevelt Avenue in Redwood City is Oh Baby Sushi, a sushi house with a separate menu dedicated to vegan sushi rolls. The restaurant has created seven vegan rolls with fillings including tempura pumpkin, sweet tofu skin and spicy bean curd. Each roll is

topped with a special sauce and topping, elevating and reinventing the simple veggie rolls served at most sushi restaurants.

Oh Baby Sushi, 2139 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City. ohbabysushi.com

Shru's Kitchen

If you're looking for a vegan cake for an upcoming celebration try home baker Shruti Boddhu's layered cakes, which have unique flavor combinations such as Earl Grey tea, lemon hibiscus and masala chai. Cakes are frosted with coconut cream and topped with dried rose petals and candied ginger. Orders can be placed through the Shru's Kitchen website.

Shru's Kitchen, San Mateo. shruskitchen.com

Chuck's Donuts

Chuck's Donuts is a beloved fixture in Redwood City. Open

24 hours a day, the donut shop is constantly baking fresh batches of classic donut varieties and vegan donuts with flavors including matcha, vanilla and maple.

Chuck's Donuts, 801 Woodside Road, Redwood City.

Falafelle

Falafelle is a fully vegan, counter-service Mediterranean restaurant that's a cult favorite among falafel fanatics. Its menu, consisting of pitas and falafel combos, is simple, but each entree is served with a multitude of toppings including pickled cucumbers and sumac onions. Guests can end their meal with a piece of vegan baklava. Falafelle also opened a new sister restaurant earlier this year in San Carlos, Jood, which also offers several vegan and vegetarian sides and "sandweeshes."

Falafelle, 1035 Ralston Ave., Belmont. falafelle.com



Stephanie Gerson

The vegan Veggie Tiger roll has tempura pumpkin and asparagus inside and is topped with special sauce and crispy walnut.

Que SeRaw SeRaw

Que SeRaw SeRaw releases a fully vegan menu every week, with grab-and-go breakfast items, salads, entrees, snacks and desserts available for pickup throughout the week. In addition to these special menu items,

baked goods and treats such as raspberry cheesecake and blueberry scones are sold at its storefront in Burlingame.

Que SeRaw SeRaw, 1160 Capuchino Ave., Burlingame. queserawseraw.com

See **VEGAN VARIETY**, page 22



Courtesy Shruti Boddhu

Shru's Kitchen customers can order 4- or 6-inch cakes in a range of flavors, such as Earl Grey with rose.



Stephanie Gerson

Vegan donut varieties at Chuck's Donuts include vanilla with pistachio, chocolate with pistachio, maple and matcha.

VEGAN VARIETY

*continued from page 21***Monsoon Himalayan Cuisine**

Along the coast, Monsoon Himalayan Cuisine specializes in traditional Nepalese dishes with plenty of meatless options such as vegan samosas, dal and seven other vegan and gluten-free entrees. Owner Ram Chandra Subedi immigrated to the United States from Nepal in 1995 with the hope of sharing his family's recipes in America after serving guests from around the world at his restaurant in Nepal.

Monsoon Himalayan Cuisine, 20 Stone Pine Road, Half Moon Bay. monsoonthimalayanuisine.com

Dae Jang Geum Tofu House

Dae Jang Geum Tofu House serves several vegan and non-vegan variations of soondubu, a spicy Korean tofu stew served in a bubbling pot. Plant-based guests can enjoy kimchi, mushroom, ramen or vegetable soondubu varieties.

Dae Jang Geum Tofu House, 235 Southgate Ave., Daly City. djg-tofu.menu11.com

Garden Fresh

With locations in Mountain View and Palo Alto, Garden Fresh is one of the few fully vegan Chinese restaurants on the Peninsula. The restaurant puts a creative twist on traditional Chinese food by using plant-based proteins and vegetables to mimic popular dishes such as Kung Pao chicken, beef with broccoli and sweet and sour pork.

Garden Fresh, 1245 W El Camino Real, Mountain View; 460 Ramona St., Palo Alto. gardenfreshca.com

Tin Pot Creamery

Tin Pot Creamery has been satisfying the ice cream cravings of Bay Area residents since 2012, founded by former Facebook culinary team employee Becky Sunseri. The ice cream shop has five locations on the Peninsula, plus one in San Francisco, all of which carry a selection of vegan ice cream flavors. The vegan flavors currently available at Tin Pot locations are brownie batter, coconut, mango and strawberry lemonade.

Tin Pot Creamery, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Campbell, San Mateo, San Carlos. tinpotcreamery.com

Dosa Point

Dosa Point proudly serves both North and South Indian food, with countless vegan options from both cuisines. South Indian dishes typically include dosa and other dishes centered around rice, lentils and stews, while North Indian cuisine is based around breads and curries. To accommodate vegan diners and fans of both North and South Indian cuisines, Dosa Point offers 10 vegan dosas on its menu, plus vegan Nutella banana and chocolate dosa on the kids' menu.

Dosa Point, 840 Willow Road, Menlo Park. dosapoint.co

Email Digital Content Associate Stephanie Gerson at sgerson@embarcaderopublishing.com.


Dig into food news. Follow the Peninsula Foodist on Instagram @peninsulafoodist and subscribe to the newsletter at almanacnews.com/express/foodist to get insights on the latest openings and closings, learn what the Foodist is excited about eating, read exclusive interviews and keep up on the trends affecting local restaurants.



Courtesy Kerry Bitner

Que SeRaw SeRaw customers can expect items such as this fennel arugula salad to be featured in the weekly menu.


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Anthony
Editor, Peninsula Foodist

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