

The Almanac

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Arden Margulis

Artful concentration

A young artist glues beads and decorations on a lamp at Rabbit's Foot Arts and Crafts in Menlo Park. The new business caters to families and aims to give everyone something fun to do this summer. See story on page 5.

Civil grand jury accuses sheriff of 'willful or corrupt misconduct'

Process could lead to her removal, preventing re-election

By Arden Margulis

The San Mateo County civil grand jury charged embattled Sheriff Christina Corpus with willful or corrupt misconduct in office on June 27, according to San Mateo County District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe.

The civil grand jury is a group of 19 volunteer jurists who investigate the operations of local governments. Most of the time, they issue nonbinding opinions; however, under California Government Code section 3060, they can accuse any elected official of willful or corrupt misconduct, which could lead to the official's

removal from office and bar them from seeking reelection.

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors requested the jury investigate Corpus in November. Over the past four weeks, the jury has subpoenaed 32 witnesses, including Corpus herself, to testify under oath. While the District Attorney's office selected the 32 witnesses, the jury had the power to subpoena additional witnesses or decline to subpoena those witnesses.

The jury accused Corpus of one count of conflict of interest and three counts of retaliation. The count of conflicts of interest

See **SHERIFF**, page 15

Stanford announces budget cuts, staff reductions

University plans for future amid financial uncertainty and fears of federal funding cuts

By Chasity Hale

Stanford University announced more than \$100 million in cuts to its annual budget as well as staff reductions ahead of the 2025-26 academic year. The announcement came in the form of an open letter from university officials on June 26.

The university's updated budget plans cut \$140 million from its general fund; this does not include the School of Medicine, which will detail its reductions later this summer, university officials said in Thursday's letter.

The current plan is designed to retain support for need-based financial aid and five-year doctoral student funding, among other university priorities. It comes months after a

hiring freeze was implemented in response to growing concerns of federal funding cuts from the Trump administration.

"There is significant uncertainty about how federal support for universities will evolve, but it is clear that the status quo has changed," President Jonathan Levin and Provost Jenny Martinez wrote in a statement released on Thursday, June 26.

Earlier this year, the Trump administration proposed significant cuts to the National Institutes of Health in its 2026 budget — a move that would imperil billions of dollars in medical research funding allocated by the agency to research institutions nationwide.

The Trump administration also proposed capping at 15%

NIH research funding for "indirect costs," such as the maintenance of buildings, equipment and administrative costs. In February, a Massachusetts federal judge temporarily blocked these policy changes after 22 states, including California, filed a lawsuit.

In addition to the NIH funding cuts, universities face a congressional bill that would raise the endowment tax from 1.4% to 21%. As of last August, Stanford's endowment was \$37.6 billion, \$1.8 billion of which was paid out "to support vital academic programs and financial aid during the fiscal year."

The endowment is the largest source of funding for student financial aid. It also supports research, faculty salaries, libraries, and more, according to a

university fact sheet.

If the endowment tax were raised to 21%, Stanford says it would result in an estimated \$637 million blow to its annual budget.

As universities attempt to navigate the ever-changing policy landscape, the Trump administration threatens additional cuts in federal contracts and grants to educational institutions that refuse to comply with its agenda.

In April, the Trump administration cut billions of dollars in federal funding to Harvard University. In response, Harvard filed a lawsuit. Several universities, including Stanford, supported that effort in an amicus brief filed earlier this month.

Stanford currently receives \$2.2 billion in federal research funding.

As the university weathers the storm ahead, its budget group, composed of faculty and administration, looks to the lessons of the 2008 financial crisis, when the endowment was cut by 25% over two years and the general fund fell by 15%.

"The cuts in the 2008 crisis were extremely painful, but by acting swiftly and decisively, Stanford was able to put itself in a strong position going forward," Martinez said at a faculty senate meeting on June 12.

"As difficult as this moment is, I am confident Stanford will navigate these challenges in a way that ensures continued excellence in research and education," Martinez said at the time. ■

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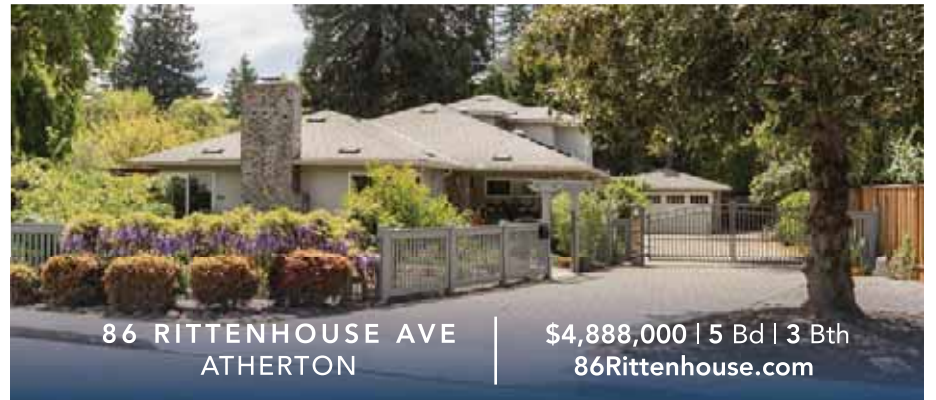
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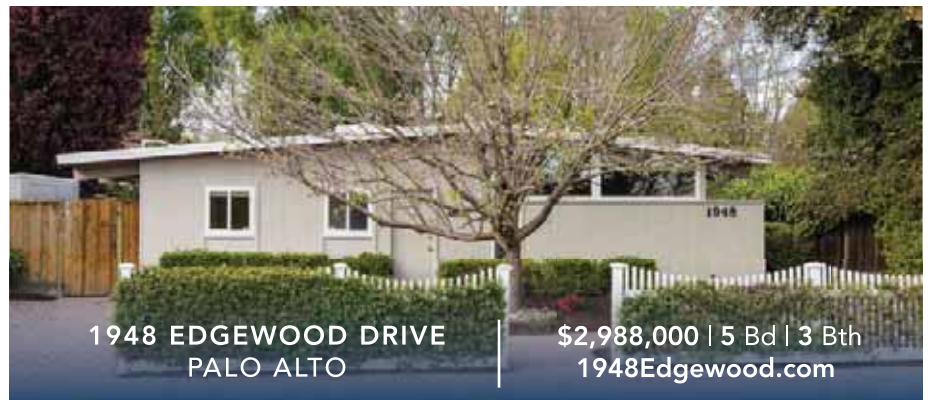
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Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

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

Floodwall plan splits advocates for creek improvements

Menlo Park mayor denies threatening to end project

By Gennady Sheyner

A regional plan to bolster flood control near the San Francisquito Creek remained on shaky grounds Thursday as city leaders and water agency officials charged with implementing it squabbled this week over the budget and an allegation that the Menlo Park mayor had threatened to “blow up the project” if it included floodwalls.

The San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority, which includes officials from Palo

Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, has been exploring ways to protect neighborhoods in the three cities ever since the devastating February 1998 flood. After completing its first major project in the particularly vulnerable area downstream of U.S. Highway 101 in 2019, the agency has spent years planning for its second project, which would be the “Reach 2” area between the highway and the Pope-Chaucer bridge. In 2023, the creek authority reset its plans after a heavy rainstorm upended its hydraulic

assumptions.

The revised plan, which the agency’s consultants released last month, included three components: widening the channel in various areas to create more water capacity, replacing the Pope-Chaucer bridge and installing floodwalls along the creek in the three cities. Mayor Drew Combs has adamantly opposed the floodwalls, citing past opposition from many of his city’s constituents.”When I

See **FLOODWALL**, page 15

New report: San Mateo County life expectancy well above state average

Disparities persist in less affluent cities

By Chasity Hale

Life expectancy in San Mateo County is higher than the state and national averages, although there are stark disparities between affluent cities like Menlo Park and less wealthy cities like nearby East Palo Alto, according to a recent report by the county’s health department.

As of 2023, the most recent year for which data is available, the life expectancy in San Mateo County was 86 while the state average was 81.8 and the national average was 77.5 based on data from the California Departments of Public Health and Finance and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“It’s really hard to pinpoint

one thing that made the difference in our generally good health outcomes and life expectancy,” said San Mateo County Health Officer Kismet Baldwin-Santana, whose role involves advising elected officials on public health policies.

Baldwin-Santana added that it’s likely due to a combination

See **LIFE EXPECTANCY**, page 16

Couple brings crafts, creativity to downtown Menlo Park

Rabbit’s Foot has something for everyone

By Arden Margulis

Rabbit’s Foot Art and Craft opened in downtown Menlo Park with a simple mission: encourage kids and adults to experiment with creativity — even if they don’t consider themselves artists.

The store, which sells supplies and offers DIY projects and art classes, opened May 7 at 845 Santa Cruz Ave., the former home of Sense Fine Art Contemporary Gallery. It was founded by husband-and-wife team Li Li and Emma Yi, who live in Redwood City.

“Right now, a lot of kids stay at home and just watch screens all day. Now, they can come here and work on something, build something outside of the home,” Li said. A lot of the time parents don’t bond with the kids because they don’t work together so we want to have a place for them.”

Rabbit’s Foot provides materials and instruction for a variety of hands-on projects, including textile art, cream art, mosaics and embroidery. Most activities don’t require a reservation, and visitors of all ages are welcome. Yi chose the name Rabbit’s Foot because of her love for rabbits and the common belief that carrying a rabbit’s foot is lucky.

“These are all my favorite projects,” Yi said. “Sometimes, I would find one on the internet

and then I would just try it myself. And then all these projects I’d do more than twice, and I thought, “That’s the fun project. I want to put it in my store.”

Yi, who loved art as a child, majored in animation in Guangzhou, China, before immigrating to the United States in 2010 to pursue a master’s degree in fine art at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. She later worked in tech as a graphic and motion designer.

Two years ago, Yi and Li began searching for the right city in which to open a craft store.

“We explored different locations, like Mountain View and Palo Alto,” Li said. “We felt like, in this area, we don’t see any craft stores aside from an art studio. So we decided, ‘Let’s start a business.’”

Yi designed the store’s 10 current in-store projects herself, drawing inspiration from what she’s enjoyed over the years and what she’s seen online. When customers come in, she helps guide them through the process, allowing for plenty of creative freedom. Many projects offer templates or the option to create a design from scratch.

Yi said her favorite project is tufting, a process that uses a tuft gun to push yarn through

See **RABBIT’S FOOT**, page 11



Arden Margulis

Redwood City residents Emma Yi, left, and Li Li, right, opened Rabbit’s Foot Arts and Crafts in Menlo Park.

Peninsula warehouse keeps tech history alive

Large collection of historic milestones

By Anya Motwani

The Museum of American Heritage, nestled in the heart of Palo Alto, is Silicon Valley's only museum dedicated to celebrating the mechanical marvels and electrical oddities of the 18th to 20th centuries. The lifeblood of the MOAH, however, is in its extensive warehouse located in San Carlos. The over 10,000 artifacts stored there provide a detailed map of the history of technological innovation.

However, these relics are not intended to be locked away. The MOAH staff is motivated to ensure that the contents of its warehouse are seen and studied, whether that be through collaborations with other museums and local groups or by opening its doors to the surrounding residents.

"I feel a little sad (that) some things come in here and they don't get out to be seen very often," said the president of the museum's board, Jim Wall. "So it's always good ... when people come down to the warehouse and get to visit what we have here."

The warehouse, although not officially open to the public, offers private tours that anyone can request. The exposure these visits award the museum is critical to its

continued operation.

"We're a completely privately funded museum. We get no government support ever," Wall said. "We're always looking for corporate support or finding another foundation that believes that (we) shouldn't lose all of this technology, and piece by piece, it will disappear unless there's someone like us to hold it."

Such resources are more challenging to come by in today's political reality, where federal funding cuts to grants sustaining museums have caused an increase in demand for private sector donors, which institutions like the MOAH must now compete with.

The museum and its warehouse are almost entirely volunteer-run, with three staff members, 50 active and around 200 part-time volunteers.

Despite the dedication of these volunteers, "a lot of times it's just enough to barely stay ahead of people donating," according to Wall.

"We get between 20 and 80 items a month that ... need to be dealt with," he said. "We work with some of the local colleges: history students, museum studies students, (who) are looking to enhance their resume, get some work experience. Having a young crowd of enthusiastic



Photos by Anna Hoch-Kenney

Above: Jim Wall, president of the board of the Museum of American Heritage, uses his phone to look up the manufacturing date of an iron lung stored at the MOAH warehouse in San Carlos on June 19. Below: Aisles and shelves of technological artifacts stored at the MOAH warehouse.

volunteers is wonderful."

One such student is Samuel Trumble, a recent graduate of Cañada College's history and anthropology programs.

Trumble applauded the self-led nature of the museum's internship program and how it empowers students to pursue relevant fields.

"When you get started there, they're really open to let you do whatever you're interested in doing: you can bring in new artifacts, research them, or you could go into restoration," Trumble said. "(The museum's) openness to let you find your own path and do what you enjoy doing is the big key."

Over the past year and a half, Trumble has worked on three or four long-term restoration projects, including a 1920s washing machine and a 1900s camera. He has been most proud of a display case he built for an early marionette.

"I built an acrylic display box, and I made it look like the original packaging that the marionette would have come in when it was originally sold in stores, and now that's on display front and center at the museum," he said. "As someone who wants to go into this field, having a piece that I've worked on in the museum ... brings me a lot of joy."

Trumble's experience working within the MOAH's warehouse has reaffirmed his belief in the power of small museums. He hopes more people will realize the misconception that only the bigger, more famous museums hold important artifacts, that instead, the stories attached to each relic in the collections of places like the MOAH reflect equally important aspects of history.

For example, the rich past of the Bay Area's early tech companies. Housed on the shelves of the San Carlos warehouse is a significant set of old Hewlett-Packard devices.

"We believe now we have the largest collection of Hewlett-Packard equipment on the West Coast, and we're trying to add to it as we can ..." Wall said. "We'd love to partner with Hewlett-Packard directly. Again, partnership fundraising would be wonderful, but we also feel that Hewlett-Packard owes it to their founders to preserve their legacy."

In the museum's effort to showcase as many of its artifacts as possible, it loans many pieces to other local historical sites. This list includes museums in Palo Alto, Los Altos, Saratoga, Santa Clara and San Carlos, as well as exhibits adorning the San Francisco International Airport.

With at least 20 museums in the Peninsula alone, local historical centers are eager to join forces.

"Because (there are) so many small museums, it's really easy to find people to collaborate with, but because so many of us have a staff of 10 or fewer, the question isn't, 'Do you want to collaborate?' The question is, 'Do you have the time and staff capacity to (collaborate)?" said Zoe Timmerman, the MOAH's operations manager.

The MOAH's immediate goal is to cultivate sustainable forms of revenue. So, while expanding the warehouse could increase its opportunities for restoration, taking in more collections and providing an environment for learning to more members of the community, Wall reflects that, in reality, "the number one goal for a museum is to be here next year." ■



The Almanac

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Electric aviation arrives at Palo Alto Airport

Battery-powered aircraft comes to Silicon Valley

By Gennady Sheyner

Andrew Swanson fondly remembers the exciting day in 2013 when a strange flying object outside his window made him feel like City Hall was about to topple.

Swanson, Palo Alto's airport manager, was relatively new to the position and he was in his office on the sixth floor, watching an aircraft with a wing the size of a jumbo jet gliding through the air after taking off from Moffett Field. Developed by the Swiss company Solar Impulse, the experimental aircraft aimed to prove that aviation powered purely by solar power is a viable proposition. Piloted by Swiss pilot André Borschberg, the single-seat aircraft passed through the Bay Area as part of a multi-stop tour.

"I screamed so loud because I was seeing this," Swanson recalled last week. "They said, 'Lucky we didn't tip the building over,' because all of the Fire Department and Public Works went to the window to watch these guys. It was amazing."

The Solar Impulse team passed through the area again in 2016 as part of a more ambitious and record-setting endeavor: a trip around the world in a solar plane. The 40,000 km trip included a five-days-and-five-nights journey across the Pacific Ocean, from Japan to Hawaii. The trip was more than just an adventure; it was a proof of concept. The message was: clean energy could fuel the global aviation industry.

Borschberg and the Solar Impulse team returned to Palo Alto with a different venture — one that Swanson and others in Palo Alto believe could revolutionize the aviation industry and transform the operations at the local airport. Their new company, H55, is at the forefront of developing and selling electric aircraft to pilots around the globe, including in Palo Alto. While H55's electric aircraft has yet to get FAA certification, a process that the company hopes will be completed within the next 18 months, it is already turning heads and winning fans in the local aviation community.

Late last month, the H55 team was stationed at a Palo Alto Airport hangar that is typically occupied by the Bay Area Urban Eagles, an organization that trains local youths in aviation skills. Its new plane

looks nothing like the Solar Impulse aircraft that established the team's global reputation. Its frame is manufactured by Bristell, a Czech manufacturer that produces dozens of models, and it looks like it would fit right in among the dozens of aircraft spread around the Palo Alto airport.

H55 took the B23 Energetic model and outfitted it with an electric propulsion system that includes a single liquid-cooled motor, and an array of lithium batteries distributed in two packs. The system uses "agnostic charging," which means it does not need a charger specifically designed for its aircraft, said Kristen Jurn, H55's North America sales manager. A car charger would work.

"So really, the idea is that you'll have chargers set up where they can come out, and you can effectively pull your airplane out, pull your car up, and charge," Jurn said.

The plane's most obvious distinguishing feature is sound. The H55 plane purrs while others roar. Bob Lenox, a long-time advocate for Palo Alto Airport, was among a select group of local pilots, dignitaries and potential customers, who have been flown around in the H55 plane over the past week. He called the experience "fantastic."

"My observation is it's just like an airplane, which is a good thing, but it's a lot quieter," Lenox said.

Michael Mashack, pilot and founder of Bay Area Urban Eagles, had a similar take after his flight in the H55 plane.

"I could take my headset off and still have a conversation with the pilot," Mashack said. "The blades make noise, but there's no noise in the engine. That surprised me because I was expecting something different."

Lenox, Mashack, Swanson and the H55 team were among the roughly two dozen frequent flyers who gathered at the Urban Eagles hangar on Tuesday morning to check out the Swiss team's technology, talk shop and watch demonstration flights. Swanson said that airport managers from other Bay Area general aviation airports were scheduled to arrive later in the day.

Pilot Laurent Wülser, who was conducting the demo flights, said the goal of the team's U.S. tour was to show the plane's transition from a concept to a real, viable product. The team



Anna Hoch-Kenney

Crew members push the fully-electric Bristell B23 Energetic aircraft out of its hangar for a demo flight at Palo Alto Airport on June 24.

has been at it since April, going from Florida to Alabama and then Arizona and Nevada before its arrival to San Carlos and Palo Alto. After its Palo Alto tour concluded on June 25, the H55 team went on to its next steps in Wisconsin and New York.

"The idea is to show the flying aircraft. I mean, it's not on the paper. It's a real aircraft. It's flying," Wülser said before one of his Tuesday morning flights.

Taking flight

The buzz inside the Urban Eagles hangar was building as a small crew of H55 employees began to push the parked B23 out of the hangar and toward the airport apron, past the parked planes and toward the airport's single runway. Observers and airport officials walked out toward the runway.

After the H55 disappeared in the cloudy sky with Wülser and a passenger aboard, another plane, a Pilatus PC-12, taxied toward the runway. The Pilatus is among the largest and most popular aircraft at the airport. Even though it's parked, the roar

of its single engine forces the spectators to halt their conversations for several minutes.

While Swanson and other Palo Alto officials see electric planes like the electric B23 as the bright future of Palo Alto Airport, for many residents it's the Pilatus that epitomizes the airport's problematic present. That became evident last year, when airport officials unveiled a set of long-range alternatives for the small but busy airport, which included options that would have extended the airport's 2,443-foot runway so that it could better meet Federal Aviation Administration's guidelines, which recommend 3,500 feet.

Even though some options for the runway were more popular than others, the overall message was clear. While Public Works staff and airport advocates touted the benefits of Palo Alto Airport and made the case for a larger runway, most residents and all City Council members argued against expanding the airport's footprint.

More than 1,000 people

had signed a petition last year beseeching the city to prioritize environmental protection over airport upgrades. Residents who live close to the airport, many of whom live in neighboring communities of Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, also attended a heated meeting in summer 2024 to express their misgivings about all of the proposed expansion alternatives. The vast majority took issue with any plan that would bring flights — and, by extension, more noise and pollution — into their neighborhoods.

Aside from environmental protection, noise and pollution were the leading causes of discontent. Last September, dozens of residents attended a City Council study session on the airport plan to sound off on the plans. While some pilots advocated for expanding the runway and making other improvements, most residents who spoke urged the council not to expand the airport. Some called for the city to eliminate the

See **AIRPLANES**, page 10

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Schedule and artists subject to change without notice.

Filoli's newest Nature Playspace encourages kids to play outside

Estate hopes to increase visitorship on natural lands

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Filoli, a historical estate located in Woodside, is considered by many to be a hidden gem in the Peninsula, but with over 654 acres of property, the majority of which is natural lands, the Filoli team is working on increasing visitorship through new exhibits and events. The Nature Playspace is one of its newest additions.

Recent data showed that only 10% of Filoli visitors ventured into the open space, where the property has two hiking trails, the Lamchin Interpretive Center and even a bridge that crosses the San Andreas Fault. Most of the visitors only know of the historic house and garden, said Programs and Partnerships Manager Sonia Capitant.

"Filoli has always had dreams of expanding visitorship into the natural lands and so we were looking for ways to motivate people, particularly families, to get out into that space," she said.

Visitors can hike the 1-mile California Trail to see the newly



Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Filoli staff reads a children's book during a story time at the theater stage on the natural lands area.

built Nature Playspace. The area features a maze, willow huts, platform stage and a fairy ring. The maze was constructed as a collaborative effort between the horticulture and facilities team and is made entirely with recycled and repurposed materials.

"I wanted to create something that was an invitation to explore nature that wasn't too intense for kids that didn't have much experience being in nature," said

Capitant.

Inspired by the Outpost Playground at the Presidio Tunnel Tops and the playspace at the California Academy of Sciences, Capitant chose to incorporate recycled materials found on the grounds of Filoli, including orchard prunings and oak trimmings.

The maze pathway is created with dead hedges, layered with twigs, branches and foliage.

Capitant said that this natural element to the playspace also serves as a home for local wildlife such as lizards.

She also used repurposed materials in alignment with the estate's temporary Troll exhibit by artist Thomas Dambo, which aims to spread the message that trash can be turned into treasure.

"We're lucky that the site is rich with materials and so repurposing what we had to create something, was definitely a motivation," said Capitant.

To encourage play, the pathway features a music wall with a tambourine, an old xylophone, a rolling pin, and other items that Capitant found from Goodwill. This area is decorated with repurposed art, such as a flag bunting made from recycled saris and a crocheted spider web made from old T-shirts. Filoli hopes to add more repurposed artwork as they discover more artists in the future, Capitant said.

The playspace adds whimsical details with small fairy houses

hidden throughout the maze and a fairy ring made of oak tree stumps — perfectly set up for a forest tea party.

In addition to the Nature Playspace, Filoli will be hosting various family programs such as a puppet show, theater performance and art activities in the natural lands area, said Capitant.

Community members can look forward to more summer events and activities that are family friendly and an encouragement to get children outdoors.

In the future, Filoli will be extending its seasonal events such as Halloween's Nightfall into the open space. The Wellness Wednesday programming will also be hosted in the natural lands where families can enjoy yoga, sound baths and vegetable tastings.

For more information on Filoli and its events visit filoli.org. ■

Email Staff Writer

Jennifer Yoshikoshi at jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com.

Former school administrator finds new home

Ghysels becomes permanent superintendent of Pleasanton Unified School District

By Christian Trujano

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees has named Interim Superintendent Maurice Ghysels as the top choice for the district's new permanent leader, following two months of candidate interviews and nearly a full year since former superintendent David Haglund left his post.

Board President Justin Brown said in a statement on June 24 that Ghysels, who came out of retirement to lead his hometown district in a temporary capacity in 2024-25, will remain as the top administrator in Pleasanton due to his familiarity with the community and with the school system's needs.

"Through his steady, inclusive, and visionary leadership during the past year, our Interim Superintendent Dr. Maurice Ghysels has proven himself as the right leader for PUSD," Brown said in his statement to the Pleasanton Weekly, a sister publication of The Almanac. "He exemplifies the full range of qualities we sought in our search and is well-positioned to guide the district forward with confidence and continuity."

Ghysels was first appointed

to his interim position in July 2024 following Haglund's departure from PUSD that June.

An Amador Valley High School graduate, Ghysels initially started his career in education at PUSD as a teacher before ultimately going on to become the Mountain View Whisman School District superintendent from 2005 to 2010, the Menlo Park City School District superintendent from 2011 to 2016, and the chief innovations officer in the Ravenswood City School District from 2017 to 2018.

Even though Ghysels retired from public employment in 2018, he later founded the Ghysels Group, which works with school districts on strategic planning, management and leadership change, and organizational development.

When Ghysels first joined PUSD as the interim superintendent, he saw himself as a substitute superintendent because one of his main goals during his one-year tenure was to set the district up with its next permanent superintendent.



Maurice Ghysels

And for the past year, he and the district worked hard on setting up listening tours and working with consultants to build a leadership profile for what kind of person the community wanted to see at the helm.

According to a letter of agreement approved by the Board of Trustees on June 27, 2024, the district spent about \$14,000 for executive search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates to conduct that listening phase of the superintendent search.

Then, the board agreed to approve a \$30,000 base consulting fee with HYA this past February for the search firm to continue aiding the district with its search for the permanent superintendent, which ended up being Ghysels.

The decision to move forward with Ghysels comes after several weeks of impromptu closed-session special board meetings during the months of May and June related to the superintendent search. The board was previously poised to discuss an employment contract for a permanent leader at the beginning of June before the district canceled the meeting last minute.

"Over the past two months, we interviewed a good cross-section of candidates, looking

for a leader with the experience, vision, and skill to maintain PUSD's excellence in education, support and retain exceptional staff across all roles, foster a positive district culture, effectively manage budget challenges, and advance our bond program," Brown said. "While many had much to offer, we ultimately concluded that the best choice is one with whom our community is already familiar."

The board finalized a two-year contract to appoint Ghysels to the role as superintendent during a June 26 meeting.

The employment agreement stipulates that Ghysels will take over as the permanent superintendent starting July 1 and will continue to serve in that capacity until June 30, 2027.

The contract includes a base annual salary of \$345,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. The total cost for his temporary contract was previously estimated at \$283,340. According to the June 26 contract, in addition to other increases Ghysels' salary may be increased each year.

The board can vote to increase his salary each year but the increase in salary "shall not extend the term of this agreement".

"The Superintendent's salary

is understood by the Parties to be 'indefinite or uncertain,'" according to the employment agreement. "Therefore, the Board reserves the right to grant the superintendent retroactive salary increases notwithstanding anything in the California Constitution that might be interpreted to the contrary."


The agreement also allows Ghysels eligibility for "advanced degree stipends consistent with those provided to certificated management employees (1.5% for a Master's and 2.5% for a Doctorate, based on the final step of the Elementary Principal salary schedule)".

While Ghysels is not eligible for health benefits paid by the district, he will receive a \$500 monthly auto allowance and other benefits given to certificated administrators including sick leave accrual, a district-provided cell phone and "professional organization dues".

"Thank you to everyone who contributed to this important process," Brown said. "We remain committed to ensuring the strongest possible leadership for our students, staff, and community." ■

Email Staff Writer Christian

Trujano at ctrujano@almanacnews.com.



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AIRPLANES

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airport altogether.

Local resident Sally Tomlinson posited at that meeting that most people who visit the area do so because they want to enjoy nature, not airplanes.

“My choice would be to remove the airport entirely, but I see the continuation of the airport within the current constraints as a compromise,” Tomlinson said.

The voices against the expansion proved persuasive as council members basically agreed to keep the airport’s footprint mostly unchanged. Council member Julie Lythcott-Haims was among those who stressed the need to protect the neighborhoods around Palo Alto Airport from the airport’s impact.

“As a matter of environmental justice, I believe we have an obligation today not to dump our noise and lead pollution on neighbors, particularly when those neighbors are members of population substantially under-represented in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and over-represented in the vicinity of the airport where the pollution is created,” Lythcott-Haims said.

For those who see great value in having a local airport, electric aircraft represent the perfect solution. Even though the city has been trying to lower pollution by offering unleaded fuel, Swanson told the council last fall that sales have been very slow.

Electric aviation, meanwhile, offers plenty of promise and Palo Alto is hoping to be at the forefront. In 2023, the city completed a \$43-million reconstruction of the airport apron, a project that included laying the conduit to accommodate the electric aircraft of the future.

And even though the city has temporarily halted its long-term plan for the airport following last year’s impassioned public feedback (the process will



Photos by Anna Hoch-Kenney

Above: Flight readiness engineer Saša Blagec adjusts knobs on the fault indication panel of the H55 electric aircraft during a showcase tour stop at Palo Alto Airport on June 24.

resume early next year, according to Public Works Director Brad Eggleston), it continues to explore other improvements that would not expand the facility’s footprint.

One such effort is the creation of an airport microgrid, a network that would rely in large part on energy from solar panels. The panels would be installed in parking areas throughout the apron. Public Works and Utilities Department staff have been analyzing what it would take to establish a microgrid. The city expects to release a report on the topic next month, Swanson said in an interview.

“We got the conduit now and now the next steps — dealing with the future of solar parking cover and the ability to hopefully have a microgrid so that the airport can be completely self-sustaining,” Swanson said.

Today, he retains much of the

excitement he felt in 2013. He was excited to learn recently, for example, that the charging mechanism for the H55 plan is the same type used in cars.

“You know we’ve been talking for a while. And you know what? We really believe that we knew that we would get to this. And now we’re here,” Swanson said.

He is far from the only aviation enthusiast who is eager to take part in the emerging field. Pete Sandhu, an Atherton resident who learned to fly in Palo Alto and who currently runs Five Rivers Aviation, a fixed-base operator at Livermore Airport, sees the H55 plane as part of a broader trend toward electric aircraft, which also includes companies like Archer Aviation and Joby Aviation.

Unlike H55, those companies specialize in eVTOL aircraft that are often referred to as “flying taxis” and that can take to the

skies without runways (the acronym stands for “electric vertical takeoffs and landing,” connoting the aircraft’s ability to levitate like a helicopter).

Both Palo Alto Airport and Livermore have been planning for facilities that can accommodate Archer, Joby and other companies of this sort. Sandhu said he believes Palo Alto is well positioned to be at the forefront of that trend.

“Palo Alto is perfect for that. There’s no noise, there’s no there’s no pollution. And really, what would anybody have against an airport except noise and pollution? This solves both of those,” Sandhu said.

Sandhu also touted the technical aspects of the H55 motor, which he suggested will be more resilient and, in some ways, simpler than the traditional kind.

“The moving parts are subject to a lot of abuse, with lots

of different metals that heat and cool at different rates and don’t fit right at different temperatures. You have to really baby your engines to make them last,” Sandhu said. “You know, as long as they’re designed to last. Whereas an electric motor, you can’t abuse it.

“I mean, it doesn’t matter. Shove power in, pull power out, it doesn’t mind. It’s just magnets and electric magnets. There’s not much to break.”

High ambitions

For all its promise, the H55 plane still has some hurdles to overcome and questions to answer. The B23 Energic may be green, sleek and modern, with an array of switches and two monitors in the cockpit displaying power and energy metrics, but it’s not cheap. It comes at a price of \$431,000 and would-be purchasers are asked to make a \$10,000 deposit and then wait until the FAA certification is complete. The planes are projected to be available in late 2027 or early 2028. After certification, the price is likely to be closer to \$500,000, Jurn said.

Gregory Blatt, co-founder of H55, noted that it does have one advantage over traditional aircraft. Pilots don’t have to buy gas.

“When these guys go flying, they put a couple of hundred bucks to pay for gas,” Blatt said. “And we’re saying, ‘Don’t put the money for gas. Put it in the piggy bank. In two or three years, you’re going to come to me and you’re going to want new batteries and you’re getting better batteries. Every time you invest in gas, you’re not getting better gas.’ ... So it’s a whole paradigm shift that technology introduces from a societal point of view, from an economic point of view, and from a flight operational point of view”

Even though the legacy of

See **AIRPLANES**, page 11



Left: Palo Alto Airport manager Andy Swanson, left, and H55 sales manager Kristen Jurn follow the fully electric H55 aircraft toward the runway for a demo flight at Palo Alto Airport. Right: The H55 electric aircraft lands on the runway at Palo Alto Airport after a demo flight.



East Palo Alto city council member seeks new defamation trial

Webster Lincoln says court made mistake in recent ruling

By Lisa Moreno

In 2020, East Palo Alto's "closest" city council election not only sparked a sense of competition among the seven candidates but also led to multiple lawsuits and criticisms against the city's water authorities.

Current council member Webster Lincoln lost the race by 69 votes to first-time candidate Antonio Lopez, then contested the election results in a failed lawsuit. Within days, he also filed a defamation lawsuit against a resident, Isaiah Pekary, after he urged residents not to vote for Lincoln in two social media posts.

Now, nearly five years later, a jury has decided that Pekary's statements were opinion, and

therefore did not constitute defamation. Lincoln says the court made a mistake.

Lincoln's 2020 campaign drew criticism when residents called out his familial ties to Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company, where his mother Niambi Lincoln was the general manager and his grandmother Katherine Loudd was the treasurer and member of the board of directors.

Local residents for years complained about arbitrary fees, lack of communication and seemingly random water cut-offs under the water provider, according to an in-depth Almanac report.

Pekary took to Nextdoor and Facebook to express his disapproval for Palo Alto Park Mutual Water.

Pekary did not immediately

respond to requests for comment.

"Don't vote for Webster Lincoln. His mother Niambi Lincoln and other family members have been running the Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company, which is widely known to be a corrupt organization that has preyed upon many people and stolen community funds for many years," Pekary wrote on Nextdoor at the time. "Don't let this family get more power to hurt this community."

Upon the family's request, Pekary deleted the posts and apologized for his statements.

"I realize now that my post was not fair or loving," he wrote on Facebook. "I don't personally know Webster Lincoln and I should not have associated him with the actions

of the water company."

Still, the apologies weren't enough. Lincoln, his mother and Loudd sued Pekary for defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress, claiming the damage had already been done by the time Pekary deleted his statements on Nov. 18, 2020.

In response to the lawsuit, Pekary pointed to other public criticisms of the water company and filed Anti-SLAPP motions, which are meant to protect free speech. The court granted the motion against the emotional distress claim, but denied the defamation claim.

After years of back-and-forth, a jury decided on June 17 that Pekary's statements were opinion, and the case was dismissed. Five days later, the Lincolns filed a request for a

new trial, claiming that earlier court decisions had already determined the statements were not opinions.

"This Court subsequently denied Pekary's summary judgment motion in April 2025, finding triable issues of material fact existed regarding the truth or falsity of the statements and whether Pekary acted with actual malice," the request claims.

The question "should not have been relitigated at trial," Webster Lincoln wrote in a message to this publication.

The San Mateo County Superior Court is set to decide whether to accept the request for a new trial on Aug. 29. ■

Email Staff Writer Lisa Moreno at lmoreno@almanacnews.com.

AIRPLANES

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Solar Impulse is very much embedded in the DNA of H55, Blatt is quick to point out the differences between the two ventures. Blatt, who served as head of marketing at Solar Impulse, characterized that venture as "a flying laboratory where different companies and organizations came together to test their technology, to show what was possible at the time." It was, in a sense, a research project that informed the current commercial one.

"What we did understand coming out of Solar Impulse was how to optimize the propulsion chain — meaning the motor and the batteries, all the energy management around that, and make it safe and secure so that we could bring it to a certified product," Blatt said in an interview.

Blatt, who lives in Geneva, is well accustomed to European

focus on sustainability when it comes to aviation. The Geneva airport, he noted, is in the center of the city and people are very well attuned to the need to minimize noise and pollution. But before H55 began its current tour, Blatt said he wasn't sure how well its message of sustainability would play out in the United States, where oil and gas remain prevalent and bolstered by the White House administration.

"But much to my pleasant surprise, the sustainability angle is still very important, not just in California, but in other states, especially with the younger people," he said.

He sees the electric planes as a perfect fit for Silicon Valley, an area that has a history of advancing and disrupting industries.

"When you think about it, this project hooks everything together," Blatt said. "When you come to a place like Silicon Valley, with sustainability and

the environmental side of it, you've got the technology side of it, you've got the disruptive business model side of it. This is what this place thrives on, right? Our project brings all this together."

His team received a warm reception in Palo Alto, he said, with many people welcoming the crew and asking questions about their technology. The plane's battery life allows it to fly for about an hour between charges and for the U.S. tour, the B23 Energic gets shipped in a large container. Blatt said that from the moment the H55 team began unloading it, people began coming up, expressing interest and asking questions. Since arriving on June 18, the team hasn't had a single bad experience, he said.

"The only time I ever have a bad experience is when the weather is bad and I can't fly. I can't blame anybody for that, right?" he said. ■

Email Gennady Sheyner at gshyner@almanacnews.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WOODSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the preliminary budget of Woodside Fire Protection District, for the FY 2025-2026 has been adopted by the Directors of said District and is available at the Woodside Fire Admin Bldg. in Portola Valley, for inspection during the week commencing Tuesday, June 24, 2025. That on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 7 o'clock p.m. of said day at the, Woodside Fire Admin Bldg. in Portola Valley, the Board of Directors will meet for the purpose of finalizing the final budget, and any person may appear and be heard regarding the increase, decrease, or omission of any item of the budget, or for the inclusion of any addition items.

Woodside Fire Protection District
by Fire Chief Tom Cuschieri



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Board of Directors of the West Bay Sanitary District at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at the District Offices, located at 500 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, California. To consider the adoption of an ordinance amending Section 209 "Board Member Compensation" of the District's Code of General Regulations. To increase the amount Board Members shall be compensated for attendance at meetings of the Board or for each day's service rendered as a Director by request of the Board from \$270.00 per day and consider up to \$283.50 per day, not to exceed six days in any calendar month.

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT

By: /s/ Sergio Ramirez
Sergio Ramirez
General Manager

RABBIT'S FOOT

continued from page 5

a backing material to create rugs or other textiles. Customers can design their own patterns or use images projected onto the backing.

Since opening, Yi has been working on her own tufted rug inspired by Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night" and Pokémon.

"Before we opened, I thought I'd have a ton of time to work on it, but it's taking a lot longer because we have been so busy," she said.

Li agreed that the response from the community has been overwhelming.

"People spread the word and know the space," he said. "During the weekend, we're so busy. Originally, we didn't have a plan to hire an employee, but just after three weeks, we had to hire four people."

Both said they've felt welcomed by Menlo Park residents.

"This neighborhood is amazing. Like a lot of people give us a lot of suggestions and help us. We really appreciate the help from the local community," Li said.

"People are really nice here, and they give me a lot of courage," Yi added. "Everyone is so sweet."

Menlo Park resident Michelle Betancourt said her family are

already big fans.

"It's a great addition to downtown," Betancourt said.

Yi plans on adding more projects, in particular ones that are appealing to boys and adults.

Rabbit's Foot does not only cater to kids' creative impulses. Yi said companies also host team-building events with them. She plans to expand the art class offerings to add fine art classes, like painting, using her background as an artist.

The couple also plans to add projects like soap making and candle making. ■

Email Staff Writer Arden Margulis at amargulis@almanacnews.com.



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For more information, please see the following articles on the DeLeon Realty website:



Court Ruling Fails to Halt Commission Collusion and Price Fixing in Real Estate -
The DeLeon Insight
(May 2025)



Off Market Listings – A Hidden Sale or a Discriminatory Practice? -
The DeLeon Insight
(May 2025)



Agents Push for "Pocket," "Private," or "Exclusive" a.k.a. Hidden Listings -
The DeLeon Insight
(July 2025)

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Public Notices

JUN SURGICAL MEDICAL CLINIC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300797

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

1.) JUN SURGICAL MEDICAL CLINIC , located at 3301 EL CAMINO REAL STE 101, ATHERTON, CA 94027.
Registered owner(s):
MIN JUN, INC.
3301 EL CAMINO REAL STE 101
ATHERTON, CA 94027
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/01/2024.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 03, 2025.
(ALM Jul 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025)

VERTIGO STUDIOS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300660

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

1.) VERTIGO STUDIOS , located at 601 Devon Drive, Hillsborough, CA, 94010.
Registered owner(s):
TBV LLC
601 Devon Drive,
Hillsborough, CA, 94010
State of Incorporation/Organization:
Delaware
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/19/2025.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 19, 2025.
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

FONETIK STUDIOS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300702

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

1.) FONETIK STUDIOS , located at 445 LANCASTER WAY, REDWOOD CITY, CA 94062.
Registered owner(s):
BRANDEN QUEZADA
445 LANCASTER WAY
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94062
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 May 27, 2025.
(ALM Jul 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025)

CRIKEY STUDIO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: 300854

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

1.) CRIKEY STUDIO , located at 701 2nd Ave, Unit 7, San Mateo, CA 94401.
Registered owner(s):
CRIKEY, LLC
701 2nd Ave, Unit 7
San Mateo, CA 94401
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 June 10, 2025.
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

WHOLESOME KINK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300781

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

1.) WHOLESOME KINK , located at 590 Hillcrest Way, Emerald Hills, CA 94062.
Registered owner(s):
LAUREL CROSBY DETTLOFF
590 Hillcrest Way
Emerald Hills, CA 94062
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 June 02, 2025.
(ALM Jun 13, 20, 27 and Jul 4, 2025)

NINA'S HOME BAKERY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300754

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

1.) NINA'S HOME BAKERY , located at 890 Green Ave, San Bruno CA 94066.
Registered owner(s):
VERONICA CRAWFORD JONES
890 Green Ave
San Bruno, CA 94066
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/15/2025.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 30, 2025.
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

MSD MOBILE BLOOD DRAW
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300835

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

1.) MSD MOBILE BLOOD DRAW , located at 420 LOMOND DR., PACIFICA, CA 94044.
Registered owner(s):
MSD MOBILE BLOOD DRAW, LLC
420 LOMOND DR.
PACIFICA, CA 94044
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 June 09, 2025.
(ALM Jun 20, 27, Jul 4 and 11, 2025)

LEADER RESTORATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300805

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

1.) LEADER RESTORATION , located at 303 Twin Dolphin Dr., 6th Floor, Redwood City, CA 94065. Mailing Address: 1805 Little Orchard Street Unit 106 San Jose, CA 95125
Registered owner(s):
LEADER REMODELING INC
1805 Little Orchard Street Unit 106
San Jose, CA 95125
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/04/2025.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 04, 2025.
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

KING KATSU LAND
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: M-300904

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

1.) KING KATSU LAND , located at 2085 Gellert Blvd #6, Daly City, CA 94015. Mailing Address: 115 Sutton Ave South San Francisco, CA 94080.
Registered owner(s):
MOONSTAR ENTERPRISE CORPORATION
115 Sutton Ave
South San Francisco, CA 94080
State of Incorporation/Organization:
California
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/12/2025 .
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on June 18, 2025.
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25-CIV-04003

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Kylie Anne Szymanski filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

KYLIE ANNE SZYMANSKI to KATYA KYLIE ANNE SZYMANSKI
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: July 28, 2025, 9:00 AM, M/C 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: 6/20/2025
Hon. Stephanie G. Garratt
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jun 27, Jul 4, 11 and 18, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25-CIV-04232

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Charles Kevin Heisler filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CHARLES KEVIN HEISLER to KEVIN HEISLER
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: August 12, 2025, 9:00am, Southern Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City. 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: June 10th, 2025
Stephanie Garratt
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(ALM Jun 20, 27, Jul 4 and 11, 2025)

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

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

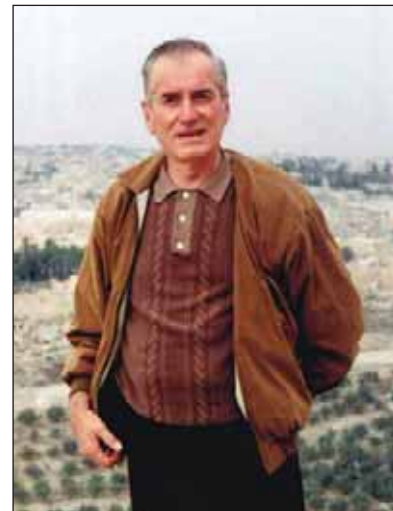
The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.
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For assistance email LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com.

Employment

TECHNOLOGY

Snowflake Inc has mltpl Developer Community Growth Manager positions avail in Menlo Park, CA. Build & excute scabble strtgy to grw & nurtur a thrvng opn source cmmunity of Streamlit users. Tlcmgt prmtd. Intl/dmestic trvl req up to 10%. Successful candidate's starting sal will be dtmnd based on permissible, non-discriminatory fctrs such as skills, exp, & geo lctn. This role is also elgbl for a cmptve bnfts pckge that incld: medical, dental, vision, life, & disability insrnce; 401(k) ret plan; FSA & HSA; at least 12 paid holidays; PTO; parental leave; ee asst program; & other co bnfts. \$218338 - 246000/yr. To apply, send rsme & trnspts w/ job title & Ref#8616777 to resume@snowflake.com. EOE.

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Eugene Francis (Frank) Helfrich

Eugene Francis (Frank) Helfrich passed away at his care home in San Mateo on Thursday June 19 after a long battle with dementia. Frank was born in San Francisco, but lived his entire life in Menlo Park. He was the youngest child of the late William J. Helfrich and Evangelist (Costello) Helfrich of San Francisco. Frank was the last surviving sibling of the Menlo Park Helfrich family. He was preceded in death by his siblings William J. (Pete) Helfrich Jr. of South San Francisco, Mary E. Helfrich of Cupertino, Richard C. Helfrich of Redwood City, Dr. Robert A. Helfrich of Salinas, Loretta Fowler of Redding, and Dr. Philip Helfrich of Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Frank was the beloved Uncle of William H. Helfrich of Menlo Park, John F. Helfrich of Rancho Cordova, Richard C. Helfrich of Rio Linda, Roberta M. Bojo of Redwood City, Russ Helfrich of Redwood City, Ron Helfrich of Palm Desert, Erin Jones of Pacifica, Mark Fowler of Anderson CA, Mary Fowler of Beijing China, Dr. Patrick Fowler of Redding, Dr. Christopher Fowler of Sunnyvale, Katheen Helfrich of Kaneohe Hawaii, Karen Jewell of Lakewood CO, and Megan Helfrich of Kaneohe Hawaii.

Frank was a 96 year resident of Menlo Park. After graduation from Sequoia High in 1947, he attended San Jose State University and then Santa Clara University where he graduated in 1951 with a B.S degree in business administration. Upon graduation, Frank was drafted into the US Army and deployed to Korea where he served two years of active duty. He was awarded an honorable discharge from the Army in late 1953. In early 1954, Frank went to work for the Federal Reserve Bank where he was employed for 30 years at various capacities including assignments as an internal auditor, until his retirement in 1983.

Frank was an avid leisure traveler as well. His summer trip to Europe in 1950 with his classmates at Santa Clara opened his eyes to the world and he wanted to see more. From 1955 to 1980, Frank traveled extensively through the countries of Europe as well as to Mexico and the Holy Land. His favorite country was Italy!

Being an avid historian and lifelong Menlo Park resident, Frank pursued his interests during retirement as an active member of the Menlo Park Historical Society for over 30 years. He was twice association president, and always an active board member. He will be sorely missed! May he rest in peace.

PAID OBITUARY

FLOODWALL*continued from page 5*

see floodwalls being proposed by the JPA, history is repeating itself even though the community has been very clear," Combs said.

Following his comments, creek authority Executive Director Margaret Bruce issued a report that notably omitted floodwalls from the staff recommendation for flood-control improvements. She cited the Combs comments as an indication that "proposed floodwalls would not be acceptable to Menlo Park" and committed to proceeding with "project work focusing on the project elements that are possible."

Not everyone was happy about this revision. Thomas Rindfleisch, a Crescent Park resident and long-time proponent of improving flood control, decried what he called an attempt by one JPA city to "veto" the agency's entire Reach 2 plan, which aims to protect 2,953 parcels in Palo Alto, 1,252 in East Palo Alto and 857 in Menlo Park from a flood the size of the 1998 one.

"It seems preposterous that Menlo Park should be able to dictate that Palo Alto and East Palo Alto can't have moderate

and prudent floodwalls to protect their citizens and their properties," Rindfleisch said.

The creek authority had agreed to analyze, in lieu of floodwalls, a bypass tunnel for water runoff. Rindfleisch noted that the alternative had already been studied and deemed infeasible. He urged creek authority officials to proceed without delay.

"Our perpetual delays in decision-making and plan implementation is why we are 27 years out from the 1998 flood of record, with precious little to show for mitigating the main cause of flood damage, Pope-Chaucer bridge," Rindfleisch said. "Perpetual delay is the unkindest form of denial, and our communities expect and deserve better than that."

While the board did not formally discuss the Reach 2 design at the June 26 meeting, the meeting included an exchange in which Bruce recalled a recent phone conversation that she had with Combs and Menlo Park City Manager Justin Murphy in which Combs further underscored his opposition to floodwalls.

The conversations, Bruce said, included Combs commenting that "floodwalls of any kind, in any place, of any height

anywhere in Menlo Park are unacceptable and if you propose that we will blow up the project."

Combs claimed he did not make those statements and said that he would not have "wasted hours upon hours of my life" in creek authority meetings if that were truly his opinion. His feedback, he said, aimed to "create an environment in which projects being put forward by JPA have the most opportunity to be successful."

He then went on to reassert his opposition to the floodwalls, calling the element "problematic" and underscoring his city's right to control what happens within its jurisdiction. "Let me be very clear, this is a Menlo Park decision," Combs said. "Menlo Park did not abdicate its control over its jurisdiction by joining this body. Any decision about taking a full lane of something in the public right-of-way in Menlo Park, to think that would be a decision that would be owned by a body of which Menlo Park has just one vote, I think is really not logical," Combs said.

East Palo Alto Council member Ruben Abrica, who serves on the creek authority board, interjected at one point during the exchange to warn his colleagues that the board may be violating

the Brown Act, which governs meeting transparency, because the topic of Reach 2 floodwalls had not been agendaized. Without having a discussion in an appropriate place, the board is just "creating chaos," he said.

While the floodwall proposal has been largely rescinded, Bruce said the agency will continue to advance parts of the plan that are less controversial, including channel widening and permitting for the Pope-Chaucer replacement. That long-awaited project likely won't start until 2028 because the creek authority needs to wait until the Newell Road bridge, which is downstream of the Pope-Chaucer, gets replaced. Palo Alto is spearheading the Newell Road project, with the City Council approving a construction contract on June 16.

Bruce assured the public that the agency is analyzing every possible option for flood improvement.

"We know that there are members of the community who are very interested in knowing that we have absolutely turned every stone and taken a look at every detail, so we are intending to move forward with work in preparation of channel-widening work," Bruce said.

Funding for the work remains

an open question, with the creek authority still evaluating the proper way to split the costs. Valley Water, which was a major funding source for the Reach 1 project, is expected to also foot some of the costs for Reach 2.

Earlier this year, Valley Water officials flirted with the idea of stepping back from the creek partnership. Even though that hasn't happened, Valley Water's representative expressed on June 26 some concerns about the creek authority's budget process.

Nai Hsueh, board member at Valley Water and the creek authority, asserted that she cannot approve the capital budget for the creek authority without first clearing it with her board. She proposed voting only on the operating budget and not approving the capital budget at this time, a move that Bruce said would delay the Reach 2 work for months.

Palo Alto City Council member Greer Stone, who chairs the creek authority board, declined Hsueh's request to remove the capital budget from the vote, which prompted Hsueh to vote against the budget.

"I'm concerned about additional delay," Stone said. ■

Email Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@almanacnews.com.

SHERIFF*continued from page 1*

relates to her chief of staff and alleged affair partner Victor Aenlle. The three counts of retaliation pertain to the termination of Assistant Sheriff Ryan Monaghan, the transfer of Capt. Brian Philip, and the arrest of Deputy Sheriff's Association president Carlos Tapia.

While the accusation is currently sealed, Wagstaffe said it will likely be unsealed during Corpus' first hearing on July 15 at 9 a.m. in Department 9 in front of Judge Stephanie Garratt. The hearing will be similar to an arraignment in a criminal case, according to Wagstaffe.

Corpus will be able to respond to the accusations and call for a trial. If Corpus does, which she is expected to do, a second jury of 12 will be called to decide on the accusations.

"It proceeds the same as what goes on in the courthouse day in and day out, with a regular jury of 12 people. The only difference is it's not to determine if a crime has occurred, like the typical criminal case. This is to determine whether there has been misconduct in office," Wagstaffe said.

If the jury unanimously determines beyond a reasonable

doubt that misconduct occurred, Corpus will be removed from office and barred from seeking reelection. The trial will be open to the public.

In addition to the grand jury proceeding, the Board of Supervisors has voted to remove Corpus as part of the Measure A process. While Wagstaffe acknowledged that his office is following the Measure A process, he said his office decided to pursue a grand jury anyway because of its long history.

"Measure A is a new proceeding, it just got voted on by the voters this spring. The (civil grand jury) accusation process is one that has existed under California law for ever, going back decades. The last time the San Mateo County District Attorney's office did one was in 1980 or 1981. I was a young prosecutor then. It was to remove a head of a school district," Wagstaffe said.

Every county in California is required to have a standing civil grand jury as part of the California Constitution.

In this case, the civil grand jury was 17 members due to two members having a time conflict.

Corpus' attorneys have said the District Attorney's office has a conflict and should not pursue a grand jury.

"We knew that there would be

those concerns, so we have on at least eight occasions throughout this process called and spoken to the California Attorney General's Office... On every occasion, the opinion of the Attorney General's office was that there is not a conflict. 'You may proceed,'" Wagstaffe said.

The Attorney General's Office has a deputy attorney general whose role is to advise prosecutors on potential conflicts of interest in various cases. The office's opinion is nonbinding and may be overruled by a judge.

Wagstaffe said the most important thing for the public to understand is that this process is separate from Measure A.

"The big thing is to not confuse it with the Measure A. That, to me, is the biggest thing that I think I worry about. People say 'What is this for? Aren't we already doing it through measure A?' I hope people understand that what we're doing is independent, completely independent," Wagstaffe said.

Wagstaffe expects the transcript of the 32 witnesses' statements to be released as part of the new trial. He said the timeline of the trial is up to the sheriff and could be well over a year. ■

Email Staff Writer Arden Margulis at amargulis@almanacnews.com.

Bruce Alan Williamson*July 4, 1946 - June 22, 2025*

Bruce Alan Williamson, a long-time resident of the Bay Area, passed away peacefully at Kaiser Permanente Fremont, with friends at his side, on June 22, 2025, just shy of his 79th birthday.

Bruce was born July 4, 1946, in Johnstown, Ohio, and was raised in Huntington, West Virginia and Columbus, Ohio. He earned his bachelor's degree from Kalamazoo College and obtained a master's degree from Pepperdine University. He lived in Colorado, Texas and New Mexico before moving to California, including his beloved La Honda region, for the remainder of his life.

A life-long learner, reader, writer and educator, Bruce had his own communications marketing firm, BAW Creative Services, was the author of several children's books, and conducted workshops to help others experience the joy and fearlessness of reliving the youth and freedom of a child. He loved tutoring, helping many others with computer literacy and technology consulting. His love of animals and pets later translated to a pet sitting business, which gave him great satisfaction in his retirement years. His late cat, Sam, was a particular treasure in his life and was greatly missed.

One of Bruce's joys throughout his life was singing and sharing his strong and steady voice with choral groups throughout the area. He was truly interested in everyone he met, and will be remembered for his warmth, kindness and curiosity.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Vance and Pauline (Williams) Williamson, of Columbus, Ohio. He is survived by a brother, David (Diane) Williamson of Waynesville, North Carolina; his first wife, Claire Paul; and many loving friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to an animal rescue of choice.



PAID OBITUARY



Town of Atherton

City Council, July 16, 2025
REGULAR MEETING, 6:00 P.M.
This is meeting is held virtually and in-person at the Council Chambers
80 Fair Oaks Lane

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Atherton City Council** will hold a public hearing to consider an **appeal of a Planning Commission decision** to approve a request for Front and Rear Setback Variances (VAR24-003) and Tree Protection Zone Exceptions (PTPZ25-00002) to construct a new single-family dwelling with an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) at **94 Palmer Lane (APN 060-163-290)**.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that said application is set for hearing by the City Council at its meeting on **July 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM** in-person and via teleconference accessible through the information provided below, at which time and place all persons interested may participate and show cause, if they have any, why the projects listed in the public hearing section should or should not be approved. This meeting will be held via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e) to provide the safest environment for staff and the public while allowing for public participation. The public may participate in the City Council Meeting via Zoom Meeting or by attending in-person in the Council Chambers at 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027.

Topic: Atherton City Council Regular Meeting
Time: July 16, 2025, 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
In person Option: 80 Fair Oaks Lane, Atherton, CA 94027
Zoom Meeting Option and Details:
<https://ci-atherton-ca.zoom.us/j/506897786>
Meeting ID: 506 897 786
One tap mobile:
+13017158592 (Washington DC)
+13052241968 (US)
Find your local number: <https://ciathertonca.zoom.us/j/kglcVN4cq>

Remote Public Comments:
Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. The following email will be monitored during the meeting and public comments received will be read into the record.
Email: citycouncil@ci.atherton.ca.us

Description:

The project is located at **94 Palmer Lane (APN 060-163-290)**. The project applicant requested **Front and Rear Setback Variances (VAR24-003)** and **Tree Protection Zone Exceptions (PTPZ25-00002)** to construct a new single-family dwelling with an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). The subject property was established in 2023 as an urban lot split, is approximately 0.32 acres and within the R-1A zoning district. Per Atherton Municipal Code Section 17.53.050, any proposed single-family dwelling greater than 800 square-feet is subject to the R-1A setback requirements that require 60-foot front and rear setbacks for the main building. The project provides front and rear setbacks of 37-feet 4.75-inches, which require approval of a variance by the Planning Commission. Atherton Municipal Code (AMC) Sections 8.10.050 (Request for exceptions to the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)) and 8.10.020 (Definitions) outline the requirements for construction activities within the TPZ. The Town of Atherton's *Heritage Tree Preservation Standards and Specifications* further describes that the Planning Commission may grant a Tree Protection Zone Exception (PTPZ) in the R-1A Zoning District for projects that are within a distance from a heritage tree that is less than 8 times the diameter of the trunk at breast height, noted as "8x." The PTPZ application requests that the Planning Commission consider approval for construction of a new 12-foot wide gravel driveway that is up to 3.7x from a stand of Coast Live Oaks. This proposal has been determined to be categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to AMC Section 15.32.100 and CEQA Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).

At a regular meeting on May 28, 2025, the Atherton Planning Commission approved the requests. The Town has received an appeal application from an adjacent neighbor. If you have any questions on the item, please contact Brittany Bendix, Consulting Town Planner, at bbendix@ci.atherton.ca.us or (408) 688-2432.

The agenda for this meeting with links to related staff reports can be found online by **Friday, July 11, 2025**, here: <https://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/641/Agendas-Minutes>

City Council decisions are final on the date of the decision and may not be further appealed.

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

ATHERTON PLANNING COMMISSION

/s/ Brittany Bendix
Brittany Bendix, Consulting Town Planner

LIFE EXPECTANCY

continued from page 5

of things, including policies and programs "implemented over the years."

The report points to existing state and local initiatives, including nutritional assistance programs like CalFresh and county minimum wage requirements, aimed at improving affordability and access to food, housing, education, and other factors known as the social determinants of health.

The report also highlights new initiatives designed to improve local citizens' longevity and quality of life like the Baby Bonus Pilot Program, which began in March of this year and gives \$300 per month for three years to 400 San Mateo County families with newborns receiving Medi-Cal.

It also notes soon-to-be implemented initiatives like the county's first Family Justice Center, which will consolidate services for victims of abuse and human trafficking under one roof.

Disparities in Health

San Mateo, Marin and San Francisco — the California counties with the highest median incomes — have the highest life expectancies in the state, aligning with national studies that show Americans with higher incomes tend to live longer and healthier lives than those with lower incomes.

While the overall life expectancy in San Mateo County is high, gaps exist along racial and geographic lines, mirroring national trends.

White, Asian and Hispanic/Latino residents live longer than their Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander and Black counterparts, with the prior having life expectancies around 85 years and older and the latter having life expectancies of 81.3 and 78.9, respectively.

There are also differences between cities. Menlo Park, Foster City and Millbrae, for example, have life expectancies between 84.5 and 89.9

compared to East Palo Alto, Half Moon Bay and Daly City which have life expectancies between 75.8 and 81.3.

Baldwin-Santana said looking at the data on the city level offers a "30,000-foot view" but in order to better understand what factors are at play and where resources should be allocated, county epidemiologists are currently zooming in on census tracts.

Improving Health Outcomes

The issues of life expectancy and disparities within San Mateo County were raised at a Board of Supervisors meeting on June 10.

"We should do everything we can as policy makers to leave no one behind," San Mateo County Board of Supervisors President David Canepa said at the meeting.

Canepa, who co-sponsored Baldwin-Santana's presentation on the topic, added that his goal is to ensure that "whether you live in Hillsborough, Woodside or Atherton, or whether you live in San Mateo, Daly City, East Palo Alto or North-Central San Mateo, that you have the same opportunity and the same resources."

There are county-wide efforts underway to improve health outcomes.

In August 2023, the Public Health, Policy and Planning division of San Mateo County Health released its Community Health Assessment, a data-driven report on the physical health and quality of life of the county's residents.

After the assessment was conducted, the public health division "went out and engaged community members to understand what their priorities were," said Kacie Patton, the San Mateo County Public Health Equity Officer and Health Equity, Policy & Planning program manager.

Now the county, in collaboration with community partners, is developing a Community Health Improvement Plan, with working groups focused on access to health care services, the social determinants of health and mental health based on the community's priorities.

"Life expectancy isn't a measure that changes quickly," Baldwin-Santana said, noting that any benefits resulting from the plans implemented now won't be realized for many years to come. "You really do have to lay the seed and then kind of watch everything grow and ... reap the benefits later on." ■

Email Staff Writer Chasity Hale at chale@almanacnews.com.



LEHUA GREENMAN
Happy Independence Day
"May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."
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25 books by Bay Area authors to read this summer

A roundup of summer reads for kids and adults to accompany your beach trips, holiday getaways

By Grace Lane

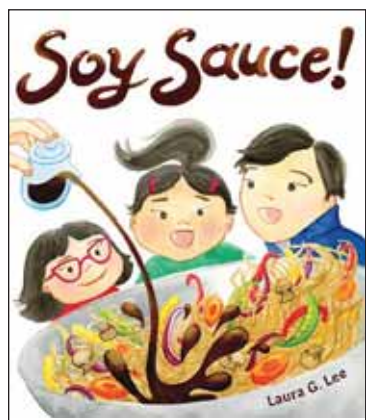
For some people, a summer read is something frothy, with a guaranteed happy ending. For others, it's a book they read in the summer. For me, a summer read is something that grabs you. It can be a romance with a happy ending, a thriller, nonfiction, whatever: It just has to pull me in.

I also love taking the excuse of summer to embark on cooking and baking adventures with friends, often while celebrating the summer holidays. And local authors make the books even better! Here's a roundup of summer reads for kids and adults to accompany your beach trips, holiday getaways and culinary adventures.

Picture books

"Soy Sauce!" by Laura G. Lee, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

A celebration and history of everyone's favorite condiment! I almost put this book in the cooking adventures section later in this article because you will be inspired to do a soy sauce taste test (or maybe even make your own?!), but perhaps the adventure can just be trying not to spend a fortune at 99 Ranch Market.



"Bitty Bot's Big Beach Getaway" by Tim McCanna, Paula Wiseman Books

Bitty Bot is the cutest little robot you ever did see. If you and your family are heading to the beach this summer, this is the book you



want to take with you for some family reading time!

"Space for Everyone" by Seina Wedlick, Random House Studio

If you are moving this summer (or if someone you love is moving), I highly recommend this beautiful book about how even if a kitchen table is in a different house or a different city, it always has space for everyone.



Early and middle grade reads

"Ava Lin, Super Duper Happy" by Vicky Fang, Candlewick

Number three in this beloved early chapter book series just released! Though Ava is still in school, this book has enough action for a fun read. It's perfect for ages 6 and up and makes a great read aloud and a great solo read.

"It's Boba Time for Pearl Li!" by Nicole Chen, Quill Tree Books

A great, inspiring book for any kid who is trying to figure out their own path. Pearl spends the summer before seventh grade at her favorite tea shop, creating her art and even a business! This book was one of Linden Tree's

Top 10 bestsellers for the 2024-25 school year at our book fairs, and it's great for anyone ages 9 and up.

"Farther Than the Moon" by Lindsay Lackey, Square Fish

A heartfelt family story about two brothers, astronaut dreams, the stars, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. This one is great for any kid who loves space camp, dreams and realistic, hopeful stories. Perfect for ages 10 and up.

"Al Capone Does My Shirts" by Gennifer Choldenko, Puffin Books

An oldie but a goodie! Read book one (or all four!) and then plan a family field trip out to Alcatraz this summer! Perfect for ages 10 and up, but it can definitely be a family read aloud.

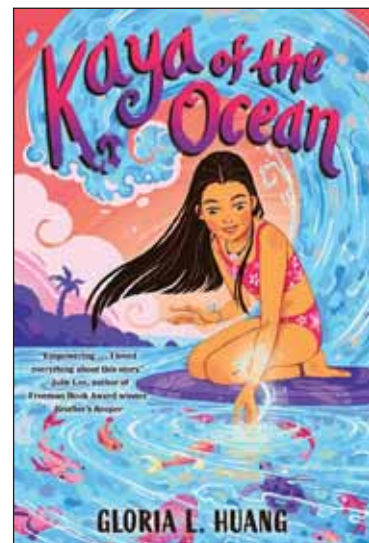
"Kaya of the Ocean" by Gloria Huang, Holiday House

A beautiful story about the beach, anxiety, assimilation and a Chinese goddess. While the Hawaiian setting might be the only thing about this amazing debut that screams summer to some, for me it's the setting and that it's a gripping story you can't put down (preferably read on the beach though). Great for ages 9 and up.



"The Queen Bees of Tybee County" by Kyle Casey Chu, Quill Tree Books

From local queen Panda Dulce (AKA Kyle Casey Chu) comes this sweet story about a middle school basketball star who loves nail polish and pop songs who gets shipped off to his eccentric grandma for the summer. Grandma introduces him to the glories of the small town beauty pageant, where he finds himself. This is a fantastic debut that is very timely but also feels timeless. Perfect for ages 9 and up!



YA and adult reads

"Love & Other Natural Disasters" by Misa Sugiura, HarperCollins

I love the fake dating trope because it's always hilarious, and in this book two girls who are sort of enemies decide they know exactly how to make one's ex and the other's crush jealous: be blissfully happy in front of them. What could go wrong? This book takes place in San Francisco and is at times too relatable as a San Francisco summer comedy of errors.

"Under a Painted Sky" by Stacey Lee, Speak

I love all of Stacey's books, but this one is still one of my favorites.

See **BOOKS**, page 20

BraveMaker festival highlights local films, 'brave' stories

The sixth annual festival takes place July 10-13 in Redwood City

By Grace Gormley

When Tony Gapastione first attended the Sundance Film Festival, he was captivated, feeling “empowered” in a community of filmmakers and artists like himself.

He told all of his friends, trying to convince them to experience it just as he had, but he would “always hear similar complaints from people in the Bay Area.”

“(They’d say) ‘it’s too cold, it’s too expensive, and sometimes not accessible for people who have disabilities,’” Gapastione said. “And I thought, ‘what could I do to create something that would meet all those needs, (provide) all that inspiration that I got and community that I felt?’”

So he took it upon himself to bring a unique festival experience to the Bay Area.

“The Bay Area already has great festivals and film communities in San Francisco, the East Bay and San Jose, but I noticed I could fill a gap on the Peninsula and when it came to a consistent focus on justice, diversity, and inclusion,” he said.

So, he organized the first ever BraveMaker Film Fest in 2019, hoping to create an experience that centered community and uplifting brave voices.

Held in Redwood City, the film fest provided workshops, screenings, networking events and community for local filmmakers. After that first film fest, Gapastione felt “exhilarated.”

“People kept coming up to me saying, ‘We need more of this,’” he said. “Are there thousands of film fests in the world? Yes. But we were crafting a community for people to belong and create together (and hopefully find support and resources). ... That’s when I knew: this wasn’t a one-time thing—it was a movement.”

BraveMaker has only grown from the first film fest. It is now a nonprofit organization that hosts monthly screenings, teaches acting and screenwriting classes, awards sponsorships for films, and even hosts a podcast, all on top of continuing the annual BraveMaker Film Festival, which will be hosted once again in Redwood City this year, July 10-13.

Community is what drives BraveMaker, as being an artist can be “a really tough calling,” according to Gapastione.

“I want to build a community that is not islands, and not isolated and full of people who hoard their resources,” he said. “I want to be a part of a community that shares their resources and gives



encouragement. It looks people in the eyes and says, ‘you belong here, and how can I help you?’”

This year, Oscar-winner Marlee Matlin will be attending and screening her new documentary, “Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore.” Along with an Academy Award, she has earned a Screen Actors Guild Award and a Golden Globe Award, and has starred in “CODA,” “The West Wing,” “Children of a Lesser God,” and more. She is also known for her activism and advocacy for the deaf community in Hollywood and beyond.

Of course, many of the other films screened will also feature brave stories, whether of domestic violence, educational disparities, grief, disability, and so much more. First-time attendee Luke Kreger will be screening his short film, “The Print in the Woods,” a love letter to his childhood in Iowa watching movies about cryptids like Bigfoot and the Mothman. The film, only about 12 minutes long, took more than six months to complete.

“This is sort of a story about somebody who’s so locked into their own belief systems that they don’t consider any other possibility that it’s a hoax or it’s fake,” he said.

“The Print in the Woods” was a Bay Area operation in many ways. The film is set in a redwood forest, and the crew filmed near the Chabot Space & Science Center just east of Oakland. Bay Area artist Skinner, a friend of Kreger’s, designed the costume for a monster in the film. His producer, Sam Hyatt, is also a Bay Area resident, based in San Jose.

An Oakland resident himself, Kreger’s connections to the Bay Area community inspired him to submit his film to the BraveMaker Film Festival.

“I’m a Bay Area local, and so going to the festival and getting to meet other local filmmakers is sort of a perk of it,” he said. “There’s a lot of benefit for filmmakers to attend and get to know other future collaborators and get closer to the community.”

Gapastione and the BraveMaker team begin planning the following year’s festival almost as soon as the previous year’s festival wraps. Their staff of 15 and three directors join a team of over 50 volunteers to organize every element of the festival, “from ASL interpreters to popcorn machines,” as Gapastione said.

The BraveMaker team is also making use of venues all over Redwood City. For example, there are screenings at the Fox Theatre and the Redwood City Library, comedy shows at the Alhambra Irish House, and artists meetups at coffee shops like Coffee Bar and Con Azucar.

“Using multiple venues helps us meet different audiences where they’re at — whether they want the big, theatrical experience or a cozy, community gathering,” Gapastione said.

The fest will feature 99 films, with special screenings for Bay Area-made films, comedy films, films produced by the BraveMaker Academy — their acting and film school. Beyond just screenings, the festival will also have panels and workshops with industry professionals from



Above: Tony Gapastione is a filmmaker, actor, director, producer, screenwriter and CEO and founder of BraveMaker. Courtesy Tony Gapastione. Top: David Brown plays a person on the hunt for a mysterious monster in the forest in “The Print in the Woods,” a short film showing at the festival. Courtesy Luke Kreger.

Los Angeles, and a Pitch Fest. This year, there are even art exhibitions and stand-up comedy shows.

Gapastione hopes the BraveMaker Film Festival will give attendees whatever they need, be it networking, funding, or even hope.

“They’re discouraged,” he said. “The world ... is just a very challenging place, and they need to come and be reminded that they’re not alone, that life can get better in stories. Films can really do that for people.”

As the film fest touches more and more artists, Gapastione hopes they can find a haven and

a community with BraveMaker.

“I want to create spaces that really make people take a breath and feel, ‘I can become whole here, and my creativity can not just be a burden but can actually be a blessing and a gift to me and to the world,’” he said. ■

Email Editorial Intern Grace Gormley at ggormley@embarcaderomedia.org.

BraveMaker Film Festival takes place July 10-13 at venues in Redwood City. For more information, visit bravemaker.com/film-fest.

Review: 'Constellations' explores universe of possibilities

Three different versions of a couple's timeline unfold in show at The Pear Theatre

By Michael J. Vaughn

It's easy to see where Nick Payne got the title for this play. As with a constellation, the show is dazzling to watch and highly interpretable. (Consider the Big Dipper, which in other cultures is known as a bear, a saucepan or a plow.) This excellent production will leave your mind churning and have you reconsidering your concept of reality.

It all starts off a little rom-commy. We are offered three couples who meet at a rained-upon barbecue and negotiate the minefield of modern dating. The awkwardness is amusing and a little painful, but we're all pulling for them to get together.

But something's up. All three women are Marianne; all three men are Roland. The women are theoretical physicists, the men beekeepers. But even more. Bits of dialogue begin to repeat between the three couples, with small variations of tone, and results. The women's nerdy little icebreaker about licking one's elbow falls flat with one couple, hits home with another. Some Rolands go back to their wives. Another goes home with Marianne.

Sooner or later (the women being physicists), the dreaded word multiverse comes into play, and I have to admit, I'm not a fan. Like time travel, the multiverse is

a fun little brain game for nerds that has no basis in reality. And I find it annoying. That said, we have three couples who are, in the context of the play, the same couple.

Fortunately, Payne follows the path of what I call the "Groundhog Day" blueprint. It's not the clever gimmick that makes or breaks a story — it's what you do with it, and how much work and imagination you put into the details. Though the Rolands and Mariannes go through some touching trials and tribulations (some of them downright brutal), what really engages are the small differences in the way the three couples perform their dances. There's something particularly delicious about the way that one Roland will change the intonation on a line delivered by another Roland two minutes previous — and often get different results. And it's fun for the audience to feel like we're in on the secret. There's also the difference inherent in the lines being delivered by different actors, all with their particular personalities and appearances. Perhaps it isn't what we say or do as much as who we are when we do or say things.

To reference another movie, there's also the "Sliding Doors" effect. How would one's life be changed if one went to a play at, say, The Pear Theatre and met the

love of one's life, versus staying at home with Ben & Jerry's and remaining single?

Under director Reed Flores, the feeling of ensemble is powerful, even with three couples who never interact. All six characters are perfectly comfortable with each other, and their interactions feel utterly natural. Another difference, particular to this show, is a bit more sensitivity on the part of the men (being beekeepers), a bit more bluntness on the parts of the women (being scientists). It's always good to mess around with tropes.

I feel guilty even pointing out individuals, but two of the actors have exceptional qualities. Sahil Singh brings to his Roland a tasty quirkiness. You're never quite sure what oddball movement or vocal flight is going to appear next. Or perhaps he'll forget a very important speech written out on notebook paper and suffer a panic attack. The other standout is Elana Swartz, who brings a remarkable intensity to her Marianne. This is magnified by The Pear's cozy confines and the propensity of the actors for invading audience space. There's something very moving about watching a fellow human, mere feet away, going through a heart-breaking crisis.

I also enjoyed the subtleties of Louis Stone-Collonge's set



Courtesy Reed Flores

Actors Elana Swartz, left, and Thomas Nguyen play one version of couple Marianne and Roland in "Constellations" at The Pear.

design, whirling Pollock galaxies on the floor and star-like lamps hanging from the ceiling. Carsten Koester's lighting design was masterful.

For theatergoers who enjoy having their brain cells realigned, I can't recommend "Constellations" enough. It's a remarkable piece, delivered by talented players, and it will definitely have your mind a little distracted on the drive home. Be careful out there.

Note: There's a bit of audience participation at the end of the

evening. Never fear, it doesn't involve any actual performing. The show is 90 minutes long with no intermission. ■

Email Contributing Writer
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Through July 20 at The Pear
Theatre, 1110 La Avenida, Suite
A, Mountain View; \$45 general
admission; thepear.org.

BOOKS

continued from page 18

It's a perfect summer read for any teen or adult looking for a little bit of action, a little bit of history, a little bit of love and a whole lot of a great read. Great for ages 12 and up.

"I'll Give You the Sun" by Jandy Nelson, Dial Books

This recommendation comes from Mihika, one of my teen employees. It's her favorite thing to recommend to any teen or adult in need of a good summer read (and I quite agree). This multi-award-winning story is thoughtful, sad and ultimately hopeful for what can be built out of wreckage. Great for ages 14 and up.

"Patron Saints of Nothing" by Randy Ribay, Kokila

This is a tough, gripping book about family, immigrant identity and what it means to grow up. Though our main character is American, he spends most of the book in the Philippines, trying to understand what happened to his murdered cousin.

Part mystery, part family saga, this is a book that will draw you in and keep you there. Best for ages 14 and up.

"The Martian" by Andy Weir, Ballantine Books

Another oldie but goodie! I assume I don't actually have to talk to you about this one: Just take this as your sign to read this excellent and fun book! (Yes, even if you've seen the movie!) Great for ages 13 and up.

"Sorry, Bro" by Taleen Voskuni, Berkley Publishing Group

Still one of my favorite romances! Charming and sweet but with a deep well of seriousness and heart, I recommend this one all the time to everyone. Great for ages 16 and up.

"Valley Verified" by Kyla Zhao, Berkley Publishing Group

Fashion and tech collide in this fun and at times too relatable romp by Stanford grad and Campbell resident Kyla Zhao. Set in Silicon Valley, it's perfect for a beach or your couch, a plane or the plush bed of your fancy hotel room, and you will have such a

good time! Great for ages 15 and up.

"The Palace of Eros" by Caro De Robertis, Atria/Primero Sueño Press

A beautifully written queer retelling of Psyche and Eros, perfect for those of you whose last great summer read was anything else to go with Greek mythology (you know who you are!). I would recommend this for ages 18 and up.

"The Serial Killer Guide to San Francisco" by Michelle Chouinard, Minotaur Books

This is such a fun romp through the city! A tour guide who makes her living off of murder tours of her serial killer grandfather's greatest hits, and now there's a copycat killer out there? Yes, please! For all you fun mystery lovers out there, don't miss this one! Great for ages 16 and up.

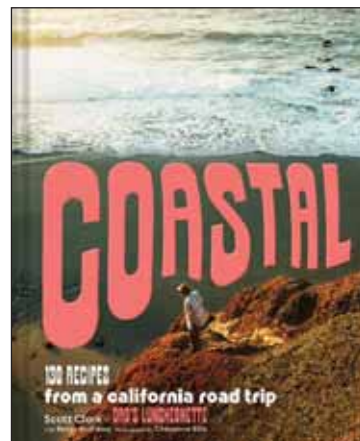
"Mayor of the Tenderloin: Del Seymour's Journey from Living on the Streets to Fighting Homelessness in San Francisco" by Alison Owings, Beacon Press; "Viewfinder: A Memoir of Seeing and Being Seen" by Jon M. Chu, Random House

I mentioned I love nonfiction, and I know I'm not the only one! In "Mayor," journalist Alison Owings delves into the harrowing and inspiring story of Del Seymour, and of the Tenderloin itself. In "Viewfinder," director Jon M. Chu shares his journey to now, from growing up at Chef Chu's, to going to film school, to directing "Wicked."

Cooking adventures

"Coastal: 130 Recipes from a California Road" by Scott Clark, Chronicle Books

This cookbook, from Dad's Luncheonette chef/owner Scott



Clark, is so gorgeous that it does double duty as a coffee table book. You will want to make and eat all the things, but you will also lose yourself in the stories and photos.

"The Forest Feast Gatherings" by Erin Gleeson, Harry N Abrams

My friends and I love a summer dinner party! Erin's accessible vegetarian recipes are perfect inspiration for dishes to bring when you're dropping into a backyard cookout (or throwing a party yourself for a good excuse to make everything!).

"Kowbird: Amazing Chicken Recipes from Chef Matt Horn's Restaurant and Home Kitchen" by Matt Horn, Harvard Common Press

Bay Area barbecue master Matt Horn will teach you everything you need to know about chicken in this delicious cookbook, plus some of the greatest sides (fried green tomatoes! Red beans and rice!) I have ever eaten.

Grace Lane is the store manager of Linden Tree Books in Los Altos. She can be reached at grace@lindentreebooks.com. ■

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Food & Drink

HOLY SMOKES

FUSION, VEGAN AND OTHER BARBECUE TRENDS:
6 PITMASTERS SHARE THEIR VIEWS ON THE LOCAL BARBECUE SCENE

By Adrienne Mitchel

The Bay Area barbecue scene is changing. Long-time institutions have closed, a prominent Peninsula chain substantially downsized and barbecue pop-ups have considerably grown within the last decade.

I talked with six pitmasters who are making their mark on the Peninsula barbecue scene as well as a barbecue expert to understand what trends are markers of the local barbecue scene and where the future of the cuisine is heading.

There are three predominant trends shaping the barbecue industry in California, said Adrian Miller, Stanford University graduate and author of the James Beard Award-winning book "Black Smoke," which discusses how African Americans shaped the barbecue we know today.

One trend is an increase in healthier versions of barbecue, he said, such as Vegan Mob, an Oakland-based vegan barbecue spot with an outpost in San Bruno.

Additionally, Miller has seen an increase in Latino-influenced barbecue and other ethnic-fusion varieties, such as Filipino-influenced Dom's Nom's in Belmont.

But perhaps the biggest trend is a boom in Texas-style barbecue, particularly Central Texas-style, which is characterized by smoked brisket, pork ribs and hot gut sausage (smoked sausage stuffed into natural casings) with a dry rub and smoked over mesquite, pecan or oak wood.

BARBECUE'S BEGINNINGS

Miller explained the term barbecue is typically conflated with smoking, but the true definition of barbecue is cooking whole animals, or quarters of a cow, over a trench filled with hardwood burning coals.

"I argue that barbecue is Native American in its foundation, and then later Europeans and enslaved Africans were brought into the mix to create something distinctively that we now know as barbecue," Miller said.

One person would regularly flip the meat for even cooking, and another would sauce it to keep

it moist and add flavor. More often than not, it was African Americans manning the barbecue pit.

"It was hard work, and anytime you want to have somebody do hard work and not pay for it, get the marginalized people," Miller said. "In this case, it was enslaved people in the American South, because white people weren't going to do that work for free."

In the 20th century, people began barbecuing with smaller cuts of meat due to health code regulations and a lack of space, and immigrants brought their own meat-smoking traditions with them to the United States, Miller explained.

In Central Texas, immigrants from Central Europe opened butcher shops and smoked unusual odd cuts of meat to sell to ranch hands and oil field workers, creating the Texas-style barbecue that we know today, Miller said.

"Anyone who has deep roots in barbecue today...there's a high probability that the people running that restaurant are either African American, or they got their knowledge on barbecue cooking from an African American at some point," Miller said.

THE LONE STAR STATE'S LEGACY

The majority of Peninsula barbecue spots specialize in Texas-style barbecue.

"Texas-style has just become very in vogue," said John Capelo, owner of Capelo's Barbecue in Redwood City. Hailing from Texas himself, he agrees he hasn't seen other types of regional

barbecue consistently available along the Peninsula.

Russell Savage, owner of Pico's BBQ, a pop-up in Redwood City, said he thinks California has the best Texas-style barbecue outside of Texas.

"I'm glad to see that Texas barbecue is catching on, and more and more people are doing it (along the Peninsula)," Savage said.

Born and raised in Palo Alto, Savage spent five years in Texas learning barbecue before moving back home to the Bay Area to start his business. He began with weekly pop-ups in Menlo Park in March, moving his operation to Redwood City in June. He said the mark of Texas barbecue is its simplicity.

"It's mostly just salt and pepper, a lot of beef because Texas is a cattle state," Savage said. "Turning a humble ingredient, like a big piece of tough brisket, into something really delicious appealed to me because I love...when ingredients on their own aren't special, but when you marry them together for hours and hours, they create something pretty amazing."

Even Domino Corcega's Filipino-inspired barbecue and Toriano Gordon's vegan barbecue are inspired by Texas-style barbecue.

"My grandparents and my uncle would come from Texas, and (my uncle) showed me how to barbecue...and a big reason why I wanted to open a barbecue restaurant is because he always wanted to open one, and he showed me what he knew when I was growing up," said Gordon, the Vegan Mob founder.



Miguel Francesco Carrion

Sung Yoon, left, and Michael Jackson, right, eat barbecue at Pico's BBQ at the Port of Redwood City on Saturday, June 28.



Anna Hoch-Kenney

Aaron Clark and daughter Skyler Clark-Wang, 4, eat at Breakwater Barbecue in El Granada on June 27.

Author Adrian Miller explained the popularity of Central Texas-style barbecue was likely influenced by three factors. One was the immense popularity of Franklin's Barbecue in Austin, Texas, which opened in 2009. Owner Aaron Franklin "became the face of barbecue," Miller said. Another factor was the increase in barbecue competition shows, where emphasis was placed on difficult cuts of meat, such as pork shoulder and brisket, the latter of which is a staple of Texas-style barbecue.

Yet another turning point for Texas-style barbecue was when Texas Monthly became the first publication to hire a full-time barbecue editor.

"The media started focusing on Central Texas, and then it just overshadowed everything," Miller said.

COOKING TO HER OWN BEAT

One of the few Peninsula barbecue joints not leaning into Texas-style barbecue is Hip Hop BBQ Shack in San Bruno. Chef Mae, whose family is from Mississippi and Louisiana, is serving Memphis-style barbecue with a side of hip-hop.

"Music and food, it goes hand in hand," she said.

Memphis-style barbecue is known for dry-rubbed ribs and pulled pork and is often served with a tomato-based sauce on the side.

The walls of Chef Mae's barbecue shack are filled with hip-hop

memorabilia from the 1980s. Find autographed pictures from Too Short, E-40, Mistah F.A.B. and even a picture of Chef Mae with Tupac. And, of course, hip-hop plays through the speakers.

Chef Mae was born and raised in San Francisco and grew up in her parents' butcher shop and smokehouse. She opened her barbecue restaurant in 2022, offering "boozed out barbecue" such as Jack Daniels baby back ribs and brandy-smoked pulled pork.

"I adorn everything I do in alcohol," she said. "I have an absolute passion to yummy your tummy. When you come in here...I want you to think and know that you are in your granny's kitchen, where it's cooked with love and from scratch."

FUSION AT THE FIRE PIT

Besides an increase in Central Texas-style barbecue, Miller sees an uptick in barbecue influenced by a variety of cultures. In Alameda and San Francisco, Fiksue is serving halal Texas-style barbecue with an Indonesian twist. Go south to Morgan Hill, and Ricky's Grill BBQ is churning out Mexican fusion barbecue.

Along the Peninsula, Dom's Nom's is crafting Texas- and Filipino-influenced barbecue. Founder Corcega established his barbecue pop-up in 2018, inspired by his Filipino heritage.

Corcega was born in the Philippines and is a longtime Redwood City resident. He graduated from the California Culinary



Anna Hoch-Kenney

A side of Tupac truffle mac and cheese, the cajun Mac Dre salad, honey buttered cornbread and Jack Daniels St. Louis BBQ ribs on a tray at Hip Hop BBQ Shack in San Bruno on June 27.



Courtesy Dom's Nom's

Dom's Nom's, a Texas- and Filipino-inspired barbecue pop-up, offers dishes such as grilled and smoked chicken, Texas-style brisket, St. Louis ribs and traditional pork lumpia.

Academy in 2006 and worked at corporate high-end restaurants as a cook and a line cook. But during his career, there was one type of food that stood out to him: barbecue.

"It brings a lot of family and friends together," he said. "It's just a simple gathering, a family-oriented gathering."

Corcega has worked full time at a law firm for more than two decades and was working part time as a lead cook at Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club until around 2014. It was during that time when he began thinking about starting his own business.

Corcega said Dom's Nom's barbecue is Texas-style in its foundation, but he adds nontraditional ingredients in his marinades and rubs, including star anise and five-spice powder. His menu includes Texas-style brisket rubbed with salt and black pepper and smoked in oak wood, and he sometimes offers sticky galbi smoked beef ribs.

Working out of a Belmont commercial kitchen, Dom's Nom's mostly does catering, corporate events and private parties, but it can also be found popping up at local breweries, including Alpha Acid Brewing, Blue Oak Brewing and Devil's Canyon Brewing Company. He hopes to open a brick-and-mortar restaurant in about three to four years.

PLANTS, NOT PIGS

Corcega noted that he often gets catering requests asking for vegetarian options, which he can accommodate.

"Thank God for those people that make Impossible burgers because now you can manipulate that fake meat to create your sausages with it," he said. "Or you can create your own smoked sausage, from tofu to quinoa to all those vegetarian-friendly ingredients."

Capelo said that all of his sides at Capelo's Barbecue are vegetarian and that most of them are vegan.

"You have to just innovate, because with our catering

business, I'll go and cater a company, and then 30% of them or more are vegan or vegetarian," Capelo said.

One innovator of vegetarian and vegan-friendly barbecue options is Vegan Mob. Founded in 2019 in Oakland, Vegan Mob now has three locations, including ones in Vallejo and San Bruno, and offers plant-based versions of brisket, hot links and rib tips made from soy protein and mushroom.

The idea for Vegan Mob came about when Gordon, who grew up eating barbecue in San Francisco, was in grad school to become a therapist. A vegan since 2018 for health reasons, he missed the flavor of the barbecue he grew up with. Inspired by his uncle, who taught him how to cook Texas-style barbecue, he opened Vegan Mob.

"I would describe (Vegan Mob's barbecue) as any other barbecue, it's just not meat," Gordon said. "I want it to be just as good as the original."

Gordon said he hopes to expand Vegan Mob "all around the world," and he's in the early stages of exploring franchising in Las Vegas and New Jersey.

Gordon said a big change he's noticed in the barbecue scene is the lack of Black-owned barbecue

spots in San Francisco. Leon's Bar-B-Q closed shortly after its founder's death in 1999, Big Nate's Barbecue shuttered in 2010 and Brother-in-law's BBQ closed in 2012.

"It's not like it used to be," Gordon said. "It's not the same as the ones I grew up on."

'LITTLE FLAMES'

Recently, some established brick-and-mortar barbecue restaurants along the Peninsula have shuttered. 3 Pigs BBQ, which opened in San Carlos in 2015 and expanded to San Mateo and Half Moon Bay, has permanently closed all of its locations, and Armadillo Willy's, established in 1983, closed five of its six remaining restaurants this year. QBB, which opened in 2017 in Mountain View, also shuttered last year.

At the same time, a slew of pop-ups has entered the Peninsula barbecue scene.

"I've seen little pockets pop up of barbecue that seem like small, little flames now, but hopefully they grow the restaurants," said Capelo, who started a small catering business in 2008 that expanded to his brick-and-mortar restaurant Capelo's Barbecue in 2020.

Other barbecue business owners that transitioned from pop-ups to brick and mortars include Wyatt Fields of Breakwater Barbecue in El Granada and Gordon of Vegan Mob. Fields started a catering business in 2014, opening his brick and mortar in El Granada in 2020 before moving to a bigger location in the neighborhood earlier this year. Gordon started Vegan Mob as a pop-up in early 2019 and opened his first brick and mortar later that year.

Dom's Nom's and Pico's BBQ are currently pop-ups, but Corcega and Savage both hope to open restaurants in the next three years or so.

Getting into the barbecue business isn't for the faint of heart, Savage said, as meat prices are



Courtesy Vegan Mob

Vegan Mob's Mob burger (\$20.90) comes with an Impossible patty, Tasha's slaw (coleslaw with cranberries, red onions and cabbage), sliced tomatoes, melted cheese, grilled onion and Mob sauce on a buttery vegan bun. It's served with a side of barbecue-seasoned fries.



Magali Gauthier

John Capelo, owner of Capelo's Barbecue, outside the business' kitchen in Redwood City on June 6, 2019.

high and labor hours are long. He personally works 70 hours a week.

"Barbecue is not the most lucrative form of food sales," he said. "It requires a lot of specific skill...So you really, really got to love it, and you got to devote a ton of hours of time to it."

Savage pops up just once a week from noon until he's sold out, which is usually around 3 p.m.

"People will literally line up for hours to eat it and travel from afar, and I never experienced any other type of food that really does that," Savage said.

In the barbecue business, planning is paramount. If you run out for the day, you can't just make more.

"You can't just throw a whole brisket on the grill," said Fields, owner of Breakwater Barbecue. "It's a 14-hour process."

Fields grew up barbecuing on the beach in Half Moon Bay. In 2014, he started Native Catering, a barbecue and new American cuisine catering company, rebranding to Breakwater Barbecue when he opened his brick-and-mortar restaurant in El Granada in 2020.

In 2023, Fields' restaurant was added to the Michelin Guide, and in May he moved Breakwater Barbecue to a larger location a mile north that was originally a historic train station, one of the original stops on the Ocean Shore Railroad.

THE FIRE KEEPS BURNING

Fields said he's seeing somewhat of a craft barbecue movement along the Peninsula, comparing it to the craft beer movement.

"A lot of chain barbecue restaurants, they'll throw their meat products in the smoker and set the timer...and then they'll just come back in 12 hours and just open up the chamber," he said. "With craft barbecue, you have to do everything by hand. You're really watching the fire. You're taking care of the products in your smoker on a deeper level than just doing the opposite with the electric smokers."

He thinks the future of barbecue restaurants will be very community-driven, with a pitmaster

being like a local butcher.

Despite rising meat costs, these pitmasters agreed demand for barbecue remains high.

"Greatest challenges for selling barbecue in the Bay Area? For me, selling out," Chef Mae said. "I only cook enough for 150 people, and I sell it every day, and people come mad."

Savage said he's not sure what the future of Bay Area barbecue holds, but he's certain about one thing — it's sticking around.

"You're putting all your differences aside, sharing a meal with a stranger, potentially, at a communal table," he said. "So that style of eating and the culture that barbecue kind of brings with it will probably keep it pretty relevant here."

"At a time when the world needs to come together, through the adversities that we have, barbecue is the best food, the best picnic, cook-off type of setting for all walks of life to come together... That is what barbecue is all about," Chef Mae said. ■

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

Breakwater Barbecue, 10151 Cabrillo Highway, El Granada; 650-713-5303, Instagram: @breakwaterbarbecue. Open Thursday to Sunday from noon to 7 p.m.

Capelo's Barbecue, 2655 Middlefield Road, Redwood City; 650-701-5433, Instagram: @capelosbarbecue. Open Tuesday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Dom's Nom's, 200 Old Country Road, Belmont; Instagram: @doms_noms_eats.

Hip Hop BBQ Shack, 223 El Camino Real, San Bruno; 650-826-3406, Instagram: @hiphopbbqshack. Open Monday to Saturday from noon to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 2-10 p.m.

Pico's BBQ, 459 Seaport Court, Redwood City; Instagram: @picosbbq. Open Saturday from noon to 3 p.m.

Vegan Mob, 1199 El Camino Real, San Bruno; 628-628-0281, Instagram: @officialveganmob. Open Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.



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