

The Almanac

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

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San Mateo County tallies unhoused in one-day count

County executive plans to ramp up outreach efforts to unhoused, wants monthly homelessness counts

By Nicholas Mazzoni

While San Mateo County must submit a one-day homeless count to the state every two years, for County Executive Mike Callagy, the day is an opportunity to assess the progress of the county's zero homelessness initiative.

Carolina Moscoso, a LifeMoves outreach team member, grew up unhoused from age four until she was 16. She said helping the unhoused has been her life calling. She believes the county's zero homeless initiative is achievable because she was given the resources and guidance to return home.

"I've been doing this my whole life," Moscoso said. "I've seen people change their lives. I've seen families come out of homelessness."

Moscoso is one of the dozens of LifeMoves employees and volunteers who met at the North Fair Oaks Community Center to get in groups and

find their assigned counting area during a Thursday, Jan. 25, one-day homeless count. The location is one of 10 where the 330 volunteers met at 5 a.m. to count camps and vehicles before unhoused people left their sites to start their day.

The event, organized by San Mateo County's Health Services Agency in collaboration with local nonprofits, is held biannually to provide a "point-in-time snapshot" of the number and location of people currently experiencing homelessness, according to the county. In addition to helping inform resource allocation within the local community, the count also satisfies requirements from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to generate a snapshot of homelessness nationwide.

Callagy rattled off areas in Redwood City he wanted to check. One site that fronts

See **UNHOUSED**, page 14



Magali Gauthier

LifeMoves outreach worker Carolina Moscoso looks through images and maps of encampments in Redwood City during San Mateo County's One Day Homeless Count on Jan. 25.

Portola Valley's housing element is finally gets a thumbs up from the state after years of planning

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

After nearly a three-year planning process, Portola Valley received news of the approval of its 2023-31 housing plans by the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) via a Tuesday, Jan. 30, letter. During the Town Council meeting on Jan. 24, the housing element draft was approved for adoption in a 3-2 vote.

The town was able to get their housing element approved just shy of the state's Jan. 31 deadline. In total, the town council has spent a total of 148 hours and 47 meetings to discuss the

housing element, according to town officials.

"The housing element process has overwhelmed our small town, staff and budget for nearly three years so it's hard to overstate the importance of this milestone for our community," said Portola Valley Mayor Sarah Wernikoff in an email to The Almanac. "We are now all in this together as we pivot to implementing our plan, our post-approval process, and other important priorities in Town Hall. ... I'd like to thank both former and current staff for their hard work and perseverance to get us here, and my colleagues on the council,

especially those who voted in support of adoption, but also those who voted in dissent and pushed our thinking."

During the Jan. 24 council meeting, Jon Biggs, interim town planning director, and senior planner Adrienne Smith presented the housing element with recommended changes the town has received by the HCD starting from July 2023 to January 2024.

Vice Mayor Judith Hasko and Council member Mary Hufty voted no on the draft last week.

"This housing element as proposed significantly erodes our Portola Valley historical zoning and land use methods," said

Hasko. "Portola Valley's plan planning approach has been held up by planning agencies worldwide as innovative, protective against many natural risks, and respectful of our natural environment."

Biggs said the changes were made in collaboration with the HCD reviewer and "mindful of the unique characters of Portola Valley."

HCD's most recent comment on the housing element requested the town change the Opt-In Diversification Program's minimum lot size to half an acre. After the town pushed back

See **HOUSING ELEMENT**, page 13

'The housing element process has overwhelmed our small town, staff and budget for nearly three years so it's hard to overstate the importance of this milestone for our community.'

PORTOLA VALLEY MAYOR
SARAH WERNIKOFF

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Local News

MENLO PARK | ATHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Natalia Nazarova

Children explore caves at the Atherton Library

The Atherton Library hosted a cave exploration experience with CaveSim, which designs, builds and uses interactive caves to teach kids about conservation and science, on Jan. 27.

In a 60 feet artificial cave passage, visitors of all ages were able to gain hands-on experience on responsible caving. The interactive experience also offered a 12-foot tall tower for vertical cave climbing. CaveSim also gave visitors the opportunity to practice using a cave rescue stretcher, rescue phone and learn about bat biology.

San Carlos samurai sword slayer sentenced to 26 years to life

Judge says sentence feels insufficient, albeit restricted by law

By Nicholas Mazzoni

Emotions were high inside a San Mateo County Superior Courtroom Tuesday, Jan. 30, when Jose “Rafa” Solano Landaeta was sentenced to 26 years to life in prison for the beheading of the mother of his child with a samurai sword in September of 2022.

Landaeta, 33, of Hayward, killed Karina Castro, 27, in front of her San Carlos apartment with a samurai sword in the street with witnesses walking by.

Judge Lisa Novak said that the sentence feels insufficient, albeit it’s the only sentence authorized by the state law.

Assistant District Attorney Sean Gallagher, San Mateo County District Attorney’s Office, said the maximum and mandatory sentence to first-degree murder is 25 years to life with the possibility of parole, and it’s the state law that restricts the DA’s Office from asking for a

more severe punishment.

“We think it is a horrifying crime that happened in the middle of the day, and we share the judge’s views that the sentence is woefully inadequate for the violence he perpetrated on the victim and the trauma her family has to live with merits more than somebody who deserves a chance for parole,” Gallagher said.

Novak said it was the most challenging trial she had ever presided over. She said that she wanted the community to understand that the crime wasn’t a byproduct of untreated mental illness.

“It is an affront to those who have a mental illness that suggests that somehow your culpability should be limited because you have a mental illness,” Novak said. “You are clever enough and manipulative enough to have utilized your mental illness to relieve yourself from the criminal liability; it

was not successful.”

During the proceeding, Castro’s family and friends spoke about the tragedy’s impact on their lives. Castro’s grandmother, Danielle Gannon, said she was trembling with nerves as she powered through her heartfelt statement.

“I was the first to hold her (Karina Castro) when she was born. Our bond was instant,” Gannon said. “There is a hole in my heart, soul and life that will never be filled. The loss consumes me; what I take from this is, first, don’t ignore your gut feeling. The guilt I feel and deserve for not acting on my gut will stay with me forever.”

She said she believed that Castro lived and died protecting her daughters, who were inside Castro’s apartment the day she was brutally murdered. Gannon said that she believed Landaeta would have killed

See **SWORD SLAYER**, page 16

Lawsuit filed against Atherton police officers, town and school administrator for arrest of M-A student last April

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

On Jan. 26, a federal lawsuit was filed against five Atherton police officers and a current staff member of Sequoia Union High School District for the excessive force and unreasonable arrest of two Menlo-Atherton High School students in April 2023.

The lawsuit names David Metzger, Diego Romero, Igor Davidowich, Joshua Gatto and Dimitri Andruha of the Atherton Police Department and Stephen Emmi, who was previously vice principal at the Atherton school. Emmi has since been promoted to the wellness programs coordinator for Sequoia Union High School District.

“The April incident has gone to the next level,” said Dan Molieri, a retired police officer and lead investigator at the Oakland-based Law Offices of John Burris, which is representing the family of the student.

“We would not have filed this lawsuit if we didn’t think we would win,” said Burris.

Evan Goldsen, co-founder of

San Francisco-based law firm Special Education Collaboration Project, filed a discrimination claim against administrators in October 2023. Goldsen told this news organization that the Sequoia Unified High School District did not respond to the filed claim, leading to its rejection after 45 days of no action.

An injury claim filed in June 2023 was rejected by the town of Atherton in August 2023.

The Jan. 26 filing recounts two Black 16-year-old M-A students, who the suit refers to by the names K.C. and D.B. K.C. was forcefully restrained and arrested by Atherton police on April 28, 2023 and also suf-

‘We would not have filed this lawsuit if we didn’t think we would win.’

JOHN BURRIS, LAW OFFICES OF JOHN BURRIS

fers from an emotional disturbance impairment, according to the filing. The filing notes that his friend, D.B., was also detained and handcuffed for being “in the way” of the arrest.

According to the lawsuit, this incident began when Emmi intentionally denied

K.C. the return of his pool noodle-like water “gun” that was confiscated by the school during a game being played by

See **LAWSUIT**, page 8



Courtesy Daniel Lanier

Menlo-Atherton High School students marched throughout campus to protest a police incident on April 28, 2023, which many viewed as an example of police violence specifically toward BIPOC individuals.

Police say license plate readers helped nab Woodside home burglary suspects linked to other break-ins

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Data from automated license plate readers, along with home security cameras, helped identify a suspect vehicle involved in a residential burglary on Dec. 12, 2023 at a home on Todo El Mundo in Woodside. The readers also helped link the suspects in the Woodside Hills neighborhood burglary to multiple other burglaries, “underscoring the gravity of their criminal activities,” according to police. This is according to the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office, in its first quarterly report on the readers to the town, saying the technology is helping solve crimes.

The town council approved the ALPRs in January 2023 and contracted with Flock Safety, paying \$61,000 for cameras installed around the perimeter of town and software, according to staff. Each year after, for up to four years, the town will pay \$52,500 annually. ALPRs have been used by the town to monitor cars traveling through the area during a crime investigation. Woodside now has 17 active automated license plate readers, installed across town.

“ALPR data in all of our areas is essential now in crime fighting,” said Sgt. Patrick Taylor during a Jan. 23 presentation



An automated license plate reader at Whiskey Hill Road and Woodside Road in Woodside on Jan. 29. *Angela Swartz*

of the report on the readers, known as ALPRs, to the Woodside Town Council.

To create the quarterly report, Sheriff’s Office employees make a data audit by doing 10 random searches on browsing inquiries. The audit ensures that the town’s policy of ALPR usage is not violated, according to police.

Following the town’s ALPR usage and privacy policy, the Sheriff’s Office can access footage from the license plate readers to use in investigations.

The collected data provides evidence that can be used in court cases by capturing vehicles in a specific place and indicating

the date and time they were there, police said.

Taylor explained that data collected by ALPRs is stored by Flock Safety and are provided to the Sheriff’s Office upon request. The data that is used in a criminal investigation will only be retained until the case is resolved.

“I remain supportive of these ALPRs. I think they’re a great safety value add to our community,” said Mayor Jenn Wall during the Jan. 23 council meeting. “But this is a powerful data capture by the government and we need to take the auditing of it and compliance with our policy

really seriously.”

Upon the town council’s review, Mayor Wall said that she thinks the quarterly reports should be presented by the town manager with data provided by the Sheriff’s Office. With a long list of policies, Wall suggests that the quarterly audit be more robust and include policy compliance to data storage and protection as well.

“It might be useful to present summary statistics of crimes in Woodside and crimes that had Flock data involved in their resolution,” suggested Woodside resident David Mittelman during the meeting. “We can keep track of how useful in how much utility we’re getting out of the system for the purposes that we wanted.”

Bryant said he will look into ways that information on crimes in the area can be published by Flock onto the town’s online transparency portal.

Moving forward, Town Manager Kevin Bryant says three more ALPRs are expected to be installed in Woodside. Currently all license plate readers are capturing footage 24/7 and are powered by solar energy and Wi-Fi. Future installations in shaded areas will need to be hard-wired, drawing power from nearby sources.

As the town plans for three

See **PLATE READERS**, page 7

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

San Mateo County Libraries start construction on first library outpost

The San Mateo County Libraries have started constructing their first library outpost, an automated vending hub that will be open 24/7. The first outpost will be located at the Pacifica-Sanchez Library and will offer a collection of over 300 books and media.

The new construction will include a canopy with sustainable outdoor furniture and free Wi-Fi to expand library services and encourage community gatherings in an outdoor environment.

Construction has already begun and is expected to be completed in the spring.

SMCL is currently exploring other locations for outposts to increase accessibility of library materials throughout the county.

San Mateo County launches bike and scooter share pilot program

San Mateo County’s City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) is launching a bike and scooter share program. This will allow community members to rent bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters from libraries, shopping centers, transit stops, and other locations.

C/CAG is looking to include more communities within the county and is

seeking feedback from residents, workers, and visitors of Redwood City, North Fair Oaks, Daly City, Broadmoor and Colma on future stations, program costs, and community needs.

To participate in the survey, visit bit.ly/SMCmobility4all. The survey is open until Feb. 5.

City of Menlo Park seeks feedback on aquatic programs

The city of Menlo Park is interested in hearing from residents about their needs and views on the city’s aquatic programs.

The city currently has one open aquatic center at Burgess Pool, 501 Laurel Ave. and one that has been temporarily closed for construction since 2021 at Belle Haven Pool, 100 Terminal Ave., which will be replaced with a new center by this summer.

Visit publicinput.com/mpaquatics2024 to take the survey.

Peninsula Clean Energy to freeze rate increase for customers in San Mateo County

Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) has voted to freeze its electricity rates until at least June 31, following PG&E’s announcement of a 15% rate increase.

PCE’s decision for a zero percent increase

will allow Peninsula Clean Energy customers to save 10 to 15% compared to PG&E.

Peninsula Clean Energy appears as a separate item on PG&E bills, replacing a higher charge from PG&E. Customers who receive power from Peninsula Clean Energy will still be charged by PG&E for the delivery of electricity and gas services.

For more information, go to PenCleanEnergy.com/lowerbill.

San Mateo County shines light on social and emotional well-being of educators

The County Office of Education and San Mateo County Health have partnered with TeachWell, a local service provider, to create Be Well, Teach Well. This is a new guidebook focused on adult social-emotional literacy (SEL).

The county recognizes that by helping educators develop SEL, school districts can promote the well-being of their educators, improve job retention and generate a thriving school community.

The guidebook was launched in January and offers research, best practices and recommended approaches for educators to maintain their well-being.

—Jennifer Yoshikoshi

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The Almanac

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Atherton, Portola Valley,
and Woodside for over 50 years

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Voter Guide: Measure E asks for \$36 million for repairs, upgrades at Woodside Elementary

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Within the town of Woodside, Measure E is an initiative that would authorize a \$36 million bond measure to fund repairs to Woodside Elementary School, including classroom repairs and a creek stabilization project. Voters have the choice to support this measure on the March 5 ballot.

The current state of the school is not up to code, according to school officials. With state requirements to expand transitional kindergarten (TK), the school lacks adequate classrooms to accommodate the enrollment of students, according to the district.

Superintendent Steve Frank and school board President Jenny Hayden say the funds would be used to stabilize a creek at the back of campus that has eroded, fix leaking roofs, update fire systems and HVAC units, improve classrooms, install solar panels and power backups for emergencies and add security cameras for safety.

"It's hard to attract good teachers without good facilities and teachers have the strongest impact on students," said Hayden. "Excellent facilities go hand in hand with excellent education."

Hayden explained that even with the growth of expenses, the school board has been able to increase their budget from \$10 million to \$15 million by increasing their reserve by 16% since she joined in 2019.

Despite effective budgeting techniques, the public school budget is not enough for long-term future planning to repair damages, they said. As the school's soccer field continues to fall away due to the creek erosion and 20- to 30-year-old roofs continue to leak, the district says the bond measure is the only thing that can cover these repair costs.

"Currently we have a budget of \$400,000 a year to repair these facilities for basic repairs, but



Magali Gauthier

Flooding has eroded the hillside at the back of the Woodside Elementary School campus.

we're running out," said Frank.

The creek stabilization is estimated to cost \$3 million and the remaining budget would be allocated towards building repairs, improvements and replacement of TK and kindergarten classrooms.

"This is a community school. Generations of families have sent their kids here," said Frank. "It's a gathering place and everyone in the community uses our facilities. It's a part of the hometown experience."

"Communities that invest in their school have shown to improve their property value," Hayden added.

Mark Hinkle, president of the Silicon Valley Taxpayer Association, writes in his rebuttal against Measure E that the district is asking for money to fund recurring maintenance expenses that should have been planned for in its annual budget.

"If you reward failure, you just get more failure," said Hinkle, as he had expected test scores from students at Woodside Elementary to be improving. He points out that in the 2017-18 school year 12.92% of students did not meet school standards and 17.58% did not meet school standards in 2021-22.

Frank responded that despite

these statistics, California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) scores for Woodside Elementary School are among the best in the state.

"For the 2022-23 school year, the English-Language Arts scores saw 82.4% of our students meeting or exceeding state standards, and the math scores saw 79.2% of our students meeting or exceeding state standards," wrote Frank in an email to The Almanac. "These numbers are well above the state averages and are a big reason why WES (Woodside Elementary School District) is ranked as the top elementary and middle school in San Mateo County."

With the measure asking for \$36 million, Hinkle explains that by the time the bond measure is paid off, high interest rates will amount to double the amount of the initial bond.

"Bond measures are like home mortgages. It's not just \$36 million, it's going to be \$72 million," said Hinkle. "For the kids who are graduating, their grandkids could be paying for that bond and they wouldn't benefit from that."

Find out more about the measure at smcacre.gov/elections. ■

PLATE READERS

continued from page 6

additional ALPR installations, two are planned to be installed by Alice's Restaurant and Kings Mountain Road. Bryant and the sheriff's department are in the process of identifying locations for additional ALPRs. Flock Safety is working to obtain permits from Caltrans.

Neighboring Atherton and

Portola Valley are also using ALPRs.

Quarterly reports will be released every three months to provide transparency on how the ALPR data is being used. For more information on ALPRs and usage policies visit woodsidesidestown.org. ■

Email Staff Writer Jennifer Yoshikoshi at jjoshikoshi@almanacnews.com.

LEHUA GREENMAN



"Whether you see your shadow or not, wishing you a happy Groundhog Day!"

650.245.1845 COMPASS

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



Good News May Be Coming for Coastal Property Owners

Dear Monica: I am selling my coastal property and an issue for buyers is beach erosion. Is there news on that front?
Anne G.

Dear Anne: The big storms last year and others before them caused some erosion to the beaches. There have been restrictions on sea walls in the past but there is a lawsuit pending near Half Moon Bay that may allow homeowners to protect their properties by building them. Here is a link to a recent article about this. <https://www.mercurynews.com/2024/01/07/ocean-waves-threatened-to-destroy-their-homes-state-officials-said-they-couldnt-build-a-sea-wall-how-their-lawsuit-could-reshape-californias-coastline-for-years-to-come/>. A decision in this important case should come down soon.

Contact me at monica@monicacorman.com: Office: 650-465-5971, COMPASS. WSJ Nationally Ranked. Real Trends Bay Area Top 100 Agents

Fire Marshal's Safety Corner

Vehicle Fires

Mechanical and electrical issues are one of the most common reasons for a vehicle fire. Here are some tips and tricks to safeguard yourself and your loved ones on the road.

Identify warning signs:

- Conduct routine maintenance on your vehicle to catch any problems beforehand
- Look for any loose wiring, or a blown fuse
- Watch for rapid changes or leaks in fluid/fuel levels

If your vehicle catches fire:

- Pull over quickly and safely
- Turn off the engine
- Evacuate the vehicle and move at least 100 feet away
- Stay clear of oncoming traffic and call 911

Fire Marshal's Safety Corner Event - February 14

For any information on fire and life safety, stop by at our pop-up Fire Marshal's Safety Corner event outside Philz Coffee at **506 Santa Cruz Avenue**

from **12:00pm-1:00pm** on **Wednesday, February 14th**.

Come meet the Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, and potentially see one of our fire engines.



www.MenloFire.org

Yum Cha Palace's alcohol license suspended for 25 days

The restaurant was previously in trouble for selling alcohol to a minor

By Joshua Picazo

Yum Cha Palace, a popular Chinese restaurant at 1039 El Camino Real in Menlo Park, recently had its alcohol license suspended, according to the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). A spokesperson for ABC said the suspension was the result of Menlo Park Police Department and ABC conducting a minor decoy operation on July 23, 2023.

The restaurant, which specializes in serving dim sum dishes, had its license suspended on

Jan. 24. The suspension will last 25 days, according to ABC's website.

ABC said that this was the second sale of alcoholic beverages to a minor, with a first violation occurring on Jan. 20, 2023.

Yum Cha Palace, which opened in January 2017 after the location had been vacant for years, was previously home to Su Hong, which closed in 2012 for renovations but never reopened.

This isn't the first time the restaurant has found itself in hot water recently.

On Oct. 2, 2023, Yum Cha

Palace was also closed by the Environmental Health Services for failure to correct a major violation. The California Retail Food Code violation that the agency said was not addressed at the time of the closure was a cockroach infestation.

Yum Cha Palace is currently operating at its normal hours.

Yum Cha Palace did respond to a request for comment by The Almanac's Wednesday afternoon press deadline. ■

Email Contributing Writer Joshua Picazo at joshuadpicazo@gmail.com.



Courtesy Andrea Gemmet

A sign notes that Yum Cha Palace, at 1039 El Camino Real in Menlo Park, had its liquor license suspended on Jan. 24.

Menlo Park sees increases to master fees, except for EV charging access

By Fan Chen

While fees for most public services are climbing in Menlo Park, the electric vehicle charging access fee was reduced by half, from \$1 to 50 cents.

The Menlo Park City Council unanimously adopted a new master fee schedule at a Tuesday, Jan. 9, meeting. The ordinance takes effect on Feb. 8.

Menlo Park has seen a steady increase in both the number and sales of electric vehicles, or EVs, in the past decade.

Last July, the first 500 of a targeted 3,500 chargers, part of a \$28 million San Mateo County program, were installed countywide.

According to the ordinance, the city has increased all meeting room rental fees at libraries, recreation centers, community



Angela Swartz

A Tesla plugged into an EV charger at Atherton Town Center on April 26, 2023.

campuses and gymnasiums by 5%. The hourly rate of Menlo Park Municipal Water (MPMW) service request fee outside

business hours was raised by 64% to \$266.

Non-residents pay more than residents for library and

community services fees, reflecting the discussion about affordability and priority at the Dec. 5 meeting, when the schedule was first introduced.

"We need to prioritize the Menlo Park residents who actually fund these facilities," Council member Betsy Nash said at a Dec. 5, 2023 meeting.

There is also a hyperlocal rate for recreation and sports services at certain facilities. It applies to residents who "live or attend K-12 school within the neighborhood service," the schedule reads.

"I like the idea of hyperlocal," Nash said. "It will touch a lot of people who may not need it. I guess it's better to be overinclusive than underinclusive on that."

At the Jan. 9 meeting, the City Council also introduced an amended aquatic fee schedule.

It will take effect on April 1 this year once approved.

The last time the City Council approved updates to the master fee schedule was in August 2022. The most recent cost of services study, which informs the fee structure, was presented in February 2018.

The city government aims at updating the cost of services study on at least a five-year basis, and expects to launch a new process this summer, according to Brittany Mello, the city's administrative services director. It means the current approved fee schedule will be effective until around March 2025, when another updated master fee structure is presented following the cost study.

The full master fee schedule can be accessed on the city website at menlopark.org. ■

LAWSUIT

continued from page 5

him and other students called "Senior Assassin." The filing states that other students were able to retrieve their water toys except for K.C.

Molieri clarified that "this was never a dispute over a 'gun.'"

The situation escalated when Emmi began to speak in a demeaning manner toward K.C., resulting in his emotional distress and frustration, according to the filing. This situation led another office administrator to call the police, informing the 911 operator that K.C. was a "mental health student" who was "easily triggered."

M-A administrators failed to involve a special education

teacher as the situation got out of hand, a requirement for staff in situations that involve an emotional disturbance episode, the filing claims.

'All these officers should face criminal charges for what they've done to these children.'

DAN MOLIERI, INVESTIGATOR FOR THE LAW OFFICES OF JOHN BURRIS

From the emotional distress, K.C. removed himself from the office and was approached by Atherton police at the bus stop while waiting alongside D.B. and other students. Police asked to speak to K.C. but

he informed the officer that he couldn't because he was a minor, the suit states.

After continuing to refuse arrest, K.C. was forcefully slammed to the ground and handcuffed while an officer pressed his knee into his back, the suit reports. K.C. had recently had a hernia surgery so the "harsh movements" were extremely painful for him, according to K.C.'s attorneys.

D.B., who was adamant about staying by K.C.'s side, was handcuffed and forced to sit on the ground while his friend was pinned to the floor, the suit states. D.B. remained seated at the bus stop while K.C. was taken to the police station and was released upon an explanation on why he was detained.

The suit also alleges that K.C.'s confidential school behavior reports were acquired by the town of Atherton without a search warrant or the consent of K.C. and his guardians.

Prior reports made by the police department on a news bulletin, stated that K.C. "physically assaulted a school administrator by pushing them into a cubicle wall, tried to push the administrator's glasses off their face, spit on them, and called them derogatory homophobic slurs."

According to the student's attorneys, at no point did K.C. touch or spit at Emmi or anyone else in the office.

"False statements create credibility questions and you can't trust them," said John Burris, the plaintiff's

attorney. "Police officers will do anything to justify their conduct." As parties in the lawsuit, Atherton Police Department and Sequoia Union High School District declined to comment on the Jan. 26 filing.

"All these officers should face criminal charges for what they've done to these children," said Molieri, who compares this incident to the indictment of Antioch and Pittsburg police officers in 2023. Molieri said that school officials and police have committed federal offenses by making false police reports and harming a minority child with special needs. ■

Email Staff Writer Jennifer Yoshikoshi at jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com.

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Local organizations awarded grants by Peninsula Clean Energy

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Peninsula Clean Energy awarded 16 local community organizations with grants totalling \$530,000, each ranging from \$20,000 to \$45,000, according to a Wednesday, Jan. 24, press release from the San Mateo County community choice energy program. Funds were awarded to increase customer outreach about utility bill discounts and other clean energy program benefits.

The organizations will work with Peninsula Clean Energy to outreach to seniors, faith communities and youth about how to save on energy bills, electrifying homes and rebates on

electric vehicles. Outreach will also be in Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Tongan, Samoan and Tagalog.

“Peninsula Clean Energy’s programs, lower rates and bill assistance reach far and wide, including some of our most diverse and vulnerable communities,” said Redwood City Councilmember Elmer Martinez Saballos, who is also a member of Peninsula Clean Energy’s board of directors, in the release. “We must effectively communicate these opportunities and benefits to our customers through local organizations they trust.”

Some of the 16 organizations selected are in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Redwood City and

Menlo Park, including:

‘Anamatangi Polynesian Voices, which will conduct outreach in Tongan and Samoan communities in East Palo Alto and assist with enrollment in energy discounts. Its mission supports education, health and heritage preservation for Pacific Islander communities.

350 Silicon Valley, a volunteer nonprofit dedicated to climate justice, which will educate San Mateo County residents on the climate and health benefits of home electrification.

Nuestra Casa, a grassroots organization that works to serve the Latino population of East Palo Alto, will promote Peninsula Clean Energy programs and utility bill discounts

in both Spanish and English.

Acterra will assist customers with understanding the benefits of home electrification, benefits of electric vehicles and enrolling in incentive programs. The Palo Alto-based nonprofit is aimed at promoting local solutions for a healthier planet.

California Interfaith Power & Light, which works to reach faith communities through electric cooking demos, electric vehicle showcases and through partnerships with congregations in the county.

El Concilio, which helps low-income and underserved communities in the county, will help customers lower their utility bills through assistance

programs and discounts throughout the county.

Climate Resilient Communities will work to engage communities in Belle Haven, East Palo Alto and North Fair Oaks through workshops, focus groups and electric vehicle showcases.

Thrive Alliance, a network of nonprofits aimed at supporting organizations in economic and social health, will engage nonprofit and community leaders in the county about home electrification and health, energy discounts and Peninsula Clean Energy. ■

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Findings released on deaths of two prisoners last year at main jail

By Bay City News

Information about the deaths of two prisoners over a span of two days last year at San Mateo County’s main jail was released Jan. 25 by county officials.

The deaths of Peter Edward McLaughlin and

Ronald Simmons at Maguire Correction Facility in Redwood City were unrelated, San Mateo County officials said.

McLaughlin, 64, of Pacifica, died of an undiagnosed cancerous brain tumor, according to investigations by the San Mateo County District Attorney’s Office and the

San Mateo County Coroner’s Office.

He was found unresponsive about 4:15 a.m. on Oct. 20, alone in his cell, by jail officers during a routine check.

Officers began lifesaving measures until medical staff arrived, but McLaughlin was pronounced dead by Redwood

City Fire Department and EMS staff.

Simmons, 34, of San Bruno, died by suicide, the coroner and district attorney determined. He was found unresponsive about 9:18 p.m. on Oct. 21, alone in his cell during a routine check. Lifesaving efforts were started until medical staff

arrived, but the prisoner died.

“The well-being and safety of those in our custody is our highest priority. We extend our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Simmons,” said San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus. ■

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Teen raises funds for shelter animals through photo exhibit

Jai Wadhvani of Palo Alto wants to raise \$7,500 for two local shelters

By Ashwini Gangal

When 17-year-old Jai Wadhvani points his camera at his subjects, they don't say cheese. They might stare back, saunter away, hide or simply ignore him. On the rare occasion, they may growl.

For a year and a half, Wadhvani, a student at Palo Alto High School, has been photographing rescue dogs, cats and horses. And around 15-20 of his best pictures will be on display at the Rinconada Library on Feb. 4, from 2-3 p.m. to support local animal shelters.

It is a free event. The photos are for sale, though. And all proceeds will be donated to two animal shelters — Pets In Need, a local nonprofit that rescues and re-homes dogs and cats, and Sunrise Horse Rescue, a Calistoga-based establishment that looks after abused and abandoned horses.

"I'm trying to raise \$7,500 for both," Wadhvani said. He has already crossed the halfway mark. Wadhvani sells private photoshoots with pets in their



Courtesy Jai Wadhvani

A cat curiously peers around a corner.

homes and in parks, charging anywhere from \$50 for 30 minutes to \$165 for two hours.

"So we're on the way toward the goal," he said.

The photos are of varying sizes, ranging from 8-by-8-inch frames to 22-by-30-inch ones. Prices are based on size. "The bigger ones would be anywhere between \$75-\$100," he said.

What prompted this busy high-schooler to take on a

time-consuming project like this? He said it's a great way to combine his love for animals and passion for photography.

The story runs a tad deeper, though.

Wadhvani always wanted a dog. In 2021, when his family decided to finally adopt one, they started the process by visiting a few animal shelters. His family ended up getting an Australian labradoodle, Milo.

Because of his mom and sister's allergies, they didn't adopt him from a shelter. Still, when searching for a dog, Wadhvani saw how "the condition in the shelters was pretty poor. I saw lines and lines of animals in their cages. It was lonely, unsanitary," he said. "I knew, since I love animals, that this wasn't right."

That's when he decided to take matters into his own hands. "I thought I could make a change using my passion for photography — that I could maybe take some photos of local shelter animals and help raise awareness and help make a change in these animals' lives," Wadhvani said.

His journey with photography began in the fifth grade when he got his first camera. "It was a small, digital camera, nothing too fancy. Back then, I just used it to take photos of my friends, my family, to capture moments ... I did that for a couple of years and really started to like it," he said.

It was between the seventh and eighth grades that he got his first "real camera." Currently, he uses Canon EOS R and Canon

EOS R5. He takes out a prime lens for animals that can stay still during the process and a zoom lens for energetic animals who can't.

So Wadhvani set out to photograph animals around Palo Alto.

Wadhvani's learned about Sunrise Horse Rescue, a non-profit horse shelter in Calistoga, thanks to a friend who rides.

"Horses who're too old to race anymore and who don't have a purpose anymore go to these shelters so that they can live out the rest of their lives with care," he said. This care costs the shelter between \$6,000 and \$10,000 a year per horse. "I reached out to them, and their team was really supportive. They seem to care a lot about what they do, so I thought it would be a good fit."

Wadhvani finds horses easier to photograph than dogs and cats.

"Horses are usually more calm, they stand still. I've seen some pretty, like, excited, rowdy dogs," he said. That the horses' care-takers usually get photographed with them helps. "They

See **SHELTER ANIMALS**, page 13

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Metropolitan Transportation Commission to put Bay Area revenue measure on future ballot

By Bay City News

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Bay Area's regional transportation financing and planning agency, is looking to put a measure on a future ballot that could generate at least \$1 billion per year.

The money would be raised by the MTC using one or more different options, including a sales tax, income tax or payroll tax, among other possibilities.

"Voters traditionally have supported transportation through bridge tolls or sales taxes," said MTC chair and Napa County Supervisor Alfredo Pedroza. "Bridge tolls are not an option in this case and we think it's smart to look at more than a regional sales tax. We're proposing a few options so we have enough flexibility and enough time to get it right."

The funds could be spent on things like road repair and safety projects and improving



James Tensuan

Traffic backed up on northbound Highway 101 at Shoreline Boulevard.

public transit systems.

The measure would have to win voter approval and could be on a ballot as early as 2026, MTC officials said in a news release Wednesday.

In order for the MTC to put such a measure on a ballot in all nine Bay Area counties,

they also need state lawmakers to pass enabling legislation, which state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, has already introduced.

Wiener's Senate Bill 925 can be amended with details about how such a measure would work as early as mid-February. ■

SHELTER ANIMALS

continued from page 12

are able to control and kind of move the horse around."

In contrast, photographing cats is "tricky." For starters, unlike dogs, they're not as easy to win over with a bag of treats. But it's mostly about their personality.

"Cats are pretty shy, they want to hide. It's usually more difficult for the owners to get the cats to come out or sit still for a second. They're definitely the most difficult animal to photograph."

A case in point is Wadhvani's

experience photographing a yellow-eyed cat that's on the cover of his exhibit. The cat is one of three in a house that also has two dogs. They belong to a Palo Alto-based family known to Wadhvani through his little sister. Of the bunch, only one cat is featured in the exhibition.

"The cats were very, very scared of me. They kept on hiding; there was really nothing we could do to get them out," he said. "I only saw them taking peeks around corners, around the walls, because they were curious about what I was doing ... it was pretty challenging."

Well, challenging as the task may be, Wadhvani said he's continuing to hone his skills every day. What is now an after school and weekend activity might just become his profession in the future.

"I don't really have set plans, but I think I'm going to continue photography through college. It's really interesting, it's really fun," he said.

At any rate, he's got Milo to practice on. ■

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HOUSING ELEMENT

continued from page 1

on this, the HCD approved the minimum of one acre.

"The thing that HCD is trying to achieve with this change in the Opt-In program is they are trying to achieve housing mobility," said Biggs during the presentation. "In other words, opening up our single-family residential neighborhoods to others that may not necessarily have an opportunity to live in these neighborhoods."

HCD was pushing for the town to adopt programs that would "go beyond SB 9," the state's 2022 duplex law enacted in 2022 that allows property owners to split

their lots and build up to four homes. The reviewer also asked to see the town's zoning code to certify the housing element.

According to an HCD compliance report, the only jurisdictions in San Mateo County that currently have fully state-approved housing elements are Redwood City, South San Francisco and Brisbane. The

state conditionally approved Menlo Park's plan in December.

Read the housing element document online under "Housing element update for 2023-2031" at portolavalley.net/departments/planning-building-department. ■

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OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include:

Cecil "Chip" Barnes IV, 77, who found his calling early on at the Palo Alto Children's Theater, graduated from Palo Alto High School and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo before finding a career in computer engineering, and who never shied away from adventure, earning his solo pilot license and scuba diving certificate, on Jan. 4.

Karla Lacey, 65, who was a prolific reader, senior business executive and dedicated mother, and who found her zest for life working internationally and tirelessly showing up for her two daughters and her Los Altos community as a committed volunteer,

died on Nov. 7.

Patricia Miller, 93, who spent 65 years in Menlo Park with her doors wide open to others, and who was known for her sense of humor, quick wit and devotion to Catholicism and to giving back to her community, on Jan. 8.

Ann Goby, 85, who spent most of her life in Indiana as a dedicated nurse and animal lover before retiring in Palo Alto, and who was always ready to lend a helping hand to neighbors, friends and family, on Jan. 24.

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

Patricia Sullivan Miller

May 2, 1930 – January 8, 2024

Patricia Sullivan Miller of Menlo Park, California, 93, passed away peacefully on January 8, 2024. Patricia was born in Glendale, CA and resided in Menlo Park for 65 years. Patricia received an academic scholarship to Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles and began a career as a teacher in LA. She met her husband, Lowell, in Los Angeles and they moved to the Bay Area. Patricia and Lowell together founded a private ophthalmological medical practice associated with Stanford Hospital. Lowell predeceased Patricia in 1995.

Patty was a wonderful, wife, mother, sister, mother-in-law, godmother, grandmother, great grandmother and true friend, known for her sense of humor and quick wit. "How can I help you?", "What can I do for you?" were common phrases often spoken by her. Patricia was deeply devoted to her Catholic faith. She was an extremely kind and very loving person who carried herself with tremendous beauty, grace, dignity and class. She set an amazing example for how to treat and care for others and always made room at the dinner table for unexpected guests. Patty enjoyed playing tennis, was an avid gardener, amazing cook and loved to entertain and volunteer. She was as a member of St. Raymond Mother's Club, Bellarmine Mother's Club, Ladera Oaks Swim and Tennis Club, Stanford University Medical Center Auxiliary and volunteered for many local nonprofits.

Patty will be dearly missed by her children Kevin Miller, Mark Miller, Tom Miller, Mary Miller Bohannon (Scott), Lisa Miller, Dan Miller (Brianna), and Matt Miller (Julia). She will also be missed by her grandchildren Sarah Bohannon (Jason Lowenthal), Christine Bohannon (Joey Coleman), Ryan Miller, Danielle Miller and Wyatt Miller; in addition to her great grandchildren, Chloe and Brady; and her loving sisters Nancy Chaix and Sally Pernecky; plus many nieces, nephews and friends. The family celebrated Patty's life privately at a funeral mass, and ask that remembrances of her be shared fondly by a kind word or gesture to others.

PAID OBITUARY

UNHOUSED

continued from page 1

Highway 101 in a cul-de-sac off of Veterans Boulevard used to be filled with RVs, in which people were living.

On Jan. 25, Callagy noticed the site was clear.

“I think this is a result of the Safe Parking program that Redwood City had,” said Callagy.

The city allowed the people in the area to park their vehicles in a city-owned parking lot, and then they worked with them to find them housing, he added.

As encampments dissipate, it’s a sign of progress, Callagy said. But in areas like Seaport Boulevard, the site continues to grow with makeshift shacks and people’s belongings.

In 2011, the one-day count recorded roughly 1,800 people. By 2013, the count rose to its peak: 2,000. Between 2015 and 2019, homelessness in the county fell to an average of 1,400 people. After the pandemic, in 2022, the homeless count recorded 1,800 people, according to the county’s website.

Callagy said he hopes the results from this year’s one-day

count falls to 1,200. According to the county, the results from this year’s count will be published on its website around this summer.

By the break of dawn on Jan. 25, Callagy noticed two individuals, Jerry and Scott, outside their encampment off Veterans Boulevard near the freight line tracks, only a few feet from the Highway 101 overpass.

Callagy approached the men to speak. They discussed how they became unhoused and asked them what they needed to help them get into housing.

One of the men, Jerry, who has been homeless for more than five years, said he built the wooden structure in which he lives. He sealed it with caulking to protect it from the outside elements. It has steps leading to the door, a barbecue, and a propane grill. Callagy noted that Jerry is a talented builder.

Callagy asked Jerry why he didn’t stay in a shelter.

Jerry said he has been in and out of jail and struggled with drug use. But shelters such as the Navigation Center have strict rules and curfews he doesn’t want to abide by. He also said that he felt like every time he went into a shelter, he was arrested for an outstanding warrant, which led him to believe the shelter was calling the police on him.

Scott, who lives in the same area, used to work and live in San Francisco. Over a few months, his drug use caused him to lose his home, he said. While he doesn’t like living on the street, there isn’t any other option, he said.

He said he has a hard time sleeping because he is worried about thieves and transients setting his shelter on fire. He also said he used to love working, but once he relapsed, he stopped doing anything, adding it’s no way to live.

Moscoco said she believes LifeMoves will need to continue to help its clients understand why they are using drugs; it could potentially help get them off the streets.



Magali Gauthier

San Mateo County Executive Officer Mike Callagy speaks with media during the county’s One Day Homeless Count in Redwood City on Jan. 25.

“And help them pick up healthier habits,” Moscoso said.

The county has purchased three hotels, which it will transform into permanent supportive housing, and built four housing developments for the same cause. It has also built the Navigation Center, a temporary shelter in Redwood City, according to its website.

Jerry also added that his transition from the Maguire Correctional Facility wasn’t good. He said he didn’t receive any assistance and was thrown back out onto the street to fend for himself.

Callagy responded by saying the county needs to do better.

“These are real lives on the street, and they don’t want to live like this,” Callagy said later in the afternoon to the Pulse. “They aren’t living; they are surviving, and that gets tiresome, and that takes a lot of energy to survive.”

The one-day count volunteers use cataloged locations in a database to find unhoused people. Outreach team members, like Moscoso, help find sites and contact people.

“That’s really where the system’s flaw is,” Callagy said. “Where the (outreach team) will be going back to this location and checking on the occupants, trying to get them in the system and getting the services they need.”

Callagy would like to see the homeless count happen more frequently. He wants outreach teams, composed of employees like Moscoso, to count and make contact with people experiencing homelessness every month. He’d also like the teams to bridge the gap between the street and the shelter instead of just counting occupied sites or vehicles.

Moscoco said the unhoused need a support network to lean into, and that’s what LifeMoves has dedicated its work toward.

“One of my favorite quotes, ‘The most common way people give up their power, is by thinking they don’t have any,’ by Ellis Walker. And many of our clients feel that way, that they don’t have the power to make those moves, to change their lives around,” Moscoso said. “So that’s our job, to instill that hope.” ■

‘I am going to try to get the outreach team out here and in the area, so they will know you, know who you are, know your situation, and find you opportunities to get you off the street.’

SAN MATEO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER MIKE CALLAGY

The one-day count is just the beginning of a more extensive outreach program Callagy envisions.

“I am going to try to get the outreach team out here and in the area, so they will know you, know who you are, know your situation, and find you opportunities to get you off the street,” Callagy said to Jerry.

William J. Massey, Jr

February 28, 1942 – January 14, 2024

William James Massey, Jr., known as Jim, passed away quietly at home January 14 at the age of 81. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and a wonderful friend to all. He was born February 28, 1942 to William J. Massey, Sr. and Emma Jean Massey in Belleview PA. Although his family moved several times, he grew up for the most part in Cleveland, Ohio until he moved to Atherton at age 16. He went to Menlo Atherton High School where he was on the swim team, played football and made many lifelong friends. He attended Menlo College (BA) and Santa Clara University (MBA). In high school, he met Judy Durbin in the Menlo Park Foster Freeze parking lot, and after seven years of courtship they married in 1967. In the 70’s he started a data processing company which employed over 1,000 people. He sold the company and became international sales VP at another electronics company. In 1983 he started a new company so he could be involved in his children’s lives, and he was. He attended all of his children’s lacrosse games, football games, swim meets and water polo matches. He later became a real estate agent and then retired. Jim enjoyed big game hunting and bird hunting with his father, wife, son and friends over the years. He enjoyed house boating and water skiing with family and friends and was a long time die hard 49ers fan. He was an avid reader, of just about everything, and was very involved in the Redwood City Chamber of Commerce and Sequoia YMCA Board of Directors. He enjoyed contributing to the community of Atherton through serving on several committees: Holbrook Palmer Park Foundation, Finance Committee, Rail Committee and attended council meetings regularly. He was a very direct person when speaking, not afraid to express his very well informed opinion, and had an inquisitive mind. He had a full and happy life and is survived by his wife of 56 years, Judy, daughter Erin, son James and wife Cristina and grandsons Matteo and Jackson, as well as sisters-in-law Sally Durbin, Peggy Abdo, Joyce Durbin, Donna Durbin and brothers-in-law Rick Durbin, Rob Durbin and many loving nephews and nieces. We will all miss our beloved Jim.



Funeral Services will be held at: Alta Mesa Memorial Park, 695 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306 on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 2:00pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to an organization very close to Jim’s heart: Sequoia YMCA, 1445 Hudson Street, Redwood, CA 94061 <https://giving.yמצasv.org/team/531462> (Please specify Sequoia YMCA)

PAID OBITUARY



Magali Gauthier

A shelter along train tracks in Redwood City is spotted during the county’s One Day Homeless Count on Jan. 25.

Email Staff Writer Nicholas Mazzoni at nmazzoni@rwcpulse.com.

Apple Mac celebrates 40-year anniversary at Computer History Museum in Mountain View

Tech event shares stories from the original makers of the Mac, and its enduring cultural legacy

By Emily Margaretten

In a packed room of Apple enthusiasts, a group with rockstar status — the original makers of the Macintosh — celebrated the 40-year history of the desktop computer that launched an entirely new way of interacting with the digital world.

From the get go, the sold-out event, which took place at the Computer History Museum on Jan. 24, delighted the crowd. The program, “Insanely Great: The Apple Mac at 40,” featured a star-studded cast of about a dozen panelists that included members of the computer’s original hardware, software, design and marketing teams. The audience was equally distinguished with several tech luminaries, including Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, seated in the second row.

David Pogue, a tech journalist and author, moderated the discussion, eliciting stories from panelists who spoke about the early history and culture of the company, and some of the challenges they encountered in its quest for greatness.

Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, who died in 2011, loomed large in these stories, with many panelists crediting him as their motivation for sticking with difficult yet intrinsically

fulfilling work.

“Steve had a way of motivating, and his motivation was, ‘Come here and help to change the world for the better.’ He called it, ‘Making a dent in the world,’” said Bill Atkinson, a computer engineer who was part of the original Mac development team.

To make this dent, however, required a lot of dedication and hard work. The panelists described Jobs as both inspiring and, at times, incredibly demanding with his “reality distortion field” and cutting criticisms.

Picking up on this point, Pogue asked whether this was the hallmark of visionaries. “There are people like that who have achieved amazing things that people say nobody else could have. How essential is it to have a bipolar (personality),” he said to the audience’s laughter. “Like seriously, is that the requisite to shaking up the world like that?” he asked.

Susan Kare, a graphic designer who worked on the Mac, pushed back on some of these characterizations, and described Jobs’ positivity and his ability to connect with people working in many different spheres.

“I haven’t met that many people who are able to contribute across such a wide band and who can go to the factory and have some ideas,” she said,

adding that Jobs also had specific ideas about typefaces and software.

Jobs’ exacting attention to detail was remarked on by other panelists too. He wanted to make personal desktop computers that would be easy to use and accessible to the average person. But it also had to be elegant, not just another functional machine, but something beautifully designed inside and out, Atkinson said.

The artistry differentiated the Mac from other computers at the time. To make this explicit, Jobs had the core team write their signatures, which then were engraved inside the casing of the original Macs. Jobs pushed the team to take pride in their work, just like artists, Atkinson said.

Still, the development of the computer involved a lot of “trial and error and things that didn’t stick,” according to Atkinson. The same could be said of the company’s strategies to get Macs into the hands of users. It was up against a behemoth competitor, IBM, that had cornered the market share of the industry.

Right before the launch of the computer, Apple embarked on an advertising blitz, releasing a 1984 Super Bowl commercial that showed a woman shattering a massive screen with a sledgehammer, in a kind of dystopian

David and Goliath moment. An instant success, the commercial helped catapult the little-known computer into a household name.

The focus on norm-shattering became part of the company’s brand and was solidified in later advertisements with its slogan, “Think Different.”

Tech journalist Steven Levy, who covered Apple early on in Rolling Stone, referred to some of these cultural inflection points, and to the enduring legacy of the Mac.

“The very first time I saw a machine and was able to interact with it and produce a folder and open it and words appeared like they would

appear on a page, that was amazing,” Levy said.

“There it was on the screen, and interacting with stuff and moving the cursor around, I now could interact with the digital world. And that’s the way it is a thousand times a day now, and we don’t even think about it,” he added.

A mini pop-up exhibit of Mac artifacts is on display at the Computer History Museum until Feb. 25. More information about the exhibit, Hello: Apple Mac @40, is available at tinyurl.com/Mac-exhibit. ■

Email Staff Writer Emily Margaretten at mmargaretten@mv-voice.com.



Magali Gauthier

Prototype #4 of the original Mac is on view in the “Hello: The Apple Mac @ 40” exhibit at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View on Jan. 24.

Notice of Vacancy - Independent Civilian Advisory Commission on the Sheriff's Office (NEW COMMISSION):

President of the Board of Supervisors Warren Slocum announced that applications are being accepted for appointment to the Independent Civilian Advisory Commission on the Sheriff's Office. To be eligible for nomination, you must apply. Members representing specified supervisorial districts must be residents of that district. Consideration shall be given to applicant's background and community involvement to the extent relevant to fulfillment of Commission's mission. No members may be County employees or sworn peace officers. To find your district, visit <https://www.smcgov.org/bos> and enter your address into the map on that page under the section “Find Your District”. All members must be residents of San Mateo County. **There are currently nine (9) vacancies consisting of seven (7) Members and two (2) Alternates:** One (1) District 1 Member, nominated by District 1 Supervisor One (1) District 2 Member, nominated by District 2 Supervisor One (1) District 3 Member, nominated by District 3 Supervisor One (1) District 4 Member, nominated by District 4 Supervisor One (1) District 5 Member, nominated by District 5 Supervisor One (1) At-Large Member, nominated by the Sheriff One (1) At-Large Member, nominated by the Commission's Board Liaisons Two (2) At-Large Alternates, nominated by the Commissions Board Liaisons The San Mateo County Independent Civilian Oversight Commission on the Sheriff's Office will advise the Board of Supervisors in its effort to facilitate public transparency, accountability, and public engagement with respect to the Sheriff's Office. It will provide a public forum for input from the community regarding the Sheriff's Office, develop and implement an annual work plan, and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission includes seven voting members and two alternates, of which five members are nominated by each Supervisor and resides in their respective districts; one member is nominated by the Sheriff, and the remaining one member and two alternates will be at-large and nominated by the two Board liaisons. Selected non-voting members of the Sheriff's CARE program and one non-voting member of the Youth Commission will serve as liaisons. All nominations will be subject to the approval of the full Board of Supervisors. Meetings are to be held at least four (4) times per year. As this is a new body, dates and location are yet to be determined. **Deadline for receiving applications is Friday, February 23, 2024 at 5:00 PM** and can be submitted online at <https://www.smcgov.org/bnc/application-independent-civilian-advisory-commission-sheriffs-office> or obtained from Sherry Golestan, Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 400 County Center, Redwood City, sgolestan@smcgov.org. Please visit <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/independent-civilian-advisory-commission-sheriffs-office> for more information. For information about this release contact Sherry Golestan, Deputy Clerk of the Board, at sgolestan@smcgov.org. For information about this Commission please contact Adam Ely, Deputy County Executive, at aely@smcgov.org or (650) 363-4123.

2/2/24

CNS-377467#

THE ALMANAC

Public Notices

PENINSULA FOOD SERVICES INC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296228

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

1.) PENINSULA FOOD SERVICES INC, located at 120 Glenn Way, Unit 6, San Carlos, CA 94070, San Mateo.

Registered owner(s):
PENINSULA FOOD SERVICE INC.
120 Glenn Way, Unit 6
San Carlos, CA 94070

State of Incorporation/Organization:
California

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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 January 03, 2024.

(ALM Jan 12, 19, 26 and Feb 2, 2024)

PENINSULA LACTATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296261

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

1.) PENINSULA LACTATION, located at 12 Berenda Way, Menlo Park, CA 94028.

Registered owner(s):
FORTY DAYS MIDWIFERY, INC
12 Berenda Way
Menlo Park, CA 94028

State of Incorporation/Organization:
California

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on September 16, 2023.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 08, 2024.

(ALM Feb 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

LA TAPATIA NEVERIA PALETERIA Y RASPADOS R&C
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: 296314

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

1.) LA TAPATIA NEVERIA PALETERIA Y RASPADOS R&C, located at 2398 University Ave, East Palo Alto, CA, 94303. Mailing Address: 443 Center Street, Redwood City, CA 94061.

Registered owner(s):
SEBASTIAN ESCOBEDO
443 Center St
Redwood City, CA, 94061

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/23.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 12, 2024.

(ALM Jan 26, Feb 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

ELIO ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296313

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

1.) ELIO ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES, located at 2108 N ST, STE N, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816, SAN MATEO COUNTY.

Registered owner(s):
SOL SCIENTIFIC LLC
2108 N ST, STE N
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/12/2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 13, 2024.

(ALM Jan 19, 26, Feb 2 and 9, 2024)

MR G HANDYMAN
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296389

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

1.) MR G HANDYMAN, located at 3706 ROLLISON RD, #3, REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063.

Registered owner(s):
GONZALO HERNANDEZ
3706 ROLLISON ROAD #3
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.

Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/23/2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 23, 2024.

(ALM Feb 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

TECH BIZ ADVISORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296263

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

1.) TECH BIZ ADVISORS, located at 14 Somerset Ct, Belmont, CA 94002.

Registered owner(s):
LAURENT K. GHARDA
14 Somerset Ct
Belmont, CA 94002

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.

Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/1/2023.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on January 08, 2024.

(ALM Jan 26, Feb 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 23CIV06120

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Cara Patricia Vistnes filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
CARA PATRICIA VISTNES to CARA PATRICIA DOVE

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: 03/04/2024, 9:00am, 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: 01/04/2024

Hessen Ladcani
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jan 26, Feb 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 24CIV00251

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Brooke Dorothy Weisenfluh filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
BROOKE DOROTHY WEISENFLUH to BROOKE WEISENFLUH TEBOE

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: 03/18/2024, 9:00 am, Southern Branch: Hall of Justice and Records, Dept. 17, Room 2K 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: 01/17/2024
Hon. Elizabeth K. Lee
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Feb 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Case No.: 24-CIV-00017

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Juan Angel Almanza-Pulido filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
JUAN ANGEL ALMANZA-PULIDO to JUAN ANGEL PULIDO

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: 03/11/2024, 9:00 AM, Superior Court Of San Mateo County 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: 01/09/2024
Hessen Ladcani
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jan 26, Feb 2, 9 and 16, 2024)



Nicholas Mazzoni

Martin Castro, father of victim Karina Castro, hugs Maya Castro Tuesday, Jan. 30, after Jose Rafael Solano Landaeta was sentenced to 26 years to life in prison.

SWORD SLAYER

continued from page 5

Castro's two children, one of whom, Landaeta, is the father.

Prosecutor Josh Stauffer said Landaeta was previously convicted of domestic violence and that Castro had a restraining order on him to protect her from the violence he committed.

Leading up to the attack

Landaeta left his job feeling sick, went to his home in Hayward to retrieve his sword, and attacked Castro, who was around her car when he arrived. Landaeta beheaded

Castro walked away from the scene and placed the bloody sword in his car, which was parked two blocks away, according to the district attorney's office. He was found guilty of first-degree murder after a two-week trial that ended in November.

Mya Castro said the death of her sister has weighed heavily on her and her family, specifically her children, and she struggles to find the right words to explain what happened to their aunt.

"We are not whole. We never will be again," Mya Castro, Karina Castro's sister, said during Tuesday's proceedings.

After Tuesday's hearing, Martin Castro, Karina and Mya Castro's father shared a moment outside of the courtroom as he hugged Mya Castro as she held a picture of Karina Castro. Martin Castro cried in his daughter's arms.

Stauffer said Landaeta was fearful that his prior conviction of sexually assaulting an unconscious 15-year-old girl would become public, so he killed Castro.

"The shame of that act caused the defendant so much concern and fear that it would become public," Stauffer said. "It was one of the reasons that he brutally murdered Karina Castro because he was afraid she would release that information to the public."

Stauffer said that Landaeta, on several occasions, tried to hide behind his mental illness as a shield to have his trial thrown out.

"He still takes no responsibility for his actions. In the probation report, he now seems to indicate that somebody else may have killed Karina Castro," Stauffer said. "He has no remorse. He demonstrated no remorse." ■

Email Staff Writer Nicholas Mazzoni at nmazzoni@rwcpulse.com.



Nicholas Mazzoni

Jose Rafael Landaeta was sentenced to 26 years to life in prison on Tuesday, Jan. 30.

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

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

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit [AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices/](https://www.almanacnews.com/legal_notices/)

For assistance email LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com.

Gavin Newsom raised millions for his mental health ballot measure. His opponents have \$1,000

By CalMatters

Gov. Gavin Newsom has amassed more than \$14.2 million in a campaign war chest for his hallmark mental health initiative, which will appear on the March 5 primary ballot, a sum that eclipses the resources of the measure's opponents.

He's drawing from longtime allies in health care, unions and tribes to fund the campaign for Proposition 1, which would issue \$6.4 billion in bonds to pay for housing and treatment facilities while also redistributing money raised for mental health services through a tax on high earners.

In contrast, the Californians Against Proposition 1 campaign raised a mere \$1,000, according to campaign finance records. Newsom's opponents mostly are small mental health providers and current users of the mental health system that fear losing resources if voters pass the measure.

To the opponents, this David vs. Goliath matchup represents a fight to save community services, like crisis response teams and peer counseling.

Paul Simmons, director of Californians Against Prop. 1, said opponents include groups "that are actually going to be affected" should the measure pass.

"We are generally the consumer," Simmons said. "A lot of us are white collar professionals, a lot of us are on the verge of homelessness. We're a broad range, but we're not the people that are going to give \$20,000 or a million dollars."

But the powerful Yes On 1 campaign, including Newsom, counters that opponents are propping up a broken system that doesn't reach those with the most critical needs.

"Prop. 1 has a broad and diverse coalition...because it will finally fix our broken mental health care system and move people permanently off the streets, out of tents and into treatment," the Yes On 1 campaign told CalMatters in a statement. "That's why first responders, mental health professionals, doctors, nurses, veteran groups and more support the measure, unlike the opposition which is funded by extremists who want to maintain the status quo."

Newsom and supporters tout the proposition as a potential solution to the state's dual opioid and homelessness crises. According to their estimates the bond would build 4,350 housing

units, with roughly half set aside for veterans, as well as 6,800 mental health and addiction disorder treatment slots.

Researchers estimate California has a shortage of roughly 8,000 in-patient adult treatment beds. More than 171,000 Californians live on the streets, 6% of whom are veterans.

Newsom, who has championed mental health reform more than any other governor in recent history, says the state has invested a total of \$28 billion in the system during his tenure.

Sen. Susan Eggman, a Democrat from Stockton and former social worker, authored part of the legislation that created Prop. 1. She said the measure will provide the final funding and infrastructure to complete California's mental health transformation.

"We have tried to patch all of those holes, recreated the system, and this is the final piece," Eggman said during a January campaign event. "Californians really want to do something about the crisis they see every day on their streets and be able to feel proud about where they live and how we treat the least of us."

Hospitals, unions and tribes give to Newsom's Prop. 1

Some of California's largest health care companies put money on the line in support of Newsom's ballot measure. Sutter Health cut a check for \$1.15 million, Kaiser Permanente donated \$1 million and the California Hospital Association, representing hospitals across the state, contributed another \$1 million.

Carmela Coyle, president of the California Hospital Association, said emergency departments are currently the one of the only options for people suffering a behavioral health crisis. Frequently patients languish in emergency rooms for days and even weeks waiting for mental health treatment beds to open.

"Proposition 1 will provide the resources necessary to build a better system for the millions of Californians with behavioral health needs," Coyle said.

Prop. 1 comes on the heels of several other seismic changes to the state's mental health system. These changes include the launch of Newsom's CARE Court system for people with serious mental illness and dramatic eligibility changes for conservatorship that are expected to result in more people being

placed in involuntary treatment. CARE Court established a process for family members, clinicians and law enforcement to petition a court to compel people with untreated serious mental illness into a treatment program.

Many of the big ticket donors are long-time Newsom supporters. The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria contributed the single largest donation at \$1.5 million, making the tribe, which operates the Graton Casino in southern Sonoma County, one of the largest campaign contributors across all of the state races this election cycle. It has cut big checks for Newsom before, including contributing \$750,000 to help him defeat the 2021 campaign to recall him.

The State Building and Construction Trade Council is another million-dollar contributor. Chris Hannan, president of the group, said the investment is worth it. "Trades members are well-skilled and positioned to help the state build out the mental health facilities as well as the housing," he said.

In other words, this proposition means jobs for union members.

The final contributor donating at least seven figures is another regular Newsom supporter The state prison guard union, the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, donated \$1 million for Prop. 1. Glen Stailey, president of the association, said his members have a lot at stake.

"Correctional officers experience firsthand the failures of our mental health system every single day," he said in a written statement to CalMatters. "With this investment, [we are demonstrating our serious commitment to addressing the crisis.]"

The association has contributed to all four of Newsom's campaign committees in the last decade. The union represents 26,000 workers and it recently negotiated a contract with raises and bonuses that are expected to cost the state about \$1 billion over three years.

Prop. 1 opponents' election plan

Newsom's opponents don't have much money, but they gained a boost in recent weeks from groups that represent dedicated voters. The League of Women Voters of California and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association recommended their members vote no on Prop. 1.

In its opposition statement, the League of Women Voters of California critiqued the way the measure was "rushed

through the Legislature" with last-minute amendments and without substantial debate. That process excluded marginalized communities and Californians who could be affected by the measure, Executive Director Stephanie Doute said in a statement to CalMatters.

The league also highlighted that Newsom's plan to reallocate money from the so-called millionaire's tax will diminish the services counties currently provide and restrict local control. Newsom wants to spend 30% of the tax revenue — about \$1 billion a year — on housing.

"The League of Women Voters of California does not support robbing Peter to pay Paul," Doute said. "California has a desperate need for counties to both continue their current (mental health) work...and to expand it to housing interventions and substance use disorder treatment. Prop. 1 does not provide adequate funding for California's needed mental health care system."

It's unclear exactly how much money specific programs stand to lose if voters pass the measure, but an analysis by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office suggests cuts could be significant. Los Angeles County's behavioral health department estimates that the proportion of the money it currently spends on outpatient care services will likely be slashed from 32% to 18%.

Other opponents include Mental Health America of California, CalVoices and Disability Rights California. They argue the measure will vastly increase involuntary treatment among people with serious mental illness and addiction disorders. They also say community mental health services like outpatient care and peer counseling will be cut

as a result of redirecting money toward housing.

"You don't fix the system by creating more harm for the people for whom the system is supposed to be beneficial," said Simmons, the opposition campaign director.

The campaign is using its tiny pocketbook of donations to pay for travel to speak to local community organizations and editorial boards, Simmons said, and is encouraged by the results.

"That tells me that we have the better argument," Simmons said.

But mental health advocates aren't unified on the ballot measure. The "yes" campaign is also supported by NAMI California, the largest mental health advocacy organization in the state, representing thousands of people with serious mental illness and their families.

"Let's make sure that families are just as part of that voice in ensuring that the systems that are changing are being family driven and consumer driven and that is why NAMI across the state supports Prop. 1," executive director Jessica Cruz said during a campaign event. ■

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PAPER WORK

GROUP SHOW AT QUALIA CONTEMPORARY ART FEATURES A VARIETY OF ARTISTS WORKING ON A COMMON FOUNDATION

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

Paper is an ancient material but, as the current exhibition at Qualia Contemporary Art suggests, it is also the foundation for a number of contemporary processes, from prints to photographs. “Lasting Impressions: Works on Paper” is a group show of 10 disparate artists and techniques, all of which celebrate the myriad ways artists can use the venerable medium to create new effects.

Gallery director and owner Dacia Xu explained that she was inspired to curate the show because “artists can do complex works on paper and it has evolved with technology.” She added that this was an important criterion because of the

gallery’s location in Silicon Valley. “Artists are creative and Silicon Valley people emphasize creativity,” she said. And, as the owner of a commercial gallery, she said that prints are “more approachable for collectors who don’t have a big budget for art.”

Xu also set out to unite a group of artists who have tangible connections. Several of the artists, like Enrique Chagoya and Xiaoze Xie (both professors of art at Stanford University) are good friends. They, in turn, were close with two late artists, Vernon Fisher and Hung Liu, who are also featured in the show. Fisher is not well known on the West Coast, but his wife and fellow artist, Julie Bozzi, was born in San Jose and attended the University of California at



Courtesy Qualia Contemporary Art

“Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library (AA7349)” etching with acrylic by Xiaoze Xie is one of eight works in the show that highlight his attention to detail and his predilection for books and libraries.

Davis — her work is also shown in “Lasting Impressions.”

ESTABLISHED ARTISTS, NEW TECHNIQUES

Many of the artists in the show are painters and Xu noted that working on paper can allow for more freedom of expression: “It might also bring some

excitement to try new technologies and collaborate with other people.”

The show begins in the entry gallery with two well-known and established artists, Alex Katz and Kiki Smith. Katz’s “Yellow Flags 2” is characteristic of his large-scale, simplified, close-up approach — usually

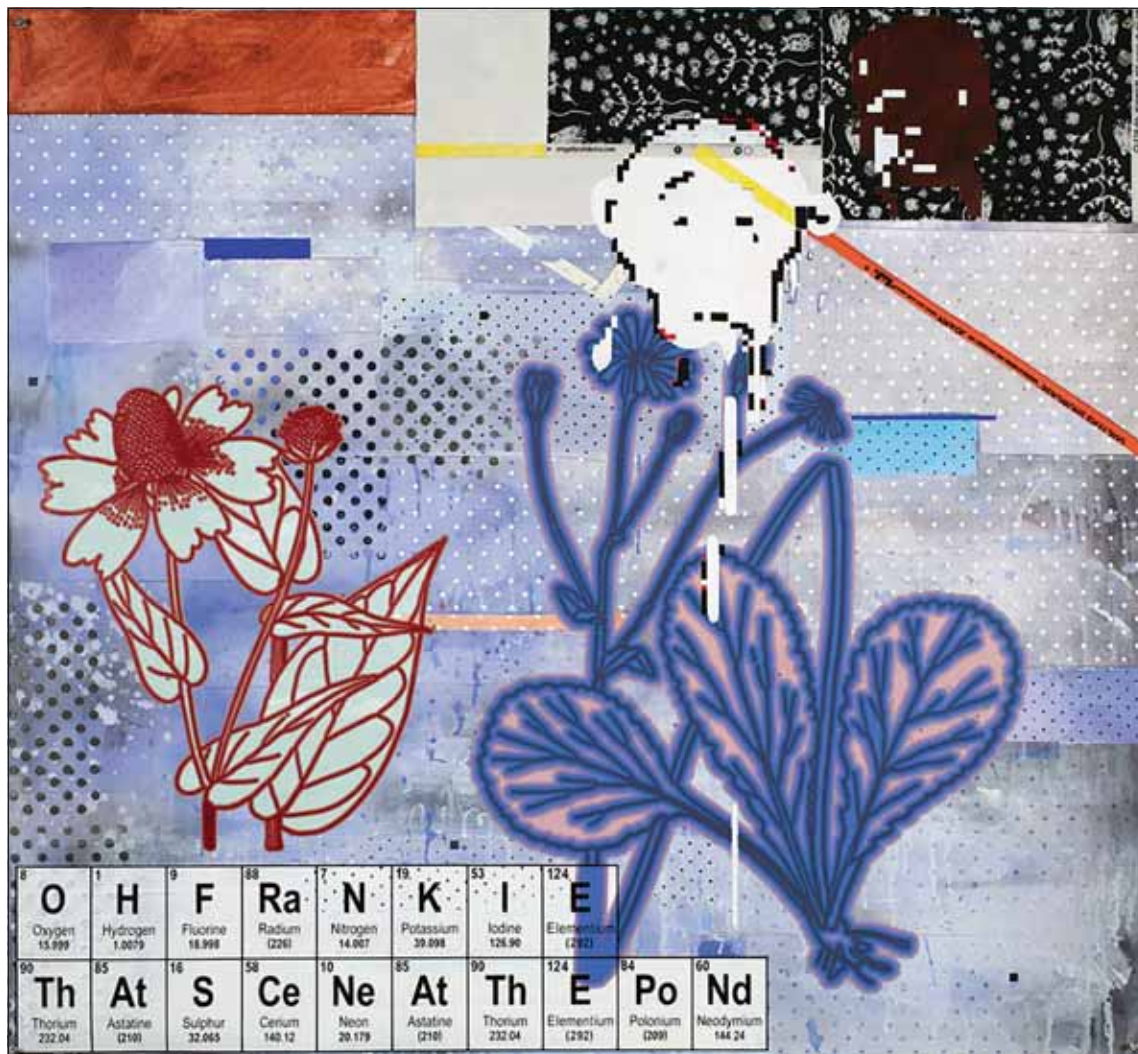
reserved for portraiture — but here used to great effect in a field of bright yellow flowers. Set against a deep black background, this high-contrast print, created using archival pigment inks, is eye-catching and cheerful. Across the room, Kiki Smith

See **PAPER WORK**, page 20



Courtesy Jeffrey Sturges

The high-contrast “Orange Over Green (Orange sur Vert)” by Ellsworth Kelly reflects his work as part of “hard-edge school” that reacted to the chaotic painting of artists like Jackson Pollock.



Courtesy Qualia Contemporary Art

Vernon Fisher’s later works like “O Frankie” ground colorful imagery with a segment of the periodic table of elements.



Courtesy Paul Takeuchi

Alex Katz's "Yellow Flags 2," an archival ink-jet print, is characteristic of his large-scale, simplified, close-up approach.

PAPER WORK

continued from page 19

also employs the ink-jet printer to depict fantastical views of the galaxy. These prints are part of a series called "Spring Light" that examine relations between humans and the natural world. The overall effect of the various inks (aqueous and acrylic) highlighted with gold leaf is reminiscent of illustrations in a children's book.

Enter the main gallery and be struck by the many processes represented, from very basic woodblock prints to etchings, lithographs, gouache and more use of the ink-jet printer. Sam Francis, known as a second generation abstract expressionist, is represented by an untitled lithograph featuring his usual bold, bright splotches of color. In contrast to this free-form approach are several detailed portraits carved into woodblocks by Hung Liu. The women captured in "Winter Blossom" and "Midsummer" have beautiful faces, further embellished by halos of delicate flowers.

Another well-known name in the gallery is Ellsworth Kelly, a member of the "hard-edge school" that reacted to the chaotic approach to painting by artists like Jackson Pollock. "Orange Over Green" is a color-saturated lithograph of a chunky, neon orange arrow against a pea-green background. It's a fun print and a reminder

that color studies like this are more about retinal challenge than underlying message.

BLENDING NEW AND OLD TECH

Xie has been shown numerous times at Qualia (he is also married to Xu), previously with his painted work. The eight pieces in this show are characteristic of his extreme attention to detail and his predilection for books and libraries. In an email interview he explained, "Libraries are the depositories of our collective knowledge over the ages. It is the meaning of these objects, their architectonic forms, their decay and vulnerability over time, that have fascinated me as subject matter for over 30 years."

The ancient tomes, captured by means of photogravure and etching processes, are fascinating if only because they still exist. Based on photographs taken at various libraries, the prints portray, according to the artist, "the textures of the materials, the wear and tear, the traces of time left on these objects, their surrounding space and lighting and the mise-en-scene in these images. All of these things are very important to me."

Xie's Stanford colleague Chagoya is represented by three of his codices based on pre-Hispanic books, digitally printed on hand-made amate paper. (The paper is created from the native-to-Mexico amate tree, a relative of the fig family). There is a plethora of objects in these prints, some

historic in nature and others from popular culture. One could examine them for hours and still not see all the details. The artist explained his objective: "My codices are an answer (of many possible ones) to the question of how books would be made today by an indigenous artist if they traveled in time to the present and painted or printed some with modern technology and contemporary issues of social conflict, but on amate paper?"

Bozzi's small but beautifully executed landscapes, done in gouache on paper, are a close study of her surroundings in Texas. Her haystack series, undertaken at various times of the day, will remind you of the haystacks painted by Monet — a comparison of light variations on a quotidian subject. "Dusk" is a simple scene, a line of green trees bordering a barren field, but it evokes a sense of quiet expectation as the day gives way to night.

Bruce Conner, one of the most famous artists to emerge from the 1960s San Francisco counterculture scene, worked in virtually every medium possible. Prior to his death in 2008, he also experimented with ink-jet prints and the examples here are typical of his fondness for enigmas. Tiny characters (one is labeled as a "Memorial Inscription") are imprinted upon sunlit rock formations, leaving the viewer to wonder what, if anything, they are saying.

Xu said that she really wanted



Courtesy Qualia Contemporary Art

"Winter Blossom" by Hung Liu is one of several detailed woodblock prints by the artist featured in "Lasting Impressions."

to bring the work of Vernon Fisher to Palo Alto. His two acrylic on paper pieces are big, playful and child-like. But just when you think you are viewing an imaginative fantasy landscape, there in the foreground is an accurate segment of the periodic table. "This was part of his later work using the periodic table and I hope it can strike some resonance with our audience," said Xu.

The artists in this exhibition hail from many different places and work in many different

styles but there is a lively cohesion in the way they all experimented with the most humble of media, paper. ■

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Lasting Impressions: Works on Paper is on view until Feb. 13 at Qualia Contemporary Art, 229 Hamilton Ave. in Palo Alto. qualiacontemporaryart.com.



Courtesy Qualia Contemporary Art

Enrique Chagoya's "Popol Vuh de la Abuelita del AHUIZOTE/Codex" is one of a series of works that raises the question of how an indigenous artist might create a book today using modern technology and touching on contemporary issues, but also using amate paper, handmade from the bark of a tree native to Mexico.

Worth a Look



Courtesy Irene Young

The Kathy Kallick Band performs Feb. 3 in Palo Alto.

The Kathy Kallick Band

Local bluegrass fans have a big reason to cheer this weekend. Peninsula Bluegrass, sponsored by the Northern California Bluegrass Society, presents The Kathy Kallick Band live in concert, with opening act The Gryphon Trio (Jack Tuttle, Carol McComb and Ed Johnson). The Kathy Kallick Band is an acclaimed West Coast bluegrass group which, in addition to leader Kallick, features Annie Staninec, Greg Booth, Tom Bekeny and Cary Black, and performs both original compositions and interpretations of bluegrass classics. The Palo Alto performance will be a record-release celebration. According to the Northern California Bluegrass Society's website, Peninsula Bluegrass is a newly organized group, and this event includes volunteers who were previously involved with the now-defunct Redwood Bluegrass Associates.

Feb. 3, 7 p.m. (doors open for jamming at 5:30 p.m.), Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto, \$22-\$25. ncbs.us/peninsula-bg.

Juliet & Romeo

Shakespeare's most famous couple are synonymous with romantic love, but even they might be no match for mid-life crises, at least as the company Lost Dog speculates in "Juliet & Romeo." Had the Bard's young couple lived to adulthood, in fact, their iconic status would be just one more thing putting pressure on their

marriage. Through song, dance and comedy, Lost Dog captures the "real story" of these star-crossed lovers, as they explore their many challenges and air their dirty laundry in a show which, as the website notes, their therapist strongly advised against. Stanford Live presents this not-so-romantic romantic comedy.

Feb 2, 8 p.m. and Feb. 3, 2:30 p.m.

at The Studio, Stanford. \$50. live.stanford.edu.

Alon Nechushtan and Global Beat

New York-based composer and pianist Alon Nechushtan and the group Global Beat will perform a lively concert drawn from a variety of genres, including jazz, Latin and klezmer. Nechushtan, originally

from Israel, has performed at prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, received commissions from organizations including the Smithsonian Museum, toured internationally, composed for many ensembles and orchestras worldwide and also released numerous albums.

Feb. 3, 7 p.m., Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto, \$20-\$40, paloaltojcc.org/events.

'We Are What We Eat'

Hungry for more art? "We Are What We Eat," a new exhibition at the Palo Alto Art Center (in conjunction with its current "In Feast or Famine" group show), focuses on the culinary specialties and heritage of Palo Alto's eight sister cities across three continents, with works contributed by artists from those cities and curated by Harriet Stern. According to Neighbors Abroad's Facebook page (Neighbors Abroad is an organization promoting connections between Palo Alto and its sibling cities), at the opening reception on Feb. 3, visitors can meet Joanne Posluszny-Hoffsten, from Linköping, Sweden, whose sculpture is included in the exhibition.

Exhibition runs through March 31; opening reception Feb. 3, 3-5 p.m., Palo Alto Art Center Meeting Room, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org.

Salute to Broadway

Peninsula Lively Arts takes the theme of its latest show to heart: "Salute to Broadway" celebrates highlights from no less than about 90 years' worth of Broadway in song and dance. From "Oklahoma!" to "Chicago," "Hair" to "Hairspray," the show pays tribute to 23 different Broadway musicals, with a program that hits both classics and newer favorites.

Feb. 3, 2 and 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Theatre, 2115 Broadway, Redwood City. \$45-\$60. peninsulalivelyarts.org.

Duran Duran

Legendary band Duran Duran returns to The Guild Theatre to

play a fundraiser for Hamilton Families, an organization focused on ending family homelessness in the Bay Area. The band performed at the intimate Menlo Park venue last summer to raise funds for the Cancer Awareness Trust, following the diagnosis of former bandmate Andy Taylor with stage 4 prostate cancer. The band released an acclaimed 16th studio album last fall, the gothically inspired "Danse Macabre," that offers a mix of new songs, covers and favorites with a dark edge that still allows the band's signature high-energy sound to shine through. The album features contributions from former band members and collaborators that include Taylor, Warren Cuccurullo and Nile Rodgers.

Feb. 6, 8 p.m. at The Guild, 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. \$995-\$1500. guildtheatre.com.

'Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone'

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley favorite, the multitalented actor, writer and virtuoso pianist Hershey Felder, returns to the local stage with a limited engagement of "George Gershwin Alone." Felder is renowned for his portrayals of musical icons, and in this show, he'll embody the iconic American composer George Gershwin, creator of "I Got Rhythm," "Rhapsody in Blue" (celebrating its 100th anniversary this February) and much more, telling the story of his life while sharing some of his most celebrated music. Following the run of "Gershwin Alone," Felder will return Feb. 12 for a performance of his "Great American Songbook Sing-Along," during which the audience is invited to sing along to beloved songs drawn from a century of popular American tunes.

Feb. 7-11 ("George Gershwin Alone"), Feb. 12 ("Great American Songbook Sing-Along"), Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View, ticket prices and show times vary, theatreworks.org/mainstage.

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Food & Drink

LOVE BITES

Where to go for prix fixe menus, a la carte options and complimentary bubbly on Valentine's Day

By Adrienne Mitchel

It's that time of year again where everything turns pink and red and it's socially acceptable to eat an entire box of chocolates (at least I think it is). It's that time when elementary schoolers cut out colored paper and write "Happy Valentines Day" (I was never good at spelling), high schoolers awkwardly give each other teddy bears and adults figure out where they're going to eat dinner on Feb. 14.

So let me help you out, adults (middle schoolers, you're on your own.)

Here's a list of 10 local restaurants celebrating Valentine's Day — some are offering prix fixe menus for one night only, like The Bywater in Los Gatos, while others are celebrating with an a la carte menu available for an entire week, like Flea Street in Menlo Park. Find complimentary bubbly at restaurants like Fairchilds Public House in Mountain View or live piano at Moonraker in Pacifica.



Top Right corner: Quattro Restaurant and Bar in East Palo Alto is offering a four-course prix fixe dinner for \$165 per person on Valentine's Day. Courtesy Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley. **Above From left to right:** Twelvemonth in Burlingame will celebrate both Galentine's Day and Valentine's Day. Photo by Devin Roberts. Left Bank Brasserie's prix fixe Valentine's Day dinner includes the option to order duck breast with pickled rhubarb, green farro, duck confit, baby turnips and duck jus. Courtesy Left Bank Brasserie.

FOR YOUR PLANT-BASED BAE: TWELVEMONTH

The Burlingame plant-based restaurant is offering a seven-course prix fixe menu for \$75 per person on Feb. 13 and Feb. 14. The menu features a sourdough waffle with caviar, sour cream and chives; roasted beets with kumquat kosho and black sesame aioli; campanelle with burnt grapefruit, artichoke hearts and mint; chocolate cake with passion fruit curd and more.

Twelvemonth, 330 Lorton Ave., Burlingame; 650-443-7111, Instagram: @twelvemonthburlingame.

FOR YOUR SOUTHERN BELLE: THE BYWATER

The Los Gatos Michelin Bib Gourmand-rated Creole and Cajun restaurant co-founded by former Manresa chef David Kinch is offering a four-course prix fixe menu for \$75 per person on Feb. 14. The menu features oysters, a choice of citrus salad or seafood gumbo, a choice between scallops or short rib and a trio of desserts (beignets, pot de creme and king cake).

The Bywater, 532 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos; 408-560-9639, Instagram: @thebywaterca.

FOR YOUR OOH LA LADY: LEFT BANK BRASSERIE

This French restaurant, with locations in Larkspur, San Jose, Menlo Park and Oakland, is offering a three-course prix fixe menu for \$95 per person on Feb. 14, with all items also available a la carte. Wine pairings will be available, and Tsar Nicoulai caviar can be added to any course for \$30. Menu options include oysters, kampachi crudo, roasted beef tenderloin, duck breast and layered chocolate cake with raspberry cream filling, marzipan and chocolate ganache.

Left Bank Brasserie, 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park; 650-473-6543, Instagram: @leftbankbrasserie.

FOR YOUR BRATWURST LOVER: NASCHMARKT

The Palo Alto location of this Austrian restaurant is offering a three-course prix fixe menu for \$97 per

Fairchilds Public House in Mountain View will offer specialty cocktails for Valentine's Day both priced at \$15. Courtesy Fairchilds Public House.



Photo by Sara Hayden

Roger Bar and Restaurant in Mountain View is offering a three-course prix fixe menu for \$80 per person on Valentine's Day.

person on Feb. 14. Menu options include sunchoke soup, beet salad, bratwurst, tagliatelle pasta, winter schnitzel, Hungarian beef goulash, apfelstrudel, schokokuchen (chocolate cake) and more.

Naschmarkt, 2323 Birch St., Palo Alto; 650-561-3202, Instagram: @naschmarktpaloalto.

FOR YOUR CALIFORNIA GIRL: FAIRCHILDS PUBLIC HOUSE AND ROGER BAR AND RESTAURANT

Fairchilds Public House, a Californian restaurant located within the Hyatt Mountain View, is offering a three-course prix fixe menu with complimentary glass of Champagne for \$150 per couple or \$80 per person on Feb. 14 from 5-9 p.m. Wine pairings will be available, and the menu will feature two additional Valentine's-themed cocktails. The menu features a choice between strawberry salad and lobster bisque, a choice of grilled 6-ounce filet mignon, pan seared sea scallops or sweet pea ravioli, and a choice between dark chocolate flourless noire or flourless raspberry cheesecake.

Fairchilds Public House, 409 San Antonio Road, Mountain View; 650-966-6949, Instagram: @fairchildspubhouse.

Roger Bar and Restaurant, a Californian restaurant located within The Ameswell Hotel in Mountain View, is offering a five-course prix fixe menu with complimentary glass of sparkling wine for \$85 per person on Feb. 14. Wine pairings will be available for an additional \$25. The menu features warm focaccia, a choice of hamachi tiradito, beef tartar or pakora fritter, a choice between raviolo or uni and truffle udon, a choice of koji aged ribeye, roasted halibut or green garden rice pilaf, and chocolate flourless cake with lychee.

Roger Bar and Restaurant, 800 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View; 650-744-1030, Instagram: @rogerbarandrestaurant.

FOR YOUR BOUGIE CALIFORNIA GIRL: OAK + VIOLET AND QUATTRO RESTAURANT AND BAR

Oak + Violet, a Californian restaurant located within the Park James Hotel in Menlo Park, is offering a three-course prix fixe menu for \$125 per adult and \$55 per child under 12 on Feb. 14 from 5-9 p.m. The menu features a choice between Hokkaido scallops or burrata salad, a choice of filet mignon, beetroot agnolotti or Nordic Blu salmon, and a choice of triple chocolate mousse, lemon ricotta beignet or Rosanna raspberry sorbet.

Oak + Violet, 1400 El Camino Real, Menlo Park; 650-304-3880, Instagram: @oakandviolet.

Quattro Restaurant and Bar, a Californian restaurant located within the Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley in East Palo Alto, is offering a four-course prix fixe menu for \$165 per person Feb. 14 from 5-9:30 p.m. Wine pairings will be available for an additional \$60, and there will be musical entertainment from California-based artist Aaron Durr. The menu includes salmon crudo, endive salad, lobster ravioli, slow-cooked rib-eye and passion fruit chiboust.

Quattro Restaurant and Bar, 2050 University Ave, East Palo Alto; 650-470-2889.

FOR THE SHARKBOY TO YOUR LAVA GIRL: MOONRAKER

The Pacifica seafood restaurant is offering a four-course prix fixe menu for \$140 per adult and \$65 per child under 12



Photo by Magali Gauthier

Flea Street in Menlo Park will host its third annual Week of Love with an exclusive Valentine's-themed a la carte menu.

on Feb. 14 from 4-10 p.m. Wine pairings will be available for an additional \$75, and there will be a live pianist. The menu includes wild mushroom soup, oysters Rockefeller, Kobe beef and scallops, rosemary grilled lamb chops, molten chocolate cake, warm apple crumble and more.

Moonraker, 105 Rockaway Beach Ave., Pacifica; 650-557-7025, Instagram: @moonrakerrestaurant.

FOR THE PICKY EATER: FLEA STREET

This Menlo Park Californian restaurant is hosting its third annual Week of Love. From Feb. 13-17, Flea Street will offer an exclusive Valentine's-themed a la carte menu. Choose from dishes like "Date Me" (brie en croute, rosemary butter and date jam), "My Gem Salad" (butternut dressing, capers, Parmesan crisps, herb breadcrumbs and watermelon radish), risotto with roasted beets, kale Parmesan and pine nuts, sweet potato Basque cheesecake and more.

Flea Street, 3607 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park; 650-854-1226, Instagram: @flea_street. ■

Email Food Editor Adrienne Mitchel at amitchel@almanacnews.com.

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See you at the table.

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