

The Almanac

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

APRIL 5, 2024 | VOL. 59 NO. 30



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Courtesy Menlo Park Firefighters Association

Baskets, bunnies and egg hunting

A break in the rain allowed for kids to converge on Burgess Park in Menlo Park for the annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 30.

The event, hosted by the Menlo Park Firefighters Association, featured games, arts and crafts, food trucks (Mister Softee and Sam's Chowder Mobile), photos with the Easter Bunny, balloon animals and the chance to hop onto a fire engine.

This is just one of several spring outdoor events in the city. The city will host a Spring Fest on Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Burgess Park field, 701 Laurel St.

There will be Ztag (like laser tag but with LED badges), trampolines, arts and crafts, gardening activities, a petting zoo, food demonstrations and more. Expect Curve Ball Sliders, Old Greenwood BBQ and Mister Softee.

For more information on city activities can be found at menlopark.gov.

Flegel's to close, hold 'great retirement sale'

By Angela Swartz

Signs reading: "All must go!" "Multimillion retirement sale" and "Total liquidation" were put up in front window of Flegel's Design in Menlo Park over the weekend of March 30.

After what appeared to be a comeback, the store at 1010 El Camino Real, Suite 90, will close its doors for good. The business' "\$3 million great retirement sale" began on Wednesday, April 3, at 10 a.m., according to a voicemail recording from the business owners. The store is closed while it is restocked, the owners said in the message.

The store was originally expected to close at the end of 2023, but owner Brian Flegel told The Almanac earlier this year that the store remained up.

The store, located next to Kepler's Books, has made custom-made furniture and interior design services for generations. ■

Email Editor Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.

Opposition growing for massive Menlo Park 'builder's remedy' project

By Neil Gonzales

Opposition and worry continue to mount over the controversial proposal to construct towers on the former Sunset Magazine headquarters in Menlo Park.

More than 700 people have signed a change.org petition by Brielle Johnck of Menlo Park in protest against the ambitious

mixed-use complex at 80 Willow Road proposed last year as a "builder's remedy" project by the development company N17.

"This site is a treasure for people in the community," Johnck said. The N17 project "is a horrific plan."

N17 submitted a preliminary application to the city under Senate Bill 330, a state provision known as builder's remedy that

allows developers to bypass local land-use regulations.

At the time, Menlo Park was open to builder's remedy applications and other penalties because it had yet to secure state certification for an urban-growth plan called the housing element.

On March 21, the city announced that its plan was certified by the state Department of Housing and Community

Development. However, that approval does not render N17's application null and void.

"As long as the developer submitted a preliminary application pursuant to SB 330 or has submitted a full application, the builder's remedy proposal is still valid and should be processed accordingly," said HCD spokesperson Alicia Murillo.

But Johnck told this news

organization that she wants local zoning rules and height limits followed.

The project site "is really in a residential neighborhood," she added. "If we just have housing on these sites, we might put a dent in the housing crisis. But (developers) want to put offices. We're digging ourselves in a bigger hole."

See **BUILDER'S REMEDY**, page 14

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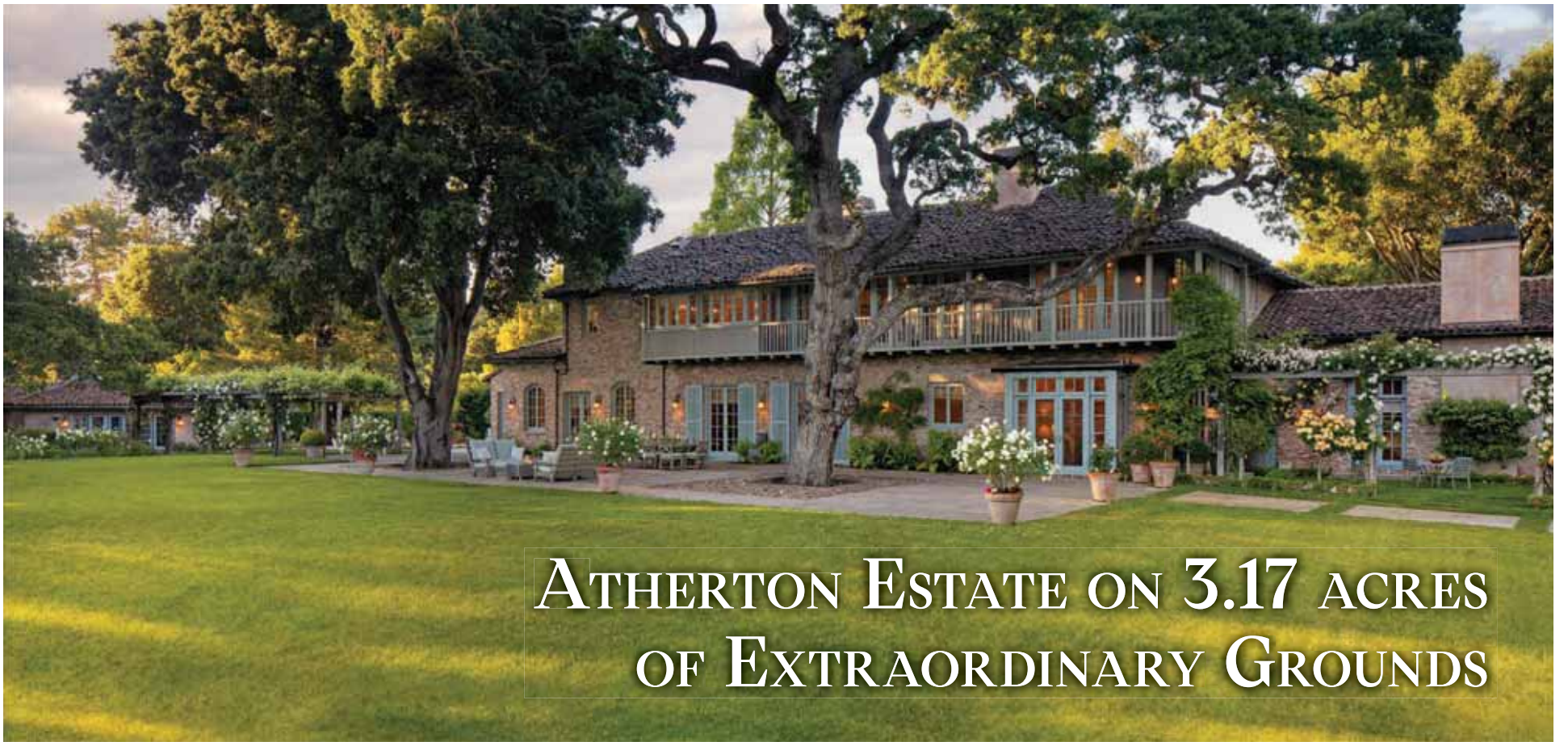


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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Courtesy Kym Teppo

Lightning the miniature horse at Chaparral Ranch in Woodside.

Lightning, Wunderlich Park's mini horse who touched the lives of many during the pandemic, dies

'He spent his last hours munching on fresh grass and horse cookies before moving on to greener pastures'

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Lightning, a beloved miniature horse who lived at Chaparral Ranch in Woodside's Wunderlich Park, died on March 7, 2024. He became a community favorite when they started the Meet a Mini program to introduce horses to children.

From 90-year-olds to toddlers, Lightning's unique love

for playing with children and people made him memorable across a community of different generations.

With short legs, he wasn't able to run too fast but yet his owner Shawn Mott said he galloped like he was as fast as lightning, hence his name.

Although Lightning's exact age is unknown, Mott said that he was in his late 20s or early 30s. Lightning was in his

care for almost 15 years. His first impression of Lightning was that he looked like Eeyore from Winnie the Pooh — in Mott's words "he didn't look too good."

Despite his appearance, Lightning showed a lot of energy when hopping into Mott's small trailer, on his way to start his new life. When he

See **LIGHTNING**, page 8

Jen Wolosin won't seek reelection

Menlo Park council member said she is stepping away to tend to 'familial and personal considerations'

By Angela Swartz

Menlo Park council member Jen Wolosin is not running for reelection in November, she announced on Sunday, March 31.

Wolosin, who represents District 3, said the decision came after "much contemplation and soul-searching," she said in the email newsletter in which she broke the news. Her time on the City Council, which began when she was elected in 2020, will wrap up in December.



Jen Wolosin

"Many familial and personal considerations have factored into my decision not to run," she said. "While I have relished my service to the larger community, I now need to turn my attention to my own needs and to those of the people I love. I am announcing this approximately seven months ahead of the November election to make room for those interested in serving so they can come forward and explore their potential candidacy."

She said that serving as a council member, including as mayor in 2023, has been "the honor of a lifetime."

"I am grateful to have been trusted with this decision-making position to help our

community navigate through challenges, and I have really enjoyed getting to meet so many amazing residents and stakeholders that are deeply invested in our wonderful city," she said.

District 3 includes a section of Menlo Park bounded between Palo Alto and Atherton, stretching southwest to Crane Street and northeast to the Veterans Affairs property off of Willow Road. It includes the Civic Center, the Caltrain station and the neighborhoods of Vintage Oaks, Linfield Oaks and Felton Gables, among other areas.

After her term ends, she said people can still expect to see her face around town, riding e-bike, walking her dog, at back-to-school-nights and at other community venues.

"I am and will continue to be proud to call Menlo Park home," she said.

Other council seat up for grabs in November

Aside from District 3, the District 5 seat filled by Maria Doerr will also be on the November ballot. The council appointed Doerr in January 2023 to replace Ray Mueller who was elected to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

Doerr has not announced if she will run this fall to continue to represent the area that encompasses Sharon Heights and West Menlo Park. ■

Email Editor Angela Swartz at aswartz@almanacnews.com.

State decertifies Portola Valley's housing element

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

The town of Portola Valley announced that state Department of Housing and Community Development decertified its housing plans for 2023 through 2031 on March 26. HCD will consider recertifying the housing element after the town submits its zoning code amendments, a key next step, according to the town.

"The decertification is extremely frustrating," said Mayor Sarah Wernikoff in an email to this news organization. "HCD's one-size-fits-all approach makes compliance nearly impossible for a town the size of Portola Valley."

The state approved the plan, which every jurisdiction in the state updates under the state's Regional Housing Needs Allocation program every eight

years, to Jan. 30. The town has continued to work on housing element programs and to adopt zoning regulations.

Wernikoff explained that the town was given an "unrealistic deadline" to have their zoning complete two days after their housing element was certified.

"Once the town has adopted required rezones in April or

See **HOUSING ELEMENT**, page 15



Angela Swartz

The entrance to Portola Valley Town Center.

Woodside revisits 24-year-old ordinance on political and temporary signs

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

A 2002 Woodside ordinance on signage around town is in need of a refresh in light of a number of court decisions. The town ordinance limits the size and location of signs in town, but temporary signs — like holiday and light displays — and political signs don't get the same treatment.

In 2015, the Supreme Court decided in *Reed v. Gilbert* that

sign regulations should be equal for both temporary and political signs.

Town Council held a study session on March 26 to discuss possible revisions to the sign ordinance. Town Attorney Jean Savaree suggested changes in language to the current sign regulations.

Woodside's political sign ordinance states that signs cannot be placed on public property or in

the public right of way, must be 4 square feet, cannot be lighted and signs related to ballot items or candidates must be removed within 10 days after an election. The ordinance also allows for larger signs upon approval from the Planning Commission.

Current temporary sign regulations pertain to all holiday displays and light displays related to holidays. They can be set up 31 days before a holiday and must be taken down 14 days after a holiday. Temporary signs cannot exceed eight feet in height, per town code.

In addition to holiday decor, temporary signs include 6 square foot roadside signs on private property for nonprofit advertisements and for-sale signs, which both require permits. Construction signs are also within this category and are issued with building permits.

"You can see there's a little bit of inconsistency in that holiday displays, you don't need a permit for and others you do," pointed out Savaree. "[Political sign regulations are different than the regulations that you impose on temporary signs as they're currently defined in your ordinance.]"

Savaree's proposed suggestions include removing the separate section on political signs and including them under the temporary sign regulations. She also suggested eliminating the 10-day post-election removal requirement. Additionally, she'd like to see holiday displays removed from the temporary sign category and remove permit requirements.

For size limitations, the proposed limit would be 4 square feet for signs within a residential district and 8 square feet within a commercial district. Savaree said that this difference in size limitations between different zones comes from the town having fewer concerns on preserving the rural beauty of Woodside in highly trafficked commercial areas.

Neighboring cities like Redwood City and Atherton treat political signs as a type of "non-commercial" sign and apply the same regulations to all non-commercial signs, according to a staff report. Others, such as Portola Valley, simply have no regulations specific to political signs.

Foster City is considering an amendment to its sign ordinance, according to Woodside staff. However, the ordinance already views political signs as part of the larger category of "temporary-noncommercial" signs. The amendment under consideration in Foster City would restrict the areas of the public right of way where

political signs and other temporary noncommercial signs are currently allowed.

Savaree's report to the Town Council states that "the town can impose restrictions on size, locations, and times that signs can be displayed, but the town cannot impose different restrictions on signs based on their messages."

Council member Brian Dombkowski questioned this point, asking, "why not follow a Hillsborough or Portola Valley type of approach and just leave [regulations undefined]?"

Savaree explained that regulations are more informative to residents when it's clearly defined what is and isn't allowed for signage.

"We should be careful to eliminate ordinances that we don't intend to enforce," said resident Steve Lubin during public comment. "We should not make illegal what people do very regularly." Lubin also disagreed about the suggested regulation on signs over 8 feet tall. He encouraged the council to establish a time limit on when signs need to be taken down.

"I feel very strongly about needing to eliminate subjectivity," Dombkowski said. "I think we need to support the rights of our citizens and our candidates to get their message out in a very finite period of time."

Dombkowski said he agreed with most of the suggestions except for size limitations and asked for a 20 square foot limit rather than a 4 and 8 square foot limit. He also asked to strike language about prohibiting signs in the public right of way and eliminate the 8-foot height limit.

Council member Ned Fluet conversely believed that 4 square feet is a reasonable size for temporary signs.

"We live here because of this beautiful environment and just to see all the signs everywhere is kind of a bummer to drive down (Highway) 84 and see signs everywhere," said Fluet. "The bigger they are, the more I think they don't fit with our neighborhood."

Mayor Jenn Wall said she agreed signs should be prohibited on public property, but that town officials should find a safe way for signs to be in the public right of way.

"I would like to find a way to time limit some of these signs," she said.

Mayor Wall suggested looking into a further developed version of the current draft or exploring Atherton's approach in categorizing signs into commercial, temporary and non-commercial as the council continues to revise the ordinance. ■

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Residents frustrated by shifting plans for flood protection

By Gennady Sheyner

When heavy rains drenched the Peninsula on New Year's Eve in 2022, they didn't just flood the streets of Crescent Park, Duveneck/St. Francis and other neighborhoods around the volatile San Francisquito Creek.

They also eroded many of the plans that Palo Alto and its partner agencies have had in place to protect these neighborhoods from future flooding, dealing a heavy setback to residents who have been waiting for these improvements for more than 25 years.

With the flood damage exceeding projections, officials from the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority effectively acknowledged that the projects they had planned for Reach 2 — the agency's second phase of its major flood-control project — no longer suffice when it comes to flood protection. The creek, it turns out, has less capacity than officials had previously thought. And the variations at the top of its banks have made a larger than expected difference when it comes to water spilling over the top and entering neighborhoods.

More worryingly for residents, the creek authority has concluded that it cannot proceed with the replacement of the flood-prone Pope-Chaucer bridge, a project that area residents have long clamored for, until other improvements are made downstream of the project. And after having its assumptions upended by the Dec. 31, 2022 storm, the creek authority does know at this time what those improvements would be.

Frustrations about the latest delays spilled out during a March 30 town hall meeting, which attracted a crowd of residents from Crescent Park, Duveneck/St. Francis, Community Center and Triple El neighborhoods to



Magali Gauthier

A city crew on the Pope-Chaucer Bridge removes floating debris from San Francisquito Creek using a bulldozer on Jan. 9, 2023.

Duveneck Elementary School. Many were put off by the latest change of plans from the creek authority, an agency that is headed by elected officials from Palo Alto, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Santa Clara Valley Water District and the San Mateo County Flooding and Sea Level Resiliency District and that has been working on flood protection since the devastating flood of February 1998.

"I was flooded in 1998 and I'm very concerned about another flood coming," said Evan Economos, a De Soto Drive resident.

He was among the residents who pressed the city and the creek authority to be more specific about when they plan to replace the Newell and the Pope-Chaucer bridges. The city is spearheading the Newell Road bridge replacement, which was slated for this year but is now projected to take place in 2025. The Pope-Chaucer bridge replacement, which is being led by the creek authority, is on shakier grounds, according to Margaret Bruce, executive director of the creek authority.

Some improvements have already been made, though they have largely focused on the more vulnerable downstream areas

between Newell Road and the U.S. Highway 101. As part of the Reach 1 project that the creek authority completed in 2019, it had fortified these areas by widening channels and building new levees.

But the next phase of planned improvements, known as Reach 2, has not gone according to plans. After the December 2022 storm, engineers from Valley Water flagged the deviation between the creek's actual activity and the authority's projections about creek activity, suggesting that the assumptions on which the agency had built its flood-control project may no longer be sufficient.

A review that the consulting firm Schaaf & Wheeler released in February corroborated the Valley Water study and concluded that the creek authority's prior model has "overestimated creek capacity." It also found that the "creek geometry and creek roughness are the most important factors to predict overtopping."

Given the latest information, Bruce said that the earliest that the creek authority can move ahead with replacing the Pope-Chaucer bridge would be in 2027. A key goal is to make sure that

See **FLOOD PROTECTION**, page 19

Low leads by one vote as Congressional primary count ends

By Sarah Wright

State Assembly member Evan Low is leading by just one vote in the primary election for Congress to replace U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo's seat in what the San Mateo County Registration and Elections Division says is its final count of the votes.

Low is leading Joe Simitian, a Santa Clara County Supervisor. The two have stayed neck and neck, trading the lead by just a handful of votes, as results have rolled in over the past month.

While neither campaign has

said officially whether it will call for a recount, San Jose Spotlight reported late last month that sources close to the campaign say its likely due to the tiny vote margin.

According to the elections department, the final ballot was "cured," or resolved, yesterday, after it had been challenged. Official election results will be certified April 4, the office says.

Prior to the confirmation the last ballot was counted, Simitian's campaign released a statement saying it is waiting to hear from the county before

announcing a next step.

"Sometimes it takes a while for democracy to work. This is one of those times. That means counting and verifying all of the votes. Every single one of them," the statement read.

"The election offices in both counties have been verifying voter signatures over the past few weeks to make sure that every vote that can be counted, will be counted. Right now we're waiting to hear from them." ■

Email Editor Sarah Wright at swright@paweekly.com.

REAL ESTATE Q&A

by Monica Corman



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Eleanor T.

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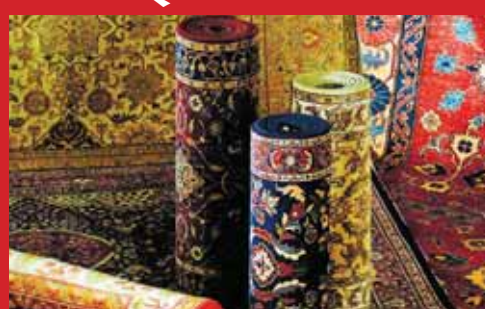
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Courtesy Kym Teppo

Kids meet Lightning the miniature horse during a Meet a Mini visit at Wunderlich Park.

LIGHTNING

continued from page 5

got out, "he ran out of the trailer and never stopped playing with the kids. He would play with them all day long," said Mott.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mott worried he wouldn't be able to afford to keep him at Chaparral Ranch. To help with the cost of his care, a partnership was born with Wunderlich Park and they started the Meet a Mini program at Folger Stables. Lightning's new role as the ambassador made him a magnet for the park and helped comfort community members during a time marked by loneliness, isolation and fear.

Wunderlich Park Executive Director Kym Teppo said Lightning's personality was unlike that of any horse she had ever encountered.

"He was sweet and gentle and unphased by any encounter he had," recalls Teppo. "He didn't even mind when 10 kids were draped over him."

Lightning's personality made him a perfect ambassador for the park. He was a great fit for not only children but also elders, people in wheelchairs and large groups.

"When he moved to Woodside, it was heaven for him because there were so many kids," said Mott.

As a mini horse, Lightning was able to teach children about how to groom horses, walk them and be introduced to horses in

an approachable manner. Large horses can be intimidating for younger kids so Lightning, as a small and gentle horse, served as a great way to learn about horsemanship.

"He was always game to go on a hike on the trails," said Teppo. "He was just always so interested in meeting new people and interacting with them."

Many people were involved in caring for Lightning through the partnership of Chaparral Ranch, Wunderlich Park and the work of the park's volunteers.

"He spent his last hours munching on fresh grass and horse cookies before moving on to greener pastures," said Teppo. "We are so grateful to the community for supporting the care for Lightning and we are so glad we were able to give him a great life as an elderly horse."

Teppo said that park officials are hoping to partner with Chaparral Ranch again to find another mini horse with the right disposition for the program. Find out more about the program, and to see more photos of Lightning, go to huddartwunderlichfriends.org/meet-a-mini-horse.

A tribute to Lightning can be found on the Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Park's Facebook page at tinyurl.com/Lightning-tribute. ■

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Jennifer Yoshikoshi at
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COMPASS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Charity hike at Runnymede

On April 20 from 1- 4 p.m. join The Samburu Project for their fourth annual Hike for Water at Runnymede Farm, 980 Runnymede Road in Woodside. The Samburu Project is a non-profit organization that funds water wells to be drilled in Samburu, Kenya bringing clean water to thousands of people in need.

Tickets for the event range from \$25-\$70 for youth and adults and include access to Runnymede Farm, a happy hour, live music, a silent auction and a Kenyan market. Each adult attendee commits to raising \$100 by April 21.

Register at tinyurl.com/runnymede-hike2024.

M-A Chronicle student journalists receive awards

Seven journalists at Menlo-Atherton High School's student newspaper, the M-A Chronicle, received Golden Circle Awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for secondary coverage, planned news writing and personal opinion pieces.

"Breaking News: Student Pinned Down by Police Officers, Community Confused and Angry," by Celine Chien and Katie Doran won first

place in secondary coverage, which reports on follow-up details to a breaking news event. A Certificate of Merit was awarded for Arden Margulis and Amala Raj's "Emotional Board Meeting Runs Until 1AM to Discuss Recent Detracking Report."

Magulis won first place for planned news writing for his article, "M-A Admin Appears to Violate Federal Privacy Law."

For personal opinion pieces, "Opinion: We Need Better Holocaust Education," by Ben Siegel won first place. A Certificate of Merit was given to "More Than Graffiti: Trolling and the Rise of Antisemitism" by Natalie Fishman and Sonia Freedman.

Survey for safe crossing routes

The County Safe Routes Program is collecting input from families on safe walking and biking routes to schools. Survey feedback will help improve the San Mateo County Office of Education's Safe Routes to School education and encouragement program. Feedback will also be shared with decision makers who can address infrastructure issues around safe routes to school.

The survey will be open until April 30 for families to share their perspectives. Find the survey at survey-monkey.com/r/24SRTSEng. For the

Spanish version, visit survey-monkey.com/r/24SRTSSpa.

Webinar on the tweenage brain

On Tuesday, April 16, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. join Deborah Farer Kris for a free webinar on the tweenage brain, understanding their behavior and how to respond more constructively and compassionately.

Farmer Kris is an author, parenting expert and founder of Parenthood365 an online resource for parents and caregivers. Educators, community members and families are welcome to join this event over Zoom. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation is also available.

Register for the event on The Parent Venture's Eventbrite page at tinyurl.com/parentventureevents.

Woodside Village Church seeks new pastor

The Woodside Village Church is searching for a new pastor to join its community. The position is open for a "passionate and dedicated pastor" with a theological degree, carries strong biblical knowledge, five years or more of pastoral ministry experience and more, according to the job posting.

Interested candidates can apply for the position by submitting a resume, cover letter and references to apracanelli@gmail.com.

Woodside Elementary bond oversight members needed

Woodside Elementary School District's Board of Trustees is looking for individuals to serve on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, following the passage of Measure E in the March election. The committee will be helping with the implementation of the district's school facilities bond program. For more information contact Michelle Ahlstrom at mahlstrom@woodsideschool.us.

Woodside-Atherton Garden Club hosts plant sale

In celebration of Native Plant Month in April, the Woodside-Atherton Garden Club will be hosting its Bi-Annual Plant sale on May 11 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Native Plant Garden behind the Woodside Library at 3140 Woodside Road.

Proceeds from the sale will go towards maintaining the Native Plant Garden at the Woodside Library. The selection of plants will vary from natives propagated from club members' gardens, potted succulent arrangements, perennials and shrubs.

For more information on the Woodside-Atherton Garden Club, visit woodsidthertonclub.org

— Jennifer Yoshikoshi

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Local students win honors in C-SPAN student documentary competition

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Alexander Boesch, a 12th grader at Menlo School in Atherton, and his brother Oliver Boesch, an 11th grader Crystal Springs Uplands School in Hillsborough, won an honorable mention for C-SPAN's 20th annual StudentCam competition. Their 5-minute documentary, "NIMBYism: Why Affordable Housing is so Difficult in California," explores how local governments manage the state's requirement to increase affordable housing — specifically diving into Atherton's housing plans.

The video project features clips from city council meetings, explainers of the Atherton housing element and the concept of NIMBYism, which stands for Not In My Backyard, referring to the opposition to locating something considered undesirable in one's neighborhood, such as multi-family housing.

Alexander remembers having an interest in housing and homelessness from a young age. During his freshman year of

high school at Menlo School, he participated in a summer program called Community Action Summer Experience, which allows students to research issues relevant to the community, create a call to action and to present the project to the community — Alexander chose homelessness.

"After that experience I was very interested in the issue and I really understood that I needed to learn a lot more about it," said Alexander.

He started working on his video documentary at the end of his junior year, during another Menlo School project called MTerm, where students take the last two weeks of the school year to explore issues in ecology, culture, innovation and social change.

Alexander took this opportunity to dig deeper into the issue of homelessness, with the help of his brother Oliver.

"I feel like there's this disconnect between people in the community and people who are unhoused," explained Alexander. "What I've learned from exploring this issue is that each person's story is unique and there are so

many different layers to it, so much complexity."

His short documentary is not the first notable project that he's pursued on the topic. Since his freshman year, Alexander has been working on an online project he calls, Homeless Horizons. His website showcases over 10 video interviews with homeless individuals, policymakers, non-governmental organization leaders and academics.

Alexander and Oliver's submission for the StudentCam competition was only a five-minute clip of a 45-minute documentary titled, "Crisis on the Streets: Homelessness in San Francisco Bay Area," that explores the housing crisis beyond Atherton. This project took over a year to complete and includes over 15 interviews.

Alexander finds that information is easier to digest through videos and when it comes to creating documentaries, he appreciates the creative process of building a story.

He finds inspiration from investigative videos made by the media organization, Vox and YouTuber and journalist Johnny

Harris. He admires Harris' ability to tell unbiased stories and Vox's way of guiding viewers through explanations.

As a soon to be graduate of Menlo School, Alexander hopes to pursue the topic of housing from a more academic perspective while in college.

"I hope to do research on homelessness and affordable housing and really get into the academic side of it," said Alexander. "Not just talking to individuals but

also doing research data analysis on housing affordability and homelessness."

Alexander and Oliver's documentary is one out of 150 winning videos out of over 1,600 entries from 42 states and Washington, D.C. The theme of this year's competition was "Looking Forward while Considering the Past." ■

Email Staff Writer
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jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com.

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include:

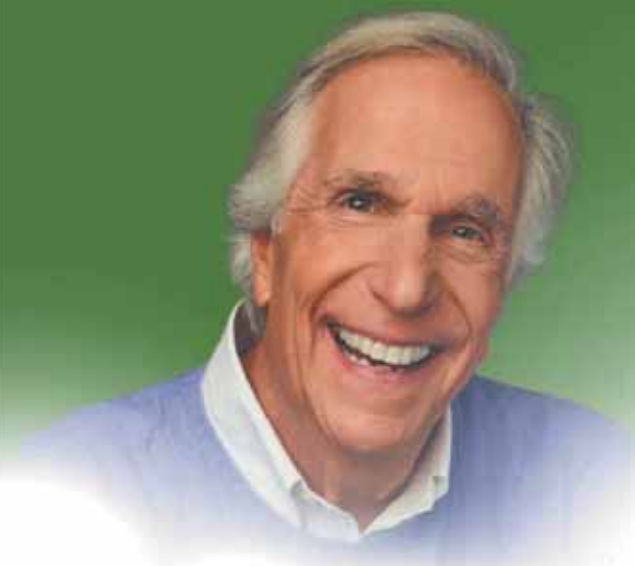
Joseph Baldwin, 93, a longtime resident of Palo Alto who was dedicated to supporting unhoused individuals via community advocacy in his retirement, who received his BA from Duke University and JD from University of Virginia Law School, and who was known for his generosity in hosting family and friends, his poker prowess and daily mastery of the New York Times crossword.

Jean Garrett, 101, a World War II veteran, breast cancer survivor, peace activist and avid neighborhood walker settled in Palo Alto with her

husband Paul, with whom she shared 70 happy years, and who is remembered for her environmental advocacy, delight in nature, and enjoyment of simple pleasures, including visits with her family.

Thomas Randolph, 94, a Stanford University graduate, Korean War veteran and 50-year Menlo Park resident, who found success in sand volleyball and his career in advertising and passion in his family and his pastime golf, and who later retired in Palo Alto with his wife Mary.

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



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BUILDER'S REMEDY

continued from page 1

Johnck and her husband, former Menlo Park mayor Steve Schmidt, also met with and passed their concerns to Mayor Cecilia Taylor and Council member Jen Wolosin.

"We were told that the city is following the application process according to city rules," Johnck said in her petition.

In emails to this news organization, city leaders acknowledged how wary residents are about the N17 proposal.

"It is clear that much of the Menlo Park community has deep concerns," Taylor said.

"I hear loud and clear the depth of concern that residents have," Wolosin also said.

In her March 13 newsletter, Wolosin wrote that many residents have reached out to her about the project.

"I understand how worried people are about the prospect of multiple high-rise buildings along the creek at the corner of Middlefield and Willow," she said in the newsletter. "I share many of your concerns. I find the proposed project outrageously out of scale from what is reasonable."

She added: "The City Council has worked hard to designate sites for housing development throughout the city during the housing-element process and rezoned land to enable that development. This project is completely inconsistent with what we had planned."

But while she understands the call for Menlo Park to keep the proposal from moving forward, Wolosin said, "it is important that the city not interfere with the project applicant's due-process rights. There is a process that must be followed, and there are still many unknowns."

She noted, though, that because N17 has yet to file a formal development application "there are no next steps for this project right now."

N17 - founded by real-estate professional Oisin Heneghan - eyes building three high rises of 421 feet, 371 feet and 305 feet, according to the city's housing-element website.

Those heights would be comparable to the Embarcadero Center office towers in San Francisco.

N17 would provide up to 805 housing units, a 162-room hotel, 300,000 square feet of offices and 15,000 square feet of retail space, according to the city.

Heneghan could not be reached for comment for this story. But previously, he told The Almanac that the project would include 160 affordable units and the final design is expected to be submitted later this year.

Menlo Park has two additional proposals already filed under

builder's remedy. One is for 19 residential units at 1305 Hoover St., and the other is for 140 dwellings at 104 Constitution Dr.

Jeremy Levine, policy manager for the nonprofit organization Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, pointed out that Menlo Park may have some options to try to stop a builder's remedy project.

"One avenue the city could use to block the builder's remedy proposals in Menlo Park would be to claim the city's housing element was actually in compliance at the time of the application's submission even though HCD hadn't certified it yet," Levine said in an email to this news organization.

In her petition, Johnck mentioned that the statewide grassroots coalition Our Neighborhood Voices has been fighting the ability of developers to pursue multistory, multi-unit projects in single-family neighborhoods following the passage of state laws in recent years.

The group has been campaigning to put an initiative on the ballot that would ensure local communities are in charge of their own zoning and land-use regulations.

A court ruling favoring a proposed builder's remedy development in Southern California, however, may pose further challenges to Menlo Park and other jurisdictions battling those types of projects.

In early March, a court ruled that La Cañada Flintridge violated state housing law by denying an application last year for an affordable-housing project filed under builder's remedy.

"The court found that a project's eligibility for the builder's remedy vests at the time of the application," Levine said. "As long as a city does not have a housing element certified by HCD, they cannot deny a builder's remedy proposal even if the city adopted the housing element before the application and got certified later."

Levine also noted that the court could require La Cañada Flintridge to do a speedy California Environmental Quality Act review of the project.

Such a requirement could close a tactic — the CEQA process - that local jurisdictions "have had at their disposal in the past to delay or block builder's remedy proposals," he said.

Menlo Park knows of, and is monitoring, the case.

"The city is aware of this trial-court ruling and continues to analyze all applicable law regarding the builder's remedy," the mayor said.

View Menlo Park's housing plan for 2023-31 on the city website at menlopark.gov.

*Email Contributing Writer
Neil Gonzales at ngonzales92@yahoo.com.*

Will there be a recount for Silicon Valley congressional race?

By Jana Kadah / San Jose Spotlight

The race to replace Congresswoman Anna Eshoo is about as tight as it can get, and it will likely be weeks until it's clear who's going to the runoff.

Former San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo is in first place — securing his spot in the November general election — but there is a razor thin margin between second and third place. Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian and Assemblymember Evan Low have been within several votes of each other, and a recount is likely. As of 1 p.m. Tuesday, Simitian sits just one vote ahead of Low. By Wednesday, The Almanac's press day, that flipped and Low took the lead by one vote.

Both Low and Simitian's campaigns did not confirm nor deny whether they will ask the state for a recount, but sources close to their campaigns said it's imminent that whoever lands in third place will do so.

"The reality is given the fact that it's so close, it's going to trigger a recount by one group or another," a source close to Low's campaign told San Jose Spotlight. "Both sides are going to have to pay for lawyers."

On the off chance that Simitian and Low tie for second, they could both join Liccardo in the general election, according to state election code 8142.

In the meantime, both candidates have been "curing ballots" — trying to fix ballots that have been damaged or not counted, oftentimes because of a missing signature.

Counties provide candidates with a list of ballots rejected in their race, enabling them to go door to door to ask voters to sign or "cure" the uncounted ballots.

Candidates can cure ballots up until the day before the county

certifies the vote on April 4. They can request a recount if unsatisfied with the results. Here's what you need to know:

What is a recount?

A recount is when votes cast in an election are re-tabulated to verify the accuracy of the original results. Recounts typically occur when there is a close margin of victory, claims of election fraud, or because of possible administrative errors.

In California, there are no "automatic recounts" for statewide or multi-county races, like the contest for Congressional District 16. However, any registered voter, including a candidate, can request a recount within five days starting the 31st day after Election Day.

What happens when a recount is requested?

Once someone requests a recount through the secretary of state, the county elections office must first verify the person requesting the recount is registered to vote in California.

The recount must begin within seven days after county officials receive the recount request, but cannot begin until a day after all candidates for that office and the secretary of state are notified the recount will take place either in person or by mail.

At least one day before the recount begins, county elections officials make public where and when the recount will be conducted. It must take place publicly in a location large enough to accommodate observers and media.

The recount must be conducted daily for a minimum of six hours each day until completed, excluding weekends and holidays.

How much does a recount cost?

The person who requests a recount pays for it, and it can cost

between a few thousand dollars to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Costs vary by county and depend on how many days it takes, if all precincts are recounted and whether the recount is done manually or by machine.

In Santa Clara County, it would take anywhere from \$84,000 to \$320,000, according to estimates by the county Registrar of Voters.

Registrar spokesperson Steve Goltiao said it would take approximately 10 days to tally votes by hand, at an estimated cost of \$32,000 per day for a total of \$320,000. If the requestor asks for a machine recount, it would take about five days to rescan all ballots at an estimated cost of \$16,840 per day for a total of \$84,200. This count does not include how much it would cost in San Mateo County, which shares Congressional District 16 with Santa Clara County.

If the recount changes the election outcome, the requestor is refunded the amount. If the outcome doesn't change, the requestor may receive a partial refund, or a refund if the amount paid was more than the cost to conduct the recount.

How long does a recount take?

There is no deadline for when a recount must finish, but it can take anywhere from one day to a couple weeks.

How do counties ensure accuracy with recounts?

Sometimes results change in recounts. In a 2022 Sunnyvale City Council election, initial election results and a recount showed candidate Murali Srinivasan holding a one-vote lead over opponent Justin Wang, with another review validating three previously discounted ballots. A recount resulted in an exact tie between the candidates. Srinivasan won after his name was pulled out of a bag,

"Votes can change in a recount because each ballot is reviewed by human eye instead of being counted by a machine," Goltiao told San Jose Spotlight. "The (registrar of voters) has quality control processes that catch most issues during post-election activities, but a recount provides an opportunity to look carefully at every single ballot."

He added that recounts are open to the public to observe. In a manual recount, teams of four work together to ensure accuracy and transparency, allowing for

team members to check each other's work and to make sure no single person is making the decision of how to count ballots. Additionally, teams are asked to re-tally any precincts where there's a question about the accuracy of the results, Goltiao said.

Any registered voter can request another recount within 24 hours of when the initial recount concludes. There is no restriction on how many recounts can be requested. ■

This story originally appeared in San Jose Spotlight.

Thomas Frederick Randolph

September 23, 1930 – March 19, 2024

Tom was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Madeleine Zentner Randolph Haugan and Samuel William Randolph III. He grew up in Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Wilmette, Illinois and Santa Barbara. Tom and his older brother Sam loved spending each summer in Ellison Bay, Wisconsin at their grandparents' cottage, where they were introduced to golf and became excellent sailors.



Tom met his future wife Mary Preuss in ninth grade, both graduating from Santa Barbara High School in 1948 (Tom captained the basketball team). He attended Stanford University on a Navy ROTC scholarship - he joined Phi Kappa Sigma, making lifelong friends. He was Head Yell Leader and sand volleyball champion. Mary and Tom were married two weeks after college graduation on June 29, 1952.

Following graduation, Tom served during the Korean War as a Naval officer. Completing his military service in 1955, he began working for the advertising agency Foote, Cone & Belding in Los Angeles. In 1961, the family moved to Menlo Park for the opportunity to run the Dole Pineapple account. In 1968, he was promoted to run the SF office, in 1980 took the presidency of FCB/Honig West, and in 1985 became Chairman. Known for empathy and preparation, he guided the office well, receiving the Western States Advertising Agencies Association Leader of the Year award in 1988.

Tom's passion, second only to his family, was golf. He played three or four times a week until his last year. An early member at Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club, Tom's skill on the golf course was admired - his dedication to exercise and practice allowed him to golf into his 90's. His sharp mind, which gave him the nickname ZOG (Czar of all Games), was with him to the end.

After living 50 years in Menlo Park, Mary and Tom moved in 2012 to the Vi in Palo Alto, a retirement community.

Tom was predeceased by the love of his life Mary in 2020, and his daughter Kathryn Cook (George) in 2005. He leaves behind daughter Nancy Brandon (John) of Atherton and son Tom (Cindy) of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida; seven grandchildren Kristin Brandon Blaugrund (Kevin), James Brandon (Emily), Steven Cook (Courtney), Jennifer Brandon, Melissa Cook Leonsis (Zachary), Tom Randolph III and Jason Randolph; and eight great-grandchildren Jack and Kate Brandon, Abby and Ellie Blaugrund, Olivia and Kathryn Leonsis, Tommy Randolph IV, and Avery Cook. Tom also leaves brother Sam Randolph (Donna) of Santa Barbara.

A Celebration of Life will be in the Chapel at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto at 11:45am on Friday May 10th.

PAID OBITUARY

HOUSING ELEMENT

continued from page 5

May, and those rezones are submitted to HCD, HCD will consider recertifying the housing element," according to a Wednesday, March 27, town news bulletin. "HCD will not be reviewing the entire housing element again, just the rezones, so it should be a quick process."

The Planning Commission met on March 20 to review zoning code amendments, but felt that they needed input from the town's Architectural and Site Control Commission. The Planning Commission met with the ASCC on March 25 to receive the committee's input on the zoning amendments.

On April 3, the Planning Commission and ASCC will

meet to review the feedback on the zoning draft amendments discussed during the March 20 meeting.

On April 17, the Planning Commission will meet to complete the review of the draft and consider adopting a resolution recommending approval to the town council.

The Town Council tentatively plans to meet on May 8 for the first reading of the zone code amendment. A second reading is expected to follow on May 22.

"I am confident that we will have everything in place by end of May for HCD approval," said Town Manager Sharif Etman in an email. "It is imperative we take the time to gather feedback from the community and our Planning Commission and ASCC Commissions, ultimately

with council approval."

The state certified neighboring Menlo Park's housing element in March. ■

Email Staff Writer

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jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com.

LEHUA GREENMAN



"Some old-fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat."

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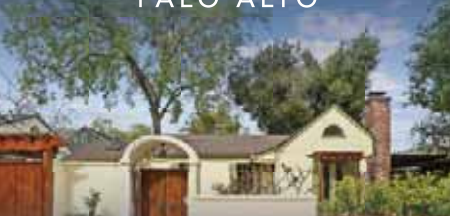
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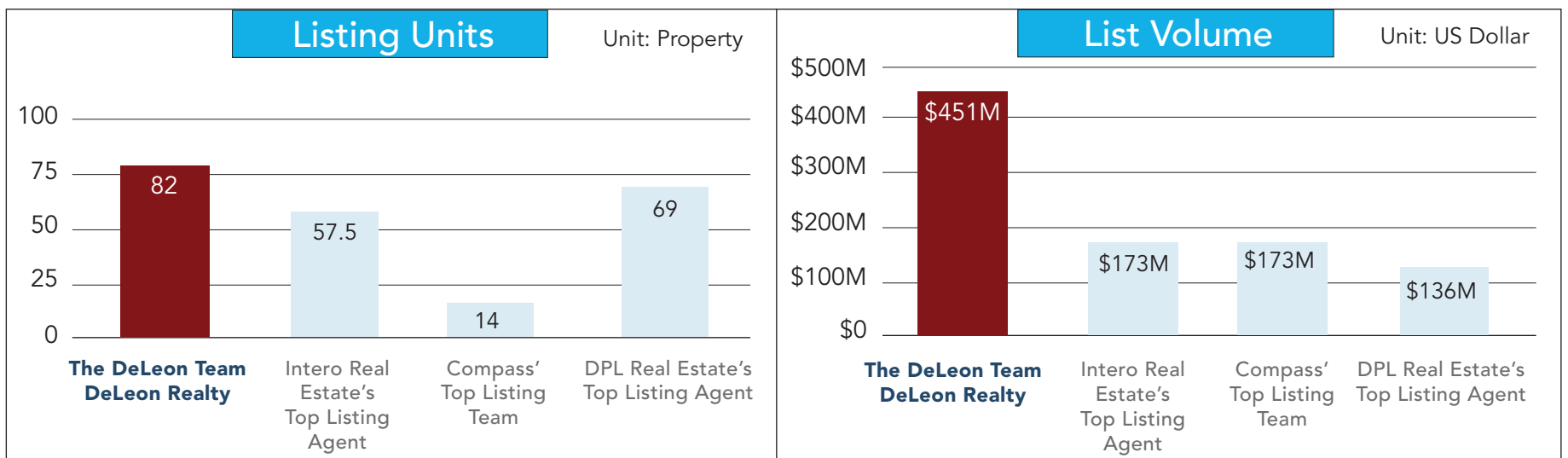
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Listing Units	82	57.5	14	69
List Volume	\$451,675,623	\$173,614,694	\$173,160,000	\$136,691,840



Criteria: MLSListings, Inc., Residential, Top Agent/Team at each brokerage, Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties Combined. Date Range: 1/1/2023-12/31/2023
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TOWN OF ATHERTON

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Notice: The Town of Atherton (Town) hereby gives notice that it will accept bids for construction of the following public work:

2024 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT

Project Number: 56091

1. **Scope of Work:** Performing of Type II micro-surfacing per Town specifications on the listed streets, which includes notifications, traffic control, prep work, micro-surface seal installation, compaction, sweeping, and re-stripping/pavement markings (as needed) with a 1-year guarantee.
2. **Plans & Specifications:** Plans & Specifications may be obtained at the Town of Atherton's website at: <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/bids.aspx> at no cost. Additional information is contained in Town of Atherton Standard Specifications, which are available at: <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/285>. Contractor shall be responsible for any addendums that may be posted on the Town's website. No Planholders list will be made be available.
3. **Project Schedule:** The work shall be completed within Thirty (30) working days from the First Day of Construction as defined in the Notice to Proceed.
4. **Bid Submission:** SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, California 94027, until 1:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time May 1, 2024, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All proposals must be submitted not later than the date and time prescribed. The Bidder is wholly responsible to ensure its Bid is submitted on the date and at the time and place designated for the opening of bids. Any Bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. Any Bid may be withdrawn prior to the scheduled time for opening bids.
5. **Engineer's Estimate** for the project is: **\$343,000.**
6. **Bid Requirements:** Bids must be for the entire work, and shall be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked: "Bid of (Contractor) for 2024 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT, Project No: 56091", along with date and time of bid opening. Bidders shall refer to the Bid Requirements section of the project Plans and Specifications for additional information and requirements.
7. **Required Contractor's License:** Bidder must possess a current California Class "A" General Engineering, or "C-12" Earthwork and Paving, or "C-32" Parking and Highway Improvement or any specialty required contractor's license issued by the State of California, at the time the Bid is submitted. The Contractor and all subcontractors shall be licensed by the State of California in the class appropriate for the work contemplated. Failure of Contractor or his/her subcontractors to possess such current license at the time of bidding may be deemed sufficient cause for rejection of the bid.
8. **Portion of Work to be Performed by the Contractor:** The General Contractor shall perform, with his own organization, work of a value amounting to not less than 50% of the total contract, excluding specialty items as may be indicated on the bid schedule.
9. **Department of Industrial Relations Registration:** A Contractor or Subcontractor shall not be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Public Contract Code 4104, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, as that term is defined in Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1 of the Labor Code, unless currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. (<http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html>)
10. **Reservation of Rights:** The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids; to make any awards or any rejections in what it alone considers to be in the best interest of the Town and waive any informalities or irregularities in the bids. If there is a reason to believe that collusion exists among any bidders, none of the bids of the participants in such collusion will be considered and the Town may likewise elect to reject all bids received.
11. **Substitution of Securities:** The successful bidder may substitute securities for retention monies withheld to ensure performance of the contract, in accordance with California Public Contract Code, Section 22300.
12. **Prevailing Wage Rates:** Bidders are hereby notified that provisions of California Labor Code regarding prevailing wages and apprentices are applicable to the work to be performed under this contract. Pursuant to Section 1773 et seq. the general prevailing wage rates have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations and appear in the California Prevailing Wage Rates. Copies are on file at the office of the City Engineer and are available to interested parties upon request. The successful bidder shall post a copy of the wage rates at the job site.
13. **Bid Preparation Cost:** Bidders are solely responsible for the cost of plan and specification printing and preparing their Bids.
14. **Town Contact:** Questions regarding the project should be directed to Robert Ovadia, PE, by written Requests for Information (RFI) to: Public Works Department, 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027, no later than eight (8) business days before bid opening. RFIs may be emailed to rovadia@ci.atherton.ca.us.
15. **Understanding:** By submitting a bid in response to this advertisement for bids, the bidder shall be conclusively deemed to have read, understood, and agreed with all of the information and materials contained in the bid documents, including but not limited to the standard specifications, the special provisions, the required nature and amount of insurance and the documentation evidencing said insurance.
16. **Bid Protests:** The lack of a prompt procedure to resolve disputes regarding the bidding process would impair the Town's ability to carry out its purpose of constructing this project in a timely manner. Therefore, to the maximum extent authorized by law and notwithstanding any other procedures specified in documents referenced herein, all disputes and/or protests regarding the bidding process shall be subject to the following procedure. In submitting a Bid to the Town for this project, the Bidder agrees to comply with and to be bound by this procedure.

Any Bid protest must be submitted in writing to the Office of the City Clerk, Atherton Town Hall 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027, before 5:00 p.m. on the fifth (5th) working day following Bid opening.

The initial protest document must contain a complete statement of the basis for the protest, and all supporting documentation.

The party filing the protest must have actually submitted a Bid for the Work. A Subcontractor of a party submitting a Bid for the Work may not submit a Bid protest. A party may not rely on the Bid protest submitted by another Bidder, but must timely pursue its own protest.

The protest must refer to the specific portion of the Contract Documents which forms the basis for the protest.

The protest must include the name, address and telephone number of the person representing the protesting party.

The party filing the protest must concurrently transmit a copy of the initial protest document and any attached documentation to all other parties with a direct financial interest which may be adversely affected by the outcome of the protest. Such parties shall include all other Bidders who appear to have a reasonable prospect of receiving an award depending upon the outcome of the protest.

The Town will give the protested Bidder five (5) working days after the receipt of the protest to submit a written response. The responding Bidder shall transmit the response to the protesting Bidder concurrent with delivery to the Town.

The procedure and time limits set forth in this paragraph are mandatory and are the Bidder's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of Bid protest. The Bidder's failure to comply with these procedures shall constitute a waiver of any right to further pursue the Bid protest, including filing a Government Code Claim or legal proceedings.

If the Town determines that a protest is frivolous, the protesting Bidder may be determined to be non-responsible, and that Bidder may be determined to be ineligible for future contract awards.
17. **List of Subcontractors:** Each Bidder shall set forth in its Bid (on the form provided here with) the following information in accordance with the provisions of Public Contract Code sections 4100-4113: The name, Contractor's license number, public works Contractor registration number and the location of the place of business of each Subcontractor who will perform work or labor or render service to the prime Contractor in or about the construction of the work or improvement, or a Subcontractor licensed by the State of California who, under subcontract to the prime Contractor, specifically fabricates and installs a portion of the work or improvement according to the Contract Documents, in any amount in excess of one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the prime Contractor's total Bid, or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), whichever is greater.

The portion of the work which will be done by each such Subcontractor. Only one Subcontractor shall be listed for each such portion of the work as defined in the Bid.

The Bidder is considered the Prime Contractor and shall perform at least fifty percent (50%) of the work, as determined by a percentage of the value of the work.

If the Bidder fails to specify a Subcontractor for any portion of the work to be performed under the Contract, the Bidder agrees to perform that portion of the work itself.

By: _____ Date: _____

Robert Ovadia, P.E., City Engineer

FLOOD PROTECTION

continued from page 7

any improvements do not place downstream areas at greater risk, she said.

“Figuring out how to remove it or how to change it or how to replace it that doesn’t add to the flood risk of Palo Alto, Menlo Park and East Palo Alto downstream is going to be the hardest thing,” Bruce said.

The Schaaf & Wheeler study, she suggested, underscored the importance of the Pope-Chaucer bridge in protecting other areas from flooding.

“We understand that the slight variations at tops of bank at either side make a big difference about where the water spills and we learned that not only does the Pope-Chaucer bridge cause problems because it’s a choke point and water backs up behind it and spills out, it’s protective of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park downstream because it retains some of the water,” Bruce said at the Town Hall meeting. “It is illegal for us to transfer risk.”

Not everyone was satisfied with the explanation. Susan Saal, a resident of Forest Avenue, was among those who were frustrated with the bureaucratic impediments to flood improvements. She recalled the anxieties that she and her neighbors experienced during the Dec. 31, 2022, rains.

“We were desperately worried about our neighbors, we were desperately worried about our own property. It was a tremendous crisis,” Saal said. “It is unclear to me what’s holding us up from achieving ... what is the right thing to do in balancing these ecological needs with the real problem that we have with the flow of water through this creek.”

The creek authority is also struggling with this question. In March, it went out to bid on a consultant to help it forge a new path forward after the latest setbacks. It expects to hire a firm latest this month and have a new set of alternatives in place for analysis by this fall. It remains to be seen, however, what those improvements would be, how much they will cost, where the funding will come from and whether they will be acceptable to residents around the creek.

Menlo Park City Council member Drew Combs, who chairs the creek authority board of directors, observed in a December meeting that some of the alternatives that had been previously proposed for the Reach 2 segment — including flood walls — had “very visceral and negative reactions from the community.” Bringing these alternatives back could undermine residents’ confidence in the creek authority, he said.

“I’d say we risk a very large loss of trust if we then seem to go back to those alternatives when there

Portola Valley hires accountants to catch up on financial audits

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

After lots of questions from residents about why its financial audits were delayed, the Portola Valley Town Council has hired Maze & Associates, to conduct the financial audits for the fiscal years of 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Both audits from the Pleasant Hill-based accounting firm will amount to \$88,000. The firm will also provide the town with feedback on how the town can improve and prepare for future finance reports.

During the March 27 council meeting, Town Manager Sharif Etman acknowledged that the town is behind on financial audits and that he has been transparent about the timeline for each audit.

“We don’t have an audit problem per se, we have a timeliness problem,” responded Etman to Council member Mary Hufty’s question about the town’s audit problems. “We as a town did not submit our reports on time and that is what the auditors are reporting on.”

Hufty pointed out that the town may have “an audit oversight problem,” despite the town having a Finance and Audit Committee and suggested that there be a separate committee that handles financial audits. The council plans to come back to the topic to discuss in the future.

During public comment, Portola Valley resident Rita Comes questioned why the town had not gotten its audits completed at the same time

when the 2020 audits were done in 2023.

“The onus is on our town that these audits and the year end financials did not get done,” said Comes. “But moving forward, we should have an audit committee separate from the finance committee. If we were to look at the government guidelines they should be separate.”

Upcoming budget study session

On April 24 from 5:30-7 p.m., Etman will be holding a budget study session to discuss the town’s financial viability while touching on finances and challenges. ■

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

was clear public apprehension and say, ‘Well, a new analysis. ...’ That’s when trust erodes further,” Combs said.

While major upgrades won’t be coming for some time, the creek authority is preparing for limited creek improvements in the next two summers. This summer,

residents should expect to see some site preparation work in the downstream area, she said. The goal is then to widen the channel in the downstream area in 2025 and then augment that work with other projects in 2026 and 2027.

“We have to think very carefully about what is the best solution to

remove the problem — to mitigate the problem upstream of the water backing up and spilling — while not adding to the woes of the people of Palo Alto, Menlo Park and East Palo Alto if we were to send all that water down their way,” Bruce said. “We’re looking at that. It may be a while before we have an answer.” ■

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THE SIX FIFTY

2024

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PeninsulaContest2024.artcall.org

ENTRY DEADLINE

APRIL 14







How did we miss this? A cross-bay link via the old Dumbarton Rail

By Henry Riggs

GUEST OPINION

The Peninsula is the only major work center I've known that doesn't have a real transit system. There's one train line, and if you don't live and/or work next to Caltrain, it's not how you get around.

The result of living in a transit-starved environment can be twisted. Most of us depend on

cars for everything, leading to some fanciful dreams of alternatives — like bicycle commuting. After extensive regional bike lane improvements, Meta was hoping to see 5% of its employees arrive on a self-powered bike. That's nice, but not a relevant solution.

How is it that this planet-sensitive region has no transit route to the coast or from the Peninsula to the East Bay? The latter has both existing housing and buildable housing sites, but the drive over the Dumbarton is a bad trade of wasted time. And anyway the 101 and 880 can't handle more bridge traffic.

Since 1999, there have been several attempts to build a cross-bay

link via the old Dumbarton Rail right of way — the abandoned rail right of way from Redwood City through Menlo Park to Union City. Imagine — it would connect Caltrain with BART, even Amtrak. Voters authorized at least two huge bonds in that period for the local share of project cost. What happened to that effort — and what happened to the money?

The answer is largely that our city, county and state legislators have other things they'd rather fight for. Like extensive hearings on housing, greenhouse gas emissions and equity issues — ironic, because available transit would meaningfully and profoundly address all of those. Well, the money got siphoned off by East Bay BART advocates. Meanwhile, if you haven't followed, at least seven huge new office parks are due to open on the Peninsula in the next four years, and both our housing demand and transportation demand will boom. Again.

Last fall, I contacted mayors, supervisors, state, and federal representatives for the south peninsula, and several major land/business owners as well. All knew about the coming surge of office space — and all were enthusiastic about the Dumbarton Rail project. Indeed, over the last five years, Facebook invested millions of dollars with SamTrans to study and outline a rail project,

even forming a private construction consortium to hasten the project. It seemed like a team that couldn't be denied. But there was not enough political will to get the agency ducks in a row. Jackie Speier and many local leaders pressed hard behind the scenes, but the MTC — the local agency that controls Bay Area transportation spending — just couldn't make the California side of the commitment, preferring to divert state funds again to BART. When in 2021 and 2022 Washington, D.C. had billions offered up for local transportation, the Peninsula built toll lanes.

So I challenge our state reps, our federal reps and above all the un-elected agencies that hold the purse strings for Bay Area transportation. We've had enough of hearing how BART is more important. We've had enough of elite toll lanes. There are 4 million people in Silicon Valley that have been the economic engine of California, and pay more in taxes than any other region. It's time we got the transportation infrastructure that nearly every other major work center in the world has built.

To those who hold the purse strings: What does it take to get you on our team?

Henry Riggs is a Menlo Park resident, member of the city Planning Commission and local architect.



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT
500 LAUREL STREET
MENLO PARK, CA 94025**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the District Board of West Bay Sanitary District will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in the District's Board Room located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park and by Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88590407326?pwd=mEV0TKa0u6Z1a0ee9YlflkXHTLUfobN.1> Meeting ID: 885 9040 7326 Passcode: 549236

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a proposed increase in sewer services charges for fiscal years 2024/2025, 2025/26 and 2026/2027. Additional information is available through the District's website at www.westbaysanitary.org and on the official notice that was mailed to every parcel address that pays District rates.

The proposed rates are \$1,371 per Single Family Residence for fiscal year 2024/25 (a \$65 per year increase), \$1,440 for fiscal year 2025/26 (a \$69 per year increase), and \$1,512 for fiscal year 2026/27 (a \$72 per year increase). For customers in the On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone, the proposed rates are \$2,337 for fiscal year 2024/25 (a \$111 per year increase), \$2,454 in fiscal year 2025/26 (a \$117 per year increase), and \$2,577 for fiscal year 2026/27 (a \$123 per year increase). Proposed rates for Commercial or Industrial Customers are set forth below. The increased charges are required to fund needed maintenance, reconstruction to the sewer system, levee improvements, and expenses for the Silicon Valley Clean Water regional wastewater treatment plant.

Proposed Rates

	Proposed FY 2024/25	Proposed FY 2025/26	Proposed FY 2026/27
Residential (per Dwelling Unit)			
Single Family, Multi-Family	\$1,371	\$1,440	\$1,512
On-site Wastewater Disposal Zone	\$2,337	\$2,454	\$2,577
Commercial (per CCF)			
Retail/Commercial	\$11.05	\$11.60	\$12.18
Institution/Public	\$10.06	\$10.56	\$11.09
Restaurants	\$23.27	\$24.43	\$25.65
Supermarkets with Grinders	\$23.53	\$24.71	\$25.95
Hospitals	\$11.42	\$11.99	\$12.59
Hotels with Dining Facilities	\$18.78	\$19.72	\$20.71
Industrial			
Flow rate (per CCF)	\$8.15	\$8.56	\$8.99
BOD (per pound)	\$1.44	\$1.51	\$1.59
TSS (per pound)	\$1.64	\$1.72	\$1.81

Protests against the proposed rate increase must be submitted in writing by 4:00pm on May 8, 2024, and signed by the property owner, must identify the owner(s) of the property for which the protest is entered, and must include the property address and assessor's parcel number (APN).

/s/ Sergio Ramirez
Sergio Ramirez
General Manager

LETTERS

Our readers write

Home list prices

I read "Homes have been selling as much as 20% over asking price in these 3 Peninsula cities" in the March 15, 2024 issue of The Almanac by the Silicon Valley Association of Realtors.

Is it ethical to offer, or to accept more than the "asking"

price to buy or rent a home? It seems to me, the prospective buyer/renter is exemplifying a sense of fear, doubt, distrust, insecurity, maybe desperation when he offers more than the "asking" price. The one who accepts the extra money is expressing greed, pride, self-glorification, lack of humility meekness, principle, self-control. Both buyer and seller are expressing dishonesty. This puts more people on the street.

What's on your mind?

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

Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

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

What are the qualities we are looking for/see in a "HOME?" Completeness, wholeness, security, purity, comfort, harmony, joy, happiness — to name a few. Maybe we should be more trusting, like children. They don't always know where their home will be, but they KNOW they will be provided for in a way they understand. When we all open our thought to the infinite spiritual qualities of "HOME," housing will be more available and affordable for all.

*Jackie Leonard-Dimmick
Walnut Avenue, Atherton*

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SPRING 2024 – GUIDE TO SCHOOLS, CAMPS & CLASSES

Business & Tech

CareerGenerations

2100 Geng Road, Suite 210, Palo Alto
info@careergenerations.com
careergenerations.com

CareerGenerations offers career counseling and group workshops to meet the career needs of a variety of individuals, including college students looking for internships, and graduates and professionals exploring career options or looking for employment. Workshops are currently being held via Zoom.

ReBoot Accelerator for Women

1865 Camino a los Cerros,
Menlo Park
650-387-3743
reboot@rebootaccel.com
rebootaccel.com

ReBoot Accelerator for Women keeps local women current, connected and confident about reentering the workforce through workshops taught by social media experts and instructors from companies such as LinkedIn, Google, Apple and Enjoy.

Culture

Joy Culture Foundation

934 Santa Cruz Ave., Suite A,
Menlo Park
650-272-6915
info@thejoyculturefoundation.org

thejoyculturefoundation.org

The nonprofit Joy Culture Foundation operates the Little Bookworm Library to provide families a place to immerse in Chinese culture and language. The center has children's books in Mandarin and English available for check out, as well as bilingual language and culture classes.



Dance

Mannakin Theater and Dance

en Avant School of Dance,
1841 Bay Road, East Palo Alto
415-519-7171

info@mannakindance.org
mannakindance.org

Mannakin Theater and Dance offers youth ballet and dance classes at en Avant School of Dance studio in East Palo Alto, which opened in

Spring has sprung!

It's the season of new beginnings, budding blossoms and fresh energy after a long winter. That makes it a great time to consider trying something new or getting back into something you've been meaning to try again. If you're a parent, you may be looking for a school that's the right fit for your young learner, whether they're just about to start their first academic journey or are seeking a new opportunity in which to thrive. Whatever your phase in life, the spring education guide has some ideas for your next step.

Let's Educate is published quarterly by the Palo Alto Weekly and The Almanac.

March 2022. Registration is open and school-year classes are held through May 31.

Victoria Ballet

370 California Ave., Palo Alto
650-720-2643
webmaster@victoriaballet.dance
victoriaballet.dance

At this ballet studio, students from age 4 to adult are learning the art of dance from instructor Victoria Lee and other dance faculty who have danced professionally with the San Francisco Ballet. The classes offered include all experience levels — from beginners who have never stepped up to the barre to pre-professional dancers. Regular classes run through May.

Zohar School of Dance & Company

Cubberley Community Center,
4000 Middlefield Road, Room L-4,
Palo Alto
650-494-8221
zohardance@gmail.com /
zohardancecompany.org

With roots going back to 1979, Zohar School of Dance holds a range of adult dance classes including jazz, modern, ballet, voice and tap. Registration for workshops and ongoing dance classes for adults of all skill levels is now open.

Disability services

Bay Area Friendship Circle

3921 Fabian Way, Suite A023,
Palo Alto / 650-858-6990
info@bayareaafc.org / bayareaafc.org

The Bay Area Friendship Circle offers programs inspired by Jewish values and traditions for children, teens and young adults with special needs ages 2-22 year-round. Trained teen volunteers provide friendship and support.

Health & fitness

Equinox

440 Portage Ave., Palo Alto
650-319-1700

equinox.com/clubs/
northern-california/paloalto

Equinox's Palo Alto location offers a variety of fitness and wellness activities including yoga, cycling and high-intensity interval training classes.

One Heart Yoga

Little House Activity Center,
800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park
oneheartyyoga.com

One Heart Yoga offers weekly classes in Kundalini yoga and meditation, aimed at helping students increase flexibility and strength and learn breathing techniques to calm and focus and reduce anxiety and depression. Hybrid (in-person and online) classes available.

SoulCycle

669 Stanford Shopping Center,
Room C-12,
Palo Alto
650-784-7510

soulpaloalto@soul-cycle.com
soul-cycle.com/studios/palo28

SoulCycle combines inspirational coaching, high-energy music, indoor cycling, choreography and more to create an enjoyable, full-body workout.

Taijiquan Tutelage of Palo Alto

Cubberley Community Center,
4000 Middlefield Road, Room U-7,
Palo Alto
650-327-9350
mjchan@ttopa.com / ttopa.com

At Taijiquan Tutelage of Palo Alto, established in 1973, students learn the classical Yang Style Taijiquan Slow Form style of tai chi. Outdoor classes take place at Cubberley and at Rinconada Park, 777 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto.

Music & visual arts

Community School of Music and Arts

Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle,
Mountain View
650-917-6800
info@arts4all.org / arts4all.org

The Community School of Music and Arts offers year-round classes in music, visual and digital arts, with courses suited for adults and children as young as preschool-age. Students are encouraged to sign up for classes at least two weeks in advance.

EPACenter

1950 Bay Road, East Palo Alto
650-313-2626 / epacenter.org

The 25,000-square-foot space offers a wide range of creative disciplines for East Palo Alto youth ages 6-25. Students can participate in classes such as music, visual arts, dance and skateboarding. No one is turned away for lack of funds.



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stanfordwaterpolocamps.com

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3 week program)

TIME: 9am-12pm daily (Pacific
Standard Time) via Zoom

FORMAT: VIRTUAL PROGRAM - ZOOM WEBINAR

ELIGIBILITY: High School Students (9th-12th grade)

REGISTRATION: Online registration will open
on MARCH 1, 2024

PROGRAM TOPICS:

WEEK 1 (JULY 8-12): IMMUNOLOGY/NEUROSCIENCE

WEEK 2 (JULY 15-19): STEM CELL/CANCER

WEEK 3 (JULY 22-26): BIOINFORMATICS/BIOENGINEERING

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

HTTPS://EXPLORE.STANFORD.EDU

Let's Educate! – Guide to Schools, Camps & Classes

Music Together Menlo Park

75 Arbor Road, Suite N, Menlo Park
650-799-1624

admin@mt-mp.com / mt-mp.com

Music Together Menlo Park holds classes exploring music and movement for children from birth up to age 5 and their guardians at the Allied Arts Guild, as well as two locations in Palo Alto — Lucie Stern Community Center and Unity Church.

New Mozart School of Music

2100 El Camino Real, Suite C,
Palo Alto

650-324-2373

info@newmozartschool.com /
newmozartschool.com

New Mozart School of Music offers music lessons year-round to students of all ages and abilities. Piano, violin, viola, cello, voice, guitar, flute and early childhood music classes are available.

Pacific Art League

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto

650-321-3891

info@pacificartleague.org /
pacificartleague.org

The classes and workshops at the Pacific Art League are taught by qualified and experienced instructors for children and adults with varying experience. Instructors teach many media, including drawing, painting, watercolor, digital art and more. In-person and live online classes are offered year-round.

Palo Alto Art Center

1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto

650-329-2366

artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org /
cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Community-Services/Arts-Sciences/Palo-Alto-Art-Center

Palo Alto Art Center classes and workshops — teaching children, teens and adults — cover such areas as ceramics, painting, drawing, jewelry, sculpture, Adobe PhotoShop and more.

Older adults

Avenidas

450 Bryant St., Palo Alto
Cubberley Community Center,
4000 Middlefield Road, Room H-5,
Palo Alto / 650-289-5400

info@avenidas.org / avenidas.org

Avenidas offers many classes, as well as lectures and workshops, for Midpeninsula seniors focusing on topics such as general health, physical fitness, languages, humanities, computing, music and writing. Classes are held in person, online via Zoom or are a hybrid of both.

Little House Activity Center

800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park
650-272-5000 / lpvi.org/littlehouse

Little House Activity Center offers classes for adults of all ages on various topics and activities, including health and wellness for seniors; fitness exercises like line dancing and Pilates; ceramics, drawing and other arts; languages; history and culture; and computer skills.

Parent education

Children's Health Council

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto
650-326-5530

careteam@chconline.org /
chconline.org

Children's Health Council holds

a variety of classes touching on child-behavior issues, dyslexia, anxiety and depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism and other topics related to encouraging all children's success.



Schools

Amigos de Palo Alto

1611 Stanford Ave., Palo Alto

650-493-4300

info@amigosdepaloalto.com /
amigosdepaloalto.com

Amigos de Palo Alto is a Spanish-immersion preschool for children 2 and older. Students are a mix of native and new Spanish speakers and the program combines reading, writing, art and play to develop a love of learning.

Athena Academy

525 San Antonio Ave., Palo Alto

650-543-4560

anne@athenaacademy.org /
athenaacademy.org

Athena Academy educates dyslexic and twice-exceptional students in first through eighth grades.

Emerson School

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto

650-424-1221

vbarberis@headsup.org /
emersonmontessori.com

Emerson School provides a year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Lessons draw from classical subjects and other areas, including art, music, foreign language, physical education, communication, life skills and more. Emerson also offers an infant center and a preschool program.

Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School

450 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto

650-494-8200

info@hausnerschool.org /
hausnerschool.org

Instructing children in kindergarten through eighth grade, Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School provides strong academics, instruction in Jewish studies and the Hebrew language, enrichment opportunities and after-school programs.

Kehillah Jewish High School

3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto

650-213-9600 /

admissions@kehillah.org /
kehillah.org

This college-preparatory high school (grades nine through 12) features modern science and computer labs, art and music studios, a drama program, a full range of academic courses with small class sizes, sports teams and more.

Living Wisdom School of Palo Alto

456 College Ave.,

Palo Alto

650-462-8150

livingwisdomschool.org

Offering yoga, meditation and experiential, interdisciplinary learning, Living Wisdom School serves students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade. It offers a low teacher-student ratio, an integrated arts program, a balanced approach to technology, and after-school care.

Lydian Academy

815 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

650-535-8711 / staff@lydianlink.com /
lydianacademy.com

Lydian Academy is a middle and high school offering year-round individualized instruction to prepare students for college. Lessons include a mix of one-on-one teaching and group sessions. It also offers tutoring and after-school programs. Both in-person and online instruction available.

Mustard Seed Learning Center

650-494-7388

info@mustardseedlearningcenter.org /
mustardseedlearningcenter.org

Mustard Seed Learning Center is an after-school tutoring and care program that teaches local youth to speak Mandarin Chinese, in addition to emphasizing social development and excellence in academics. After-school programs are held at 3048 Price Court, Palo Alto, and Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. The center also offers a preschool program that takes place at the Price Court address.

Oshman Family JCC Leslie Family Preschool

3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto

650-223-8788

earlychildhood@paloaltojcc.org /
paloaltojcc.org/preschool

The Oshman Family JCC's Leslie Family Preschool program provides various scheduling and program options for children 18 months to 5 years old, with an emphasis on experiential learning, family involvement and play. Registration and tours are available.

Peninsula School

920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park

650-325-1584

info@peninsulaschool.org /
peninsulaschool.org

Peninsula School is a progressive institution teaching students from nursery through eighth grade, with an emphasis on choice and experience. Classes cover core subjects as well as instruction in music, physical education, drama, ceramics, woodshop and more.

Sand Hill School

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto

650-688-3605

info@sandhillschool.org /
sandhillschool.org

Located at the Children's Health Council, Sand Hill School teaches children from second through eighth grade with language-based learning differences, school-based anxiety and ADHD.

Silicon Valley International School

151 Laura Lane, Palo Alto

475 Pope St., Menlo Park

650-251-8500

school@svintl.org / svintl.org

Silicon Valley International School offers bilingual immersion day school with two nursery-to-fifth-grade programs in French, German and Mandarin as well as middle and high school programs. Some programs include media and technology, music, gastronomy and athletics classes.

Something for everyone

JobTrain

1200 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park

650-330-6429

info@jobtrainworks.org /

jobtrainworks.org

JobTrain has a variety of training programs for adults — providing instruction in the culinary arts, business administration, health care, web technology, construction and other fields — as well as programs specifically for young adults, to help with GED diploma preparation, job placement and vocational training. The center also offers onsite preschool with income-based fees. Open entry GED/high school equivalency classes run on weekdays.

Palo Alto Adult School

Palo Alto High School,

50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto

650-329-3752

adultschool@pausd.org /
paadultschool.org

Classes on computer skills, language, cooking, art, and many others are available through the Palo Alto Adult School. Both online and in-person classes are available.

The Riekes Center

3455 Edison Way, Menlo Park

650-364-2509

info@riekes.org / riekes.org

The Riekes Center offers year-round programming in fitness, arts and nature for individuals of all ages and abilities. The center also provides programs for home-schooled students.

Sequoia District Adult School

3247 Middlefield Road,

Menlo Park

650-306-8866 / seqsas.org

Sequoia District Adult Education holds classes in English as a second language and computer and business skills. Students can also earn a high school diploma or GED certificate. Counselors are available to help students transition to college programs.

Stanford Continuing Studies

Littlefield Center, 365 Lasuen St.,

Stanford.

continuingstudies@stanford.edu /
continuingstudies.stanford.edu

Stanford Continuing Studies organizes in-person and online classes in liberal arts and sciences, creative writing, and professional and personal development.

See **LET'S EDUCATE**, page 24

NOW ENROLLING

“The writer is an explorer.”
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

WRITE NOW! SUMMER WRITING CAMPS

Grades 2-8

2024 JULY 8 - AUGUST 2

- Expository Writing
- Creative Writing
- Presentation Skills

All courses are directed by the distinguished faculty of Emerson Montessori Schools of Palo Alto and Pleasanton. Breaks are taken for snacks, lunch, physical exercise, and social interaction. Parents are welcome at afternoon presentations.

Grades: 2-8	Cost:
Hours: 10:00AM – 4:00PM	1 week: \$650
Free extended care available	2 weeks: \$1,275
	3 weeks: \$1,875

Emerson
Montessori
Schools

• Palo Alto
• Pleasanton

For applications and information:
www.emersonmontessori.com

TOWN OF WOODSIDE
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD, WOODSIDE, CA 94062
PLANNING COMMISSION
APRIL 17, 2024, 6:00 PM

Members of the public that wish to attend and/or participate in a meeting may do so in person or by joining the zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736> public comments will be accepted both in person and via zoom meeting. Any emails sent to sharper@woodsideca.gov prior to 5:00 p.M. On the date of the hearing will be provided to the planning commission prior to the meeting.

In the event that any member of the commission participates in a meeting by teleconference or video conference, pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown act, government code section 54953, all votes of the commission shall be by roll call.

Join Zoom Meeting:

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128
+1 346 248 7799

Note: Callers dial *9 to "raise hand" and dial *6 to mute/unmute.

Meeting ID: 860 6847 2736

Weblink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736>

Remote Public Comments:

Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. Members of the public participating remotely may comment on items during the hearing.

Email: sharper@woodsideca.gov

PUBLIC HEARING

1. 4 Blue Ridge Lane and 750 Mountain Home Road LLAJ2023-0001
Dan MacLeod, MacLeod and Associates, Inc. Planner: Melanie Olson, Associate Planner

Review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a Lot Line Adjustment between three lots: 4 Blue Ridge Lane, 750 Mountain Home Road, and a 50-foot privately owned access easement adjacent to Blue Ridge Lane.

2. 40 Cragmont Way VARI2024-0002
Keith Willis Landscape Architects Planner: Keigo Yamamoto, Assistant Planner

Review and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal to construct a 34 square feet swimming pool cover box adjacent to, and to serve, an existing swimming pool. The proposed swimming pool cover box requires Planning Commission approval of a Variance allow the cover back to encroach into the rear setback on a property located in a Suburban Residential (SR) zoning district.

The project is Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to §15305(a), which includes minor lot line adjustments not resulting in the creation of any new parcel.

THE APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING MELAINE OLSON AT MOLSON@WOODSIDECA.GOV OR KEIGO YAMAMOTO AT KYAMAMOTO@WOODSIDECA.GOV

Let's Educate! – Guide to Schools, Camps & Classes

LET'S EDUCATE!

continued from page 23

Sur La Table

Town & Country Village, 855 El Camino Real, Suite 57, Palo Alto / 650-289-0019 slt073@surlatable.com / surlatable.com

Sur La Table offers hands-on cooking classes, guiding students in making regional cuisines, themed meals and other baked goods.

Sports

Baylands Golf Links

1875 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto 650-856-0881 / baylandsgolflinks.com

Private lessons and clinics teaching golf techniques, rules and etiquette are available for sign-up at any level of experience throughout the year.

Kim Grant Tennis Academy

3005 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto 650-752-8061

admin@kimgranttennis.com / kimgranttennis.com

The Kim Grant Tennis Academy organizes an array of tennis classes and programs for adults and children at several locations.

Spring Down Equestrian Center

725 Portola Road, Portola Valley 650-851-1114

springdowneqcenter@gmail.com / springdown.com

Spring Down Equestrian Center educates children (beginning at age 6) and adults on horses and horseback riding. Classes and camps held year-round.

United States Youth Volleyball League

550 Sylvan Ave., Mountain View 310-212-7008 / info@usyvl.org / usyvl.org/locations/mountain-view

Run by the league and volunteers, the youth volleyball program teaches youth ages 7-15 of all skill levels to play and learn the sport in a fun, supportive and co-ed environment.

Webb Ranch Riding School

2720 Alpine Road, Portola Valley 650-854-7755

summer@webbranchinc.com / webbranchinc.com

Instruction for beginning and intermediate riders in both group and private settings, including camps for kids age 7-18. Specialties include Western riding, dressage and hunt-seat riding.

Let's Educate is published quarterly in the Palo Alto Weekly and the Almanac. Descriptions of classes and schools in Palo Alto, Stanford, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Atherton, East Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Portola Valley and Woodside are provided. Listings are free and subject to editing. Due to space constraints, classes and schools in the above cities are given priority.

To inquire about submitting a listing for the next Let's Educate, email editor@pawebweekly.com.

To place a paid advertisement in Let's Educate, call the display advertising department at 650-326-8210. ■



Stanford Medical Humanities Summer Programs



JUNE 17 - 28 & JULY 8 - 19, 2024

Stanford Medicine Art and Anatomy Summer Program

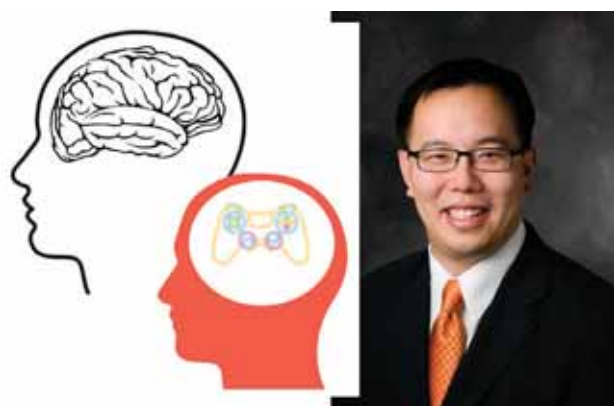
The Art & Anatomy Program is a 2-week, in-person immersion in visual storytelling for high school students.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

The program will include a speaker series from leading anatomists, physicians, and creatives whose work blend art and medicine. This will be followed by a week of drawing mentorship to develop a resolved final illustration. Students will present their final projects to a panel of artists, museum curators, and physicians.



bit.ly/artandanatomy



JUNE 17 - 28, 2024

Stanford Medicine Video Games for Health Virtual Program

The Video Games for Health Program is a 2-week, virtual immersion in game design and health for high school students.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

Embark on a comprehensive program at the forefront of the intersection between medical science and video game design. Throughout this program, you'll delve into essential medical subjects, including cardiovascular physiology, neurophysiology, and mental health.



bit.ly/videogamesforhealth

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June 10-Aug. 2

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Harker offers an extraordinary array of summer fun and educational experiences for learners of all ages.

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From creative writing and archery to drivers ed and robotics, the possibilities are endless. Class sizes are limited – register today!

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- English Language Institute
- Swim School
- Sports Camps
- Speech & Debate Camp



408.553.5736 | SummerCampInfo@harker.org | 500 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, CA 95129

SUMMERLearn more at AlmanacNews.com/camp-connection/

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

CAMP CONNECTION

2024**ACADEMICS****7EDU Impact Academy****Cupertino**

Join 7EDU for an unforgettable volunteer abroad summer camp experience in Costa Rica (G6-12), where you'll travel overseas, explore the world, make lifelong friendships, and make a meaningful impact in local communities. Alternatively, join our Youth Entrepreneurship Summer Camp (G6-12) to learn startup & business fundamentals, industry research, problem-solving skills, public speaking skills, and explore business college majors. For younger grades, 7EDU offers Designer Life Simulation Camp (G4-7) and All Day Art Camp (G2-5). On-campus in Cupertino. Mention Camp Connection to receive a \$50 discount.

7edu.org**(408) 876-2144****Early Learning Institute****Palo Alto, Pleasanton**

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

EmersonMontessori.com**Emerson: (650) 424-1267
Hacienda: (925) 485-5750****Harker Summer Programs****San Jose**

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

Harker.org/Summer**(408) 553-5737****Lydian Academy****Menlo Park, Burlingame**

Lydian invites 6th-12th Neurodiverse learners, 2E students, and those in need of credit remediation or advancement to complete UC-approved courses in our personalized 1:1 setting in as few as 2.5 weeks. Executive Functioning, Personal Finance, and Life Skills electives are popular, in addition to our Design Thinking and Engineering (STEAM) camps and Middle School day camps.

**LydianAcademy.com/Admissions/
Summer-at-Lydian/****(650) 405-1312****Pinewood School****Summer Festival of Learning****Los Altos**

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

Pinewood.edu/SummerPrograms**ACADEMICS****STANFORD EXPLORE: A Lecture Series on****Biomedical Research****Stanford**

Explore biomedical science at Stanford through lectures from Stanford professors and graduate students about diverse topics in biomedical science including bioengineering, neuroscience, immunology and other topics. July 8-26 Registration begins March 1st. The program is virtual.

Explore.Stanford.edu**explore-series@stanford.edu****Summer@Stratford****Palo Alto/Bay Area**

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

StratfordSchools.com/Summer**(650) 493-1151****ARTS, CULTURE & ENRICHMENT****Camp Integem****Palo Alto & Cupertino**

#1 AI+AR STEM & Art Camp for Ages 5-18. Delve into AI, Holographic AR, coding, Robotics, 3D, game design, STEM, art, animation, Space/Nature Exploration and more. ACS WASC Accredited & NVIDIA-partnered camp. Great instructors, small classes! Since 2018, thousands of students have joined the camp. Use the code PAW24 to save.

Camp.Integem.com**(408) 459-0657****Captivating Dance Summer Program****Menlo Park**

Join us for 5 fun-filled weeks of dance! CDBN's summer camps are designed for dancers ages 4-12. Email for 12+ intensives. Campers will learn dance techniques in ballet, jazz, tumbling, lyrical, hip-hop, and musical theater. Camps are filled with excitement, games, arts & crafts, weekly performances, and more!

**CaptivatingDanceByNona.com/
Summer-2024****(650) 339-0034****Castilleja Summer Camp for Girls****Palo Alto**

Casti Camp offers girls entering grades 2-6 a range of age-appropriate activities including athletics, art, science, writing, crafts, cooking, drama and music. Leadership program available for girls entering grades 7-9.

Castilleja.org/SummerCamp**(650) 470-7833****City of Sunnyvale****Sunnyvale**

Offering 100+ camps for ages 2-17 featuring traditional, visual arts, performing arts, theater, sport and STEM camps. Full and half day options run June 10 - Aug. 9. Check out swim lessons for all levels also starting in June and enjoy recreation swim at our aquatic facilities.

Sunnyvale.ca.gov/Activities**(408) 730-7350****Community School of Music and Arts****Mountain View**

40+ creative camps for ages 5-15! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Wearable Art, Digital Art, Musical Theater and more! One and two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Financial aid offered. After Camp available.

Arts4All.org**(650) 917-6800 ext. 0****Hidden Villa****Los Altos Hills**

Hidden Villa is a 1,600 acre refuge in Los Altos Hills and home to an organic farm, gardens, beautiful hiking trails, and farm animals. Our Summer Camp program blends nature, farming and social justice, while encouraging a diverse, compassionate, and eco-conscious youth community in a fun and age-appropriate environment.

HiddenVilla.org/SummerCamp**(650) 949-8650****ARTS, CULTURE & ENRICHMENT****Oshman Family JCC Camps****Palo Alto**

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

OFJCC-JCamp.com**(650) 223-8622****Riekes Center****Menlo Park**

Explore all your interests this summer with Riekes Summer Camps! Enrolling now for camps in Nature, Music, Art, and Digital Media. There's something for every camper! For ages 5-18 with locations across the Peninsula.

RiekesSummerCamps.org**(650) 364-2509****Stanford Jazz Workshop****Stanford**

Stanford Jazz Workshop week-long jazz immersion programs for young musicians in middle school (Giant Steps Day Camp, starts July 8), High School (Jazz Camp, starts July 14 or July 21), and adults/advanced teens (Jazz Institute, July 28). All instruments and vocals. On the Stanford campus!

StanfordJazz.org**(650) 736-0324****Ventana School Summer Camp****Los Altos**

Keep your child inspired all summer long at Ventana's Elementary Summer Camp! With engaging week-long themes, campers will immerse themselves in hands-on activities that will boost their creative confidence and stimulate their minds. Join us for one or all of the following weeks: Masterchef Junior, Arts & Crafts, Game Creation, Mad Scientist, Musical Theater and Wonderful Water. Open to students who will have completed K-5th grade by the summer.

**VentanaSchool.org/Elementary-
Summer-Camps-2024****(650) 948-2121****ATHLETICS****Bald Eagle****Bay Area**

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

BaldEagleCamps.com**(888) 505-BALD****Maccabi Sports Camp****Atherton**

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

MaccabiSportsCamp.org/wp**(415) 997-8844****Spartans Sports Camp****Mountain View**

Spartans Sports Camp offers a wide variety of sports and academic enrichment camps for kids entering grades 1-9. Experienced staff ensures everyone has fun. Daily on-site swimming is offered for all camps. Camps run weekly from June 10 - August 2 at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available.

SpartansSportsCamp.com**(650) 479-5906****Stanford Water Polo Camps****Stanford**

New to water polo or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half day or full day options for boys and girls ages 7 and up. All camps provide fundamental skills, scrimmages and games. Session 1 - June 10-13, 2024. Session 2 - June 17-20, 2024.

StanfordWaterPoloCamps.com**(650) 725-9016**

To advertise in print and online, call (650) 326-8210.



Lost in thought

Zoya Scholis solo show
contemplates the 'Divine
Feminine' at Palo Alto's
Bryant Street Gallery

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

Zoya Scholis does not mind if you see references to other artists, especially Richard Diebenkorn and Henri Matisse, in her work.

"Picasso supposedly said, 'Good artists borrow, great artists steal,'" explained Scholis in an email interview with this news organization. Her current exhibition at Bryant Street Gallery, "Divine Feminine," which includes 17 paintings — mainly portraits and several floral still lifes — encourages viewers to see familiar associations and enjoy her unique take on color and composition.

"I have no problem with viewers seeing whatever they see, intended or not. Paintings are open to interpretation; it's one of their superpowers," Scholis said.

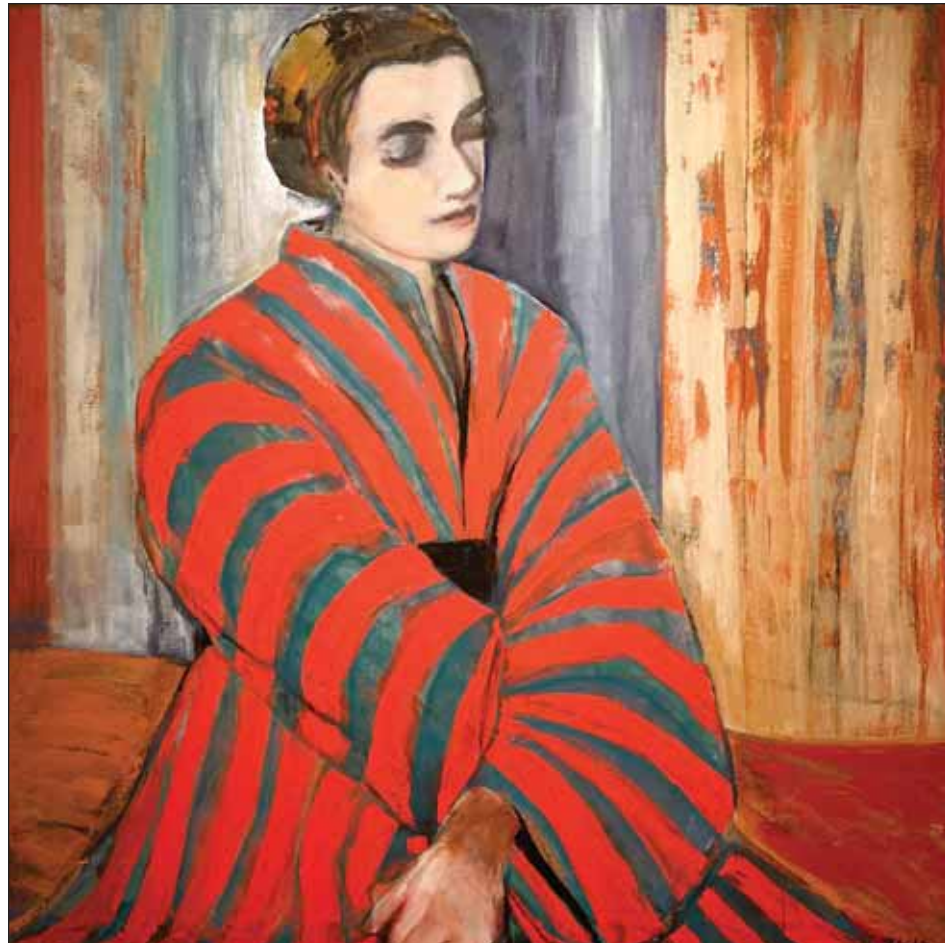
Scholis was raised in Monterey and had her first exposure to art through her father, who was a painter. For many years she was a bilingual school teacher before making the switch to full-time artist in 2007. She still combines her love of education and art via Art for Personal Growth workshops that she offers around the Bay Area.

For this solo show, which opened in March to mark Women's History Month, Scholis focuses on women in various states of meditation and contemplation. The figures, rendered in a generalized manner, are mainly seated with eyes closed or downcast. They are clearly oblivious to outside distractions and deep in thought.

In the late 1800s there was an art movement devoted to portraying women as melancholic and suffering from neurasthenia, a perpetual state of fatigue and disaffection that was often blamed on hormonal fluctuations. Those paintings were created by male artists. When asked how her work compares, Scholis said, "I think the ability to reflect and have an inner life is what it is to be human, which we all know is not always easy. How or why this was assigned as a female trait I'm not sure. Misogyny would have us all think of any 'feminine' trait as inferior and that, of course, is problematic to say the least."

In Scholis' painting "New Roommate" a young girl sits with legs crossed, her head supported by her curved hand — a modern-day, female version of Rodin's famous sculpture *The Thinker*. The background of the painting consists of large blocks of various colors neutral enough that the focus is on the figure in the foreground. What is she thinking? The very slight smile on her face indicates that she is pleased with where she is at the present moment.

The aptly titled "Retreat" features a figure who is completely self-contained and removed from any outside stimuli. The background is, again, neutral with large,



Above: Artist Zoya Scholis often uses vibrant patterns in her work, as seen here in "Retreat." Right: In addition to portraits, floral still lifes such as "Redwood Table" are another focus of Scholis' work. Courtesy Bryant Street Gallery.

vertical swaths of matte colors that make the neon orange of her voluminous robe jump out like a strobe light.

Like Matisse, Scholis loves textiles and said that "making up patterns is one of the most relaxing things to do in a painting." She refers to herself as a "process painter" who is not particularly methodical in her work habits.

"I use rollers, brushes and knives. The process guides the work from subject to mood. I don't know what I'm up to until I get started."

Even though most of the paintings are of female subjects, there is a certain universality in their poses. Who hasn't, at one point or another, rested their head in folded arms as a way to detach and take a break from the relentless noise of life? In "Caroline" and "Bengal" the viewer relates to these women and their need to tune into their thoughts, however briefly.

Those familiar with photography will recognize Scholis' take on one of Edward Weston's most famous prints, the portrait of his muse and wife Charis Wilson. In Weston's black-and-white print, Wilson's nude, folded body is posed in a sunlit

doorway. Scholis' version ("Nude With Calla Lily") is softer and more nuanced, with the model seated on a blue blanket and a large vase of flowers in the background.

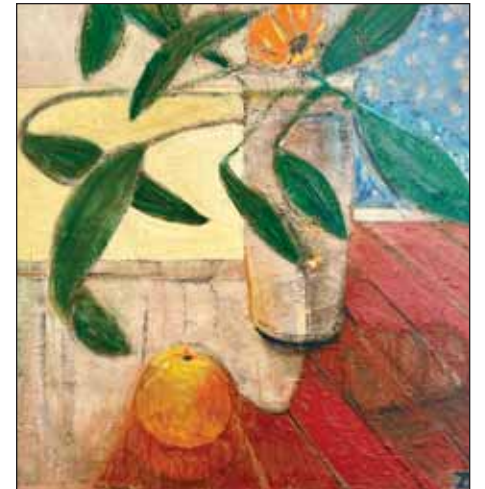
She explained that she was inspired to do the painting because she was part of a figure drawing group and the instructor asked the model to take that particular pose.

"You have to be long and lean to pull it off," she said, "so I appreciate models!"

She also explained that usually the women in her work are not based on actual people but are, instead, faces that she has made up.

Scholis said that figure drawing is her favorite practice but she does not approach it in a "didactic" fashion. Indeed, most of the women in her work have rather generic facial features. There are, however, two examples of a more abstract approach in which features are almost eliminated. In "Rebecca" and "Listener" the viewer's eyes travel around the canvas, taking in color and pattern before noticing the unfinished faces.

"I think the more abstract works are my favorites," she said. "They are not easy for



me to do because I have to be deep in the dream and detached from consequences to let the mystery loom large."

In addition to the portraits, there are several examples of Scholis' version of a timeless subject, floral still lifes. These small paintings are studies of green leaves, as in "Wild Cutting," swirling around a textured vase. In "Redwood Table," the single blooming flower is offset by an orange placed near the base of the vase. There is a quiet harmony and balance in all of these paintings, even when Scholis uses the ages-old technique of truncating the scene in an unexpected manner, as can be seen in "Nasturtium."

"The Impressionists were very influenced by Japanese prints," noted Scholis, "and stole lots of goodies from them. The cropped compositions have become part of the Western canon."

Scholis said she loves living on the Monterey peninsula and has a covered deck on her house where she does her oil painting.

"The light could not be better," she said, "It makes me rejoice just to think about it."

This feeling of relaxed contentment is reflected in Scholis' work. Want to read deep, profound meanings into these paintings — or simply enjoy them for her obvious technical skills? Scholis thinks either reaction is fine. In the end, she said, "I really just want to make something beautiful." ■

Email Contributing Writer Sheryl Nonnenberg at nonnenberg@aol.com.

"Zoya Scholis: Divine Feminine" is on view through April 16 at Bryant Street Gallery, 532 Bryant St. Palo Alto. For more information, visit bryantstreet.com. Zoya Scholis teaches at University Art in Redwood City once a month. Find upcoming workshops at zoyart.com.

First places

From art walks and live music to hands-on activities and poetry readings, here's where to enjoy First Friday events on the Peninsula

By Heather Zimmerman

Let's face it, Friday already has a well-deserved reputation as one of the best days of the week, but communities, museums and other groups have found a way to make it even better: First Fridays. Maybe it's the urge to get out and celebrate the first weekend of a new month — maybe it's just the catchy alliteration? — but whatever the reason, the first Friday of the month has become a go-to day for all kinds of fun. Local groups are no exception in staking out that special day on the calendar. Here are some ways to enjoy First Fridays on the Peninsula.

Los Altos First Friday

Live music and art converge in downtown Los Altos in a long-time favorite Peninsula event that has only continued to grow since its founding in 2011. Each month, 10-15 local bands bring a variety of music to Los Altos' State Street and its surrounding blocks — some area restaurants host First Friday bands as well. Downtown galleries such as Gallery 9 and Viewpoints Gallery hold opening receptions for their latest shows while Arts Los Altos offers walking tours of the sculptures and murals it has placed in public spaces throughout downtown. "Earth Month" is the theme for April's event, with community booths, demos, hands-on crafts and activities — even locally sourced craft cocktails — at State Street Market.

April 5, 5-9 p.m., in downtown Los Altos. Free admission. For band lineup and details for Earth Month events, visit losaltosfirstfriday.fun. For art walk info, visit artslosaltos.org/walkingtours.

CuriOdyssey

Peninsula kids' science museum CuriOdyssey hosts a Friday event that can get a little wild, with the opportunity to meet some of the museum's resident critters and learn about them. Families can also take part in science activities and crafts based on a unique theme for each month and enjoy live music, a rotating lineup of local food trucks — even a cash bar for the grownups. Earth Month sets the theme for the April outing, where kids can make their own seed pods, take rubbings of leaves and reimagine the California state flag in a coloring activity that highlights



Photo by Emily Margaretten

Top Shelf Big Band performs at Los Altos First Friday in October 2022.



Courtesy CuriOdyssey

CuriOdyssey is home to hands-on exhibits and a zoo. Families can meet the museum's resident animals, take part in activities and more at its First Friday event.

endangered wildlife. This month's food truck offerings are Tacos from Lilo's Kitchen and pupusas from Antojitos Salvadoreños.

April 5, 5-8 p.m., at CuriOdyssey, 1651 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo. \$15.95 children and \$19.95 adults. curiodyssey.org.

San Mateo County History Museum

The museum welcomes visitors for free all day every first Friday of the month. In addition to a chance to check out the current exhibits, visitors can enjoy a docent-led tour of the museum. Inspired by the museum's "Extraordinary Cow Palace" exhibit, this month, the youngest visitors can play cowpoke with a cow-inspired craft and cowboy-themed storytime. During a 1 p.m. talk, Carolyn Hoskins, founder of the Domini Hoskins Black History Museum & Learning Center, discusses important innovations made by Black inventors.

April 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; preschool crafts and storytime at 11 a.m.; docent-led tour at 2 p.m. San Mateo County History Museum, 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Admission is free. historysmc.org.

Woodside Arts & Culture Committee

Presented by the town of Woodside's Arts & Culture Committee, this event offers a slice of Peninsula life, with everything from talks about regional history and wildlife to discussions with local authors and live performances by Bay Area musicians. The April edition is unusual, going beyond just Friday as the event teams up with Woodside Plein Air Painters for a two-day show. Meet the artists and enjoy refreshments at an opening reception on Friday, April 5, with the exhibition continuing all day Saturday, April 6.

Reception April 5, 4-8 p.m. and exhibition April 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Woodside Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside. Free admission. Register at tinyurl.com/WoodsideFirstFridayApril.

Feldman's Books

Not surprisingly, First Fridays at Feldman's Books have a literary theme. The Menlo Park bookstore has teamed up with the California Writers Club to present a monthly poetry open mic. The April event features readings from local poets Marianne Brems, Anne Marie Wenzel, Kate Adams and Raymond Louis Acevedo. Between readings, musicians Rory McNamara and Henry Nagles will perform.

April 5, 6-7:30 p.m., at Feldman's Books, 1075 Curtis St., Menlo Park. Free admission. tinyurl.com/FeldmansPoetry. ■

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

Worth a Look



Courtesy Basil Twist

Composer Huang Ruo and puppeteer Basil Twist collaborated on a performance inspired by ancient Chinese mythology in "Book of Mountain and Seas," presented April 6-7 at Stanford Live.

'Book of Mountains and Seas'

Ancient Chinese creation mythology is brought to life on stage through the epic, drum-and-vocal-driven music of composer Huang Ruo and the large-scale puppet creations of puppeteer Basil Twist. "Book of Mountains and Seas," according to Stanford Live, challenges audiences to "consider the power of the natural world and our vital, yet tenuous, relationship to it." Prior to the April 6 performance, audiences are invited to a talk with Ruo and Twist at 6:45 p.m.

April 6 at 7:30 p.m. and April 7 at 2:30 p.m., Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford; \$55; live.stanford.edu/calendar/april-2024/book-mountains-and-seas.

Tammy Hall and Edward Simon

Bay Area pianists Tammy Hall and Edward Simon will each perform a solo set at a concert presented by Palo Alto's Earthwise Productions — part of a series of eight piano-focused events. Hall has had a long career on the jazz scene, both in the Bay Area and well beyond, touring internationally and playing at prestigious spots like Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and Kennedy Center, and has also delved into the world of musical theater and has worked as an educator and community mentor. Simon, who originally hails from Venezuela, has also had an accomplished career in music, exploring jazz and Latin American folk sounds and releasing numerous albums over the years. A member of the SF JAZZ collective, he's a former Guggenheim Fellow and recipient of the NAACP Image Award.

April 7, 2 p.m., Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto; \$4.25-\$18; eventbrite.com.

Margo Cilker

Peninsula-raised Americana musician Margo Cilker returns to her old hometown for a concert at the Los Altos History Museum, playing songs off her latest record, "Valley of Heart's Delight." The title is a reference to the old nickname for the Santa Clara Valley and Cilker has an enduring fascination with the area's agricultural history, partly thanks to the work of local author Robin Chapman, whose books include "The Valley of Heart's Delight: True Tales from Around the Bay" and "California Apricots: the Lost Orchards of Silicon Valley." Chapman will join Cilker at the event, discussing the history of the Los Altos Heritage Orchard. Carrying on the theme, apricot-flavored drinks will be offered.

April 7, 4 p.m., Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos; \$15 general admission/free for members and kids 10 and under; losaltoshistory.org.

Food & Drink



Mother-daughter duo opens San Mateo Korean kimbap restaurant inspired by childhood picnic memories

Yum Kimbap

By Adrienne Mitchel
Photos by Magali Gauthier

At 73 years old, Dong Hye Kim is working her first job, making kimbap out of a ghost kitchen in San Mateo with her daughter, Chihee Kim.

“I never thought that I could work or sell something,” Dong Hye said.

The now grandmother of four grew up in Korea, and although she has a degree in food and nutrition, she spent most of her life raising her two children and supporting her husband through his career as a cardiologist. Now, she’s finally pursuing her passion for food and nutrition by making kimbap (Korean rice rolls often filled with pickled vegetables, egg and meat) “in the healthiest way possible.”

The Kims opened yumkimbap in San Mateo Food Mall, a branch of CloudKitchens, on Feb. 19. The restaurant sells five flavors: fishcake (named “The OG”), beef, Spam, veggie and vegan, and all kimbap rolls come with egg, marinated and cooked carrots and spinach, fresh cucumber and Dong Hye’s special recipe of pickled radish.

“My mother used to make it when I grew up, and I made it for my kids, so Chihee thinks that kimbap is special,” Dong Hye said.

Every element of the kimbap is specially curated by Dong Hye to be as nutrient-rich as possible. For example, she cooks the carrots to boost vitamin A intake, pickles the daikon in beet juice to improve cardiovascular health and uses garlic and onion as seasoning to boost metabolism.

“I think it’s good for kids and good for the American people,” she said. “I am so proud to help my daughter...and

introduce my Korean dish.”

In 2010, just out of business school, Chihee had the idea to start a fresh kimbap business, but the timing just wasn’t right. After working on Wall Street and selling her fintech company early last year, she wondered what was next for her. When she saw Trader Joe’s frozen vegetarian kimbap going viral online, she knew it was time to execute her longtime kimbap dream — a dream inspired by childhood picnic memories with her mother.

“I just felt that Korean kimbap is not a frozen thing,” she said. “It’s something that should be enjoyed fresh with homemade ingredients.”

Kimbap, while convenient to eat, is extremely time-consuming to make. Chihee said it can take hours to prepare one roll of kimbap due to marinating and preparing all the individual ingredients that go into it. Because kimbap is so complex to make, it wasn’t made often, making the childhood memory of this picnic treat that much more special to Chihee.

Kimbap, Chihee said, is especially popular with kids, who love the multicolored bite-sized pieces. Last summer, her 6-year-old son encouraged her to open a kimbap business, she recalled.

After looking for suitable locations within her hometown of Burlingame for six months, Chihee decided to open yumkimbap in a ghost kitchen in San Mateo because she “wanted to move quickly” so people could “understand what fresh kimbap is like.” According to CloudKitchens’ website, a traditional restaurant takes 12 months to open, whereas a location at CloudKitchens takes about six weeks. To streamline the complicated kimbap process even more, yumkimbap uses machines imported from Korea, which

Left: A Korean kimbap rice roll from yumkimbap. Right: Dong Hye Kim and her daughter, Chihee Kim, at San Mateo Food Mall, the ghost kitchen out of which the business operates.



Housemade mochi stuffed with Nutella from yumkimbap.

Chihee calls her “robots,” to roll and cut the kimbap.

“All the other things that I’ve done in my life feel like work, but doing this doesn’t feel like work, which is interesting,” she said. “I think that’s a good sign.”

Although the kimbap preparation is different from Chihee’s childhood, she said the end result tastes the same — especially “The OG,” a roll made with fishcake, which is high in protein, rich in omega-3 fatty acids and a good source of vitamin B12, according to yumkimbap’s website.

Dong Hye said at first she was worried customers wouldn’t like kimbap, since it’s neither extremely spicy nor extremely sweet, like other Korean food you might find in America. The taste is “simple,”

See **YUMKIMBAP**, page 30

yumkimbap, 66 21st Ave.,
San Mateo; 650-209-0409,
Instagram: @eatyumkimbap.



Above: Chihee Kim makes a Korean kimbap rice roll with the help of a machine from Korea. Below: Dong Hye Kim’s special recipe of pickled daikon.

YUMKIMBAP

continued from page 29

perfect for children and those who are health-conscious or on-the-go, she said. But after receiving so much customer support, she realized she needn't have worried.

Chihee said she and her mom make a good team. While Chihee loves to cook as well, she let her mom lead the recipe development while Chihee worked on the tech and business side. The yumkimbap team currently includes Chihee, her mother and one other employee.

"It helps us to spend time together," Chihee said. "It's kind of funny because when food is flying and orders are coming in, our skills are very complementary. And so that actually works out really well."

Dong Hye says she's tired but very happy, with a renewed sense of purpose.

"Physically I can't stand it," she said. "Mentally, I'm very interested."

Both Chihee and Dong Hye said they hope to expand yumkimbap, envisioning it as a healthy fast-food option. Chihee said they'll likely soon start experimenting with additional flavors of kimbap as well.

"Every day my daughter says, 'Are you OK? I'm sorry to make you work hard,'" Dong Hye said. "But I'm proud of her for letting me introduce the Korean kimbap roll to the world. She gave me the chance to make it even at this age, and I will support Chihee's challenge, and I also will try to make the best food in the world for the people. That is my goal." ■



Chihee Kim, front, and her mother, Dong Hye Kim, back, describe the process of making kimbap at San Mateo Food Mall.

Public Notices

REPAIR CARPET CALIFORNIA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296961
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) REPAIR CARPET CALIFORNIA, located at 1451 Beach Park Blvd, Unit 201, Foster City, CA, 94404.
Registered owner(s):
AHMED KHELFAH
1451 Beach Park Blvd, Unit 201
Foster City, CA, 94404
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 19, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

MB POOL SERVICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296836
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) MB POOL SERVICE, located at 1035 Bradley Way, East Palo Alto, CA 94303.
Registered owner(s):
AGUSTIN MACIAS BARRAGAN
1035 Bradley Way
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 05, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

FRESH FOCUS FILMS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296954
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) FRESH FOCUS FILMS, located at 45 Tintern Lane, Portola Valley, CA 94028.
Registered owner(s):
NICHOLAS CHURCHILL TIDMARSH
45 Tintern Lane
Portola Valley, CA 94028
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 18, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

ELIO ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296950
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.
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 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 March 15, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

PRETTIEHAIR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296846
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) PRETTIEHAIR, located at 37 E 3RD AVE, SAN MATEO CA, 94401. Mailing Address: 97 LAKEWOOD CIR, San Mateo, CA 94402
Registered owner(s):
XIAOMING XU
97 LAKEWOOD CIR
SAN MATEO, CA, 94402
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 03/06/2024.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 06, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

FULLBRAND LEGAL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296953
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) FULLBRAND LEGAL, located at 2806 Hillside Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010.
Registered owner(s):
AMANDA MITCHELL RINKOFF
2806 Hillside Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 18, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

SILICON VALLEY INTERPRETING SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296594
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SILICON VALLEY INTERPRETING SERVICES, located at 707 Bradford St Apt 313, Redwood City, CA 94063. San Mateo County.
Registered owner(s):
RUBY S. SLOVER
707 Bradford Street, Apt 313
Redwood City, CA 94063
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 08, 2024.
(ALM Mar 15, 22, 29 and Apr 5, 2024)

INNER OAK WELLNESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296717
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) INNER OAK WELLNESS, located at 222 8th Ave. Apt 314, San Mateo, CA 94401. Mailing Address: 700 El Camino Real, Suite 120, Menlo Park, CA 94025.
Registered owner(s):
DEBORAH J. MENET
700 El Camino Real, Suite 120
Menlo Park, CA 94025
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on February 22, 2024.
(ALM Mar 22, 29, Apr 5 and 12, 2024)

MONDAY BEAUTY CO.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296833
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) MONDAY BEAUTY CO., located at 211 Park Rd, Burlingame, CA 94010.
Registered owner(s):
SAU TING LEE
211 Park Rd
Burlingame, CA 94010
YUQIN CHEN
211 Park Rd
Burlingame, CA 94010
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
This business is conducted by: a General Partnership.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/05/2024.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 05, 2024.
(ALM Mar 15, 22, 29 and Apr 5, 2024)

PAMILYA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296947
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) PAMILYA, located at 756 Woodside Rd, Redwood City, CA, 94061. Mailing Address: 68 SELBY LANE Atherton, CA 94027
Registered owner(s):
JGY HOLDINGS L.L.C
68 Selby Lane
Atherton, CA, 94027
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 15, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

MENLO PSYCHOLOGY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-296959
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) MENLO PSYCHOLOGY, located at 420 Santa Rita Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Mailing Address: PO BOX 441, 655 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025.
Registered owner(s):
CAROLINE FULLERTON STONE
PO BOX 441, 655 OAK GROVE AVE
Menlo Park, CA 94025
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on March 19, 2024.
(ALM Mar 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 24CIV00947
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: SHELLEY KNOWLTON & ADAM MILLER filed a petition with this court for a

decreed changing names as follows:
ZOE MAEVE MILLER to SCOTTIE MAEVE MILLER
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: 04/23/2024, 9:00am, Southern Branch 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: 02/23/2024
Elizabeth Lee
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Mar 15, 22, 29 and Apr 5, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 24CIV01007
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Nao Mastrangelo filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
SORA AIYANA MASTRANGELO to SORA FUJISAWA MASTRANGELO
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: 04/30/2024, 9:00am, 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: 02/28/2024
Hessen Ladcani
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Mar 15, 22, 29 and Apr 5, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Case No.: 24CIV01395
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: POLINA MOISEEVA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
POLINA MOISEEVA to POLINA REZHETS
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: 05/09/2024, 9:00 AM, 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: 03/11/2024
NEAL I TANIGUCHI
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Mar 22, 29, Apr 5 and 12, 2024)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
EDWIN BLUE
Case No.: 24-PRO-00319
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of EDWIN BLUE.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: TODD YANCEY in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN MATEO.
The Petition for Probate requests that: TODD YANCEY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 03 2024 at 9:00 am in Department 1 of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioner in Pro Per:
Todd Yancey
PO Box 1410
Menlo Park, CA 94026
650-365-6100
(ALM Mar 22, 29 and Apr 5, 2024)

To place a legal notice visit
AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices/



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We have entered a new era where sellers no longer need to pay 2.5% or more to the buyer's agent. Most of our sellers now offer **only \$10,000 to the buyer's agent**, and if the agent wants more, the buyer covers the difference – if not, the DeLeon Buyer's Team will represent the buyer on our listing at no charge, even waiving the \$10,000! This client-centric approach saves our sellers money and boosts buyer interest.

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LOS ALTOS**

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SOLD FOR \$1.2M+ OVER ASKING
ONLY \$10K PAID TO BUYER'S AGENT



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\$4,000,000

RECEIVED 6 OFFERS
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ONLY \$10K PAID TO BUYER'S AGENT



Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 |
650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com
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- Approximately 3 acres of total privacy
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- Detached guest house with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths
- Approximately 7,581 total square feet
- Theatre, fitness center, and wine storage
- Pool and spa, tennis court, vast lawn, and vineyard
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