

# The Almanac

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## Australian tourist charged with manslaughter in wrong-way crash that killed two La Honda residents

District attorney: Luke Nardini was driving east in westbound lane of Hwy. 84 near Peek-A-Boo Lane

By Bay City News Service and Almanac staff

An Australian tourist has been charged with two counts of vehicular manslaughter for a fatal crash on state Highway 84 in San Mateo County last week, prosecutors said Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Luke Nardini, 31, made his initial appearance in court Tuesday to face the charges for the crash reported around 5:10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1, on Highway 84 east of Peek-A-Boo Lane.

According to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office, Nardini was driving a BMW east on the highway when there was a closure of the eastbound lane so he moved into the westbound lane and apparently forgot to move back to the right side of the road since vehicles travel on the left side of the road in Australia.

The California Highway Patrol said a Ford Taurus going west on a blind curve on the two-lane highway collided with the BMW, killing

the two passengers in the rear of the Taurus. They have been identified by the county coroner's office as Jack Davis and Linda Davis, both 80-year-old La Honda residents. Two other people in the Taurus were taken to a hospital to be treated for injuries.

Nardini was arrested and charged following the crash and pleaded not guilty at his arraignment Tuesday. Bail has been set at \$20,000 and the case was continued to Sept. 19 for a bail motion, with a pre-trial hearing set for Oct. 11 and Nov. 17 as the starting date for the trial, prosecutors said.

An attorney for Nardini was not immediately available to comment on the case.

There is more than one area of Highway 84 that has been impacted by lane closures recently.

The section of Highway 84 in Woodside damaged by a landslide in March reopened one lane in July, and won't fully reopen until at least December, Caltrans officials said last week.

Work to repair an upper and lower landslide, in the area between Foxhill and Portola



Andrea Gemmet

A temporary stoplight on westbound Highway 84 in Woodside controls one-way traffic past a landslide. It's not the only part of the highway where a lane is closed while roadwork gets done.

roads, could last into the spring, Caltrans announced Sept. 1 in a newsletter.

The transit agency said crews started repairing pavement

along the stretch of the highway between Old La Honda Road and State Route 35 on Aug. 21. The one-way traffic control will be in effect

Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the roadwork is expected to be completed sometime this month, according to Caltrans. ■

## Virtual town hall meeting offers sobering lessons on Peninsula's ongoing opioid crisis

By Sue Dremann

In the summer of 2021, San Carlos resident Elizabeth Walker confronted the most devastating news that any parent could face: the death of her 17-year-old son, Colin, from a fentanyl overdose.

Colin had been experiencing depression and anxiety as a teenager; the condition worsened by

pandemic-induced isolation. He saw a therapist and received treatment. His parents had him drug tested after he began using marijuana. They had him regularly tested to monitor his drug use. He made it through a year of passing all the tests, so in April 2021, they stopped testing him, assuming he had learned not to self-medicate.

Four months later, Walker's

husband found Colin dead in his bedroom, she said.

A toxicology report found there was actually a very small amount of cocaine in it, which was what Colin apparently thought he was using.

"It was almost completely fentanyl," said Walker, head of speaker engagement at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Walker, who leads the Colin Walker Memorial Foundation, told Colin's story during an online town hall meeting about opioids, hosted by state Sen. Josh Becker on Aug. 31. At the event, some of the top local administrators, educators and researchers discussed fentanyl toxicity, treatment, antidotes and resources for parents and the community.

It was a sobering meeting. Of the five panelists who joined Becker, four had family members with drug addictions. Three had family members who died from opioid toxicity. Besides Walker, Santa Clara County Supervisor Otto Lee lost a first cousin and Ed Ternan, who started resource website Song

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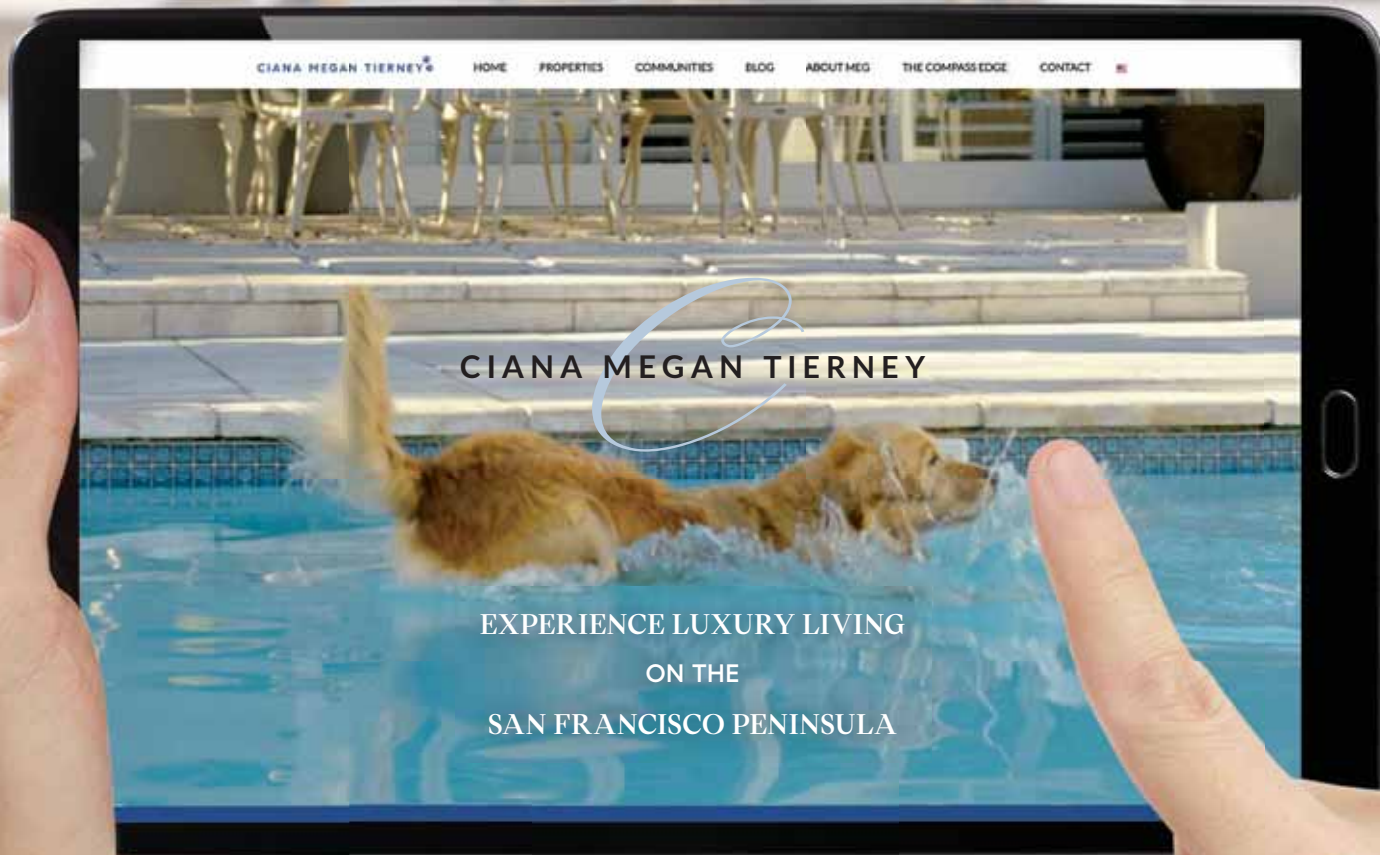
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# Local News

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Courtesy El Camino Health

El Camino Health's main campus is in Mountain View.

## El Camino Health faces new questions over doctor accused of molesting teenager decades ago

Former mayor calls on Mountain View hospital to end contract with psychiatrist, an ex-Catholic priest

By Malea Martin

Former Mountain View Mayor Sally Lieber is asking the El Camino Healthcare District to terminate a psychiatrist's contract and explain what actions it took after the hospital learned in 1988 that the doctor, who has practiced at El Camino Hospital since 1980, was accused of sexual misconduct while a priest in Southern California.

In a July 11 email to the five

elected board members of the El Camino Healthcare District, Lieber asked for details on what policy changes, if any, were made as a result of the accusations against Dr. Thomas Havel. The allegations were first brought to light in a 1988 civil suit that accused Havel of repeatedly touching, caressing and attempting intercourse with a girl he was counseling beginning in 1968 when she was 13 and he was a 33-year-old priest at a Pasadena parish.

"It is reasonable to expect that some changes in policy could have been enacted and made apparent to the community in the time since the healthcare district was first publicly made aware of this issue," Lieber wrote.

Havel, now 85, was never charged with a crime and the civil suit was eventually dismissed in 1992, at a time he was practicing at El Camino

See **DOCTOR**, page 16

## Menlo Park council opts to end one downtown street closure, while keeping another

By Cameron Rebosio

The Menlo Park City Council is keeping one lane of downtown Santa Cruz Avenue closed to traffic between Curtis and Doyle streets.

The council voted to continue the closure of the eastbound side of one block of Santa Cruz Avenue on a 4-1 vote, with Drew Combs dissenting, at an Aug. 29 City Council meeting. Currently, the closed section is used daily by Bistro Vida and Left Bank restaurants, and on Wednesday afternoons and evenings by the Bon Marché farmers market.

Combs and Vice Mayor Cecilia Taylor both said that they were struggling to see the long-term strategy in continuing the partial closure and revitalizing downtown.

"I need to see that vision to understand what we're doing downtown," Taylor said. "...I do struggle with the piecemeal projects here, especially if they're impacting our businesses. ... We have struggling retail. We want to attract businesses to Menlo Park, not discourage them."

Combs said that the city had unsuccessfully attempted to create a community gathering place around the corner from the current closure, referring to the city's pop-up park on a section of Curtis Street at Santa Cruz

Avenue. The council decided to shut it down in 2017, following complaints that its artificial turf was harboring high bacteria levels, including E. coli.

But the Santa Cruz Avenue partial closure had worked well, with Combs describing it as "lightning in a bottle." However, he said didn't see an overall plan for the street closures.

"I don't see the larger vision," Combs said. "... It has to be tied to that for me to say that, 'Yes, we're just going to keep it closed.'"

Council member Maria Doerr suggested putting a temporary stop sign slightly farther into the bike lane on the closed section of Santa Cruz Avenue to indicate to cyclists that they still need to stop. The council approved it and directed city staff to do so.

Ryan's Lane, a small street off Santa Cruz Avenue, was closed during the pandemic, but at the meeting, the council voted to reopen it to traffic.

The Ryan's Lane closure area is being used by Ristorante Carpaccio. Representatives of a new restaurant called Clark's, which is moving into the old Ann's Coffee Shop, want the lane to reopen, according to Sandra Ferer, manager of Ristorante Carpaccio. ■

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## Sigma Chi fraternity loses \$32 million house after Stanford ends lease

The fraternity's alumni corporation accuses university of property-grab without just compensation

By Sue Dremann

Stanford University has ended an 86-year ground lease on its campus with Alpha Omega Housing Corporation (AOHC), the alumni corporation that provides housing to the Sigma Chi fraternity. This has, allegedly, resulted in the university grabbing their property worth \$32 million without just compensation.

The corporation invested \$32 million in private funds to build

and maintain the 14,000-square-foot row house, which is located at 550 Lasuen Mall. To relocate, the corporation would need to raise \$35 million, they said.

The university allegedly made the announcement a few days before the lease was to end - on Aug. 31 - after making 41 annual lease extensions, the corporation said.

The lease termination comes after a long struggle, between the corporation and the university, over the property. In 2019,

the corporation filed a lawsuit against Stanford when the university first sought to evict the Sigma Chi chapter.

The lawsuit claimed that Stanford, which had a shortage of undergraduate housing, was seeking to take over the property and that it was violating its lease agreement with the corporation. A judge, in 2020, found that the corporation had not unlawfully retained the property, which Stanford had claimed in a countersuit.

The Sigma Chi House is the last privately-owned fraternity house on the campus, which once had about two dozen such properties, according to the corporation.

Sigma Chi first came to Stanford in 1891 and was one of two or three fraternal organizations initially chartered by the university, the corporation said in its 2019 lawsuit.

The university's governing of ground leases and fraternities to build housing on campus dates

back to Jane Lathrop Stanford and amendments to the founding documents made in 1897 and 1899, the corporation said. The corporation raised funds to build the existing row house in 1939.

As with other ground leases, Stanford owns the property beneath the structures. It grants long-term leases of the land to entities, companies (such as Stanford Research Park) or

See **SIGMA CHI**, page 6

**SIGMA CHI**

*continued from page 5*

individuals (such as professors and their families). But generally, those entities and homeowners have the right to sell their structures, though they don't possess the land beneath the buildings, the corporation noted.

**A long association winds down**

Stanford's potential acquisition of the house occurred after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. The university required the corporation to seismically upgrade the building, which would cost \$600,000. Stanford said if the corporation couldn't afford the upgrades, Stanford would be required to use its funds, but it would also expect the transfer of the property to the university if it put up the cash. The corporation instead raised \$4 million in private funding, according to its 2019 court briefing.

The corporation entered into a new ground lease agreement with Stanford in 1976, which, they said, stated: "Stanford declares its intention to allow the Agreement to be renewed indefinitely as long as both the (House Corporation) and the House remain active at Stanford University."

"Active" would come to be the operative word in future troubles for Sigma Chi.

In May 2018, the Sigma Chi chapter was suspended after an investigation following the alleged drugging of seven members of the rowing team by a non-Stanford affiliate during a house party.

Stanford removed university recognition of the Sigma Chi chapter for a minimum of three years after finding that its members violated university party planning, and alcohol-and-controlled-substances policies while on probation due to earlier violations, according to the university.

Suspension meant members weren't allowed to act as a chapter, recruit members, hold meetings, or take other actions as a group, and 550 Lasuen was no longer operated as a chapter house, Stanford said in an Aug. 23 statement explaining its decision to not renew the lease. From the university's perspective, the suspension resulted in Sigma Chi no longer being validly engaged as an active group.

"At the time that Stanford gave notice that the lease would not be renewed, there was no Sigma Chi chapter at Stanford and 550 Lasuen no longer was used as a residence intended primarily for active Sigma Chi



Courtesy Alpha Omega Housing Corporation

Sigma Chi House at Stanford University has lost its lease.

members. After the suspension, 550 Lasuen was operated as a co-ed residence out of the Stanford housing allocation process, with an operational agreement between Stanford and AOHC governing each academic year, including the 2022-23 academic year," the university said in its Aug. 23 statement.

The alumni, however, also said the move to use Sigma Chi's current suspension as an excuse to no longer lease the property to the organization is a sleight of hand. In 1965 and 1966, the national Sigma Chi organization suspended the Stanford chapter for a year after they pledged their first Black member (Kenneth Washington). The Stanford chapter was also suspended by Sigma Chi International, the fraternity's parent organization. Stanford didn't terminate the lease then, nor during the next nine years when the local chapter voluntarily stayed out of the national organization while they fought to resolve the issues of racism. Stanford supported the chapter's position at the time.

Both sides signed a settlement agreement in March 2021, Stanford said, although details are not publicly available on the court's website.

**Lawsuits galore, and some history**

The corporation sued; the university then filed an unlawful detainer in Santa Clara County Superior Court. A judge found that the corporation had not illegally detained the residence, however, according to 2020 court documents.

Both sides signed a settlement agreement in March 2021, Stanford said, although details are not publicly available on the court's website.

Stanford maintains that the settlement agreement allows the university to end the lease agreement as of Aug. 31 without compensating the corporation.

"That Settlement Agreement, negotiated by AOHC, stated that the lease would end on August 31, 2023. The

Agreement allowed AOHC to petition for renewal, but nothing in the Agreement obligated Stanford to authorize such renewal. In fact, it stated that "nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall obligate Landlord to agree to any request for an extension, renewal, new lease or other agreement of any kind," Stanford said in its statement.

Stanford said the settlement agreement signed by the corporation also doesn't require that Stanford provide another house. The agreement states that unless the ground lease is extended, the corporation agrees that it will "unconditionally vacate the Premises and surrender the Premises to Landlord in its entirety, in good condition and free of any personal property of Tenant, as of or prior to the Termination Date," the university said.

"The settlement agreement, which Alpha Omega Housing Corporation agreed to and signed, expressly provided that the premises are returned to Stanford on the termination date "without any payment for same due to Tenant from Landlord," a Stanford spokeswoman clarified.

The corporation also agreed not to challenge the termination date or the requirement that it vacate the premises by that date "on any basis or in any forum if the Ground Lease has not been extended by Landlord in writing," the university said.

The university said it provides housing to 10 fraternities and sororities. Recognized Greek organizations can apply for on-campus housing on a four-year cycle.

"Stanford has been seeking to ensure equity and fairness in the allocation of Greek housing, so that all Greek organizations can apply for the chance to be housed. The 550 Lasuen house is the only Stanford undergraduate residence overseen by a non-University

entity. Stanford currently has 24 recognized Greek organizations on campus, many of which are interested in housing. The process Stanford has developed in recent years for allocating Greek housing seeks to improve equity and fairness, allowing other deserving fraternities and sororities to apply for the opportunity to be housed on campus," the university said.

The undergraduate housing system is much larger, more complex, and more diverse than it was at the time when Sigma Chi initially occupied the 550 Lasuen house, Stanford said.

"Serving the needs and interests of our students today requires flexibility in the uses and assignments of the physical facilities on campus. An ongoing lease to a non-University entity limits this flexibility in responding to the needs and interests of our student body," the university said.

The Sigma Chi chapter could potentially gain a chance to have on-campus housing in the future, the university said. The chapter is expected to regain its status in November and would be reinstated at Stanford. Sigma Chi could apply for on-campus housing, but it isn't guaranteed.

There was another wrinkle that might have cinched Stanford's decision, the corporation claims.

In early August 2023, the corporation applied for the Stanford Sigma Chi House to be added to the United States National Register of Historic Places for its role in the Civil Rights movement and the contributions it made in the fight for racial equity.

The California Historic Resources Commission voted 5-0 on Aug. 4, over Stanford's opposition, to forward the nomination to the federal government. Three weeks later, outgoing Provost Persis Drell notified the corporation that the ground lease would not be renewed, they said.

Until Aug. 3, only the Stanford Barn, built by university founders Leland and Jane Stanford, and the University President's house, which was built by and for former U.S. President Herbert Hoover, had been forwarded for inclusion in the National Register, according to the corporation.

Stanford acknowledged that the fraternity's contribution to the Civil Rights Movement was important but didn't think it merited designating the house historic. ■

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# Ravenswood City School District appoints East Palo Alto resident to vacant board seat

Samuel Tavera will fill the role vacated by Bronwyn Alexander

By Malea Martin

After spending several hours interviewing candidates and deliberating, the Ravenswood City School District Board of Trustees appointed longtime East Palo Alto resident Samuel Tavera to fill a vacant seat.

Tavera's roots run deep in East Palo Alto, having lived in the community for more than three decades. Tavera works as the administrator of operations manager for One East Palo Alto, a nonprofit serving youth and families to bring about racial justice.

Board Chair Jenny Bloom told Tavera after he was sworn in as a board member that she appreciated the personal relationships he had with local youth and his understanding of the issues that they are dealing with. "To bring that here and to share that knowledge and that growth with us is something that I look forward to," she said.

The board seat officially became vacant on Aug. 25 following former district teacher and Trustee Bronwyn Alexander's resignation. Alexander, who was elected in 2020, announced in June that she would be stepping away from the position about a year and a half before her term ends because she is retiring from teaching and moving away from the district.

The district board held a special

meeting on Aug. 29 to appoint someone to the remainder of the term after fielding applications for the last couple months. Three people applied. Besides Tavera, they were Larry Moody, a former board member and East Palo Alto City Council member, and Airel Tinajero, a Belle Haven resident and manager of the senior center at the Onetta Harris Community Center in Menlo Park.

As a father of two young children who will one day be students in the Ravenswood City School District, Tavera said he applied for the open seat because he wants to make the district a place that parents like him want to send their children.

Tavera said his top priority as a board member would be advocating for more resources around mental and behavioral health for students, which ties in with the work he does at One East Palo Alto. Tavera added that he also supports the district's efforts to provide affordable housing for teachers and pay them competitive salaries.

"If we don't pay our teachers, there are other districts that will pay them, because we have talented teachers in this district, and we want to make sure that we keep talent here and not let talent leave out the door," Tavera said during his interview.

The board struggled at first to

narrow down the three candidates, saying they each came with unique strengths. The trustees agreed that Tavera's strength lies in his strong ties to the community's youth, both through his work and his family. The board also appreciated that candidate Moody came with extensive governance experience. They also liked that candidate Tinajero would offer direct representation of the Belle Haven community, which was where former board member Alexander also lived.

"I think that each one brings something that we need to this board," Board Chair Bloom said.

Tavera rose to the top of the pool of candidates for his experience working directly with youth in the community, as well as his own experience as a kid growing up in East Palo Alto.

"In the heart of making decisions, if I sit on this board, I'll think of myself as a young kid who dealt with not having lunch at school, being tired and not performing," Tavera told the board during his interview. "And I mention that because those are lived experiences that our students have today, that they're dealing with."

After the board voted unanimously to approve Tavera's appointment, Superintendent Gina Sudaria officially swore him in and offered those attending



Courtesy Ravenswood City School District

New Trustee Samuel Tavera stands with his fellow Ravenswood City School District board members.

the meeting a chance to make remarks. Moody, who also applied for the open seat, took the mic.

"I know that you're going to support the district every way that you can, I know that you're going to be a strong advocate for Superintendent Sudaria, and I know that every child that's in the Ravenswood School District

will get your heartfelt efforts and prayers each and every day," said Moody, who Tavera identified as one of his mentors. "This is really a nice addition to a group that is committed to serve this district." ■

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# Menlo Park Planning Commission OKs 432-unit housing development in Bayfront neighborhood

By Cameron Rebosio

Menlo Park is moving forward with a 432-unit, 67-foot-tall housing development in the Bayfront neighborhood after the Planning Commission approved the plans at an Aug. 28 meeting.

The Sobrato Organization's plans for the more than 8-acre site include properties at 119-127 Independence Drive, 1205 Chrystler Drive and 130 Constitution Drive.

The development, referred to on the city's website as 123 Independence Drive, will build 116 townhomes and 316 apartments in a multi-family complex. Of these, 66 units are reserved for below-market-rate housing. The project also



Courtesy city of Menlo Park

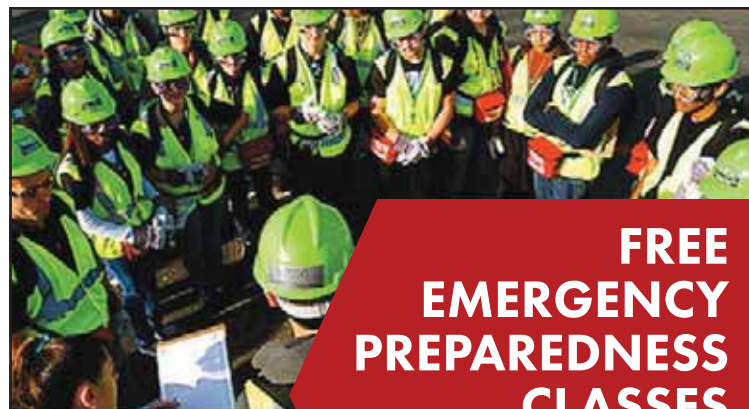
This rendering shows the Sobrato Organization's plans for a 432-unit housing development at 123 Independence Drive in Menlo Park.

includes 586 parking spaces and nearly 50,000 square feet of publicly accessible open space.

The Menlo Park Planning Commission adopted the project's final environmental review

and approved use permits and architectural control on Aug. 28 in a 5-0 vote. ■

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## Cal, Stanford sports teams join the Atlantic Coast Conference

By Keith Burbank

A collegiate sports conference on the East Coast is extending its reach all the way to the West Coast after it announced Friday, Sept. 1, that the University of California at Berkeley and Stanford University will join.

The two Bay Area universities, well-known for academics, will join the Atlantic Coast Conference, which includes schools such as Clemson University, University of Notre Dame, University of North Carolina and Duke University.

Also joining the ACC will be Southern Methodist University, which makes its home in Dallas. The move comes following the implosion of the Pacific-12 Conference, the previous home of UC Berkeley and Stanford.

"This is a significant day for the ACC as we welcome Cal, SMU and Stanford to this incredible conference," University of Virginia president James Ryan, chair of the ACC Board of Directors, said in a statement. "This expansion will enhance and strengthen the league now and in the future."

The end of the Pac-12 Conference started last year when the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Southern California left for the Big Ten conference.

Before Cal and Stanford joined the ACC, the Pac-12 was down to four teams, which also included Oregon State University and Washington State University.

A conference needs at least eight teams to exist. UC Berkeley officials said the university's move follows significant conference realignment in recent years.

For UC Berkeley, the move will

help provide elite competition for its students athletically and help the university financially. No athletic conference has won more NCAA championships in the last two years than the ACC.

"We are very pleased with the outcome, which will support the best interests of our student-athletes and aligns with Berkeley's values," UC Berkeley chancellor Carol Christ said in a statement.

"We are confident that the ACC and its constituent institutions are an excellent match for our university and will provide an elite competitive context for our student-athletes in this changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics," Christ added.

Stanford University president Richard Saller said, "Student-athletes come to Stanford to pursue their highest academic and athletic potential, and joining the ACC gives us the ability to continue offering them that opportunity at a national level."

With the addition of Cal, Stanford and SMU, the ACC will have 18 teams. The ACC's three new teams will begin competing against the conference's current schools starting in the next academic year.

"We are thrilled to welcome three world-class institutions to the ACC, and we look forward to having them compete as part of our amazing league," ACC commissioner Jim Phillips said in a statement.

"Throughout the evaluation process, the ACC Board of Directors, led by President (James) Ryan, was deliberate in prioritizing the best possible athletic and academic experience for our student-athletes and in ensuring that the three universities would strengthen the league in all possible ways," Phillips added. ■

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Courtesy Stanford Athletics

Stanford plays UCLA at Stanford Stadium on Sept. 25, 2021.

# Stanford Law School dean appointed as university's next provost

Prominent legal scholar Jenny S. Martinez will become the university's chief academic officer and chief budgetary officer on Oct. 1

By Chris Bliss / Stanford News Service

Jenny S. Martinez, dean of Stanford Law School and Richard E. Lang Professor of Law, has been named Stanford's 14th provost, incoming President Richard Saller announced on Aug. 23.

Martinez will assume her new position Oct. 1. She succeeds Persis Drell, who has worked as provost since February 2017 and announced in May that she would step down this fall. A search for a new dean of Stanford Law School will begin immediately; serving as interim dean will be Robert Weisberg, the Edwin E. Huddleson, Jr. Professor of Law and associate dean for curriculum at the law school.

At Stanford the provost oversees academic and budget administration for the university, with direct reports who include the deans of each of Stanford's seven schools

and senior administrators in research, student affairs, budget, undergraduate education, graduate education, and other areas.

Saller, who takes office as Stanford's president on Sept. 1, said that Martinez joined the faculty in 2003 and became dean of Stanford Law School in 2019.

"As dean, she has been a champion of inclusion and a clear and reasoned voice for academic freedom. Jenny and I look forward to promoting the fundamental mission of a great university — that is, excellence in research and education with integrity," Saller said.

"I'm honored to take on this role and work in partnership with Richard to get the new academic year off to a good start," said Martinez. "The fundamentals at Stanford are incredibly strong — among other things, we have the best faculty and students in the world. I am looking forward

to listening to members of our community about how best to advance our core missions of education and research in the coming months and years."

## Accomplishments at Stanford Law

Advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging has been a priority for Martinez throughout her career. As dean, she established the Stanford Center for Racial Justice, led by R. Richard Banks, the Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law. She also launched the Stanford Law Scholars summer pipeline program to support low-income and first-generation undergraduates on their path to law school.

Martinez's commitment to diversity includes intellectual diversity, and she has become an important voice on the issues of academic freedom, freedom of speech, and inclusion.

Her letter to the community



Courtesy Katherine Bree Walker/Stanford University

Stanford University Law School Dean Jenny S. Martinez will become provost of Stanford on Oct. 1.

addressing the disruption of Judge Kyle Duncan's speech at the school in March clearly outlined the legal precedents, as well as the university's position, on free speech, protests, academic freedom, and the First Amendment as it applies to private universities.

Among Martinez's accomplishments as dean of Stanford Law School is the launch in 2022 of an interdisciplinary hub that focuses on advancing rule of law around the world through research, education and practical initiatives to

reverse global trends toward autocracy and turn the tide toward accessible, impartial justice and open government.

Like the Law School's other interdisciplinary initiatives, the Sally B. and William H. Neukom Center for the Rule of Law aims to leverage resources and disciplines across the broader university, including expertise housed at the School of Humanities and Sciences, the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and

See **PROVOST**, page 18

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# Caltrans pushes back reopening date for Hwy. 84 to December or later

Landslide repair work on both lanes in Woodside was slated for October completion

By Malea Martin

The section of Highway 84 in Woodside damaged by a landslide in March won't fully reopen until at least December, Caltrans officials said.

Highway 84 between Foxhill and Portola roads reopened to one-way traffic slightly ahead of schedule in late July. At the time, Caltrans estimated that both lanes would reopen by October, but now that estimate's been pushed out another two months.

In the Sept. 1 edition of Caltrans' weekly newsletter update on the state route's repair, officials said the full reopening is now scheduled for December 2023, or as late as April 2024 if there are "weather delays."

When asked about the reason for the delay, Caltrans Bay Area Public Information Officer Alejandro Lopez said the October reopening date was "an early estimate."

"The slide is actually two separate slides, an upper and a lower, that require additional time and resources to complete," Lopez said.

That stretch of two-lane highway, also called La Honda Road, first closed after a landslide in March caused major damage on about 250 feet of roadway. Woodside residents were frustrated by the lengthy closure, criticizing Caltrans for a lack of information about repair work, prompting the agency to start offering weekly updates on the repair work in June.

Now, updates will be issued less frequently. "The State Route 84 newsletter will now

be distributed on a bi-weekly schedule as crews continue with long-term work on the permanent repairs," the Sept. 1 newsletter said.

The state route serves as a key corridor connecting the Midpeninsula with Highways 35 and 1 and the coast, with the long closure impacting recreational traffic and commuters.

"Our crews have been working tirelessly each day, repairing the slope and constructing a retaining structure on State Route 84 near Woodside," Caltrans wrote on the project webpage. ■

Email Staff Writer Malea Martin at [mmartin@mv-voice.com](mailto:mmartin@mv-voice.com).



### Town of Atherton

Planning Commission  
September 27th, 2023

REGULAR MEETING, 6:00 P.M.

This 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 the projects as listed below during their regular meeting.

This meeting will be held 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  
**Meeting Time:** September 27th, 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

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**Find your local number:** <https://ci-atherton-ca.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](mailto:planningcommission@ci.atherton.ca.us)

#### Projects under Public Hearing:

**A.** Request to review amendments to the town's heritage tree preservation standards and specifications document which provides guidance and interpretation and implementation of the policies, regulations, and standards within Chapter 8.10 of the Town's Tree preservation ordinance. Specific changes to the town's heritage tree preservation standards and specification document are to modify the tree reporting schedule from monthly to quarterly reporting schedule for all construction activities for full site developments in the Town.

**CEQA:** The proposal has been determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to CEQA Section 15305, Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations.

**B.** Request for a **Lot Line Redesignation** for a residence with the front facing north as opposed to the west, at **2 Heather Drive**, zoned R1-A (APN 061-140-040) / Permit LLR23-00003)

**CEQA:** The proposal has been determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to CEQA Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land

**C. Tree Protection Zone Exception for four heritage trees ranging from 6x to 10x.** the trees diameter for an outdoor athletic court at **89 Douglass Way**, zoned R1-A (APN 070-371-160 / Permit PTP23-00008)

**CEQA:** This proposal has been determined to be categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to: CEQA Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land

A copy of the Planning Commission staff report and application materials can be found online, by **Friday, September 22nd, 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 **September 27th, 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](mailto:rhayagreev@ci.atherton.ca.us) or directly to the [Planning Commission at planningcommission@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto: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:** September 8th, 2023.

ATHERTON PLANNING COMMISSION

/s/ Radha Hayagreev  
Radha Hayagreev, Consulting Senior Planner

#### OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include:

**Jessica Stagner Bridger**, 42, a 1999 graduate of Menlo Atherton High School who devoted her life to helping others through nursing; loved gardening, the San Francisco Giants and her dogs; and shared her life with her husband, Jason, on July 26.

**John Gaetano**, 79, a former Menlo Park and Portola Valley resident who was a state champion wrestler, made his career in the sporting goods industry, exuded kindness and wisdom, and was the proud grandfather of seven, on July 29.

**Dr. Ferid Murad**, 86, who was a Nobel Prize-winning scientist, pharmacologist and physician who made groundbreaking discoveries in the field of cardiovascular medicine and whose work has helped to save lives and improve people's quality of life, and who was also a dedicated teacher and mentor who most recently worked at Stanford's Palo Alto Veterans Hospital, on Sept. 4.

To read full obituaries, leave remembrances and post photos, go to [Lasting Memories at AlmanacNews.com](http://LastingMemories.com) / obituaries. ■

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Multi-faith peace picnic on Sept. 11**

A multifaith peace picnic and prayer service honoring those affected by the 9/11 terrorist attacks, including first responders, victims and their families, will be held on from 6-8:15 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 11, at King Plaza, located at 250 Hamilton Ave. in Palo Alto.

The free event is billed as a chance to transform a tragic day into an opportunity for peace and community building. It will feature dinner, children's performances, a multi-faith prayer service and conclude with a candlelight vigil.

Key sponsors include the American Muslim Voice Foundation, state Sen. Dave Cortese and Multifaith Voices for Peace and Justice.

Information is online at [amuslimvoice.org](http://amuslimvoice.org).

—Almanac staff

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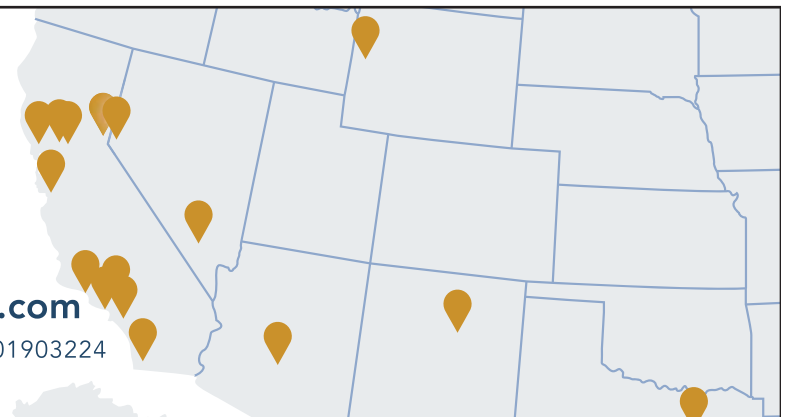
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The Palo Alto Weekly Moonlight Run & Walk is a benefit event  
for local nonprofits supporting kids and families.



Screenshot from Sen. Josh Becker's Aug. 31 town hall on opioid deaths. Elizabeth Walker holds up a photo of her son, Colin, who died from accidental fentanyl poisoning.

## OPIOID CRISIS

continued from page 1

for Charlie with his wife, Mary. Their 22-year-old son, Charlie, died in 2020 of a fentanyl overdose after taking fake Percocet.

The fourth panelist, San Mateo County Office of Education Superintendent Nancy Magee, said one of her sons was exposed to oxycodone, another potent opioid, when he was a senior in high school.

"And it took impact on him very quickly. Before we knew it, we were dealing with a very serious addiction," she said. Her son is now in his sixth year of sobriety. If fentanyl had been on the streets when her son was addicted, he most likely would have succumbed, she said.

"I can't count the number of people in my sons' lives that have passed due to overdose," she added.

The numbers are stark. Nationwide, 14 to 18 year-olds accounted for 94% of overdose deaths in 2019-2020. In San Mateo County, there were 134 overdoses in 2021, and in Santa Clara County, 373 in 2022. Fatal overdoses from fentanyl codeine and morphine have recently doubled in Santa Clara County, Becker said.

Dr. Windy McNerney, a research health specialist at VA Palo Alto, and a clinical assistant professor at Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford School of Medicine, said people should first understand the causes of addiction.

"I think a big thing that I want to push is that there's biology behind this, that there's a biological reason why people are seeking out this medication recreationally, maybe to alleviate symptoms of depression, anxiety," she said. "And then what happens is that your brain adapts to the fact that you're taking this substance and now you have to worry about maintaining homeostasis, and about not having withdrawal symptoms because your brain has changed.

Your physiology has changed."

A lot of people think is that addiction or substance use is like a failure of willpower, McNerney said.

"Like why can't these people care about themselves and stop? It's not that simple," she said. "They're fighting against some really, really strong biology to the point of taking substances just to feel normal or okay, rather than to go out and party or to do whatever it is that they want to do. So there's a big distinction there.

As families fight to save their loved ones, the California legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom have dedicated more than \$1 billion to fighting the opioid crisis in the state. Efforts are underway to remove opioids from the streets, provide resources to communities and increase awareness.

"As both a father of two teenagers and a public servant, the urgency of this matter strikes me very deeply," Becker said.

## A drug in disguise and an antidote

Fentanyl, which is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine, is used in hospitals to control pain during and after surgeries. But it has made its way into adulterated pills and other street drugs, often killing unsuspecting users. Many of its victims are teens and students who are experimenting with drugs. A fake Percocet taken at a party can quickly result in a fatality, the panelists said.

There is an antidote, but it must be used quickly: Naloxone, or Narcan. Spraying the drug in an overdosing person's nose can counteract its effects. Naloxone works by targeting certain receptors in the brain rather than stimulating the heart, Supervisor Lee, who brought spray kits to the panel discussion, said.

"I firmly believe that everybody should have Narcan. Narcan is a reversal for overdoses. It rips fentanyl or other opioids off the

See **OPIOID CRISIS**, page 15

**OPIOID CRISIS***continued from page 14*

receptor that has been occupied (by the drug) and it'll save people's lives," Supervisor Lee said.

Both Santa Clara and San Mateo counties are making the life-saving drug available to the public. Many emergency departments, including Kaiser Permanente, will make the drug available to anyone who asks. The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors has pushed and funded Narcan kits in jails and schools this past year and some libraries have the drug on hand, the panelists said.

In San Mateo County, Magee said, the drug has been dispensed at all county schools. "We've been able to train all our schools," she said. Teachers, principals and adults supporting those schools have the capacity and knowledge to save lives. Libraries and other community partners are also administering or distributing these kits directly to young people, she added.

There's no harm that can be done by administering Narcan if it is done accidentally, she added. "People shouldn't be scared of it. You can't hurt anybody," she said.

Narcan will soon be available over the counter without a prescription — within the next one to two weeks. Becker said when that occurs, it will be a gamechanger. The kits could be kept in bars, hotels, sports stadiums and at parties and other venues where an overdose might occur. And in purses and cars.

"I think everyone should have a box or two of Narcan in their car and their purse because you never know where you'll be in the community where it may save a life," Magee added. "I think the movement is coming where young people will have ready access to Narcan for themselves."

McNerney said it's important to note that one dose of Narcan might not be enough. The effects might last for 15 minutes — enough time, hopefully, for paramedics to arrive. But the kits come as a two-pack, so a second dose can be given quickly if needed.

Regarding treatment of addiction, the Food and Drug Administration has also approved medications that work extremely well, but that not many people know about, McNerney said. Medications for opioid use disorder include buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone, which reduce cravings and the compulsive behavior that comes from addiction. They are also harder to overdose on, even though they are also opioids, she said.

"They're extremely important but also highly stigmatized, and

I wish they were more readily available," she said.

**Education and a cultural overhaul**

The panelists said that education is key to managing the crisis — and a change of culture.

Walker recalled talking with a Stanford University student who was open about his drug use.

"You don't get another chance," she said, if the drug one takes is laced with a deadly opioid.

"He said, 'You know, my friends are probably not gonna stop taking party drugs, but we are going to create a culture where all drugs are tested.' And they're gonna use fentanyl testing strips and test their drugs and look out for their friends," she said.

Much like in the '80s when AIDS was an epidemic, people thought it would never happen to them. But then they started handing out condoms, she noted.

"Places like Stanford are

making fentanyl testing strips available," she said.

Testing strips aren't ideal when it comes to checking a pill, however, Ternan said. If one scrapes a little off or breaks a pill in half, one might test a spot where there's no fentanyl, or might find no fentanyl in one pill in a lot or in a baggy.

He said, "But in the baggy of 10, the other nine are loaded with fentanyl. So it's called the chocolate chip cookie effect, where you can imagine a cookie has chocolate chips in some places," but not in others.

People also don't want to destroy the pill they plan to take, which is what occurs when using the test strips, he said.

Even so, there's merit in testing. "Fentanyl tests work. They should be widely available in my opinion. Whether you're 21 or 41, no one who doesn't also bring the test strips should bring any cocaine to a party. These are cultural changes that need to

happen in the age of the chemical drug landscape," he said.

You can watch the entire panel discussion here.

Both counties also have call centers for substance use where people can obtain information about resources and

drug treatment. In San Mateo County, it's 1-800-686-0101, and in Santa Clara County, it's 800-704-0907. ■

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

**CRIME BRIEF****Man fatally struck by Caltrain**

A person was struck and killed by a Caltrain on Monday night, Sept. 4, the transit agency said.

At approximately 8:54 p.m., southbound train number 268 fatally struck an individual when approaching Redwood City station, Caltrain said. The train was released by transit police at 10:29 p.m., a little over 10 minutes after personnel from the San Mateo County Coroner's office arrived, according to Caltrain spokesperson Mahmoud Abunie.

The victim was identified Tuesday as Derrick Miley, a 62-year-old man. The coroner's office did not have information about his city of residence.

There were approximately 166 passengers onboard the train at the time and seven bikes, Abunie said in an email, and all were moved to the platform area. No other injuries were reported.

This is Caltrain's 10th fatality of the year.

—Bay City News Service and Almanac staff

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**K**ensington Place is proud to partner with the Alzheimer's Association to raise awareness about memory loss. At some point in life, you or someone you love will likely forget a name, an anniversary or where you put your keys. But it can be unsettling if memory lapses become frequent, begin to interfere with daily life or compromise safety.

Our Kensington Place team is committed to excellence in care and service and is proud to be a trusted source of information about dementia and Alzheimer's care. We encourage you to share your concerns so we can

provide the expert support you or your loved one needs. Join us this September to learn:

- the difference between normal forgetfulness and the onset of Alzheimer's disease.
- what steps to take if you or someone you love is showing signs of progressive memory loss.
- the newest research on slowing disease progression by way of socialization, stimulation and exercise.
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## DOCTOR

continued from page 5

Hospital. According to the victim's attorney, Patricia Marrison, the case was settled out of court, though she said she couldn't provide further information about the case due to a non-disclosure agreement. This news organization could not independently verify the settlement or its terms.

The hospital just renewed Havel's contract on July 1 for two years.

According to the contract, which this news organization obtained through a Public Records Act request, Havel currently serves as the associate medical director of the outpatient Adult Mood Program within the Mountain View hospital's Scrivner Center for Mental Health & Addiction Services.

"I feel like it is time to terminate Dr. Havel's contract and to start to bring in other people and develop a clean slate," Lieber said. "As I talked with people who have been impacted by these kinds of situations, I just felt like it's really time, it's in the public interest, and it's just better for the community."

Havel declined to comment for this story, as did the victim, now almost 70. This news organization is not naming her because she is a victim of an alleged sexual assault.

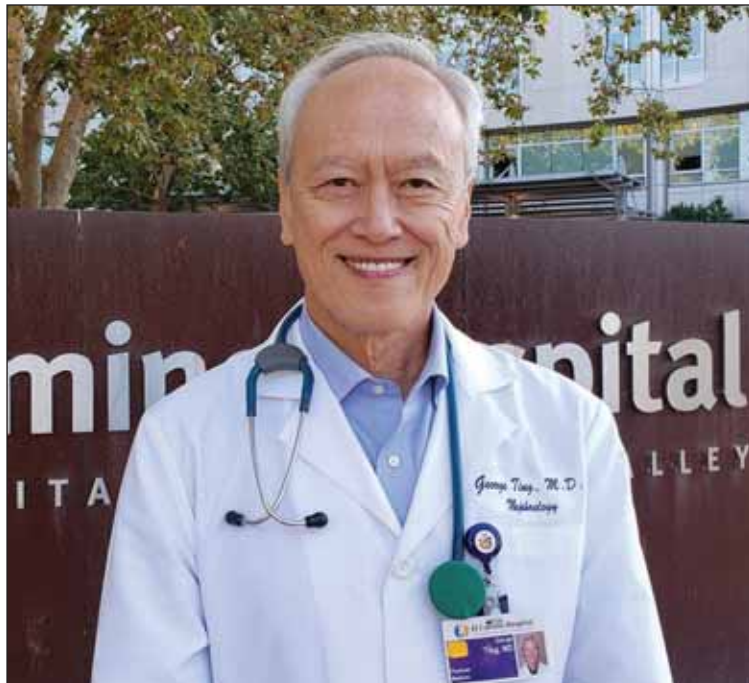
### Lieber wants doctor's contract terminated, calls for transparency

According to the civil suit, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in 1988, Havel was 33 and his accuser was 13 when the alleged abuse began. It continued until 1973, including during trips to Southern California after Havel moved to Washington, D.C., to attend Georgetown University School of Medicine in 1971, the suit alleged. The victim was 34 when she sued Havel, after realizing through therapy the effects of the sexual abuse she had experienced, according to the court documents reviewed by this news organization.

In 2007, Havel's accuser was part of a landmark lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, which settled 508 civil cases involving clergy abuse. Plaintiffs received undisclosed shares of a \$660 million settlement from the Archdiocese and other Catholic orders.

According to the terms of the settlement, the Archdiocese and other Catholic orders were required to release personnel files of those believed to be perpetrators. Havel's file was released by the Marianist Order, to which he belonged, in 2013.

San Jose Mercury News coverage of the 1988 civil suit is included in Havel's released personnel file. According to news archives,



File photo

El Camino Healthcare District Board Chair Dr. George Ting said he first heard about the allegations against Dr. Thomas Havel 30 years ago.

El Camino Health was made aware of the allegations against Havel at the time.

In addition to her demand that the hospital terminate Havel's contract, Lieber told this news organization she worries the health care district may not have established adequate protocols for handling similar cases, including procedures for carefully monitoring patient interactions with a doctor who has been previously accused of improper conduct, after learning about the allegations in 1988.

She urged the board to make public more information on its current policies and to hold a public discussion about the topic. Lieber, who was elected to the state Board of Equalization last November and announced in April that she would run for Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian's seat when he is termed out next year, stated in her email to the district board that she was speaking as "a representative of the communities within the healthcare district."

Lieber said she's raising her concerns now because she only recently found out about Havel's alleged past after Palo Alto resident and victims' advocate Jamie Barnett posted on social media about it earlier this year. Barnett also wrote letters to El Camino Health and local elected officials about the matter in 2020.

"I saw a post on Facebook in February 2023 from Jamie Barnett saying that when she had been alerted to this in 2020, that she had written to all the local city councils," Lieber said. "I didn't recall ever getting notified of it, or I would have taken action then. It turned out that it was before I came back on to city council."

### Hospital reacts

El Camino Healthcare District Board Chair Dr. George Ting said

he first heard about the allegations about 30 years ago when he was serving as chief of medical staff at the hospital. Ting said he was not aware of any policy changes put in place at the time as a result of the situation. Ting added that he doesn't see a need to have a public discussion about it at the board level today, unless it's brought to the board by staff.

"I'd have to have some confidence in administration's ability to determine if something does need to be brought up in that way," Ting said. "Certainly, if there's something substantial that we need to own up to, there's no question I would want to bring it up. ... If they say that they've looked into it, and the existing policies cover it well, and they don't think we need further investigation, nor change our policy, I take that at face value."

**'Institutions — whether it's the bishops or hospital administrators — seem to want to protect power and prestige at the expense of young people and the vulnerable.'**

TIM LENNON, FORMER SNAP PRESIDENT AND CURRENT VOLUNTEER

El Camino Health Communications Director Christopher Brown told this news organization that Havel has been a practicing physician for more than 40 years and is an active member in good standing with El Camino Health's hospital independent medical staff.

"He is respected among staff, peers and patients," Brown said in an email. "While allegations from

50 years ago should be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated by the proper law enforcement agencies, these allegations, which allegedly occurred a decade before Dr. Havel joined the El Camino Health medical staff, were never adjudicated in court of law and El Camino Health is not the proper venue for adjudication."

Brown said the hospital and its independent medical staff — which includes nearly all physicians at the hospital — "have robust policies and procedures in place to ensure that physicians who provide care at El Camino Health are in good standing with the Medical Board of California." This news organization confirmed through a Public Records Act request that the Medical Board has no record of any disciplinary action taken against Havel's California medical license.

Brown added that the hospital uses "a robust credentialing process" that includes a criminal background check and ongoing monitoring "to identify potential information about a physician that could jeopardize patient safety," as well as an internal compliance program to investigate any staff or patient complaints.

If El Camino Health receives information that a current employee has allegations of past criminal behavior against them, Brown said it's the hospital's practice to meet with the employee and inform them of the hospital's knowledge of the allegation. The hospital "put(s) them on notice that there could be actions taken up to termination, should the employee engage in any of the alleged activities while employed at El Camino Health."

Board Chair Ting added that "the unique circumstances here are that the allegations refer to a time before he became a physician. He didn't have an MD license, so there would be nothing in any data banks related to a medical investigation."

Given that there's no criminal conviction against Havel, Ting said his "personal view is that someone's innocent until proven otherwise."

Havel has never been criminally charged for allegations against him. The civil suit against him was initially dismissed in 1989, on the grounds that too much time had elapsed since the alleged abuse occurred. According to court documents, that decision was successfully appealed in 1992 after the court determined that the statute of limitations had not expired, on the basis that the woman had not discovered that she had been abused until many years later. According to Marrison, the woman's attorney, the case was settled out of court following the appeal.

When it first learned of the lawsuit in November 1988, El

Camino Health officials placed Dr. Havel on leave, at his request, while they conducted an investigation into his work at the hospital, according to a hospital spokesperson quoted by the San Jose Mercury News at the time. Within weeks, the hospital announced he had resumed his position as medical director of psychiatry after a review board found his work for the hospital to have been "flawless." The spokesperson at the time said the investigation looked into Havel's work as a doctor, not the sexual abuse claims themselves.

In 2014, questions over Havel's status at El Camino Hospital surfaced again when Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP), a victims' advocacy group, connected his name from the list of "credibly accused" abusers made public by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles with his position at the hospital. SNAP members petitioned El Camino to remove him from his position, but according to the group, El Camino Health did not respond.

**'It's incomprehensible that there would be nobody else that they can promote into that position.'**

SALLY LIEBER, FORMER MOUNTAIN VIEW MAYOR

Yannina Diaz, an Archdiocese spokesperson, told this news organization that Havel was included in the Archdiocese's 2004 Report to the People of God, which acknowledged the widespread child sex abuse within the church.

Diaz said that Havel was included on the list because "the Archdiocese received a report in 2002 by an adult alleging sexual misconduct by Havel when she was a minor in 1968 to 1973." This accuser is the woman whose civil case against the Archdiocese was settled as part of the 2007 global settlement.

Diaz said all clergy who were part of the settlement were added to the list, regardless of whether the Archdiocese had enough information to independently investigate them. The list was reviewed by the chair of the Archdiocese's Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board prior to release.

"The Archdiocese had little information on Havel because he was on leave in medical school for most of the time he was associated with the Archdiocese, and he left the Archdiocese in 1972, 35 years prior to the global settlement," Diaz said.

Under the settlement agreement, the Archdiocese and other Catholic orders were required to

## DOCTOR

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release the personnel files of all clergy included in the settlement.

Havel's redacted file is 432 pages long and includes letters and documents detailing his time as a priest, his enrollment and graduation from Georgetown Medical School and his eventual laicization — leaving the priesthood — in 1997.

The file contains mostly mundane details about Havel's life as a priest and medical student: A letter to another member of the church where he ponders whether he should wear his clergy attire to his classes; the cost of his tuition and textbooks at Georgetown; a program from his father's funeral. It also contains brief references to the lawsuit from the late 1980s, as well as newspaper clippings from the Mercury News' coverage of the case.

#### Havel's contract with El Camino Health

Havel's current contract with the hospital as the associate medical director of the outpatient Adult Mood Program is capped at just 27 hours a month. The Adult Mood Program provides treatment for people experiencing significant mental health mood symptoms, such as anxiety and



Magali Gauthier

Former Mountain View Mayor Sally Lieber called on members of El Camino Healthcare District's board to end the contract with Dr. Thomas Havel.

depression, according to the El Camino Health website.

Under a second "professional services" contract, which was renewed in 2022 until June 30, 2024, Havel also participates in an on-call rotation with other psychiatrists for emergency consultations, non-emergency requests from hospital staff and performs hospital rounds during daytime weekend shifts in the Behavioral Health Unit.

Between July 2020 and April 2021, Havel's previous contract shows he was given the

added responsibility of serving as the interim Behavioral Health Services chief medical director while the hospital sought a new permanent director. He was limited to 74 additional hours per month to carry out that responsibility, according to the contract.

Lieber said she finds it troubling that Havel was promoted to the interim director position despite the hospital's knowledge of the allegation against him.

"It just boggles the mind that they would put an individual with that kind of cloud over their record

into a situation where they have access and control," Lieber said. "It's incomprehensible that there would be nobody else that they can promote into that position."

According to El Camino Health, Havel was paid \$59,540 in 2022, \$46,673 of which was for serving as the associate medical director of the Adult Mood Program and the balance for on-call fees. The El Camino Health website states Havel is no longer accepting new patients. This news organization could not determine if he continues to have a private practice outside of his work for the hospital.

#### Advocates react

Former SNAP president and current volunteer Tim Lennon, who led the 2014 petition calling for Havel to be removed from his position, called the hospital's decades of inaction against Havel "mind boggling," but said it's nothing new for alleged abusers to avoid consequences.

"Institutions — whether it's the bishops or hospital administrators — seem to want to protect power and prestige at the expense of young people and the vulnerable," Lennon said.

As a survivor of childhood sexual abuse by a priest himself, Lennon said it's a practice that's especially infuriating for him

to witness. And according to attorney Raymond Boucher, who led the \$660 million settlement lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 2007, the hospital's inaction is also a potential legal liability.

"Whether it's been proven or not proven is really immaterial to the question," Boucher said. "Once an entity, of any kind, is on notice that somebody may pose a danger involving sexual abuse or sexual harassment or sexual assault towards a minor or an adult, that entity is obligated to take steps to ensure the safety of those individuals."

Although Havel is 85 and the alleged abuse took place more than 50 years ago, Boucher said a person's age shouldn't stop them from being held to account.

"From a public safety standpoint, from a public health standpoint, from a human decency standpoint, it doesn't matter how long it has been," Boucher said. "What matters is that there's sufficient notice and knowledge, and that we don't forget ... so that we remain vigilant in protecting people. Because ultimately, that's the most important thing, isn't it?" ■

Email Staff Writer Malea Martin at [mmartin@mv-voice.com](mailto:mmartin@mv-voice.com).



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# Public Notices

WAVY TROPICAL FOOD  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-295186  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Wavy Tropical Food, located at 2025 AVY AVE UNIT A MENLO PARK, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):  
ETUSZN MEDIA GROUP INC  
2025 AVY AVE UNIT A  
MENLO PARK, CA 94025  
California  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/01/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 25 2023.  
(ALM Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

RESSA.  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-295195  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) ressa, located at 851 Cherry Ave, Ste 27 #1041, San Bruno, CA 94066.  
Registered owner(s):  
HSUAN-TING YU  
111 Broadway APT 3  
Millbrae, CA 94030  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has not yet begun 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 August 28 2023.  
(ALM Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

FURIA FIGHT CLUB  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M294963  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) FURIA FIGHT CLUB, located at 501 Old County Rd.suit K, Belmont,CA 94002.  
Registered owner(s):  
ANTONIO ATAHIDE SANTANA  
100 N. Whisman Rd. Apt 3412  
Mountain View,CA 94043  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
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 August 02 2023.  
(ALM Sep 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

DESIGN BUILD GROUP  
ISMAIL PROPERTIES  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-295189  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Design Build Group, 2.) Ismail Properties, located at 1121 Hopkins Ave., Unit B, Redwood City, CA 94062.  
Registered owner(s):  
AMER ISMAIL  
1121 Hopkins Ave., Unit B  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
ALAA ISMAIL  
1121 Hopkins Ave., Unit B  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
MIMI ISMAIL  
1121 Hopkins Ave., Unit B  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
This business is conducted by: Co-Partners.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/05/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 25 2023.  
(ALM Sep 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

LINK ED SOLUTIONS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-294971  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Link Ed Solutions, located at 6 Skyline Drive, Woodside, CA 94062, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
Linked Solutions LLC  
3315 S. Cobb Drive,  
Smyrna, GA 30081-8501  
Georgia  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
Registrant has not yet begun 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 August 03 2023.  
(ALM Sep 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

AV CAPITAL  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-295156  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) AV Capital, located at 25 Dwight Rd. Burlingame, CA 94010.  
Registered owner(s):  
AV CAPITAL LLC  
25 Dwight Rd. Burlingame, CA 94010  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
CA  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/21/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on August 22 2023.  
(ALM Sep 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

EVOLVE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: M-294867  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Evolve, located at 8 Crocus Ct., Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County.  
Registered owner(s):  
YVONNE FULCHIRON SCHMIDT  
8 Crocus Ct., Menlo Park, CA. 94025  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
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 July 24 2023.  
(ALM Aug 18, 25, Sep 1 and 8, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 23-CIV-03400  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Zahra Hemmatian filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
ZAHRA HEMMATIAN to ZARA HEMMATIAN  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/04/2023, 9:00 a.m., Dept MC, Southern Branch: Hall of Justice and Records, Redwood City, CA of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.  
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 08/02/2023  
Jonathan E. Karesh  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Aug 18, 25, Sep 1 and 8, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 23CIV03945  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Gloria Anne Falcinelli filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
GLORIA ANNE FALCINELLI to GLORIA FALCINELLI ELDREDGE  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/18/2023, 9:00 AM, Civil - Dept MC, Room MC of the Superior

Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 08/28/2023  
Marie S. Weiner  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 23CIV03781  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Blake Andrew William Binkley filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
BLAKE ANDREW WILLIAM BINKLEY to BLAKE ANDREW ROSE  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/11/2023, 9am, MC of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.  
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 08/16/2023  
Elizabeth Lee  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 23-CIV-03799  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Jintao Feng filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
VINCENT ZHONGXU TANG to VINCENT XU FENG  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/09/2023, 9:00 a.m., Master Calendar of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.  
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 08/14/2023  
Judge Elizabeth Lee  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

## The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

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- Legal Summons
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**The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.**  
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For assistance email [LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com).

# Stanford deputies help deliver a baby

By Palo Alto Weekly staff

Deputies at Stanford's Department of Public Safety responded to a call for assistance and helped deliver a baby boy on Sept. 1, according to a press release issued by Laura L. Wilson, director of the department.

At around 5:37 a.m., the deputies received the call from a residence on campus reporting a woman was about to give birth. Upon their arrival, two deputies found a woman in the advanced stages of labor.

They helped her get through the entire process and delivered a healthy baby boy,

shortly after which Palo Alto Fire Department personnel arrived and provided additional medical care.

Both mother and baby were later taken to a local hospital for further evaluation.

Captain Chris Cohendet said, "Our deputies are trained to handle a wide range of emergencies, and this is a prime example of their dedication to serving and protecting our community. We are thrilled that everything turned out well for the mother and her newborn son."

Both mother and baby are doing well, the press release confirmed. ■

## PROVOST

*continued from page 9*

Stanford Impact Labs.

During Martinez's deanship, the school has recruited a number of new faculty whose research spans fields from legal history to artificial intelligence, including domains such as the First Amendment, immigration, human rights, venture capital, and corporate governance.

Martinez has also led many efforts to address affordability, including significantly expanding financial aid resources for Law School students. In the 2022-23 academic year, the school increased its financial aid support by 10%, expanding scholarship amounts for all students on need-based aid and fully covering all tuition costs for JD students with family income below 150% of the poverty line (200% for academic year 2023-24).

The school offers a generous loan repayment program — one of the first of its kind in the country — for students who enter public service or public interest practice.

"Jenny has been an outstanding dean of the law school and will be an extraordinary provost," outgoing Provost Drell said.

"She has provided courageous leadership for her school in very difficult circumstances. As a dean she was both deeply committed to increasing access to the law school for students of all backgrounds and supporting her faculty to increase the diversity of the professoriate, while she was also breathtakingly articulate in her stands on issues of free speech and academic freedom.

"She is fearless, compassionate, and truly dedicated to our

mission of research and education," Drell said.

## Academic and legal career

An experienced litigator as well as a scholar, Martinez teaches courses on constitutional law and international law. She is a leading expert on the role of courts and tribunals in advancing human rights. She is the author of "The Slave Trade and the Origins of International Human Rights Law" and numerous articles in leading academic journals.

Martinez holds a bachelor's degree from Yale University and earned her JD at Harvard Law School, where she was managing editor of the Harvard Law Review. She clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and Judge Guido Calabresi of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Martinez also was associate legal officer for Judge Patricia Wald of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, where she worked on trials involving genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

Martinez was recently appointed to the American Bar Association's Task Force for American Democracy. She previously served as a member of the U.S. State Department's Advisory Committee on International Law. ■

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# Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## Waxing eloquently

Encaustic artist Lonnie Zarem exhibits works at the Pacific Art League, where she will also teach rare classes in the medium

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

The Pacific Art League is offering a wide range of classes this fall in traditional media like painting, photography, watercolor and pastels. But there is a medium you may have never heard of: encaustic monotype. A relatively new process that involves the use of heat and beeswax-infused pigments, encaustic monotype will be a major focus at the venerable art center with workshops, a class and a solo exhibition of work by Los Altos artist Lonnie Zarem.

The exhibition, entitled “Footprints of the Ephemeral,” is on view from Sept. 9 through 26 throughout the PAL building, located on Ramona Street in Palo Alto. The show will feature 20 new prints by Zarem, many of them large-scale. During an

interview with the artist at her home studio, it became apparent that both the technique and size of her work are pretty groundbreaking — and that she is passionate about sharing her love of the medium.

Although she always loved to draw and “make things with my hands,” Zarem became an artist fairly recently. She laughingly described how she would have a crafts table always on hand for her three sons and would wait until they were in bed to create herself. Her early career as owner of a technology marketing company in southern California made use of her undergraduate degree in Economics from UC Irvine. In 2002, she decided to pursue her love of art by getting another undergraduate degree from San Jose State University. Since then, she has been working steadily, participating in

group shows and also teaching at the Pacific Art League.

She had used encaustic materials in her abstract paintings but was looking for something else to inspire her. When she heard of the encaustic monotype process, she knew it was something she had to try. “I liked it right away,” she said. “It has so many elements that I like: it is like painting in layers, there is a full range of magnificent colors and I like to draw.”

The process is, however, dependent upon having the right equipment, mainly the 16-by-32-inch hot box that is used to melt the pigment sticks. Zarem was happy to demonstrate exactly how the process works.

The hot boxes rely upon simple light bulbs to create the heat (around 175 degrees) under the anodized aluminum plate



Courtesy Pacific Art League

Lonnie Zarem took inspiration from a trip to Iceland for prints such as “Waterfall.” “I wanted to capture a sense of it being all over you, with colors underneath it,” she said of the piece.

surface. Pigmented wax blocks are rubbed on the hot surface, melting and creating pools of color. Rice paper is then applied onto the surface, where, after gentle pressure from the hand, it absorbs the colors. The paper is pulled off and the result is a unique print. Zarem explained that, because she is so experienced in the process, she can plan an image in advance but, “The beauty is you always get a little surprise when you pull off the paper.”

Zarem soon began to experiment with different pigments and papers and decided she wanted to work on a larger scale. She found someone who could build a very large box (the size of six standard boxes put together) in order to pull prints that reflect her memories of a recent trip to Iceland.

Capturing the fleeting moments of beauty found in nature is a continuous theme in Zarem’s work, and Iceland provided nonstop inspiration. “People live their days by what the sky looks like,” she said. The vastness and variability are expressed in layers of cool pastel tones in “Iceland Sky.” In “Waterfall,” undulating vertical strokes of blue and yellow form the downward rush of water. “There are millions of waterfalls in Iceland,” she said, “I wanted to capture a sense of it being all over you, with colors underneath it.” And in “Low Tide,” she employed corpuscular daubs of translucent blue and bold shades

of scarlet to portray the red seaweed that is particular to this region. “It was so beautiful and refreshing,” she recalled.

She also finds inspiration close to home. “Tomato Starts” reflects the emerging fruit found in her own backyard garden. “Blue Thistle” resulted after a hike in Hollister at dawn and makes the common weed appear gloriously blue against a golden background. In this print and in others, Zarem is able to express herself in a more representational way by using graphite wax or charcoal to draw clearly defined lines. In “Rare Bloom,” the leaves and stems of a potted plant are limned with realistic detail. The red flower, Zarem explained, appeared very unexpectedly one day after years of never blooming. “I had to capture the magenta blue in this flower.”

Zarem is most animated when she talks about sharing her love of encaustic monotype with others. “It’s a great medium for teaching because people get great satisfaction right away.” She has taught numerous classes and workshops both at PAL and in her home studio but has always wanted a dedicated place for instruction. Thanks to a grant from the International Encaustic Artists Project and funding from PAL, she will inaugurate the first encaustic center on the West Coast this fall. Ten hot boxes will be available for student use and the first



Courtesy Pacific Art League

Some of the pieces in Lonnie Zarem’s “Footprints of the Ephemeral” show capture subjects close to home, such as “Tomato Starts,” which depicts the plants in her backyard garden.

See **LONNIE ZAREM**, next page

# Worth a Look



Courtesy Vinny Isola

Vocal and guitar duo Tuck & Patti perform Sept. 8 in a show presented by Earthwise Productions.

## Tuck & Patti

The perfect pairing of guitarist Tuck Andress and vocalist Patti Cathcart play a special free show close to home on Sept. 8 in a concert presented by Earthwise Productions. The longtime duo, who are based on the Peninsula, have made an international name over the past 40 years or so for elegantly spare arrangements that get to the heart of the music — and quite a variety of music, too. Tuck & Patti work their magic in a variety of genres, including jazz to pop, gospel to folk. Cathcart's rich vocals and Andress' expressive way with the strings bring their own unique spin to everything from Duke Ellington to pop favorites like Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time."

Sept. 8, 6 p.m. at Mitchell Park Bowl, 600 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto. Admission is free. [tinyurl.com/Tuck-and-Patti](http://tinyurl.com/Tuck-and-Patti)

## Mountain View Art and Wine Festival

The festival offers visitors the best of both worlds: browsing work in a variety of media by numerous artisans, as well as getting creative with fun hands-on projects. Visitors to the festival can chat with artisans and craftspeople about their work, grab a bite at food trucks and enjoy gourmet offerings, local wine, craft beer and other beverages, and catch live entertainment on two stages, plus hear the performances of musicians strolling the event. Festivalgoers also can get in on the act themselves with the return of the mobile "Art Temple," a collaborative mural that they can paint, with a DJ providing additional creative inspiration for participants. The temple is created by Bay Area artist Richard Art Felix as part of his ArtIsMobilUs / EverybodyCanPaint project. There's also Italian chalk art street painting — while taking in the impressive works by pros, families can purchase a square and kids will have a chance to create their own street art.

Sept. 9, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sept. 10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Castro Street in downtown Mountain View. [mwartwine.com](http://mwartwine.com).

## Dengue Fever

Dengue Fever's sound first took inspiration from 1960s and '70s Cambodian rock, drawing on the psychedelic sound of the era in a mix of vintage covers and originals,

sung mostly in Khmer, with some songs in English, with singer Chhmon Nimol's soaring vocals leading the way. As they mark the 20th anniversary of their self-titled debut, Dengue Fever is also about to release their first new album in eight years. Recorded on a desert retreat not far from Joshua Tree, "Ting Mong" features nine original songs with a mellower vibe than the band's early songs, but that still vibrate with heartfelt energy. Their show at the Guild will highlight some songs from the new album, as well as fan favorites such as "1000 Tears of a Tarantula." Read more about Dengue Fever's show at [almanacnews.com/arts](http://almanacnews.com/arts).

Sept. 14 at 8 p.m. at The Guild Theatre, 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Tickets are \$31-\$59. [theguildtheatre.com](http://theguildtheatre.com).

## Mya Byrne

Singer-songwriter Mya Byrne draws together elements of Americana with touches of pop, blues, rockabilly and more and wraps it all up in a healthy twang. Her thoughtful, poetic lyrics bring strong imagery to songs that are backed up with driving bass and the soulful wail of guitar. Byrne is a leader for the presence of queer trans women in country and Americana and was one of the first two trans artists to play AmericanaFest, according to her website.

Sept. 10, 5:30 p.m. at Filoli, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside. Tickets are \$65. [filoli.org](http://filoli.org).



Courtesy Pacific Art League

In "Low Tide," Zarem used daubs of translucent blue and scarlet pigment to portray the red seaweed she saw on Iceland's beaches.

## LONNIE ZAREM

*continued from previous page*

six-week class at the art league, scheduled to begin Oct. 18, is already completely filled.

PAL Executive Director Aly Gould said, "Our decision to establish this center stems from the increasing popularity of this unique art form in various parts of the country. We noticed that many of our artists were traveling outside of the area to attend workshops focused on encaustic monotype printing, and we saw an opportunity to bring this center to PAL as a way to cater to their needs and to attract new artists to this exciting medium. It is a true honor to have Lonnie Zarem, a nationally esteemed encaustic monotype artist, help us launch this endeavor."

Zarem predicts that students will find the process "quite addictive." "It brings out the creativity in people without them knowing it," Zarem said that her approach is to focus on the basic technique at first but then let students experiment with color, line and form. "I think the

process in this medium can really work for so many people and add a lot of joy to their lives."

The growing interest in encaustic monotypes clearly pleases Zarem. "I am having the time of my life in my studio," she said. She frequently offers salons in her home and has a growing number of collectors of her work. And she continues to find inspiration in the quotidian. When asked to explain the title of her exhibition, she said, "I look for that one little moment when something is going on in the world that I might never see again. Beautiful things: that one sunset, the sky in Iceland. A moment there and gone. I find that in my fingertips and share it." ■

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"Footprints of the Ephemeral" is on view Sept. 9-26 at the Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. For more information about the exhibition or classes, visit [pacificartleague.org](http://pacificartleague.org).

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# Food & Drink

## Jam session

Want to savor the flavors of summer year-round?  
Peninsula preservation pros share their tips

By Ross Rosenthal

For the people who attended “Preserving Green Chiles”, an event recently hosted by the San Mateo Public Libraries, this may soon become a reality. Dozens of eager novice food preservationists gathered for an online talk presented by a Master Food Preserver, a volunteer expert certified by the University of California Campus Extension (UCCE) Master Food Preserver Program. While green chiles were the star of the show, participants soon developed a taste for the world of possibilities that freezing, drying, canning, fermenting, and pickling fruits and vegetables can bring.

And for Michele Maia, the UCCE Master Food Preserver Program Coordinator for San Mateo and San Francisco Counties, this taste has quickly blossomed into a full-blown passion. While only beginning her foray into food preservation during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, she has rapidly grown into an enthusiastic proponent of its benefits.

“It’s delicious! Food that you preserve yourself has the best quality ingredients, some recipes can be slightly modified to suit your tastes, and gifts from the kitchen are always wonderful to share,” she said. She explained that while food preservation may initially seem daunting, it’s easy, cost-effective, and more sustainable. “You can buy in bulk, use some of the food fresh, and safely preserve the rest to use later.”

Marilyn Johnson, owner of Spread the Love Jelly, a San Mateo County market fixture, is of the same mind. Growing up far from

a grocery store, food preservation gave her family easy access to fruits and vegetables year-round. “It is also a wonderful bonding experience the whole family can participate in,” she said.

The novice food preservers in last month’s event quickly learned that food preservation requires strict adherence to standards. Improperly canned food can help dangerous bacteria proliferate.

“Use recipes that have been tested by university or industry professionals,” explained Maia. “Recipes from university cooperative extension offices have been thoroughly tested to make sure that they are safe and will produce the desired results when followed.”

Once you’ve abided by these rules, the possibilities are endless. For Maia, any fruit or vegetable is ripe for preservation. From frozen green beans to pickled green tomatoes, there’s no limit on the different shapes and forms preserved food can take. Especially close to Maia’s heart are dehydrated mushrooms, a food she’ll add to just about anything.

“I love to dehydrate mushroom slices that I add to my spaghetti sauces, stews and soups later when I don’t have any fresh mushrooms in my fridge. I dry the mushroom stems and grind them into mushroom powder that I can add to gravies or sauces whenever I want a little more umami,” she remarked.

Certain fruits and vegetables are ideal for preservation during this time of year, including berries, zucchinis, and cucumbers. San Mateo County’s Anne-Marie Bonneau, author of the cookbook “Zero Waste Chef”, thinks that while the foods you should preserve are the ones you like best, in-season produce like green beans and tomatoes are especially useful in preparation for the coming holidays and winter.

“Blanching and freezing green beans is pretty easy and you’ll have delicious



Above: A Master Food Preserver class can be a helpful way to get started pickling, canning and more. Courtesy Michele Maia. Top: Spread the Love Jelly sells a variety of jams and jellies at San Mateo County markets. Courtesy Fog Dog Studios/Diane Costello.

green beans for Thanksgiving,” she mused. “Tomatoes are my main focus in the early fall. I use them in everything in the winter — sauces and soups, chana masala, daal, and whatever recipe calls for canned tomatoes.

For those with a sweet tooth, fear not. Johnson’s favorite fruits to make jam out of this time of year are peaches. “There are so many things you can do with peach jam,” she said, listing her favorites: “salad dressing, scones, cookies, cocktails, mocktails, glazes for protein, and, of course, good old peanut butter and jelly.”

Once you know what food you’re interested in preserving, you can get to work. Bonneau urges you to collect food-safe jars like Mason jars and lids as early as possible. After that, the prospective food preserver should familiarize themselves with the correct ways to preserve food. Thankfully, for San Mateo County residents, guidance is readily available. Maia encourages beginners to attend a Master Food Preserver class through the San Mateo County Public Libraries. For those that want to become experts, the UCCE Master Food Preserver Program begins in November. Over a period of five

months, you’ll learn to preserve food from squash to oregano, all while joining Maia and a cohort of passionate food preservers in the process.

After acquainting yourself with these food preservation standards, that idle peach or lonely tomato in your refrigerator might soon become the delicious relic of a summer past. You can join Johnson for an upcoming jam-making class where you can learn how to make the perfect peach spread. Bonneau offers the occasional class on fermentation, teaching you how to turn an aging cucumber into a delicious pickle. You can also follow Maia’s lead. Her summer produce isn’t just for herself; it’s also for her loved ones. When collecting oregano, thyme, or sage, she likes to make an herb salt, which she uses to turn her passion into a holiday present. “The salts are super easy to make and fun to give as gifts,” she said, noting how her summer produce turns into a wintry holiday treat.

Most importantly, like Johnson, Maia believes food preservation is a way to bring people closer together. While preserving food can be a way to feast on the produce of summers past, it can even

more so be the source of fond memories altogether new.

“It’s fun! Canning is an activity that friends and family can do together.” ■

Email the Peninsula Foodist at [peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com](mailto:peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com).



Courtesy Michele Maia

Making jam and pickling are useful ways to preserve your summer produce before it’s too late.

To learn more about how to become a Master Food Preserver, visit the UCCE’s Master Food Preserver site for San Mateo County: [cesanmateo.ucanr.edu](http://cesanmateo.ucanr.edu).

For those interested in approved recipes using preserved foods, the Master Food Preservers recommend Ball recipes: [ballmasonjars.com](http://ballmasonjars.com).

Visit the National Center for Home Food Preservation website for more tips on food preservation and approved recipes: [nchfp.uga.edu](http://nchfp.uga.edu). For more information on upcoming Master Food Preserver events through the San Mateo County Public Libraries, click here: [smcl.bibliocommons.com](http://smcl.bibliocommons.com). The San Mateo County Office of Sustainability also has information on these interactive classes: [smcsustainability.org](http://smcsustainability.org).



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