

# The Almanac

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE MIDPENINSULA

DECEMBER 5, 2025 | VOL. 61 NO. 14



WWW.ALMANACNEWS.COM

## Woodside wine pioneer Mullen dies at 99

Winemaker continued to work long after contemporaries moved on

By Clay Lambert

Robert Mullen, the pioneering Peninsula winemaker who bottled his first wines from his Woodside garage seven decades ago, has died, according to an email from the Woodside Vineyards he founded. Mullen was 99.

"We are writing with deep sadness to share that our founder, Robert Mullen, has passed away," the winery's email, sent on Nov. 26, said. "We are forever grateful for his vision and dedication, and we raise a glass to Bob and the legacy he left behind."

The email doesn't specify cause of death.

Mullen's first wines were made in the 1950s, from grapes he picked from a property on Kings Mountain Road. The owner of the property wasn't interested in the harvest and suggested Mullen could take all he wanted.

Later, Mullen partnered with the Groetzinger family who

made wine at the century-old La Questa Vineyards. In 1970, when the Groetzingers moved to Europe, Mullen bought their share of the business, starting what is now Woodside Vineyards.

Earlier this year, Mullen announced he was turning over his business to Silver Mountain Vineyards, another Santa Cruz Mountains label with a long history.

Mullen was also active in civic affairs in Woodside. He was an early member of the Woodside Village Church committee that built a new sanctuary, and he was a founding member of the Woodside History Committee.

See Mullen's obituary on page 8. ■

*Almanac staff writer Jennifer Yoshikoshi contributed to this story.*

*Email Editorial Director Clay Lambert at [clambert@almanacnews.com](mailto:clambert@almanacnews.com).*



Courtesy Thalia Lubin

Bob Mullen and his wife, Marsha Campbell, are shown together at their home in Menlo Park on Feb. 24.

## Reports of 'sexual conduct' between youth, staff surface at SMC juvenile hall

Officials launch internal investigation, but decline to provide details of allegations

By Hannah Bensen

Reports of "sexual conduct" involving detained youth and a staff member at the San Mateo County juvenile hall surfaced at a recent public commission meeting, as the Probation Department confirmed it has an internal investigation underway. The department's head said its investigation does not involve physical and sexual abuse and noted its staff is pursuing additional "unofficial" allegations circulating in the community.

At the Nov. 18 regular meeting of the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission, Chair Johanna Rasmussen, who is one of the citizen commissioners appointed by the Juvenile Court, Superior Court and Board of Supervisors, said multiple allegations had come in over the past 72 hours. In an interview, she said, "the commission received more than one report that more than one youth in our (Secure Youth Treatment Facility) was having sexual relations with a staff member."

Rasmussen, who has served as a commissioner since 2021 and as chair for the last two years, declined to share additional information about the allegations, citing the ongoing nature of the investigation. She noted she would be giving an interview to the county Sheriff's Office. At the meeting, Rasmussen invited Chief Probation Officer John Keene to discuss the allegations.

Keene, who was appointed to his position in 2013, said the Probation Department is "actively investigating activities in our

facility," but did not disclose details of the allegations and noted that commissioners are not privy to information from the Probation Department's internal investigation.

"Due to confidentiality protocols all I can confirm is that we are investigating internal allegations that do not include any physical or sexual abuse," Keene wrote in the email. "We are fully committed to investigating any allegations that are brought to us in a manner that allows us to conduct an actual investigation."

It was unclear why Rasmussen's characterization of the allegations differed from Keene's. Keene added in his email that he is aware of other allegations being discussed in various circles, which he described as "unofficial."

"We are doing our due diligence to look into those as well, but we are limited due to varying degrees of cooperation by alleged reporting parties. As you are aware, allegations are not facts until they are proven," Keene said.

See **JUVENILE HALL**, page 10

INSIDE

VIEWPOINT 14 | ARTS 18 | FOOD 22

LET'S EDUCATE: GUIDE TO CAMPS, CLASSES AND MORE 16

Senior Activity Center at Little House • Adult Day Services at Rosener House  
RIDE PVI • Quiescence • Nutrition Services



# Be Part of Their Story.

Your gift brings comfort, connection,  
and care to local seniors.

**Donate Today**



*Enabling Seniors to Age in Place*

**Peninsula Volunteers, Inc.**  
800 Middle Ave.  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 326-0665 | [1pvi.org](http://1pvi.org)



Scan to learn  
more or donate



# YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



## OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY ON 1.4 ACRES

**3085 ALEXIS DRIVE  
PALO ALTO**

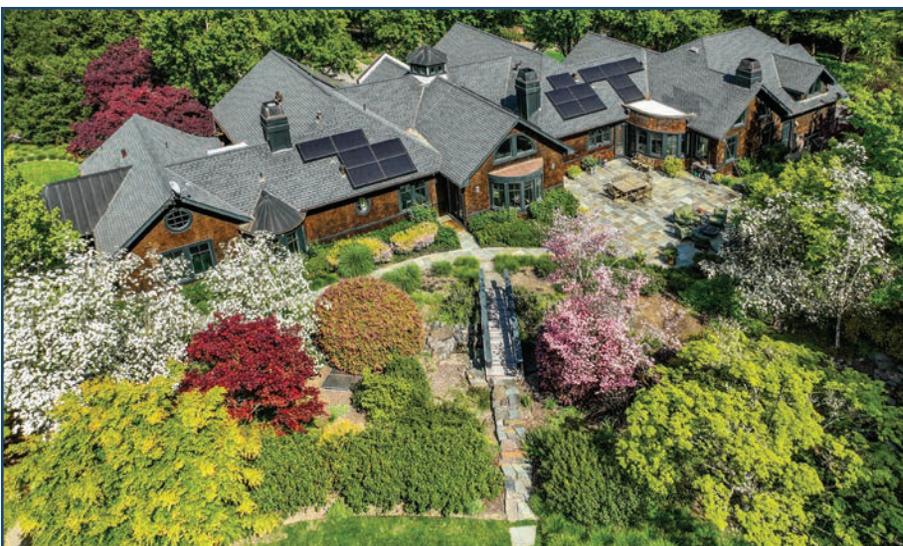
**\$4,988,000 | 1.4 Acre Lot  
3085Alexis.com**



## TUSCAN RETREAT WITH PALO ALTO SCHOOLS

**28500 MATADERO CREEK LN  
LOS ALTOS HILLS**

**\$9,398,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth  
28500MataderoCreek.com**



## RESORT-STYLE SERENITY IN WOODSIDE

**160 PHILLIP ROAD  
WOODSIDE**

**\$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth  
160Phillip.com**

**Don't Overpay to Sell your Home  
List with Us for 3% Total commission**

Ken DeLeon (DRE #01342140) **650.543.8501**  
Michael Repka (DRE #01854880) **650.488.7325**  
中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun (DRE #01933274) **650.785.5822**  
DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity





# HOPE HAPPENS HERE.

Join us and help more than 32,000 people fight the pressures of poverty.

[samaritanhousesanmateo.org/donate](https://samaritanhousesanmateo.org/donate)



Fighting Poverty. Lifting Lives.

**FOOD. SHELTER. CLOTHING. HEALTHCARE.**



## Sacred Heart teacher selected to author biology textbook

Author shares her teaching philosophy

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

A biology teacher at Sacred Heart Preparatory in Atherton has been selected as the lead author of “Teacher’s Guide to Campbell Biology, 13th Edition,” a forthcoming biology textbook widely used in college and Advanced Placement courses.

Diane Sweeney, an AP biology teacher, holds 30 years of classroom experience and has prior experience as a molecular biologist. She is part of a cohort of individuals who were invited to consult on the new book, which is expected to publish in summer 2026.

In the 1990s, Sweeney received a teaching award at the National Association of Biology Teachers conference and was approached by renowned biology textbook author Neil Campbell to write for “Pearson’s Biology: Exploring Life.” This marked her first experience in curriculum development.

Sweeney has also written for various publications and co-created “Author of Life,” a documentary series that blends faith and science education.

For the upcoming textbook, Sweeney will be highlighting hands-on activities, a teaching approach that she champions. By turning complex concepts



Courtesy Sacred Heart Preparatory

Sacred Heart Preparatory biology teacher Diane Sweeney has been selected as the lead author of a biology textbook.

into sensory learning, Sweeney’s lessons will include play-acting cellular processes, baking bread in the teaching kitchen and using hand motions to teach molecular structures.

“I used to call them ‘visual tattoos’ — a way of engaging students’ brains in a way they won’t soon forget,” said Sweeney in a written statement.

Through her contribution to

the upcoming book, Sweeney will be able to share her signature teaching methods to educators around the world.

“I am delighted to share this legacy of my 30 years’ teaching AP Biology with a larger audience,” she said. ■

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

## Former M-A coach Mike Molieri files lawsuit

District employee has been out on paid leave

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Former Menlo-Atherton teacher and boys varsity basketball coach Mike Molieri has filed a lawsuit against the Sequoia Union High School District. The suit alleges race and age discrimination and retaliation.

Molieri’s lawsuit was filed with the San Mateo County Superior Court on Oct. 28, six months after he submitted a legal claim against the district last April. According to his attorney Harry Stern, “the district did not take any action on our claim, thus it is considered denied.”

It has been over a year since Molieri was placed on paid administrative leave after the district claimed it was investigating allegations of his violation of several district policies, including the release of confidential student files to non-district employees, allowing students to be in his classroom instead of their assigned classes and making false statements about students to other staff.

The district also alleges that he was soliciting the school community to engage in the services of his brother Dan Molieri, a private investigator. Dan Molieri is currently working with the legal team representing the arrested Menlo-Atherton student in April 2023.

Molieri, who earned a base salary of about \$149,000 in the 2023-24 school year, continues to be paid to stay at home.

“The district took away my passion and spirit for an entire year of supporting and ensuring all students be treated equally. They also took away my joy in coaching, to intentionally do harm to me. Five-hundred days and counting says it all,” Molieri told this news organization.

The lawsuit names Superintendent Crystal Leach, former Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Todd Beal and current Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Bonnie Hansen.

According to the lawsuit, Molieri filed a Charge of Discrimination with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in October and received a Right to Sue letter.

Molieri, who is 59 years old, Hispanic and of Nicaraguan descent, alleges that his race and age were a motivating reason for the district’s decision to place him on leave. He joins a list of several former district employees who accuse district administrators of discriminatory practices.

The events outlined in the suit also include details involving the arrested M-A student, referred

See **LAWSUIT**, page 7

## Atherton police urge home-security steps after 3 recent burglaries

Residents urged to lock doors, set alarms

By Arden Margulis

After the town saw three burglaries around Thanksgiving, the Atherton Police Department is urging residents to take stronger home-security precautions, saying many of the incidents involved unlocked doors, unarmed alarms and other preventable vulnerabilities.

Police Chief Steve McCulley said in a letter to residents that officers have stepped up patrols, expanded investigative work and increased proactive crime-prevention programs in

response to the trend. But he emphasized that the most effective strategy relies on both police action and consistent safety steps by homeowners.

### The three burglaries

On Nov. 28 at about 3:20 p.m., a man broke into an Atherton home on Toyon Road by smashing a window. However, once he had entered the house, the homeowner spoke to him through indoor cameras, prompting the suspect to flee. Nothing was reported missing.

The burglar was described as an adult male, 5 feet, 8 inches

to 5 feet, 10 inches tall, with a stocky build. He had brown eyes and was wearing a black baseball hat with a white Nike swoosh, a black paper medical mask, a black zip-up jacket and black pants, police said.

Later the same day, an unknown number of suspects broke into a home on Cebalo Lane and stole a pair of Prada sunglasses worth \$225. Atherton police Cmdr. Dan Larsen later confirmed that no alarm was active during the burglary.

Three days prior, an unknown number of suspects entered a construction site on Patricia

Drive through an unsecured door at around 4:30 a.m. Larsen said in an email to this publication that a \$4,000 bicycle was stolen from the property.

As of publication, none of the burglars have been reported apprehended. Larsen said the department is still investigating whether the burglaries are related.

“(It’s) hard to say that it is a harbinger of increased burglaries. However, burglaries do tend to increase over the holidays as people are traveling,” Larsen said in an email to this publication.

### What residents can do

The department has identified several recurring issues in recent break-ins, including homes left dark inside and out, side gates left unsecured, valuables stored in obvious locations and security cameras or alarms that were turned off at the time of the burglary. In some cases, safes were placed in primary bedrooms or offices, locations typically targeted first by organized burglary crews.

“These are conditions that create opportunities that organized

See **BURGLARIES**, page 11

# Former police chief returns to embattled San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

## Hsiung returns to post he held in 2024

By Emma Montalbano

Former Mountain View police chief Chris Hsiung is returning to his post as San Mateo County's undersheriff, a job he held until leaving in 2024 during the controversial tenure of Christina Corpus, who was ultimately ousted as the sheriff last month.

San Mateo County's newly sworn in sheriff, Ken Binder, reappointed Hsiung as undersheriff on Monday, Nov. 24. Hsiung's temporary appointment is slated to last about eight months, during which time he is expected to help with "organizational healing, leadership development and operational excellence," according to a Sheriff's Office press release.

"I'm thrilled that Chris Hsiung is coming back to serve as undersheriff," Binder said in the press release. "Not only is Undersheriff Hsiung a respected law enforcement leader, but he brings a deep understanding of the Sheriff's Office and a genuine commitment to the men and women who work here."

Binder and Hsiung have worked together in the past, crossing paths while Binder was serving as Santa Clara County undersheriff and Hsiung was leading the Mountain View police department, Hsiung told this publication. Both men are already familiar with each other's leadership styles, which Hsiung described as being very similar.

"We are what you would call 'servant-minded leaders,' meaning our philosophy of leadership

is that it's our responsibility as leaders to actually serve those that we lead [and] create the cultures that they can thrive under," Hsiung said.

Hsiung decided to leave the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in June 2024 after less than two years as undersheriff. In an interview this week, Hsiung cited leadership style conflicts with former Sheriff Corpus as a main reason for his departure. He added that it was one of the most difficult decisions he had ever made because while he no longer felt effective in his role, he still felt like he was turning his back on the people that he served.

Before coming to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in February 2023, Hsiung worked with the Mountain View Police Department from 1995 to 2023, serving as chief for his last two years. During his nearly three decades with the department, Hsiung worked in every single division, including investigative and tactical, the Voice previously reported.

Many of the chiefs he worked under, specifically Max Bosel and Scott Vermeer, positively impacted his career while he was still growing up in the industry, he said this week. As Hsiung put it, he was "baked in Mountain View," and what the community sees of him today are the effects of that.

### Returning to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

On his first day back in the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office on Nov. 25, Hsiung made

the rounds, greeting many of his former colleagues and reacquainting himself with some of the office systems and operations. While in this role, Hsiung said that he wants to help run the organization as professionally, ethically and smoothly as possible.

Hsiung is filling the vacancy left by former Undersheriff Dan Perea, who announced his departure from the office the same day that Binder was selected by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to become the next sheriff.

Binder's appointment came one year after the county released an independent investigation into Corpus' leadership. The report accused her of having an inappropriate relationship with her chief of staff and fostering a culture of intimidation and retaliation in the Sheriff's Office.

The County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to oust Corpus at a special meeting on Oct. 14, about eight months after 84% of voters approved Measure A, a charter amendment that granted the board the power to remove the elected sheriff.

When Binder was appointed as the new sheriff on Nov. 12, he told the board that he was "excited to lead and move the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office forward." He is expected to serve the remainder of Corpus' term, which expires at the end of 2028.

Hsiung similarly emphasized that he's excited to be with the Sheriff's Office again, noting that he loves the people who work there and their sense of duty. He



Magali Gauthier

Deputy Police Chief Chris Hsiung speaks with Sgt. Sean Thompson at the Mountain View Police Department in 2019.

also said that he wanted to leave the past behind, commending deputies and other staff for their continued dedication to the community amidst the controversy that shrouded the Sheriff's Office for more than a year.

"Think about how much the office has been through over the past year, but yet, at the street level, the service that the community has been receiving has been stellar," Hsiung said. "That's a huge testament to the women and men here."

The atmosphere in the office feels different than it did last year, Hsiung said, with people telling him that they are already sleeping better and hearing laughter fill the hallways. He said that he feels privileged to already have the trust of many of the people at the Sheriff's Office.

See **HSIUNG**, page 10

## Atherton police receive \$70K state grant to boost traffic safety

### Funding will help expand enforcement and education

By Arden Margulis

The California Office of Traffic Safety awarded a \$70,000 grant to the Atherton Police Department to support programs designed to reduce serious injuries and deaths, the department announced on Dec. 2.

"We are grateful to receive this grant, which will strengthen our traffic enforcement efforts and improve road safety," Atherton police Cmdr. Daniel Larsen said in a statement.

The Atherton Police Department has made traffic enforcement a priority, especially after a garbage truck hit and killed coach Dylan Taylor, a local youth athletics coach who was riding a bicycle in a bike lane.

"When we say we're increasing enforcement, it doesn't mean we're out there writing ticket after ticket," Larsen said at the time. "It's more about increasing visibility and educating motorists and cyclists."

According to the department, the grant will help fund DUI checkpoints and patrols, high-visibility distracted-driving enforcement, and operations targeting violations that present the biggest risks to pedestrians and cyclists. It will also support focused enforcement on top causes of crashes, including speeding, failure to yield, stop-sign and red-light violations, and improper turns or lane changes.

The department has conducted similar enforcement

operations in the past.

In March, the department conducted a "crosswalk safety emphasis" operation with the Redwood City Police Department and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office to ensure motorists yielded to pedestrians when crossing El Camino Real at Selby Lane. During the operation, plain-clothes Atherton staff members crossed El Camino Real at a marked crosswalk. When vehicles did not stop for pedestrians, marked police units wrote citations and educated the drivers.

In the 2.5-hour operation, 72 motorists were issued citations for crosswalk violations.

The funding will also support community education programs on traffic safety topics such as impaired and distracted

driving, bicycle and pedestrian safety, speeding and other risky behaviors. That outreach includes bicycle rodeos and presentations at community events.

The grant additionally provides training and recertification opportunities for officers, including standardized field sobriety test procedures, advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement and drug recognition expert coursework.

The grant, which was awarded by the Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, will fund enforcement and education programs through September 2026. ■

Email Staff Writer Arden Margulis at [amargulis@almanacnews.com](mailto:amargulis@almanacnews.com).

## The Almanac

### NEWSROOM

Editor [editor@almanacnews.com](mailto:editor@almanacnews.com)

#### Staff Writers

Arden Margulis, 223-6518

Jennifer Yoshikoshi, 223-6536

**Print & Lifestyle Editor** Linda Taaffe, 223-6511, [ltaaffe@almanacnews.com](mailto:ltaaffe@almanacnews.com)

#### Arts & Entertainment Editor

Heather Zimmerman, 223-6515, [hzimmerman@almanacnews.com](mailto:hzimmerman@almanacnews.com)

**Features Editor** Julia Brown, 223-6531, [jbrown@almanacnews.com](mailto:jbrown@almanacnews.com)

**Food Editor** Adrienne Mitchell, 223-6539, [amitchel@almanacnews.com](mailto:amitchel@almanacnews.com)

**Audience Engagement Lead** Zoe Morgan, 223-6519, [almanacnews.com](mailto:almanacnews.com)

**Lifestyle Assistant Editor** Karla Kane, 223-6521, [kkane@almanacnews.com](mailto:kkane@almanacnews.com)

**Visual Journalist** Seeger Gray, 223-6530, [sgray@almanacnews.com](mailto:sgray@almanacnews.com)

#### Embarcadero Media Foundation

##### Staff Writers

Hannah Bensen, 223-6527

Riley Cooke, 223-6524

Emily Margaretten, 223-6517

Emma Montalbano, 223-6535

Miranda de Moraes, 223-6533

Lisa Moreno, 223-6526

**Contributors** Kate Daly, Ashwini Gangal, Neil Gonzales, Maggie Mah

### ADVERTISING

#### Major Accounts Sales Manager

Connie Cotton, 223-6571

The Almanac is published every Friday at  
**3525 Alameda De Las Pulgas,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025**

■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525

■ **Emails:** [Editor@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Editor@AlmanacNews.com)  
[Letters@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:Letters@AlmanacNews.com)

■ **Submit Legal Notices:**  
[AlmanacNews.com/legal\\_notices](mailto:AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices)

■ **Submit Obituaries:**  
[AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](http://AlmanacNews.com/obituaries)

The Almanac (ISSN 1097-3095 and USPS 459370) is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media Foundation, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558. Periodicals Postage Paid at Menlo Park, CA and at additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for San Mateo County.

The Almanac is delivered to homes in Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside. To become a paid subscribing member. Go to [AlmanacNews.com/join](http://AlmanacNews.com/join) to start supporting The Almanac today. To request or stop delivery, call 854-2626.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Almanac, 3525 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park, CA 94025-6558.

Copyright ©2025 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

# Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy reopens renovated campus

Students return after \$25 million facelift

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Students at the Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy in East Palo Alto returned to a newly renovated campus after Thanksgiving break. The reopening marks the completion of the second Ravenswood City School District campus renovation.

The \$25 million project was celebrated during a soft opening of the campus on Nov. 25 as construction workers put finishing touches on the buildings. While students were on break, teachers were setting up their classrooms in preparation for school on Dec. 1.

The event brought together community members and local leaders who attended Los Robles as former Ravenswood students. They included San Mateo County Supervisor Lisa Gauthier, school board President Laura Nunez and county Office of Education Deputy Superintendent Marco Chavez.

"This moment represents far more than the completion of a construction project," said



Seeger Gray

First-grade teacher Jessica Chu works on setting up her newly remodeled classroom at Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy in East Palo Alto on Nov. 25.

Gauthier in her speech. "It is a powerful investment in our children, our families, and the future of our community.

All 25 modernized classrooms feature upgraded HVAC units, ventilation systems, warm-toned lighting, new walls and ceiling tiles. Los Robles is also now an all-electric school.

"The structure is the same

but pretty much everything was gutted and replaced," said Assistant Superintendent Will Eger, who led the project from concept to completion within just over a year.

"These upgrades are not just cosmetics. They're a real investment and a visual reminder of the new Ravenswood, not the Ravenswood of the past," said

Nunez. "This reopening is a reminder of what we can accomplish together."

Classroom windows face toward a central courtyard that allows all students to look out into a green space which also features California's first accredited arboretum on a K-12 campus.

The school currently has over 100 trees of 25 unique species including ginkgos, toyons, trident maples, Saratoga Bay laurels and more. The final trees were planted at the beginning of the year on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in a districtwide collaboration with Canopy.

Community Forestry Manager Aubrey Knier explained that all the trees were selected by the school and were planted by members of the community. The project was funded by a grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Urban and Community Forestry Program, she added.

"When students walk into spaces that are beautiful, functional and designed for learning, it changes how they see themselves in the possibilities ahead

of them," said Chavez.

The city of East Palo Alto's first football field is also being constructed at Los Robles with an estimated completion date in early 2026. The \$4.2 million project was funded by nonprofits including the 49ers Foundation, NFL Legacy Grant, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Ravenswood Education Foundation and the Bay Area Host Committee.

Los Robles-Ronald McNair Academy is the second Ravenswood campus to be renovated following the upgrade of Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School in 2024.

Over winter break, the district is looking forward to reopening its third renovated campus at Bell Haven Elementary School. Costano Elementary School is currently in its design phase with plans to begin a two to three year construction process at the start of the 2026-27 school year, according to the district newsletter. ■

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

## LAWSUIT

continued from page 5

to as K.C. in legal documents. Detailed in his lawsuit, K.C. was in the special education program at M-A and allegedly had his confidential student records released to the Atherton Police Department by an undisclosed district staff member without parental permission.

Dan Molieri told this news organization that "no one has ever taken any punishment for giving away K.C.'s file."

Molieri was K.C.'s teacher and took the initiative to discuss his concerns about the student, confidential issues pertaining to his student records and shared his advocacy for the socially and economically disadvantaged students of color with M-A Principal Karl Losekoot, according to the suit.

The lawsuit claims that the district was in violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Following the incident, Moieiri alleges that the district's lawyer Eliza McArthur threatened him to participate in an active litigation involving a student and accused him of not following the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The suit said Molieri then filed a complaint

against McArthur with Leach, who allegedly did not take any action to investigate the matter.

Months later, he received a letter notifying him that he was being placed on leave.

"I believe that other employees and administrators who violated the law and worked in concert with administrators to do harm to a child remain at work with no investigation. These are the facts that I want everyone to know and I expect accountability," said Molieri.

"The next steps are for us to formally serve the suit and litigate the case to trial, if need be," Stern added. ■

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

## LEHUA GREENMAN



"Lest we forget the heroes of Pearl Harbor. May their memory be a beacon of strength and unity."

650.245.1845 COMPASS

EXPERT SUPPORT FOR AGING WELL

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## A New Breed of Concierge Service Emerges for Families Managing Aging Parents

Exclusive membership model addresses care coordination challenge

It's two in the morning when the call comes: a parent has fallen and is in the ER. Their adult child — preparing for a critical board meeting and weeks of travel — learns surgery and a long recovery lie ahead. For others, the crisis is quieter but just as real: managing multiple doctors, medications, and next steps while juggling demanding careers.

This is the problem Dr. Ryan Van Wert set out to solve. A Stanford-trained, triple board-certified physician, he saw capable



professionals struggle to manage their parents' care within a fragmented

healthcare system. His solution: Kin Concierge, a service that acts less like home care and more like a chief operating officer for aging parents' lives.

Kin Concierge offers



three core functions: comprehensive care planning that includes medical, physical, and home safety needs, coordination of local providers and services, and hands-on healthcare navigation — from attending appointments to managing prescriptions.

Families can engage short- or long-term, whether parents live at home or in a senior living community. The service's tiered membership model appeals to families seeking efficient, expert

coordination and peace of mind. Ultimately, Kin Concierge helps families make informed decisions and spend more quality time together instead of managing logistics.

*Kin Concierge provides care coordination, advocacy, and navigation services and does not provide medical advice, diagnosis, treatment, or direct patient care. Clients maintain their own relationships with physicians and healthcare providers. A complimentary initial meeting may be booked at kinconcierge.com.*

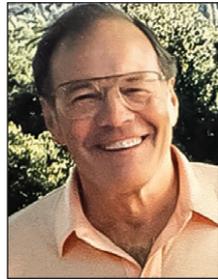
Content provided by

**Kin Concierge**  
kinconcierge.com

## Robert Lee Mullen

February 12, 1926 – November 24, 2025

Loyal friend, devoted community member, and winemaker Bob Mullen passed away peacefully in his sleep from natural causes on November 24, 2025, at the age of 99. His partner, Marsha Campbell, was at home with him.



Robert Lee Mullen was born in Youngstown, Ohio on February 12, 1926, at 5:55 p.m. His family moved often before eventually settling in Peoria, Illinois, where he attended high school.

In 1943, Bob enrolled in the U.S. Navy as part of the college training program, spending time at Purdue University and Miami University (Ohio) before serving at sea during World War II. After the war, he completed his degree at Illinois Tech in Chicago, then began his professional career with Armstrong World Industries, working in the Building Products Division as a sales representative.

Called back to service with the Naval Reserves during the Korean War, Bob was aboard the USS Walke on June 12, 1951 when the ship was torpedoed resulting in the loss of 26 crew members. Bob's heroic actions during the aftermath earned him an Award of Merit, and he remained deeply connected to his shipmates, attending reunions for decades.

After returning from Korea, Bob was appointed to run Armstrong's California District office in 1954, becoming the company's youngest district manager. He was known as an innovator—opening Armstrong's first distributor, hosting the inaugural "105 Meeting" in Carmel, and earning more #1 District Office sales awards than any of the company's nine regions. His responsibilities later expanded when he was promoted to Regional Manager of the nine-state Western Region for Armstrong's Residential Ceilings Division.

During this time Bob and his wife Polly settled in Woodside, California. After helping their friends, the Groetzingers, make wine at their home with historic La Questa grapes, Bob became convinced he wanted to make wine himself. This new passion led Bob and Polly to Kings Mountain Road, where they purchased property that included grapes. It was here they established Woodside Vineyards.

Woodside Vineyards was officially bonded in 1963, and sold its first wine to Roberts Market in 1968. For many years the winery was Bob's weekend job, producing 400–600 cases annually, while he continued his career at Armstrong until retiring in 1990. After retirement, Woodside Vineyards expanded production to approximately 1,800 cases per year and continued to produce award winning wines under the Woodside Vineyards and La Questa labels until the winery was sold this year to Silver Mountain Winery.

Bob and Marsha moved to Menlo Park in 2008, where Bob once again embraced a new community with his characteristic warmth. He was known for enjoying happy hours at the pool and his "Pool Group" remained an important part of his life.

Bob had a profound appreciation for the history and community of San Mateo County. His decades of involvement included being one of the founders of the Woodside History Committee. He was also an active participant and supporter of the San Mateo County History Museum. Equally enduring was his 60-year relationship with Woodside Village Church. As chair of the Sanctuary Building Committee, he offered both leadership and guidance, along with generous financial support. Throughout his life, he remained a steady and devoted presence within the church community.

Bob will be missed beyond measure. He lived a remarkably full life, defined by an incredible range of accomplishments and a genuine love for the communities he helped build and nurture. He never missed an opportunity to form a new connection, and his gift for welcoming others was extraordinary. The wine community, including the Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers Association, the Wine Institute, his Armstrong colleagues and the many family members and friends whose lives he touched, will carry his influence and memory forward for years to come.

He was known as "Uncle Bob" and dearly loved by many nieces and nephews including Anne Casey, Rob Rodgers, Dennis Rodgers, Lorrie Boldrick, Lee Ellen Jewett, and Tom Bridson. His family included Rob, Julie and Anne Buelteman and Jane Ganahl.

A celebration of Bob's life will take place on February 14, 2026 at Woodside Village Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the San Mateo County Historical Association."

PAID OBITUARY

## Stanford names former quarterback Pritchard as new head coach

Luck and Pritchard to team up once again

By Clay Lambert

The Stanford Athletic Department announced on Nov. 28 that it was bringing back former quarterback Tavita Pritchard as the new head coach of its football team.

As it did when it tapped Andrew Luck as the first general manager of the team, the university turned to a quarterback from its past to lead the team into the future. Pritchard is a 2009 graduate of Stanford, where he made 20 starts as quarterback.

After graduation, Pritchard had a lengthy stint as an assistant on the Cardinal bench. During that stretch, the Cardinal won nine straight Big Games against rivals from the University of California, Berkeley, and went to bowl games 10 straight years.

Pritchard is in the midst of his third year as quarterbacks coach of the NFL's Washington Commanders. He replaces Frank Reich, who was named the team's coach for the 2025 season only.

"Stanford is a place like no other and my family and I are full of gratitude to be returning home in every sense of the word," said Pritchard in a prepared release from the university. Pritchard met his wife when



Embarcadero Media file photo

Keller Chryst, left, gets some advice from new Stanford head football coach Tavita Pritchard in this 2016 file photo. Pritchard returns to The Farm, where he played and coached previously.

the pair were Stanford undergrads. Three of his four children were born at Stanford Hospital, according to the release.

"I have a clear vision of the hard work, brotherhood and tenacity it will take to build a championship Stanford football program," he said in the release. "I cannot wait to partner with Andrew and begin working with the best student-athletes in the world to achieve excellence on and off the field."

Pritchard's NFL colleagues were full of praise for Stanford's

new coach.

"If I had a son playing college football, I'd want him to play for Tavita Pritchard," said Commanders offensive coordinator Kliff Kingsbury in a prepared release from Stanford. "Tavita has a unique ability to build relationships, and I've never seen a quarterback room as tight and unified as the one he has molded." ■

Email Editorial Director  
Clay Lambert at [clambert@almanacnews.com](mailto:clambert@almanacnews.com).

## County urges residents to take emergency prep survey

Will help officials deploy resources

By Bay City News Service

Officials of San Mateo County are urging residents to complete its Community Emergency Preparedness Survey, warning that participation remains especially low in some of the region's highest-risk communities.

In a statement on Dec. 1, Board of Supervisors President David Canepa and Emergency Management Director Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar said the anonymous survey will guide how the county allocates emergency resources, issues warnings and supports residents during disasters.

Early results reportedly show striking gaps with Daly City — home to more than 100,000 people and sitting directly on the San Andreas Fault — submitting only 40 surveys. East Palo Alto has returned 23, despite flood risks from the Bay and nearby creeks.

Coastside communities such as Pacifica and Half Moon Bay, which face tsunami threats, storm-related isolation and potential Highway 1 closures, also trail the rest of the county.

"The communities that often face the greatest challenges in emergencies are the least represented in our data," Canepa said. "This survey is your seat at the table when decisions are made about how to protect your family and your neighborhood."

County leaders said San Mateo County's varied geography — with the Pacific Ocean on one side, the Bay on the other and the San Andreas Fault running through it — leaves residents vulnerable to a range of hazards. In recent years, the area has experienced tsunami warnings, wildfires, winter storms and earthquakes. Emergency preparedness has become one of the Board of Supervisors' top funding priorities.

Dhapodkar said each response helps planners understand how families would react in an emergency.

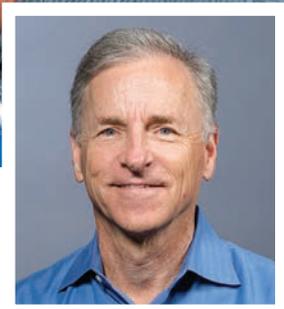
"Every response helps us understand what real families need — where they'll go during an evacuation, how they prefer to receive emergency alerts, whether they have pets or older relatives who need special consideration," she said. "When communities participate, we can tailor our resources, our communications, and our outreach to actually reach them when it matters most."

The survey is fully anonymous, collects no personal information, and is available in English, Spanish and Mandarin. It takes about 10 minutes to complete and is designed to help families assess their own readiness while providing planners with essential data. Canepa acknowledged that some

See **SURVEY**, page 11

# DONATE TO SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM

LOCAL NEWS. LASTING IMPACT.



## A letter from Bill Johnson, Founder of Embarcadero Media

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for your support and readership of *The Almanac*. Since we first had the privilege of publishing it in 1993, Embarcadero Media has grown to reach readers across the Midpeninsula through the *Mountain View Voice*, *Redwood City Pulse*, and *Palo Alto Weekly*. From the start, it has been our purpose and passion to provide fair, thorough, and independent reporting that helps residents understand the issues shaping our communities.

Over the years, we've weathered many difficult periods, but none as great as the challenge we face today. The ways people access information, and with that, how local journalism is sustained, have changed dramatically. What has not changed is our belief that

strong communities depend on well-informed citizens. That's why, in 2024, we created the Embarcadero Media Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that our award-winning local journalism continues to serve future generations.

The Foundation enables us to raise funds that help cover the high cost of employing professional journalists to follow local issues, watch over city councils and school boards, and provide our communities with trustworthy information. In our first two years as a nonprofit, we've begun to stabilize our finances and strengthen our ability to cover vital issues, from housing, education, and the environment to local government and civic life – while giving readers and

supporters the opportunity to directly invest in this essential public service.

Your contribution helps sustain reporting that holds power to account, connects neighbors, and strengthens government right here at home. If you value having a trusted source of local news that reflects and serves our community, I hope you'll join us in supporting the Embarcadero Media Foundation.

Thank you for being part of this journey, and for helping ensure that local journalism continues to thrive across the Midpeninsula.

With gratitude,  
**Bill Johnson**  
 Founder, *Embarcadero Media*  
 Embarcadero Media Foundation



Scan QR code to

**DONATE TODAY**

AlmanacNews.com/donate

*The* **Almanac**

AlmanacNews.com

If you would like to make a donation by check it may be sent to:

**Embarcadero Media Foundation, 2345 Yale St., FL 1, Palo Alto, CA 94306**

A receipt will be mailed to you.

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Nan Engler Ray

August 11, 1934 - November 8, 2025

Nan Ray of Menlo Park, CA passed away peacefully on November 8th. She was 91 years old. Nan is survived by her children, Lauren Lamb, John (Cynthia Lyon) Ray, and Paul Ray and her grandchildren, Kevin (Tiffany Marchbanks) Ray, Robert Lamb, and Alison Lamb. She was predeceased by her parents, Agnes Flach Engler and Paul Edward Engler, her husband, John Charles Ray, and her son-in-law, William Lamb. A Celebration of Life will be held at St Bede's Episcopal Church on December 11th at 4:30p.m.



Nan was born August 11, 1934 in Omaha Nebraska. She graduated from Brownell Hall and went on to attend the University of Nebraska, earning a bachelor's degree in English. There she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma, participated in synchronized swimming, and sang in the choir. After college she moved to California with her lifelong friend, Sally Baumgartner. Through Sally she met her husband, whom she married in 1958. Living in the Bay Area was a joy for Nan. She loved spending the day at the ocean and became an excellent cook. She developed a deep love for plants and gardening that would be her passion for the rest of her life. But most importantly she made friends that she cherished to the end of her days.

Nan was involved in many volunteer organizations in her life beginning with The Peninsula Volunteers and The Peninsula Children's Center Charter Auxiliary, for which she served as president. As her children were completing their schooling, Nan returned to college and earned an associate's degree in horticulture. This led to her participation in the inaugural docent class at Filoli. She then instructed docent classes there, worked in fundraising, and helped care for the gardens. Nan was a member of the Atherton Garden Guild, serving in many capacities. She volunteered at Strybing Arboretum for about thirty years, work that enriched her knowledge of plants and brought her new and interesting friends.

Nan's special interest was rhododendrons. She was a member of the De Anza Chapter of the Rhododendron Society for 40 years, serving on their board and in every other role asked of her. She judged and participated in many flower competitions, delighting in the ribbons she won. She worked with the directors at Strybing to introduce rare Rhodie species to their collections. Her crowning recognition came in 2020 when The American Rhododendron Society presented her with the Silver Award for her deep involvement and outstanding contributions to the Society and advancement of and knowledge around rhododendrons.

Nan loved to travel. From Russia to the Easter Islands to New Orleans, she delighted in visiting new places, seeing gardens or bird watching. She frequently traveled with her friend, Will Smith, who was equally curious about the natural world and shared her love of rhododendrons. Nan was an avid reader, claiming an hour daily around lunch time to read the newspaper and her beloved mystery novels. She was a dedicated birdwatcher, always up for a day trip to the wetlands or anywhere she could encounter new and interesting species. She was independent, strong, and a forward thinker. She believed that women were equally capable in this world and that action was power.

Nan's children would like to thank Po, Enrique, Alma, and Maria who cared for Nan and made it possible for her to continue to live in her beloved home to the end with ease and comfort.

A Celebration of Life will be held at St Bede's Episcopal Church on December 11th at 4:30p.m.

Donations in Nan's memory can be made to the charity of one's choice. Better yet, go dig in a garden or plant something in her memory.

PAID OBITUARY

## Silicon Valley real estate development lowest since 2013

By Michael Langberg / San José Spotlight

It is the best of times and worst of times for commercial real estate and development in Silicon Valley, according to the newest quarterly report from economic think tank Joint Venture Silicon Valley.

The good news is Silicon Valley developers completed 5.6 million square feet of new office and industrial space in the first nine months of 2025, the fastest growth rate since 2021, according to the report. The bad news: Commercial footage under development fell to 4.5 million square feet, down 45% from the end of 2024 and down 79% from its most recent peak in 2021 — the lowest level since 2013.

Commercial leasing in the first three quarters of the year hit 20.4 million square feet, on track for the highest annual volume since 2018.

Vacancy rates, while improved slightly to 22% from 23% in the second quarter, are more than double the pre-pandemic rate of 2019 and exceed the peak levels of the dot-com

bust in the early 2000s.

"Silicon Valley has a split personality right now," land use consultant Bob Staedler told San José Spotlight. "This report just confirms what we're seeing on the ground."

Commercial real estate and development — often regarded as a proxy for the region's overall health — isn't in crisis and property values aren't dropping, Staedler added. At the same time, the new construction pipeline is shrinking because vacancy rates are more than double what's considered normal.

Russell Hancock, Joint Venture's president and CEO, said Silicon Valley — along with the rest of the nation — is feeling the effects of inflation and overall confusion on where government policies are headed.

"In uncertainty, no one wants to invest," Hancock told San José Spotlight. "Nobody wants to make any big bets right now."

Staedler and Hancock expect the commercial property market to recover over time, driven by new industries such as artificial intelligence along with the gradual return to working in the office. Some older office

buildings will come off the market through conversion into multifamily housing.

There are also a few immediate bright spots for building owners and developers.

"We still have a lot of inventory to sort through, but we've seen the turnaround actually start as early as the first quarter of 2024," Alexander Quinn, senior director of Northern California research at JLL, told San José Spotlight. The real estate firm co-authored the third quarter report with Joint Venture. While office buildings represented just 22% of new commercial construction in Silicon Valley last year, down from 55% in the prior four years, lab and industrial space has shot up to more than two-thirds of all new development because of rapid growth in life sciences and advanced manufacturing.

Quinn pointed to robotics and drone makers as one highlight of this new demand, because Silicon Valley can uniquely bring together the hardware, software and AI engineering talent needed to get these new technologies literally off the ground. ■

### JUVENILE HALL

continued from page 1

The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission is a San Mateo County entity that, among other objectives, performs inspections of county facilities where juveniles are detained. Under state law, all California counties are required to have a Juvenile Justice Commission. San Mateo County's Board of Supervisors also established a Delinquency Prevention Commission, and in August 2009, the joint state-mandated, county-appointed commission was established, according to the JJDPC's 2024 annual report.

In addition to facility inspections, the San Mateo County JJDPC's mission is to be "a public conscience in the best interest of young people." The commission aims to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice

system and advocates for youth who have entered the system.

The JJDPC works alongside the Probation Department to carry out its various duties. According to the JJDPC's operating policies document, "it is the duty of the Commissions to inquire into the administration of justice in a broad sense," which includes the operations of the Probation Department and other legal entities.

Keene said in the email that he will not generally disclose the results of internal investigations to the JJDPC or any other public entity, citing confidentiality rules. He added that his department would evaluate whether to contact the District Attorney's Office if there is evidence of a criminal violation, and that the department may work with outside law enforcement agencies to conduct additional investigations where appropriate.

This is not the first time the county's probation department has come under fire for sexual abuse tied to youth in its custody. Recent lawsuits from 2022 and 2023, which are still ongoing, accuse former probation officer John Domeniconi of abusing boys for years while the county allegedly ignored complaints. The department has weathered earlier scandals, including the conviction of court-appointed psychiatrist Dr. William Hamilton Ayres, who died in 2016 while in prison, for molesting children and the child-pornography conviction of former probation chief Stuart James Forrest. ■

*Hannah Bensen is a recipient of the California Local News Fellowship who is a member of the Embarcadero Media Foundation Staff through 2027. She can be reached at [hbensen@almanacnews.com](mailto:hbensen@almanacnews.com).*

### HSIUNG

continued from page 6

While he was away, Hsiung focused on leading an organization that he helped found called The Curve, which aims to modernize policing practices and transform police culture. To accommodate his new position,

Hsiung is taking a temporary leave of absence from his role as executive director of the non-profit, but he is expected to return after finishing his work with the Sheriff's Office, the press release said.

During his hiatus, he also became a Peace Officer Standards and Training instructor for those

in the upper ranks, such as deputy chiefs, police chiefs and sheriffs. He said that he plans to bring the leadership skills he has gained from these experiences to his temporary position as undersheriff. ■

*Email Staff Writer Emma Montalbano at [emontalbano@almanacnews.com](mailto:emontalbano@almanacnews.com).*

# Feeling at home with Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Serving as a second home for local youth, the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula aims to close the opportunity gap for many families in Silicon Valley through education, athletics, mental health services and more.

“There are so many school-age children who have got hard-working families that live a very different reality here in Silicon Valley, and the many opportunities and resources that can make this community such an enriching place to grow up are out of reach,” said Jenny Obiaya, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula.

The local chapter of the national organization currently serves 6,700 children across 30 different sites from East Palo Alto and Daly City. The Boys and Girls Club offers free after school and summer programming, academic support, mental health services and extracurriculars.

While Silicon Valley is often associated with prosperity and opportunity, about 29,000 students live below the poverty line in San Mateo County, said Obiaya.

“At BGCP, we understand that talent is equally distributed across the Bay Area, but opportunity is not and so our work is to level the playing field,” said Obiaya. “We empower young people with equitable access to opportunities that are going to help them thrive in the classroom and beyond.”

The organization provides daily tutoring services for students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade. The program highlights the importance of teaching young students the fundamentals of literacy and



Donations to the Holiday Fund can be made at [AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund](https://AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund).

math and continuing the lesson outside of the classroom.

For high school students, the Boys and Girls Club offers support through its Career Pathways and Future Grads programs, which focuses on career exploration and college readiness.

Obiaya recalled the successful achievements of one student who had been a Boys and Girls Club member since he was in the fourth grade. After graduating with an engineering degree from San Jose State University, Sal Rodriguez returned to the Boys and Girls Club as a volunteer while searching for a job. While volunteering, he met a Boys and Girls Club supporter who helped him secure the job that he currently works in today.

Rodriguez recently joined the board as the first alumni board member of the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, said Obiaya. She added that other alumni have returned as staff members, donors and coaches.

The Boys and Girls Club is supported by over 400 staff members who Obiaya calls the “secret sauce behind our impact.”

“Kids wouldn’t keep coming back if it weren’t for our really talented and passionate staff that find ways to connect with kids and make them feel safe

physically, but also provide a sense of belonging,” she said.

While serving thousands of youth, the organization is also navigating its way through post-pandemic challenges around mental health, learning loss, increased demand in services and financial stability.

Before the pandemic, the Boys and Girls Club contracted mental health providers for its students on a small scale, but after COVID-19, demand for mental health support increased, and it decided to build its own team of 10 in-house, certified clinicians. With this team, students have access to one-on-one therapy, group sessions and peer-to-peer support groups.

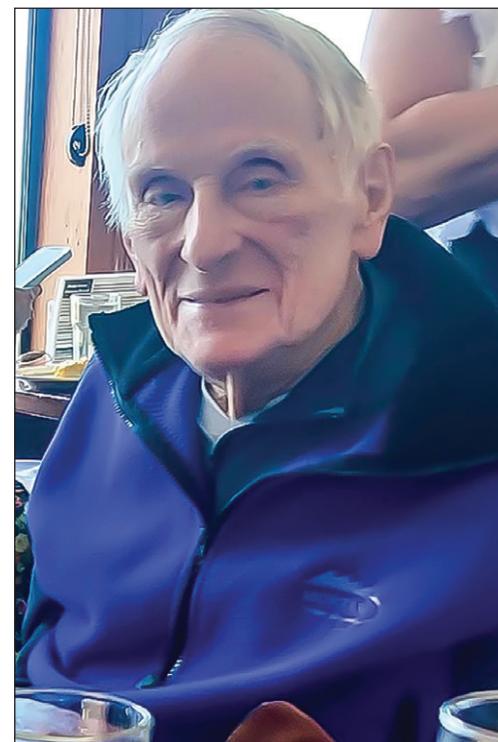
The organization also saw a few of its locations struggle to provide the level of services that the community needed. This led to a takeover and merger of clubhouses in areas such as South San Francisco, San Mateo, Daly City and Foster City. The Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula has doubled in size over the past three years, said Obiaya.

“We’ve been trying to grow to meet more of the needs and with that comes a bigger budget,” she explained. “And so financial sustainability is really on my mind, and we couldn’t do this without the support of our broader community.”

Members of the public can contribute to the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula by volunteering, donating and spreading the word, said Obiaya.

For more information, visit [bgcp.org](https://bgcp.org). ■

*Email Staff Writer Jennifer Yoshikoshi at [jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com](mailto:jyoshikoshi@almanacnews.com).*



## Richard “Dick” Morris

March 29, 1934 – November 18, 2025

Richard “Dick” Morris, 91, passed away peacefully at his home in Menlo Park, California, on November 18, 2025.

Born on March 29, 1934, Richard grew up in the small farming town of Wibaux, Montana. Despite spending much of his adult life in California, he never forgot where he came from; he remained deeply connected to his hometown, faithfully reading the local Wibaux newspaper every week to stay in touch with his roots.

Richard served his country in the U.S. Army for three years during the Korean War. He was stationed primarily in Germany, where he worked in administrative roles, including typewriter repair. Following his service, he utilized the GI Bill to attend Montana State University, where he earned a degree in Electrical Engineering.

In 1962, Richard moved to Sunnyvale to begin a career in the aerospace industry. For decades, he worked on satellites, specifically providing support for the Gambit program, which captured reconnaissance photographs during the Cold War. Because the program remained classified until 2011, for much of his life his family knew only that he worked on satellites. He was a quiet professional who played a vital role in national security during the 1960s, 70s, and 80s.

Outside of work, Richard’s true passion was baseball. He played throughout his youth on a traveling baseball team, a highlight of which was the distinct honor of playing against the legendary Satchel Paige. Later in life, he continued to enjoy the sport by playing company softball and serving as a Little League coach. An avid San Francisco Giants fan, Richard was known for his incredible memory. He could recall batting averages and specific plays from decades prior with impressive accuracy. He was also active in his local community, serving as president of the Sharon Heights Homeowners Association.

Richard is survived by his wife of 54 years, Tina Morris; his son, Kevin Morris; his daughter-in-law, Libby Jones; his grandchildren, Leah and Ryan; and various nieces and nephews. He was the youngest of six children and was preceded in death by his siblings: Denison Jr., Jean, Shirlee, Margaret, and Robert.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 6th, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Denis Catholic Church in Menlo Park. The church holds special significance for the family, as it is where Richard and Tina were married, and where their son and grandchildren were baptized.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Toys for Tots program.

PAID OBITUARY

### SURVEY

*continued from page 8*

residents hesitate to engage with government surveys but stressed the importance of participation.

“This isn’t about personal details or immigration status,” he said. “It’s about making sure that when the next earthquake or storm arrives, emergency responders know how to reach every community and support every family.”

Residents in Daly City, San Bruno, Millbrae, South San Francisco, East Palo Alto, Pacifica, Half Moon Bay and North Fair Oaks are urged to respond and share the survey with neighbors and community groups.

The survey can be take at: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMCEM\\_Community\\_Assessment](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMCEM_Community_Assessment). ■

### BURGLARIES

*continued from page 5*

burglary crews look for as they scout neighborhoods,” McCulley said.

Police asked residents to adopt several practices to reduce the chances of being targeted, such as locking all doors, windows and side gates, moving safes and valuables to less predictable areas, arming alarm systems even during short outings, ensuring security cameras are recording and sending alerts, and using lighting timers to avoid dark areas around homes. They also encourage residents to consider enrolling in the town’s alarm-monitoring program and to report suspicious activity immediately.

The department says it continues to adapt its policing strategies

based on recent activity, including increasing patrol visibility, strengthening partnerships with regional agencies and expanding the town’s Bait House Burglary Detection program. Detectives are evaluating each case for emerging patterns and potential suspects.

McCulley encouraged anyone with questions or those seeking a home-security review to contact the police department. ■

*Email Staff Writer Arden Margulis at [amargulis@almanacnews.com](mailto:amargulis@almanacnews.com).*

The Almanac  
AlmanacNews.com

Read the latest local news headlines and comment on articles at [AlmanacNews.com](https://AlmanacNews.com)



# Give back locally

## WITH A GIFT TO THE HOLIDAY FUND

Contributions to the Holiday Fund go directly to programs that benefit Peninsula residents. Last year, Almanac readers and foundations contributed a record \$366,000 from more than 150 donors for the 10 agencies that feed the hungry, house the homeless and provide numerous other services to those in need.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched, to the extent possible, by generous community organizations, foundations and individuals, including the Rotary Club of Menlo Park Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law. All donations to the Holiday Fund will be shared equally among the recipient agencies listed on this page.

**DONATE ONLINE:**  
[AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund](http://AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund)

The organizations below provide major matching grants to the Holiday Fund.



Rotary Club of Menlo Park

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Please consider donating online, which enables your gift to be processed immediately. The secure website is:  
[AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund](http://AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund)

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to designate my contribution as follows: (select one)

In my name as shown above

In the name of business above

OR:  In honor of:  In memory of:  As a gift for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of person)

The Almanac



The Almanac Holiday Fund

All donors and their gift amounts will be published in The Almanac unless the boxes below are checked.

I wish to contribute anonymously.

Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Please make checks payable to:  
Embarcadero Media Foundation

Send coupon and check to:

**The Almanac Holiday Fund**  
c/o Embarcadero Media Foundation  
2345 Yale Street, 1st floor  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

The Almanac Holiday Fund is sponsored by the Embarcadero Media Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, allowing your donation to be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Tax ID #85-0941500

### Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula

Provides after-school academic support, enrichment, mentoring and mental health services for low-income youth.

### Ecumenical Hunger Program

Provides emergency food, clothing and household essentials to individuals and families in need.

### Fair Oaks Community Center

Helps individuals and families meet their most basic needs, offering homeless services and prevention, food distribution, transportation, rental and utility assistance, shelter referrals, and emergency support.

### Haven Family House

Provides interim shelter services and transitional housing in Menlo Park for 23 homeless families with children.

### Health Connected

Provides teens and parents with comprehensive sexual health, relationship and digital literacy education programs through local schools.

### Literacy Partners

Supports literacy programs that help community members enhance their reading, writing and related skills.

### Peninsula Food Runners

Provides food and reduces food waste by picking up from restaurants, caterers and markets and delivering it to nonprofit organizations serving the needs of low-income individuals and families.

### Ravenswood Family Health Center

Provides primary medical and preventive health care for low income, uninsured residents of all ages living in Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks and East Palo Alto.

### St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

Serves hot meals six days a week to people in need at its Menlo Park dining room, and provides food and clothing assistance.

### St. Francis Center

Helps low-income families become self-supporting through educational and after-school programs, housing assistance, food and clothing at its North Fair Oaks facility.

### Upward Scholars

Supports low-income adults by providing them with financial support, tutoring, and other assistance so they can continue their education and qualify for higher-paying jobs.

**DONATE ONLINE:** [AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund](http://AlmanacNews.com/holiday-fund)



# The Almanac Holiday Fund

## THANK YOU FOR DONATING TO THE HOLIDAY FUND

### Almanac Holiday Fund Donor List

As of Nov. 30th, donors have contributed \$37,240 to the Holiday Fund.

Anonymous .....	\$16,100
Gisela Brugger.....	1,000
Desmond Lee & Carl Jukkola.....	500
Margaret Foody.....	250
Linda Golub .....	100
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hilberman .....	100
Barbara Jacobson.....	250
Gary Shumm.....	500
Kenneth Turkowski .....	240
Richard & Jean Duda .....	150
Karen Butterfield .....	100
Don & Catherine Coluzzi .....	4,000
Sybille Katz .....	200
Victoria Rundorff .....	*
Kathy & Bob Feldman .....	500
Colleen Tate .....	10,000
Susan Kritzik & Bruce McAuley .....	250
Jim Lewis .....	*
Erika & Andrea Crowley.....	1,000

### In Memory Of

Phil & Lucille Phaneuf .....	2,000
------------------------------	-------

\* Donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.

Support those in need in your community

# The Almanac Holiday Fund

Donate online:  
AlmanacNews.com/  
holiday-fund



# Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. M-300012  
The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):  
RG GOLFING  
235 Westlake Center #215  
Daly City, CA 94015  
FILED IN SAN MATEO COUNTY ON: 03/05/2025  
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
GO CLR, LLC  
235 Westlake Center #215  
Daly City, CA 94015  
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of San Mateo County on November 04 2025.  
(ALM Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADOPTION ORDINANCE SUMMARY  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M. ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 454 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY Repealing and Replacing Chapter 15.04 [Building Code] of Title 15 [Buildings and Construction] of the Portola Valley Municipal Code Adopting By Reference the 2025 California Administrative, Building, Residential, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, Energy, Wildland-Urban Interface, Historical, Fire, Existing Building, Green Building Standards, and Referenced Standards Codes with Local Amendments  
On November 12, 2025, the Town Council introduced an Ordinance which will repeal and replace Chapter 15.04 of Title 15 [Buildings and Construction] of the Municipal Code and adopt by reference the 2025 California Building Standards Code. The Town triennially amends Chapter 15.04 of the Municipal Code to incorporate the most recent edition of the model building code that has been adopted by the California Building Standards Commission. The Council will consider the adoption of said Ordinance at its regularly scheduled meeting of December 10, 2025 at 7 PM. The full text of the Ordinance is available for review at the Town Clerk's Office, 765 Portola Road, Valley, CA and on the Town's website of [www.portolavalley.net/government](http://www.portolavalley.net/government). The meeting will take place at the Historic Schoolhouse, 765 Portola Rd, Portola Valley, CA; and may be accessed virtually. Comments may be submitted in writing prior to the Town Council meeting; email: [PVTownClerk@portolavalley.net](mailto:PVTownClerk@portolavalley.net), or at the meeting of Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to appear before the Town Council at the time and place herein above mentioned. The Town's website is [www.portolavalley.net](http://www.portolavalley.net). The agenda and staff report will be published at <https://www.portolavalley.net/town-government/town-council/minutes-and-agendas> 72 hours in advance of the meeting.  
Published: December 5, 2025  
Veronica Dao, Town Clerk  
Portola Valley  
12/5/25  
CNS-3990481#  
THE ALMANAC  
(ALM Dec 5, 2025)

AVENT DECOR  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-302039  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) AVENT DECOR, located at 3745 Fleetwood Dr, San Bruno, CA 94066.  
Registered owner(s):  
YURY MALYKIN  
3745 Fleetwood Dr  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
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 October 29, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

BALLOONS DECOR  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-302050  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) BALLOONS DECOR, located at 2108 N ST STE N, Sacramento, CA 95816. Mailing Address: 1051 Beach Park Blvd #314 Foster City, CA 94404  
Registered owner(s):

BALLOONS DECOR  
2108 N ST STE N  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
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 01/31/2023.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 30, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

SHILO  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-302283  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) SHILO, located at 350 Sharon Park Dr. H102, Menlo Park, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):  
SHIORI KIRIAKE  
350 Sharon Park Dr. H102  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/26/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 26, 2025.  
(ALM Dec 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

PURPOSE MADE DESIGN  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301890  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) PURPOSE MADE DESIGN, located at 1259 El Camino Real, Unit 1336, Menlo Park, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):  
SEAN MCCUSKER  
1259 El Camino Real, Unit 1336  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
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 October 09, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

DESIGNS BY DOW  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-302007  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) DESIGNS BY DOW, located at 864 15th Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025.  
Registered owner(s):  
LIAM DOW  
864 15th Ave  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
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 October 27, 2025.  
(ALM Dec 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

MANDALA GROUP  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301989  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) MANDALA GROUP, located at 1549 Vine St, Belmont, CA 94002.  
Registered owner(s):  
MANDALA CONSULTING LLC  
1549 Vine Street  
Belmont, CA 94002  
State of Incorporation/Organization: California  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/01/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on October 23, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

1733 WOODSIDE ROAD  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-301982  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) 1733 WOODSIDE ROAD, located at 1733 Woodside Rd, S 220, Redwood City, CA 94061.  
Registered owner(s):  
INGRID AALAMI  
1733 Woodside Rd, S 220  
Redwood City, CA 94061  
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 October 23, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

BELMONT VAPE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
FILE NO.: M-302088  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) BELMONT VAPE, located at 840 El Camino Real STE B, Belmont, CA 94002.  
Registered owner(s):  
BELMONT GOLD CITY INC.  
840 El Camino Real STE B  
Belmont, CA 94002  
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 11/04/2025.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on November 04, 2025.  
(ALM Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 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-06910  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Pei-Yu Chi filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: PEI-YU CHI TO PEGGY CHI  
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: 1/12/2026, 9:00AM, Southern Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 11/13/2025  
Hon. Stephanie G. Garratt  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Dec 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
Case No.: 25CIV07998  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Amie O'Connor filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
AMIE O'CONNOR TO AMIE O'SULLIVAN  
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: 01/20/2026, 9:00am, Civil Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
ALMANAC  
Date: 11/19/2025  
Rachel Holt  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(ALM Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

SUMMONS Case No. 25-CIV-04034 (CITACION JUDICIAL)  
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (A VISO AL DEMANDADO): **RENNA J MCNAB, DOES 1 to 10**  
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

**BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.**  
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond Within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063-1655**  
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el numero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): **NELSON AND KENNARD, LLP, Robert Scott Kennard, SBN 117017, 5011 Dudley Blvd, Bldg 250, Bay G, McClellan, CA 95652-1020, P.O. Box 13807 Sacramento, CA 95853. Telephone: (916) 920-2295; Facsimile: (916) 920-0682.**  
DATE (Fecha): **5/22/2025**  
**Chad L. Peace, Clerk, by /s/ Kimberly Claussen, Deputy Clerk** (Secretario) (Adjunto)  
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant. (ALM Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

# Viewpoint

IDEAS, THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES

## Downtown Menlo Park – there’s a lot to lose

Some claim our downtown is suffering — and that the “cure” is to fill the parking lots with housing to create “foot traffic.” Indeed, this argument was used by city officials to justify adding the downtown plazas to the City’s housing plan.

But anyone who walks downtown can see the truth: restaurants are busy, sidewalks are lively, and the parking lots are full.

Even regional press has noticed the upswing. In May, the San Francisco Chronicle ran this headline about us: “Forget San Francisco. Restaurants see ‘huge opportunity’ in this quiet suburb.” This year alone, four new restaurants and bars are opening on Santa Cruz Avenue.

And residents are stepping up. The Downtown Menlo Fund ([menlofund.org](http://menlofund.org)) is a non-profit recently created by people who love Menlo Park. It’s bringing the community and

### GUEST OPINION

resources together to improve our streetscapes, enhance public spaces, and support local businesses — proof that our community believes in its downtown and is investing in it.

Our downtown is rebounding. The question is whether City Hall will nurture this progress ... or derail it.

### The vacancies can be filled

Why do vacancies linger amid this recovery? A burdensome permitting process, overdue maintenance, and the looming threat of losing parking lots have all cast a cloud over the downtown — discouraging lease renewals and new ventures.

And there’s another factor: outdated zoning. City Hall still forbids anything but retail along the ground floor of Santa Cruz Avenue. As a result, neighborhood-serving



Magali Gauthier

Lunchers sit in Bistro Vida’s outdoor dining area in downtown Menlo Park on June 9, 2020. In many ways conditions haven’t changed much since the pandemic.

businesses like fitness studios, art workshops, and wellness spaces are turned away.

Today’s thriving downtowns offer an array of services, not just retail and restaurants. Look at Los Altos: several years ago they faced the same vacancy problem. When they loosened zoning rules, storefronts filled, and their downtown came back to life. Menlo Park can do the same.

### Convenience matters

People come to downtown Menlo Park because it’s welcoming and convenient: easy to reach, easy to park, easy to gather. The ability to run downtown for a quick errand or an impromptu meet-up is one reason Menlo Park is such a desirable place to live.

But convenient access isn’t just a luxury for residents — it’s essential for businesses. According to the 2022 Menlo Park Downtown Market Study, our 200 small businesses serve

a trade area of 370,000 people within a 20-minute drive. If parking becomes difficult, those customers will simply go elsewhere. And when our businesses lose their customers, we will lose our businesses. The “foot traffic” from people living in the parking lots will do little to stop the exodus.

The people of Menlo Park understand all this. That’s why thousands signed the Citizens Initiative which would give residents a vote on how the plazas are used. Residents support affordable housing for teachers, service workers, and seniors. But they believe there are better locations that can meet the same housing goals without undermining the very amenities that residents and visitors depend on.

### We need a solid foundation

To flourish, downtown Menlo Park needs basic care, not open-heart surgery. It’s time for the City to get back to fundamentals.

### Here’s how:

1. Maintenance — Fix pavement, repair lighting, refresh signage, add wayfinding, and keep sidewalks clean.

2. Beautification — Add planters, shade, native landscaping, public art, and small amenities that make strolling pleasant.

3. Modernization — Update zoning and streamline permitting so entrepreneurs can bring a wider range of services to the community.

These simple, practical steps will greatly enhance the downtown experience and strengthen our local businesses. Stronger businesses will attract further investment, and our downtown will grow naturally from a solid economic foundation — not arbitrary state mandates.

### Choose renewal, not revolution

Downtown Menlo Park is poised for renewal. But just as momentum is returning — new restaurants opening, community pride growing, and investments being made — the City is pushing a risky plan that could undermine that recovery.

We can have both the flourishing downtown we want, and the affordable housing we need. But we must be sensible about how we do it — because there’s a lot to lose. ■

*Alex Beltramo lives in Menlo Park, volunteers with the Menlo Park Design District and Menlo Park Wine Walk, and is a proponent of the Save Downtown Menlo Citizens’ Initiative. He co-founded [pogo.com](http://pogo.com) with two friends from Menlo School, when daily “business meetings” meant walking up and down Santa Cruz Avenue with cups of Peet’s coffee.*

### WOODSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE 14-2025

At its regular meeting on November 18, 2025, the Woodside Fire Protection District Board of Directors adopted the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE WOODSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING THE 2025 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND THE 2025 CALIFORNIA WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE, INCLUDING SPECIFIED APPENDICES, AND AS MODIFIED BY LOCAL AMENDMENTS, ADOPTING A FINDING THAT THE ORDINANCE IS EXEMPT FROM REVIEW UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 13

The Ordinance is also identified as Ordinance 14-2025.

AYES: Directors Matt Miller, Randy Holthaus, and John Foster

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

SUMMARY OF THE ORDINANCE: Ordinance No. 14-2025 is the Woodside Fire Protection District’s mechanism for adopting the new 2025 Edition of the California Fire Code and the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code. As mandated by state law, this triennial update incorporates current state fire safety standards and includes essential local amendments. These amendments are critical to ensure that fire prevention and building standards are tailored to the unique, high-risk **climatic, geological, and topographical** conditions of the District, specifically addressing hazards within our District. Ordinance No. 14-2025 is designed to maintain the highest level of public safety and environmental protection. Under state law, the first reading of the ordinance occurred on October 28, 2025. The District then held a public hearing on November 18, 2025 (Government Code § 50022.3). After the hearing, the Board of Directors adopted the ordinance.

CEQA DETERMINATION: The Board of Directors will consider adopting a finding that the proposed ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

A full and complete copy of Ordinance 14-2025 is available for review online at <http://www.woodsidefire.org/prevention>. A certified copy of the Ordinance 14-2025 is also available upon request by contacting the District Office, at (650) 851-1594, 808 Portola Rd. #C, Portola Valley, CA 94028. Copies of the 2025 edition of the California Fire Code and the 2025 edition of the California Wildland Urban Interface Code, and all associated appendices and referenced codes and materials are on file at the District Office, 808 Portola Road, # C, Portola Valley, CA 94028 and are available for public inspection.

## Employment

The Almanac offers  
employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit [AlmanacNews.com/employment\\_ads/](http://AlmanacNews.com/employment_ads/).

For assistance email [LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com](mailto:LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com).





## WINTER 2025 – GUIDE TO SCHOOLS, CAMPS & CLASSES

### Careers

#### CareerGenerations

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

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

#### JobTrain

1200 O'Brien Drive,  
Menlo Park  
jobtrainworks.org

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

#### ReBoot Accel

1865 Camino a los Cerros,  
Menlo Park  
rebootaccel.com

ReBoot Accel keeps members of the community current, connected and confident about reentering the workforce through workshops taught by experts.

### Cooking

#### La Toque De Cindy

904 Cowper St., Palo Alto  
cindytoquecooking.com

La Toque De Cindy offers cooking camps and classes for kids (with a specialty in chocolate), plus cooking experiences for folks of all ages.

#### Nourish & Flourish

Menlo Park (locations vary)  
nourishflourish.org

Nourish & Flourish offers cooking classes for youth, with an emphasis on sustainable food practices in addition to culinary skills.

#### Sur La Table

Town & Country Village,  
855 El Camino Real, Suite 57,  
Palo Alto / surlatable.com

### 'Tis the season for learning and exploring

For many, winter is a time for reflection and resolutions; the perfect season, perhaps, in which to consider picking up a new skill, delving deeper into a special interest or continuing one's education. The winter guide includes offerings from a range of local schools and organizations for all ages and skill levels, from dance to language lessons to tech training. So whether you're an expert or a newbie, there's something to tickle your fancy and pique your interest. Take a look and make the most out of winter — who knows, it could be the perfect chance to give yourself a great holiday gift and set up for a wonderful new year ahead.

The Class Guide is published quarterly by The Almanac and the Palo Alto Weekly.

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

#### Taste Buds Kitchen

2775 Middlefield Road,  
Palo Alto  
tastebudskitchen.com/palo-alto

The Palo Alto franchise of Taste Buds Kitchen offers cooking classes, camps, parties and events for all ages.

### Culture

#### Joy Culture Foundation

934 Santa Cruz Ave., Suite A,  
Menlo Park  
thejoyculturefoundation.org

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

#### Mustard Seed Learning Center

Palo Alto (multiple locations)  
mustardseedlearningcenter.org

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

### Dance & theater

#### Dance Connection

Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road,  
Palo Alto  
danceconnectionpaloalto.com

Dance Connection offers combination and graded classes for youth (age 3 and up) and adults. Ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical, and other instruction are available for students at various levels of ability.

#### Mannakin Theater and Dance en Avant School of Dance,

1841 Bay Road, East Palo Alto  
mannakindance.org

Mannakin Theater and Dance offers youth ballet and other dance classes at en Avant School of Dance studio in East Palo Alto.

#### Zohar School of Dance & Company

Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road,  
Room L-4, Palo Alto  
zohardancecompany.org

With roots going back to 1979, Zohar School of Dance holds a range of adult dance classes including jazz, modern, ballet and tap.

### Music & visual arts

#### Community School of Music and Arts

Finn Center,  
230 San Antonio Circle,  
Mountain View  
arts4all.org

The Community School of Music and Arts offers year-round classes (and private lessons) in

music, visual and digital arts, with courses for adults and children.

#### EPACenter

1950 Bay Road, East Palo Alto  
epacenter.org

The 25,000-square-foot space offers a wide range of creative disciplines and job training for San Mateo County youth.

#### New Mozart School of Music

2100 El Camino Real, Suite C,  
Palo Alto / newmozartschool.com

New Mozart School of Music offers music lessons and group classes in a variety of instruments year-round to students of all ages and abilities.

#### Pacific Art League

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto  
pacificartleague.org

Pacific Art League offers a range of classes for children and adults with varying experience. Instructors teach many media, including drawing, painting, watercolor, digital art and more.

#### Palo Alto Art Center

1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto  
cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/  
Community-Services/  
Arts-Sciences/  
Palo-Alto-Art-Center

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

#### Palo Alto School of Chamber Music

600 Homer St., Palo Alto  
schoolofchambermusic.com

Palo Alto School of Chamber Music offers chamber music programs for children, teens and adults. Participants are matched

in groups according to age and experience level. Apply by Jan. 7 for the January-March session. In addition to the chamber music groups there is a mini orchestra, which brings all of the musicians together to play a wide variety of music.

### Older adults

#### Avenidas

450 Bryant St., Palo Alto  
Cubberley Community Center,  
4000 Middlefield Road,  
Room H-5, Palo Alto  
avenidas.org

Avenidas offers classes, as well as lectures and workshops, for seniors focusing on topics such as health, fitness, languages, humanities, computing, music and writing.

#### Little House Activity Center

800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park  
lpvi.org/littlehouse

Little House Activity Center offers classes and activities on various topics, including fitness, arts and technology.

### Parent education

#### Children's Health Council

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto  
chconline.org

Children's Health Council works with families living with child-behavior issues, dyslexia, anxiety and depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and autism.

### Schools

#### Athena Academy

525 San Antonio Ave., Palo Alto  
athenaacademy.org

Athena Academy educates dyslexic and twice-exceptional students in first through eighth grades, with an emphasis on building confidence and helping students embrace their talents and unlock their potential.

#### Bowman School

4000 Terman Drive, Palo Alto  
bowmanschool.org

Bowman School offers Montessori education for elementary

See **CLASS GUIDE**, page 17

**CLASS GUIDE**

*continued from page 16*

through high school (upper secondary campus at 835 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto), as well as early education programs (at 693 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto and 3801 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto).

**Emerson School**

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto  
emersonmontessori.com

Emerson School provides a year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Emerson also offers an infant center and a preschool program.

**Menlo School**

50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton  
menloschool.org

Menlo School is open to students in middle and high school, with a goal of challenging and empowering its students to fall in love with learning.

**Mid-Peninsula High School**

1340 Willow Road, Menlo Park / mid-pen.org

Mid-Peninsula High School aims to prepare its students for successful college careers and provide an inclusive and collaborative learning environment.

**Peninsula School**

920 Peninsula Way, Menlo Park  
peninsulaschool.org

Peninsula School is a progressive institution teaching students from nursery through eighth grade, with an emphasis on choice and experience.

**Phillips Brooks School**

2245 Avy Ave., Menlo Park  
phillipsbrooks.finalsite.com

This independent day school offers child-centered learning for children from preschool through fifth grade.

**Silicon Valley International School**

151 Laura Lane, Palo Alto  
475 Pope St., Menlo Park  
svintl.org

Silicon Valley International School offers bilingual immersion day school with two nursery-to-fifth-grade bilingual programs in French/English, German/English and Mandarin/English as well as middle and high school programs.

**Synapse School**

3375 Edison Way, Menlo Park  
synapseschool.org

Synapse is a TK-eighth grade independent school. Parent education is an integral part of Synapse's experience for families, as is social-emotional learning.

**Woodland School**

360 La Cuesta Drive, Portola Valley  
woodland-school.org

Woodland School is an independent school offering small classes and an emphasis on student-driven projects for children in preschool up through middle school.

**Something for everyone**

**Hidden Villa**

26870 Moody Road  
Los Altos Hills / hiddenvilla.org

In addition to its long-running summer camp programs, Hidden Villa offers a variety of classes and clubs for children and adults.

**The Riekes Center**

3455 Edison Way, Menlo Park  
riekes.org

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

**Sequoia District Adult School**

3247 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park / seqsas.org  
Sequoia District Adult School

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

**Stanford Continuing Studies**

Littlefield Center,  
365 Lasuen St., Stanford.  
continuingstudies.stanford.edu

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

**Sports**

**Baylands Golf Links**

1875 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto  
baylandsgolfinks.com

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

**Kim Grant Tennis Academy**

3005 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto  
kimgranttennis.com

The Kim Grant Tennis Academy organizes an array

of tennis classes and programs for adults and children at multiple locations, including in Palo Alto and Woodside. Pickleball clinics are also offered at some locations.

**Webb Ranch Riding School**

2720 Alpine Road, Portola Valley  
webbranchinc.com

Webb Ranch offers instruction for beginning and intermediate horseback riders in both group and private settings, including camps for kids and teens.

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

*To inquire about submitting a listing for the next Let's Educate, email editor@paweekly.com. To place a paid advertisement in Let's Educate, call the display advertising department at 650-326-8210. ■*



# LOS ALTOS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Where Students are Known!

- Small classes, experienced teachers, and differentiated instruction for TK - 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Robust academics with accelerated math, STEM, and hands-on experiences
- Enrichment through sports, performing arts, and after school programs
- Specialized support for students with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia



## TK & K

## Open House:

### December 5

### 9:30-11:00am



Scan for info and to schedule a tour!

📞 650.948.3738

🌐 lacs.com

✉ admissions@lacs.com

625 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos CA 94024




LEADERSHIP - ACADEMICS - CHARACTER - SERVICE

# Artscene

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCES IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Courtesy Myrna Huang

The annual Holiday Extravaganza concert is one of the rare times each season that all five of PACO's ensembles perform together.

## Bringing the funk — and the Brahms

**Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra's holiday concert includes jazz, soul and video game tunes, with special guest Mads Tolling**

By Heather Zimmerman

**T**here's more than one way to play a violin and for its Holiday Extravaganza concert on Dec. 7, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is showing how it's done.

The concert is an annual event that features all of PACO's youth ensembles. For the 2025 edition, music from Mario Bros., Tower of Power and other non-traditional tunes will share the bill with works by classical composers such as Johannes Brahms and Joaquín Turina. Grammy Award-winning jazz violinist Mads Tolling will be the featured guest artist, performing with PACO's young musicians.

Bay Area audiences may have seen Tolling performing solo or in one of his projects, including Mads Tolling and the Mads Men, which focuses on 1960s jazz, soul, R&B and pop, and a recent collaboration with Melvin Seals, known for his

work with the Jerry Garcia Band. He has also composed two violin concertos for the Oakland Symphony and can be seen this month in a holiday performance at SF Jazz.

PACO is an all-strings orchestra, with five ensembles of students who range in age from elementary school through high school. Their usual repertoire is primarily classical music.

"To do any of this music well, it takes a lot of focus, concentration, effort and commitment. And sometimes I think we look at pop music as — you know, it's not a composition that's the same as a piece by Brahms — but to do it justice and get the music to fly off the page, there's a lot of charisma involved. Part of what these younger musicians are learning how to do is bring this music off the page and have your audience experience it. This genre of music allows them to really kind of celebrate that as well," said PACO Music Director Scott Krijnen.

Learning to play different genres of music can open up new possibilities for young musicians. Tolling, who began at age 6 as a classical violinist, discovered a life-changing love of jazz when he was 14, after his father gave him a Miles Davis cassette. He was won over by a sound that he describes as "really rich."

"I came from classical music and going into jazz, listening a lot to Miles and Coltrane, and then eventually also learning about fiddle music a little bit, and folk styles — to be able to recognize that and blend them together and borrow a little bit from everything," Tolling said.

"What I went over with the PACO kids, we're using rhythm techniques like the chop and shuffle bow that comes from bluegrass music, but they're just rhythm techniques and groove techniques that you can use in any kind of music, including playing jazz. That's fun for me to explore



Courtesy Lina Collazos

Grammy Award-winning violinist Mads Tolling will perform with the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra for its Dec. 7 Holiday Extravaganza concert.

that and open that up for people so they can see the full range of what the violin can offer."

For classical musicians, learning to focus on rhythm and groove can feel almost like starting an instrument from scratch, Tolling said, and he takes that

approach in teaching new techniques to students, keeping it simple.

Many PACO musicians are around the age that Tolling was when he discovered jazz. If there

See **HOLIDAY CONCERT**, page 19



Courtesy David Boyll

Jacob Marley (Marc Berman, far left), is the first of several spirits who push Ebenezer Scrooge (Gary Landis, center) to repent his miserly ways, improving the plight of Scrooge's impoverished clerk Bob Cratchit (Chris Mahle) and his son Tiny Tim (Jacob Crosson) in Los Altos Stage Company's production of "A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas."

## Review: A spirited 'Christmas Carol'

Los Altos Stage Company brings a spooky supernatural edge to Dickens' holiday classic

By Michael J. Vaughn

Los Altos Stage Company's production of "A Christmas Carol" is based on Michael Wilson's 2009 adaptation, so perhaps the first questions are: How does it differ from other versions? And does it work? Wilson's work puts a heavier stress on the play's metaphysical, supernatural elements. It is also, at crucial points, tremendously scary. And it works, thanks to a remarkable degree of commitment from director Kristin Walter's cast.

The story begins with all of Scrooge's deliciously cynical quotes intact, including quite

a few that could apply to recent political events: "Are there no prisons? Are there no workhouses?" and "If they would rather die, then they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population." Gary Landis has great fun crabbing his way through these, and later really brings out the laugh lines available to Scrooge in his more terrified moments. Landis plays frazzled very well, although at times he goes a little too quiet for the folks in the back seats.

The first real difference comes soon after, as Scrooge goes about collecting from his debtors (a lovely Christmas Eve recreation). There's a fable-like quality to

these encounters, and the number three is prevalent: three vendors, who will later appear as the three spirits, offering three objects — a doll, a clock and a bottle of cider — in exchange for their debts. This device verges on being a little too artificial, but it does provide a nice structure for what is to come.

The knockout scene in the production is the appearance of Scrooge's late partner, Jacob Marley. Bursting through the fireplace, Marc Berman plays the part with the aura of a death metal rocker. Just the power of his voice is enough to scare the bejeesus out of you, aided by a host of demons who apparently

learned some quirky moves from "The Walking Dead." The devilish lighting by Louis Stone-Collonge is superb. This intensity places a decided emphasis on Marley's monologue, "Mankind was my business!" which really is the heart of the play.

From there, it's all about the spirits. Kristin Hill brings a spritely aura to Christmas Past, arriving on a carriage fashioned by the cast from umbrella wheels and white ribbons. Her costume features a dazzling snow-crystal headpiece (Lisa Rozman, designer).

One of the flaws from the supporting players is a tendency to rapid-fire the difficult Dickensian

language (it's a common temptation). The antithesis is our Ghost of Christmas Present, Katelyn Miller, who halfway sings her lines, with tremendous pacing and diction. She's a hell of a lot of fun, but also handles serious passages like the introduction of the orphans Want and Ignorance and the vision of Tiny Tim's crutch without its owner.

I enjoyed the inclusion of Scots and Irish accents (absolutely appropriate to London) and was madly impressed at the ability of the younger cast members to burst into song — notably our Tiny Tim, Jacob Crosson. Corinna Laskin does an excellent job of Belle's breakup with young Scrooge (Max Mahle), walking that fine line between claiming her freedom and breaking her own heart. Mahle shows some range, performing both young Scrooge's descent into avarice and nephew Fred's effervescent optimism. Chris Mahle walks a different kind of wire as Bob Cratchit, that classic British line between fortitude and collapse, as he faces the death of Tiny Tim. He and Kristin Shaw Hall as Mrs. Cratchit make this a two-hanky scene.

The Ghost of Christmas Past is an eerie puppet fashioned by Chris Mahle, contributing further to a production that definitely leans toward Halloween. Further emphasizing the warnings of Marley, the cast wears smaller versions of his chains throughout the evening — representing the greed and selfishness we have all been guilty of. Seafus Chatmon's set is versatile and fun. At stage right, a rotating triangle offers three different walls, while a puzzlebox of walls at stage left constantly opens and closes to different surfaces and interiors. ■

*Email Contributing Writer  
Michael J. Vaughn at  
michaeljvaughn@hotmail.com.*

"A Christmas Carol" runs through Dec. 21 at Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. \$25-\$48. 650-941-0551 or losaltosstage.org.

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

continued from page 18

was something he wished that he had known as a young musician, it's that there's no one certain way to play, and it's more about playing what you believe in.

"It's a lot about developing your tastes and your natural instincts and then responding to that," he said.

"A lot of times, I think, certainly learning your instrument and learning the craft and the technique is key to being able to express yourself. But it's also good while you're doing that, to realize

that you have all these options and you have this freedom."

Tolling will appear in the Holiday Extravaganza's second half, joining PACO's young artists in performing a range of music, including some arrangements from his nine years as a member of the Turtle Island Quartet, a string ensemble known for its inventive fusion of genres.

"We're going to be doing Mario Bros. theme song and Uptown Funk and Tower of Power, a couple of jazz standards. And we ripped through that the other night in that rehearsal. You just see smiles on

the kids' faces, because it's not the stuff that we normally play," Krijnen said.

The pieces are arrangements that Tolling has worked on over the years.

"I arranged (Rodgers and Hammerstein's) 'My Favorite Things' for Turtle Island Quartet, which is more of an advanced kind of a chart. A couple of Turtle Island Quartet charts, 'Who Do You Think You Are,' by Tower of Power and 'A Night in Tunisia,' by Dizzy Gillespie, are a little bit more advanced jazz charts. So the reason why I came up with them (for the concert) was good

variety, some fun tunes, some jazz tunes and fun video game tunes," Tolling said.

"A Night in Tunisia" will offer some of the students a chance to improvise in a back-and-forth with Tolling.

The first half of the program focuses on the more classical side of things, with Joaquín Turina's "La Oración del Torero," "Perseus" by Soon Hee Newbold, "Midnight Ride" by Durwynne Hsieh and Brahms' String Sextet in B Flat.

"It's just this very fluid, very positive, very buoyant sort of piece of music," Krijnen said of

the Brahms piece.

The concert finale will feature all five ensembles performing together in a piece called "Santa at the Symphony," which Krijnen compared to a mash-up of (Mozart's) "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" with holiday standards. ■

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

PACO Holiday Extravaganza takes place Dec. 7, 3 p.m., at Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. \$25-\$50. pacomusic.org.

TOWN OF WOODSIDE  
2955 WOODSIDE ROAD  
WOODSIDE, CA 94062

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE will hold a hybrid public hearing allowing for the option to attend by teleconference/video conference or in person in Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM, to consider:

1. 385 Moore Road ASRB2025-0003; GRAD2025-0001; XMAX2025-0001

Ni Ni, M Designs Architects Planner: Gillian Naegele, Assistant Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review (ASRB2025-0003) to build a new two-story, single-family main residence with an attached garage, detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), pool, and associated site improvements on a vacant lot at 385 Moore Road. The project requires approval of a Maximum Residence Size Exception (XMAX2025-0001) and Grading Exception for grading in excess of 1,500 cubic yards and cuts and fills exceeding 8 feet (GRAD2025-0001).

The project is Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to §15303(a), which includes a single-family residence, and §15303(e), which includes accessory structures.

The application materials are available for public review by contacting Gillian Naegele at gnaegele@woodsideca.gov.

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments to jpaping@woodsideca.gov and/or attend in person or virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068472736> and give testimony.

## Books by Bay Area authors to add to your winter wish list

Check out these reading recommendations for kids, teens and everyone

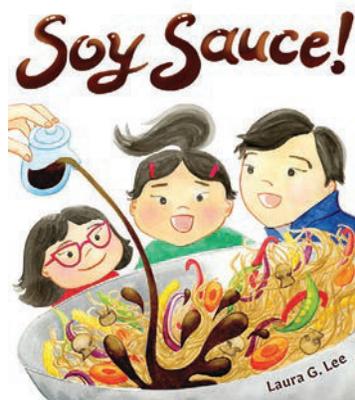
By Grace Lane

Another year, another list of phenomenal Bay Area authors doing what they do best: blessing us with some great books! Here are some suggestions for all the kids (and kids at heart) on your list, plus some recommendations for winter cooking and baking adventures.

### Picture books (all ages)

“JIM!: Six True Stories about One Great Artist: James Marshall” by Jerrold Connors (Dial Books)

“Jim!” is a heartbreakingly beautiful biography of famed picture book author/illustrator James Marshall. Told in six looks at Marshall’s life, Connors imagines Marshall as one of his own characters (with art reminiscent of Marshall’s style) and takes some of Marshall’s closest friends along for the ride, including both Arnold and Anita Lobel, who like Marshall, wrote and illustrated children’s books.

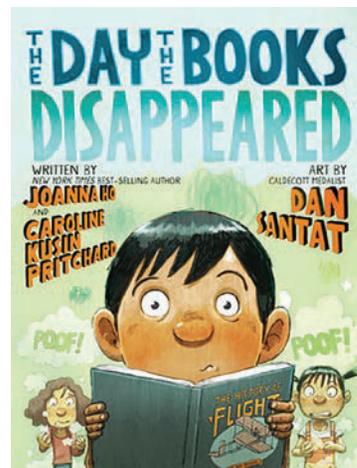


“Soy Sauce!” by Laura G. Lee (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

“Soy Sauce!” is a celebration and history of a 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.

“The Day the Books Disappeared” by Joanna Ho and Caroline Kusin Pritchard (Disney Hyperion)

On one level, this delightful (and, honestly, relatable) book is about the sometimes hard lesson that people are allowed to like things that you don’t; that they may want to read books you wouldn’t touch with a 10-foot pole and that’s OK. We’re all allowed to like different things and read different books! On

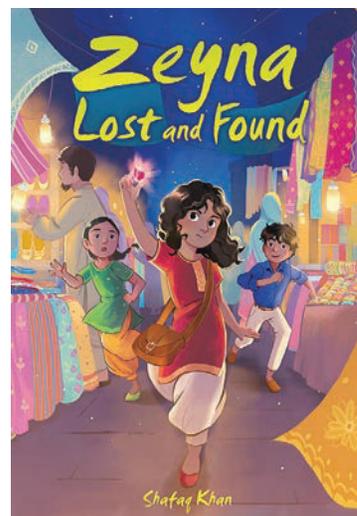


a higher level, Ho and Kusin Pritchard, with glorious help from illustrator Dan Santat, set out to write a book about the dangers of book banning and include some excellent background info for further reading and research.

“The Baby Who Stayed Awake Forever” by Sandra Salisbury (Doubleday Books for Young Readers)

Any parent, grandparent, sibling, nanny or anyone else who has ever taken care of or lived with a baby will find themselves in this hilarious book (are the tears from laughing or because you’re overtired? Yes.). Sometimes, the baby decides they’re just *not going to sleep and you won’t sleep either*. This is a celebration of family in a most real way, for good or ill or 1 a.m. dance parties.

### Novels for kids



“Zeyna Lost and Found” by Shafaq Khan (Carolrhoda Books)

I love historical fiction, and I especially love historical fiction set in a time and place we rarely see in middle grade. Zeyna is an eminently relatable 12-year-old in 1970, visiting Pakistan (and maybe some other countries, too) who always wants a mystery to solve ... and then finds a real one. Khan, a Los Altos resident,

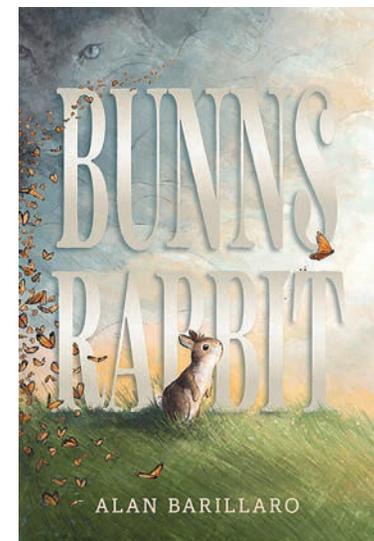
made her debut this year and I’m excited to see what she does next! Excellent for ages 9 and up.

“The Queen Bees of Tybee County” by Kyle Casey Chu (Quill Tree Books)

From Chu, aka Panda Dulce, a founding queen of Drag Story Hour, comes this sweet story about a nail-polish-and-pop-song-loving middle school basketball star who gets shipped off to stay with his eccentric grandma, who introduces him to the glories of the small-town beauty pageant. This is a fantastic debut that is very timely but also feels timeless. Perfect for ages 9 and up.

“Almost Sunset” by Wahab Algarmi (HarperAlley)

This really lovely graphic novel is a wonderful peek into a modern American tween experience. There are the issues all kids are dealing with — get good grades, do well on your team, figure out how friendship works as you grow older — but for many kids there is also the issue of how faith intersects with the rest of your life and what that means for you and to you. Inspired by his own childhood, and those of his children, Algarmi has beautifully illustrated what it’s like to be a Muslim kid celebrating Ramadan in a society that doesn’t necessarily know what that means (or appreciate that that is why you’re falling asleep in class and chewing on your arm because you’re dreaming of the world’s most beautiful sandwich). This is perfect for ages 10 and up but can absolutely be read and enjoyed by younger kids.



“Bunns Rabbit” by Alan Barillaro (Candlewick)

An absolutely delightful adventure story about a brave little rabbit who goes on a quest to save her home, despite being

JOIN WOODSIDE FIRE FOR  
**CHRISTMAS**  
AT THE  
**FIREHOUSE**  
DECEMBER 10TH  
6:00-7:30PM

FIRE STATION 7  
3111 WOODSIDE RD  
WOODSIDE

- Visit with Santa
- Take a Photo
- Bring a Toy for our Toy Drive

labeled as a bad omen due to her small ears. This book has a story worthy of Pixar and art to match (indeed, you might recognize Barillaro's work from the Oscar-winning short "Piper"). This one is great for kids ages 8 and up but also makes for a really wonderful family read-aloud.

### Books for teens

*"A Cruel Thirst" by Angela Montoya (Joy Revolution)*

This is a very fun story starring a vampire hunter and the cute vampire who would very much like to wipe out the curse of the vampires forever. What really sets this story apart, though, is the setting. Montoya was very inspired by California history, and this story is a real romp through her well-researched Alta California setting, with romance, adventure and a lot of humor and heart. Great for ages 12 and up.

*"Secrets, Spells, and Chocolate" by Marisa Churchill (Page Street YA)*

From a "Top Chef" and Food Network contestant, this sweet YA debut (publishing Dec. 9) has everything: a magical culinary school, a cooking contest, cheating rumors and frenemies. It's a great book for any kid who has ever gone to a new school with something to prove, but



fair warning: It will make you hungry, so I recommend having some cookies on hand at the very least. Perfect for ages 12 and up.

*"You Had Me at Hello World" by Rona Wang (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)*

This sweet, tech-based rom-com comes from recent MIT grad Wang, who wrote it whilst still at university, because clearly her MIT homework wasn't complicated enough? Though it is a rom-com, this book is also an exploration into what it's like to be a woman in STEM, especially a girl doing code. Wang also masterfully delves into issues of parental abandonment

privilege, and growing up a person of color in a majority-white town. This one is also great for ages 12 and up.

*"Trans History: From Ancient Times to the Present Day" by Alex L. Combs and Andrew Eakett (Candlewick)*

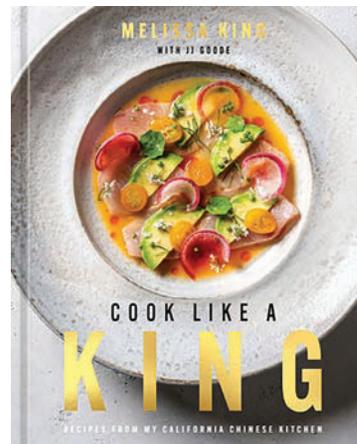
This is a thoughtfully drawn graphic novel on the long history of trans and gender expansive people. Told with humor and excellent source notes, this book is classified as serious nonfiction but reads very much like a novel. Though it's technically YA it's really a great resource for anyone interested in trans history. Perfect for ages 12 and up.

### Food adventures

*"A Very Asian Guide to Taiwanese Food" by Nancy Jeng, illustrated by Felicia Liang (Globe Books)*

Most of this wonderful book — meant for kids but really for everyone — is a delightfully drawn exploration of delicious Taiwanese food, including scallion pancakes, stinky tofu, boba and so much more. But it's also a celebration of the food and the culture that created it, and offers a wonderful excuse to go restaurant hopping, or make your own Taiwanese feast. There are some recipes included in the book

to start with (Jeng published a cookbook in 2023) and your only problem will be not eating the tea eggs all in one sitting.



*"Cook Like a King" by Melissa King with JJ Goode (Ten Speed Press)*

This is one of my favorite new cookbooks this year. King won "Top Chef" in 2020 and I — and thousands of others — have been waiting ever so impatiently for a cookbook since. King's recipes are accessibly written and very easy to follow. It's a great cookbook for anyone who wants to do more cooking. Current favorite recipes: Hong Kong Milk Tea Tiramisu (the dessert that won her "Top Chef," according to King herself), Lemongrass Beef Stew, Shanghainese "Lion's Head" Meatballs, Mama Mel's

Meatballs, Miso Caesar with Gai Lan and Chrysanthemum Greens (and also all of them).

*"Feasts on the Farm" by Tamara Jo Hicks and Jessica MacLeod (Chronicle Books)*

From the excellent Toluma Farms comes a cookbook for every season. Uniquely local and all about the produce and the cheese, this cookbook has something for everyone and a lot of photos of very cute goats. Current favorite recipes: Potato Leek Soup with Smoked Pepper and Liwa Crema, Meyer Lemon and Rosemary Panna Cotta, Herbaceous Cocktail Cookies, Spicy Kale and Avocado Salad with Farro and Koto'la cheese.

*"The Ube Baking Book: Decadent and Delicious Recipes with Filipino Purple Yam by Henry Aawayan" (Ulysses Press)*

This is a celebration of everyone's favorite purple starch, used to delicious effect in all sorts of ways by the owner of Whisk Cake Creations. You want to impress people at this year's potlucks? Show up with something delicious and purple! Current favorite recipes: Cream Cheese Frosted Cinnamon Rolls, Ube Crinkle Cookies, Sapin-Sapin and Rich Creamy Cheesecake. ■

*Grace Lane is the store manager of Linden Tree Books in Los Altos.*

## Changing diet to improve gut health, live longer

Discover how two Stanford microbiologists are uncovering the hidden power of the gut microbiome — and why their findings could change the future of human health. Justin and Erica Sonnenburg share the pivotal moments that shaped their careers, from breakthrough discoveries about diet and microbe loss to the personal lifestyle changes their research inspired.

They also make a compelling case for why universities, not industry, are uniquely positioned to tackle long-term scientific challenges. Their story reveals how curiosity, collaboration and sustained federal support can spark innovations that help people live healthier, longer lives. **SCAN TO READ THE SPOTLIGHT**



PRESENTED BY



Stanford University

# Food & Drink

## You've been influenced

### How food influencers fit into Silicon Valley's restaurant industry

By Adrienne Mitchel

It's almost dinnertime, and you're stumped: What to eat?

If you don't want to cook, you'll likely look on Google or Yelp and peruse the reviews, possibly text a foodie friend for a recommendation or maybe scroll through social media. Open Instagram or TikTok and you may come across a food influencer promoting a restaurant nearby.

The short video might simply showcase the restaurant's gorgeous ambiance or include a voiceover claiming the food is the best in the area. Either way, your interest is piqued. This is where you're going to dinner.

The restaurant industry is changing the way it's marketing itself, and foodies are capitalizing on this shift. Gain a few thousand followers and unlock access to a world of comped meals and even monetary compensation — all for posting videos.

In Silicon Valley, food influencers find large audiences for their social media posts following a surge in social media influencers since the start of the pandemic, when online content consumption doubled as people stayed home and dining out was limited.

Food influencers interviewed for this story say they play an important role in the restaurant industry with their social media posts, which can help market eateries and bring in business at a time when the industry is still struggling in the wake of the pandemic. In turn, influencers can get free meals, more followers to amplify their platform and the gratification of helping a business succeed.

But the inner workings of collaborations between influencers and restaurateurs in this evolving industry remain largely murky to the consumer, and transparency

varies when it comes to influencers sharing that a post is the result of a paid partnership. Restaurants with the deepest pockets can fund the most influencers, and the consumer may not be able to tell what's genuinely worth the hype or if the hype was cleverly manufactured. If reality doesn't live up to the consumer's expectations, the restaurant and influencer can both lose credibility.

Christopher Terry, a professor of journalism, law and policy at the University of Minnesota, said that a lack of transparency in disclosing paid collaborations is generally deceptive and that restaurants face the largest potential burden when engaging with an influencer.

By law, businesses trading any material connection for influencer content are responsible for the influencer's conduct, including ensuring that influencers disclose the material connection following the Federal Trade Commission's endorsement guidelines.

However, 70%-80% of influencers aren't compliant, according to Terry's research, soon to be published in the *Case Western Reserve's Journal of Law*. Without proper disclosures, the restaurant could be fined exorbitantly: \$44,100 for every person who sees the post multiplied by the number of days that the post is up, he said. While the rules have yet to be enforced, the risk remains, Terry said.

"Influencers don't like the disclosures because it takes some space and it destroys the organic nature of their content," he said. "I get that, but they also don't realize the potential sanctions that they're dealing with here and the risk they put the businesses that are endorsing them under."



Courtesy Allie Tong

Social media creator Allie Tong captures content at a dim sum restaurant to post on her page @allie.eats.

### The rise of food influencing

While food influencing has existed long before TikTok, the growth of the platform has likely contributed to the boom of food influencers, said Allie Tong, a San Francisco resident whose platform @allie.eats has 149,000 followers on Instagram and 115,000 on TikTok.

"Short-form video has really changed the game," Tong said. "During the pandemic, TikTok became so popular, (and) anyone could get on there and just post a video."

Tong, who has a bachelor's degree in business administration, marketing and management, started her food-focused Instagram account in 2015 in an effort to document her food journey. She now has her own content creation and social media management agency.

"Back then, influencers weren't really a thing, so I never really

thought about this being a career," she said.

About a year after creating her page, restaurant invitations started rolling in.

"I was shocked when I started getting those invites," she said. "I tried to go to every single thing, because I was like, 'Wow, what a great opportunity. This is unreal.'"

The restaurants shown on her page are split fairly evenly between meals she pays for herself and meals that are hosted (comped), and she doesn't charge restaurants unless they're part of a bigger chain, she said. If a restaurant requires deliverables, such as a specific type of content in exchange for free food, Tong said she will decline collaborating.

She said that influencers play a "crucial role" in the restaurant industry, explaining they "help get the word out about restaurants" and serve as a new way of advertising.

Novi Mitchell, creator of @

boozebrunch (which has 177,000 followers on Instagram and 40,000 on TikTok), also believes influencers have a "significant impact" on the restaurant industry. Mitchell, who works full time in tech, said she also declines deliverable-dependent collabs.

"Integrity is everything in this space. I think transparency is a lot also in this space," she said. "I think that restaurants and influencers should really work to find a way to work together, because influencers can be a form of marketing. But also influencers need to be very careful with just saying, 'Everything's good.'"

Mitchell started her food page in 2020 to showcase delicious restaurants and fun activities in the Bay Area. She said about 80% of meals featured on her page are ones she sought out and paid for herself, and about 20% of restaurants comped her meals or paid her. While she uses the "paid collaboration" function on Instagram for those that were

paid, she's also paid for food and had restaurants pay her after posting about it.

Mountain View resident Tina Lopez, whose account @tinalafoodie has over 14,000 followers on TikTok and 3,000 on Instagram, said she uses the phrase, "Thank you for having me" or "Thank you for this meal" in her captions to indicate the meal was comped (about 20% of her posts feature comped meals, she said.)

Lopez, who works full time in case management, started her Instagram in 2019 as a photo diary of what she was eating. Two years into the pandemic, she launched her TikTok.

If a meal is comped, she tries to keep the tone of the video more neutral and focused on letting people know that there's a restaurant serving a specific type of cuisine in a specific city, she said. If the meal is terrible, she will let the restaurant know about her concerns and not post about it.

It can be difficult balancing honesty with not ruining someone's business, said Carolyn Jung, a former food journalist at the San Jose Mercury News who now oversees the blog Food Gal. Jung explained that the difference between a food writer and an influencer is that journalists are expected to maintain a standard of fairness and ethics.

"Are you paying for your meals? Are you leaving a tip? Are you just writing what you're writing, posting what you're posting, just to get likes, or are you trying to be informative in an engaging but also truthful and enlightening way?" she said.

While she no longer works at a news publication, she said she still follows the same standard of ethics: disclose if she was invited in as a guest of the restaurant, never solicit restaurants for free meals and leave tips on comped meals. If the business is owned by a huge restaurant group and the meal is bad, she'll write that it's bad. If it's a small mom-and-pop restaurant and the meal was terrible, she'll opt to just not write about it.

"Because maybe they had a bad day, they had a bad week ... they're not able to withstand a review like that that would be so negative, whereas a bigger, splashier restaurant, where people are already anticipating and wanting to go there and really wondering about, 'Oh wow, this place is coming and is it going to be any good?' (could)," she said.

Jung said that influencers have definitely attracted people to a number of restaurants that otherwise may not have visited, but from the consumer perspective, the sheer amount of influencer content available creates a lot of noise.

"You see all these posts, and it's hard to discern: Is this really



Seeger Gray

Mountain View resident Tina Lopez talks about an It's-It product she purchased on a social media live video outside the It's-It ice cream shop in Burlingame on Oct. 24, 2025.

something worthwhile, or is this just someone getting in on a trend and trying to popularize their own site because of it?" she said.

### Inside the industry

Omakase restaurateur Sunny Noah, who owns Iki Omakase in Palo Alto and Ren Omakase in Menlo Park and works with Sushi Kinsen in Redwood City, often receives DMs on his restaurants' Instagram accounts from influencers asking to collaborate.

While he can't accept all the requests, he is more likely to agree to collabs when the restaurant is new. He sees it as a tactic to spread the word about its opening, but not a long-term marketing strategy. During the soft opening of Sushi Kinsen, he accepted a variety of influencer collabs, comping influencers' meals because reservations weren't completely full and it allowed for more opportunity to train staff.

"Later, when we get more booked, we would like to just focus on our regular customers instead of the influencers," he said. "So I don't know about the effects of influencers and the business aspect that they will bring for us, but definitely it helps (to get) a little exposure."

Noah said he tries to share technical insights with influencers and thinks of these collaborations as educational experiences, but that these insights rarely make it into the videos posted to social media. He also uses collaborations as a way to get feedback, asking influencers for honest critiques.

"But they're just so nice. They always say, 'It's really good,'" he said.

Yong Wu, owner of Redwood City's Sushi Ai, also said that influencers were useful for promoting his restaurant when it opened, but he doesn't plan on working with them regularly.

Wu explained that Sushi Ai created an influencer policy — those

with at least 25,000 social media followers can get a fully comped meal, but ones with a smaller following get 50% off the final bill. He said he's had influencers request to bring upwards of six friends with them, which he's denied.

Wu said the effectiveness of these collabs has been mixed, but he thinks influencer partnerships are more likely to help restaurants with a distinctively unique quality about them. For example, his restaurant specializes in dry aging, which creates a hook for influencers to promote.

Franco Campilongo, owner of Italian restaurants Terún, iTalico and Impasto, noted that influencer collabs appear to be more effective if there's something that differentiates your business from other restaurants, such as an upcoming event.

Campilongo recently started using mustard.love, a platform where influencers apply for collaborations with business owners and share profiles that business owners can view. The platform has tiers of compensation that the restaurant sets. For Campilongo's restaurants, influencers with 2,000-10,000 followers can receive \$150 worth of free food, while those with more than 50,000 followers can get that same food credit plus \$200 in cash in exchange for a social media post.

"It's increasingly important to be on social media now," Campilongo said. "Most of the people choose their place to go (eat) through social media."

While all of his influencer collaborations have been positive experiences, he said the downside is you can't calculate the rate of return unless you provide a promo code with influencers' posts.

"I think that (influencers) are not vital, but very important to the growth of the business for now," Campilongo said.

Still, other Peninsula restaurants have never used food influencers, including 45-year-old Flea

Street in Menlo Park.

"I would say I'm curious about this trend and would never close a door to it, but I'm still an old storyteller," said owner Jessie Cool.

She cautioned that influencer marketing might not achieve long-term results, comparing it to incentivizing guests to give five-star reviews on Google or Yelp. It might bring in customers one time, but they won't return if reality doesn't meet expectations.

"I would think even a new business would want to be just astute at understanding who that influencer is reaching," she said. "Because if you bring in the wrong clientele, it can be really hard on the business and the staff, and maybe not very long-lived."

Cool said she's never even hired a PR firm to help with marketing, explaining that she runs the social media accounts and writes the email newsletters herself for an extra personal touch. She attributes her hands-on approach to part of her restaurant's long-term success.

"If something's not quite right, then take the pulse and listen and figure out what it is the community is asking for and change it," she said. "Talk to your customers, listen, read the reviews, be willing to pivot, adapt, and you'll become more successful than if you just hire somebody to do a video."

### Potential for deception

Media law expert Christopher Terry agreed influencers are an effective marketing tool for restaurants, but he warned that working with them may cause more harm than good.

If an influencer receives any material connection — a free meal, complimentary breadsticks or even a 1% discount — they must disclose it following the FTC's 2023 endorsement guidelines, he said. If they don't, he said, it's a deceptive act that could result in a fine of \$44,100 for every

person who sees the post times the number of days that it's up. Deceptive acts are not protected by the First Amendment, Terry said.

"It's the legal equivalent of obscenity or child pornography," Terry said. "You know who has more First Amendment rights than influencers who act deceptively? People who crush animals for crush videos. They actually have more First Amendment rights."

The FTC updates its endorsement guidelines every 10 years, but the pandemic delayed the 2020 release by three years. The 2023 guidelines are the first that specifically talk about influencers and state that influencers must superimpose a disclosure on top of images and videos and that it must be visible and contrastable. Hyperlinking to the disclosure or thanking the restaurant is not enough, he said.

"They have to be fairly obtrusive disclosures," Terry said. "It used to be if you had an Instagram post, even if it was a video, as long as you had #paid or #theygavemeafreemeal or something like that, that was enough. It's not anymore. It has to be clear and conspicuous."

Disclosures also have to be in throwback posts. If an influencer posted about a hosted meal on Wednesday and again about the same meal a week later, the newest post still must have the disclosure.

Even if an influencer doesn't share anything positive about the restaurant, just posting about it is considered an endorsement by the FTC and must follow these guidelines.

"Most people do not understand that influencers are functionally paid skills," Terry said. "I can look at an influencer post and know that it's basically an ad, but a lot of regular people do not recognize influencer content that way. That makes it far more insidious, and that's why the FTC has really moved forward on these rules."

Because the FTC has typically enforced influencer policies with people employing and managing influencers and not with the influencers themselves, the risk for an exorbitant fine falls on the restaurants. Even if a restaurant is partnering with a third party to manage the influencers (such as mustard.love), the restaurant is still responsible, Terry said.

So how can restaurants ensure law-abiding collabs? Terry recommended using contracts.

"You have a deal with the influencer that tells them that they have certain obligations to meet the disclosure guidelines; otherwise, they don't get paid," Terry said. ■

Email Food Editor Adrienne Mitchel at [amitchel@almanacnews.com](mailto:amitchel@almanacnews.com).

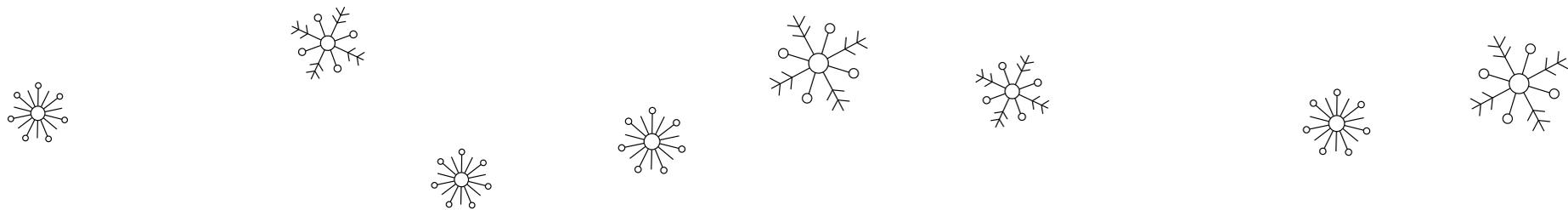
EXPERIENCE THE BEST IN REAL ESTATE SERVICES



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT THROUGHOUT 2025!



WISHING YOU AND YOURS A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!



**TOM LEMIEUX**  
650.465.7459  
tom@lemieuxRE.com  
DRE 01066910



**ALICIA YOUNG**  
415.601.4900  
alicia@lemieuxRE.com  
DRE 02234525



Top 0.5% of Agents in the Nation, RealTrends 2024 | \$3.5B+ in Sales since 1998 | lemieuxRE.com | @lemieuxRE



Compass is a licensed real estate broker 01527235 in the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdraw without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. Exact dimensions can be obtained by retaining the services of an architect or engineer. This is not intended to solicit properties already listed.