

The Almanac

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

MARCH 10, 2023 | VOL. 58 NO. 27



WWW.ALMANACNEWS.COM

Will Atherton residents shell out to put power lines underground?

Recent storms led to 'renewed interest' in relocating utility lines away from trees

By Angela Swartz

Emergency alerts warning of downed trees, downed utility lines and road closures have been a constant each time a winter storm has hit Atherton this winter.

Noticing an uptick in comments on Nextdoor about moving utility lines from power poles and placing them underground to reduce storm-related damage, City Manager George Rodericks is suggesting residents consider forming underground utility districts.

Since 1966, the town has required that utility services for any newly constructed dwelling run underground from the utility pole to the structure, according to a Feb. 28 newsletter from Rodericks. Though this requirement does not remove poles from the right-of-way, it does reduce the clutter of overhead wires.

Underground power lines may not cause fires, but they can be

damaged by lightning strikes, earthquakes, flooding and construction excavation, PG&E has said.

Atherton has seen several incidents involving the poles. Last month, a tree hit a utility pole on Selby Lane in Atherton, closing traffic in both directions from Austin Avenue to Logan Lane, according to a police news bulletin. A car hit a power pole on Marsh Road, closing it in both directions from Middlefield Road to Fair Oaks Avenue, according to a Feb. 21 bulletin.

Former City Council candidate Greg Conlon suggested the town look into undergrounding wires during a Jan. 11 City Council meeting after the New Year's storms to prevent future power outages. The town could choose to put the issue before voters to decide.

"I think I was out (of power) for about 25 hours," Conlon said.

See **POWER LINES**, page 15



Magali Gauthier

Crews work to remove a downed tree that damaged a power line on Atherton Avenue on Jan. 9. After a number of power outages related to winter storms, Atherton's town manager floated the idea of resident-funded projects to put utility lines underground.

Water-borne parasites blamed for killing hundreds of Bay Area pigeons

Dead birds have been spotted around Woodside in past month

By Kate Daly/
Special to the Almanac

Pigeon carcasses are piling up in parts of the Peninsula due to a seasonal outbreak of avian trichomonosis. It's caused by a primarily water-borne parasite that is infecting band-tailed pigeons flocking to the Pacific coast in search of acorns this winter.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Senior Environmental Scientist Krysta Rogers said that as of March 2, 257 pigeon deaths have been reported in seven Bay Area counties, including San Mateo and Santa Clara, but that the

number is only an estimate.

"It is challenging to get a precise number of cases because not everyone reports dead birds, or they may report once rather than each time an individual bird is found," Rogers said. "Additionally, some reports do not specify a number and some use words like 'several' or 'many' rather than providing an absolute number."

She added that reports tend to be biased towards more densely populated areas, "whereas dead birds in less populated areas may go unreported."

In Woodside last month, for example, one resident went online to wildlife.ca.gov to file a

mortality report after he found his dog playing with a dead pigeon in his backyard. He then discovered a second dead pigeon in his yard, and spotted yet another one on a nearby road.

He compared notes with a neighbor who had discovered three dead pigeons on their street and a fourth one on a trail in Huddart Park, but did not report them.

One possible explanation for the recent concentration of pigeon deaths in Woodside is the presence of both oak trees, which produce acorns, and livestock.



Kate Daly

A dead pigeon spotted on a road in Woodside on March 6. A parasite is being blamed for killing hundreds of band-tailed pigeons in the Bay Area this winter.

See **PIGEONS**, page 8

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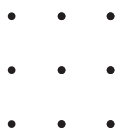
Woodside



PENDING

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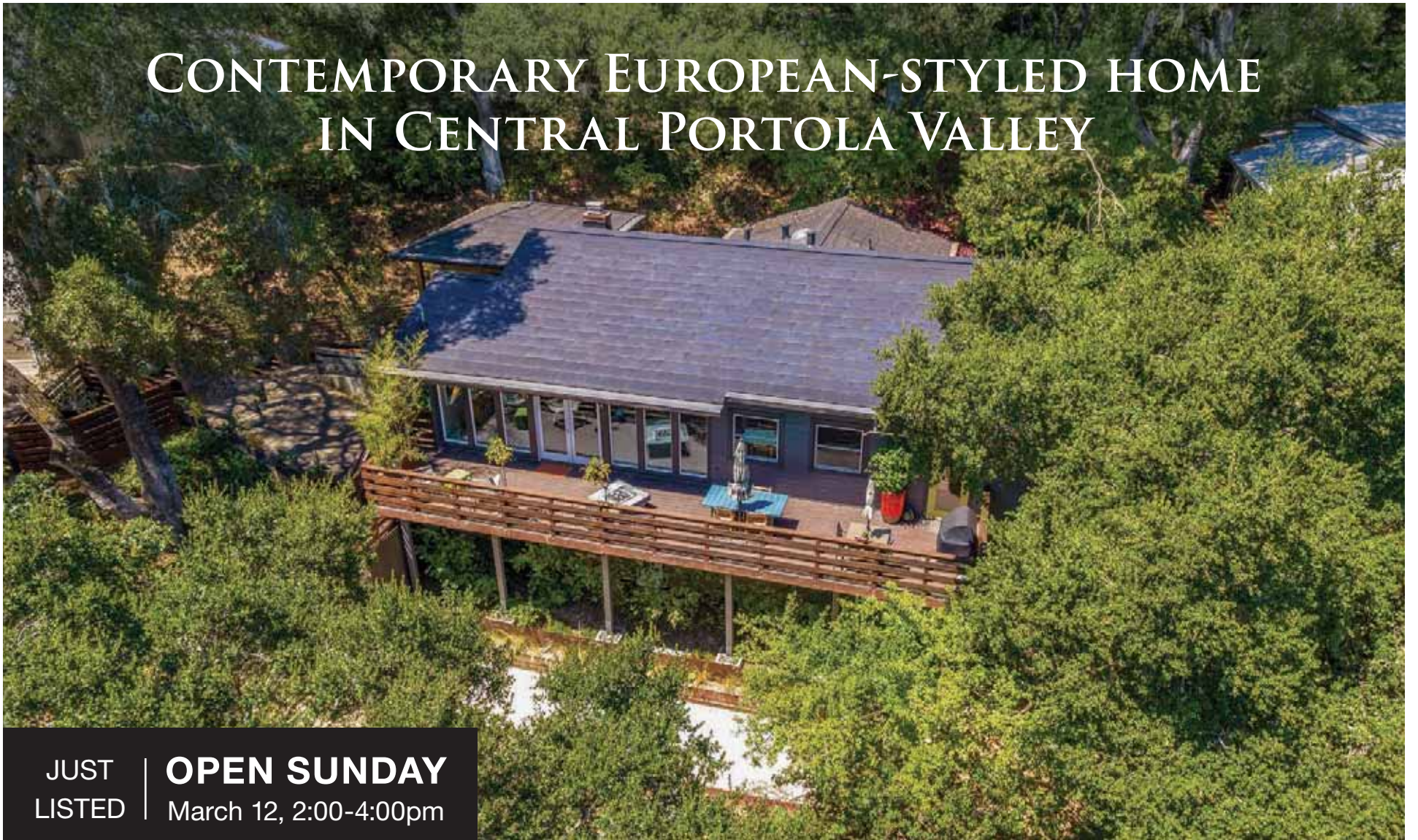


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Adam Pardee

Atherton Council member Rick DeGolia uses an electric leaf blower to push a blowup bowling ball during Atherton's Earth Day Festival at Holbrook-Palmer Park on Apr. 23, 2022.

Atherton looking to ban gas-powered leaf blowers next summer

By Angela Swartz

Gas-powered leaf blowers were up for discussion again in Atherton, where town officials have been debating limits on the devices for over three years. Now the town is drafting an ordinance that would ban the use of gas-powered small engines starting next summer, in line with a planned state ban.

Since 2019, the town has considered putting limits on

the leaf blowers. Potential ordinances have been floated at the City Council level, along with the Environmental Programs Committee and an ad hoc subcommittee. But there has never been a consensus on what limits to put on the devices and when it should take effect. Now, the council is aiming to ban them in July 2024.

"We all know the state's going to ban the sale of leaf blowers starting in January of next year," said Vice Mayor Diana

Hawkins-Manuelian at a March 1 meeting. "So we've waited so long, the state is catching up with us. You're not going to be able to buy them at all in January 2024."

The council directed staff on March 1 to craft an ordinance that would ban two-stroke gas-powered leaf blowers — which tend to produce more pollutants than four-stroke blowers — on July 1, 2024. It also asked staff

See **LEAF BLOWERS**, page 16

Ravenswood school district ready to ink development deal for Flood School housing

By Cameron Rebosio

The Ravenswood City School District board is expected to approve a contract with a developer this week to build dense housing on the site of the former James Flood Magnet School, moving forward on a project that has been the center of controversy among local residents.

The agreement with Alliant Strategic Development specifies that the project would have 80 to 90 affordable rental units,

with priority for teachers and school staff, adding homes to a location that has been vacant for more than a decade. The proposed agreement includes a 90-year ground lease, with the Ravenswood district retaining ownership of the land.

If built, district officials say the housing project would generate between \$300,000 to \$500,000 in revenue each year, which can be used to pay for school services in a high-needs district.

The development of the former

school site at 321 Sheridan Drive has been fraught with political controversy, as many neighbors and the school district have been at odds over the number of units to be built. The debate led to the controversial Measure V ballot initiative in Menlo Park last year, which sought to put all rezoning of single-family lots — including the Flood School site — to a citywide vote.

Measure V was soundly defeated in the November 2022

See **FLOOD SCHOOL**, page 15

After murder verdict in cannibalism case, jury weighs sanity of Atherton arborist's killer

Experts testify about Francis Wolke's delusions of joining elite '1%'

By Cameron Rebosio

Defense lawyers argue that Francis Wolke, found guilty of first-degree murder last week in the 2018 killing of Atherton arborist Kathy Hughes Anderson, was insane and believed he had to commit cannibalism in order to join the "1%" and stay young forever.

The claim arose during court proceedings in Redwood City to determine whether Wolke was sane during the 2018 incident, following a guilty verdict by a jury on March 2. The sanity phase of the trial in San Mateo County Court began Monday and is expected to conclude Wednesday, March 9.

Defense attorney Connie O'Brien argued in opening statements that Wolke was suffering from psychosis at the time of the murder and that he was unable to understand his behavior as morally wrong. According to O'Brien, Wolke believed "he had to murder someone and potentially consume parts of the body to become a 'protein harvester"

and join the 1%."

According to forensic psychiatrist Dr. George Wilkinson, an expert witness for the prosecution, whenever asked if he "ate flesh or consumed blood," Wolke would quickly state that he didn't recall, when he had been openly conversing with Wilkinson immediately before. Wilkinson said that Wolke would only respond this way to specific questions about the murder, leading Wilkinson to believe he was withholding information.

Wolke believed that if he moved to California from Cincinnati, where he grew up, he would become extremely wealthy and told his family that he had connections to important people in California. The "1%" Wolke was intent on joining refers to the incredibly rich and elite, whom Wolke believed would protect him because they were also committing acts of murder and cannibalism.

When asked about what he would do with such fabulous wealth, Wolke said that he would "take drugs and play video games," according to Wilkinson.

Wilkinson also testified that Wolke was on the highest dose



Francis Wolke

See **WOLKE**, page 17



Magali Gauthier

Ravenswood City School District officials are poised to sign off on a contract to develop the former James Flood Magnet School in Menlo Park at workforce housing.

Employment

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Pacific Biosciences of California, Inc. has an opening in Menlo Park, CA. SW Engr (Instruments/ Programming) Job ID JR100182: runtime control operations in sequencing instruments & for operational SW. Salary range \$135k to \$187k per year. Remote work may be permitted. Submit resume (principals only) through the Pacific Biosciences of California, Inc. website at <http://www.pacb.com/company/careers/EOE>



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TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 22 and Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. via hybrid format at the Historic Schoolhouse, 765 Portola Road, Portola Valley and Zoom.**

The Town Council will hold a Public Hearing to review the following:

- **Portola Valley Housing and Safety Elements Update and Conforming General Plan and Zoning Code Amendments Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration**
- **Housing Element Update (2023-2031)**
- **Conforming General Plan Amendments** 1) Creation of a new "Gateway" land use classification that allows affordable housing, recreation, and open space uses to be applied to two parcels. 2) Creation of two new multi-family land use classifications allowing up to four and 20 dwelling units per acre. 3) Creation of an opt-in overlay classification to allow for a up to four units on approximately three single family lots (not to exceed a total of 12 units during the new housing element cycle). 4) Creation of a new mixed-use land use classification to allow for up to six dwelling units per acre as well as the uses currently permitted in the existing A-P Administrative Professional District. The Land Use Element, Alpine Scenic Corridor Plan and Nathhorst Triangle Plan, the General Plan Land Use Map and the Nathhorst Triangle Plan diagram would be revised to include these new land use designations.

Information pertaining to these items may be viewed online at www.portolavalley.net/housing or by contacting Thomas Geisler, Development Review Technician, at tgeisler@portolavalley.net. The agenda and staff report will be published at <https://www.portolavalley.net/town-government/town-council/minutes-and-agendas> in advance of the meeting.

Public Hearings provide the general public and interested parties an opportunity to provide testimony on these items. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Town Council to be heard at the time and place mentioned above. If you challenge a proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at a Public Hearing(s) described above, or in written correspondence delivered to the Town Council at, or prior to, the Public Hearing(s). Public Comments should be directed to housing@portolavalley.net.

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Laura Russell, Planning & Building Director

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



CRIME BRIEFS

East Palo Alto woman killed in motorcycle crash

A woman was killed in a motorcycle crash on March 2 after she reportedly struck a pole while riding east on San Antonio Road in Palo Alto, near the Mountain View border.

The victim was identified by the Santa Clara County medical examiner's office as 21-year-old East Palo Alto resident Leslie Buenrostro. She died early Friday after succumbing to her injuries at a hospital.

Police are investigating the reasons for the crash and do not believe any other vehicles were involved.

According to the news release, police received multiple calls at about 10:15 p.m. about a motorcyclist down in the roadway on San Antonio, near Nita Avenue.

Police officers and paramedics from the Palo Alto Fire Department immediately responded to the scene, and the woman was taken by paramedics to a local hospital, where she died a few hours later.

The preliminary investigation indicated that Buenrostro was riding a 2022 Kawasaki when the motorcycle left the roadway and struck a pole, according to the news release. The Specialized Traffic Accident Reconstruction (STAR) team responded to the scene to investigate, and the roadway was closed for about four hours.

It is currently unknown if drugs or alcohol were a factor, according to the news release, and the cause of the crash

See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 18

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Four local students named Presidential Scholars candidates

Four local students are among the more than 5,000 candidates in the 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

Candidates include Adrian M. Deutscher-Bishop and Alexander Parikh-Briggs, both students at Menlo-Atherton High School and Menlo Park residents; Maren C. Deem of Portola Valley, a Woodside Priory School student; and Lucy Knox of Menlo Park, a Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton student.

Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities, according to a press release.

A panel of educators will review these submissions and select approximately 600 semifinalists in early April. Finalists will be announced in May. U.S. Presidential Scholars will be honored for their accomplishments during the National Recognition Program in June.

Sheriff's Office community meeting

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office will host a community gathering with Portola Valley residents and provide information about how to keep homes safe from burglaries on Thursday, March 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will also be time set aside for asking questions. The event will be in the Community Hall, 765 Portola Road.

Induction cooktop loaner at Portola Valley Library

An induction cooktop and associated cookware can now be borrowed from the Portola Valley Library.

An induction cooktop gets its power and precision from induction technology, generating energy from magnets below the glass cooktop surface, which vibrates the electrons in magnetic cookware and causes the appliance to heat up through friction.

To borrow the equipment, go to smcl.libcal.com/equipment/item/147115.

If you decide to purchase your own induction cooktop, BayREN (Bay Area Regional Energy Network) offers a rebate up to \$750 at bayren.org/homeowners/induction-cooktops.

Additional rebates may be available through the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 when the details are finalized, according to the town of Portola Valley.

Peninsula Clean Energy has additional information on the devices at peninsulacleanenergy.com/about-induction-cooking.

—Angela Swartz



Magali Gauthier

A car drives past a blocked off portion of Santa Cruz Avenue in downtown Menlo Park in 2020.

Menlo Park to keep downtown streets closed for outdoor dining

By Cameron Rebosio

Menlo Park’s “streetaries” program, which closed streets to traffic to make room for outdoor dining areas, will continue despite the official end of the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Santa Cruz Avenue is currently closed from Curtis Street to Doyle Street. The closure has allowed for three businesses to expand and create “parklets” in the road, where there are dining areas for residents who wish to reduce their chances of COVID-19 exposure by sitting outdoors.

Residents who spoke at a Feb. 28 City Council meeting were largely in favor of the continued closure of portions of Santa Cruz Avenue.

“Let’s support our local businesses,” resident James Pistorino said. “We should all want them to succeed and don’t fix what isn’t broken.”

The closure of Ryans Lane was also up for discussion at the Menlo Park City Council meeting. Sandra Ferer, owner of Carpaccio, said that her restaurant received permission to extend business into Ryans Lane later than other downtown eateries, and was asking for an extended closure to continue using the parklet for outdoor dining.

“Please don’t forget us,” Ferer said.

She said Carpaccio’s dining area was designed with

movable components, like planter boxes on wheels, to adjust for neighboring businesses. “Our outside space was built with the previous and the future building owners from across the alley in mind.”

Ferer also said that Ryans Lane, an alley off of Crane Street, is a dangerous intersection for pedestrians and bicyclists.

“Delivery vehicles would go through that alley, up onto Crane Street and blast cross that sidewalk,” Ferer said. There’s very little visibility, there was a real safety concern there.”

City Council members were largely supportive of maintaining the closures, particularly in order to create space for the community and small businesses to thrive following the pandemic.

“It has created that additional sort of gathering spot in the downtown area that a lot of people in our community have gravitated to,” Council

member Drew Combs said. “I see it as a success, and I want to do everything I can to encourage this.”

The City Council directed staff to maintain the closures at both Santa Cruz Avenue and Ryans Lane, and plan to add a bike lane through the Santa Cruz Avenue closure area. ■

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

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- Environmental Quality – 2
- Finance and Audit – 5
- Housing – 1
- Library – 2
- Parks and Recreation – 2
- Planning – 2

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Meta cafeteria workers protest for better severance after mass layoff

By Cameron Rebosio

Laid-off cafeteria workers are protesting at Meta headquarters for higher severance benefits.

Former cafeteria workers at Meta, formerly known as Facebook, allege they were let go during a mass layoff on Jan. 6 with severance unequal to that of software employees who were recently laid off.

Samuel Rasheed, Unite Here Local 19 representative and organizer of the protests, said that the workers will be protesting weekly until Meta is willing to negotiate with the laid off workers.

"The workers are what, just left

out in the cold?" Rasheed said. "... Treat us with respect and dignity ... and come to the table, working with us to get equal treatment."

A major concern that the protesters shared on March 1 was about their insurance benefits, which Meta only offered for two months following the layoff. Marisol Mora worked for Meta for nearly five years before the layoffs, and said she got the first dose of the shingles vaccine but cannot receive the second due to health insurance lapses.

One unnamed woman was mentioned by two of her coworkers during the protest: her child had recently had heart surgery and would struggle to afford his

care after benefits lapsed.

Giulia Navarrete, another worker protesting at the headquarters, said that her insurance supports her husband and son, who both require inhalers, which will cost her over \$100 each without insurance. Navarrete also said that insurance delays would cause her coverage to lapse for a month even if she got a job the day she was laid off, because Meta only offered two months of coverage and many jobs take three months before new employees receive insurance benefits. ■

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



Cafeteria workers who were laid off protest outside of Meta's Menlo Park headquarters on March 1.

Danielle O'Brien slated to be Hillview Middle School's permanent principal

By Angela Swartz

Menlo Park City School District Superintendent Kristen Gracia plans to recommend Danielle O'Brien as the permanent principal of Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park.

The school board will vote on O'Brien's appointment on

Thursday, March 9, after The Almanac's Wednesday afternoon press deadline. She has led the school on an interim basis since last August.

"She has proven to be a smart, compassionate, effective, and highly engaging leader," according to a March 2 district press release. "Her unparalleled love for Hillview and

her commitment to making it a place where all students, staff, and families feel valued, connected, and inspired comes through in everything she does."

MPCSD conducted a rigorous search process last year but did not find a viable candidate, according to the press release. O'Brien came to Hillview in

2011 as a humanities teacher after serving as a teacher and activities director in Humboldt County. She was promoted to assistant principal in 2014.

In 2018, O'Brien was promoted to associate principal. In that role, she supervised curriculum, instruction, technology, and assessment and led the 1:1 iPad program, which provides the device to each student for academic use. She also led Hillview's transition to evidence-based grading as well as its COVID-19 pandemic response.

"This year, Hillview has blossomed under Ms. O'Brien's capable leadership," according to the press release. "Her gifts for listening, taking and acting on feedback, and fostering collaborative and respectful relationships have helped Hillview grow in generative ways that are making a noticeable

positive difference in the campus culture and MPCSD community. Her knowledge of Hillview's unique character, needs, and community, along with her expertise in middle school education, make her the district's stand-out choice to officially take these leadership reins."

The hiring process this year confirmed that O'Brien is not only the most qualified candidate, but also the only right choice for Hillview, according to the district. ■



Danielle O'Brien

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

Menlo Park Monthly Market Report
February 1, 2023 - February 28, 2023

11 COSTLY HOME INSPECTIONS PITFALLS
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TOP 10 SALES*	
1. \$8,800,000 935 Peninsula Way	2. \$8,258,000 53 Politzer Drive
3. \$6,800,000 735 Windsor Drive	4. \$5,480,000 1141 Cotton Street
5. \$5,150,000 1868 Valparaiso Avenue	6. \$4,580,000 4 Zachary Court
7. \$4,500,000 3003 Mills Avenue	8. \$4,490,000 522 Bay Road
9. \$4,300,000 520 Grace Drive	10. \$4,250,000 1304 American Way

ACTIVE LISTING

Feb: 33 (-3%)
Jan: 34

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

Feb: \$4,031,136 (+33%)
Jan: \$3,023,583

AVERAGE SALES PRICE/SQ FT

Feb: \$1,609 (+18%)
Jan: \$1,361

PENDING LISTING

Feb: 27 (+108%)
Jan: 13

AVERAGE SOLD DAYS ON MARKET

Feb: 29 (-22%)
Jan: 37

MONTHS OF INVENTORY

Feb: 1.50 (-46%)
Jan: 2.80

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

SOLD LISTING

Feb: 22 (+83%)
Jan: 12

SALE/LIST PRICE

Feb: 98.30% (-1%)
Jan: 99.60%

30 YEAR MORTGAGE RATE

Feb: 6.64% (+3%)
Jan: 6.42%

Source: Bankrate

*February 2023 compared to January 2023

*Source: MLS Listings for Single Family Properties | Townhomes | Condos

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PIGEONS

continued from page 1

"The parasite can spread rapidly between pigeons using shared water sources like bird baths, fountains, water troughs, and other relatively small water sources, where the parasites can become more concentrated," Rogers said.

The signs of infection are lesions that choke off the airways and block feeding, leaving the birds weak and unable to fly. To prevent more birds from getting sick, it's recommended to remove small water sources when pigeons are flocking in the area.

"Other bird species may be at

risk of developing avian trichomonosis, including mourning doves, various songbirds, and avian predators that prey on infected species," Rogers said.

However, she said pigeons, mourning doves and many songbirds are at a lower risk of catching avian flu because "we see most cases of avian influenza among waterfowl, other waterbirds, and avian predators and scavengers that feed on waterfowl."

The agency's recommendation for getting rid of dead birds is to wear disposable gloves, wrap the bodies in a plastic bag, put it in the trash, and then follow up with a soapy hand-washing. ■

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Portola Valley releases latest draft housing element plan

By Angela Swartz

The latest iteration of Portola Valley's draft housing element is up for review by town officials, after punting on submitting the state-mandated document in late January. The draft, which is expected to be adopted on March 29, has few changes, but reveals more about future development plans for sites in the town.

On Jan. 25, the Town Council directed staff not to submit the housing element by the Jan. 31 deadline, because they said the plans were not ready. At the time, other Bay Area cities were rushing to submit compliant elements to the state at the end of January. Portola Valley is required to plan for 253 new units that could reasonably be built between 2023 and 2031 as part of the 2023-31 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).

The draft changes the classification of Dorothy Ford Field, where 50 units of housing are planned at 20 units per acre, from vacant to non-vacant land. It also requires a general plan amendment to allow for rezoning the 2.48-acre site.

Vice Mayor Sarah Wernikoff said that HCD (the state's Department of Housing and Community Development) has a strict definition of "vacant" that does not equate to common usage. The site includes the baseball diamond and even though the baseball diamond would remain or be improved with the project, the town thought it was best to strictly comply with the HCD guidance, she said.

The descriptions of the sites at 4394 Alpine Road and 4370 Alpine Road in Nathhorst Triangle were updated substantially following concerns from the owner and neighbors, respectively, according to staff.

The Planning Commission discussed the new plan during a four-and-half hour meeting on Monday, March 6.

4394 and 4370 Alpine Road

The housing plan was updated to include the fact that there is no housing planned yet for 4394 Alpine Road.

The Portola Valley residents who own the Willow Commons project at 4388 Alpine Road acquired the adjacent 4394 Alpine Road property in 2021. The owners have not yet developed a housing plan for the site, but could do so in the coming years. The owners plan to use the property to support their philanthropic mission of building permanent affordable housing

for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"The owners have surveyed supportive housing models throughout the United States and hope to bring a collection of best practices to this new site," according to the draft. "Some of the options being considered are a stand-alone supportive housing site similar to the project at 4388 Alpine; development of additional supportive housing programs to complement 4388 Alpine; development of other housing models (e.g., shared housing) that address vulnerable populations; or a combination of these or other alternatives."

The applicants are also exploring some mixed use ideas, such as retail or an art gallery, that would provide both job training and revenue, and a mixture of market rate housing units to provide integration of tenant

populations and additional revenue to cross-subsidize the below-market units, according to staff.

"The town desires to support and facilitate the owners' philanthropic efforts and recognizes this is a rare opportunity to showcase that a vital, yet scarce, form of housing can be developed in the core of an affluent, suburban community," the new draft states.

The plan now specifies that 4370 Alpine is an abandoned tennis court and unused parking lot, along with an office. The main issue at this site is Nathhorst neighbors who voiced concerns about increased density in their neighborhood, according to a March 6 staff presentation to the Planning Commission.

Town consultant Lisa Wise Consulting prepared an early concept plan demonstrating that

20 units per acre would be feasible with complete redevelopment of the site. The Ad Hoc Housing Element Committee came to a different conclusion, finding that the site would be appropriate with six units per acre (with a total of nine units) and recommended a new mixed-use district. The town's site inventory estimates nine townhouses could be developed, with five units developed in the back and four in the front.

Property owner Richard Thesing has also expressed interest in redeveloping it in meetings with staff. His plans focused on the rear portion of the property, showing that up to 11 units (consisting of nine three-bedroom units of 1,782 square feet and two, one-bedroom accessory dwelling units) could be developed on the rear portion. The development

potential of the site is much higher if it's included as a housing site, and the property owner has significant financial incentive to develop residential units, according to the element.

Thesing told the Planning Commission during the March 6 review of the plan that he doesn't think it's feasible to build four units of housing at the front of the property because of nearby office buildings that aren't going to be torn down.

The plan also now includes building setbacks at the site.

Nathhorst residents Bob Adams and Bill Russell thanked the town for working with residents and making compromises on the sites in his neighborhood during the Planning Commission review.

See **HOUSING ELEMENT**, page 15

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Newsom's climate budget would slash funds that protect coast

By Julie Cart / CalMatters

Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposed budget would cut funding for coastal resilience projects almost in half, eliminating more than half a billion dollars of state funds this year that would help protect the coast against rising seas and climate change.

The cuts are part of Newsom's proposed \$6 billion in reductions to California's climate change programs in response to a projected \$22.5 billion statewide deficit.

California's coastal resilience programs provide funding for local governments to prepare coastal plans and pay for projects that protect beaches, homes and infrastructure at risk from rising seas. Greenhouse gases are responsible for warming the planet, which melts ice and causes sea levels to rise.

Newsom's proposal would budget \$734 million for coastal resilience, a cut of 43% or \$561 million compared to 2021 and 2022, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office.

Some lawmakers told CalMatters that they are concerned about Newsom's proposal to gut the programs that are helping coastal towns prepare for flooding that has already damaged many communities.

Sen. Josh Becker, who chairs the Senate's budget subcommittee, called the cuts "highly concerning," especially because they are excessive compared to the cuts applied to other state programs.

"Most programs received 10% cuts," Becker, a Democrat from San Mateo, said in an interview.



Devin Roberts

A view of Pigeon Point Lighthouse, which is perched on a cliff in Pescadero.

"I'm very concerned about it, given the timing that we are experiencing these floods. My county is among the most endangered in the state for sea level rise."

Becker said he hopes to restore some of the money, possibly by finding federal funds to backfill some programs.

"These are dramatic cuts to something we agreed upon, and I'm going to try to get it back," he said.

Newsom's budget, released on Jan. 10, is not final, with revisions due in May.

Experts say there's a lot at stake if sea level rise and coastal projects are not addressed now. Last month the state Department of Transportation, Caltrans, released a draft management plan estimating that it needs nearly \$15 billion over the next ten years to protect bridges and roads from sea level rise.

A 2020 report by the Legislative Analyst's Office projects more than \$20 billion worth of California property will be at risk or underwater by 2050 without planning and funding. "Waiting too long to initiate adaptation efforts likely will make responding effectively more difficult and costly. ... The next decade represents a crucial time period for taking action to prepare for" sea level rise, the report says.

Much of the funding on the chopping block is in the form of grants to local governments to fund projects and planning. Included is \$64 million for cities to prepare extensive management plans to prepare for sea level rise.

Chris Helmer, director of environmental and natural resources for the city of Imperial Beach, said "if the state cuts adaptation projects, that would be a concern." Imperial Beach received about

\$200,000 to prepare a draft sea level rise plan, he said. It also has a grant pending with the Ocean Protection Council for another project to protect the city from encroaching seas.

"If there's no money, that's a major concern for us," Helmer said. January's storm exacerbated already massive flooding issues, he said. Waves broke on city streets, sand was driven well past the beach and rocks were thrown through residents' windows. The cleanup took two months.

Up the coast in Ventura, recent storms also undermined beachfront infrastructure and proved the value of a project at Surfers' Point, partially funded by a \$1.6 million state grant, that relocated a parking lot and bike path away from the water and protected the beach with a "living shoreline."

The second phase of that project is contingent on a \$16.2 million grant application with the state. The timeline to begin is this winter.

Cody Stults, the city's associate engineer, said he is optimistic that the grant would survive the cuts, but added that there is no way the city could afford to pay for the next phase of the Surfers' Point project.

"If we can't get the money, I can almost guarantee that the work will not be going through this winter," he said.

Among the statewide programs with deep proposed cuts are protecting the coast from climate change, with a 65% cut; adapting infrastructure to sea level rise, a 74% cut; and implementing SB 1, a 63% cut.

SB 1 provides funding for much of the state's sea level rise response. The author, Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, said the threat is more urgent now than when the 2021 law passed.

"The intent of SB 1 was to empower communities to work to find solutions at the local level to address sea level rise in partnership with the state," the San Diego Democrat said in a statement to CalMatters. "While we are facing challenging times, the past decade of responsible budgeting has prepared the state to withstand a downturn without devastating cuts to critical programs."

In testimony before the legislature last week, Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot characterized the governor's proposed cuts as "surgical." When pressed to explain how the administration prioritized programs that would be trimmed, he said the focus was on addressing "clear and present danger." He identified wildfire and water projects as posing a direct and immediate threat to Californians.

Environmentalists said the

governor's proposal to cut climate funding is shortsighted: Rising seas are often described as a "slow moving disaster," as the most devastating impacts are projected to show up in coming decades.

"Sea level rise is here," said Laura Walsh, California policy manager for Surfrider Foundation. While wildfires are a "huge deal and we don't want to compare sob stories, at this particular moment, living on the coast feels like an emergency. This is not belt-tightening, this is drowning," she said.

Newsom proposed the cuts right when California was lashed with a damaging series of atmospheric rivers, flooding and high surf, which was proof enough that sea level rise is already harming the state, said Donne Brownsey, chair of the California Coastal Commission.

Brownsey didn't criticize the governor's proposed cuts. But she said she hoped they would be re-evaluated.

"What we saw in January was the trailer for the movie. That's the way it's going to roll," she said. "We're hopeful that given what happened — all the flooding and damage up and down the coastline — we are hoping there will be a reevaluation of these programs. It's not a future problem. It's today."

Brownsey and others noted that past budgets have been generous, but also that their programs are increasingly under pressure.


"We still have unprecedented amounts of funding to make these investments. The state is committed," said Jenn Eckerle, deputy secretary for oceans and coastal policy and executive director of the state's Ocean Protection Council. "But we also know impacts are happening now and we know they are only going to get more extreme over time. We also recognize that failure to invest in planning now can lead to significant costs later."

Crowfoot told the Senate budget panel that state agencies have been scouring federal programs for money to backfill state funding losses. About \$4 billion in new federal money is set aside for coastal resilience projects.

The Newsom administration floated the idea of a general obligation bond to make up for the cuts, and a "trigger" provision that would restore funding if the revenue picture brightens.

But Rachel Ehlers of the Legislative Analyst's Office told the Senate subcommittee that expecting revenues to rebound is "optimistic." She said there is a strong chance that the deficit will grow. ■

Email Julie Cart at julie@calmatters.org.



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REQUISITOS DE ELEGIBILIDAD

- Aplicar antes de las 5 p. m., viernes 7 de abril
- Debe ser residente en Menlo Park
- Mayor de 18 años
- Comprometido a asistir a las reuniones programadas

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN

- Visite menlopark.gov/commissions
- Escriba a jaherren@menlopark.gov
- Llame al 650-330-6620

Atherton Library wins award for 2023 building electrification

By Redwood City Pulse Staff

Peninsula Clean Energy has announced the winners of its 2023 building electrification awards, including the Atherton Library.

The energy organization selected various commercial/residential builders, property owners and design teams throughout San Mateo County for numerous awards revolving around all-electric structures.

Receiving the "2023 All-Electric Leader, Outstanding Residential New Construction (Accessory Dwelling Unit)" award is a residential project, Casita Kastrop ADU. The Redwood City backyard cottage, owned by Michael and Lorianna Kastrop, utilized solar panels and battery storage to provide enough electricity to the house successfully, which is normally required for residents.

Redwood City resident Michael Willcox won the "2023 All-Electric Leader, Most Inspirational Residential Project" award for his single-family residential home. The project, titled Solar and Heat Pumping to the Max, involved installing a rooftop solar system, which converted the home from using methane to strictly only utilizing electric energy.

The recipient of the "2023 All-Electric Leader, Outstanding Commercial Project" award is the Atherton Library, which was fully constructed in June 2022. The 9,601-square-foot Atherton Library was able to wire the building for a rooftop solar system despite the structure being almost double the size of the town's previous library.

"The Atherton Library represents the evolution of our city center by showcasing how building innovation can support our carbon-reduction goals while preserving historic charm," said Rick DeGolia, Atherton council member and chair of Peninsula Clean Energy's board of directors.

Finally, the "2023 All-Electric Leader, Outstanding Residential Modernization" award was given to the Whitehair Home. The San Mateo single-family residential property, owned by Robert and Teri Whitehair, incrementally swapped from gas-powered equipment to electric by using various financial incentives.

The announced winners will each receive a \$2,000 cash award and will also be given a plaque at Sustainable San Mateo County's 24th Annual Awards Celebration, which is set to take place on March 30. ■

The **Almanac**
AlmanacNews.com

LET'S DISCUSS:
Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues on Town Square at AlmanacNews.com

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently

Ernest "Ernie" Vigdor, 97, a Palo Alto resident known for his artistic vision who served as a high-speed radio operator with the Army Air Corps in Guam during World War II and later opened his own graphic design company, died on Feb. 27; **Matthew Elliot Slavik**, 70, a Menlo Park resident and Stanford Business School graduate known for his lifelong love of rock, jazz and folk music, died on Feb. 23; **Juanita Kathryn Watson Brooks**, 96, a former long-time Menlo Park resident and teacher who devoted much of her life to mentoring and advocating for children, especially those of color, died on Feb. 18; **Bernard A. Newcomb**, 80, a Palo Alto resident and angel investor who co-founded the

online brokerage firm E*Trade and was known for using his earnings to improve the lives of others, died on Jan. 29; **Duane Edwin Champion**, 73, a Menlo Park resident and research geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey whose study of volcanoes was instrumental in understanding the region's geologic history and the action of plate tectonics, died on Jan. 11; **Marilyn "Lyn" Alice Hohbach**, 93, an Atherton resident and Stanford University graduate known for her love of music, volunteer work and her intellectual curiosity, died on Jan. 8.

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



Town of Atherton

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

Planning Commission
March 22, 2023

REGULAR MEETING 6:00 P.M.

This is meeting is held virtually and in-person at the Council Chambers 80 Fair Oaks Lane

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Atherton Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider several projects as listed below during their regular meeting.

This meeting will be held as a hybrid in-person and via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e) to provide the safest environment for staff and the public while allowing for public participation. The public may participate in the Planning Commission Meeting via Zoom Meeting or by attending in-person in the Council Chambers at 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027.

Town of Atherton is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Meeting.

Topic: Atherton Planning Commission Regular Meeting

Time: March 22, 2023, 06:00 PM
Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://ci-atherton-ca.zoom.us/j/84150249099>

Meeting ID: 841 5024 9099

One tap mobile

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(Washington DC)

+13052241968,,84150249099# US

Find your local number:

<https://ci-athertonca.zoom.us/j/84150249099>

Remote Public Comments:

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

Email:

planningcommission@ci.atherton.ca.us

Projects under Public Hearing:

- A. **Continued from February 22, 2023 - Variance at 42 San Benito**
- B. **Continued from February 22, 2023 - Tree Protection Zone Exception at 244 Park Lane**
- C. **Two lot subdivision with conditional exception at 43 Santiago Avenue –**
Subdivision of a 2.5-acre parcel of land to allow two individuals lots of 1.2 acres and 1.3 acres approximately, seeking conditional exception of two non-conforming lot widths pursuant to the provisions of AMC Title 16. (APN 070-343-310)

CEQA: The proposal has been determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to CEQA Section 15332 In-fill Development Project and 15061. Review for Exemption

- D. **Heritage Tree Removal** - Removal of 1 Heritage tree to build a tennis court at 20 Tuscaloosa (APN 070-103-370)

CEQA: The proposal has been determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to CEQA Section 15303, New Construction of Conversion of Small Structures.

A copy of the Planning Commission staff report and application materials can be found online, by **Friday, March 17, 2023**, here: <https://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/641/Agendas-Minutes>

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that said application is set for hearing by the Planning Commission at its meeting on **March 22, 2023, at 6:00 PM** in-person 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 projects listed in the public hearing section should or should not be approved.

IF YOU CHALLENGE the listed projects 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 Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Planning Commission decisions are appealable by any aggrieved person to the City Council within 10 days of the date of the decision.

If you have any questions on the item please contact If you have any questions on the item please contact Radha Hayagreev, Senior Planner, (408) 796-4370 at rhayagreev@ci.atherton.ca.us or directly to the Planning Commission at planningcommission@ci.atherton.ca.us

Any attendee who wishes accommodation for a disability should contact the Building Division at (650) 752-0542 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Date Posted: March 10, 2023

ATHERTON PLANNING COMMISSION
/s/ Radha Hayagreev

Radha Hayagreev, Senior Planner

How will the Russia-Ukraine war end?

At the one-year mark of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Steven Pifer discusses how the conflict may unfold in the months and even years to come

By Melissa De Witte

The war in Ukraine could continue as a war of attrition for months or even years, with neither side able to conduct an operation with a decisive outcome, Stanford scholar Steven Pifer told Stanford News.

Pifer, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and an affiliate at Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation, discussed how he anticipates the conflict will continue to unfold, and what it will take to bring it to an end. He also shared a glimpse of what life is like now for Ukrainians, who remain fiercely determined to resist Russian occupation.

Pifer's research focuses on nuclear arms control, Ukraine, Russia, and European security. He spent more than 25 years working with the U.S. State Department, where he focused on America's relations with the former Soviet Union and Europe, as well as arms control and security issues. He served as deputy assistant secretary of state in the Bureau of European and Eurasian

Affairs with responsibilities for Russia and Ukraine (2001-2004), ambassador to Ukraine (1998-2000), and special assistant to the president and senior director for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia on the National Security Council (1996-1997).

Twelve months into the conflict, what do you find most troubling?

The war — or this latest phase in a conflict that began in 2014 with the Russian military's illegal seizure of Crimea — has been a terrible tragedy for Ukraine and Ukrainians. Tens of thousands have died, including many civilians. The fighting has caused 13 million to flee their homes and become refugees outside of Ukraine or internally displaced within. The material damage to infrastructure, housing, and industry amounts to many hundreds of billions of dollars.

At the same time, the war unleashed by Vladimir Putin has proven a disaster for Russia. Western officials estimate the Russian military has suffered

some 200,000 killed and wounded in action. While not as devastating as predicted, Western sanctions have nevertheless taken a toll on Russia's economy.

Europe has united in support of Ukraine, with Finland and Sweden abandoning decades of neutrality to seek to join NATO, and Berlin junking five decades of German policy toward the Soviet Union and Russia. The war will leave Russia diminished in military, economic, and geopolitical terms.

What might people misunderstand or underestimate about the conflict?

First, the Kremlin severely underestimates Ukraine's resolve to resist. Ukrainians see this war as existential. If they lose, their democracy is gone, and the vision of becoming a normal European state that motivates many of the young is gone as well. Moreover, Ukrainians have seen in Bucha, Irpin, Mariupol, and many other cities and towns what Russian occupation means. A few

weeks ago, I spoke to a former Ukrainian co-worker at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv. Life is tough: electricity on four hours, then off four hours; little heat; and regular air-raid alerts. But she was very clear: "This is our land, and we will fight for it."

Second, some people in America and Europe seem to misunderstand the roots of the conflict and have bought the Kremlin narrative that NATO enlargement caused the war. That does not withstand serious scrutiny. The leadership in Kyiv seeks NATO membership, understandably given Russian aggression over the past nine years. But Ukrainian membership lacks broad support within the alliance, and it needs agreement from all NATO members to join. Many allies at this point are not ready to commit to going to war against Russia on Ukraine's behalf. That was well understood in Moscow. Mr. Putin's comment to the press last June that "There is nothing to worry us in terms of Swedish and Finnish membership of NATO" hardly suggests that the alliance's enlargement

caused such deep concern for the Kremlin.

How do you anticipate the next year unfolding?

Predictions are difficult. One year ago, few analysts in the West, and seemingly none in the Kremlin, would have forecast that the Ukrainian military would largely be holding its own in February 2023.

That said, it seems clear Russia cannot win this war in the sense of achieving its original goals. Judging by the multi-vector assault on Ukraine one year ago, the Kremlin sought to quickly capture Kyiv and occupy the eastern one-half to two-thirds of Ukraine. Few serious military analysts believe the Russian military is capable of that now. However the war concludes, an independent and sovereign Ukrainian state will remain on the map of Europe, and it will be much larger than the rump state that Moscow apparently intended to leave one year ago.

Ukraine's military racked up considerable success in the last four months of 2022, routing Russian forces out of the Kharkiv region and pushing them back across the Dnipro River in

See **WAR**, page 14

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A greener cup for your coffee

San Mateo County partners with a reusable cup startup for a new program in Peninsula cafes

By Kate Bradshaw

About 120 billion paper, plastic and foam disposable cups are thrown away each year in the U.S., according to Clean Water Action and the Clean Water Fund. But when was the last time you thought to bring a travel mug to your favorite cafe?

“There are cafes that are frustrated with the problem, but they don’t have great alternatives,” says Emily Chueh, co-founder of Okapi Reusables, a reusable cup startup that’s working with the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability to help restaurants cut their reliance on single-use plastics for takeout beverages. Okapi Reusables began last year in Portland, where about 20 cafes are now participating in the reusable cup program.

Some cafes do offer bring-your-own cup programs, but even then it’s a small proportion of people who actually remember to bring their own cups, Chueh says.

Through Okapi Reusables, customers pay a \$10 one-time

fee and download an app. They scan a QR code at the counter of participating cafes and are then able to check out one of the Okapi reusable cups behind the counter to take home for two weeks. Some cafes give discounts to people who borrow the reusable cups; Urban Ritual, for example, offers 20% off.

Okapi has received a \$16,000 grant from the county’s Office of Sustainability to build out its program at local cafes and boba shops. So far, the program has launched at four locations in San Mateo: 3 Bees Coffee, Urban Ritual, Meet Fresh and Heere Tea. Shops in Half Moon Bay will be added soon.

This process aims to make it simpler for both restaurant workers and patrons to work with reusable dishes, says Chueh.

“This is a way to make it a little bit easier for customers who didn’t plan to go to the cafe that day,” she says. “They have a clean cup waiting for them at the cafe already.”

The program offers two types of cups: an insulated stainless steel cup for hot drinks

and a transparent borosilicate glass cup for iced drinks and boba. Iced drinks, Chueh says, account for about 75% of the drinks now sold at Starbucks.

Cups are provided to cafes at no upfront cost, with fees based on the number of cups borrowed and generally less than the cost of disposable cups. They come in standard beverage sizes of 8, 12, and 16 ounces, and they’re accessible behind the counter.

“Cafes appreciate there is a way to do this that fits within their operations,” she says.

While the program is still growing, there are customers who say they’ve already saved the equivalent of about 100 disposable cups.

“We’re really still used to buying something and then using it and throwing it away,” she says. “We’re introducing a new concept: a circular system.”

The conversion will take time, Chueh expects, but she points to other places that have successful reusable takeout programs to assert that it’s possible. The Green Caffein brand in Australia operates a similar model with coffee cups and

now has about 765 participating cafes, and Suppli in Toronto offers a similar model with reusable takeout food containers.

“For the most part,” she says, “people take time to change habits.”

Countywide efforts to cut throwaway plastic

Okapi Reusables’ program is one of several initiatives that San Mateo County’s Office of Sustainability has taken on to help restaurants cut disposable plastic use.

Last October, laws passed by most cities in San Mateo County took effect to curb restaurants’ reliance on single-use plastic. The effort is two-pronged: For dine-in meals, restaurants must offer customers washable reusable dishware — generally, dishes made of metal, ceramic or glass; and for takeout meals, they must offer fiber-based compostable food containers. Plastic food containers, including technically compostable bioplastics and polystyrene foodware like Styrofoam, are not allowed. In addition, disposable silverware

should be dispensed one at a time and only upon request and should not be bundled.

Communities that are not yet participating include Woodside, Menlo Park, Portola Valley and East Palo Alto, while Redwood City’s ordinance won’t take effect until October.

The county’s “Foodware Aware” initiative has been focused largely on educating and supporting food facilities to make needed changes rather than enforcement, says Christopher Slafter, senior sustainability specialist.

“Our mission here is to reduce or eliminate single-use foodware pollution wherever possible,” Slafter says. According to street trash surveys, he says, the bulk of single-use plastic pollution comes from foodware items, which can contaminate stormwater, beaches, oceans and compost streams.

The county has contracted with consultants to alert restaurants about the new policies and is offering a mini-grant program in which food facilities

See **GREENER CUP**, page 18



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WAR

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Juanita Kathryn Brooks

May 3, 1926 – February 18, 2023

Juanita Kathryn Watson Brooks, whose passion for her family and whose steadfast commitment to Bay Area education shaped a generation of Peninsula students of color, died on Saturday, February 18th in Redwood City, California. She was 96 years old. An ardent wife, a beloved mother, a dazzling Brooks family matriarch, a committed teacher, and an elegant and dynamic Peninsula community member for over half a century, she peacefully succumbed to illness surrounded by her children and their spouses as well as grand and great-grandchildren at Redwood City's Sunrise Senior Living facility.

Born on May 3, 1926 in Texarkana, Texas to Arthur Watson, a pipe factory worker, and Gertrude Graham Watson, a homemaker, Juanita was an only child. She thrived on the love of her parents who provided her with a safe and supportive home life in spite of the awesome challenges posed by Jim Crow segregation and the Great Depression.

From a young age, she excelled in school and garnered praise from her teachers, and her strength in this regard led her to making history in 1923. Selected that year by her second-grade teacher to participate in the city of Texarkana's annual Christmas parade, Juanita both broke the color barrier in that yearly event and carried the first African American doll ever sold in the area as she rode on a truck in the procession.

She went on to graduate from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Texarkana, and in 1947, she earned a B.S. in Business Administration from Prairie View A&M University. She then embarked on a career in education that would stretch across the next forty years, beginning her work by teaching English grammar in a small, rural schoolhouse in Okolona, Arkansas. This was a job that set Juanita on her lifelong path as an instructor devoted to mentoring, and advocating for children, and especially children of color whom she encouraged to strive for excellence as a way to transcend the many barriers facing them in American culture.

In 1948, she met her future spouse, life partner, and the great love of her life, Nathaniel Hawthorne Brooks, a fellow teacher based in Hope, Arkansas. Juanita and Nathaniel married on June 21, 1950 and made the epic move to the San Francisco Bay Area soon after. They rode the Great Migration stream of African Americans fleeing the danger of the American South with its domestic racial terror and gross economic inequality, seeking "the warmth of other suns," as Pulitzer Prize winning author Isabel Wilkerson has famously referred to this phenomenon. There, they started a family, giving birth to their first two children, Nathaniel, Jr. and Renel in the East Bay, and continuing their respective careers in education.

This was also the period when Juanita, whose love of baseball had been nurtured in her by her father, fully flourished with the arrival of the San Francisco Giants baseball club in 1958. The Giants' move from New York to the City by the Bay was an electrifying moment for baseball fanatic Juanita, and she remained the deepest and most loyal fan of the orange and black for the rest of her life. She also delighted in watching her daughter, Renel Brooks-Moon, become the first African American female public address announcer in Major League Baseball in the year 2000, and the first female announcer of a championship game in any professional sport when the Giants reached the 2002 World Series.

Juanita and Nathaniel made the move to Menlo Park in 1966 when Nathaniel became the first African American school administrator in the Sequoia Union school district, and the couple stayed on the Peninsula as Nathaniel went on to become the first African American high school principal in San Francisco in 1968 at Polytechnic High School and later continued his work as a Sequoia Union school district administrator.

After giving birth to her third child, Daphne, in 1968, Juanita accepted a job teaching in the Ravenswood School District,

forming bonds with her students and championing their achievements through the creation of popular special displays that highlighted their gifts and individuality. She inspired generations of African American, Latino, and Asian-American students, young people from both longtime California families and newly arrived immigrant families, as she encouraged them to pursue their educational hopes and dreams and recognize their full worth and potential as citizens of their community. She put in tireless hours participating in parent-teacher conferences, classroom prep, and faculty meetings. And above all else, she exhibited grace, warmth, and generosity in the classroom to all who took her classes. She served the district for nineteen years before retiring in 1989.

Juanita and Nathaniel were known for enjoying their "empty nest" retirement life together, traveling to high school and college reunions in Texas and Arkansas and maintaining active membership in their local Bay Area high school and college alumni clubs as well. They became devout members of St. John Missionary Baptist Church in 1994.

After Nathaniel's passing in 2003, Juanita maintained a truly vibrant social life for nearly twenty additional years. She triumphantly and bravely beat breast cancer at the age of 79, and she proudly marched in support of breast cancer awareness and research to fight the disease on multiple occasions.

She championed the achievements of all of her children and grand-children, including son Nate's successful career in real estate and youngest daughter Daphne's appointment as William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of African American Studies, American Studies, Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies and Music at Yale University. Juanita also remained close to her longtime neighbors on Shirley Way in Menlo Park, sources of lasting friendship and support to her for more than half a century and even after her move to Sunrise Senior Living in Redwood City in November of 2022.

Through it all, Juanita sustained a passion for morning walks (which she began in 1989 with neighbor Patti Price), her dance class, various social activities, and community service focused on education. She was a regular attendee at the St. John's Missionary Baptist Church's weekly Bible classes, and she stayed supportive of both her own as well as Nathaniel's college alumni club organizations. She served on St. John's scholarship committee for many years and served as secretary for nearly every organization in which she has ever participated, including the Social Heritage Club and the Senior Club at the Onetta Harris Community Center in Menlo Park. Though her time at Sunrise was brief, she was known for "lighting up the dining hall" with her effervescent personality and her colorful ensembles. She developed warm friendships with fellow residents in her three-month period of residing there.

In addition to her three children, Juanita is survived by her son Nathaniel Brooks, Jr.'s wife Sally, her daughter Renel Brooks-Moon's husband Tommie L. Moon, her daughter Dr. Daphne A. Brooks' husband, Dr. Matthew Frye Jacobson; five grandchildren, Nadya, Nathaniel Hawthorne III and wife Stephanie, Melissa, Anthony, and Megan; five great-grandchildren, Michael, Nalaya, Sydney, Jacoby and Greyson; and a niece, LeNelle Woods Thompson and her spouse Ludwig Thompson of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

A Quiet Hour service was held at Jones Mortuary in East Palo Alto on Monday, February 27th, and a funeral service was held on Tuesday, February 28th at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in East Palo Alto.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the following organizations:

UNCF: The United Negro College Fund:

<https://uncf.org>

The Great & Legendary HBCU: Prairie View A&M University:

<https://giving.pvamu.edu/s/1880/bp19/home.aspx?gid=2&pgid=61>



Kherson. Will the Ukrainian military build on that with additional counteroffensives, probably in the spring, after the winter thaw and mud season ends? They seem capable of liberating more occupied territory, but driving the Russians completely out of Ukraine will pose a stiff challenge, especially as the Russian army has prepared defensive positions.

Thus, the American intelligence community has assessed that the likeliest course is a war of attrition, with neither side capable of conducting a decisive operation that brings the war to an end. That could drag on for months or years. The question then may become: when do the sides reach a state of mutual exhaustion that might open a path for a negotiation? So far, however, Moscow has shown no readiness to negotiate seriously. The Russian leadership has escalated its demands of Kyiv while its army was losing ground on the battlefield.

What will it take to end the war in Ukraine?

One side or the other has to score a decisive victory, or they need to get to negotiating a settlement. Moscow has advanced demands that it must know are non-starters. The Ukrainians in early March 2022 sought to negotiate an end to the war and, among other things, offered to accept neutrality. However, the Ukrainian government's position hardened later in March, as the liberation of towns such as Bucha and Irpin revealed large-scale Russian atrocities. It is not just the government's position that hardened; polling shows an overwhelming number of Ukrainians support fighting to win and oppose negotiations.

A long war holds no advantages for Ukraine, and sustaining public support for the assistance that Ukraine needs over the long term may prove a challenge for the West. I thus believe the West should provide Ukraine with significant military assistance now, so that the Ukrainian military can either push the Russians out or, at a minimum, make such progress on the battlefield that Kremlin calculations change and Moscow negotiates a settlement on terms that Kyiv can accept. However, even with such a settlement, Ukraine would continue to face a hostile Russian neighbor. The West would have to work with Kyiv so that it could maintain a robust modernized military capable of deterring a new Russian assault in the future. ■

Melissa De Witte writes for Stanford News.

PAID OBITUARY



Magali Gauthier

A project that includes housing for disabled adults is planned for 4370 Alpine Road in Portola Valley.

HOUSING ELEMENT

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Fire risk and resident feedback

The latest draft also indicates the fire hazard on each proposed site.

For example, The Sequoias is characterized as fire-prone oak woodland (highest hazard) and fire-prone urban forest (high hazard). Christ

Church is on mowed grass (low) and fire-prone urban forest (high). The Stanford Wedge is described as fire-prone urban forest (highest) and chaparral (highest).

Fire mitigation efforts while developing the sites could change the fire risk of each location though.

Overall residents were complimentary of town staff's work to refine the housing element

plan during the Planning Commission meeting.

Some residents said they didn't feel like they were given enough time to review the new draft, released on Thursday, March 2, for the March 6 Planning Commission review.

Residents also asked for larger setbacks at several of the sites.

Resident Rita Comes said she was disappointed by inaccuracies in the draft, including misidentifying Dorothy Ford Park as Dorothy Ford Field.

Next steps

The plan will next be reviewed at a Wednesday, March 15, Town Council study session. The council will consider adopting an initial study/mitigated negative declaration at a March 22 meeting. The council will then consider adopting the draft housing element at a March 29 meeting. ■

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

POWER LINES

continued from page 1

"It emphasizes the point that electrical wires in Atherton are a real hazard. I just think that it's appropriate for the city to bury the wires on a sequenced basis over a number of years. I would suggest a 20-year program. It would probably be \$20 to \$30 million and I think it's worth it. If somebody got killed, or if several people got killed, I think it would prove the point that it's too late, you should have done it earlier."

Forming utility districts

Underground Utility Districts can be created in a number of ways, but the most common is

through the formation of three types of districts.

The first, called a "Rule 20A District," is initiated by a local jurisdiction and draws on Rule 20A funds. These funds can only be used on primary thoroughfares and cannot be used to underground utilities to private property. The town does not have viable Rule 20A funds, according to Rodericks.

Rule 20B and 20C Districts are initiated by property owners, who would be financially responsible for the cost via the formation of an assessment district. Costs to complete the utility work will vary based on the number of property owners participating, the topography of the service area and any

specific design or engineering requirements from service providers. Once the residents form a district, all utility providers are obligated to participate and underground their infrastructure, but the costs will fall to district participants.

Districts can take anywhere from three to five years (or more) to complete, Rodericks noted.

"In my experience, I have seen individual property owners' costs range from \$15,000 to \$50,000," he said. "Costs can be assessed over a long-term funding horizon, such as 20-30 years." ■

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

FLOOD SCHOOL

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election but received its highest level of support in the precincts surrounding Flood School.

William Eger, chief business officer of the Ravenswood City School District, said that 85% of its staff that responded to a survey would be eligible for and interested in affordable housing operated by the district.

School district officials have weighed adding a second entrance to the site, which some nearby residents have requested as a way to manage traffic from the planned apartment complex. But school board members said it would be too expensive for the district to add to the project without some help. Instead, board members said that they

would reach out to the city of Menlo Park or San Mateo County for additional funding.

"(The second entrance) is something that I know that we financially can't afford to do because we do want to bring in ... money for our budget, in order to continue to pay our teacher salaries and keep them in the county," said Trustee Jenny Varghese Bloom. "Hopefully the city and the county will also continue to

pursue that second entrance."

Board members directed staff to draft a letter to seek outside funding an extra entrance.

The Ravenswood City School District board is set to vote on the agreement at the meeting on Thursday, March 9, after The Almanac's Wednesday deadline. ■

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

HELEN SWEYER
"Helen of Woodside"

1924 - 2023

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our Mom, Helen Sweyer, also known as "Helen of Woodside" in her community of Woodside, CA on February 8, 2023.



Born and raised in San Francisco to Edwin and Helena Larson. She was the eldest of 4 siblings: Bob Larson, Florence Leale (both passed in 2017), and Claire Calvo, who currently resides in Pleasanton, CA. Mom was predeceased by our Dad, Robert (Bob) Sweyer, in 1991, and son Robert (Bob) Sweyer in 2019. Remaining in Woodside is her son Mark Sweyer, grandson Adam Sweyer, and daughter, Jan Sweyer, who recently relocated to Grass Valley. She also leaves a team of nieces and nephews and their extended families: Kathryn Rose, Frank Calvo, Christine Bouyea, David Calvo, Linda Brown, Valerie Andersen. Along with many dear friends.

Mom & Dad met in San Francisco while Dad was serving in the Navy, stationed at Treasure Island in 1942. They married in 1943, had their first born in 1944, Bob, and with their second, Jan, in 1948, left the City's fog & wind and into the sunshine of Menlo Park and their first home. When Mark was born in 1952, we needed larger quarters which brought us to Woodside in 1960. The best decision ever made for our family, where life really sprouted for us all.

Mom made a life-changing commitment, in the 1970's, to protect and preserve the unique lands and wildlife of Woodside by forming the environmental group, Save Rural Woodside (SRW). SRW was the first in the State of California to sue their Town mandating its General Plan & Elements be brought into compliance with the laws to protect and preserve the rare and endangered species and lands. She was an unstoppable force in a very divided Town. To this day, residents have expressed their gratitude for her work as their families continue to enjoy the fruits of these protected open space lands. In appreciation for her efforts, the Town of Woodside declared an area known as Kite Hill the "Helen Sweyer Trail". Two more of the many lands she saved from development was "Village Hill" and "The Horse Park". All things dilute in time and will take another Helen Sweyer to lead a renewed movement to continue protecting and preserving these lands for future generations. This part of Woodside's history and our Mom's story of Save Rural Woodside have been memorialized in the Woodside Museum.

Mom lived in the "front row" of life, never afraid of expressing her joy (or not!) in any given situation. One of the most spirited women you'd want to meet. A gourmet cook, prolific writer, green thumb gardener, who loved her roses. Big hikes to Skyline twice a week were common and Dad would pick us up and meet her up at the Belle Vista for dinner. Also, Carpaccio's has lost this Grand Dame, who would hold court, with Manhattan in hand, sharing stories and good times with all.

Farewell sweet Mom. Enjoy your reunion with your family and friends. We thank you for all you gave of yourself. You made sure we had a wonderful life. We will love and miss you every day.

The Celebration of Life will be held on April 1st at the base of the Helen Sweyer Trail (located in the Woodside Glens, on Kite Hill) at 12 noon.

Donations may be made to POST at the Open Space Trust: openspacetrust.org, click on Donations, click on "in memory of Helen Sweyer."

**Celebration of Life for
Walter and Grace Leclerc**

A celebration of life for Walter and Grace Leclerc is planned for Saturday, April 1. If you would like further information, please contact: Michele Leclerc Email: micheleleclerc@aol.com Cell/ Texts: (310) 948-2231

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PALO ALTO

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PALO ALTO

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

John Merrill Dorman

February 7, 1942 – February 26, 2023

Dr. John Merrill Dorman passed on at his home in Menlo Park on February 26, surrounded by loving family, after a years-long struggle with Parkinsonism.

Dr. Dorman was born on February 7, 1942, to Dr. Daniel and Dorothy Dorman in Philadelphia, PA, and spent most of his childhood in Pittsfield, MA and Orient, Long Island as part of a lively household with four siblings. He graduated Andover Academy in 1959 and Williams College in 1963.

While at Williams, he met the love of his life, Charlene Diane Tropeano. They married at St. Brigid Church in her hometown of Lexington, MA.

He went on to graduate Harvard Medical School, followed by an Internship at Strong Hospital in Rochester, NY. He joined the U.S. Public Health

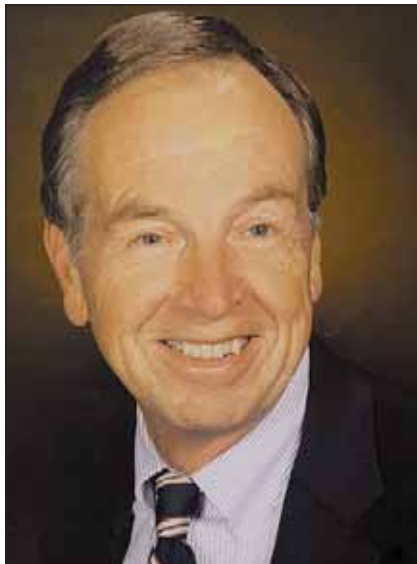
Service and served on Staten Island, NY, and at sea with the U.S. Coast Guard. He completed a Pediatric Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital.

In August 1973, he accepted a position at the Cowell Student Health Center at Stanford University, a role he held until his retirement 44 years later. Among his many other professional achievements, Dr. Dorman served as editor and executive editor of the Journal of American College Health and as a Stanford University Clinical Professor of Medicine. In 2018, the American College Health Association (ACHA) named him the ACHA Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for his contribution to College Health in the United States. He often volunteered at the Menlo Park Veterans Association Medical Center.

An avid outdoorsman, Dr. Dorman enjoyed skiing, camping, hiking, and sailing his entire life. As a college student, he worked as a Hutman in the White Mountains. Later he enjoyed regaling/torturing his family and friends with various “tales of the huts,” including speed records, presumably long broken, for ascension and descent from drop to hut with his pack rack laden down with provisions and supplies.

He enjoyed many deep and lifelong

friendships, including with his decades-long running and biking group. His lifelong passion for choral music began in Glee Club at Williams and culminated in his membership in the Schola Serafica Christmas Choir at St. Patrick’s Seminary. His enjoyment of music ranged from Chuck Berry to Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young to Mozart, Hayden, and Brahms.



The sum and center of Dr. Dorman’s life has long been his Christian and Catholic faith. He served as an Elder at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, and after converting to Catholicism and entering the Catholic Church in 2005, he worshiped at Church of the Nativity. He was a Knight in the Order of Malta and served in Lourdes and in their medical clinic in Oakland, CA.

Dr. Dorman traveled widely with his family, including throughout Europe, India, Nepal, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. He served in short-term medical missionary assignments in France, Zaire, and Mendenhall, MI. He visited the American University of Beirut in a clinical staff advisory capacity in 2009. The trip held special meaning to him, as the University was co-founded in 1863 by Dr. Dorman’s great-great-grandfather, Daniel Bliss.

Dr. Dorman is survived by his wife Charlene, of 58 years; his children and their spouses: Todd Dorman and Beverly Lacy, Bianca and David Humphries, and Lydia and Jonathan Smith; his six grandchildren: Daniel and William Dorman, Jack and Samuel Humphries, Chiara and Veronica Smith; and his four siblings: Timothy Dorman, Pricilla Hall, Alan Dorman, and Christopher Dorman.

A funeral mass was held on Saturday, March 4, at 1:00 pm at Church of the Nativity, 210 Oak Grove, Menlo Park.

A wake will be held on Friday, March 24, 4-6 pm at Douglass Funeral Home, 51 Worthen Road, Lexington, MA. A service of burial will be held on Saturday, March 25, 10 am at Westview Cemetery, 520 Bedford St., Lexington, MA.

Friends and family are welcome.

PAID OBITUARY

LEAF BLOWERS

continued from page 5

to focus on education on gas-powered and electric leaf blowers. Council member Rick DeGolia said there is plenty of time to figure out what the penalties would be for violating the proposed ordinance.

The draft ordinance will come back to the council at an April 19 meeting, according to City Manager George Rodericks.

The council did not come to consensus on whether to set any gas-powered leaf blower bans on Spare the Air days, when particulate pollution levels are forecast to be high. On these days, people are advised to limit their time outdoors, according to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Previously, the City Council voted to restrict the use of leaf blowers on Spare the Air days through fall 2022.

Palo Alto recently hired a full-time gas-powered leaf blower code enforcement officer. Menlo Park is aiming to begin enforcing a ban on the devices in July 2024.

Assembly Bill 1346 prohibits the sale of small off-road engines, including gas-powered leaf blowers, generators, pressure washers and chainsaws, in January. In July 2024, people will be banned from using the devices statewide.

One resident questioned why the town is taking the time to work on an ordinance when the statewide ban takes effect soon.

Reaching a decision

In January 2021, the council held a public hearing to consider an ordinance pertaining to noise from leaf blowers, an item carried over from the previous November’s council meeting. But council members ultimately stopped short of a ban and opted to institute a pilot project to test battery-powered leaf blowers in Holbrook-Palmer Park and on Atherton’s public roads.

In February 2022, an ad hoc subcommittee attempted to create a phased-in approach to the use of gas-powered garden equipment, eliminating the use of two-stroke gas powered leaf blowers in 2023 and authorizing the use of electric power garden equipment on the weekends to encourage a transition.

However, it was noted that enforcement of these provisions may get more complicated as the town and state phase out certain types of equipment. The thinking at the time was that the regulatory framework should be left to the state, while the town focuses on prohibiting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.

In February 2022, the council did not reach consensus and asked the ad hoc subcommittee to refine the draft ordinance to return to the council in late 2022.

Hazards of gas-powered devices

Stanford pediatric cardiologist Dr. David Axelrod, who lives on the border of Menlo Park and Atherton, told the council last year that the devices should be banned “immediately” because of the health effects of air and noise pollution.

Hawkins-Manuelian noted that it’s not just people with asthma being affected by particulate matter that can spread by blowers.

“We’ve had air levels in the last few years that are full-on hazardous to everybody,” she said. “This is an issue that’s going to carry with us.”

Council member Elizabeth Lewis said that everyone can agree that gas-powered leaf blowers are a nuisance to the community, and that the same yard work can be done with electric leaf blowers or rakes.

“The state is sending a signal that you’ve not going to be able to buy these pieces of equipment anymore because they’re bad,” she said. “Our air is being polluted.”

Council members agreed that they want homeowners, not their gardeners, to be responsible for any penalties for using gas-powered leaf blowers once they’re banned.

The council also said they’d like to be able to offer residents rebates for buying new electric leaf blowers.

Some council members said the town should consider a buyback program like Portola Valley instituted when it banned the devices.

In terms of enforcement, Council member Stacy Miles Holland said it would be smart to start with a warning, then fine based on how many complaints the resident receives.

Educational talk on electric landscaping equipment

The American Green Zone Alliance will host a free electric and battery landscaping equipment training and introduction on Wednesday, March 29, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Atherton Town Hall, 80 Fair Oaks Lane in Atherton.

Attendees can try out the devices and there will be a classroom portion to learn how to save 70% off new equipment with limited-time funding from the state. Spanish-speaking trainers will be present.

There will be a light lunch and refreshments at 12:30 p.m. The event will also be held on Zoom.

Register at agza.net/atherton-workshop or email rlonder@ci.atherton.ca.us for more information. ■

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

WOLKE

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of antipsychotics and a regular dose of antidepressants when they met. After testing, Wilkinson asserted that Wolke has an above-average verbal IQ.

Wolke was also given a test of imagination where he was asked what three things he could wish for if he had anything. Wolke wished for “teletransport” to go to Japan, the ability to duplicate anything from anywhere and a new body with a different nose and no injuries.

In the first phase of the trial, O’Brien said that Wolke had auditory hallucinations several times on the bus ride from Cincinnati to the Bay Area telling him that he had to commit sins to join the 1%, ultimately resulting in Wolke murdering Hughes Anderson with this intent.

Wilkinson said that despite believing Wolke was sane in the eyes of the law, he was certain Wolke was psychotic at the time of the murder. “He was well aware of what he was doing, in fact, it would have been necessary to fulfill the delusions,” he said.

Wolke understood the societal morals surrounding murder, but “at the time (he) just didn’t think about (the morals)” and he didn’t think it was wrong because he believed so many powerful people were killing and eating people.

Wilkinson said that Wolke’s delusion was not typical. He described most delusions that lead to murder as the person believing that they are saving the world by killing Satan, or that they have to kill so the voices don’t hurt them or a loved one. Wilkinson said that Wolke’s delusion was unique because it was for self-benefit.

Dr. David Berke, a forensic psychologist who testified for the defense team, said that Wolke believed “there exists a 1% of the population that kills people and eats their stem cells, which gives them almost eternal youth.”

Berke also testified that Wolke, by staying in Hughes Anderson’s house for hours following the murder and even taking a nap, proved he did not fully understand the gravity of his actions.

Wolke was tested and was not believed to be on drugs at the time of the murder despite heavy methamphetamine use in the past, but had shown evidence of psychosis without drugs in two prior hospitalizations for mental health. ■

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

Marilyn “Lyn” Alice Hohbach

May 18, 1929 – January 8, 2023

Marilyn “Lyn” Alice Hohbach, born Marilyn Alice Krouser, was a beloved, respected, intelligent, and trusted person, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend, neighbor, and long-time community volunteer during her meaningful 93 years of life. She passed away peacefully in her home on the evening of January 8, 2023, with loved ones close by.

Marilyn was known for her strength of character, energetic creativity, intellectual curiosity, and her commitment to her family, friends, and community.

Marilyn was born on May 18, 1929, in Oxnard, California, on a farm that grew sugar beets, lima beans, and alfalfa. Her mother (Lilla) was active in the Order of the Eastern Star and her father (Wenley) was editor of the local newspaper, *The Oxnard Daily Courier*. Some of her childhood chores were collecting eggs from the chickens and cleaning the dishes with her Grandma Chico, who lived with them. During the Depression, she remembered that her family was fortunate as it had enough eggs to make an angel food cake. With her friends, she enjoyed her very own playground with a rotating teeter-totter, walking around on stilts, and rollerskating in town. Her love of animals (in particular cats and dogs) started with her childhood pets and continued into her golden years with two Corgis and a guinea pig. As a teenager, Marilyn was a proficient piano player and organist; she played the organ at her community’s church and accompanied many singers with her piano playing. Her love of music continued throughout her life.

Marilyn’s intelligence and love of learning earned her the status of valedictorian at Oxnard High School. She was active in the sports available at the time. While attending Stanford University and earning her Bachelor’s degree in International Relations, she enjoyed her history classes, meeting friends at *The Cellar*, and the dating scene.

After graduating, in 1951, Marilyn bicycled through Europe with three friends from college. Her subsequent professional life was primarily spent at financial institutions in San Francisco, including one of the first mutual fund companies. Her financial acumen benefitted those around her throughout the years.

While single and living in San Francisco in 1952, Marilyn threw a party with her two roommates and an uninvited guest came along with a friend of theirs. This unexpected attendee, Harold Carl Hohbach, asked her out to play tennis; a game she won. They continued dating and eventually married in 1955 at Portal Hurst Presbyterian Church and held their wedding reception in the Golden Empire Room at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. They lived in San Francisco, Menlo Park, and Atherton, raising four children.

Marilyn facilitated her children’s participation in a wide variety of activities, including music lessons and traveling, and emphasized the importance of education. One of the house rules was no television during the week from fourth grade on. She also wisely restricted certain television shows she thought were problematic. The family enjoyed various travels, including in the summer of 1973, when Marilyn traveled with all four kids on her own by station wagon to visit 47 states. Her children also benefited from her love of animals as each one was able to have at least one pet growing up.

Marilyn’s children also received the benefits of her energetic creativity. She organized fun birthday parties, memorable sleepovers, and created homemade Halloween costumes. She hosted her family’s Easter egg hunt every year, including in 2022. She delighted in kids of every age, including babies crawling to find their first Easter egg. With her grandchildren, she hosted numerous sleepovers and play times over the years. She continually thought of ideas for spending time with her children and eleven grandchildren; always wanting them to know how important and special they were to her.

Marilyn was an active community volunteer while raising her four children and long afterwards. She volunteered with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), helped in her children’s



classrooms, taught Sunday school at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, was a den leader with the Cub Scouts, helped with the Brownies, and was a Girl Scout leader. Through the years she also was a Board Member of Peninsula Center for the Blind, a tutor with Project READ, a member of the Stephen Ministry program at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, and helped organize reunions for her Stanford class of 1951.

With the Stanford University Museum of Art, now called the Cantor Center for the Arts, Marilyn was a touring docent for 15 years and helped raise funds for the museum through the Committee for Art. In one letter, Marilyn expressed that she particularly liked volunteering with the museum because she could help raise funds as well as keep learning. She wrote that volunteers can “investigate new areas of interest and thereby enrich your life.” In 2006, Marilyn received the Governor’s Award from Stanford University for outstanding volunteer service.

As a member of the Woodside-Atherton Auxiliary (now known as the Allied Arts Guild), which provides fundraising support to the Lucile Packard’s Children’s Hospital, Marilyn volunteered with numerous committees, sometimes as the Chair, and was the Guild President in 1977. She was influential in helping the Guild’s plans for restoration. Marilyn was a founding committee member of the Kelly J. Kolozsi Memorial Scholarship. She

most recently wrote postcards to encourage people to vote.

Marilyn was intellectually curious and a critical thinker of what she read and heard. She was an avid reader of the newspaper, as well as nonfiction and fiction books. She was not swept up in trends that came and went. She was anchored in values that went deeper, such as integrity, faith, intellectual growth, generosity, hard work, and kindness.

She made meaningful, long-term friendships through her college years, volunteering, church, and groups. Some of those friendships were made in the early 1950s through a Young Republicans group, although politically she transitioned to an Obama-style Democrat in her later years. With her friends, she entertained often. Her energy was noticeable when she was thinking up new lyrics to an old song to celebrate a friend. She and her friends had many reasons to get together including bridge, a history club, tailgates, opera performances, theater, and Bible studies.

She continued her interest in sports as a spectator, attending many Stanford events and was a long-time season-ticket holder for Stanford basketball. With some of her grandchildren she would compete for accurate predictions in the NCAA women’s and men’s basketball tournaments.

In middle age, she handled the accounting in Harold’s real estate business. As a senior, she traveled extensively, including to India where her mother spent time in her young adulthood. She loved her garden and partly spent her final days in her home because of it. She also enjoyed Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Marilyn generously gave her time and attention to her family and friends, and also looked beyond to how she could contribute to others in her community. She strengthened organizations that helped elevate all people. In the last five years, she also donated substantially to Stanford Libraries to fund Hohbach Hall.

Marilyn was predeceased by her husband Harold and daughter Ann. She is survived by her son Doug (Kay), daughter Janet (Chris), and daughter Ellen (Lance), as well as by her grandchildren (Kasimira, Timothy, Pamela, Amanda, Cynthia, Joshua, Gerhard, Genevieve, Robert, Nolan, and Elizabeth) and great grandchildren (Parker, Lilla, and Willow).

Marilyn will be very missed. For those who want to help celebrate her life, you are invited to attend memorial services on Saturday, May 20, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Palo Alto.

Donations in Marilyn’s memory may be made to two of her favorite charities: Sempervirens Fund and CuriOdyssey.

PAID OBITUARY

CRIME BRIEFS

continued from page 6

remains under investigation. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the department's 24-hour

dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be emailed to paloalto@tipnow.org or sent via text message or voicemail to 650-383-8984.

—Gennady Sheyner

Home burglaries reported in Atherton

A resident reported a burglary at an Atherton home on the unit block of Ridgeview Drive in the morning on March 3, according to a police news bulletin.

The date and time of the break-in are not known, but suspects entered the residence in the West of the Alameda neighborhood by smashing a first-floor bathroom window.

Just days after, someone smashed a master bedroom sliding glass door to break into a home on the 100 block of Burns Avenue at night on Tuesday, March 7, according to police.

At around 7:24 p.m., interior motion sensors triggered a security alarm at the house and the suspects fled once they heard the alarm, police said in a news bulletin.

The Burns Avenue suspects were possibly driving a dark colored sedan, police said.

Both incidents are under investigation.

Anyone living near Ridgeview Drive or Burns Avenue is asked to check surveillance video and report any possible leads, and anyone with information is asked to contact the Atherton Police Department at 650-688-6500.

Woodside man arrested for lewd acts with a child

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office deputies and detectives arrested a Woodside man this month for lewd acts with a child under 14.

Shortly before that, on March 2, detectives obtained a \$200,000 arrest warrant for the suspect.

On June 26, 2022, the Sheriff's Office started investigating a case involving a child who was sexually assaulted over eight years by a family friend, starting when the child was 8 years old.

Because these crimes occurred over 20 years ago, it is unknown at this time if there are other unidentified victims.

If you may have any information about this case, contact Detective Piper at JPiper@smcgov.org or Detective Pitts at 650-599-4060 Npitts@smcgov.org.

If you wish to remain anonymous, please use our anonymous tip line at 800-547-2700.

It is The Almanac's policy to withhold the names of those arrested for most crimes until the District Attorney's Office has determined that there is sufficient evidence to file charges in the case.

—Angela Swartz

Hit-and-run victim identified

The Santa Clara County Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office identified the man killed by a hit-and-run driver in East Palo Alto on Feb. 26 as 64-year-old East Palo Alto resident Jose Asencio-Matias.

Police said he was found unconscious in a driveway in the 2200 block of Ralmar Avenue at 10:08 a.m. Three nearby vehicles were also struck and damaged. Asencio-Matias was taken to the hospital, where he died.

Police ask anyone with information about the driver or the collisions to contact Cmdr. David Carson at 650-853-3160.

—Bay City News Service

Pedestrian killed in collision in Menlo Park

Ryan Bonds, a transient man local to Menlo Park, died in a pedestrian-vehicle collision on Feb. 8.

The man was involved in a collision on Marsh Road and U.S. Highway 101 on Feb. 8 at 9:07 p.m. The 29-year-old driver, a resident of San Jose, stayed on the scene.

The man was transported to Stanford Hospital, but passed away from a head injury on Feb. 12.

—Cameron Rebosio

Public Notices

UNIQUE SPLENDOR YOGA THERAPY & COACHING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293342
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Unique Splendor Yoga Therapy & Coaching, located at 300 Davey Glen Road, CA, 94002.

Registered owner(s):
ADRIANA BUENAVENTURA
300 Davey Glen Road, #3423
Belmont, CA, 94002

This business is conducted by: an Individual. 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 February 02, 2023.
(ALM Mar 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2023)

MAISON MEDICAL GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293440

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

1.) Maison Medical Group, located at 150 Portola Rd Ste A, Portola Valley, CA, 94028.

Registered owner(s):
DR. NEDA N. PAKDAMAN
205 De Anza Blvd #4
San Mateo, CA, 94402
CA

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 13 2023.
(ALM Mar 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2023)

CONNIE'S SLEEPY MUNCHKINS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293438

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

1.) Connie's Sleepy Munchkins, located at 2442 Gloria Way East Palo Alto CA. 94303, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
CONSUELO GOMEZ-OLGUIN
2442 Gloria Way
East Palo Alto CA. 94303
CA

This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/13/2023.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 13 2023.
(ALM Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

LAXMI HOSPITALITY LLC
LA QUINTA SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT NORTH
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293276

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

1.) Laxmi Hospitality LLC, 2.) La Quinta San Francisco Airport North, located at 20 Airport Blvd South San Francisco CA 94080, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
LAXMI HOSPITALITY LLC
1011 S Atlantic Ave Compton CA 90221
Compton CA 90221

CA
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/26/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 26 2023.
(ALM Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

GIFTED SUPPORT SERVICES
GIFTED SUPPORT CENTER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293460

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

1.) Gifted Support Services, 2.) Gifted Support Center, located at 205 E 3rd Ave, Suite 201, San Mateo, CA 94401, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
GIFTED SUPPORT PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES INC
205 E 3rd Ave, Suite 201
San Mateo, CA 94401
CA

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. Registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 15 2023.
(ALM Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

CHASE ACE HARDWARE
PACIFIC MANOR ACE
PACIFIC MANOR HARDWARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: M-293420

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

1.) Chase Ace Hardware, 2.) Pacific Manor Ace, 3.) Pacific Manor Hardware, located at 451 Oceana Blvd., Pacifica, CA 94044, San Mateo County.

Registered owner(s):
D & D VENTURE GROUP, INC
329 N Almenar Dr
Greenbrae, CA 94904
CA

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 10 2023.
(ALM Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 10 2023.
(ALM Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 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.

GREENER CUP

continued from page 13

can receive up to \$300 to buy accepted compostable takeout containers or washable, durable and reusable foodware for dine-in meals. Food facilities owned by Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), LGBTQIA+ individuals or employee-owned facilities can receive double those funds for up to \$600.

Right now, there is still room for a couple more cafes or boba shops to sign up with Okapi Reusables, says Collette Sanchez, a sustainability specialist working with the county's Foodware Aware program. "There's a lot of interest for coastal cities because of their proximity to the ocean and the waterways," she says.

"We've put a real focus into doing the heavy lifting up front so we don't just tell a food facility 'We would like you to make these changes,'" Slafter says. "Rather, we thought ahead of all the things that might be a challenge for you and we will present these resources." ■

Email Associate Digital Editor Kate Bradshaw at peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com.



Courtesy Okapi Reusables

A crème brûlée milk tea from Urban Ritual in San Mateo is served in an Okapi Reusables cup.

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Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES
IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

After reuniting unexpectedly last year at Frost Amphitheater, indie-folk trio Luci returns to Stanford Live stage

BACK INTO THE LIGHT



Courtesy Stanford Live

By the pandemic's start, indie-folk trio Luci was on a break and had assumed a 2020 release would be their swan song, but an unexpected gig at Stanford last year reunited the group.

By Karla Kane

When Ashley Maietta, Ari Tibi and McKail Seely got together for a casual songwriting session back in 2015, it was pretty much love at first sound.

"It wasn't perfect, but there was something there that made it sound like, 'this is one voice,'" Seely recalled of their instant vocal chemistry. Recognizing they had something special, the band Luci was formed then and there.

Their first two songs were written together that same evening, they booked their first gig two weeks later, and the Los Angeles-based indie-folk trio's spellbinding, twang-tinged harmonies have been enchanting listeners ever since. Local audiences have the chance to hear them live again on March 16, when Luci performs at Stanford's Bing Studio.

Each of Luci's three band members — who also write, record and perform as solo artists and are involved in other creative projects — brings their own unique style and skills to the collaboration.

"The massive idea machine is Ari," Maietta said. "McKail and I kind of

switch off on the roles of constructor and editor. It's the three peaks of the triangle — a cool dynamic."

All three share songwriting duties, and sometimes experiment with vocal arrangements, but most often Seely and Tibi work out the foundations on guitar, with Tibi singing the lowest part, Seely the middle, and Maietta the highest.

"The only reason I'm doing music today is because of these two," Maietta, who works in artist development and music publishing at a record label, said of her bandmates. She'd planned on a career based solely on the business side of the music industry, but collaborating with Tibi and Seely made her realize there'd always be a part of her that was an artist. "It was a hole in my heart that was not filled," she said.

The group's name came from a suggestion by Tibi, who'd been an anthropology major in college. It refers to the famous fossilized Australopithecine named after the Beatles song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," while the spelling harkens back to the name's roots meaning "light." Because their voices blended so unexpectedly seamlessly, the group liked the

It was heartbreaking to be without my girls for so long, but we all needed that growth; the crack that let the light in again. Stanford was the thing that pushed us out and put us back together.

ARI TIBI

concept of giving their collective creation its own, singular, personified identity.

"The idea of having one voice influenced the idea of having one name," Seely explained, "the entity we conjured up this night."

Luci has put out several releases, opened for the likes of REO Speedwagon, Justin Moore and Tyler Farr, and toured nationally with Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo.

"When we least expect something is when we end up having these really magical opportunities, when we're not necessarily pushing the band," Seely noted.

After years of activity, though, the three artists were ready to press pause and go in separate directions for a while.

"With the pandemic, and even pre-pandemic, we were sort of taking a break, taking a breath. It provided a lot of growth for all three of us," Seely said. The band assumed that the 2020 release of "Watch It Rise" and "Love Don't Love," the two tracks with which they almost always end their concerts, would be their swan song.

The song "Watch It Rise" is about "once you think you've been buried you've really been planted; about digging into the darkness and coming into the light, like a sunset-to-sunrise kind of vibe," Tibi said. The poignant and ultimately hopeful song has proved prophetic, and resonates even stronger with Luci now that they've weathered both a bittersweet split and a surprise reunion — the latter thanks in

part to Stanford Live. It was a last-minute invitation to play at Stanford's Frost Amphitheater last summer, as part of a tribute to the music of Linda Ronstadt (a longtime musical influence), that brought them back together. Luci was called in as a substitute when Canadian folk trio Good Lovelies had to back out. The gig turned out to be a healing — and productive — experience. "It sort of forced us to come back into a creative space with each other again," Seely said.

"I cried a lot onstage and after," said Tibi. "It was heartbreaking to be without my girls for so long, but we all needed that growth; the crack that let the light in again. Stanford was the thing that pushed us out and put us back together."

Their upcoming return to Stanford will give them the chance to play a full 75-minute set of almost-all originals, plus a few choice covers. The concert will be mostly acoustic, with Tibi and Seely on guitars, and Maietta providing percussion via a tambourine and stomp box. They also plan to debut at least one brand-new song that was in progress as of their recent interview with this news organization.

"Stanford seems to be this little catalyst that keeps popping up," Maietta said.

As for the future, the trio hopes to keep their rekindled collaboration alive.

"It's always been my personal dream to have a full-length album with Luci," Seely said.

Whatever happens, the three are grateful that Luci has "expanded our own creativity and music world more than we could imagine," Tibi said. "Three people who are so different; three different voices, coming together and creating harmony, literally and metaphorically."

Luci performs Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at Bing Studio, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Tickets are \$30-\$40. More information is available at live.stanford.edu. ■

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



Courtesy Justin Higuchi

Luci's set for Stanford Live will include original music, along with a few choice covers.

A&E BRIEFS

Local Grammy winner goes where the music takes him in free concert

The Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) in Mountain View is hosting a truly one-of-a-kind concert with Grammy Award-winning jazz pianist and bandleader Taylor Eigsti and bassoonist Paul Hanson. Titled "Where the Music Takes You," the performance on Saturday, March 11, emphasizes jazz improvisation, a specialty of both Eigsti and Hanson.

Eigsti, who grew up in Menlo Park and is a CSMA alumnus, performed at the school last spring in a concert that debuted his composition, "Imagine Our Future." The piece drew on artistic inspirations submitted by over 100 local students and also had its roots in Eigsti's talent for improvising. Hanson performed with Eigsti for "Imagine Our Future," a collaboration that brought about their March 11 concert, according to the CSMA website.

"Where the Music Takes You" is part of CSMA's spring concert series, featuring free performances in a variety of genres, including jazz, folk and Americana and classical.

"Where the Music Takes You," with Taylor Eigsti and Paul Hanson, takes place March 11, 7:30 p.m. at Tateuchi Hall, Community School

of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle Mountain View. Admission is free; seating is first come, first served. Masks are strongly encouraged. For more information, visit arts4all.org.

A revealing 'Exposure' screens at The Guild

From early large-scale photographs of the Yosemite Valley to groundbreaking motion studies of a horse running, it's no mystery what made photographer Eadweard Muybridge famous, but many aspects of his complicated life aren't as well known. Director Marc Shaffer delves into the person behind the lens in "Exposing Muybridge," a full-length documentary about the photographer.

The Stanford Historical Society hosts back-to-back screenings of the film, each followed by a panel discussion led by Shaffer, on March 16, at 4 and 7 p.m. at The Guild Theater in Menlo Park.

Well before Silicon Valley existed, Muybridge may have been one of the area's first technological disruptors, as many of his motion studies (considered a precursor to film), took place in Palo Alto, financed by his patron, Leland Stanford — who also owned Muybridge's equine subjects. But like many disruptors, his innovative work met with a personal disruption, at least

for a time. In Muybridge's case, it was a murder trial, in which he was accused of killing his wife's lover.

"Exposing Muybridge" draws on interviews with scholars, photographers and collectors, including Stanford historian emeritus Richard White, as well as actor Gary Oldman, who is a Muybridge collector, and features numerous photographs from collections at the Cantor Arts Center and Stanford Libraries.

The first panel discussion, following the 4 p.m. screening, features Corey Keller, a former photography curator at SFMOMA who served as an advisor to the film, and Scott Delp, Stanford professor of bioengineering and the 2021 recipient of the Muybridge Award, while the discussion following the 7 p.m. screening also features Keller along with Ryan Coffee, senior staff scientist at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory.

"Exposing Muybridge" screens March 16 at 4 and 7 p.m. at the Guild Theatre, 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. For more information, visit historicalsociety.stanford.edu.

Actress returns to Bay Area with original show

In honor of Women's History Month, Bay Area-raised actress Lianne Marie

Dobbs returns home with "Why CAN'T a Woman ...?" her original show that finds her singing a variety of favorite tunes originally written for men.

Inspired by a lifelong love of literature, and female writers and heroines in particular, Dobbs introduces each song by quoting passages from a wide variety of female writers, including Sappho, Charlotte Brontë, Jane Austen and Betty Friedan.

The show focuses on Dobbs' vocals, but there's also a bit of dancing, she said in an email to this news organization.

"Because when a woman sings 'I Like to Lead When I Dance' (a song originally written for Frank Sinatra to sing in a film) she simply must demonstrate!" she said.

Dobbs now lives in New York, but has frequently been seen on local stages in productions at TheatreWorks, including the title role of the world premiere musical "Emma," as well as at Broadway by the Bay, San Jose Stage Company and A.C.T.

"Why CAN'T a Woman ...?" plays March 16, 8 p.m. at Feinstein's at the Nikko, 222 Mason St., San Francisco. Tickets are \$59. More information at feinsteinsf.com.

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

Palo Alto online **Weekly**
PRESENTS

A CONVERSATION WITH MALCOLM HARRIS
MARCH 16th
7pm via Zoom

Join us as Palo Alto Weekly/Palo Alto Online Reporter Gennady Sheyner interviews Malcolm Harris on his new book "Palo Alto: A History of California, Capitalism, and the World"

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PHOTO: JULIA BURKE

Food & Drink

ELEVATED DINING

Inside the new Graduate hotel,
home to Palo Alto's first rooftop bar

By Kate Bradshaw | Photos by Magali Gauthier

A Palo Alto landmark has been restored to its prior use as a hotel. This time, in its reincarnation as Graduate Palo Alto, the former President Hotel aims to be an upscale homage to all things Stanford, from its extensive cocktail menu at two on-site bars to the portraits of Stanford celebrities displayed in the guest rooms.

First built in 1929 by Palo Alto architect Birge Clark, the University Avenue hotel is an elaborate six-story Spanish colonial building in downtown Palo Alto. In the 1950s it was converted into rental housing for roughly 75 lower-income residents.

That changed in 2018, when it was acquired by AJ Capital Partners, and eventually the owners received permission to convert the building back into a hotel and evicted the residents. After that, work began to refurbish the hotel, which involved gutting most of the interior, says Christine McDermott, area general manager for Graduate Hotels.

The new hotel has retained the old Spanish colonial style interior and some of the lobby's historic green tiles from the original 1929 construction, while other areas are decorated with brightly colored tiles with intricate patterns.

The hotel also commissioned a tapestry for the wall behind



Above Left: A tapestry decorates the wall behind the front desk of Graduate Palo Alto. Above Right: The avocado toast at Lou & Herbert's is topped with arugula, herbs and lemon zest, and customers can choose to add smoked salmon to it.

the service counter because a tapestry had hung there previously when it was a hotel, McDermott says.

The space is filled with nods to Stanford. Rooms come with pillows emblazoned with the term "C-House" in an homage to the Stanford Football program, and all the wall art highlights connections to both the university and its surroundings. Rooms have portraits and art inspired by Stanford attendees Sigourney Weaver, John Steinbeck and John McEnroe on the walls, while the wallpaper is inspired by the California redwoods. Even the "do not disturb" doorknob hangers are

designed with college in mind: they're shaped like pennants.

A NEW CAFE AND A ROOFTOP BAR

Lou and Herbert's, located on the ground floor, is named after President Herbert Hoover and his wife, Lou (who was also the first Stanford woman to graduate with a geology degree). The restaurant offers food all day, from breakfast to cocktail hour snacks. The breakfast menu includes avocado toast on levain from Manresa Bread, breakfast burritos, egg sandwiches, pancakes and chia pudding, plus coffee from San Francisco-based Saint Frank. The lunch and dinner menu ranges from tuna tartare and bread with whipped bone marrow butter to warm roasted cauliflower and a roast beef sandwich.

The cocktails were developed by LA-based mixologist Bad Birdy and are "spirit-forward" at the downstairs bar, with drink names designed to invoke Hoover's legacy. These include "Herb & Lou's First Date," featuring raspberry liqueur, sparkling wine, chocolate bitters and lemon oil; "Birge's Blueprint" — named after Clark, the hotel's architect — made with gin, sage cordial,

saline and palo santo smoke; and "The 1929," made with banana-infused bourbon, aged rum, banana oleo, angostura and cacao bitters. The menu also includes a selection of wine and beer, as well as mocktails under the heading "School Nights."

Take the hotel's vintage Otis elevator, with a refurbished leather interior, or a new elevator to the top of the hotel and you'll find yourself at the President's Terrace, Palo Alto's only rooftop bar.

The cozy space offers a Spanish-influenced design with terracotta flooring, a fireplace and lounge seating. From there, visitors can see campus landmarks like the Dish, Stanford quad and Memorial Church, and the Santa Cruz Mountains. It serves largely the same lunch and dinner menu as downstairs, with additions like the Presidential Crudité with vegetables and smoky eggplant and cucumber raita dips and chicken liver mousse with fruit mostarda and bread chips. Both eateries offer coconut rice pudding and It's-It ice cream sandwiches for dessert, plus the Really Good Cookie at Lou & Herbert's and berries and cream at the President's Terrace upstairs.

The drinks at the President's Terrace are more fruit-inspired

and include beverages like the "West of Eden," made with vodka, gin, watermelon juice, lime, cucumber, and monk fruit fennel syrup; "The Peninsula" featuring mezcal, lime, pink guava and gardenia essence; and "Weekend at Burning Man," with tequila, Ancho Reyes Verde, lemon, pineapple, elote syrup and ancho chile bitters.

Wine, beer and additional mocktails are offered, such as the "Leland's Gold Rush" made with pineapple, lemon and elote, and "Full Moon on the Quad" with coconut demerara, lime and soda.

Moving forward, the hotel hopes to offer a range of events open to the community at the rooftop space, from classes on topics like candlemaking or oysters, or experiences like yoga or sound baths.

"We're excited to become part of the community," McDermott says. ■

Lou & Herbert's (ground floor, open 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily, kitchen closes at 10 p.m.) and President's Terrace (rooftop, current hours noon to 7 p.m. weekdays and 2-7 p.m. weekends), 488 University Ave., Palo Alto; 650-843-9755, Instagram: @louandherberts and @presidentsterrace. Reservations are available at resy.com.



Customers enjoy a drink at the President's Terrace at Graduate Palo Alto in downtown.

SUMMERLearn more at PaloAltoOnline.com/camp_connection

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CAMP CONNECTION 2023

ACADEMICS

Early Learning Institute **San Jose**

Every year Emerson Montessori School offers its three Write Now!® courses — camp-like sessions designed to improve students' writing and public presentation skills. Each one-week course features a different genre: Expository Writing (prose forms used in school assignments), Creative Writing (stories, plays, poems), and Presentation Skills ("Posters & PowerPoints," this year). Parents are welcome at the afternoon "Authors' Workshops," and "Speakers' Forums".

HeadsUp.org Emerson: (650) 424-1267
Hacienda: (925) 485-5750

Harker Summer Programs **Los Altos**

Harker summer programs for preschool-grade 12 children include opportunities for academics, arts, athletics and activities. Taught by exceptional, experienced faculty and staff, our programs offer something for everyone in a safe and supportive environment. Register as soon as possible.

Harker.org/Summer (408) 553-5737

Pinewood School Summer Festival of Learning **Palo Alto**

Pinewood's two- or four-week program offers half-day or full-day options in both academic and enrichment classes designed to meet the needs of a variety of students. Specialized teachers and small academic classes maximize the summer school experience for grades K-8. Our curriculum emphasizes academic achievement as well as participation in the arts, technology and athletics.

Pinewood.edu/SummerPrograms

STANFORD EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on Biomedical Research **Palo Alto/Bay Area**

Explore biomedical science at Stanford through lectures from Stanford professors and graduate students about diverse topics in biomedical science including bioengineering, neuroscience, immunology and other topics. July 10-28 Registration begins March 1st.

Explore.Stanford.edu

Summer@Stratford **Palo Alto & Cupertino**

Stratford infuses its STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) curriculum into an innovative and enriching summer camp experience. Younger campers engage in hands-on learning projects, while elementary-age students collaborate to tackle real-world problems. At the middle school level, individual subject-based enrichment classes are offered and tailored for each grade level.

StratfordSchools.com/Summer (650) 493-1151

ARTS, CULTURE + OTHER CAMPS

Camp Integem **Sunnyvale**

Camp Integem is the #1 AR camp for kids and teens (ages 5-18). It is a magical and unique experience for K-12 students to delve into the exciting worlds of AR Coding, AI, STEM, 3D Design, Art, Animation, and Game Design. Teleport into their magical designs to experience the endless possibility.

Camp.Integem.com (408) 459-0657

City of Sunnyvale **Mountain View**

Offering 90+ camps for ages 2-17 featuring traditional, art, dance, sports and STEM camps. Camps begin June 12 and go through Aug. 11. Check out swim lessons and recreation swim at two aquatic facilities with lessons starting in June.

Sunnyvale.ca.gov/Activities (408) 730-7350

Community School of Music and Arts **Bay Area**

50+ creative camps for grades K-12! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, Summer Music Workshops and more! One and two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Financial aid offered.

Arts4All.org (650) 917-6800 ext. 0

Curiosity Lab **Palo Alto**

Offering Outdoor Nature Exploration Camps along the magnificent San Mateo coast. Mornings we are on a trail, exploring tide pools, climbing over boulders or at the beach. Afternoons are play, splash in a creek, build a sand castle, do an art project or just bask in the sun. Ages 5-11.

TheCuriosityLab.com (650) 823-2939

Dance Connection Palo Alto **Los Altos**

Dance, play, and grow this summer at Dance Connection! Our Summer Dance Camps and Intensives feature all styles of dance for ages 4-18 and all levels of experience. Learn ballet, tap, jazz, musical theater, hip-hop, acro, contemporary and more in a fun and focused environment. Our camps include fun themes, snacks, outdoor activities, arts & crafts and tons of FUN!

DanceConnectionPaloAlto.com/Dance-Connection-Event-Calendar/Summer-Dance-Camps (650) 322-7032

Medaka no Gakko Camp **Palo Alto**

Experience the joy and fun of this 3-week day camp (June 19 – July 7) celebrating Japanese-American culture through art, music, crafts, sports, literature, cooking, language, and interactive demonstrations. Campers learn from dedicated teachers providing an enriching, hands-on curriculum. K-6 graders of all backgrounds welcome.

MedakaNoGakko.org
MedakaNoGakkoPaloAlto@gmail.com

Oshman Family JCC Camps **Bay Area**

At J-Camp, we build a spirited community where campers are immersed in joyful camp activities and develop meaningful relationships with others while engaging in individual personal growth for incoming grades K-10.

OFJCC-JCamp.com (650) 223-8622

Riekens Center **Stanford**

Explore all your interests this summer with Riekens Summer Camps! Enrolling now for camps in Nature, Creative Arts, and Fitness. There's something for every camper! For ages 5-18 with locations across the Peninsula.

RiekensSummerCamps.org (650) 364-2509

ARTS, CULTURE + OTHER CAMPS

Stanford Jazz Workshop **Palo Alto, Atherton**

Stanford Jazz Workshop week-long jazz immersion programs for young musicians in middle school (Giant Steps Day Camp, starts July 10), high school (Jazz Camp, starts July 16 or July 23), and adults/advanced teens (Jazz Institute, July 30). All instruments and vocals. On the Stanford campus!

StanfordJazz.org (650) 736-0324

Ventana School Summer Camp **Bay Area**

Keep your child inspired all summer long! Campers will be immersed in engaging experiences with exciting weekly themes to boost their creative confidence and stimulate their minds! (Epic Experiments, Powerful Performers, Master Chef Junior, Inspirational Artists, and Wonderful Water). Open to students who will have completed K-5th grade by the summer.

VentanaSchool.org/SummerCamp2023 (650) 948-2121

ATHLETICS

Bald Eagle **Stanford**

The first camp ever approved by *The Positive Coaching Alliance* for message and *Development Zone* programming. We offer 4 camps: Non-Traditional MultiSports (TK-5th), Sports Leadership & Field Trips (6th-8th), Basketball Camp (3rd-8th) and Coach In Training (free, 9th-10th). Extended Care 7:30 am - 6 pm.

BaldEagleCamps.com (888) 505-BALD

Maccabi Sports Camp **Mountain View**

Maccabi Sports Camp is an overnight Jewish sports camp. We welcome campers entering grades 3-11 with programs dedicated to building strong character and Jewish community through sports.

MaccabiSportsCamp.org/wp (415) 997-8844

Spartans Sports Camp **Stanford**

Spartans Sports Camp offers a wide variety of sports and academic enrichment camps for kids entering grades 1-9. Experienced staff ensures everyone has fun. Daily on-site swimming is offered for all camps. Camps run weekly from June 12th - July 28th at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available.

SpartansSportsCamp.com (650) 479-5906

Stanford Water Polo Camps **Palo Alto**

New to water polo or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half day or full day options for boys and girls ages 7 and up. All camps provide fundamental skills, scrimmages and games. Session 1 – June 12-15. Session 2 – June 19-22.

StanfordWaterPoloCamps.com (650) 725-9016

Please check directly with camps for updates and offerings. To advertise in print and online, call (650) 326-8210.

The Almanac

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Palo Alto Weekly

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936 Hobart Street, Menlo Park



Prime Location in West Menlo Park

Built in 2018, high-end construction

5 bedrooms and 6.5 baths on three levels

European wide-plank white oak floors throughout

Living room with linear gas fireplace, formal dining area, plus tremendous kitchen and family room

Main- and lower-level bedroom suites

Lower-level space with 11' ceilings for recreation, media, and fitness with refreshment center and temperature-controlled wine cellar

Attached 2-car garage wired for EV charging; two laundry rooms

Huge and deep lot with custom barbecue kitchen, fire pit patio, and vast lawn

Almost one-quarter acre (10,841 square feet)

Excellent Menlo Park schools

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6.5
BATHS

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SQ FT



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