

The Almanac

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

JANUARY 27, 2023 | VOL. 58 NO. 21



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Seven dead in Half Moon Bay mass shooting, 67-year-old man in custody

By Leah Worthington

Seven people are dead, one is in critical condition, and a 67-year-old man is in custody after he allegedly opened fire in two separate shootings in an unincorporated area of Half Moon Bay on Monday, Jan. 23, according to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

Responding to the first major incident as county sheriff since being sworn in less than three weeks prior, Christina Corpus said at a news conference that the suspect in the mass shooting, Chunli Zhao of Half Moon Bay, was identified as a worker at one of the farms where the shootings occurred. He was taken into custody "without incident" after Deputy Sheriff Kenneth Laperruque found him in his car in the parking lot of the Half Moon Bay Sheriff's



Chunli Zhao

Office substation, she said. He allegedly had a semi-automatic handgun with him in his car.

In his first court appearance Jan. 25, Zhao did not enter a plea, his lawyers instead requesting that the judge give them more time to meet with their client. His arraignment was rescheduled to Feb. 16.

Zhao is charged with seven counts of murder and one count of attempted murder, the highest number ever filed for a single incident in San Mateo County according to San Mateo County District Attorney Stephen Wagstaffe.

If convicted, Zhao could face life in prison without parole or the death penalty.

Two crimes scenes with multiple victims

Deputies responded to the incident at about 2:22 p.m. to the 12700 block of San Mateo Road, or Highway 92,

See **SHOOTING**, page 18



Leah Worthington

Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks at a press conference in Half Moon Bay after seven people were killed and one wounded in a mass shooting Jan. 23.

Terminated Meta content moderators worry about fake news flourishing in their absence

Contract moderators who used to work in Mountain View say that Meta abruptly terminated their contracts earlier this month

By Malea Martin and Cameron Rebosio

Nearly 200 Meta content moderators who used to work at the tech company's Mountain View office and now work in Fremont had their contracts terminated this month, according to affected workers who spoke to this news organization.

After Meta broke its lease at the San Antonio Center in Mountain View late last year, the company cited its goal to

build "a best-in-class remote work experience" as a reason. The office space was occupied by Accenture-employed content moderators working under contract for Meta.

But soon after, those moderators revealed that rather than having the option to work remotely — a privilege granted to most of Meta's full-time employees — they were still required to work in person, most recently at Meta's Fremont office.

Employees were working there on Jan. 11 when they were told to

'I have no idea how they're going to manage this content ... we were already short-staffed.'

JOHN, A LAID-OFF
META CONTENT MODERATOR

stop their tasks and join a town hall, where they were informed that Meta was terminating its contract with Accenture content

moderators in the Fremont office. About 150 to 175 employees were impacted by this decision, according to workers interviewed by this organization.

"It wasn't a shock to me because they've done this to the full-time employees a few months ago, they did this to another contractor that used to share the building with us," said John, a pseudonym for one of the content moderators. The Almanac agreed not to publish his real name over concerns it would affect his future

employment.

He said he found the announcement surprising, though not shocking. But reactions varied, John said, describing the mood of the office as "textbook grieving."

"For several other coworkers, I'm not going to lie, they had breakdowns after that call," John said. "... There were angry people, there were sad people, there were very numb people."

He estimated that there are

See **META**, page 10

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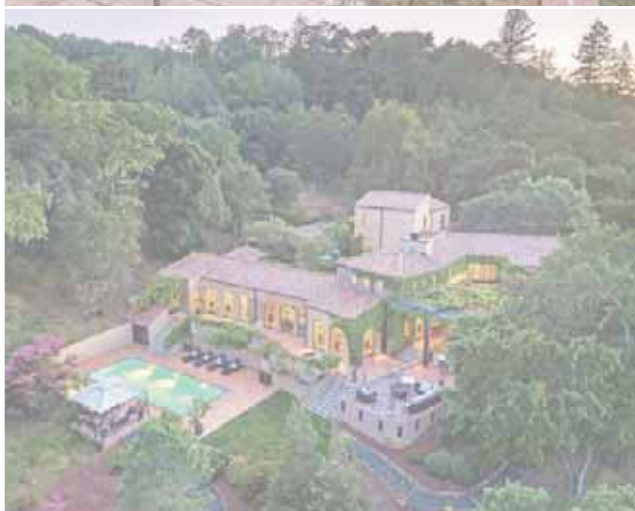
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Magali Gauthier
VISUAL JOURNALIST

Hear from visual journalist, Magali Gauthier

I'm Magali Gauthier and I'm the staff visual journalist for Embarcadero Media, the small local news organization on the Peninsula that covers news for the Palo Alto Weekly, the Mountain View Voice, The Almanac, and Redwood City Pulse.

During the recent string of storms in early January, our newsroom covered power outages, downed trees and flooding across all our coverage areas, from Mountain View to Woodside. On some days, I was on the ground with reporters at the San Francisquito Creek speaking with local residents about how floods had impacted their homes and what they were doing to protect them from further damage. At the same time, other reporters were in touch with city officials and public works departments to give you all the most up-to-date news on power outages and impacted roadways. On other days, I was driving around Woodside and Portola Valley, in constant communication with reporters about downed trees and street closures to photograph and film. All the information and visuals we gathered were then sent to our editors who were updating stories online. It was a really collaborative and time-consuming effort. But we knew it was important to tell and show our readers how current events were impacting them as quickly as possible.

This type of localized and extensive coverage would not be possible without our members' support. Countless people in our newsroom took part in bringing it to you. If you want to see more stories that provide you with information that helps you make decisions about your everyday life, please consider becoming a member.

The Almanac

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Local News

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Magali Gauthier

Lion dances, acrobats, craft projects and calligraphy lessons are among the offerings at local Lunar New Year events. Pictured is a performance by Leung's White Crane Dragon and Lion Dance Association at the Woodside Library last January.

Where to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit

From lion dances to calligraphy lessons, the Peninsula offers many ways to mark Lunar New Year

By Heather Zimmerman

Lunar New Year has arrived and Peninsula cities, libraries and local groups are hosting a variety of events marking the advent of Year of the Rabbit. From music and dance performances to hands-on

crafts, here's a sampling of a variety of ways to celebrate the new year.

Four Seasons Silicon Valley: The hotel marks the start of Year of the Rabbit with its managers joining East Palo Alto Mayor Lisa Yarborough-Gauthier and Jeff Liu, East Palo Alto acting chief of police,

in a lion eye-dotting ceremony, followed by a performance of lion dancers trained in the Yau Kung Moon discipline.

Jan. 27, 5 p.m. at the Four Seasons, 2050 University Ave., East Palo Alto. fourseasons.com/siliconvalley.

See **LUNAR NEW YEAR**, page 15

Menlo Park Planning Commission wants to triple housing units on SRI campus

By Cameron Rebosio

The Menlo Park Planning Commission wants to see more housing in the proposed Parkline development plans at the SRI campus, saying at its Jan. 23 meeting that the project could match the more than 1,700 units in Meta's recent Willow Village megaproject.

Plans for the Parkline project,

located on the research campus at Ravenswood Avenue between Laurel Street and Middlefield Road, call for up to 550 new rental housing units, at least 15% of which would be offered at below market rate. The project will include new bicycle and pedestrian paths and about 25 acres of publicly accessible open space.

The Parkline development at SRI's campus is also across the

street from the city's Burgess Park complex, which includes Menlo Park's recreation center, pool, gyms, police station, city hall and city council chambers, library, tennis courts and fields. There are several bus stops adjacent to the site along Middlefield Road and Ravenswood Avenue.

Parkline developer Lane

See **SRI CAMPUS**, page 13

No vacation, no pension, no bonus for county's flex workers

San Mateo County's 'extra help' make up more than a quarter of its workforce but see few benefits

By Leah Worthington

Two years ago, 36-year-old Jude Devilla was eager to begin a new position as a full-time registered dental assistant at the Fair Oaks Health Center.

Devilla, who was previously working in a private dental clinic, thought the county job would give him the opportunity to expand his patient coverage. Had he known what his new role as an "extra help" worker would entail, however, he said he would never have taken it.

"If only I knew I wouldn't have given up my job," he said. "I thought I could help more people (at the county). I think I'm helping, but I have to help myself too."

Devilla is one of nearly 800 "extra help" workers, or flex workers, who are represented by the AFSCME Local 829 and SEIU Local 521 unions and provide San Mateo County with

everything from health care and food service to emergency dispatch and library support. While many work full-time hours, they aren't afforded the same benefits as their permanent counterparts, including paid vacation and guaranteed health insurance.

Now, after more than a year since their last contract expired, the more than 2,000 extra help employees (800 of which are union-represented), who comprise roughly 26% of the county workforce, are rallying to demand better benefits and an end to months-long labor negotiations. Bargaining began in September 2022, and union representatives have been meeting with the Board of Supervisors and County Executive Mike Callagy regularly since — but with little movement, according to the union.

"We've worked hard to put

reasonable common sense proposals on the table to improve the lives of county employees and the public that our members serve. Unfortunately we've seen our proposals rejected one after the other," Union Representative Gaelan Ash said in a statement. "We're really grateful for the support from the elected Board of Supervisors, and we're hopeful that we can reach an agreement soon."

Callagy did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

On Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 17, rather than scrubs and gloves, Devilla donned plainclothes as he marched and chanted alongside his fellow union workers in front of the San Mateo County building. Roughly 40 members,

'I've never felt so disrespected by an employer. I'm clearly not valued as a worker.'

SARAH EGGEN-THORNHILL

both permanent and flex employees, joined the "Rally for Equality," which took place during the Board of Supervisors' meeting in downtown Redwood City.

"I believe that we will win! I believe that we will win!" they yelled, pumping fists and clapping hands.

Members of the union also spoke at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors Jan. 17, calling on their elected officials to support demands for a new contract with expanded benefits. Board President Dave Pine said the supervisors would discuss the issue during negotiations with the union representatives.

"We value the contributions our extra help workers make to the County's operations and are confident that a fair contract can be negotiated," he said in a statement.

Extra help employees have served critical roles in the county for at least 40 years, according to San Mateo County Human Resources Director Rocio Kiryczun, who said their purpose is "to fill temporary

See **FLEX WORKERS**, page 15



Town of Atherton
Town Administrative Offices
80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, California 94027
650-752-0500

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Atherton City Council will hold a special meeting to hold a public hearing to consider adopting an Amendment to the General Plan for the 2023-2031 Housing Element, pursuant to Atherton Municipal Code Section 17.23.

Description: The Housing Element has been prepared in accordance with State Law, Government Code Sections 65580 et seq., to provide housing programs that include the Town's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) of 348 new housing units during the planning period of 2023-2031 (the "Project").

The Draft Housing Element is available on the Town's website:
<https://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/627/Housing-Element-Update>

The consideration and adoption of the Town's initiated Housing Element (6th Cycle) is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The consideration and adoption of the Housing Element is alternatively exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15002 as the adoption of the Housing Element is a planning study and will not have any impacts to the environment. Further, to the extent the Regional Housing Needs determinations are made, the Project is further exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15283, which provides, "CEQA does not apply to regional housing needs determinations made by the Department of Housing and Community Development, a council of governments, or a city or county pursuant to Section 65584 of the Government Code. Conditions have not changed, and the amendments proposed do not change the City's determination. A CEQA analysis will be conducted for any future zoning code amendments and/or development of specific projects when those are considered

Planning Commission Recommendation: The Planning Commission, at a special meeting held on January 19, 2023 voted 3 in favor (Lane, Narancic, Lerner) with 2 absent (Lamb and Konce) to recommend that the City Council adopt the Housing Element with the following changes:

- Remove the proposed up zoning of the 17 properties along El Camino Real and replace with a new multifamily "overlay zone" that would allow both existing single family residential and multifamily developments to be developed, up to a density of 20 units per acre. The overlay would apply to properties along all of El Camino Real, one parcel deep on both sides. This would apply to 88 lots. The new overlay zones do not discontinue the current property's use. The overlay zone provides an option for property owners to develop at a higher density. The new zoning will include height limits, setbacks, parking regulations, landscape screening and other objective design standards that the projects would be required to comply with to ensure development occurs in harmony with the surrounding neighborhood
- Add an additional overlay zone allowing R-10 along Valparaiso Avenue. This would apply to 22 lots.
- For lots of 1 acre in size or more, remove any residency requirement for subdivisions that are made pursuant to Senate Bill 9 (SB 9 allows for up to four units to be built in the same lot area typically used for a single-family home, by right).
- Identify incentives for consolidation of lots within the overlay zone that are 0.5 acres or smaller, while minimizing impacts to neighbors.

Applicant: Town initiated, pursuant to State Housing laws.

Location: Townwide.

Teleconference Information:

Dial: 1-669-900-6833 US

Meeting ID: 506 897 786

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

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the public hearing is set for the City Council meeting on **January 31, 2023 at 2:00 PM** in person at 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027 – Council Chambers and via teleconference accessible through the above-described information, at which time and place all persons interested may participate and show cause, if they have any, why the Housing Element, should or should not be adopted.

IF YOU CHALLENGE the Housing Element in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, close of the public hearing.

If you have any questions on the item please contact Lisa Costa Sanders, Consulting Planner, at lcostasanders@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-333-0248. Any attendee who wishes accommodation for a disability should contact the City Clerk at (650) 752-0529 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Date Posted: January 20, 2023

Established 1965

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The Almanac is published
every Friday at

**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,
Menlo Park, CA 94025**

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The Almanac (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370)

is published every Friday by Embarcadero

Media, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park,

CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at

Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices.

Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation

for San Mateo County. The Almanac is delivered

to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley

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CRIME BRIEFS

Menlo Park man arrested after high-speed chase

Deputies from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office are looking for one of two men who fled on foot from officers on Jan. 22 morning after a pursuit ended with the suspect's vehicle crashing into a parked car.

Officers tried pulling over the vehicle for alleged vehicle code violations at 3:14 a.m., according to a statement from the sheriff's office.

The vehicle fled northbound on Middlefield Road near Redwood City "at a high rate of speed with wanton disregard for public safety," officials said. Deputies found the vehicle disabled after it crashed into a parked car.

Deputies saw two males fleeing from the vehicle, eventually locating and arresting a 23-year-old Menlo Park man, who was hiding nearby. A vehicle search revealed a loaded firearm with an extended magazine.

While he was being booked, the man removed his handcuff and fled the sheriff's substation. Deputies engaged in a foot pursuit and apprehended him a second time and booked him into the Maguire Correctional Facility.

Sheriff's department officials ask anyone with information regarding this incident to call the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office anonymous tip line at (800) 547-2700.

—Bay City News Service

Three clerks in Menlo Park cited for selling alcohol to minors

Three clerks and servers in Menlo Park were cited on Jan. 20, for the sale of alcohol to minors following a decoy operation by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Menlo Park Police, according to a press release.

The decoy operation targeted six retail licensees in Menlo Park, in which minors attempted to buy alcohol under the supervision of agents.

The violation carries a minimum fine of \$250, and possibly 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. The ABC also plans to pursue action against the alcohol licenses of the businesses that violated liquor laws by selling alcohol to minors.

The citations were made as a part of statewide checks by the ABC to reduce minors' access to alcohol through a grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control through the department's Alcohol Policing Partnership Program.

—Cameron Rebosio

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

High school seniors invited to apply for \$10K equestrian scholarship

The Mounted Patrol Foundation and the Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA!) are accepting applications for the \$10,000 Woodside-area Equestrian Merit Scholarship Award.

For the fourth year, this scholarship is jointly sponsored by the two organizations for a deserving local high school senior with a demonstrated involvement in, and future dedication to, equestrian activities as well as academic achievement and community service. Strong emphasis will be placed on demonstrating financial need.

Eligible applicants are seniors who attend high schools in San Mateo, Santa Clara and San Francisco counties, and who have been accepted to an accredited college, university, trade school or other continuing education program this fall.

Go to whoa94062.org/grants-awards to apply. Applications are due by April 30 at 3 p.m.

Applications available for community college board

Applications are now being accepted from any eligible person interested in filling the District 3 vacancy on the San Mateo County Community College District Board of Trustees. Area 3 covers the San Bruno, Hillsborough, Millbrae and Burlingame region of the district, which stretches from Daly City to Redwood City and down the coast.

Applications are available online at smccd.edu/boardoftrustees/board-vacancy.php, and must be submitted by Saturday, Feb. 4.

Referring to themselves as the ‘poverty pocket’ of Atherton, some residents facing upzoning threaten legal action

Some residents accused the council of trying to create a ‘Redwood City extension’

By Angela Swartz

Wearing red shirts saying “#Not Going Anywhere,” Atherton residents who live along El Camino Real told the Atherton City Council on Wednesday, Jan. 18, that they were surprised to be targeted in the town’s housing element draft.

The council voted 4-1 on Jan. 11, with Rick DeGolia opposed, to rezone 17 lots — totaling about 6.7 acres — along the western border of El Camino Real from Stockbridge Avenue to Cebalo Lane to allow denser housing construction of up to 20 units per acre. The vote also directs the town to start a program to encourage the consolidation of parcels to allow for low-income housing units.

The addition of the El Camino lots came after hearing feedback from consultants, local housing advocates and some residents. The council opted to add multifamily housing back into its state-mandated 2023-31 housing element plan, which requires the town to plan for 348 units over the next eight years.

“We, the victims of your deal-making, have been left out of the process,” Pam Silvaroli, one of the owners of the 17 lots, told the council on Jan. 18. “I am in the process of hiring an attorney. And we will prove that you have not operated in good faith. We will fight to the bitter end on this, and I can assure you that all the wrongdoing will be revealed. It’s going to be a very painful journey for all included, so get



Screenshot

An Atherton resident speaks out against upzoning her lot along El Camino Real during a Jan. 19 Planning Commission meeting.

ready for the storm.”

She alleged that the town can’t say in good faith say to the state that the parcels will be redeveloped because Atherton property is too expensive to fulfill the state’s low-income housing demands, and because the homeowners don’t want to move.

She was one of several residents who threatened legal action against the town if the lots are rezoned.

Resident Donna Chandra told council members: “This is personal, if this was your house, your kids’ house, would you think this was fair and good faith?” She asked them to go to bed tonight and think about how unfair this was. “We’re very upset.”

The town notes that the properties are highlighted on a map in a Jan. 12 letter to residents showing what was being considered for inclusion in the housing element as lots that could be

upzoned for the development of multifamily affordable units.

Typically, when a jurisdiction rezones occupied land from its existing use to another use, the existing use is deemed “legal-non-conforming.” This means whatever is currently there is allowed to stay, subject to some limitations, including a prohibition on rebuilding from scratch or building additions. It does not mean that current owners or occupants will be forced to move out.

One neighbor, Stan Hsu, said he is “keenly aware that the larger and wealthier cohorts of Atherton” consider the corridor “poverty pocket” of Atherton. Another resident also referred to the area as the “poverty pocket” of town and accused the town of trying to create a “Redwood City extension.”

The average estimated home value of the 17 lot is \$3.9 million, according to Zillow. At least two

homes in the neighborhood sold for about \$4 million each. Most of the sites are under 1 acre, with several being about 0.3 acres. The average home value in Atherton is \$7.5 million, according to Zillow.

“We currently represent diversity with properties already on the smaller side,” Shu said.

One neighbor was so emotional about the topic that she had to step away from the microphone in Council Chambers and have her husband speak on her behalf.

It is unclear what the plans are for 1 Gresham Lane, a 0.32-acre lot in the proposed rezoning. Its owner has applied for a lot split through Senate Bill 9, the so-called duplex law, that became effective last year.

Town Manager George Rodericks said that if the lot is split by the time the town completes the upcoming element draft, he’d add both lots into the upzoned area.

“One never knows what a developer might choose to do,” he said.

Council response

Vice Mayor Diana Hawkins-Manuelian said there’s a misconception that “we picked these properties because they’re smaller or lower-income compared to other areas.” She said it’s because they’re in a high traffic corridor and it’s already next to density or commercial property.

“I knew whoever was going to be impacted by this was going to be blindsided,” said Council member Rick DeGolia, who

voted against the El Camino Real housing plan last week. “People don’t pay attention until it starts to directly impact you.”

About a dozen times, a frustrated Mayor Bill Widmer had to tell residents to stop interrupting the council and staff discussion after the public comment period was closed.

Council member Elizabeth Lewis noted that she knows it’s an emotional issue but that the town “not putting the whole housing element on the backs of these few parcels along El Camino.”

“It takes a lot to stand up and speak your heart,” she acknowledged.

Rodericks said the El Camino corridor has been under consideration for upzoning since February 2021, so it’s not a new concept.

“This really was not done in the dark of night,” Lewis agreed.

Hawkins-Manuelian suggested the council create an overlay all along El Camino Real so it’s not as targeted.

Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders said there’s concern about the overlay concept because the state housing department has been more supportive of rezoning.

Rodericks told The Almanac in a Jan. 19 email that the state’s Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is focused on the likelihood of development occurring.

“It’s not written anywhere in the law that rezoning is required

See **UPZONING**, page 17

Targeted Atherton resident asks for more restrictions on picketing

By Angela Swartz

An Atherton resident who said he was targeted by paid protesters in November and December is asking the City Council to do more than limit picketing within 300 feet of a home and a \$1,000 fine for violating the ordinance.

The Carolina Lane resident spoke to the council during a Wednesday, Jan. 18, meeting, asking the town to charge violators with a misdemeanor. Police Chief Steve McCulley said the protesters last year were paid \$200 a day for eight hours of protesting outside of the home. The resident said he runs an investment firm and

was targeted by the “unhinged” protesters because of a court case involving a relative.

“Until very recently we lived in Atherton peacefully and happily for six and half years,” said the resident, who didn’t disclose his name. “Someone we don’t know sent more than 20 people to threaten and demean us. They came every single day including weekends and holidays. ... It was witness intimidation, mafia style.”

The resident lives in town with his wife, who is a student at Stanford University, and their children ages 1 and 4. They were forced to leave the home during the protests, which took place during the last two weeks of November and the

first two weeks of December, he said.

During the Jan. 18 meeting, the town considered whether to prohibit picketers from coming within 300 feet of the property line in front of a house, violators of which would be subject to fines.

The protesters did, at times, block driveways and yelled obscenities, McCulley said. Two of the resident’s neighbors vouched for the disruptiveness of the protests during the meeting.

McCulley said that there’s a “fine line in balancing free speech and a right to be safe in their own homes.” He noted that Atherton is unique in that it has narrow streets and no sidewalks.

Police were called out a few times to the protests and they had good communication with the organizer, but the organizer wasn’t always truthful, McCulley said.

“These were not typical protesters,” he said. The resident noted that the organizer of the protests has targeted others across the country and many of these other cases have ended in violence. The organizer has also made videos threatening his son, the targeted resident said.

Town Attorney Mona Ebrahimi said the town could consider adding a misdemeanor charge to the ordinance but dissuaded council members from requiring permits for

protests in town.

“I don’t recommend that at all,” she said. “It’s considered a prior restraint on free speech. ... I don’t recommend a blanket rule.”

The resident noted that in Los Angeles violators can receive a misdemeanor charge for breaking the rules.

Council member Elizabeth Lewis said she’d also like to see an ordinance with “more teeth.”

Town staff will amend the ordinance before it comes back to the City Council on Wednesday, Feb. 15. ■

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

Atherton Planning Commission wants town to dump rezoning along El Camino

Debate over where to put multifamily housing is heated

By Angela Swartz

After hearing the wrath of Atherton neighbors who live along a corridor of El Camino Real whose properties could be rezoned for multifamily housing, the town Planning Commission is proposing to ditch its rezoning plans and instead create a larger “overlay.” It’s the latest switch up in plan that’s soon due to the state.

The City Council has scrambled in the last two weeks to find multifamily units it could add to its housing plan, which is due to the state Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) on Tuesday, Jan. 31, and requires the town to plan for 348 additional units over the next eight years.

On Jan. 11, the council proposed upzoning 17 lots along El Camino Real for multifamily housing after hearing from staffers, housing advocates and others that its state-mandated housing plan would be rejected without some multifamily housing included. The town received extensive feedback from the state on its initial

draft in October, which focused on building accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

The upzoning decision drew a crowd of angry homeowners at the council’s Jan. 18 meeting, some of whom said the town is targeting the so-called “poverty pocket” of Atherton, but the majority of the council held its ground. The next night, on Thursday, Jan. 19, the commission proposed creating a zoning overlay allowing 20 units per acre on both sides of El Camino Real — one lot deep — from the town border in Menlo Park to the town border in Redwood City.

The commission, which had three of its five members present for the meeting, also voted 3-0 to add all properties along Valparaiso Avenue from El Camino Real to the town’s western border — one lot deep — to be included as part of an overlay of 10 units per acre.

“The idea of multifamily along El Camino is a good idea,” said Planning Commission Chair Eric Lane. “I think this method is not (the El Camino rezoning), and it’s a tough thing to expect

to be approved by the state. ... The Planning Commission didn’t know about this plan until you did as well.”

Some of the owners of the 17 lots along El Camino came to the Jan. 18 and Jan. 19 meetings in red shirts that read “#Not Going Anywhere,” and expressed frustration with the council’s decision and threatened legal action. They presented a petition to the Planning Commission on Jan. 19 with signatures from neighbors opposing the upzoning.

One resident asked the Planning Commission why their lots would be included in the plan if none of her neighbors plan to sell their properties or develop higher-density housing on their lots.

“I can’t even begin to describe the emotional turmoil you put us all through this last week,” said homeowner Stan Hsu.

Resident Loren Gruner suggested the town create an overlay throughout town so that certain residents don’t feel targeted.

The council also upzoned 23 Oakwood Blvd. at 10 units per acre during its Jan. 11 meeting. The homeowner has a plan

to develop townhouses at the site. Several neighbors, or their representatives, have spoken out during a series of meetings about the development there. The Planning Commission opted not to touch the Oakwood rezoning.

What is a housing overlay? What does it mean to rezone?

There has been some confusion over what the differences are between rezoning (or upzoning) properties and creating a housing overlay. In practice, rezoning places more restrictions on the homeowner and ultimately means the owner can’t tear down their home and build another single-family home.

Upzoning occurs when the town rezones parcels to allow a higher density than already exists on the parcel. When a parcel is upzoned, the existing use is allowed to continue, but if a homeowner abandons their home or demolishes it for new construction it must be redeveloped for multifamily housing. Renovations would generally be allowed under this method. The town is looking at upzoning to 20 units per acre.

The upzoning would occur over the next 36 months. The town would need to create development standards to

address height, setbacks, lot coverage, parking, fence heights, screening, etc. along with minimum and maximum density requirements, according to City Manager George Rodericks.

A zoning overlay would allow a different density or use than already exists on the parcel. When a parcel is part of an overlay, the existing use is allowed to continue and the property owner can choose to demolish and rebuild for the new use and keep the existing zoning.

The Planning Commissions’ option allows for parcels being considered for an overlay zone at a higher density to allow multifamily. The development requirements for multifamily are not yet developed and the overlay zone itself would occur over the next 36 months, Rodericks said in a Jan. 21 blog post.

Decision up to the council

It’s ultimately up to the council to decide if it wants to make changes to the plan it proposed during a Jan. 18 meeting.

The council will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 2 p.m. to review the changes and submit the housing element to the state. ■

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

Storms’ flooding caused hundreds of calls to Menlo Park

By Cameron Rebosio

The wet start to the year in Menlo Park resulted in nearly 200 storm-related calls to the city and 220 tons of sand being used for sandbags by residents, according to City Manager Justin Murphy at a Jan. 24 City Council meeting.

Menlo Park has been working on storm preparedness for several years, including storm drain cleaning and inspections, a 5-year maintenance cycle on tree trimming, fully stocked sandbag stations, and street sweeping and trash removal. The city also has a Stormwater Master Plan in development.

Starting with the first

floods on Dec. 31, Menlo Park’s Emergency Operations Center opened virtually and the San Francisquito Creek Multi-Agency Coordination (SFC MAC) Operational Plan for Severe Storm and Flood Response was implemented, and SFC MAC coordination calls began Dec. 31.

“There’s multiple departments that came together to work on various assignments,” Murphy said. “Some of those assignments were above and beyond some people’s typical duties of City Hall.”

Murphy said city staff was at sandbag stations, and that engineering staff was out in the field monitoring creek conditions and assisting with debris removal.

The city used more than 220 tons of sand and over 11,000 sandbags during the storms, and 189 storm-related calls were made to police dispatch. These calls were mostly reporting surface street and intersection flooding, downed trees and branches, vehicle breakdowns and hazards. Menlo Park Public Works crews responded to 139 storm-related service calls.

“There’s tremendous

opportunities to improve,” Murphy said. “(There’s) lessons learned and things that can be incorporated into future events.”

The city sent out a message to over 9,500 residents on Dec. 31 and sent subsequent smaller

messages to residents near the creek warning them about rising water levels. The staff report delivered by Murphy was the first update on Menlo Park’s storm recovery.

“While many of us were sitting at home cozy under

blankets, (city staff was) out in the rain, getting their socks wet and doing the hard work for all of us,” Mayor Jen Wolosin said. ■

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

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Neighbors help a resident on Woodland Avenue clear out a flooded driveway on Dec. 31.

Courtesy Ali Hooshmand

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Sequoia District begins search for a new superintendent, again

High school district is replacing its leader for second time in two years

By Leah Worthington

Teachers, parents and local officials said they were “left with more questions than answers” after a special board meeting held Jan. 18 to discuss the appointment of a new Sequoia Union High School District superintendent.

The meeting after the December announcement that former Superintendent Darnise Williams would depart from the district at the end of the month, in the middle of her three-year contract. Members of the public challenged the board’s assertion that the decision was a “mutual agreement,” alleging that the

trustees had forced out the district’s first Black female superintendent.

Though the process for finding a new superintendent remains undetermined, the board decided to move forward with a “listening tour” led by executive search firm Leadership Associates to seek input from community members.

Several district teachers and parents spoke during the meeting, demanding more



Darnise Williams

transparency and raising concerns about the board’s commitment to the district in the wake of Williams’ departure. Menlo-Atherton English teacher Abbie Korman asked how the board planned to incentivize community members to share feedback.

“And how will you make sure the community feels like their voice actually matters, when the superintendent we last picked was just let go?” she asked.

Listening tour

The board invited Leadership Associates to discuss the first steps for finding a new superintendent. Eric Andrew, a partner

at the firm who led the search for the SUHSD’s last superintendent that resulted in Williams’ hiring, and two previous assistant superintendents, addressed the board during the meeting.

As part of the process, he recommended leading a “listening tour” to gather input on what the community wants in their next superintendent and any particular needs or challenges facing the district. He encouraged the board to analyze the results of this outreach to inform a decision about what kind of recruitment process to conduct.

However, some speakers questioned the value and success of another round of community

outreach, noting that the last superintendent search concluded just two years ago.

Korman said she was “confused by the mission of a listening tour,” adding that “any unmet need” for the district should have been raised and discussed before Williams’ departure.

“I’m not sure, on a listening campaign, what will have changed since the last time you asked folks, except maybe an erosion of trust in the board,” she said.

Korman also asked about the expected timeline, whether a

See **SEQUOIA DISTRICT**, page 14

META

continued from page 1

about 700 full-time employees who work at the Fremont campus.

The day after the announcement was made, full-time Meta employees at the Fremont office were invited to a happy hour featuring wine and dinner, a weekly event that the contracted employees were never invited to, John said.

“It was highly upsetting,” he said of the happy hour.

When asked to confirm the contract termination, as well as the reasoning behind it, Meta did not address a list of emailed questions. Instead, a Meta spokesperson said in a statement, “We regularly review our content enforcement policies, systems and vendors to ensure that we are operating as efficiently and effectively as possible for the billions of people who use our apps every day.”

John said his and his colleagues’ last day is Jan. 27, and the soon-to-be former employees have major concerns about who will pick up their workloads once they’re gone.

These Accenture employees are contracted by Meta to moderate content on the company’s social media platforms, Facebook and Instagram, which have come under scrutiny in recent years for the kind of content its users are allowed to post and see.

“That’s the million-dollar question in my mind,” John said. “... We’ve been told over and over again, ‘Keep pushing guys, this is what’s keeping Facebook from devolving into what Twitter is right now.’ So I have no idea how they’re going to manage this content that we were already short-staffed on running.”

Twitter recently laid off a large number of its contracted employees, including content moderators, The Verge reported. John said that this caused a rise in racist comments and hate speech. He said he expects similar effects at Facebook and Meta in six to eight months.

When asked who will now handle the terminated employees’ work, Meta said that “there will be no impact on our content review capabilities as a result of this change.”

Another content moderator impacted by the cut, Ryan, whose name has also been changed for this story, said his team has historically focused on preventing political misinformation from circulating on Meta platforms. He also encounters a fair amount of violent content that he and his team remove from the platform.

“After what happened to Nancy Pelosi’s husband, when he got attacked, that was a big thing that was showing up a lot on Facebook and Instagram,” Ryan said. “So our job was to make sure that we were removing any kind of posts or

comments that were in favor of, say, someone attacking a political figure physically.”

Ryan added that his team was also on the lookout for “any potential items or clues that would indicate that people were thinking about doing another Jan. 6 insurrection.”

“Around election time, our job was to make sure that if there was anyone that was praising the insurrection or potentially saying, ‘We have to do Jan. 6 all over again,’ we were definitely on the lookout for that as well,” Ryan said.

Content moderation is well-documented as an emotionally arduous job. Employees like John and Ryan have to parse through often disturbing content for hours at a time.

“One of my good friends, he knew the nature of the job that I do, and he said something that stuck with me,” Ryan said. “He said, ‘Thank you for looking at and removing all the bad stuff so my kids won’t have to look at it.’ That was kind of a motivating thing for myself.”

Ryan suspects that Meta, like many large companies across

the tech industry, is making cuts like this one in an attempt to protect its profitability amid the economic downturn.

“They decided they need to cut costs, and one of the things that, in their eyes, they can afford to cut would be the people who work to monitor and make sure that their platform is safe,” Ryan said.

‘(Several employees) had breakdowns after that call ... there were angry people, there were very numb people.’

JOHN, A LAID-OFF
META WORKER CONTENT MODERATOR

According to John, the contract employees had recently been given raises, which added to the blindsiding nature of this decision. Neither Meta nor Accenture would confirm who sets raises when asked by The Almanac, but employees said they believed it to be negotiated between Accenture and Meta and based on a certain amount of hours. Accenture charges Meta for their employees’ hours worked, and the employees have to meet that quota as a department.

Ryan said he received the highest raise offered during this time, and expressed his disappointment that he only received that pay rate for two months. John said that he believed Meta was aware it would be laying off the content moderators when these raises were offered, but Meta would not confirm this.

“We were being told and encouraged to take time off and go spend time with our families,”

John said. “Then this hits us right now. I know a lot of people who got raises and kind of went all-out on Christmas stuff this year.”

The employees that this news organization spoke with said that they were concerned about stability with a lack of job opportunities in California. Several major tech companies, including Meta, Twitter and Google have laid off large swaths of employees recently, and John said he had concerns about the ability to find a job on less than a month’s notice.

Employees were given the option to either stay on with Accenture for six weeks while the company tries to find them another contracted position, or take a severance package. If employees choose the first option and cannot be placed in a position by an unnamed date in March, Accenture will let them go.

John and Ryan both said they were considering accepting the offer to be placed at another position through Accenture due to concerns about job availability.

But Ryan said he wouldn’t be surprised if Meta has to rehire content moderators come election season next year.

“I knew when I first got hired on, it was a reaction to the controversies that had happened regarding the elections in 2016,” Ryan said. “I do feel that we did a lot of good, but also that, at the time, you could see it was almost like a PR move.”

“Our job was to police Facebook in order to ensure that the depravity of humanity doesn’t show up on there.” ■

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Magali Gauthier

Almost 200 content moderators under contract with Meta were laid off, raising concerns about how the social media giant plans to monitor violent and objectionable material posted to Facebook and Instagram.

Housing, parking and other infrastructure on Woodside mayor's plate in the year ahead

By Angela Swartz

Like many other mayors in California, Chris Shaw expects to spend a good part of 2023 focused on producing an acceptable housing plan.

The eight-year plan for 328 new units, called a housing element, is due on Tuesday, Jan. 31, and has been in the works for about two years now. Although officials like Shaw have begrudgingly gone along with the state's housing mandate, he said he's happy with the plan the town has settled on.

"What Woodside has done is a best faith effort to try and find a solution that the state will accept (and) that residents may not accept but feel as if they've been heard throughout the process," he said. "Nobody buys a single family home anywhere and thinks, 'This neighborhood is really missing a three-story apartment block. It's a fair statement people don't like to say out loud.'"

Shaw, who just stepped into his second term as mayor, noted that he understands there is a housing shortage and he is very

committed to finding a way to help young couples, who want to start families, be able to own homes in Woodside. Many aren't "wealthy or lucky enough yet" to do that. He said including town-owned properties in the housing plan makes that much more likely, as the town could partner with an organization to build affordable housing on land that's expensive.

"We are an older, aging demographic," he said. "How do we keep our school afloat, and bring fresh families into our community? That is one of the things that is paramount for the survival of any municipality."

The Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Jan. 31 for a special meeting to review and send the town's housing element to the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

In his interview with *The Almanac*, Shaw emphasized that it's difficult for a mayor to

get a pet project done during the 12-month term, but still shared what the town will be focused on during the next 11 months.

Parking and traffic

A lack of parking in Woodside's town center and throughout town, along with traffic, has been a long been a concern for Shaw and others.

He expects the issue to bubble up to the surface this year, as an application is currently being reviewed by staff to develop 45 parking spaces at Cañada Corners, mostly for employees of nearby businesses. This new parking is possible through Measure A, a ballot initiative that passed in fall of 2021.

"The idea is the new parking would replace those spots taken up by outdoor dining out front," he said. "There's a huge number of people working here and they've got to park somewhere. ... Anytime you change the status quo, human nature is, 'we don't like change.'"

Committees have taken a look at the plan, but it will need to be approved by the Planning

Commission and then by the Town Council.

By February or March, Shaw hopes to put together a volunteer committee to begin looking at parking throughout town and come up with recommendations to the council.

"There's very, very limited parking," he said. "Virtually all of it is on private land. ... We need to bring together private and public property owners to see what can be done. It's a very thorny issue."

On one side there is a very vocal group who would like to make it exponentially more difficult to park in Woodside, who support the idea of outsiders not coming to Woodside and would like to turn the clock back to 1950, he said.

"I don't know that that's a viable solution to the issues we're looking at," he said. "One thing is abundantly clear is nobody is happy about it. Let's at least have a conversation about it."

Traffic is also something he wants to address this year. Infrastructure hasn't changed much in the 30 years he's lived in town. With almost 400 units

of housing expected to be built over the next eight years, that will likely need to change, he said.

"How do the roads handle that?" he said.

More people have been coming to Woodside to ride their bikes since the pandemic hit in 2020. He'd like to see more people walking around town, which is why the town invests in the Safe Routes to School program.

Wildfire danger

Although in recent weeks the Midpeninsula has been stuck in a rainy pattern, Shaw is fully aware that come summer, the threat of wildfire will return.

"It won't be very long until we're seeing days in the 90s and dry weather," he said.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Woodside Fire Protection District are working on updating their fire hazard severity maps. Woodside Fire will likely come to both Woodside and Portola Valley with recommendations

See **MAYOR**, page 16

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Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed \$309,000 from more than 170 donors for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

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

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

Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula

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

Ecumenical Hunger Program

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

Health Connected

Serves over 5,000 students and their families each year through comprehensive sexual health education programs. Students learn to have ongoing communication with parents and to make informed decisions that will apply to their lives, now and in the future.

LifeMoves

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

Literacy Partners

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

Ravenswood Family Health Center

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

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

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

St. Francis Center

Helps low-income, working families become self-supporting members of the community by providing long-term solutions through educational programs for children and parents, as well as after-school programming at Siena Youth Centers. St. Francis Center also provides housing, food and clothing services to address short-term needs.

StarVista

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

Upward Scholars

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

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

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation



Rotary Club of Menlo Park

SRI CAMPUS

continued from page 5

Partners plans to demolish all but three of the existing buildings currently on the SRI research campus. The development will be split between a 10-acre residential district and a 53-acre office district. The residential district in its plans would have 450 units, plus a separately zoned area to be leased to an affordable housing developer for a project of up to 100 units.

The biggest questions at the meeting, which was continued from a Dec. 12 meeting, centered on the size and accessibility of the site, as many residents and commissioners said that the location is ideal for more housing than the developer is currently proposing.

The site was compared several times to Meta's recently approved Willow Village development, located on Willow Road between Hamilton Avenue and Ivy Drive, near the social media giant's headquarters on Bayfront Expressway. They are comparable in size, as Willow Village encompasses a 59-acre lot while Parkline is proposed for a 63-acre lot. However, Parkline is proposing 550 housing units as opposed to Willow Village's 1,730 units.

The difference in proposed homes and housing density raised equity questions among commissioners, as Willow Village is situated in the underserved Belle Haven neighborhood, where a majority of Menlo Park's new and affordable units are built. The Parkline development is in the resource-rich Linfield Oaks neighborhood, close to downtown Menlo Park and an array of amenities, from public parks to public transit.

"If we provide less than one-third of the units in District 3 that we allow in District 1 on the same amount of acreage, it just doesn't feel equitable," Vice Chair Cynthia Harris said. "If we aren't equitable, we do put ourselves at risk. We put ourselves at risk of lawsuits, and we put ourselves at risk of the state coming in and making some decisions for us."

One suggestion commissioners and residents alike made was to decrease parking while increasing housing. Theoretically, this move would decrease the traffic impact as the property is close access to the Menlo Park Caltrain station and other public transit, which would draw in residents without cars or who prefer not to drive.

"It is the opportunity of a generation, perhaps multiple generations," Commissioner Jennifer Schindler said. "This is a completely unique location, completely collaborative and invested

landowner, so we really do have an opportunity to make a big impact on the community here."

While the meeting had a heavy focus on increased housing, some neighbors had concerns about the proposed growth. Many of these worries were expressed through emails to the Planning Commission, including one from Linfield Oaks resident Nancy Hosay that lays out several recommendations, such as fewer housing units and redirecting traffic flow by relocating a proposed driveway on Laurel Street.

"At 400 units, the density of this development far outstrips anything in the adjoining neighborhoods, and jeopardizes basic quality of life issues including resultant lack of parking, crowding, school and infrastructure impacts and traffic in this area," Hosay wrote to the Planning Commission.

Others pushed for higher density in public comments, suggesting that the project approach or match the density of Willow Village.

"We can go a long way towards achieving climate goals and affirmatively furthering fair housing in an equitable manner by increasing the density of Parkline," resident Catherine Dumont said. "Doubling (it) would be good."

The Planning Commission members had less than an hour to discuss the proposal after hearing public comments, so the meeting was continued a second time to Feb. 6. At the first hearing at a Dec. 12 meeting, commission members only had 30 minutes to discuss the proposal. ■

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 6

All eligible applicants will be interviewed at a special meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. Following the interviews, the board will appoint the provisional board member and administer the oath of office.

Filoli orchid display runs through Feb. 13

Filoli Estate in Woodside is displaying unique species of orchids in its historic house and dining room.

The Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society will also be selling plants propagated by their members on the weekend of Jan. 28 and 29, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with Filoli admission.

Filoli is located at 86 Cañada Road in Woodside.

—Angela Swartz

The Almanac

Paul Perret.....	1,000
Bob & Barbara Ells.....	500
Kathleen Elkins.....	*
Don & Catherine Coluzzi.....	*

In Memory Of

Bill Hewlett and Dave Packard.....	1,000
Dr. Fereidoon Kaboli.....	*
Ruth & Chet Johnson.....	*
Doug Hutton.....	200
Paul & Ingeborg Katz.....	*
Vicki Jones & Dee & Jerry Carlson.....	125
Nancy Sallaberry.....	500
Wiley Birkhofer.....	2,500
Stephen F. Martin.....	5,000
Hugh D. Kennedy.....	*
Ted Heidinger.....	500
Jean Zonner.....	1,000

In Honor Of

Nella and Bill Berry.....	1,000
Marer Family.....	200
Nancy Stevens.....	*
The Liggett Family.....	*
Dennis McBride.....	500

As a Gift for

Mira Lajoie.....	100
------------------	-----

Businesses & Organizations

Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation.....	10,000
Griffin & Sons Construction, Inc.....	*
Hewlett Foundation.....	8,750
Packard Foundation.....	15,000
Menlo Park Firefighters' Association.....	500
Lyn At Your Service.....	*
TOSA FOUNDATION.....	1,000

* Donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.

President Joe Biden makes a stop in Mountain View on tour of storm damage

By Malea Martin

President Joe Biden touched down aboard Air Force One at Moffett Federal Airfield in Mountain View just before noon on Jan. 19. It was the president's first stop on a packed schedule of visiting Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties to survey storm-damaged areas.

Air Force One landed around

11:41 a.m., and Biden emerged about 10 minutes later, wearing his signature black aviator sunglasses. Once on the ground, he was joined by Gov. Gavin Newsom and Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto.

Biden and Newsom spoke as the president walked toward a hover of helicopters. Biden boarded a green U.S. Marine Corps chopper just after noon, and took off at 12:08 p.m.

Biden's next stop was the Watsonville Municipal Airport. Soon after, the president arrived at the Capitola Pier to meet with business owners and local residents impacted by the devastation from recent storms, according to the White House.

The president then made his way to Seacrest State Park in Aptos in the afternoon to meet with first responders, as well as state and local officials, to survey recovery efforts underway after the storms.

San Mateo County District 5 Supervisor David Canepa said in a statement about Biden's visit that storm recovery in the Bay Area will require a "massive federal response."

"These storms have wreaked havoc on the entire Bay Area including the massive sink hole we have here in San Mateo County on Highway 92 and the



Magali Gauthier

President Joe Biden exits Air Force One at Moffett Federal Airfield in Mountain View on Jan. 19.

massive boulder that dropped on the Tom Lantos Tunnels at Devil's Slide," Canepa said. "... We need Congress to start prioritizing protecting us because we are an economic engine for

the entire nation and even the world." ■

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

Nancy Williams Sallaberry

April 16, 1955 – December 18, 2022

After a courageous, nearly eight-year battle with ALS, Menlo Park resident Nancy Sallaberry passed peacefully in her home on December 18, 2022. Her devoted husband of 38 years Paul Sallaberry; her three sons Marc, Luc, and Daniel Sallaberry; daughter-in-law Brittany Sallaberry, and grandson Chase, were by her side.



Nancy is survived by her three treasured siblings: brother Ron Williams and his wife Joyce; sister Victoria Evans; and brother Reese Williams and his wife Fran. Nancy also was the beloved sister-in-law of Denise Sallaberry and her husband Peter Wilk, and Jack Sallaberry and his wife Sue, as well as a wonderful aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Nancy was born in Marin County in 1955 to the late Reese and Marge Williams; the family later moved to Saratoga, Calif. where Nancy and her siblings grew up. At Saratoga High School Nancy excelled at five sports, reigned as homecoming queen, and made dear, lifelong friends. She then attended the University of California, Davis, where she played intercollegiate volleyball and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics, complementing her already outstanding culinary skills. It was at UC-Davis that she met Paul.

Nancy worked for several years in the tech industry at Triad Systems, but she found her true calling as a mother. She was devoted to her three sons and a tireless volunteer in their school and sports programs. Nancy preferred to work behind the scenes, and she was an unsung hero bringing creativity, attention to detail, and 110% effort to any project aimed at enriching an experience for young people in the community.

Nancy also had a lifelong passion for sports and the outdoors. She was a proud and devoted soccer mom, a faithful Giants fan, and a gifted tennis player whose senior doubles team twice reached the USTA's National Finals. She delighted in fishing and enjoying nature with her boys in Northern California mountain areas such as the Trinity Alps and Hat Creek.

Nancy's gentle and understanding nature, her deep loyalty, her lively sense of humor, and her sparkling smile were a gift to everyone she knew. She found so many ways to show love to family and friends, whether with a wonderful meal, a supportive shoulder, the perfect gift, or a wry practical joke. Not only did Nancy navigate ALS with great dignity, she became a trusted friend and resource to others newly diagnosed with the condition.

There is a celebration of Nancy's life planned for the spring.

The family respectfully requests that anyone interested in honoring Nancy consider a gift to Augie's Quest, a foundation dedicated to supporting research to cure ALS (<https://give.augiesquest.org/NancySallaberry>).

PAID OBITUARY

SEQUOIA DISTRICT

continued from page 10

new superintendent would be appointed by the end of the school year and if data from the community input would be made public.

"I'm left with more questions than answers," she said.

Bruised and broken relationships

Jenny Varghese Bloom, a parent and Ravenswood City School District governing board member, echoed Korman's message. She asked why the board was having another listening tour if the district's priorities — transparency, equity and diversity — hadn't changed. And why should the district trust the board to act in the best interest of its stakeholders?

"Will you as a team actually listen to your whole community? Or will you actually make your own political goals and desires and choose what you want?" Varghese Bloom said.

Addressing the public concerns, board Vice President Shawnee Stevenson said that transparency, trust and communication "have really been difficult" over the past 18 months. She wondered how the board, which had "bruised if not broken some relationships," could conduct the outreach and search process in a way that would rebuild trust with the community.

Stevenson and Trustee Amy Koo both spoke in favor of having anti-bias training for the

trustees to reduce their "blind spots" while searching for a new superintendent. Board President Rich Ginn said he also supported a board training, though no formal plans had yet been discussed. Ginn told this news organization that he was concerned that people felt a loss of trust in the board, adding that he and his fellow trustees had "gotten grief" for not disclosing information that was privileged by closed sessions.

Still, he said that seeking community outreach was the right way to move forward — and that the board would consider all input.

"Just because we didn't do what any one person said doesn't mean we didn't take their feedback into account," he said.

Next steps

The board will hold a special meeting, open to the public, on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 5 p.m. to provide input on the forthcoming community outreach process. Andrew and his team at Leadership Associates will then move forward with the listening tour, the results of which will be shared during the March 8 regular board meeting.

The board has not committed to anything beyond the listening tour, according to Ginn, who said next steps will be determined based on the feedback from the community and recommendations from Leadership Associates. Options for finding a replacement superintendent range from

appointing Crystal Leach, who is currently serving as interim superintendent, to conducting a national search.

Leach, who was previously serving as associate superintendent, stepped in as interim superintendent after Williams' departure in December. Her contract, which was approved by the board at the Jan. 18 meeting, was backdated to Jan. 1 and extends until the day before the next superintendent begins. Leach will receive a salary of \$268,248.39 and a \$6,000 monthly stipend.

No specifics around timeline or payment for contractual services with Leadership Associates or any other search firms have been discussed, though Ginn said he "would expect a sort of standard pricing."

In 2020, the district awarded a contract of \$26,000 to Leadership Associates for services to find a new superintendent.

Since its founding in 1996, Leadership Associates has worked with school districts throughout California, according to the Sequoia district. The firm has completed more than 550 executive searches, primarily superintendent searches for school boards. ■



Crystal Leach

*Email Staff Writer
Leah Worthington at lworthington@rwcipulse.com.*

LUNAR NEW YEAR

continued from page 5

Mountain View: The city of Mountain View hosts an event featuring performances of Asian arts and music, games and more.

Jan. 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Redwood Hall at the Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. mountainview.gov.

Hillsdale Shopping Center: A weekend celebration includes performances by lion dancers and acrobats, a 50-foot dragon display, calligraphers and a cherry blossom wishing wall.

Jan. 28-29, 1 p.m. at the Macy's Center Court, Hillsdale Shopping Center, 60 31st Ave., San Mateo. hillsdale.com.

Palo Alto Library: A celebration featuring Chinese opera singer Cathy Pan, Yueyao Dance Studio performing the piece "Moonlight (月光)" plus a demonstration featuring audience participation by local martial arts studio Taekwon Tigers. The event, which also offers crafts and light refreshments, is suited for families with children ages 3 to 11, but all ages are welcome.

Jan. 28, 2-4 p.m., Palo Alto Art Center Auditorium, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org.

Urisawe-Korean Dance Performance: San Mateo County Libraries present

members of Korean Cultural Center Urisawe performing traditional Korean dances, including Chwitadae (Korean traditional marching band), and Nanta (Korean traditional drumming). Members of Urisawe will also teach some dance movements.

Jan. 28, 2-3 p.m. at the Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. The Jan. 28 event is full, but a waitlist is available. Urisawe also performs Feb. 4, 2-3 p.m. at the Brisbane Library, 163 Visitacion Ave., Brisbane. smcl.bibliocommons.com.

Stanford Shopping Center: The center hosts arts and crafts, giveaways and live entertainment including a lion dance, performances of traditional Chinese instrument the Gu Zheng, martial arts and cultural dance.

Jan. 28, 2:30-4 p.m. at the center pavilion, Stanford Shopping Center, El Camino Real and Sand Hill Road, Palo Alto. simon.com.

Redwood City: Live performances by lion dancers, taiko drummers, martial artists and many other community and performing groups will fill Redwood City's Courthouse Square in the city's celebration of Year of the Rabbit. The event also includes free admission to the San Mateo County History Museum, which is hosting

children's activity stations based on the Chinese zodiac. Kids can make paper lanterns and red envelopes, and play mahjong.

Feb. 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Courthouse Square, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Free. redwoodcity.org.

Gamble Garden Second Saturday: Gamble Garden's Second Saturday program marks the Year of the Rabbit with a Chinese lion dance and activities and crafts for Lunar New Year. The event also includes a guided garden tour for adults and a nature hunt for families.

Feb. 11, 10 a.m.-noon at Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Free. Advance registration is required at gamblegarden.org.

Chinese Calligraphy Class: The Redwood City Library hosts a workshop in celebration of Lunar New Year with calligraphy instructor Jojo Liu, who shares some of the basics of traditional Chinese calligraphy, including how to hold a brush. She will teach participants how to write new year sayings.

Feb. 15, 7 p.m. at the Redwood City Library, 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City. redwoodcity.org. ■

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



Courtesy the artist/Palo Alto Library

Chinese opera singer Cathy Pan will perform at the Palo Alto Library's Lunar New Year celebration on Jan. 28.

FLEX WORKERS

continued from page 5

workforce needs" during vacancies or for short-term projects.

Counties throughout California, including Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties, employ extra help workers to fill needs on a temporary, limited-term and typically offer few benefits compared with the permanent staff.

In San Mateo County, these flex employees fall into one of four categories — extra help, extra help/seasonal, extra help/relief and extra help/limited term — which differ based on the duration, frequency and purpose of the employment term. With the exception of relief employees who work on an unlimited, as-needed basis, all other extra help employees are limited to 1,040 hours per year, unless an exemption is approved.

Outside the county building, Sarah Eggen-Thornhill, who has worked in health care for nearly three decades, addressed the crowd in a black T-shirt that read "I am AFSCME" in large print.

"The message to extra help employees is heard pretty loud and clear: 'You are not equal to permanent staff. You don't matter. We don't care,'"

Eggen-Thornhill read.

Eggen-Thornhill worked in private practice and the local Veterans Affairs medical center before joining the flex staff at the San Mateo Medical Center nearly four years ago. A licensed occupational therapist, she said that on a daily basis the number of extra help therapists outnumber the permanent employees; yet, she's never received a bonus or taken a paid vacation. Though she worked alongside permanent staffers throughout the pandemic, they all received a \$2,000 COVID bonus, while she and her flex colleagues did not.

"I've never felt so disrespected by an employer. I'm clearly not valued as a worker," she said.

Under their previous contract, which expired in Jan. 2022, extra help employees don't receive paid time off, are excluded from county pension or retirement plans and are only granted 36 hours of sick leave per year. Union workers have complained that health insurance, for those who are eligible, is expensive, has limited options and only kicks in after a year of working more than 30 hours per week. And if their hours drop below that weekly average, workers are at risk of losing their coverage.

"Since the number of patients in the hospital fluctuates greatly,

there are weeks when I leave early every day and other weeks when I work full time," Eggen-Thornhill said. "That's risky to have a family of five on a health plan that could be there one day and gone the next."

As part of what she called a "safety net hospital," Eggen-Thornhill said she treats some of the county's most underserved populations, including undocumented and homeless residents. She described feeling "blindsided by the poverty" at her hospital and concerned for the wellbeing of her patients.

"I'm there four to five days per week — if I didn't show up half those patients wouldn't get care," she said.

She also expressed frustration about the lack of a clear path to becoming a permanent employee, something many other flex workers want. As the population of San Mateo County continues to grow and age, she added, their patient loads are becoming increasingly unmanageable. However, in her tenure at the hospital, she's only seen one colleague become a permanent employee — after 11 years working flex.

"So, where's the hope there?" she said.

County Supervisor Warren Slocum said that, as the former

head of the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and Elections Office, he was "sympathetic to the issues" raised by extra help workers. Though he was "generally supportive" of giving flex employees the same benefits afforded permanent employees, he said there was "a lot of nuance" in how best to address the need, given the wide range in the hours and schedules of extra help employees.

Still, he said that lax rule enforcement was to blame for some of the disparities, particularly regarding scheduling. While extra help employees are only supposed to work a certain number of hours over a short-term period, many have reported working 40 hours a week for years on end.

"There are some instances of departments violating the extra help rules internally," Slocum said. "Those departments aren't following the rules, quite frankly. They need to be held accountable and we need to find a way to address these inequities."

Departments are responsible for keeping track of their extra-help hours and must seek approval to extend flex workers' hours beyond the annual limit, according to Kiryczun.

Though he couldn't comment on specific enforcement efforts,

Slocum said it would be up to the county executive and the Human Resources department to "tighten up their process" and regulate the rules more rigorously.

As the rally wound down, union members said their good-byes and grabbed slices of pizza to go. Outside the entrance to the county center, Devilla sat on a bench, hunched over his phone.

Though he planned to continue working for the county, he said he would advise others against it. Gesturing around at his fellow workers, he said, "I'm still going to work here, but if they have more of this I'll be joining."

A father of three, he said the lack of health insurance has been the biggest challenge. Though he often works 40 hours a week in a dental clinic, he said he's unable to provide insurance — including dental — for his family.

"After a couple of months you feel it — the discrimination against the extra help," he said.

Shaking his head in disbelief, he added, "We work as hard as the permanent employees, and we feel like we are second-class, like we don't really matter." ■

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



RESOLUTION NO. 2369 (2022)

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

Lands of Ramies and Abedrabbo

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District's "Zone Master Annexation Resolution" ("ZOMAR"), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the "Parcel") to the District's On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the "Zone"). The Parcel is described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit "B" attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes "real property" for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
 - X All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or
 - Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit "B" and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: February 8, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices
500 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025
& via Zoom

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i).
4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
5. The General Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A

APPROVED
SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION
455 COUNTY CENTER
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

EXHIBIT A PAGE 1 OF 2 LEGAL DESCRIPTION

ANNEXATION TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT LANDS OF RAMIES AND ABEDRABBO/115 SAUSAL DRIVE AND A PORTION OF SAUSAL DRIVE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

All that real property situated in the Town of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner of Lot 1, Block 1, as shown on that certain map entitled "Tract No. 695 Alpine Hills Subdivision of a portion of Rancho El Corte Madera, San Mateo County, California", which Map was filed in the Office of the Recorder of San Mateo County, State of California on September 28, 1954 in Book 40 of Maps, Pages 15, 16 and 17, thence, proceeding clockwise the following courses and distances:

- (1) South 22°22'45" West, 258.92 feet along the easterly line of said parcel to the southeasterly corner of said parcel; thence,
- (2) North 66°27'03" West, 142.42 feet along the southerly line of said parcel along that certain Annexation, Resolution No. 1247; thence,
- (3) North 26°36'37" West, 179.19 feet along that certain Annexation, Resolution No. 1247 to the centerline of Sausal Drive; thence,
- (4) along said centerline of Sausal Drive North 63°23'23" East, 103.94 feet; thence,
- (5) continuing along said centerline of Sausal Drive along a tangent curve to the right with radius of 200.00 feet, length of 119.98 feet, and through a central angle of 34°22'23"; thence,
- (6) continuing along said centerline along a tangent curve to the right with radius of 1,200.00 feet, length of 107.24 feet, and through a central angle of 5°07'13"; thence,
- (7) Leaving said centerline, South 12°53'00" West, 25.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Containing 55,920 square feet (1.28 acres) more or less.

For assessment purposes only. This description of land is not a legal property description as defined in the Subdivision Map Act and may not be used as the basis for an offer for sale of the land described.

June 23, 2022

FREYER & LAURETA, INC. Page 1 of 1

Exhibit B

LEGEND

- PROPOSED ANNEXATION BOUNDARY LINE
- EXISTING PROPERTY LINE
- EXISTING WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT BOUNDARY LINE

DISCLAIMER: "FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. THIS DESCRIPTION OF LAND IS NOT A LEGAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AS DEFINED IN THE SUBDIVISION MAP ACT AND MAY NOT BE USED AS THE BASIS FOR AN OFFER FOR SALE OF THE LAND DESCRIBED."

LOCATION MAP (NOT TO SCALE)

R=200.00'
D=34°22'23"
L=119.98' (5)

R=1200.00'
D=5°07'13"
L=107.24' (6)

110 SAUSAL DRIVE
APN: 079-092-010

SAUSAL DRIVE

POINT OF BEGINNING

APN: 079-091-060
115 SAUSAL DRIVE
LANDS OF RAMIES AND ABEDRABBO
RESOLUTION #

105 SAUSAL DRIVE
APN: 079-091-020

96 HILLBROOK DRIVE
APN: 079-074-300

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ANNEXATION RESOLUTION #1247

LAFCO FILE NO. 19-12

APPROVED
SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION
455 COUNTY CENTER
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

079-074-310

TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY 06/23/2022

EXHIBIT A PAGE 2 OF 2

FREYER & LAURETA, INC. CIVIL ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS • CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS (415)634-7070 • www.freyerlaureta.com

ANNEXATION TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT LANDS OF RAMIES AND ABEDRABBO 115 SAUSAL DRIVE AND A PORTION OF SAUSAL DRIVE

MAYOR

continued from page 11

on how to reduce wildfire risk and the towns will need to come up with funding for the projects, he said.

The town must continue to plan for how to evacuate residents in the event of an emergency.

He does worry about increased housing density contributing to a wildfire being catastrophic.

"What's coming out now is density is a huge contributor," he said.

He said it's ironic that the state is demanding towns in the WUI (wildland urban interface) want to increase density in these very high fire severity zones.

Shaw said he doesn't ever want to be in a position of being asked, "Why didn't you anticipate a wildfire?"

"We're trying continuously to make citizens aware of the threat and willing to invest public dollars to protect people homes," he said. "There are countless example of fires wiping out towns."

Other projects

Shaw said he wants to find a way to encourage homeowners who are doing major remodels to put in meaningful water storage systems (he said he put in a 150,000-gallon water system into his home to capture rain water for irrigation).

He'd like to look at incentives the town can provide in building and planning to help residents install those types of systems.

"We live in an area where water is a finite resource," he said.

Shaw also said he wants to bring high speed internet and telecommunications to Runnymede and Raymundo roads.

"Large providers don't care because there are not enough customers (on those streets)," he said. "The town can step in and fill that void."

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

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include **Hiroko Mukuda**, 96, a Menlo Park resident, on Jan. 8; and **Nancy Williams Sallaberry**, 67, a Menlo Park resident, on Dec. 18, 2022.

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

UPZONING

continued from page 7

or preferred over an overlay approach; but HCD does require agencies evaluate the likelihood of development,” he said. “In HCD’s unofficial opinion, if an agency uses overlays, the agency is providing the property owner the ability to choose between remaining as a single-family home or upzoning.”

Need for consolidation of lots to qualify for affordable housing

One hiccup, according to town planners, is that the lot sizes along El Camino Real are fairly small compared to others in town. Most of the sites are under an acre.

“Any site less than half an acre cannot be included in affordable housing,” said town consultant Diana Elrod. The town would have to aggregate the sites in some way.

Upcoming housing deadline

The town faces consequences if it doesn’t make the state’s Jan. 31 deadline for a compliant housing plan.

Rodericks explained that the town could be fined \$100,000 to \$600,000 per month for having an uncertified housing element, and face lawsuits from developers and housing advocates.

The town could also lose its land use and planning powers, said Town Attorney Mona Ebrahimi.

There’s also the so-called builder’s remedy, which allows for residential projects to move forward even if they do not comply with local development standards, potentially taking effect come Feb. 1. 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.

“We’re at the 12th hour and there are consequences: we’re facing lawsuits, the builder’s remedy,” said Hawkins-Manuelian.

Widmer noted that the town already tried to primarily focus on concentrating housing at Menlo College and through development of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in people’s backyards, but the state told the town in its feedback letter in October that it needs to include multifamily housing to have its housing element approved. ■

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



RESOLUTION NO. 2370 (2022)

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL ZONE

Lands of Krashinsky & Liu

The District Board of West Bay Sanitary District finds and determines as follows:

- A. This Resolution of Intention is adopted pursuant to the District’s “Zone Master Annexation Resolution” (“ZOMAR”), which was adopted by the District Board August 12, 1996. The provisions of ZOMAR are incorporated by reference into this Resolution of Intention.
- B. The District has received an application to annex a parcel of real property (the “Parcel”) to the District’s On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone (the “Zone”). The Parcel is described in Exhibit “A” attached to this Resolution of Intention and the description contained in the Exhibits are incorporated by reference. The name and address of the applicants and the number, type, volume and location of on-site wastewater disposal systems which are proposed to operate on the parcels to be annexed are described in Exhibit “B” attached to this Resolution of Intention and the information contained in the Exhibit are incorporated by reference.
- C. The applicants have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the District Board that the Parcel constitutes “real property” for the purposes of Section 2(b) of ZOMAR in that:
- X All of the conditions described in Subsections i., ii., iii., iv. and v. of ZOMAR Section 2(b) are satisfied; or Other conditions exist which demonstrate that the Parcel will benefit directly or indirectly from the activities of the Zone. If applicable, those conditions are also set forth in Exhibit “B” and are incorporated by reference.
- D. All of the conditions and requirements of ZOMAR Sections 2(a), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) have been fully satisfied.

In consideration of the foregoing findings and determinations,

IT IS RESOLVED by the District Board as follows:

- 1. It is the intention of the District Board to annex the Parcel to the Zone pursuant to the provisions of ZOMAR and applicable provisions of law.
- 2. In conjunction with a meeting of the District Board to be duly and regularly called and conducted, the Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering all matters pertaining to this Resolution of Intention.

The time, date and place of the Public Hearing are:

Date: February 8, 2023
 Time: 7:00 PM
 Place: West Bay Sanitary District Offices
 500 Laurel Street
 Menlo Park, CA 94025
 & via Zoom

At the Public Hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

- 3. This Resolution of Intention shall be published and copies shall be delivered to the persons and entities as specified in ZOMAR Section 2(e)(i.).
- 4. A true copy of this Resolution of Intention shall promptly be filed for record in the office of the County Recorder of the County of San Mateo.
- 5. The General Manager shall cause the matters set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of this Resolution of Intention to be completed as directed.

Exhibit A

ANNEXATION TO WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
 GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION
 LANDS OF KRASHINSKY AND LIU/ 35 POSSUM LANE
 TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
 CALIFORNIA

August 3, 2022

All that certain real property situate in the Town of Portola Valley, County of San Mateo, State of California, being all of that property described in that certain Trust Transfer Deed recorded on April 20, 2022 as Document Number 2022-033690, along with a portion of Possum Lane as shown on that certain Tract Map No. 871 entitled “Corte Madera Acres”, filed for record on September 1, 1959, in Book 52 of Maps, at page 11, San Mateo County Records, State of California, and being more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at a monument on the centerline of Possum Lane, as shown on said map;

Thence along said centerline, South 74°50’00” East, 10.65 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING;

Thence continuing along said centerline (Course 1), South 74°50’00” East, 200.00 feet;

Thence leaving said centerline (Course 2), South 15°10’00” West, 25.00 feet to the easterly line of said Trust Transfer Deed;

Thence along said easterly line (Course 3), South 15°10’00” West, 239.77 feet to the southeasterly corner of said Trust Transfer Deed;

Thence leaving said easterly line and along the southerly line of said Trust Transfer Deed (Course 4), North 75°00’00” West, 200.00 feet to the southwesterly corner of said Trust Transfer Deed;

Thence leaving said southerly line and along the westerly line of said Trust Transfer Deed (Course 5), North 15°10’00” East, 240.35 feet to the northwesterly corner of said Trust Transfer Deed, also being the southerly right of way of Possum Lane;

Thence leaving said last line (Course 6), North 15°10’00” East, 25.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Containing a total computed acreage of 1.22 acres, more or less.

A plat showing the above described parcel is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Christopher S. Martin, PLS 9179
 8/18/2022
 Dated

APPROVED
 SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
 FORMATION COMMISSION
 455 COUNTY CENTER
 REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

END OF DESCRIPTION
 EXHIBIT A PAGE 1 OF 2

Exhibit B

ANNEXATION TO THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT LANDS OF KRASHINSKY AND LIU/ 35 POSSUM LANE, TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY (APN 077-051-030)

APPROVED
 SAN MATEO LOCAL AGENCY
 FORMATION COMMISSION
 455 COUNTY CENTER
 REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

EXHIBIT A PAGE 2 OF 2

POSSUM LANE
 (50' WIDE R/W - A PUBLIC STREET)

ADJACENT LOT LINE
 PROPOSED WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT BOUNDARY
 ROAD CENTERLINE
 POINT OF BEGINNING
 POINT OF COMMENCEMENT
 RIGHT OF WAY

LEGEND
 POB
 POC
 R/W

GRAPHIC SCALE
 0 50 100

77-051-040
 76-302-110
 77-051-020

TOTAL ANNEXATION AREA = 1.22± ACRES

LOT 8 11
 52 RESUB-030
 77-051-030

74°50'00"E 10.65'
 74°50'00"E 200.00'(1)
 15°10'00"E 25.00'(2)
 15°10'00"W 239.77'(3)
 15°10'00"E 240.35'(5)
 75°00'00"W 200.00'(4)
 15°10'00"E 25.00'(6)

SHOOTING

continued from page 1

in unincorporated San Mateo County, on reports of a shooting involving multiple victims, according to Corpus.

Once there, deputies found four people dead with gunshot wounds, Corpus said. They also found a fifth person with gunshot wounds who was taken to Stanford Medical Center with life-threatening injuries.

Shortly after, three additional victims were found dead with gunshot wounds at another location in the 2100 block of Cabrillo Highway South.

At a press conference on Jan. 24, Corpus said five men and two women had died in the shooting, and the Mexican Consulate of San Francisco said that two of the people who died in Monday's shooting were from Mexico. An eighth victim, also of Mexican ancestry, is at Stanford Medical Center and was listed in stable condition.

Six of the seven victims from Monday's mass shooting have been identified by the San Mateo County Coroner's Office; the seventh victim has been "tentatively identified," but the coroner's office is withholding their name pending notification of next of kin.

The victims' names are Marciano Martinez Jimenez, 50, of Moss Beach; Zhushen Liu, 73, of San Francisco; Qizhong Cheng, 66, of Half Moon Bay; Yetao Bing, 43, who had no listed city of residence; Aixiang Zhang, 74, of San Francisco; and Jingzhu Lu, 64, of Half Moon Bay.

Corpus noted that the incident took place in a rural part of the county where people live, including children who were out of school and may have been present.

"For children to witness this is unspeakable," she said.

At a news conference Tuesday, Jan. 24, in Half Moon Bay, Gov. Gavin Newsom addressed the crowd seeming visibly shaken.

He held up a paper with talking points that he'd written for previous mass shootings, including at the Gilroy Garlic Festival and Monterey Park, and shook his head. Reading a list of cities and schools and venues that had suffered a mass shooting, he said, "Now I have to add Half Moon Bay."

'First Monterey Park and now Half Moon Bay. Enough is enough. How many more must die?'

SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERVISOR
DAVID CANEPA

The common denominator, he said, was guns. "What the hell is wrong with us?" he asked.

"Our hearts are broken," Dave Pine, president of the county Board of Supervisors, said during a press conference. "We grieve tonight for the deceased members of our community. This is a horrific event, one that we would never imagine would occur in San Mateo County. Gun violence in this country is at completely unacceptable levels, and it's really hit home tonight."

Pine said that "there are simply too many guns in this country," something he said he and his fellow supervisors planned to do "everything in our power" to change.

Corpus confirmed that Zhao was an employee at Mountain Mushroom Farm, where one of the shootings took place and said that was the only connection investigators have found between 67-year-old suspect Chunli Zhao and victims so far. Some of the

victims were part of the migrant community, she said.

Wagstaffe called the mass shooting an "unprecedented tragedy." Monday's mass shooting is the deadliest in San Mateo County history, officials said.

David Oates, a representative for the farm where Zhao was employed, said officials at the farm, which had 34 other employees, were "shocked and grief-stricken over the senseless loss of four of our friends and long-time employees."

"We pray for the team member that remains in critical condition," Oates said, adding that the company is fully cooperating with law enforcement and providing grief counseling to its employees.

Oates said that as of March 2022 the Mountain Mushroom Farm had a new owner and the farm was now called California Terra Garden.

The county is providing counseling services to community members at the I.D.E.S. Hall in Half Moon Bay, according to county supervisors.

Half Moon Bay Vice Mayor Joaquin Jimenez said that the city had been receiving phone calls and text messages from family members wanting to know if their relatives were okay.

"We hope they are. We hope they will be reunited," he said, adding that he hoped the event would be "an eye-opener" about gun violence.

The sheriff's office tweeted the information at 3:48 p.m. that "multiple victims" were involved. By 4:55 p.m., the sheriff's office tweeted that the suspect had been arrested and was no longer a threat to the community.

Officials condemn gun violence

Officials spoke out Monday, condemning gun violence and sharing words of sympathy for the Half Moon Bay community.

Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, released the following statement about the mass shooting, which occurred in her congressional District 16 in Half Moon Bay.

"I continue to monitor the unfolding tragedy that has taken place in Half Moon Bay. My gratitude to the San Mateo Sheriff's Office who took the suspect into custody and are working the two scenes of the murders," she said. "Half Moon Bay is a beloved and tight-knit community, and we all stand with them and the families of the victims during this dark hour."

"First Monterey Park and now Half Moon Bay," said San Mateo County Supervisor David Canepa in a released statement, referring to an earlier mass shooting that happened on Jan. 21 in the San Gabriel Valley area.



Leah Worthington

Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, speaks at a news conference on Tuesday. She called Half Moon Bay "a beloved and close-knit community."

"Enough is enough. How many more must die?"

Canepa said the details of the events were "sparse," but he noted that they had one thing in common: guns.

"My heart breaks for the families," he said.

State Sen. Josh Becker, D-Menlo Park, in a statement on Twitter, said his thoughts "go out to all affected."

"Gun violence has come to our district today and I will do whatever I can to support the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department and Half Moon Bay city officials during this tragic event," Becker said.

In a statement, newly elected San Mateo County District 3 Supervisor Ray Mueller said he was "shocked and saddened by this news."

Mueller, who was on-site in Half Moon Bay, said that his "heart was with the community and families" impacted by the shooting. He said he had spoken with several individuals with "one degree of separation" from the victims and was working to connect farmworkers and other community members with counseling services.

Newsom said on Twitter that he was at the "hospital with the victims of a mass shooting, when I get pulled away to be briefed about another mass shooting."

"This time in Half Moon Bay," he added.

President Joe Biden had been briefed by Homeland Security on the mass shooting, according to his press secretary, Karine Jean-Pierre. The president asked federal law enforcement "to provide any necessary assistance to the local authorities," Jean-Pierre tweeted.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is providing the county sheriff's office with investigative and forensic resources to assist in the ongoing investigation, the San Francisco FBI office said. However, the FBI said that the sheriff's office remains the lead

investigative agency on the case.

This incident marks the second mass shooting in California in three days, and the fourth in the state since the beginning of 2023, according to data from the Gun Violence Archive. Ten people were killed and another 10 injured when 72-year-old Huu Can Tran opened fire at a dance hall during a Chinese Lunar New Year celebration in Monterey Park on Jan. 21.

Anti-gun violence advocates took to social media to express frustration and grief about the news of another mass shooting.

"We are in a perpetual state of grief," tweeted March For Our Lives, a youth-led organization that formed in the wake of the shooting that killed 17 and injured 17 more at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. "We must demand for immediate solutions to end the epidemic of gun violence. We are not safe anywhere."

Three Democratic legislators, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein, introduced a pair of Senate bills on Jan. 23 to protect communities from weapons like the one used in the Monterey Park shooting. These two bills would "ban the sale, transfer, manufacture and importation of military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines" and raise the purchasing age to 21, according to a press release from Feinstein.

Making reference to the Monterey Park shootings, Biden praised the assault weapons ban and urged Congress to approve the proposed legislation.

"Communities across America have been struck by tragedy after tragedy," he said. "There can be no greater responsibility than to do all we can to ensure the safety of our children, our communities, and our nation." ■

Bay City News Service contributed to this report.

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

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Coldwell Banker Realty 650-400-2918

PALO ALTO

4149 El Camino Way (C) \$895,000
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JLee Realty 650-857-1000

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Coldwell Banker Realty 650-380-9898

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).

Agents: submit open homes at AlmanacNews.com/real_estate

Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

Sequoia school board's secrecy is undemocratic and irresponsible

By Megan Lam

Days after the inauguration of new Sequoia Union High School District board trustees Amy Koo and Sathvik Nori, Superintendent Darnise Williams resigned just halfway through her three-year contract. In a span of two weeks, the board held several meetings, hired attorney Eugene Whitlock as legal counsel behind closed doors, and failed to respond to accusations and concerns regarding Williams' resignation, irresponsibly inflaming rumors and leaving stakeholders shocked, angry and nervous about what's next.

As a democratically elected body, the board owes the public an explanation for their actions or, at the very least, for why some information must remain private.

Given the timing of the new board's election and Williams' subsequent departure, several community members reasonably assumed that the new board was responsible for her resignation.

Moreover, this timeline heavily suggests her resignation was a result of conflicting policy views between her and the new board, not poor performance. Former board President Allen Weiner, who led the district through Mary Streshly's resignation two years ago, said, "I think what happened should be the subject of public deliberation."

Many saw Williams, the district's first Black female superintendent, as a leader in diversity and equity initiatives. At one meeting, Ravenswood City School District Board of Education President Jenny Varghese Bloom said, "Dr. Williams brought in equity. She brought that conversation here, and all I can think about is that the reason she is not here is because she was doing that work."

In an anonymous M-A Chronicle survey of about a third of Menlo-Atherton teachers, one teacher said, "As a Black teacher, I feel concerned for my own standing after seeing how her resignation was handled." Another shared, "As a result of the board's actions, I am considering whether or not I want to remain an employee of this district."

Our district already struggles with attracting people of color to teaching, and students of color remain underrepresented in higher-level courses,

with race and equity often at the forefront of school policy discussions. Without an explanation, it's easy to assume that the sudden resignation of a leader championing equity policies is the board's change of heart. The public's reaction should surprise no one.

The board's silence fuels false information and uninformed accusations. People speculated that Williams' resignation was related to recent gun incidents on campus. Others worried it had to do with the equity training initiatives that she introduced to the district.

If unpopular initiatives or policies were a factor, that wouldn't have been fair ground for pushing out a public official without discussion and providing her a \$299,000 severance package — the same package she would have received under her contract had she been fired.

Whether or not Williams was or should have been pushed out, the board's handling of her resignation shows an indifference toward their obligations to the public.

Koo and Nori both openly championed transparency in their campaigns and expressed positive feedback about Williams in the past. Combined with the entire board's praise of Williams' work, including in the press release announcing her resignation, that makes her abrupt departure from the district all the more unexpected.

When the board fails to inform the community, rumors abound and chaos ensues. They may not be able to talk about closed meetings or information protected by non-disclosure agreements (NDAs), but holding closed meetings and entering into NDAs at all is a choice, one that shows they're disinterested in making a public case. Just because they can keep their proceedings secret doesn't mean they should. Regardless of the rationale behind Williams' resignation, the board's secrecy is a clear violation of its responsibilities and a signal that its members don't value the public's trust. ■

Megan Lam is a senior at Menlo-Atherton High School and a copy editor for the M-A Chronicle. The opinions are expressed on behalf of the M-A editorial board.

GUEST OPINION

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. Or snail-mail them to: The Almanac, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

You can also submit a longer piece of 450 to 600 words for consideration to publish as a guest opinion column.

Questions? Email editor@AlmanacNews.com, or call 650-223-6537.

The Almanac

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Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Time and tradition

TheatreWorks' 'In Every Generation' explores millennia of meaning through a family's Passover dinner

By Heather Zimmerman

Family dinners, particularly those organized around holidays, are a staple of stage and screen for a reason: there's great potential for drama, soul-searching and for characters to grow.

But it's not just any dinner that brings together the family at the center of Ali Viterbi's play "In Every Generation" — it's not even just one dinner that we see, but several millennia of a meal with tremendous meaning. The play explores the Jewish Passover Seder through the story of the Levi-Katz family, seen gathering in the present, past and future.

TheatreWorks presents the West Coast premiere of "In Every Generation" through Feb. 12 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. The play had its world premiere in 2022 in Chicago.

Director Michael Barakiva said that TheatreWorks Artistic Director Tim Bond,

with whom he has collaborated many times, asked him to read the script for "In Every Generation." "It was love at first stage direction," Barakiva recalled of his introduction to the play.

"In Every Generation" made an impression on Barakiva for numerous reasons.

"The play is truly a masterpiece because it is, on the one hand, a totally relatable living room comedy-drama. And on the other hand, it is a theatrical epic masterpiece about the history of the Passover, the seder and the Jewish people," Barakiva said.

But he noted, knowledge of Passover traditions isn't needed to appreciate the show.

"If you know the world in which it's set, you have an extraordinary appreciation for nuance and detail. And if you're not familiar with the world, you're welcomed into this entire experience," he said.

We meet the Levi-Katzes during the family's Seder feast in 2019, when there's tension in



Courtesy Kevin Berne

Actors from left, Cindy Goldfield, Olivia Nicole Hoffman, Sarah Lo, Michael Champlin and Luisa Sermol play members of the Levi-Katz family celebrating Passover in the present, past and future in the play "In Every Generation."

the air. Somewhat reluctantly hosting the dinner is Valeria, grappling with a divorce from her rabbi husband, who is not in attendance. Also present are her two 20-something daughters, Dev, who has recently moved home after graduating college and as an adopted child, is trying to find a balance between her Chinese

heritage and her upbringing; and Yael, currently in college and full of ideas that she's eager to share. Valeria's elderly parents, Paola and Davide, round out the guests.

"The play is full of the kind of delicious conflict that we expect from theater. But there are no villains: everybody in the play is right, everybody's perspective is valued and cherished and presented authentically," Barakiva said. "So when one character is talking, you totally believe what they're saying and you agree with them, and then a moment later, this other character contradicts them and you believe that character, too."

Not only does the play offer shifting perspectives at one dinner table, it time travels as well. We also see family members several decades in the future, and about 50 years in the past. A final time jump goes back to the beginnings of the Seder. The same actors play the same characters — or their ancestors — throughout.

Barakiva said that the challenges of bringing a story to life that's set in so many different time periods is ensuring that the future or the distant past, for that matter, doesn't look "ridiculous." Helping those scenes stay grounded

are items used at the Seder that are passed along through the generations, such as a cup or candlestick.

Seeing Passover traditions through the lens of multiple generations also highlights how the traditions and the people who practice them have endured.

"One of the things that the play asks us to remember is how extraordinary it is that the Jewish people have been observing many of the same holidays in many of the same ways for literally thousands of years," Barakiva said.

"It's amazing to think that the Hebrew that is said in the play is the Hebrew that my great-great-great-great-great-great-ancestors said thousands of years ago — literally the same words. When you think about that, the language and the ritual becomes its own form of time travel."

"In Every Generation" runs through Feb. 12 at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Tickets start at \$30. For more information, visit theatreworks.org. ■

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



Courtesy Kevin Berne

Sisters Dev (Sarah Lo, left) and Yael (Olivia Nicole Hoffman) differ on how to celebrate their faith during a family Seder set several decades in the future.

Everything on earth

Musicians with deep local ties return to Stanford with genre-pushing project that delves into humans' relationship with the planet

By Karla Kane

For multitalented, multidisciplinary musicians Zach Moses and Freddy Avis, their Jan. 27 performance at Stanford University's Bing Studio will be a special homecoming of sorts. The two first met years ago in a music class on campus, at Stanford's Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA).

After college, both went on to successful music careers (writing, recording, producing and scoring films and other projects) and are now both based in Los Angeles. Their enduring friendship has led to a collaborative project — Diving Dame — as well as their upcoming concert, which will emphasize something else they have in common: a deep interest in environmental issues, especially climate change. Their setlist for the evening, drawn from their respective solo careers as well as their collaboration, will reflect that shared passion.

"We write music that in many cases addresses different feelings we have about climate change or specific environmental challenges," Moses said.

Perhaps best known as a bassist, Moses grew up immersed in the jazz world alongside classical, garage rock and pop influences, whereas Avis is especially interested in electronic and more experimental work. Audiences at their Stanford concert can expect to hear this diversity reflected in the set, with the artists juxtaposing acoustic and electronic elements to create a sound of their own.

"The show should go to so many different places. Freddy and I have been making music together for so many years, we'll cover the entire emotional spectrum," Moses said. "There are songs that are just me singing solo with acoustic guitar and others that are the most maximalist productions... The music itself is very unique but, I think, very approachable."

And while the songwriting emphasizes the relationship between humans and the earth, the music varies not only in style but also in tone.

"In addition to the stylistic variety people will hear — everything from jazz to pop to ambient electronic, dance music — I think a lot of Zach's music comes from a place of beauty, whereas mine comes more from a place of, 'The world's a pretty scary place right now. How do I emotionally make sense of it?' It's a little darker," Avis said.

He releases original electronic music under the name Arswain, which he called an experimental counterbalance to his more commercial work. His 2020 record, "Partitioning," is a concept album in part about reckoning with climate change.

"The Arswain project sort of deals in climate anxiety and human exceptionalism. It's more pessimistic," he said.

Diving Dame is their mutual "COVID baby," and the pair plan to release a full-length album under that name sometime in the near future. A single and accompanying video for "Good Life" are already available.

"A goal of that music has always been to make it genre-pushing but still pop music, in the sense of populist music that anyone can get into," Moses said.

Both Moses and Avis have local ties that go back even further than their undergraduate days. Avis was raised in Palo Alto and attended Menlo School. Longtime Palo Alto Weekly readers and sports fans may remember his name from his athletic successes, dating back to his champion Little League days. "I peaked early," he joked.

That talent led to a scholarship to Stanford, where he earned a double bachelor's degree in music and political science and pitched for the varsity baseball team. He considered a major



Courtesy Stanford Live

Bassist Zach Moses is one half of the Diving Dame project, a musical duo with friend and fellow Stanford alum Arswain.

league career until an injury derailed those plans.

Palo Alto was "an extremely pleasant and comfortable place to grow up," Avis said, adding that he was very fortunate for the opportunity to go to college "across the street" at Stanford. However, he said he's always felt a sense of unease and disillusionment with the tech-centric culture Palo Alto and Stanford is steeped in.

"I never had an interest in working in Silicon Valley. It never occurred to me," he said. "I always wanted to be either a baseball player or a musician."

From age 12 onward, Moses, who grew up in Marin County, traveled to Palo Alto every summer to participate in the Stanford Jazz Workshop.

"It was just the most intense, deep musical thing," he recalled. "Stanford Jazz Workshop, I don't know that I would be the musician I am today without that," he said, professing gratitude for the many mentors that continue to shape his career. He maintains his association with the workshop, now as a faculty member.

He earned his undergraduate degree in earth systems (Stanford's interdisciplinary environmental-science major) and then a master's degree in environmental communication. Projects have included a sustainability fellowship with Warner Music Group for which he led a web series featuring well-known musicians discussing the impacts of climate change, the development of a 3D-printed, compostable surfboard and a project to create a common vocabulary for climate change.

"I was always trying to find ways to merge these two things that just matter so tremendously to me," he said of his dual passions for music and the environment.

Moses and Avis will be joined at the Bing performance by drummer (and University of Southern California neuroscience doctoral student) Colin McDaniel and multi-instrumentalist Sam Ostroff, Moses' younger brother.

They hope audiences will not only enjoy the music but also perhaps be inspired to further engage with the issues explored in the songs.

"Instead of just being a doom-and-gloom thing," Moses said, "I hope the show will inspire a sense of community and a feeling that we're all in this together, and we can get through this together."

Zach Moses and Arswain will perform Friday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. at Bing Studio, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Tickets are \$30-\$35. More information is available at live.stanford.edu. ■

Email Contributing Writer Karla Kane at karlajkane@gmail.com.

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LLES D

Las Lomas Elementary School District Bond Oversight Committee

The District is currently searching for a member of the Las Lomas Elementary School District Community to serve on a Citizens' Oversight Committee for Bond Measures to fulfill the criteria of:

- **One (1) active member of a bona fide taxpayers' organization**

Individuals interested in being appointed to the Bond Oversight Committee can access application information online at www.llesd.org, by emailing mchan@llesd.org or calling 650-854-6311.

Position is open until filled

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

LAMARQUE'S
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293063
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Lamarque's, located at 1139 Carlton Ave, Menlo Park, 94025, San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
MARTIN LAMARQUE
1139 Carlton Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
SILVIA LAMARQUE
1139 Carlton Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
This business is conducted by: Married Couple.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/04/2017.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on December 28, 2022.
(ALM Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023)

REYES LANDSCAPING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293064
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Reyes Landscaping, located at 641 Warrington Ave, Redwood City, CA 94063,

San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
ISMAEL REYES SOTO
641 Warrington Ave
Redwood City, CA 94063
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 December 28, 2022.
(ALM Jan 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023)

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

- Fictitious Business Name
- Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name
- Name Change
- Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution
- Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
- Notice of Bulk Sale
- Legal Summons
- Trustee Sale

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices. For assistance email LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com.

Food & Drink



THE BACKSTORY

'Food Origins' podcast delves into Peninsula food scene and how restaurateurs got their start

BY KATE BRADSHAW

Magali Gauthier

In his podcast "Food Origins," Chef Dave Sands explores the local food scene.

Dave Sands has tried a number of career paths since graduating from the City College of San Francisco's Hotel and Restaurant Program and becoming a professional chef.

The San Francisco native and Redwood City resident spent five years in the food industry before he got burned out and switched paths, first working in customer service for a car dealer before landing what he says was a dream opportunity as an officer with the San Francisco Police Department. He worked there for about 15 years.

Then 2019 hit. Sands was injured on the job, wounding his shoulder, and his mom died. For the past couple of years, he's been dealing with surgeries and trying to rehabilitate from his injuries.

"Cooking became my therapy," he said. But he added, "I'm still in pain every day."

Sands finds himself again exploring a new career path. Returning to his food roots, his podcast, "Food Origins" highlights the culinary histories and backgrounds of local chefs and food leaders.

"I'm enjoying it," he said. "It's not an easy process at all."

As a regular listener to various podcasts, he said, "I never thought I'd have one of my own."

Sands began the process of preparing his new podcast in October 2021 and debuted it in April 2022. In addition to hosting the podcast, he's been getting back into cooking and catering. He recently joined a team of chefs that won the award for "Best Bite of the Day" competition at Cochon 555's Heritage Fire Tour in Napa, a food and wine tour.

Now nearly a year since starting "Food Origins," Sands has had conversations with a number of people in the Peninsula food scene, including Bobby Takahashi of Takahashi Market, Joe Costarella of Costarella Seafoods, Max and Julia Gambirazio of Papachay Coffee, and Geoffroy Raby of Cuisinett French Bistro and Market.

Episodes often run about an hour in length and are a platform for guests to talk casually and openly about their food preferences, backgrounds and career paths. Alongside each episode on the podcast website are extensive notes covering everything from what gear the interviewee uses to his or her favorite local

restaurants. In addition to notes on each episode, Sands has assembled a map of all of the different restaurants and locations referenced by podcast guests.

Sands records each episode on-site and feels that there's something special that comes from conducting his interviews in person.

"You get a sense of who they are, being in front of them," he said.

He prioritizes letting his subjects talk and share their stories without being interrupted. At the end of each episode, he gives his subjects the floor to share advice or promote something.

"I let them tell their story," he said.

Sands has unearthed a number of fascinating anecdotes from his interviewees. Bobby Takahashi talked about how a previous generation of his family had to make deliveries to San Francisco via horse when Takahashi Market was in its early days. The founders of MAC BBQ talked about how they first got serious about barbecue because the San Francisco 49ers were having a disappointing season and they wanted to make sure they'd have a good tailgate experience regardless of

each game's outcome. And Max Gambirazio of Papachay Coffee talks about how he got involved in the coffee business when his motorcycle broke down near a coffee plantation in his home country of Peru. He would go on to buy 30 acres of that farm and build a career in coffee cultivation and roasting.

Sands also is interested in hearing specific recommendations from guests, whether it's a dish, recipe or cooking technique. He plans to start recording videos to go with the podcast in some cases, inviting Costarella of Costarella Seafoods to provide an oyster demonstration.

As he's recorded more interviews, Sands says he has begun to get recommendations from within the local network of chefs and their friends. For instance, three of his guests, Raby of Cuisinett French Bistro and Market, Guillaume Bienaimé of Zola (to be featured in an upcoming episode) and Lars Smith of State of Mind Public House and Pizzeria are all friends who have been talking to each other about how to run their businesses through COVID-19.

He's also keeping a finger on

the pulse of what's happening more broadly in the restaurant industry. What he's hearing from podcast guests is that the most challenging problems facing restaurants right now have to do with employee retention and hiring, followed by supply chain issues, he says. "Support your local favorites to help them sustain these hard times and get to know your owners, chefs, farmers, markets (and) purveyors so you have a better connection to them," he says. "Everybody's got a story."

Find "Food Origins" episodes at foodoriginspodcast.com. New episodes are released monthly. Instagram: [@foodoriginspodcast](https://www.instagram.com/foodoriginspodcast). ■

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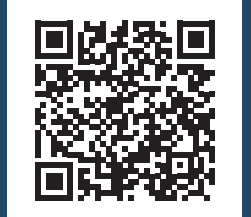
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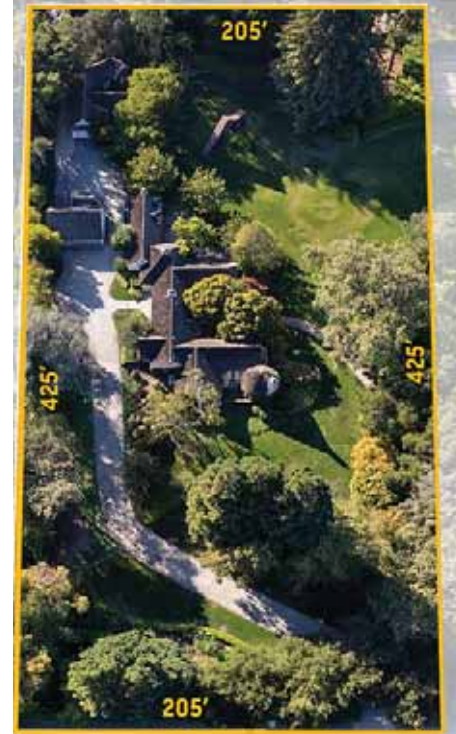


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