

# The Almanac

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

NOVEMBER 18, 2022 | VOL. 58 NO. 11



WWW.ALMANACNEWS.COM

## Seasonal fun with all the trimmings

A roundup of holiday events on the Peninsula,  
from festivals, markets and community gatherings to festive performances

By Heather Zimmerman

Winding up a year that saw people returning to concert venues, theaters and public spaces, the busy 2022 arts and culture holiday season is the first in a while to resemble the pre-pandemic landscape.

There are many traditions back in full force, from “Nutcrackers” to Messiah sings, holiday markets to tree lightings. There are also groups celebrating a little differently, with unexpected but uplifting theater, such as “Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune” at The Pear and TheatreWorks’ update of “Little Shop of Horrors,” or concerts that showcase new works like the Peninsula Women’s Chorus’ “Songs of Connection: The Ties that Bind” or Bay Choral Guild’s “Hail, Cecilia.”

There’s also events like the BayLUG (Bay Area Lego User Group) annual holiday Lego show, where a new Día de los Muertos display highlights the holiday, along with original displays of detailed miniature cityscapes and of course, a snowy holiday village. Many of the



Courtesy Brittany Jones

See **HOLIDAY**, page 19

Visitors to Filoli during the holiday season can enjoy light displays in the estate’s gardens, visits with Santa and more.

## The great pickleball debate comes to Menlo Park

By Cameron Rebosio

The debate between pickleball and tennis in Menlo Park is heating up as residents fight for court space.

The Parks and Recreation Commission changed one tennis court to a pickleball court at Nealon Park in summer of 2021. Now, the commission is attempting to convert two other courts for pickleball, while reverting the current one back to tennis.

“We just started with Nealon,” commission member Peter

Diepenbrock said. “It’s been very popular, for sure.”

Pickleball is growing in popularity and with it, the demand for courts. Pickleball courts are popping up all over the Bay Area, but possibly to the detriment of tennis players, who say their own courts are being lost in the rush to accommodate the other sport.

“I think the tsunami of pickleball is among us. There’s no question of that, it’s a national phenomenon. Expansion is something we should strongly consider,” said Menlo Park resident

Marc Brieman at a City Council meeting Nov. 15. “I’d also like to think that on a permanent longer-term basis that we can think about actually dedicating pickleball courts ... so that we’re not taking away from tennis.”

While the two racket sports do coexist, with many people playing both, converting existing tennis courts is causing division between the two groups. Many in the tennis community feel like their opinions aren’t being sought out at the same level as the pickleball community. However,

local pickleball advocate Brian Kissel said the city’s Parks and Recreation Department has reached out to all stakeholders.

“I think pickleball, just because we’re a relatively new community, has been advocating on their behalf to give both a temporary solution and a longer-term, permanent solution,” Kissel said.

Diepenbrock said that there was no extra outreach to the pickleball community on the part of the commission.

“It’s been an overwhelming amount of pickleball players

(at the meetings),” Diepenbrock said. “It’s not like park and rec is specifically targeting pickleball people.”

One thing both parties agree on is pickleball needs a permanent home. Kissel said that the commission plans to build permanent courts at Willow Oaks Park in 2024. However, pickleball players need somewhere to play until the plan comes to fruition, which he says is better aligned with what the communities wants.

See **PICKLEBALL**, page 15

INSIDE

VIEWPOINT 17 | ARTS 18 | FOOD 23

Read up-to-the-minute news on [AlmanacNews.com](http://AlmanacNews.com)





# OPEN HOUSE

SAT & SUN 11/19 & 11/20: 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

**SATURDAY  
11/19**

485 FERNE AVENUE  
PALO ALTO

\$3,488,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth  
485Ferne.com

100 ALAMOS ROAD  
PORTOLA VALLEY

Price Reduction

\$5,688,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth  
100Alamos.com

750 LINCOLN AVENUE  
PALO ALTO

Seller Financing Available

\$4,988,000 | 5 Bd | 4.5 Bth  
750Lincoln.com

303 ATHERTON AVENUE  
ATHERTON

\$16,900,000 | 7 Bd | 8.5 Bth  
303Atherton.com

27340 JULIETTA LANE  
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
27340Julietta.com

713 SUNSHINE DRIVE  
LOS ALTOS

\$3,488,000 | 3 Bd | 2 Bth  
713Sunshine.com

100 ALAMOS ROAD  
PORTOLA VALLEY

Price Reduction

\$5,688,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth  
100Alamos.com

522 BAY ROAD  
MENLO PARK

\$4,750,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth  
522Bay.com

In an unsettled market, having the right agent can make all the difference in selling your home.

Contact **Michael Repka** to learn how we can market and promote your home.

**650.900.7000**

363 CHANNING AVENUE  
PALO ALTO

\$3,988,000 | 3 Bd | 3.5 Bth  
363Channing.com

REAL ESTATE SEMINAR

## How to prepare your home to sell in a shifting market



**December 8, 2022**  
6:00 - 8:00 PM



**ShowPlace Icon Theatre**  
2575 California St. #90, Mountain View



Scan to RSVP or  
Call 650.543.8500

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com  
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224





Save the Date for Juliana Lee's

# ANNUAL CLIENT APPRECIATION PARTY

THEME

## Most Festive Holiday Sweater

Saturday, December 3, 2022, from 11am to 1pm



**Our client appreciation party is  
hosted at JLee Realty**  
4260 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

*Our Juliana Lee Team is grateful for the many people we've  
had the pleasure to work with. We hope to give some fun and  
pleasure to you by inviting you to our client appreciation party.*

*There will be activities for children and adults:*

Ring Toss Prize | Photo Booth | Balloon Art  
Hacky Sack Variation Prizes | Catered Food  
Holiday Sweater Contest | Raffles Every 30 Minutes  
Face Painting | Gift Cards | Live Band

*and lots of fun!*

Please RSVP so that we  
can plan for the party and  
notify you of any updates.



[julianalee.com/party-rsvp.htm](https://julianalee.com/party-rsvp.htm)



### UPCOMING WEBINARS

#### 2022 TAX CHANGES

Sat., Jan. 21, 2023 from 11am-12pm

#### MISTAKES TO AVOID AS BUYERS

Sat., March 11, 2023 from 11am-12pm

To attend seminar in person or  
by zoom, please RSVP at

[Julianalee.com/webinar](https://Julianalee.com/webinar)

\$25 Gift Card drawing at the end of each event!



JLEE REALTY

**Juliana Lee** MBA/LL.B  
Certified Residential Specialist

**650-857-1000**

[homes@julianalee.com](mailto:homes@julianalee.com) | [julianalee.com](https://julianalee.com)

李文房地產做的最好

Call Juliana Lee and receive more

DRE# 00851314, DRE# 02103053







# NAVIGATE THROUGH

## A TURBULENT MARKET

### RECENTLY CLOSED PROPERTIES



**24595 Voorhees Dr**

Sold over asking,  
All cash



**875 Rorke Way**

Sold over asking,  
Multiple offers



**263 Yale Rd**

Sold over asking,  
Multiple offers,  
All cash

Our experience and expertise are unmatched. Michael Repka and the DeLeon Team are ready to serve our clients with strategies that help them reach their goals in an unsettled market.

To see how the market trends affect the value of your home, and how we can help you maximize the value of your home in today's market, **contact us now!**

**We closed 96 listings so far in 2022.**

To see the rest of our success stories, please visit [DeLeonRealty.com](https://DeLeonRealty.com)

**MICHAEL  
REPKA**

**650.900.7000**

[michael@deleonrealty.com](mailto:michael@deleonrealty.com)

DRE #01854880



### REAL ESTATE SEMINAR

## How to Prepare Your Home to Sell in a Shifting Market

Space is limited – sign up today!



**December 8, 2022**

6:00 - 8:00 PM



**ShowPlace Icon Theatre**

2575 California St. #90, Mountain View



**Scan the QR code to RSVP**

or Call 650.543.8500

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | [michael@deleonrealty.com](mailto:michael@deleonrealty.com)

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | [DELEONREALTY.COM](https://DELEONREALTY.COM) | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



# Local News

MENLO PARK | AThERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

Jonathan Hayward casts his ballot at a vote center in the Town Center in Portola Valley on Nov. 8.

## Portola Valley mayor and challenger separated by 20 votes for third council seat

By Angela Swartz

Over a week after Election Day, Mayor Craig Hughes is still trailing behind retired family physician Mary Hufty in the race for a seat on the Portola Valley Town Council, according to the latest vote count released on Wednesday, Nov. 16, afternoon, expanding her lead over Hughes. There are three seats open on the council.

Hufty is still in third place, behind Planning Commissioners Judith Hasko and Craig Taylor, with 1,208 votes (or 17.9%), while Hughes has 1,188 votes (or 17.6%). Hughes was slightly ahead

of Hufty earlier on election night, but Hufty, who also ran for council in 2020, overtook him by the end of the evening. On Friday, Nov. 11, Hughes and Hufty were separated by 16 votes, by Monday, Nov. 14, they were separated by 10 votes. By Tuesday, it was just a six vote difference.

Hasko leads the with 1,995 votes, or 29.6%. Taylor has 1,456 votes, or 21.6%.

An additional 2,471 votes were counted since the Friday reporting.

An estimated 28,000 ballots remain to be counted for the entire county as of Wednesday. Assistant Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder & Assistant

Chief Elections Officer Jim Irizarry couldn't answer questions about how many ballots from Portola Valley voters have not been counted.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair Dale Pfau has trailed behind other candidates and is unlikely to win a seat with 898 votes, or 13.3%, as of Tuesday.

The county plans to release its next vote tally before 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17, after The Almanac's Wednesday afternoon press deadline. ■

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

## Decorated sheriff's deputy sues county over sexual assault, harassment

SWAT member faced unending campaign to demean, assault and force her to resign, lawsuit claims

By Sue Dremann

The only woman on the San Mateo County Sheriff's SWAT team, Deputy Carryn Barker who leads the sex crimes unit, has filed a lawsuit in San Mateo County Superior Court alleging she was repeatedly sexually harassed by her male supervisors and denied accommodation to care for her ailing mother.

The lawsuit, which was filed on Nov. 9, includes allegations of demeaning verbal treatment, retaliation, failure by the department to prevent harassment and an outright sexual assault when her supervisor allegedly tackling her to the ground, pinning her and grabbing her inappropriately in front of her male colleagues.

Barker's lawsuit alleges a harrowing display of abuse by her superiors that caused her so much emotional distress she ended up in a hospital emergency room with a stress migraine. It temporarily blinded her, according to the lawsuit.

County attorneys for the Sheriff's Office could not immediately be reached for comment.

A decorated sheriff's deputy with six years of experience, Barker has received multiple awards for her service, including the Medal of Honor, which is the highest honor awarded within law enforcement for extreme bravery, courage and devotion

to duty. She leads the sex crimes unit. She is the only woman on the San Mateo County SWAT team and the only female detective in her unit. One lieutenant referred to her as a "rockstar," according to the lawsuit.

But despite her accomplishments, Barker allegedly faced a "boys' club" within the department, "where sexism and corruption exist throughout the organization. High-ranking men who work at SMCSO openly engage in sexist behavior at work with encouragement from other senior men at SMCSO, none of whom face any meaningful repercussion," the lawsuit claims.

"The Sheriff's Office boys' club not only covers up the bad behavior of its harassers and assailants, but it also elevates them to even higher positions of authority," according to the lawsuit.

The legal complaint alleges multiple instances in which men in positions of power within the Sheriff's Office openly viewed pornography, made sexual and demeaning remarks and harassed multiple female employees. In at least one case, the continuous harassment led one female employee to quit her job.

Barker, too, faced escalating harassment starting in 2018 after she joined the SWAT team,

See **LAWSUIT**, page 14

## Atherton police: M-A student brought loaded gun to campus

By Angela Swartz

Police arrested a student who brought a loaded gun to Menlo-Atherton High School, Atherton police said.

Police received a call around 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 10 from staff at the Atherton school saying they received an anonymous tip that an M-A student had a firearm, said Cmdr. Daniel Larsen in a Nov. 15 email. The person who made the anonymous tip

provided the student's identifying information.

"When the student arrived on campus, they were brought to the office and the school called the PD (police department)," Larsen said. School staff searched the student and located the firearm on the student's waistband, he said. Police identified it as a Sig Sauer P226 9mm pistol with one round chambered and nine rounds in the magazine.

"Although nothing in our preliminary fact-finding leads to the conclusion that the student was intending to use the firearm on campus, I recognize that any weapon on our campus poses a risk to our entire school community," M-A Principal Karl Losekoot told families in a Nov. 10 email. "Although I am precluded from sharing disciplinary details, I can share with you that our school site will impose the legally allowable

disciplinary sanctions, as weapons have absolutely no place on a school campus. The safety and well-being of our school community will always be our top priority.

Losekoot credited the vice principal team at the school for creating a "culture of trust" in the community, as well as clear procedures for these kinds of incidents.

"It was that trust that allowed us to obtain the information and

it was our clear processes that led to the removal of a weapon from our school today," he said in the email.

The student was arrested on suspicion of having a firearm at a public school, carrying a concealed weapon and having a firearm in public and was booked into Hillcrest Juvenile Detention Center in San Mateo, according to Larsen. ■

—Angela Swartz



## PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING PROPOSED DEVELOPER FEE INCREASE

A public hearing and meeting will be held at the regular meeting of the Woodside School District Board of Trustees, scheduled for 4 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022. The hearing concerns an increase in residential and commercial/industrial developer fees. The proposed Developer Fee increases comply with February 23, 2022, the action taken by the State Allocation Board ("SAB"). Under Government Code section 65995, SAB adjusted the maximum Level 1 Developer Fees effective February 2022.

This meeting will be held in person at 3195 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA 94062. The meeting will also be held virtually. A link to access the virtual meeting will be posted on the district's website before the meeting. The School Facility Fee Justification Report, upon which the district will rely in determining the increase of its developer fees, will be available upon request for public review beginning ten days before the hearing. Following the public hearing, the Board of Trustees will consider a resolution to adjust the fees. Please get in touch with Cathy Stienstra at [cstienstra@woodsideschool.us](mailto:cstienstra@woodsideschool.us) for access to the Report.

Established 1965

# The Almanac

Serving Menlo Park,  
Atherton, Portola Valley,  
and Woodside for over 50 years

## NEWSROOM

### Editor

Andrea Gemmet (223-6537)

### Assistant Editor

Kevin Forestieri (223-6535)

### Arts & Entertainment Editor

Heather Zimmerman (223-6515)

### Staff Writers

Cameron Reboasio (223-6536),

Angela Swartz (223-6529)

### Embarcadero Media Staff Writers

Sue Dremann (223-6518), Malea Martin

(223-6516), Zoe Morgan (223-6519),

Gennady Sheyner (223-6513),

Leah Worthington (223-6533)

### Editorial Intern Emily Margaretten

Contributors Kate Daly, Maggie Mah

### Special Sections Editor

Linda Taaffe (223-6511)

### Chief Visual Journalist

Magali Gauthier (223-6530)

## DESIGN & PRODUCTION

### Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown (223-6562)

### Designers

Linda Atilano, Kevin Legnon, Paul

Llewellyn, Mary Watanabe, Doug Young

## ADVERTISING

### Vice President and Chief Revenue

### Officer

Tom Zahralis (223-6570)

### Display Advertising Sales (223-6570)

### Real Estate Manager

Neal Fine (223-6583)

### Legal Advertising

Alicia Santillan (223-6578)

## ADVERTISING SERVICES

### Advertising Services Manager

Kevin Legarda (223-6597)

### Sales & Production Coordinator

Diane Martin (223-6584)

The Almanac is published

every Friday at

3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,

Menlo Park, CA 94025

■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525

Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

■ **Email news** and photos with captions

to: [Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com)

■ **Email letters to:**

[Letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Letters@AlmanacNews.com)

■ **Advertising:** (650) 854-2626

Advertising Fax: (650) 223-7570

■ **Classified Advertising:** (650) 854-0858

■ **Submit Obituaries:**

[AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](http://AlmanacNews.com/obituaries)

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](http://AlmanacNews.com/subscribe) to

start supporting The Almanac today.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the

Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo

Park, CA 94025-6558.

Copyright ©2022 by Embarcadero Media.

All rights reserved. Reproduction without

permission is strictly prohibited.

The Almanac is qualified by decree of the

Superior Court of San Mateo County to publish

public notices of a governmental and legal

nature, as stated in Decree No. 147530, issued

November 9, 1969.

To request delivery, or stop delivery, of  
The Almanac in zip code 94025, 94027,  
94028 and the Woodside portion of  
94062, call 854-2626.



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### M-A students launch canned food drive

Menlo-Atherton High School's leadership students have kicked off their 2022 canned food drive.

Students at the Atherton school are collecting cans outside of the following locations:

- Trader Joe's in Menlo Park
- Safeway on El Camino and in Sharon Heights
- Draeger's in Menlo Park
- Bianchini's in Ladera
- Key Market in Redwood City
- Willows Market in Menlo Park
- Robert's Market in Portola Valley.

Last year, students collected a record-breaking nearly 400,000 pounds of food.

In December, more than 400 families receive at least two weeks' worth of canned food, fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, rice and chicken. Volunteers are needed on distribution day to help the students sort and pack the food.

The drive runs through Dec. 9. Donations to purchase perishable food can be made at [tinyurl.com/MAfooddrive](http://tinyurl.com/MAfooddrive).

### Talk on helping teens get more sleep

Lisa L. Lewis, author of new book, *The Sleep-Deprived Teen*, will host a talk on "Why Teen and Tween Sleep Matters, and How Parents and Schools Can Help" on Nov. 30 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Reserve a spot at [tinyurl.com/teensleeptalk](http://tinyurl.com/teensleeptalk).

### Early Learning Center enrolling students

The Menlo Park City School District's Early Learning Center is now accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year lottery for its Lower Laurel and Oak Knoll sites, including its Spanish Immersion classroom at Laurel.

To be eligible, students must be 3 years old by Sept. 1, 2023, and district residents have priority for enrollment. Applications for the initial lottery are available through Jan. 9. Families who apply after the lottery will be enrolled on a rolling basis if space is still available.

In-person tours are available at Laurel and Oak Knoll to fully vaccinated, masked adults. Visitors must show proof of vaccination to attend the tour. Visit the Early Learning Center website at [district.mpcsd.org/Domain/562](http://district.mpcsd.org/Domain/562) for more information.



Courtesy Rotary Club of Menlo Park

Bike riders take part in the 2022 Tour de Menlo Scholarship Ride on Sept. 17.

### Tour de Menlo Scholarship Ride raises \$52K

The Rotary Club of Menlo Park's annual fundraiser, the Tour de Menlo Scholarship Ride held on Sept. 17, brought in \$52,000, which will be used to provide college scholarships to local students, community grants, and a contribution to The Almanac Holiday Fund, according to a press release.

This was the first year the event was brought back in full after having abbreviated and alternative programs during the height of the pandemic. This year's event had 199 cyclists on the 63-mile ride, 86 cyclists on the 43-mile ride, and 92 cyclists on the 35-mile ride.

The tour introduced a 16-mile family ride this year, which drew 57 cyclists. For the first time, the Menlo Park Police Department joined the event. The event kicked off from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Valparaiso Avenue for the second year in a row. Lutticken's served lunch and the Nathan Tokunaga jazz band performed.

—Angela Swartz

See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 9

## Make Thanksgiving a tradition at

# Carpaccio's

## DINNER MENU

### Starters

Butternut Squash Soup  
or Minestrone Soup

### Main Course

#### Roasted Turkey

- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Sweet Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Cranberries
- Green Beans w/ Almonds

### OR

#### Penne Primavera

### Dessert

Pumpkin Pie or Gelato

### Beverages\*

Coffee, Tea or  
Soft Drinks  
(Dine-In Only)

\*Alcoholic beverages & specialty coffee separate

## Thanksgiving Dinner - Nov. 24, 2022

\$52 per person | Hours: 2:30pm-6pm

**Call (650) 322-1211**

**Reservations & To-Go Orders by Nov. 19**

1120 Crane St., Menlo Park • [carpaccios.com](http://carpaccios.com)



# Menlo Park weighs traffic, environmental impacts of future housing growth

Analysis of housing element calls out air pollution from construction and increased traffic

By Cameron Rebosio

**W**orse traffic and poor air quality caused by construction are among the impacts expected when Menlo Park builds out its ambitious new housing plans spurred by state mandates, according to an environmental analysis reviewed by the Menlo Park Planning Commission on Nov. 14.

The analysis is part of the city's housing element update, a state-mandated process that occurs once every eight years. This time around, the state is strongly enforcing the regulations.

The housing element requires cities to build according to projected growth, with an eye toward balancing jobs and housing. Menlo Park's housing target, also known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), requires the city to plan for close to 3,800 new housing units by 2031.

Though Menlo Park submitted its housing element to the state in July, which predicted the city would not only reach its RHNA requirements but exceed it by over 2,000 units, it was rejected by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on Oct. 9. Menlo Park is



Magali Gauthier

Springline at 1300 El Camino Real in Menlo Park on June 14.

required to revise and resubmit a housing element to the state to demonstrate it can build what is proposed. The city has until Jan. 31 to submit a valid housing element for approval. Failing to meet the deadline means the city would have a noncompliant element, which could result in builder's remedy and open the door for developers to build significant housing projects without having to comply with local zoning rules.

The draft supplemental environmental impact report (SEIR) has found that even with

mitigation there will be "significant and unavoidable" impacts on air quality and traffic in Menlo Park. The plan is expected to generate a significant amount of vehicle miles traveled and create air pollutants from construction due to things such as equipment exhaust.

The commission reviewed the housing element's SEIR at the meeting, which is open for public comment on until Dec. 19.

Three residents spoke out with concerns about the draft SEIR and commented on revisions they wanted to see. Resident

Pam Jones said that she had concerns that HCD would be looking for a more thorough analysis of the environmental effects of potential housing, as some of the environmental justice elements of the draft EIR were based on the Connect Menlo zoning plan that began in 2014, and that the information was outdated.

"I have concern that this document, this process, is not even addressing what we know we're going to have to address in the response to the HDC," Jones said.

Another resident, Jenny Michelle, said that higher density spread across the city, including in low-density areas, is critical to mitigating environmental aspects.

"We need owners coming forward stating 'Yes, in my backyard, we are going to build density housing here and that will improve the environmental impact,'" Michelle said.

Naomi Goodman, a Menlo Park resident representing the Sequoia Audubon Society spoke out about the safety of birds and other wildlife, specifically regarding the enforcement of bird-safe design standards, which she said is often waived, and the importance of reducing light pollution.

The city-commissioned SEIR

used the 30% buffer for planned housing, which HCD suggests cities include. The only thing that would trigger an additional study at this point is if over years, circumstances changed or new state regulations are adopted, but the city currently has the ability to work off of the draft EIR previously submitted.

Planning Commission Chair Chris Decardy applauded city staff for recognizing cultural elements of Menlo Park in the draft SEIR and aiming to preserve them.

"I appreciate your point about how conservative you were on the cultural resources," Decardy said. "I don't think it should be used for the wrong purposes. And if our town cares deeply about our historical architecture or other historical elements, then we should invest the effort in order to be able to have a city-wide look at that."

The Planning Commission continued the discussion of the SEIR to Dec. 6, saying that the comments made thus far will be considered in revisions, and the public is welcome to continue submitting comments until Dec. 19. ■

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

## Menlo Park council wants more concessions from Meta ahead of Willow Village vote

Decision on approval of huge multi-use development expected by year's end

By Cameron Rebosio

**T**he Menlo Park City Council met on Nov. 15 and asked Meta to make some concessions on its massive mixed-use Willow Village development in the Belle Haven neighborhood, with a final council decision expected before the end of the year.

The project will redevelop 59 acres with up to 1.2 million square feet of offices and 1,730 homes. Meta, formerly known as Facebook, also has plans to build a hotel, retail and commercial space and parks, among other things. The main development would be built along Willow Road between Hamilton Avenue and Ivy Drive, according to the application.

Ahead of a final vote on the

project, the council used the meeting as an opportunity to ask for more concessions from Meta and Signature, the project's developer, to make some changes to the plan.

Meta and the city came to an agreement surrounding the highly anticipated grocery store. Meta agreed to add \$1 million to the initial \$2 million of rent subsidy that it's providing, and move the project timeline up so that the mixed-use residential building that includes the grocery store is built sooner.

The council initially asked for five years of free rent for a grocer, but Meta stood by its proposal to offer free rent for two years as planned, adding \$1 million to either subsidize an additional year or partially subsidize several years.

"Our goal isn't to have ...

corporate welfare for large national corporations, but to incent them to come and sign a lease and move forward," said Michael Ghielmetti, a representative of Signature.

Meta has also agreed to hold five job fairs for residents of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park. Previously, if Meta had a hiring freeze, the job fairs would be canceled, but now Meta will instead postpone and hold the events another time.

Meta declined requests to use entirely zero-emission landscaping maintenance without first looking into available equipment and the cost of such measures, however Signature agreed to use non-diesel generators on the project if the machinery is available by the time it's needed.

Meta agreed to the council's request that the city's access to

the shared event spaces be put into writing.

The discussion of the plan was continued to the regularly scheduled Nov. 30 City Council meeting in anticipation of a

final vote before the end of the year. ■

Email staff writer Cameron Rebosio at [crebosio@almanacnews.com](mailto:crebosio@almanacnews.com).



Rendering courtesy Facebook/Signature Development Group

The latest version of Facebook's plans for Willow Village include 120 units of affordable senior housing, shown in this rendering.



# Teen driver involved in fatal Redwood City car crash may face vehicular manslaughter charges

By Leah Worthington

The 17-year-old driver of a car that collided with another, resulting in the death of two and the injury of four others earlier this month may face charges for vehicular manslaughter, according to San Mateo County District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe.

The minor, whose name has not been released, was at Stanford Hospital, where he's being treated for injuries from the crash that are not considered life-threatening. Wagstaffe said his office planned to file charges once the driver was released from the hospital, which could be within the next

few days or weeks.

Four other passengers were also injured in the Nov. 4 collision, including two in the teen's car and the 7-year-old twin daughters of San Carlos residents Gregory Ammen, 44, and Grace Spiridon, 42, who died in the crash. Spiridon, a Google employee, and Ammen, an audio engineer, grew up in Palo Alto.

The cause of the collision remains under investigation, according to the Redwood City Police Department. No other information has been released.

Though no formal plans had been announced, Wagstaffe said that vehicular manslaughter, which can be filed as either a misdemeanor or felony, was one

of the charges being considered. While a misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter conviction is punishable by up to a year in county jail, a felony conviction could confer up to six years in a state prison.

Though the identity of the teen driver has not been made public, the Sequoia Union High School District has offered aid to its community.

"As a result of the tragedy, the district did provide additional support services for our students and staff," said spokesperson Richard Gebin. ■

Email Staff Writer  
Leah Worthington at  
lworthington@rwcpcpulse.com.



Courtesy Liza Spiridon

Gregory Ammen and Grace Spiridon were parents of 7-year-old twins who survived the crash.

## Bird flu has been found in Santa Clara, San Mateo counties' wildlife

By Sue Dremann

A virus that is nearly 100% fatal to birds has been sweeping through the Bay Area with the fall migration and is reaching record-breaking levels throughout the U.S., according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

More than 49 million birds in the U.S., most domestic poultry, have died from bird flu or have been culled due to exposure to infected birds since early 2022. The largest prior outbreak, in 2015, killed 50.5 million birds in 21 states. The current outbreak spans 46 states, according to the CDC.

Known as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), or H5N1 virus, it has been confirmed in wild bird populations in Palo Alto and in various parts of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Since August, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Health Lab has received six wild birds from San Mateo County and 32 from Santa Clara County for avian influenza testing, of which three from San Mateo County and 17 from Santa Clara County were confirmed. One bird was an American white pelican, said Krysta Rogers, California Department of Fish and Wildlife senior environmental scientist, in an email on Nov. 9.

Statewide, the virus has been confirmed in 138 wild birds in 33 counties since early August.

Domestic and commercial birds have also been infected. As of Nov. 3, the current outbreak in California's backyard and commercial flocks has infected 684,940 birds, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Rogers said the strain of the virus currently in circulation has not been previously detected in North America. It had been on the rise across parts of Europe prior to last December, however, Rogers said.

"Many different species of wild birds may be susceptible to infection, and many birds may die of infection, unlike previous outbreaks with different HPAI viruses," she said.

Avian influenza, also called bird flu, has two forms: a mild version that can cause ruffled feathers and less egg-laying in domestic poultry but in which most wild birds show few signs. The current HPAI form, however, is nearly always fatal, according to the CDC.

Infected birds typically exhibit neurological symptoms such as tremors and an inability to stand, lethargy, sneezing, difficulty breathing, head swelling and purplish discolored legs, said Buffy Martin-Tarbox, spokesperson for the Peninsula Humane Society/SPCA in San Mateo County.

Most of the suspected cases in San Mateo County have been among geese. In one case, Peninsula Humane Society officers responded to a call of "a goose in a pond that was just circling," Martin-Tarbox said. Ashley Kinney, Wildlife

Center of Silicon Valley hospital manager, said the center began receiving suspected cases of avian influenza in August.

"We had 128 suspected cases and 18 were confirmed positive," she said, including Canada geese, several pelicans, hawks, owls and corvids such as American crows.

Cody Macartney, supervisor of Palo Alto Animal Control Services, said he received calls regarding at least two pelicans and five or six Canada geese — five were found dead in Adobe Creek in one day — in early September.

Other animal control officers on patrol in Mountain View have reportedly found other deceased waterfowl: an egret, a goose and a cormorant, he said.

The good news is that in the past few weeks, they haven't found any more, he said.

Kinney also said in the past few weeks the cases seem to have diminished, Martin-Tarbox said no new birds have entered the Peninsula Humane Society's wildlife facility with bird flu symptoms for the past week and a half.

People encountering wildlife or backyard flocks that appear to be sick or have died should still exercise caution, Macartney said. The virus is highly contagious, and it's important that people who come across dead wildlife don't try to handle it. Those who are trained to handle the animals wear full personal protective equipment when handling the sick or dead birds.

"If you find suspected or sick wildlife, just call us," Martin-Tarbox said.

If that's not possible, people can bring in the dead animal, but they should wear gloves and

change their clothing when they return home, she added.

While rare, there's another reason to beware of handling sick or dead wild birds. Although rare, some HPAI strains, particularly H7 and H5, can infect people and domestic pets. Human infections range from no symptoms and mild disease to severe illness and death. Lineages H7N9 and H5N1 that started in Asia have been responsible for most of the severe human illnesses and deaths, according to the CDC's website. Since 2003, there have been more than 880 cases of human infection caused by earlier strains of H5N1 virus.

The virus enters a person's eyes, nose or mouth or is inhaled, often from touching contaminated surfaces or birds. Person-to-person spread is extremely rare and has only shown to affect a few people, the CDC said.

"However, because of the possibility that bird flu viruses could change and gain the ability to spread easily between people, monitoring for human infection and person-to-person spread is extremely important for public health," the CDC said.

The current outbreak infected one person in Colorado in late April. The person was in direct contact with a flock of poultry being culled due to presumed infection with the H5N1 virus. The risk to people is still deemed low, however, the CDC said.

The CDC has more information on the virus at [cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/prevention.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/prevention.htm). ■

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



Is your agent there for you?

I am there for my clients ... licensed, friendly and helpful staff.

Serving the community for over 30 years!

**CHARLIE PORTER**

Farmers® Agency  
License # 0773991  
671-A Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park  
650-327-1313  
cporter2@farmersagent.com





# Atherton depot to be transformed into 'mini' train museum

By Angela Swartz

With a \$400,000 grant from Caltrain in hand, Atherton is on its way to outfitting its 620-square-foot train station depot, at the shuttered stop, with a "mini rail history museum."

Town staff soon plans to send the project out to bid. The idea is to create a place where visitors can stroll, sit and view displays at what the town is describing as a rail history museum, according to a town staff report. Staff said it will cost an estimated \$300,000 to construct.

"The train station building is a building that everyone in Atherton knows," said Mayor Rick DeGolia in an email. "There has been a train station building there for more than 100 years and if it is turned into an interesting exhibit and museum, I think that it will be a point of interest for Atherton residents and an interesting feature in the new Town Center."

DeGolia said the depot will either stand as an aging relic next to the civic center, or it



Magali Gauthier

Atherton's venerable and now-shuttered train station is set to become a mini museum dedicated to rail history, with the help of a grant from Caltrain.

can be integrated as a point of interest. He supports the latter.

"I think that the use of the train station is much more interesting and positive than just to let that building deteriorate or remain as a gazebo facing the train tracks with no function," he added.

The existing track-side opening will be closed with glass wall panels consistent with

the structure's design, and will include a double door. On the civic center side, the center wall panel will be removed and replaced with activated double doors.

Within the museum, the town envisions displays of Atherton's train station history, the trains and the riders, according to the staff report. The museum will be

outfitted with a video display and benches, various free-standing historical displays and a secure display case that will feature model trains on a track as a focal point. These model trains will present a chronological history of the train in Atherton.

One of the potentially more expensive plans for the museum is installing an HVAC system to protect historic displays and electronic equipment, Director of Public Works Robert Ovadia told the council earlier this month. A commercial unit can cost up to \$22,000 for a space this size.

The train depot at Dinkelspiel Station Lane was central to life in Atherton since before the town was incorporated, back when it was a sleepy community of summer homes. But Caltrain cut service to Atherton in 2020 because of lack of ridership, an idea welcomed by some town officials' hoping to safeguard the town from legislation that could put cities on the hook to allow high density housing near public transit.

In the 1860s, the Pacific and

Atlantic Railroad opened the Fair Oaks flag stop, meaning that the train stopped in town only when passengers waved a cloth at an oncoming train to signal they wanted to be picked up, Heritage Association documents say.

Caltrain granted the town \$400,000 to improve the Atherton station area. The town entered into an agreement with San Francisco-based Garavaglia Architecture for design services to remodel the station building to accommodate a rail history museum and to address the building's deferred maintenance issues.

Council member Diana Hawkins-Manuelian said she'd like to see the museum ready for the public by the town's centennial celebration in September.

Council members indicated at a Nov. 2 meeting that they may opt to nix outdoor benches, which would cost an estimated \$15,000, to save money on the project. ■

Email Staff Writer  
Angela Swartz at

aswartz@almanacnews.com.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

### 'There Oughta be a Law' contest

Looking to put a new law on the books? State Sen. Josh Becker, D-Menlo Park, announced a contest that will allow people to do just that.

"If you've ever said to yourself, 'There oughta be a law,' well, now is your chance to put an idea out there and get a law enacted that will change how things are done in California," he said in a press release.

Introducing bills proposed by the public is not a new idea for Becker, according to the senator's press release. "During his first two years in office, Becker has introduced bill ideas brought to him by people in the district that have been signed into law dealing with climate change, community college fees, healthcare and privacy issues."

Becker said he hopes the contest will generate more ideas with themes of climate justice and economic opportunity although other proposals are welcome, too, including repealing laws that are not working.

Becker wants the contest to create more awareness about the state's legislative process. "My goal is to show people what it's

like to have an idea go from the drawing board to the legislative playing field, so they can see for themselves what it takes for an idea to actually become law," he said.

The contest is open to residents of Senate District 13, which covers parts of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Proposals must be submitted online at [tinyurl.com/becker-law](https://tinyurl.com/becker-law) and are limited to one idea per form, although multiple forms can be submitted.

Becker will select the winning entry and will introduce it as a Senate bill in February.

—Emily Margaretten

### State senator presents Menlo Park with \$4.5 million

State Sen. Josh Becker presented the City Council of Menlo Park with a novelty check representing \$4.5 million for the city's electrification program in partnership with BlocPower, aiming to make the switch from natural gas more affordable to residents.

"Think globally, act locally," Becker said at the Nov. 15 meeting. "Menlo Park has been on the frontlines of this, thanks to this council."

—Cameron Rebosio

**Menlo Park Monthly Market Report**  
October 1, 2022 - October 31, 2022

**11 COSTLY HOME INSPECTIONS PITFALLS**  
Free Report reveals what you need to know before you list your home for sale.  
[www.Rossetti11CostlyPitfalls.com](http://www.Rossetti11CostlyPitfalls.com)

| TOP 10 SALES*                       |                                        |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. \$12,200,000<br>958 Hermosa Way  | 2. \$6,350,000<br>520 Hobart Street    |
| 3. \$5,100,000<br>193 E Creek Drive | 4. \$4,500,000<br>990 Berkeley Avenue  |
| 5. \$4,450,000<br>2171 Mills Avenue | 6. \$3,975,000<br>1760 Altschul Avenue |
| 7. \$3,900,000<br>263 Yale Road     | 8. \$3,550,000<br>851 Stanford Avenue  |
| 9. \$3,300,000<br>230 Felton Drive  | 10. \$3,292,000<br>804 17th Avenue     |

**ACTIVE LISTING**

Oct 56  
Sep 58  
-3%

**PENDING LISTING**

Oct 25  
Sep 22  
14%

**SOLD LISTING**

Oct 22  
Sep 25  
-12%

**AVERAGE SALES PRICE**

Oct \$3,442,545  
Sep \$2,825,920  
22%

**AVERAGE SOLD DAYS ON MARKET**

Oct 17  
Sep 22  
-23%

**SALE/LIST PRICE**

Oct 101.10%  
Sep 99.80%  
1%

**AVERAGE SALES PRICE/SQ Ft**

Oct \$1,533  
Sep \$1,431  
7%

**MONTHS OF INVENTORY**  
If no further homes/condos were to come to market, the area would be SOLD OUT of residential real estate in the number of MONTHS shown

Oct 2.50  
Sep 2.30  
9%

**30 YEAR MORTGAGE RATE**  
9/30/2022 6.73% 10/28/2022 7.20%  
Source: Bankrate

Oct 7.20%  
Sep 6.73%  
7%

\*October 2022 compared to September 2022

\*Source: NLS (Listings for Single Family Properties | Townhomes | Condos)

**Making A Move?**

Sellers Start Here: [RossettiMarketValue.com](http://RossettiMarketValue.com)

Buyers Start here: [RossettiHomeFinder.com](http://RossettiHomeFinder.com)

**Gail Antoinette Rossetti**  
Founder | CEO | Broker  
License #01179344

**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas Suite C Menlo Park, CA Phone: 650-854-4100**



# Portola Valley housing element needs work, but town thinks it can meet the state's deadline

By Angela Swartz

There's still work to be done on Portola Valley housing's element, the state told the town last week.

In a nearly 12-page letter on Nov. 9, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) asked Portola Valley to justify the number of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), or granny units, that the town expects to be built in the next eight years. Portola Valley is also being pressed to provide more analysis and information on its housing programs in its mandated plans for housing.

The town is assigned to plan for 253 new units that could be built between 2023 and 2031 as part of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). This is a steep increase from the 64 units required during the last RHNA cycle.

"The draft element addresses many statutory requirements; however, revisions will be necessary to comply with State Housing Element Law," the letter states.

No Peninsula city has received the go-ahead on their plans from HCD this cycle. In San Mateo County, Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside, Belmont, Colma, Foster City, San Bruno and the city of San Mateo have all received feedback from the state on how to make their plans compliant. Emeryville and Alameda are the lone cities in the Bay Area that have had their plans approved by HCD, according to HCD's website.

Another nearby San Mateo County city, East Palo Alto, which submitted its draft housing element on Oct. 21, hasn't received comments back from the state yet.

A compliant draft of the housing element has to be approved by the town by Jan. 31, 2023.

Without a compliant element, the town could face the so-called builder's remedy in the city, which allows for residential projects to move forward even if they do not comply with local development standards. This occurred in Santa Monica, in which 16 projects and 4,562 units were proposed while the city had a noncompliant housing element, according to the Santa Monica Daily Press.

With the builder's remedy, cities and towns could be required to approve any project that has 20% of its units designated for affordable or low income

households or 100% moderate income households, even if the project exceeds the zoning and general plan density requirements, according to a Nov. 10 staff presentation to Portola Valley's Ad Hoc Housing Element Committee.

## Town and housing advocate's response

Planning & Building Director Laura Russell told the Ad Hoc Housing Element Committee that "basically it's good news."

"The way that we read the letter is that the basic structure of our housing element works but we do have things we need to clarify with our review work," she said. "We think there's a lot of work ahead."

Russell noted that the state called Portola Valley's voluntary upzoning program "innovative." She noted that the state was receptive to the town's constraints for building, such as wildfire and earthquake risks (for example, residents have lost their fire insurance because of the risk of wildfire in town).

Mayor Craig Hughes said the town seems to be in better shape than other nearby towns, who are being asked to prove the housing they are planning realistically could be built. After reading the letter, talking to staff and listening to the ad hoc committee, he said he is confident the town will be able to finalize its housing element on schedule.

"It seems like there are no objections to the core policies (in Portola Valley's plan)," Hughes said. "A lot of stuff they're asking for is technical things we overlooked. One or two are providing more support for why we can reach numbers with policies we have. ... We look forward to working through the details of necessary changes to the draft with staff, the housing element committee, the planning commission, and ultimately the council, and to welcoming new neighbors into our community over the coming years."

Keith Diggs, a housing elements advocacy manager for YIMBY Law, a group that helps enforce state housing laws, said he thinks Portola Valley is "clear-eyed about the problem they face." He said that housing densities in town are "still way too low."

"Unlike most cities that try to paper over the problem with housing types, they say it's pretty clear they lack a variety of housing types," he said. "They



Courtesy Daniel Ho, ABA Inc.

A rendering of Willow Commons, a proposed housing development in Portola Valley, viewed from Alpine Road. Willow Commons is counted as one of the town's pipeline development projects between 2023-31.

really recognize (in their element) it is hard for people who work in Portola Valley to live there. Staff did a very good job of recognizing the problem and meeting it and trying to address it."

"They seem to understand themselves as single family residential ... and that's why the whole Bay Area is in the mess it's in today," he said. "They're doing something a lot of cities are doing like stuffing lower income allocations into one or two mega projects when what really needs to happen is zoning for density across their entire territory."

East Palo Alto has created one of the best local housing element plans, according to Diggs. For the 2023-31 housing cycle, the city plans for 1,885 units, with 753 of those being affordable to East Palo Alto residents (very low income or low income).

It's rare to see cities planning for twice the amount of buffer, which a percentage above the number of houses required, he said. "I think they're addressing the problem."

## Areas where work is needed

HCD is asking Portola Valley to evaluate its previous cycle housing element, further analyze its housing needs, resources and constraints, and work on its housing program.

Housing program plans must demonstrate that they will have a beneficial impact within the planning period, according to the state. Programs must

include specific actions the local government will take during the planning period; timelines that result in beneficial impacts within the planning period; detailed planning objectives; and identification of responsible agencies and officials.

"Currently, the element identifies programs to encourage and promote affordable housing; however, most of these programs do not appear to facilitate any meaningful change nor address affirmatively furthering fair housing requirements," state officials said.

The letter goes on to say that, given most of the town is a "high resource" community, the housing element update could focus on programs that promote economic and community revitalization, spur construction of diverse housing and combat displacement caused by disasters, among other things.

Among the deficiencies noted, the draft housing element does not include a complete site analysis, meaning the town had not fully established the adequacy of sites and zoning for housing, according to the letter.

The town should include a program to monitor development of sites within the its affiliated housing program, the letter states. It should also indicate the residential capacity of the rezoned sites, demonstrating the rezoned sites have a site capacity of at least 16 units, permit rental and owner multifamily development without discretionary review at minimum densities of at least 16 or

20 dwelling units per acre.

The town plans to have a follow up conversation HCD reviewer on what exactly they're seeking with regards to the site inventory and ADUs in the plan. The town may also want to create a backup plan, but it needs to clarify with HCD to make sure this is not the case, Russell noted.

The state would like the town to explain how it plans to build 92 accessory dwelling units over eight years when it only had 20 built from 2018 to 2020.

## Next steps

The ad hoc committee will likely meet the week of Nov. 21 to review the plan, pending clarification from HCD on the changes it would like to see around ADUs and sites in the plan. The Planning Commission has a series of meetings planned around reviewing the element: Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, before providing a recommendation to the council during a Dec. 13 meeting. The council would then review the plan in January 2023, potentially over three meetings.

The Planning Commission may soon have some shake ups. Commissioners Judith Hasko and Craig Taylor are the top vote-getters so far in the race for three open seats on the Town Council, which is set to rotate in new members at a Dec. 14 meeting. ■

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



# Climate bills brighten mood at Midpeninsula summit

Prospect of federal and state funds could lift local efforts to reduce emissions, reach carbon neutrality

By Gennady Sheyner

Energized by expected windfalls from state and federal climate bills, Silicon Valley's elected leaders, industry experts and activists sounded a hopeful note on Nov. 12, as they vowed to accelerate their green initiatives.

While it's not yet clear when and how most of this money will be distributed, local environmentalists are expecting a boost from the federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which allocates \$369 billion for clean energy and decarbonization. This includes \$14,000 rebates for consumers who buy heat pumps or other energy efficient home appliances, \$7,500 in tax credits for newly purchased electric vehicles (and \$4,000 for used electric vehicles) and funding to support 950 million solar panels, 120,000 wind turbines and 2,300 grid-scale battery plants, according to the White House.

The bill also includes \$7 billion in grants to build 500,000 charging stations for electric vehicles across the nation, Dr. Ali Nouri, U.S. assistant secretary of energy, told the roughly 200 people assembled at Gunn High School's Titan Gym. The goal is to create a charging station every 50 miles to combat range anxiety among drivers. Nouri also said the package includes \$12 billion to make the electric grid more resilient and \$10 billion for carbon capture.

Just two weeks ago, the government distributed \$3 billion in grants to 20 companies to build a supply chain for batteries, Nouri said.

"We are in an inflection point in that we really do have an historic opportunity here to not only address the environmental crisis that we're in but an opportunity to really also use it to create jobs and



Gennady Sheyner

State Sen. Josh Becker provides an overview of recent state investments in clean energy at the Climate Collaboration Summit at Gunn High School in Palo Alto on Nov. 12.

build manufacturing facilities and revitalize our communities, quite frankly across the country, that have been hallowed out from jobs and factories leaving," Nouri said.

The federal investment is supplemented by an inflow of state dollars. California cities and companies are banking of \$54 billion in funding for climate change that the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom approved in the last legislative session, a package that includes \$6.1 billion for electric vehicles, \$8.1 billion to support energy reliability and \$13.8 billion for clean public transportation.

Palo Alto Mayor Pat Burt cited the recently approved state package and noted at the Saturday summit that this is more than most nations spend on climate change.

"This is a tremendous investment," Burt said. "It's enabling us to do what we need to do."

State Sen. Josh Becker, D-Menlo Park, whose package of climate change bills include legislation that requires all state agencies to come up with plan

to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2035, said the political climate has shifted in the Legislature when it comes to investing in clean energy. Just two years ago, a proposal to set a goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 received just 14 votes in the 40-member state Senate. The proposal, known as Senate Bill 1203, passed overwhelmingly in the last legislative session, with 31 votes of support.

Becker lauded recent efforts by cities like Palo Alto and Menlo Park to discourage gas appliances and encourage electrification. Menlo Park this year approved a partnership with the technology company BlocPower to electrify thousands of homes. Palo Alto, meanwhile, just launched a pilot program to convert 1,000 homes from gas heaters to heat pump water heaters in the next year.

A key goal, Becker said, is to make sure everyone can afford to participate in the switch to clean energy. He lauded recent moves by cities to update their building codes and impose requirements for electric vehicle charging stations at

multifamily buildings.

"We have to find a way for everyone to benefit. That's why I'm really hopeful in working with our federal partners and the tremendous effort made to pass IRA on the federal level that we can now work tighter to build charge infrastructure that works for everyone, wherever they are," Becker said.

One program that aims to address equity is an effort in Menlo Park to install free solar panels at homes owned by low-income residents. Diane Bailey, executive director of the nonprofit Menlo Spark, said the program launched in 2016 as a partnership between her organization, Meta (then known as Facebook) and the city had initially applied to the historically underserved Belle Haven neighborhood. Since then, it was expanded to East Palo Alto. So far, about 100 homes have been retrofitted.

"It isn't enough but it is a start and it also invites lower income household to be part of the clean energy revolution, which is important," Bailey said during her presentation.

Becker and Nouri both lauded the recent local efforts by local cities to address climate change. Becker said these programs create models that he and other state lawmakers can cite as evidence for statewide programs. Nouri noted that they allowed the U.S. to remain "in the fight" against climate change even at times when there was little or no federal leadership in this area.

"And I'm here today and proud to say you have a partner today. You have a real federal partner to help you not just achieve the goals that you've been talking about but even extend and strengthen them," Nouri said.

The event, which was organized by the city and the student group Palo Alto Student Climate Coalition, featured

presentations, a panel discussion and breakout sessions led by city officials and environmental leaders. Katie Rueff, a Gunn High senior and member of PASCC, said in an interview that the goal was to "bring together people from all different sectors, of different governments and different backgrounds, like NGOs, in order to facilitate discussions that aren't normally formed." That's also why the event had breakout sessions, where people could mingle and exchange ideas.

"Just to drive different solutions and see how different practices and innovations can be implemented immediately," Rueff said.

Vicki Veenker, who was just elected to the Palo Alto City Council, helped by inviting some speakers, including Nouri and John Hamilton, mayor of Bloomington, Indiana, who is in Palo Alto this week as part of a "sibling city" partnership that Veenker helped foster.

While much of the discussion at the panel concerned local and state efforts, Michael Wara, policy director at the Stanford University Doerr School of Sustainability, said a critical task in the years ahead will be developing ways in which less affluent societies in places like China and India can participate in the transformation. The strategy he outlined consisted of two steps: clean up the electric grid by replacing coal plants with renewable sources like solar and wind and then "electrify everything."

"Of course, there's going to be bumps," Wara said. "We're transforming the fundamental basis of modern technological society — that's what we're doing. But we're doing it." ■

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

## RSV infections dominating children's current illnesses

Some local hospitals are at near capacity due to the respiratory illness

By Sue Dremann

A trifecta of fall and winter illnesses are striking children, with one, respiratory syncytial virus, surging throughout the county, the state and the country.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is dominating at a level that many medical facilities have not seen previously and has arrived earlier than usual, along with the influenza season and the ongoing

COVID-19 pandemic.

RSV has many of the same symptoms of other respiratory infections: runny nose, decreased appetite, coughing, sneezing, fever and wheezing. Nearly all children get infected at some time in their childhoods. Most children and adults who have it have mild illness, but it can cause major complications in very young children and some adults, physicians said.

Dr. Sarah Rudman, Santa Clara County deputy health

officer, said the county is seeing a large uptick in cases that are stretching hospital capacity.

"We're hearing that hospital pediatric care is starting to feel the burden of RSV in young children. The hospitals are at, or near, full capacity and are starting to think about transferring patients" or expanding their care units, she said.

"It's clear that our winter respiratory illness cases are looking worse, and even worse than pre-pandemic," she said.

The situation also is compounded by influenza and COVID-19. This may be the first year that hospitals have to contend with all three, she said.

Wastewater surveillance through the Stanford SCAN system, which tracks the presence of disease genetic material in sewage, also is showing a steep rise in the presence of RSV.

In an email, the County of Santa Clara Health System stated that its three public hospitals, Santa Clara Valley Medical

Center (SCVMC), O'Connor Hospital and St. Louise Regional Hospital, reported treating approximately 300 RSV cases from this past September through October, versus only 20 last year at the same time. There currently are no cases of adults hospitalized with RSV at Valley Medical.

"Some of these patients have been seen in our three emergency departments, but patients

See **RSV INFECTIONS**, page 16



# We help you.

## Trusted local journalism has never been more important.

With the election now over, our staff returns to the everyday challenge of providing **fair and fact-based local news coverage** you simply can't get anywhere else.

### Special introductory offer for new members only

Good only during our Fall Membership Drive ending at midnight on Sunday, Nov. 20.

#### Monthly Membership

**\$9.99/month** (reg. \$15)

*Cancel Anytime*

#### Annual Membership

**\$119/year** (reg. \$144)

*Cancel Anytime*

### Included with your membership:

- ☒ Unlimited access to online content
- ☒ 10% of your membership is donated to the Holiday Fund
- ☒ Monthly member-only email newsletter, Local Scoop
- ☒ Invitations to special member events
- ☒ Access to member-only exclusive giveaways
- ☒ Receive printed weekly newspaper, if desired
- ☒ Moonlight Run Tee Shirt

## Join your community, stay informed.



# Please help us by becoming a member.

Want to stay in the loop? Want to support your community's local source of high quality journalism? Become a subscribing member today and take advantage of the remaining three days of our membership drive special offer.

SUPPORT **LOCAL JOURNALISM**

DURING OUR FALL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE (NOV 4 - 20)

**JOIN NOW AT**

[AlmanacNews.com/special-offer/](https://AlmanacNews.com/special-offer/)

*The* **Almanac**





# Robert E. Gee

March 15, 1932 - November 5, 2022

Robert E. Gee (Bob) passed away peacefully on November 5, 2022 at his home in Atherton, CA. He was 90 years old.

Born March 15, 1932 to Margaret Banks and Everett Harris Gee, Bob was raised in Kenbridge, Virginia with his brother William L. Gee (Bill). Bob cherished his small-town, southern roots and the values instilled by his family. Bob graduated at the top of his class at Kenbridge High School and received a BS in Civil Engineering from Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in 1954 and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business in 1961.

Bob's career started in the Air Force where he was a flight test engineer. He then moved to California where he worked at Douglas Aircraft for two years before leaving to complete his education with an MBA from Stanford University. He went on to IBM as a marketing rep and quickly moved through the ranks before landing in the financial division in New York. With computers starting to play a significant role in corporations, Bob decided to move back to the Bay Area and work at the start-up Microform Data Systems and Memorex Companies. His true professional calling came in the early 1970's when he started in the investment field, co-founding Capital Concepts Investment Corporation, then Stanford Investment Group followed by BRG Petroleum Group of Companies. Bob continued working his entire life, remaining on the BRG board until his death.

Bob married Jean Johnson in 1984, and together they forged a happy, loving union of 38 years. They were devoted to one another and enjoyed many years of travel together including several trips to England for garden tours and bi-annual trips to Maui where Bob loved all things Hawaiian. Bob and Jean complemented each other well and they were a joy to be around as they always recounted how lucky they were to find one another. They brought their young adult children together for many holiday celebrations and family gatherings and they loved spending time with all 14 grandchildren. As a devoted father and grandfather, Bob prioritized higher education and encouraged his family to pursue their passions. The family is grateful to have always felt well-supported.

A life-long learner and lover of people, Bob was extremely active in the Stanford community. He was an avid fan and supporter of Stanford football, an active member of the Hoover Institute, and a devoted fundraiser for the University. He was one of the four original

founders of the Class of '61 Renewal Fellowship Fund which provides scholarships to deserving Graduate School of Business students. He worked tirelessly to encourage his classmates to donate to this fund and took great pride in reaching 100% class participation one year, setting a school record that still stands today. For his efforts, Stanford awarded him the John W. Gardner Volunteer Leadership Award in 2011 and the Stanford Challenge Award.

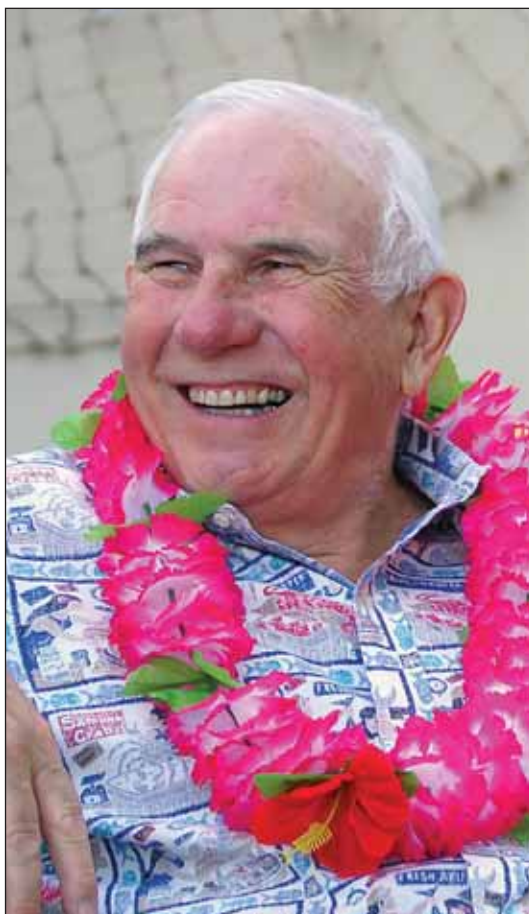
Bob also volunteered his time at the Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden Club in Palo Alto. Bob and Jean donated their first endowment brick in 1996. Bob became an Endowment Fund Investment Advisor, and his wisdom and financial experience were tremendously helpful in growing the fund in the early days. Bob and Jean are '02 Legacy Society members and have loved working for Gamble since its inception.

Bob loved golf his entire life, learning to play on the sand greens of Kenbridge and later playing regularly on the courses at Stanford, Monterey Peninsula Country Club and La Quinta Country Club where his infectious laugh and easy-going manner made him a popular partner.

Bob was valued as a wise mentor who was well respected in business as well as in his personal relationships. As one friend said "he was a true Southern Gentleman—always gracious, generous and caring and a loyal friend to all". The lasting friendships he built living in the Bay Area for over 60 years, and the strong, supportive connections he had with his family will be sorely missed by all.

Bob is survived by his wife, Jean Johnson Gee, his oldest daughter Kathleen Adams and her four children, Bayley (Zoe), Eileen (Tim) and great-grandchildren Billee and Prince, Brenna and Logan, his younger daughter Melinda Kirkpatrick (John) and their three children Kate, Bill and Paul, stepdaughter Sarah Marcum and her two daughters Meg and Meredith, stepson Bruce Johnson (Olga) and their two children Natalia and Jasper and stepdaughter Meg Maloney (Tom) and their three children Jackson, Charlie and Mia. He is also survived by his brother William L. Gee (Vivian) and his first wife Kathleen L. Drever as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

There will be a funeral service and reception at the Alta Mesa Cemetery Chapel in Palo Alto, CA for family and friends. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made in honor of Robert Gee and sent to the Stanford GSB Class of '61 Renewal Fellowship Fund (KAMBA) or to the Gamble Garden Endowment Fund.



PAID OBITUARY

## LAWSUIT

continued from page 5

which is composed of an elite group of deputies assigned to incidents requiring advanced skills.

According to the lawsuit, Sgt. Andre Moniot allegedly directed sexual remarks and wisecracks at Barker to the extent that other deputies joked about what kind of comments he had made each day. Yet, supervisors didn't do anything to address the sexual harassment despite complaints made by Barker and another deputy.

In August 2021, Moniot's sexual harassment allegedly escalated to sexually assaulting Barker in front of their colleagues during a gathering of the SWAT team. Moniot allegedly made a rude comment to Barker, who responded that she didn't appreciate the comment. Moniot then allegedly grabbed Barker, wrestled her to the ground and pinned her in front of their colleagues. He also allegedly grabbed her anatomy inappropriately during the incident.

At least one member of the SWAT team submitted a written statement confirming that Moniot touched Barker inappropriately, but no one intervened and Moniot was never punished, according to the lawsuit.

Other male supervisors allegedly began a campaign to get Barker to resign. They assigned her large volumes of work and insisted that she complete the work in unreasonably short timeframes. They told her to "suck it up" when she asked for additional support for the sex crimes unit, according to the complaint.

The supervisors also knew that Barker, who is a single mother, was caring for her 2-year-old son and her disabled mother and needed "flex time." They refused to grant her the time while they allowed male detectives to take flex time without comment, according to the lawsuit.

The supervisors also allegedly interfered with Barker's ability to use her Family Medical Leave Act rights to care for her mother, who has Parkinson's disease. They

allegedly retaliated against her by falsely accusing her of fraud on her work time and required her to send daily text messages informing them when she would be leaving and arriving at work, according to the lawsuit.

Barker's complaints were ignored, delayed or brushed off by her human resources caseworker, the lawsuit claims.

In all, she had filed four complaints about the harassment, but she still faced daily retaliation. None of the men involved in these behaviors were punished or reprimanded.

Although Barker was forced to make three interviews with internal affairs investigators, in November 2022, more than a year after the assault

by Moniot, she learned he would not be placed on administrative leave for his alleged sexual assault and harassment. Multiple officers said they witnessed the behavior, according to the lawsuit.

Barker received a letter approving her right to sue from the California Civil Rights Department under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act on Nov. 8. Barker previously filed administrative complaints with the state Department of Fair Employment and Housing, a prerequisite that found she had probable cause to file a lawsuit.

The next day, Barker filed the lawsuit against the county for: a hostile work environment, harassment based on sex; discrimination based on sex; retaliation; failure to prevent harassment; and failure to accommodate in violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act. The suit asks for unspecified damages in excess of \$25,000. ■

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

**'The Sheriff's Office boys' club not only covers up the bad behavior of its harassers and assailants, but it also elevates them to even higher positions of authority.'**

ALLEGATION IN LAWSUIT FILED BY  
DEPUTY CARRYN BARKER

## OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Richmond (Dick) Flatland Jr.**, 98, a former Woodside resident, on Nov. 7.

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



PICKLEBALL

continued from page 1

Kissel said that demand for pickleball courts in Menlo Park was high, and often you would see 16 people on the court with eight to 12 others waiting for a turn. One tennis-playing resident, however, is concerned by messages in the Menlo Pickleball Club group on Facebook. One message, which was shared with The Almanac, suggested that pickleball players show up in force to give the appearance that the sport is popular enough to warrant additional court space.

Tennis advocates argue that pickleball enthusiasts should build courts in multiple places. Parks such as Kelly and Burgess have been suggested as locations, but pickleball advocates maintain that the courts need to be centralized to keep players together.

“Pickleball is very much a community drop-in type sport,” Kissel said. “If you think about like pick-up basketball, people just show up, right? And they jump in and they play, so you need a critical mass. Unlike tennis, where, you know, two people agree to go and play.”

Kissel said that Burgess Park and Nealon Park are both prime spots, and tennis advocates are saying that out-of-use basketball courts at Burgess Park would be an ideal short-term spot that could be quickly converted for pickleball use without taking away from tennis use. Shani Podell, who plays both sports and coaches Hillview Middle School tennis, spoke at a City Council meeting Nov. 15 to propose some solutions, including the conversion of the basketball court at Burgess Park, even though, according to Diepenbrock, the council doesn’t need to approve the project for it to move forward.

Podell also suggested less visually aggressive lines on flex courts that double as both tennis and pickleball courts. She said the current lining makes it hard to play



Courtesy Shani Podell

A flex court at Nealon Park is set up for pickleball, where some tennis enthusiasts are objecting to the loss of dedicated tennis courts.

tennis, and pointed to Highlands Park in San Carlos as a location where the painting doesn’t stand out as much.

Diepenbrock sees the courts as a resource that can be shared between racket sports if needed, with a much higher demand for pickleball.

“Go by the courts, and there’s literally quite often on the four pickleball courts, there’s going to be 20 to 24 people packed on those courts, and then you look, you know, 20 feet over and there’s a tennis court that’s completely empty,” Diepenbrock said.

The permanent courts are planned for Willow Oaks Park, however, some residents worry about the noise as the proposed location is directly along some resident’s back fences.

Eric Dunn, who lives near the current pickleball courts at Nealon Park, spoke about the effect of the noise at the Nov. 15 City Council meeting.

“I hear pickleball at all hours a day,” Dunn said. “It’s very loud, I basically can’t have my windows open without just constantly being bombarded by it. I work from home, so I can’t really just enjoy

peace and quiet in my own house.”

Nealon Park also faces the problem of being the location where the Hillview Middle School tennis team practices and hosts matches. Four courts are necessary to host a match. Tennis is a no-cut sport, meaning it takes any student who wants to join. Podell says that its also needed for practice.

“This year, we had got like upwards of 70 kids (on the Hillview tennis team),” Podell said. “We had over 20 beginners, some of whom had never touched a racket before we split them up into three groups. ... having more than 20 kids on two tennis courts at once, three days a week, it was tough.”

Diepenbrock said that the city plans to accommodate the Hillview tennis team with flex courts and priority for practice and matches during tennis season when the two courts at Nealon are converted.

“I think (dedicated pickleball courts) are what the pickleball community would like to see,” Kissel said. “So there isn’t contention between tennis and pickleball and we have enough capacity for both communities.” ■

Richmond Flatland, Jr.

July 23, 1924 – November 7, 2022

Richmond (Dick) Flatland, Jr. enjoyed a life well lived, filled with lots of love and adventures with his family and friends.

Dick was born to Richmond and Catherine Flatland and was raised in San Francisco where he graduated from Polytechnic High School. At Poly, he excelled in leadership



and sports where he was President of the Student Body and played football and baseball. He was recruited to play both football and baseball at Stanford University where he was a star center, linebacker, pitcher, and outfielder. At Stanford, he was an active member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity. The closeness of his friendships made as a DU were exemplified by the many years the DUs traveled together with their spouses, from the 1950’s into the 1990’s. He enjoyed Stanford reunions with what would have been his 1946 graduation class and what was ultimately his 1948 graduating class as Dick’s Stanford education was interrupted when he enlisted in the Marine Corps Aviation during WWII.

After marrying his first wife Lenore in 1950 and having his first two children, Dick was called back to serve in the Korean war where he flew F9F Panther jets in Korea. He was honorably discharged in 1954 as a Captain in the Marine Corps. Upon his return to California, Dick began to run an electrical contracting company where he worked until his retirement. He so enjoyed working alongside his younger sister Patricia Mayer during his entire career.

He was fortunate to fall in love and marry three times in his life and was married for 63 years in total. His first wife Lenore and he had 5 children. After Lenore passed in 1963, he remarried Joan, a mother of two, in 1965. They created a blended family and moved to Atherton. After Joan passed in 1987, he married Brenda, mother of one, and they lived happily together in Woodside for 28 years. Dick and Brenda spent winters in Palm Springs, where they enjoyed Smoke Tree Ranch, Thunderbird County Club and O’Donnell Golf Club. Dick was also very active at Menlo County Club for 56 years, from serving on the board of directors, to enjoying time with friends playing golf, bridge, and dominoes.

Over the years Dick loved to watch numerous swim meets of his children and later his grandchildren. He also delighted in watching his children and grandchildren participate in many different sports and theatre productions. In the past few years, he joined the Palo Alto Club where he loved to play his Friday dominoes.

Dick was known as a kind, sweet and consummate gentleman, was always well dressed, light-hearted, had a warm smile and a very quick wit. He was loved by so many and will be dearly missed. Dick had two children and one grandchild who predeceased him: his infant child Marc and adult child Kathleen and infant grandchild Meagan Macdonald. Dick is survived by his children Richmond (Peggy), Marianne (Fia), and Anne Macdonald (John); his stepchildren Fred Delanoy (Jane), Deborah Delanoy and Tara Verner (James) and his grandchildren Madeline, Mackenzie, Lexi, and his step-grandchildren David, Kristine (Ben), Madison, Alexis and Sophie and step great-grandchildren Owen, Noah, and Savannah. We will always remember Papa Bear aka Gramps’ warm hugs and loving smile.

At his request, a private service will be held. Donations in his memory can be made to Pathways Hospice, 585 North Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085, or Stanford University Buck Cardinal Club, 641 E. Campus Drive, Stanford, CA 94305-6150.

PAID OBITUARY

THE ALMANAC OPEN HOMES

BURLINGAME

515 Howard Avenue  
Sun 1:00-4:00  
Compass  
Call for price  
3BD/2.5BA  
650-465-6210

LOS ALTOS

713 Sunshine Drive  
Sun 1:30-4:30  
DeLeon Realty  
\$3,488,000  
3BD/2BA  
650-900-7000

LOS ALTOS HILLS

27340 Julietta Lane  
Sun 1:30-4:30  
DeLeon Realty  
\$4,988,000  
4BD/3.5BA  
650-900-7000

MENLO PARK

722 14th Avenue  
Sun 1:30-4:30  
Compass  
\$1,775,000  
4BD/1BA  
650-740-7954

522 Bay Road  
Sun 1:30-4:30  
DeLeon Realty  
\$4,750,000  
5BD/5.5BA  
650-785-5822

PALO ALTO

485 Ferne Avenue  
Sat 1:30-4:30  
DeLeon Realty  
\$3,488,000  
4BD/2BA  
650-900-7000

PORTOLA VALLEY

100 Alamos Drive  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30  
DeLeon Realty  
\$5,688,000  
4BD/3BA  
650-900-7000

REDWOOD CITY

1280 Woodside Road (C)  
Sun 2:00-4:00  
Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty  
\$995,000  
2BD/2BA  
650-400-6364

SUNNYVALE

251 Honeylocust Terrace (C)  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30  
JLee Realty  
\$1,550,000  
3BD/2.5BA  
650-857-1000

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T). Agents: submit open homes at [AlmanacNews.com/real\\_estate](https://www.almanacnews.com/real_estate)





## WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the District Board of the West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday evening, December 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park or attend by Zoom or telephone to encourage social distancing. Please refer to:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82499115233?pwd=TmlCMjVyMkl4U29zdk11QUhCaWZiZz09>  
Meeting ID: 824 9911 5233 Passcode: 604893

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider a proposed increase in some of the customer rates for year 2023 effective January 1, 2023 for the collection of waste and recyclable materials in the West Bay Sanitary District for 2023.

The need for this increase was discussed by the District Board at the September 28, 2022 Board meeting. The staff report for this matter is available at the District Office located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park or online at [www.westbaysanitary.org](http://www.westbaysanitary.org).

### PROPOSED NEW RATES:

Approximately fifty-six percent (56%) of residential service containers are a 32 gallon size. The new rate for 2023 for a 32 gallon container would increase from \$55.25 per month to \$56.00 per month, a \$.75 per month increase. The new rate for the 20 gallon container would increase from \$48.75 per month to \$50.00 per month, a \$1.25 per month increase. 20 gallon containers will be grandfathered to current users but are no longer available to new customers or to customers wishing to migrate down to a 20 gallon container. As further detailed in the Rate Study, the purpose of these increases is to align the Solid Waste Rates with the actual proportionate cost of providing the service to customers in each Customer Service Level.

The District's proposed rates are designed to transition the "per can" rate to an actual "cost of service" rate. For comparison purposes, the maximum typical residential rates for 32 gallon containers for SBWMA Cities including Burlingame, Belmont, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, and San Mateo, range from a low of \$26.21 (Foster City) to a high of \$59.40 (Hillsborough), based upon 2022 rates.

The following table shows the current rates and the proposed monthly rates for West Bay Sanitary District Franchised Customers to be effective beginning January 1, 2023.

| Proposed Maximum Solid Waste Rates for 2023 |                      |                       |                             |                        |                         |                    |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
|                                             | MONTHLY RATES        |                       |                             | QUARTERLY RATES        |                         |                    |
| Customer Service Level                      | Current Monthly Rate | Proposed Monthly Rate | Monthly Increase (Decrease) | Current Quarterly Rate | Proposed Quarterly Rate | Quarterly Increase |
| <b>Residential:</b>                         |                      |                       |                             |                        |                         |                    |
| 20 gallon can                               | \$48.75              | \$50.00               | \$1.25                      | \$146.25               | \$150.00                | \$3.75             |
| 32 gallon can                               | \$55.25              | \$56.00               | \$0.75                      | \$165.75               | \$168.00                | \$2.25             |
| 64 gallon can                               | \$72.00              | \$72.75               | \$0.75                      | \$216.00               | \$218.25                | \$2.25             |
| 96 gallon can                               | \$105.00             | \$105.00              | \$0.00                      | \$315.00               | \$315.00                | \$0.00             |
| <b>*Commercial: (Per Pick Up)</b>           | <b>Current</b>       | <b>Proposed</b>       | <b>Increase per pick up</b> |                        |                         |                    |
| 1 yard bin                                  | \$176.27             | \$176.27              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 2 yard bin                                  | \$334.54             | \$334.54              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 3 yard bin                                  | \$372.53             | \$372.53              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 4 yard bin                                  | \$496.70             | \$496.70              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 6 yard bin                                  | \$615.76             | \$615.76              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 32 gallon can                               | \$55.25              | \$56.00               | \$0.75                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 64 gallon can                               | \$72.00              | \$72.75               | \$0.75                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |
| 96 gallon can                               | \$105.00             | \$105.00              | \$0.00                      | n/a                    | n/a                     | n/a                |

\*Commercial bin rates reflect collection charge for one pick up per week; to calculate charge for more than one collection per week, multiply rate by number of collections per week.  
For example, 1-Cubic Yard Bin (at proposed rate) collected 3 times per week = \$528.81 (\$176.27 x 3 collections/wk)

At this hearing, the Board of Directors will consider public comment as well as written protests by ratepayers regarding the proposed increase in monthly collection rates. If you would like additional information on the proposed rates, please call the District at 650-321-0384.

Any person interested, including all solid waste/recycling collection customers of the West Bay Sanitary District, may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to the proposed increase in monthly rates or attend by Zoom or telephone to encourage social distancing. Again, please refer to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82499115233?pwd=TmlCMjVyMkl4U29zdk11QUhCaWZiZz09>  
Meeting ID: 824 9911 5233 Passcode: 604893

West Bay Sanitary District  
Board of Directors  
San Mateo County, California

/s/ Sergio Ramirez  
General Manager  
Dated: October 12, 2022

### RSV INFECTIONS

continued from page 11

were also treated at our Pediatric Acute Care clinic and other urgent care clinics. Eight RSV-positive pediatric patients are currently admitted to SCVMC for treatment, all younger than 5 years old. Most of these currently admitted patients have a diagnosis of bronchiolitis, which is inflammation of the small airways of the lungs."

RSV, although it has many of the same symptoms as other respiratory diseases, can be particularly dangerous for infants.

"The reason why RSV and some of these other viruses can get babies into trouble is that their airways and their lungs are so small that if you get some mucus buildup and swelling in those small airways it makes it very hard for babies to breathe. For older people, older children and adults because the airways are bigger, we tend not to see nearly as much trouble with these viruses. That being said, certain patients — older patients who are immunocompromised or have chronic medical illnesses — may be quite susceptible to getting sick from RSV and other viruses," Dr. Alan Schroeder, a critical care physician at Stanford Medicine Children's Health, said.

RSV is likely dominating and causing many children to end up in the emergency department at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford because people have dropped cautionary practices that were in place during the earlier phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. With less immunity built up in the population, more people are vulnerable, he said.

About half of the overall cases at Stanford Medicine Children's Health are from RSV, Schroeder said. COVID-19 cases are causing about 10% of the overall cases being seen. Influenza cases also are about 10% of cases at Packard Hospital.

RSV and influenza are also starting earlier than in past years.

"Normally our busiest winter months from a virus perspective tend to be January and February. We may start seeing some cases in December or even a little bit in November, but we've been busy with viruses really, starting in early October," he said.

Partnerships with a number of regional hospitals has enabled Packard Hospital to send children to some of these other hospitals and conversely, to receive children when there are overflows. "We've certainly been doing that," he said.

Packard hasn't had the high-stress levels of other facilities.

"Orange County just declared a state of emergency. We're

hearing about Chicago, Connecticut, elsewhere where (patients) are having to go hundreds of miles to be hospitalized. And we haven't quite gotten to that level yet," he said.

The hospital does have some very high-capacity days in its emergency room. "We're having to be creative about getting the care that (patients) need, but we're able to do it safely," he said.

Dr. Darvin Scott Smith, chief of infectious diseases at Kaiser Permanente in Redwood City, said there is a rise in RSV cases in the community but earlier this month it leveled off a bit.

"That's kind of the story across the country as well with respect to pace numbers. And mainly it's in kids. Of course, that's where we observe it. But it has gone up week over week for the last six weeks," he said.

Kaiser does have the capacity to manage the cases the hospital is observing, he said.

RSV has symptoms that are virtually indistinguishable from other respiratory viruses, so unless one is testing for it, they wouldn't know it's RSV, he said.

Parents should seek medical intervention if the child has severe wheezing or rapid breathing, if they change color, or are blue or have blue lips, Smith said.

"Those are obvious things. You have to be aware of it and looking for it, but decreased uptake or intake of fluids and food, just extreme lethargy, tiredness, dehydration that might be picked up in a young kid with dry diapers repeatedly. Those kinds of things are what to look out for," he said.

Besides the usual precautions of hand washing and limiting contact with people who are ill, Smith said that the best strategy to avoid complications is vaccination against the other viruses known to be circulating at the same time: influenza and COVID-19.

"It's a clear and well-known step to take in order to mitigate that risk. We advocate with great enthusiasm getting fully vaccinated, especially against three things: COVID, influenza, and now we have a new Pneumovax vaccine against a variety of strains of pneumonia. The CDC is advocating for people with risk categories to get all of those things. Those vaccines will really help to decrease RSV and other respiratory virus risks," he said.

A vaccine against RSV is coming, Smith said. "There have been announcements about it by a couple of different companies. So it is in the pipeline and it might be here within a year or so," he said. ■

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



# Menlo Park, on the forefront of climate action, should double down on goals

By Alex Wagonfield

## GUEST OPINION

As a teenager heavily involved with climate action and who spends lots of time reading and learning about the climate crisis, I still struggle to understand our path to net zero emissions as a state, a county, or even a city.

Wildfires are ravaging our lands, droughts are stripping living things from the basic need of water, and our beautiful earth is sizzling; there has never been a more pressing time to change our ways. For my generation, the future isn't looking bright. We need the world to start changing at a much faster pace.

If I could become mayor of Menlo Park for a day and have free reign to pass policies and organize our region, I would do everything in my power to speed up progress.

Menlo Park has proven to be a climate leader, taking bold action and being among the first U.S. cities to pass local climate policies. The City Council passed all-electric

reach codes prohibiting most natural gas uses in new construction. Since then, dozens of cities have followed in Menlo Park's wake and passed similar policies. This ripple effect demonstrates how Menlo Park's actions to reduce carbon emissions are not contained to one city: our progressive policies have far-reaching effects.

This is why even more action needs to be taken, and fast, to further accelerate this ripple effect. Menlo Park's policies will continue to inspire counties and cities throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

If I was Menlo Park's mayor for a day, I would build on our leadership position and take even bolder strokes to create a multi-city Bay Area Climate Coalition to educate and train leaders and citizens from counties across the Bay Area, and publicize Menlo Park and San Mateo County's leadership climate goals and action.

I would organize a Bay Area

climate conference, bringing together the leaders of cities around the Bay Area to learn, inspire, and teach each other what has been done and what can be done. This would be held in Menlo Park, one of the greatest leaders of climate action across the nation, and be open to the public to ask questions and learn what has been done — and what's still to come.

Even though the U.S. hasn't promised decarbonization until 2050, Menlo Park plans to be on the forefront with goals to decarbonize by 2030. If accomplished, it would be one of the greenest cities in the nation. There should be pride around this. I think there will be more public support with publicizing Menlo Park's carbon neutral goals in an easily digestible way for the public to physically see. I would set up digital "climate progress" screens across Menlo Park to display our progress so far, our path forward, and what is in the works. Everyone passing through Menlo Park would

become aware of our leadership, building momentum to reach our goals and inspiring others along the way.

Further, I would create a teen volunteer program so that all of our high school students can personally get involved with one of the many Bay Area climate action organizations. A list of 18 current organizations that are looking for volunteers right now [www.hsClimateAction.com](http://www.hsClimateAction.com).

We can demonstrate that it is possible to reach our goals by 2030, and that we can influence the rest of California to change its net zero emissions goal from 2045 to 2030. We need a faster deadline to make real change, and it's only with change in how we live that we can change our trajectory. We can't afford to wait over 25 years while our state — and our planet — burn. As mayor for the day, I would ask everyone in our town and the Bay Area: What are we waiting for?

*Alex Wagonfield is a student at Nueva High School.*

## LETTERS

Our readers write

### A thanks to constituents

My deepest thanks to the people of the 16th Congressional District for entrusting me to represent them. It is both humbling and a high privilege to be given their trust, and my promise to all is that my faithfulness to my constituents and our Constitution are at the core of my service.

*Congresswoman Anna Eshoo*

### What's on your mind?

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

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

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

Questions? Email [editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:editor@AlmanacNews.com), or call 650-223-6537.



For more information, including a video tour and photos of this property, please scan the QR code.

**100Alamos.com**



## 100 ALAMOS ROAD PORTOLA VALLEY

Price Reduction

**OPEN HOUSE:**

**Saturday 11/19 & Sunday 11/20**

**4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms**

**3,600 Sq. Ft. Home | 600 Sq. Ft. Guest House**

**109,074 Sq. Ft. Lot**

**\$5,688,000**

An incredible lot of over 2.5 acres offers tremendous possibilities and plays host to this spacious home with spectacular views towards Felt Lake and the Western Hills. Highlights include 2 fireplaces, large gathering spaces, the kitchen with appliances from brands including Viking, a flexible-use room perfect for a gym or office, and numerous glass doors opening to the grounds for a true indoor/outdoor lifestyle.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | [michael@deleonrealty.com](mailto:michael@deleonrealty.com)

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | [DELEONREALTY.COM](http://DELEONREALTY.COM) | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224







## ENTHUSIASTS SHARE PASSION FOR BUILDING

BayLUG's annual holiday show on exhibit at the Museum of American Heritage

By Emily Margaretten

The planning and building took more than a thousand hours; the pieces number in the tens of thousands, but it all came together with a satisfying snap, as Adam Williams, vice president of the Bay Area Lego Users Group (BayLUG), introduced the group's latest creation, a Día de los Muertos display made entirely of Legos.

"Almost everything here doesn't have instructions for it. People come up with an idea and then build it from their heads," Williams said, explaining the creative process of constructing this year's holiday display. The show, in its 18th year at the Museum of American Heritage (MOAH) in Palo Alto, includes a new featured display each year — for 2022, it's Día de los Muertos — along with Lego streetscapes and a holiday village.

Inspired by the Disney and Pixar film, "Coco," the Día de los Muertos display is a mixture of Mexican culture and playful fantasy, showcasing intricate and imaginative scenes; a marigold bridge that connects the city of the dead to the town of the living; figurines placing food, flowers and candles on tombstones with tiny family portraits. And near the show's exit stands a full-size ofrenda — an altar to the deceased — with real-life photographs and Lego marigolds and skulls.

Attention to detail has always been a source of pride for the group, and this year's show takes it to a higher level with its emphasis on representation. "We were very conscious of ethnicity," BayLUG member

Lia VonDamm said, explaining that the prefabricated Lego figurines did not capture the identities of Latinx members.

To address this issue, a BayLUG member of Mexican heritage designed a template of faces, which another member printed on the Lego heads. They did the same with decorative tiles, sourcing Mexican patterns and printing them onto Lego pieces.

Along with its celebration of Día de los Muertos, the holiday show includes other elaborate landscapes. BayLUG merged with the Bay Area L-Gauge Train Club years ago, Williams said, pointing to the electric trains and tracks wrapping around hillsides and snow capped villages. The two groups now largely function as one network of Lego enthusiasts, welcoming members of all ages and interests.

This year's display, assembled by 30 BayLUG members over a weekend, is the culmination of two years of planning, with most of the construction occurring in people's homes. When asked about challenges of their builds, BayLUG member Autumn Victor said it was finding enough space. "I'm constantly asking myself, where can I expand and where can I store my Legos more efficiently?" Victor laughed.

Williams resolved this perennial problem by converting his garage into a workshop, which he did with the blessing of his wife, also a BayLUG member. The couple joined BayLUG after attending one of the holiday shows at MOAH. "We came here and were like, oh my goodness, there's a huge community of people who like building, not per the instructions but they build these custom things. And that inspired us to join," Williams said.

With about 200 members in total, BayLUG family builds are a common occurrence, as seen by Chris Castagnetto's family. Castagnetto used to host regular game nights with friends, but this abruptly ended when the pandemic hit.



Emily Margaretten

Above: BayLUG's holiday show includes displays of electric trains and miniature cities, all built from Lego. Below: Santa's workshop is part of a holiday village display.

BayLUG became the outlet for his family to have fun together and share their builds with other members through monthly Zoom meetings.

Nicholas Castagnetto, 6, and Abigail Castagnetto, 9, echoed their father's sentiments that Lego building was a lot of fun. "My favorite thing is playing with them," Nicholas said, while Abigail added that she liked to make up stories with her Lego creations.

BayLUG's annual holiday show at MOAH, located at 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto, is on display from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekends Dec. 3-Jan. 15. Reservations are required between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and admission is \$4 per person, cash only. [baylug.org/holiday-show](http://baylug.org/holiday-show). For information about joining BayLUG, visit [baylug.org](http://baylug.org).

Email Editorial Intern  
Emily Margaretten  
at [emargaretten@embarcaderopublishing.com](mailto:emargaretten@embarcaderopublishing.com).



Heather Zimmerman



## HOLIDAY

continued from page 1

## INFORMATION

*Editor's note: Although public health measures have been lifted, wherever possible, we have noted if venues or organizations have specific COVID-19 safety guidelines, such as mask or vaccine requirements. Guidelines do occasionally change; calling ahead is recommended.*

displays are encircled by electric trains — and all of it is crafted from Lego blocks.

Anticipation of the winter holidays seems to be edging up to Thanksgiving, if not before, so to capture early events, and to ensure time to plan before some events sell out, we've created our roundup of holiday fun a little early this year.

## On stage

**Beauty and the Beast:** Palo Alto Players present a musical based on the Disney animated film, featuring the original Alan Menken/Howard Ashman songs from the movie (including "Be Our Guest"). The Nov. 18 performance features an American Sign Language interpreter and a Nov. 19 matinee, sponsored by the Magical Bridge Foundation, offers a "more relaxed" theater setting for audiences of all ages and abilities.

*Through Nov. 20 at the Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Tickets are \$30-\$60. paplayers.org.*

**Little Shop of Horrors:** TheatreWorks Silicon Valley marks the holidays with a reimagined production of the cult classic B-movie musical with an updated setting in San Francisco's Chinatown that celebrates the cross-cultural community fostered there.

*Nov. 30-Dec. 24 at the Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Tickets start at \$30. theatreworks.org.*

**Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune:** The Pear Theatre presents Terrence McNally's play about two lonely people finding each other — if they can allow themselves to be vulnerable.

*Dec. 1-18 at The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida, Suite A, Mountain View. Tickets are \$35-\$38 (\$20 pre-view night); thepear.org.*

**Christmas Ballet:** Smuin Ballet presents its annual touring

production melding classical ballet and contemporary pieces, set to a variety of holiday-themed music. The 2022 edition features two world premieres, a pas de deux that offers a prayer for Ukraine and a new ensemble piece.

*Dec. 1-2, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 3, 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 4, 2 p.m. at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are \$25-\$99. smuinballet.org.*

**The Secret Garden:** Los Altos Stage Company presents a musical adaptation of the children's novel about an orphaned girl who finds happiness and friendship when she begins tending to a long-neglected garden.

*Dec. 1-23 at the Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos; Tickets are \$20-\$40. losaltosstage.org.*

**All Is Calm:** The Christmas Truce of 1914: Stanford Live presents Theater Latté Da's dramatic retelling of the day during World War I when Allied and German soldiers laid down their arms to celebrate Christmas.

*Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford; Tickets start at \$32. live.stanford.edu.*

**Snow Queen:** Bayer Ballet Company presents its annual production of a two-act ballet inspired by a Hans Christian Andersen fairytale about a girl who must travel through magical lands to rescue her brother from the spell of the Snow Queen. The 2022 edition features new characters, updated choreography and lighting effects.

*Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m., Dec. 18, 3 p.m. at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are \$38-\$78. bayerballet.com.*

## Nutcracker productions

**Pacific Ballet Academy Nutcracker:** Students of Pacific Ballet Academy present its 31st annual performance of "The Nutcracker." On Nov. 27, the production offers a shortened performance for children, featuring just Act I, and a sensory- and autism-friendly performance of Act II.

*Nov. 25, 6 p.m., Nov. 26, 1 and 6 p.m.; Nov. 27, Act I performance at noon; sensory- and autism-friendly performance at 2 p.m. at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are \$25-\$30 for full performances; \$15 for either Nov. 27 performance. Masks required. tickets.mvcpa.com.*



Courtesy Chris Hardy

Smuin Ballet artists Terez Dean Orr and Mengjun Chen can't wait for Christmas in Erica Felsch's "The Christmas Song," featured in the company's "Christmas Ballet," Dec. 1-4 in Mountain View.

**Ballet America's Nutcracker:** Academy of American Ballet features a cast of 100 local dancers in a fast-paced production of the favorite holiday ballet. The company also offers a digital download of a previous "Nutcracker" production for sale (\$30-\$45) on its website.

*Dec. 3, 2 and 6:30 p.m. and Dec. 4, 1:30 and 4 p.m. at Cañada College Theater, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City. Tickets are \$20-\$50. americanballet.com.*

**DanceConnection Nutcracker and Hip-Hop Nutcracker:** The studio marks 23 years of performances of the holiday favorite, which features young dancers ages 5-18. New for this year is the studio's "Hip-Hop Nutcracker," which puts on a modern spin on the holiday ballet.

*Nutcracker Dec. 9, 7 p.m. and Dec. 10, 3 p.m.; Hip-Hop Nutcracker Dec. 10, 3 p.m. at Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Tickets are \$25-\$40. danceconnectionpaloalto.com.*

**Dance Magic Nutcracker:** Dance Magic, a school for dancers ages 2-12, presents its annual production.

*Dec. 10 at Cubberley Community Center Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. dancemagic.org.*

**Ramon Moreno Nutcracker:** Students of the Ramon Moreno School of Ballet perform a traditional production.

*Dec. 10, 1:30 and 7 p.m. and Dec. 11, 1:30 p.m. at Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. ramonmorenoballet.com.*

# You're Invited

## AVENIDAS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, Dec. 9th from 2-4pm

Bring your friends and grandkids to this free, fun event at Avenidas and enjoy:

- Decorating your own holiday cookie!
- Shopping at the Club Aveneedles Holiday Sale (handmade hats, scarves, gloves, sweaters baby gifts & more!)
- Sampling tasty treats from The Redwood by Chef Julien!
- Watching a Dot Art Demo!
- Trimming the tree!
- Warming up with hot cocoa, cider, coffee or tea!
- Designing your own ornament to take home!
- Spinning the prize wheel to see what you've won!
- Saving 10% if you purchase or renew your Avenidas Membership at the event!

\*Avenidas Village memberships excluded

### Avenidas

Re-Inventing Aging

If you have questions, please call (650) 289-5400



## HOLIDAY

continued from page 19

**Western Ballet Nutcracker:**

Western Ballet presents the traditional holiday ballet featuring Clara, a nutcracker and a journey to a magical land of toys and sweets in a production that lasts 1 1/2 hours.

Dec. 9, 7 p.m., Dec. 10, 1 and 7 p.m. and Dec. 11, 1 p.m. at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are \$38-\$43. [westernballet.org](http://westernballet.org).

**Peninsula Ballet Theatre:**

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

*Nutcracker Sweet*, Dec. 3-4, 11:30 a.m., 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. and *Hip-Hop Nutcracker Sweet*, Dec. 10-11, 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Performances for both productions take place at Peninsula Ballet Theatre, 1880 S. Grant St. San Mateo. Tickets for "Sweet" abridged performances are \$25-\$35. *Classical Nutcracker*, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. and Dec. 17, 2 p.m. and *Hip-Hop Nutcracker*, Dec. 17, 7 p.m. and Dec. 18, 1 p.m. Performances for both productions take place at the Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. Tickets for the classical or Hip-Hop Nutcracker are \$50-\$70. [peninsulaballet.org](http://peninsulaballet.org).

**Nutcracker in China:** Students from New Century Dance present a Nutcracker that blends classical Chinese dance and classical ballet. The modern work "Yellow River" will also be performed.

Dec. 30-31, 7 p.m. at Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View.

Tickets are \$25-\$30. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com).

**Concerts**

**Holiday Sing-along with TACO:** The Terrible Adult Chamber Orchestra (TACO) invites all ages to sing winter holiday favorites along with the orchestra and local chorus Peninsula Cantare, led by Jeffrey Benson. Lyrics will be provided; guests are encouraged to bring a folding chair.

Nov. 27, 3 p.m. at Mountain View Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Admission is free. [mountainview.gov](http://mountainview.gov).

**Vienna Boys Choir:** Stanford Live presents the boys' choir — which has a history dating back to 1498 — performing a holiday program of Austrian folk songs, classical works, Christmas hymns and carols.

Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m. at Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Tickets start at \$40. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu).

**Hail, Cecilia:** The Bay Choral Guild presents a new work by Sanford Dole celebrating St. Cecilia, patron saint of musicians. Also on the program are excerpts from Henry Purcell's "Hail, Bright Cecilia" and Antonín Dvořák's "Te Deum," in a chamber version Dole created for this performance. A preview lecture is offered a half hour before each performance.

Dec. 2, 8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto, 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. The program will also be offered Dec. 3 in Campbell. Tickets are \$10-\$30. [baychoralguild.org](http://baychoralguild.org).

**Christmas in the British Isles:** California Bach Society's annual holiday choral concert features four centuries of favorites and lesser-known works from England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, performed in arrangements for choir and organ.

Dec. 3, 8 p.m. at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$10-\$35 in advance/\$10-\$40 at the door. [calbach.org](http://calbach.org).

**Friends of Music at Stanford Holiday Musicales:** The Friends of Music at Stanford present their annual holiday concert with performances by Department of Music ensembles and guests, including the Stanford Chamber Chorale, the Stanford Philharmonia and others.

Dec. 3, 2:20 p.m. at Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way, Building 500, Stanford. Tickets are \$13-18 in advance/\$18-\$23 at the door. [music.stanford.edu](http://music.stanford.edu).

**Midnight:** Soli deo Gloria choir, joined by Orchestra Gloria,



Courtesy CuriOdyssey

Families can play with light at IlluminOdyssey, a winter light display of interactive exhibits and glowing art at CuriOdyssey children's museum in San Mateo.

performs Charpentier's carol mass, "Messe de Minuit pour Noël" (Christmas midnight mass), as well as favorites by Britten, Rutter, Bob Chilcott and others.

Dec. 3, 3:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$25-\$30. [sdgloria.org](http://sdgloria.org).

**Magnificent Wonders:** Ragazzi Boys Chorus performs holiday favorites including "Joy to the World," "Ding Dong! Merrily On High," and "I Saw Three Ships," as well as choral works such as "Ave Maria," "Non Nobis Domine," "For the Beauty of the Earth" and Nigerian carol "Betelehemu."

Dec. 3, 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$25-\$45. [ragazzi.org](http://ragazzi.org).

**Woodside Village Band Winter Concert:** Woodside Village Band performs classical selections, including Handel's Suite from Messiah, Sousa's "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine March" and seasonal music, such as "Carol of the Bells" and "The Christmas Song," along with uplifting tunes by Richard Rodgers and Henry Mancini. The band requests that all audience members be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear a mask.

Dec. 3, 3 p.m. at Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. Admission is free; donations welcome. [windband.org/woodside](http://windband.org/woodside).

**Christmas at the Fox:** This annual holiday concert produced and performed by Bay Area singer-songwriter Brandon Pasion, with guest artist Sofia Claire, features a 15-piece orchestra and band performing a blend of traditional Christmas songs and contemporary holiday favorites, as well as some original works. A VIP ticket also includes a gala with food and drinks that precedes the concert.

Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway St., Redwood City. Tickets are \$30-\$120. [foxrwc.com](http://foxrwc.com).

**CSMA Merit Scholars Holiday Concert:** Community School of Music and Arts hosts its annual concert featuring ensembles of the school's merit scholar musicians playing holiday favorites.

Dec. 10, 5 p.m. at Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Admission is free. [arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org).

**Songs of Connection: The Ties that Bind:** The Peninsula Women's Chorus performs contemporary and classical works, woven together with musical interludes by flutist Rachel Beetz. The concert also marks the debut of its commission by Jennifer Wilsey, "Would You Like to Have It All?"

Dec. 10, 4 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto. Tickets are \$10-\$40. [pwchorus.org](http://pwchorus.org).

**Squirrel Nut Zippers Christmas Caravan:** The Squirrel Nut Zippers play swing,

Happy Holidays

Thanks so much for all your support!



Restorative & Cosmetic Dentistry

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



We are pleased to announce expanded hours of service Monday-Friday and are accepting new patients.

For patients with no insurance we can now offer an attractive "membership plan" to help control dental expenses.



Christine Hansen, DDS

416 Waverley Street, #A,  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
(650) 326-3290



[www.dentistpaloalto.com](http://www.dentistpaloalto.com)



klezmer and hot club-style jazz in a holiday-themed show.

Dec. 10, doors at 7 p.m. at The Guild Theatre, 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park.

Tickets are \$43-\$66. [guildtheatre.com](http://guildtheatre.com).

#### A Celebration of Carols:

Schola Cantorum performs a choral concert for families featuring Britten's "Ceremony of Carols," carols by Alfred Burt and "A Garland of Carols" by Conrad Susa.

Dec. 11, 4 p.m. at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Tickets are \$30. [scholacantorum.org](http://scholacantorum.org).

**Kitka's Wintersongs:** Women's vocal ensemble Kitka performs its annual concert celebrating the holidays and winter solstice. The Wintersongs theme for 2022 is "Shchedry Vechir" (Ukrainian for "A Generous Evening"), with a performance featuring sacred and secular Ukrainian songs. The concert aims to raise awareness and funds for groups addressing the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

Dec. 11, 4 p.m. at St. Bede's Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Tickets are \$25-\$50. [kitka.org](http://kitka.org).

**Philharmonia Baroque — 'Handel's Messiah':** Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Chorale performs Handel's masterwork, led by Music Director Richard Egarr, with Stefanie True, soprano; Rihab Chaieb, mezzo-soprano; Andrew Tortise, tenor; and Joshua Bloom, bass.

Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. at Bing Concert Hall, Stanford. Tickets are \$32-\$120.

[live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu).

**A Chanticleer Christmas:** The San Francisco-based men's chorus performs their annual holiday show, with a new program every year. Presented by Stanford Live.

Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Church, Stanford. Tickets are \$75. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu).

**Charlie Brown Christmas:** Stanford Jazz Workshop's annual holiday tradition features the Glen Pearson Trio with jazz pianist Glen Pearson, bassist Ruth Davies and drummer Lorca Hart playing Vince Guaraldi's contemporary jazz score for the 1965 TV special "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

Dec. 16, 7 p.m., Dec. 17, 2 and 7 p.m., Dec. 18, 1 p.m. at Campbell Recital Hall, Stanford. Tickets TBA. [stanfordjazz.org](http://stanfordjazz.org).

**Stanford Messiah Sing- and Play-Along:** Stephen M. Sano conducts this annual "sing and play it yourself" celebration of Handel's masterwork. Orchestral

parts provided; singers may purchase scores at the door or bring their own.

Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way, Building 500, Stanford. Tickets are \$13-18 in advance/\$18-\$23 at the door. [music.stanford.edu](http://music.stanford.edu).

**Christmas Postcards:** San Francisco Choral Artists perform a program of works from six continents that span 500 years. With selections from Peru, Kenya, Latvia, Australia, and Korea, works by Sweelinck and Vaughan Williams, four world premieres including pieces by Composer-in-Residence Samuel C. Nedel and Caroline Mallonee) and works by local favorites Roger Nixon and Henry Mollicone, in whose memory the program is dedicated.

Dec. 17, 8 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$15-\$35. [sfca.org](http://sfca.org).

**Oakland Interfaith Choir:** Director Terrance Kelly leads the multicultural, interfaith choir in their annual South Bay holiday concert, which features Kelly's gospel arrangements of traditional holiday favorites.

Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m. at Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets are \$33-\$48. Masks required. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com).

**Rich May Holiday Jam '22:** Allman Brothers Band tribute band The Freestone Peaches play a fundraising concert for the Rich May Foundation, with proceeds benefiting the 100-year endowment of Rich May Field in East Palo Alto.

Dec. 22 at The Guild Theatre, 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Tickets are \$95-\$195. [guildtheatre.com](http://guildtheatre.com).

#### Hanukkah

**Donuts for Hanukkah:** Michelle Greenebaum from Together In The Kitchen leads a hands-on cooking class for parents and kids to learn to bake Jewish holiday favorites.

Dec. 4, 2:30 p.m. (4 p.m. session sold out) at the Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. \$40 per family. [paloaltojcc.org](http://paloaltojcc.org).

**Celebrating the Hanukkah Spirit:** Oshman Family Jewish Community Center marks the first night of Hanukkah with crafts, candle-lighting, games and a concert from the Capriccio Chamber Orchestra. For families with school-age children.

Dec. 18, 3:30-6:15 p.m. Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall (Bldg. F), Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. \$15 per family. [paloaltojcc.org](http://paloaltojcc.org).



Courtesy David Allen

Ragazzi Boys Chorus will share festive songs in the concert "Magnificent Wonders," Dec. 3 in Palo Alto.

**Chanukah Festival:** Redwood City hosts a celebration and Menorah lighting. With local dignitaries, music and latkes and other treats.

Dec. 18, at Courthouse Square, 2200 Broadway St., Redwood City. [redwoodcity.org](http://redwoodcity.org).

#### Tree lightings, festivals and holiday events

**Holidays at Filoli:** The Filoli estate's gardens and historic mansion are decorated for the holidays, with more than 20 miles' worth of lights strung throughout the gardens. Activities include Santa Weekends (Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18 and 23); and private fire pit rentals with warm drinks and wine on the terrace. Also, shopping at the Clock Tower Shop and dining and drinks at the Quail Cafe and Woodland Court holiday bar.

Open daily, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Nov. 19-Jan. 8 (closed Nov. 24 and Dec. 24-25) at Filoli, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside. Reservations are required. Admission is \$26-\$40. Fire pit rentals are \$750 for up to eight guests, plus \$75 for each additional guest up to a maximum of 15. [filoli.org](http://filoli.org).

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

Weather permitting, five tracks will run trains every evening (except Mondays) Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, through Dec. 24, from 6:30-9 p.m. at 2387 Adele Ave., Mountain View.

**IlluminOdyssey:** CuriOdyssey hosts a winter light display inspired by the science of light, with interactive exhibits and kid-friendly glowing art.

Open Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (open until 8 p.m. on Dec.

2 and Jan. 7) through Jan. 6 at CuriOdyssey, 1651 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo. Tickets are \$15.95-\$19.95 (plus \$6 park entrance fee). [curiodyssey.org](http://curiodyssey.org).

**Gamble Garden Winter Festival:** Gamble Garden kicks off its Winter Festival weekend with a grand opening party Dec. 1 with wine, hors d'oeuvres and a tree-lighting ceremony. Santa makes an appearance Dec. 2 for photos, along with the Redwood Grill food truck and Bayer Ballet for two performances of "The Snow Queen." At these events and during the daytime Dec. 2 and 3, the garden will host 20 vendors in the Gamble house and outdoors in a European-style marketplace, as well as a holiday edition of its popular Over the Garden Fence sale featuring holiday-themed home decor, linens and more. The Palo Alto Garden Club will also be on hand with fresh greens for decorating, homemade jams and other goods.

Winter Festival at Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Grand Opening Party Dec. 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Holiday Night with Santa Dec. 2, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Winter Festival Marketplace Dec. 2-3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Grand Opening Party is \$75 per person. Holiday Night with Santa is \$35 per person, children 8 and under free. Winter Festival Marketplace admission is \$5 for adults, children 12 and under free. [gamblegarden.org](http://gamblegarden.org).

**City of Palo Alto Tree Lighting:** Live music and carols, bell ringers and winter treats are featured at this holiday season kickoff.

Dec. 2, 5:30-7 p.m. at Lytton Plaza, University Avenue and Emerson Street, Palo Alto. [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org).

**Caltrain Holiday Train:** Caltrain's festive Holiday Train will stop at select stations along the Peninsula, with lights, entertainment, characters and a chance for locals to donate a new, unwrapped toy to the annual toy drive.

Dec. 3-4, train stops at different Peninsula stations on Saturday and Sunday; schedule TBA. [holiday-train.org](http://holiday-train.org).

**BayLUG Holiday Show:** The Bay Area LEGO User Group and BayLTC, the Bay Area L-Gauge Train Club will share their annual holiday Lego displays, with miniature cities, landscapes, a holiday village and electric trains, featuring a special display for Día de los Muertos.

Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 23, 30-31 and Jan. 7-8, 14-15, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (by reservation only) and 1-3:30 p.m. (no reservation required) Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Tickets are \$4 (includes museum admission). Masks required. [baylug.org](http://baylug.org).

**Christmas Tree Lane:** For 81 years, Fulton Street (off Embarcadero Road) in Palo Alto has transformed into "Christmas Tree Lane," full of lights and decorations. Visitors can drive on the street and stroll along the sidewalk to view the displays.

Dec. 10-31, 5-11 p.m. on the 1700 and 1800 blocks of Fulton Street, Palo Alto. [christmastree-lane.org](http://christmastree-lane.org).

**Holiday Traditions from Around the World:** San Mateo County History Museum hosts a day of crafts activities celebrating a variety of holiday traditions, including Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at San

See **HOLIDAY**, page 22



# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

ROBINSON & COMPANY REALTORS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292471  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Robinson & Company Realtors, located at 3603 Alameda De Las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
ROBINSON FINANCIAL CORPORATION  
3603 Alameda De Las Pulgas  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation  
State of Incorporation: California.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/1/1980.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 17, 2022.  
(ALM Oct. 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 2022)

TACOS EL GRULLENSE C&D #4  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292378  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Tacos El Grullense C&D #4, located at 575 Ralston Ave., Belmont, CA 94002, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
TACOS EL GRULLENSE C&D #4 INC.  
10 Danford Court  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.  
State of Incorporation: CA  
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 October 5, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

TACOS EL GRULLENSE C&D  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292386  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Tacos El Grullense C&D, located at 60 31st Ave, San Mateo, CA 94403, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
TACOS EL GRULLENSE C&D INC.  
10 Danford Court  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.  
State of Incorporation: CA  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/14/2018.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 6, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

TACOS EL GRULLENSE #1  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292381  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Tacos El Grullense #1, located at 1243 Middlefield Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
TEG-CKD INC.  
10 Danford Ct.  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.  
State of Incorporation: CA  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/19/2017.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 5, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

HINENI: JEWISH AND NATURE BASED GRIEF SUPPORT  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292568  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Hineni: Jewish and Nature Based Grief Support, located at 801 North Humboldt Street, Suite 405, San Mateo, CA 94401, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
JON AVRAM SOMMER  
801 North Humboldt Street, Suite 405  
San Mateo, CA 94401  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact

business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 26, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

GULFSTREAM DRILLING 1978  
GULFSTREAM DRILLING 1979  
LEEDEY DRILLING VENTURES  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292527  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Gulfstream Drilling 1978, 2.) Gulfstream Drilling 1979, 3.) Leedey Drilling Ventures, located at 7 Lloyd Drive, Atherton, CA 94027, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
WILLIAM JAMES MASSEY, JR.  
7 Lloyd Drive  
Atherton, CA 94027  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 25, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

WOODSIDE MAIL OFFICE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292506  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Woodside Mail Office, located at 2995 Woodside Road Suite 400, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
WOODSIDE VENTURES CORP  
2995 Woodside Roaad Suite 400  
Woodside, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation  
State of Incorporation: CA.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/24/2022.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 24, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.  
File No. M-292147  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):  
WOODSIDE MAIL OFFICE  
2995 Woodside Road, Suite 400  
Woodside, CA 94062  
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON: 09/13/2022.  
UNDER FILE NO. M-292147  
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
MAIL OFFICE OF AMERICA, INC.  
2995 Woodside Road, Suite 400  
Woodside, CA 94062  
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY a corporation, State of Incorporation: CA  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on October 27, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

ABC CHAUFFEURED LIMOUSINES-SEDANS  
ABC LIMOUSINES-SEDANS-VANS-  
WORLDWIDE TRANSPORT  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292593  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) ABC Chauffeured Limousines-Sedans, 2.) ABC Limousines-Sedans-Vans-Worldwide Transport, located at 15 S Bayshore Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94401, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
D E M Enterprises Inc.  
15 S Bayshore Blvd  
San Mateo, CA 94401  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/28/2022.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 28, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022)

VIRUS GEEKS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292619  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

Virus Geeks, located at 330 N Brand Blvd, Glendale, CA 91203, Los Angeles County;  
Mailing Address: 951 Mariners Island Blvd, San Mateo, CA 94404.  
Registered owner(s):  
MATRIX DIAGNOSTICS INC  
320 N Brand Blvd  
Glendale, CA 91203  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation..  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/13/2022.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 01, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 11, 18, 25; Dec. 2, 2022)

AMERICA'S GARAGE DOORS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292565  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
America's Garage Doors, located at 1622 Michigan Avenue, East Palo Alto, CA 94303, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
RALPH GOMEZ JR.  
1622 Michigan Ave  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303  
This business is conducted by: An Individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/03/2022.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 26, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 11, 18, 25; Dec. 2, 2022)

GEOFFREY'S DIAMONDS & GOLDSMITH  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292562  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Geoffrey's Diamonds & Goldsmith, located at 1312 Laurel St #102, San Carlos, CA 94070, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
GEOFFREY'S DIAMONDS  
681 Alexandra Ct  
San Jose, CA 95125  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation, State of Incorporation: CA  
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 October 26, 2022.  
(ALM Nov. 11, 18, 25; Dec. 2, 2022)

SEQUOIA REALTY SERVICES  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-292264  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
Sequoia Realty Services, located at 1629 Main Street, Redwood City, CA 94063, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
SEQUOIA REALTY SERVICES GROUP, INC.  
1629 Main Street  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
CA  
This business is conducted by: A Corporation.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/26/2008.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on September 22, 2022.  
(ALM Sep. 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 2022)

**Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email [asantillan@pawekly.com](mailto:asantillan@pawekly.com) for assistance with your legal advertising needs. The deadline is Monday at noon.**

## ARTSCENE

### HOLIDAY

*continued from page 21*

*Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Free admission.historysmc.org.*

### Hometown Holidays:

Redwood City Downtown Business Group marks the festive season with this annual event featuring photos with Santa, food and drink, entertainment, local vendors and community groups and a parade.

*Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Courthouse Square, Redwood City. redwoodcitydowntown.com.*

### Bethlehem A.D.:

Visitors can take a walk-through of a re-creation of the town of Bethlehem on the night of the first Christmas, including live animals and a cast of costumed volunteer actors.

*Dec. 21-23, 6-9:30 p.m. at Rise City Church, 1300 Middlefield Road, Redwood City. Free. bethlehemad.com.*

### Holiday Markets & Galleries

### Art on the Square Holiday Show:

Visitors can find jewelry, textile art, handmade clothing, accessories, ceramics, paintings and prints by nearly 30 local artists.

*Nov. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Admission is free. Masks required. artonthesquarerwc.com.*

### Gallery House:

“Enchantment,” a show and sale of jewelry, paintings, ceramics, cards and more by 29 local artists.

*Through Jan. 8, Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., plus Friday 4 p.m.- 8 p.m. at 320 S. California Ave., Palo Alto. galleryhouse.art.*

### The Main Gallery:

“The Holiday Show,” featuring paintings, photography, drawings, ceramics, woodworking, sculptures and mixed-media pieces by

16 local artists.

*Through Dec. 23, Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at 883 Santa Cruz Ave., Suite 1, Menlo Park. themaingallery.org.*

### Allied Arts Christmas Market:

Shops and vendors at the guild offer gifts and holiday decor. The event also includes an auction of mini Christmas trees, a visit from Santa and drawings and treats for visitors.

*Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Allied Arts Guild, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. Admission is free. alliedartsguild.org.*

### Art Center Studio Holiday Sale:

The Palo Alto Art Center holds its annual sale featuring jewelry, functional and fine art ceramics, paintings, prints and other artwork created by local artists working in the Art Center's studios at the Palo Alto Art Center. The sale raises funds to benefit the artists, studios, and the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation.

*Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. (Foundation members-only presale held Dec. 2, 5-7 p.m.). cityofpaloalto.org.*

### German Holiday Market:

The German International School of Silicon Valley hosts its annual holiday marketplace, with traditional German holiday treats such as stollen, gingerbread and chocolate, and gifts such as wooden ornaments and nutcrackers, plus food and music. Proceeds benefit the school.

*Dec. 10, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. at Mountain View Caltrain Station, 456 W. Evelyn Ave. Mountain View. Free admission. german-holidaymarket.org.*

Find more holiday events at [almanacnews.com/arts](http://almanacnews.com/arts). ■

*Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman at [hzimmerman@almanacnews.com](mailto:hzimmerman@almanacnews.com).*

*The Six-Fifty Editor Julia Brown contributed to this story.*

# Employment

The Almanac offers employment advertising.

To learn more or get a quote, please call 650.223.6597 or email [digitalads@pawekly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawekly.com).



# Food & Drink

## Where to buy your Thanksgiving pie

*Procrastinators, there's still time to leave dessert to the pros*

By Kate Bradshaw

Thanksgiving is traditionally the biggest day each year for celebrating and eating pie, with the exception of March 14 (Pi Day) for math nerds. And in my family, Thanksgiving pies are a big deal. We go all-out, making my grandma's pie crust recipe days in advance, blending an ungodly amount of Crisco into the dough before rolling it out, shaping it and baking it. The kitchen becomes a busy hub as we pack the crusts with various fillings — apple, pecan, chocolate pudding, and a favorite of mine, a blend of pumpkin and ricotta that bakes into a custardy-yet-textured consistency that goes perfectly topped with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and a giant dollop of homemade whipped cream.

But the baking process is onerous (the crust dough has to be chilled for how many hours?!), and with so many top-notch pie places and bakeries nearby, it's a great opportunity to impress friends and family and save some time by showing off your good taste rather than your baking prowess. Whether you're looking for a tried-and-true classic, a gluten-free or vegan option or even a five-flavor flight of mini pies, there's a pie on the Peninsula to meet your needs. Here are 12 spots offering locally made Thanksgiving pies filled with everything from sweet potatoes to chocolate cream.

### Heidi's Pies, San Mateo

In our recent Instagram asking readers to share where they'll be getting their Thanksgiving pies, Heidi's Pies was a crowd favorite. When it comes to selection, San Mateo-based Heidi's Pies has an impressive array of flavors, from whipped cream pies and gooseberry and strawberry-rhubarb fruit pies to specialty favorites like key lime, pumpkin cream cheese and pecan. A familiar local landmark since 1970 on El Camino near Highway 92, it offers all-day breakfast and diner fare and 24/7 hours.

Heidi's Pies, 1941 S El Camino Real, San Mateo; 650-574-0505, [heidipies.com](http://heidipies.com).

### Shampa's Pies, Pacifica

Shampa's Pies stands out for its seasonal and cozy flavor offerings, including bourbon pecan pie, Guittard chocolate double cream pie and sweet

potato Swiss meringue pie.

Shampa's Pies are also sold Thursdays at the Daly City Farmers Market and Sundays at the Outer Sunset Farmers Market. The pie shop was founded by pastry chef, surfer and upright bassist Haruwn Wesley, who died in a tragic surfing accident in December 2020. The new chef is Wesley's stepson, Cosmo Carvalho, who uses the same recipes for the pies. People should preorder online by Nov. 20 and are encouraged to pick up their pies before Thanksgiving Day.

Shampa's Pies, 1625 Palmetto Ave., Pacifica; 415-310-3302, [shampaspies.com](http://shampaspies.com). Instagram: @shampaspies.

### Palo Alto Creamery, Palo Alto

Pick up a classic pie from Palo Alto's nearly 100-year-old diner, Palo Alto Creamery. Whole pies come in apple, cherry, blueberry, chocolate, banana, key lime and chocolate pecan flavors year-round, and pumpkin pies are a seasonal specialty.

Palo Alto Creamery, 566 Emerson St., Palo Alto; 650-323-3131, Instagram: @paloaltocreamery.

### The French Spot, Belmont

This San Francisco pastry shop's pop-up runs in both San Francisco and Belmont, albeit typically only on Saturdays. You can preorder 9-inch pies or a flight of five small pies of each of the flavors on offer: pumpkin, caramel apple, bumbleberry (a mix of berries), chocolate cream and sweet potato. Preorder by Nov. 22 and pick up in Belmont or San Francisco on Nov. 23 or 24.



Courtesy @engagingaesthetics

The pecan pie by Alexander's Patisserie, made with sweet dough, caramelized pecans and crème Anglaise.

The French Spot Patisserie, 501 Old County Road, Belmont; [thefrenchspot.squarespace.com](http://thefrenchspot.squarespace.com). Instagram: @thefrenchspot.

### Maison Alyzée, Burlingame and Mountain View

This French patisserie recently opened a second location in Burlingame. Thanksgiving pies offered are pumpkin, pecan and apple, in 5, 6, 7 and 8-inch diameters. The pumpkin pie is made with a pumpkin spice custard and whipped mascarpone ganache and is topped with caramelized pumpkin seeds. The pecan pie is made with pecan cream and caramelized pecan, and the apple pie includes diced organic apples, a confit with cinnamon, mascarpone-whipped ganache and a housemade crumble, according to founder Laurent Pellet.

Maison Alyzée, 212 Castro St., Mountain View, 650-960-1212; 1208 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame, 650-425-7294; [maisonalyzee.com](http://maisonalyzee.com). Instagram: @maisonalyzee.

### Mademoiselle Colette, Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Redwood City

Mademoiselle Colette, which has locations in Menlo Park, Redwood City and Palo Alto (and is opening early next year in Atherton) is selling Thanksgiving tarts in apple, pecan and pumpkin flavors. These must be ordered 24 hours in advance. Only the Menlo Park location will be open Thanksgiving Day.

Mademoiselle Colette, 816 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park, 650-644-8469; 499 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto, 650-272-6873; and 2401 Broadway,



Courtesy The Village Bakery

The pumpkin pie by The Village Bakery in Woodside.



Courtesy Maison Alyzée

The apple pie by Maison Alyzée comes with a housemade crumble, diced organic apples, a lightly sweetened confit with cinnamon and a mascarpone whipped ganache.

Redwood City, 650-260-2260; [mademoisellecolette.com](http://mademoisellecolette.com). Instagram: @mademoisellecolette.

### The Village Bakery, Woodside

Order a pumpkin, Dutch apple or bourbon pecan pie at Woodside's The Village Bakery to celebrate Turkey Day. Sales end on Nov. 20, and preorders can be made on Eventbrite. Pies will be available for pickup on Nov. 23 and 24. Other baked goods for Thanksgiving are also available.

The Village Bakery, 3052 Woodside Road, Woodside, 650-851-5555; [tvbwoodside.com](http://tvbwoodside.com). Instagram: @thevillagebake.

### Pie Ranch, Pescadero

Lemon buttermilk, apple streusel, pumpkin and pecan pies are available at Pie Ranch. Gluten-free crust for the pumpkin and pecan pies is an option for an additional charge. Preorders are due Nov. 18 and can be made at [tinyurl.com/pieranch372](http://tinyurl.com/pieranch372); pick them up Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pie Ranch, 2080 CA-1, Pescadero, 650-879-0996; [pieranch.org](http://pieranch.org). Instagram: @pie\_ranch.

### Fish Wife Sweets, El Granada

The pies on offer from Fish Wife Sweets — a cottage food operation soon to open a brick-and-mortar location in Half Moon Bay — are pecan, caramel apple and pumpkin. Preorders can be made on their website, and pickups are Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fish Wife Sweets, 131 Vallejo St., El Granada, 650-245-5928; [fishwifesweets.com](http://fishwifesweets.com). Instagram: @fishwifesweets.

### Sweet Diplomacy, Los Altos

This gluten-free bakery has specialty Thanksgiving pies, including pumpkin and double-crust apple and the vegan and gluten-free pumpkin and Dutch apple pies. Preorder online at [tinyurl.com/sweetdiplomacy357](http://tinyurl.com/sweetdiplomacy357) at least 24 hours before noon on Nov. 24.

Sweet Diplomacy, 209 1st

St., Los Altos, 650-800-3816; [sweetdiplomacy.com](http://sweetdiplomacy.com). Instagram: @sweetdiplomacyco.

### Three Babes Bakeshop, delivery

While not technically located on the Peninsula, the shop delivers throughout the Bay Area through Good Eggs and Locale and is another reader-recommended choice. They've got the standards — pumpkin, bourbon pecan and apple — plus a gluten-free bittersweet chocolate pecan and a vegan blackberry crumble. They even offer a disc of dough or par-baked pie shell if you want to bake the rest yourself. They also ship nut pies nationwide.

Three Babes Bakeshop, 2501 Phelps St., San Francisco, 415-617-9774, [threebabesbakeshop.com](http://threebabesbakeshop.com). Instagram: @threebabes.

### Alexander's Patisserie, Mountain View and Cupertino

Six-inch apple, pumpkin and pecan pies are available for preorder via Tock. Pickups are at the Mountain View location on Nov. 22 and 23, and delivery options are also available.

Alexander's Patisserie, 209 Castro St., Mountain View, 650-864-9999; 19379 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, 408-886-3333; [alexanderspatisserie.com](http://alexanderspatisserie.com). Instagram: @alexanderspatisserie.■

Email Associate Digital Editor Kate Bradshaw at [peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com](mailto:peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com).

### LEHUA GREENMAN



"Give thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day of your life. Appreciate & never take for granted all that you have."

650.245.1845 COMPASS



# Get your home the attention it deserves.

Whether maximizing the value of your home or finding the home of your dreams, our agents provide incomparable service at all price points. We're locally rooted and globally connected.

*Nothing Compares.*  
**GOLDENGATESIR.COM**



2003 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park  
OFFERED AT \$4,695,000

**BRIAN CAIRNEY**  
650.867.5895 LICENSE# 01374382



60 Shearer Drive, Atherton  
OFFERED AT \$16,950,000

**GLORIA YOUNG**  
650.380.9918 LICENSE# 01895672  
**JOHN YOUNG**  
650.862.2122 LICENSE# 02036387



177 Alamos Road, Portola Valley  
OFFERED AT \$8,995,000

**MICHAEL DREYFUS**  
650.644.3474 LICENSE# 01121795  
**ELLEN ASHLEY**  
650.888.1886 LICENSE# 01364212



2 Buttercup Lane, San Carlos  
OFFERED AT \$1,450,000

**CHRISTY HERMAN**  
650.678.9579 LICENSE# 01170780



237 Hillcrest Road, San Carlos  
OFFERED AT \$2,789,000

**ELLEN LARIOS**  
650.867.6607 LICENSE# 01330606



60 Ensenada Road, San Carlos  
OFFERED AT \$4,250,000

**DULCY FREEMAN**  
650.804.8884 LICENSE# 01342352



1880 Carmelita Drive, San Carlos  
OFFERED AT \$7,250,000

**DULCY FREEMAN**  
650.804.8884 LICENSE# 01342352



42 Arch Lane, San Carlos  
OFFERED AT \$2,198,000

**ALISON WILLIAMS**  
650.400.6570 LICENSE# 01940921



845 Port Walk Place, Redwood City  
OFFERED AT \$749,000

**RENEE DASKALAKIS**  
650.597.1800 LICENSE# 01111348



2020 Helena Way, Redwood City  
OFFERED AT \$1,988,000

**ALISON WILLIAMS**  
650.400.6570 LICENSE# 01940921



1515 Oak Avenue, Redwood City  
OFFERED AT \$2,299,000

**ALLISON FUJIMOTO**  
650.888.3863 LICENSE# 01431288



1280 Woodside Road, Redwood City  
OFFERED AT \$995,000

**MARY JO MCCARTHY**  
650.400.6364 LICENSE# 01354295



5 Jewell Place, Hillsborough  
OFFERED AT \$4,888,000

**RUSS VAVURIS**  
650.255.5010 LICENSE# 01090247



1702 Valley View Avenue, Belmont  
OFFERED AT \$2,438,888

**PENELOPE HUANG**  
650.281.8028 LICENSE# 01023392



265 Portola State Park Road, La Honda  
OFFERED AT \$1,995,000

**CHRIS IVERSON**  
650.450.0450 LICENSE# 01708130



2159 Crestmoor Drive, San Bruno  
OFFERED AT \$1,349,000

**JOHN SHROYER**  
650.787.2121 LICENSE# 00613370