

The Almanac

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE MIDPENINSULA

MAY 22, 2026 | VOL. 61 NO. 37



WWW.ALMANACNEWS.COM

Despite backlash, Woodside couple appeals to keep housing project alive

Neighbors oppose Still Creek Road development

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Neighbors of 10 Still Creek Road in Woodside rallied to oppose a multi-generational affordable housing project at a May 12 Town Council meeting so packed with experts, comments and controversy that a decision will have to wait until the council meets again.

The proposal, at the top of the town's pipeline list for meeting its state-mandated housing requirements, has been on hold for nearly six years while the property owners sought permission to build.

Housing advocates said that if the town denies the project in the Western Hills neighborhood, it would risk having to replace those units on Woodside's housing element. If town officials are unable to do so, Woodside could lose state funding, be targeted by third-party lawsuits and subject to builder's remedy projects that can circumvent local building rules, according to Jeremy Levine, policy manager for Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County.

The contentious project

See **HOUSING PROJECT**, page 16



Michael Molcsan

Christin New and David Mittelman have sought to build a multigenerational home on their Woodside property at 10 Still Creek Road since 2019.

Builder mum on plans after Meta shelves Menlo Park mega-project

Without Willow Village, city may be short on new housing

By Hannah Bensen

Meta representatives have declined to provide new information to Menlo Park's Planning Commission about the future of Willow Village, the office and housing development in Belle Haven that it halted earlier this month.

Commissioners repeatedly

asked Meta representatives for more information about the future of Willow Village.

"I think a lot of people in the community are wondering what's going to happen with that land," said Commissioner Katie Behroozi. "What can you let us know? What can you share with us?"

Eric Morley of Signature Development Group, the

project's developer, couldn't provide detailed answers about the fate of the mega-project that promised to redevelop a sprawling research park and bring much needed amenities, like a pharmacy and full-service grocery store, to the Belle Haven neighborhood.

"We don't have a timetable to share with the commission," Morley said. "We also don't

disclose occupancy due to safety, security and liability for both our buildings and employees. So, (we are) not in a position to share that at this time. We'll certainly keep the city up to date."

Even with its suspension, the Willow Village project remains in compliance with the terms of the development agreement between Meta and Menlo Park. On Monday, May 18, planning

commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution finding that Meta had demonstrated "good-faith compliance" with the agreement's provisions. With the terms of the agreement conditional on construction of the project, most items are not applicable at this time, the staff report stated. The agreement

See **WILLOW VILLAGE**, page 15

2026 SPRING
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Nonprofit news: by humans, for humans
Support the humans behind the headlines:
Become a member today!

SEE PAGE 8

The Almanac
almanacnews.com

<https://bit.ly/48vnyw7>

INSIDE

ARTSCENE 19 | FOOD & DRINK 22

Read up-to-the-minute news on AlmanacNews.com

Aging with *Dignity*

Living with *Connection*

Meet Marie.

At 72, she's a proud grandmother who treasures staying close to her family. This spring, as she celebrated her birthday through video calls, laughter, and messages from loved ones around the world, she reflected on how much her independence means to her. But living alone had started to feel harder—preparing balanced meals was tiring, arranging safe transportation felt stressful, and she worried about becoming isolated.

That's when Marie connected with PVI.

Today, one of her favorite parts of the week is visiting the Adult Activity Center at Little House, where she takes classes, shares laughter, and enjoys meaningful conversations with friends. Nutritious meals are delivered to her door, and with RIDE PVI, she can travel safely to appointments, run errands, and stay connected to her community.

For Marie's family, PVI brings peace of mind. Even from miles away, they know she's supported by trusted resources and a caring community.

Because of PVI, Marie can remain in the home she loves—celebrating life's moments with connection, support, and independence.

**Your gift
brings comfort and care
to local seniors.**



**DONATE
TODAY**



Enabling Seniors to Age in Place

800 MIDDLE AVENUE, MENLO PARK
650-326-0665 • 1PVI.ORG



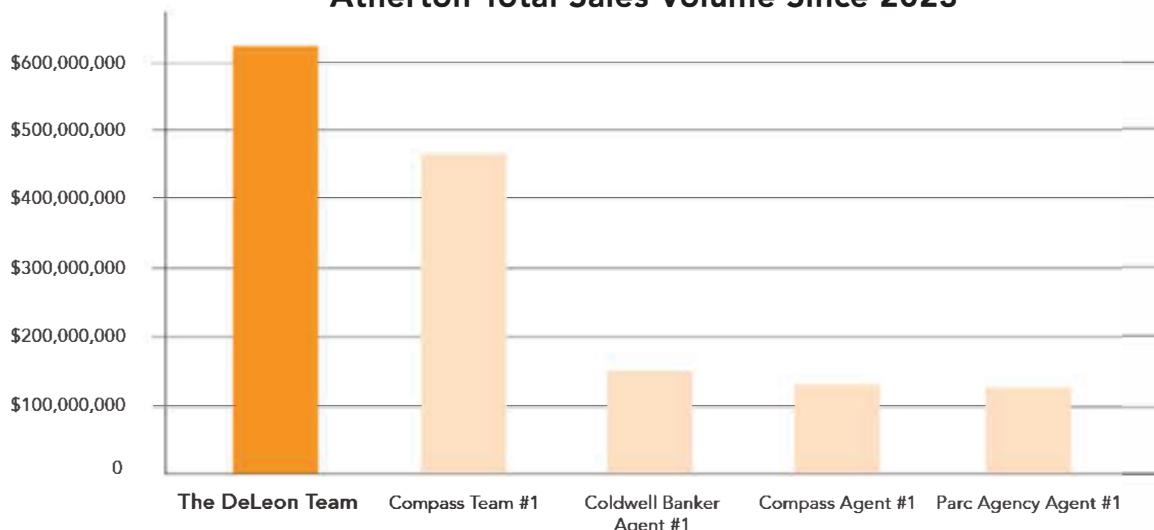
WORK DIRECTLY WITH KEN & THE DELEON TEAM

Atherton's #1 Team/Agent For Three Straight Years



The DeLeon Team became #1 in Atherton by making our clients #1.

Atherton Total Sales Volume Since 2023



Sources: Brokermetrics® MLS stats., as of May 11, 2026
Criteria: Single Family Residential, in Atherton from 2/1/23 to 4/30/26



Ken DeLeon, DRE #01342140 | 650.380.1420 | ken@deleonrealty.com
Equal Housing Opportunity | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



723 Gilbert Avenue, Menlo Park
OFFERED AT \$2,998,000

DULCY FREEMAN
650.804.8884 LICENSE# 01342352



1145 Saxon Way, Menlo Park
OFFERED AT \$6,650,000

DULCY FREEMAN
650.804.8884 LICENSE# 01342352



2161 Valparaiso Avenue, Menlo Park
OFFERED AT \$3,995,000

CHRIS IVERSON
650.450.0450 LICENSE# 01708130



8 Almendra Lane, Los Altos
OFFERED AT \$4,998,000

BRIAN AYER
650.242.2473 LICENSE# 01870281
DANIELA HAALAND
650.980.8866 LICENSE# 02045462



124 Foxwood Road, Portola Valley
OFFERED AT \$3,298,000

LISA KEITH
650.703.8644 LICENSE# 00882247



90 Hayfields Road, Portola Valley
OFFERED AT \$3,995,000

PETER COWPERTHWAITTE
650.207.4101 LICENSE# 01012887



1627 Kentucky Street, Redwood City
OFFERED AT \$2,495,000

JOHN SHROYER
650.787.2121 LICENSE# 00613370



746 Santa Ynez Street, Stanford
OFFERED AT \$5,300,000

CHRIS IVERSON
650.450.0450 LICENSE# 01708130



1325 Marlborough Rd, Hillsborough
OFFERED AT \$5,498,000

JENNIFER GILSON
650.642.6957 LICENSE# 01889172



1667 Fillmore Avenue, San Mateo
OFFERED AT \$1,495,000

RICKY FLORES
408.565.5626 LICENSE# 02027985
MARGOT LOCKWOOD
650.400.2528 LICENSE# 01017519



351 Rolling Hills Avenue, San Mateo
OFFERED AT \$2,680,000

LISA KARSON
650.759.4644 LICENSE# 01775831



30 16th Avenue, San Mateo
OFFERED AT \$2,898,000

HENRY CHU
650.918.8118 LICENSE# 01855861



1836 Greenwood Avenue, San Carlos
OFFERED AT \$1,798,000

SUSAN TANNER
650.255.7372 LICENSE# 01736865



110 Dolton Avenue, San Carlos
OFFERED AT \$5,095,000

CARRIE DU BOIS
650.766.9069 LICENSE# 01179769



1077 Pearl Avenue, Moss Beach
OFFERED AT \$1,479,999

JAKKI HARLAN
650.465.2180 LICENSE# 01407129



140 Wienke Way, Moss Beach
OFFERED AT \$2,100,000

JAKKI HARLAN
650.465.2180 LICENSE# 01407129

Local News

MENLO PARK | AHERTON | WOODSIDE | PORTOLA VALLEY



Magali Gauthier

As storefronts sit vacant in the core of downtown Menlo Park, the City Council may allow businesses like spas and yoga studios to open.

Salons and gyms may fill vacant storefronts in downtown Menlo Park

Planning Commission backs easing zoning rules for Santa Cruz Avenue

By Arden Margulis

Instead of retail and restaurants, Menlo Park may soon see new kinds of businesses, like veterinary hospitals and more beauty services and banks, filling vacancies in the heart of downtown thanks to a proposal by the owners of a Santa Cruz Avenue building seeking to loosen up the city's "restrictive" zoning rules.

"Downtown has a retail vacancy problem, and it has for years. Building owners don't want to invest in their buildings because they can't get the rents or tenants to support their investment," said Menlo Park native Tod Spieker, who applied for the changes. Spieker's company, Windy Hill Ventures, owns and recently renovated 870 Santa Cruz Ave. but said it has struggled to find tenants.

Windy Hill says the changes would provide more flexibility to building owners and prospective tenants, which could increase investment in the city.

On May 18, the Menlo Park Planning Commission unanimously recommended the City Council approve expanded uses in the "main street"

See **ZONING RULES**, page 17

Downtown vibrancy advocate joins race for Menlo Park City Council

Laura Melahn is running for Betsy Nash's open District 4 seat

By Arden Margulis

An advocate for downtown is running for Menlo Park City Council to represent District 4 after Mayor Betsy Nash announced she is not seeking reelection.

Laura Melahn, 41, one of the founders of the Downtown Menlo Fund, said she wants to run for City Council to promote community connection and represent constituents. District 4 includes downtown and parts of central Menlo Park and the Allied Arts neighborhood.

"I love this place. I think a good life is building something meaningful with other people in a place that you share," Melahn said. "But I think that the way Menlo Park City Council is operating today is pushing residents out of civic engagement."

Melahn, who grew up in Hawaii, moved to the Bay Area 19 years ago and has lived in Menlo Park with her husband and two sons for six years. She works in venture capital. In February 2025, Melahn was one of four residents who started the Downtown Menlo Fund to improve the vibrancy of downtown. Melahn has also served on the city's Finance and Audit Commission since May 2025.



Courtesy Laura Melahn

Laura Melahn is seeking to represent downtown and Allied Arts on the Menlo Park City Council.

Melahn said one of her main priorities is to build connections between residents.

"I think that people spending time together is how connections happen: it's good for cities, it's good for businesses. It will impact how people feel in Menlo Park and how we can thrive and grow," Melahn said.

As part of her work at Downtown Menlo Fund,

See **MELAHN**, page 18

Menlo College student charged with raping 12-year-old on campus

Prosecutors say the 19-year-old gave the girl alcohol and marijuana before the assault in his dorm room

By Arden Margulis

A Menlo College student is facing three felony charges for allegedly raping a 12-year-old girl in his dorm room after giving her alcohol and marijuana on May 5.

San Mateo County prosecutors have charged Andres Aguilar, 19, with two counts of aggravated sexual abuse of a minor for both forcible rape and oral copulation, and one count of providing marijuana to a minor under 14.

Aguilar met the 12-year-old girl at a bus stop in

downtown Menlo Park on May 4, and she told him she was 17, according to police. The following day, she snuck out of her home at around 9 p.m. to meet Aguilar at a grocery store in Redwood City, where he allegedly bought alcohol, according to police. He brought her to his dorm room on the Atherton college campus where he gave her the alcohol and marijuana before allegedly raping her, District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe told this news organization. She was repeatedly telling him "no" and to stop, according to Wagstaffe.

Following the alleged rape, Aguilar ordered Plan B emergency contraceptive through DoorDash and had it delivered to the college because he was concerned the girl would get pregnant, according to prosecutors.

Police learned of the assault on May 6 when a teacher at the girl's school informed Child Protective Services.

During the investigation, officers obtained campus security footage showing Aguilar entering and leaving his room with the girl, which helped police identify him as the suspect. The girl said she only knew

his first name, according to Wagstaffe. Police later sealed Aguilar's dorm room for forensic analysis.

"We take all allegations of criminal conduct and misconduct involving our community with the utmost seriousness. In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, we are unable to confirm identities or provide details regarding ongoing investigations," a spokesperson for Menlo College said in a statement to this news organization.

The private college declined to comment on whether it notified students and staff

members about the alleged incident.

Atherton police spoke with Aguilar, who said he thought the girl was 17 but acknowledged he knew intercourse with her would still be illegal under California law because of her age, Wagstaffe said. He was arrested on May 12.

Aguilar, who is being held without bail, was arraigned on May 15, and is expected to enter a plea on May 21. If convicted, the charges carry a minimum 15-year sentence. ■

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

Candidates for county superintendent discuss AI, mental health and literacy

By Jennifer Yoshikoshi

San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools candidates joined the Portola Valley community during a May 18 forum ahead of the June election. Candidates Héctor Camacho and Chelsea Bonini spoke about their vision to improve literacy, student safety and mental health, facilitate the integration of artificial intelligence and review budgets across all school districts.

The superintendent of schools oversees the San Mateo County Office of Education and supports 23 school districts in the county. The elected individual will be responsible for reviewing and approving the budget of every district, monitoring compliance with state and federal laws, and reviewing each district's Local Control Accountability Plan.

The forum, hosted by the Portola Valley Parent Teacher Organization, was moderated by former school board trustee Amod Setlur.

Both candidates are former educators, drawing from decades of experience working hands-on with students and teachers through their leadership roles.

Camacho currently serves as the executive director of Equity, Social Justice and Inclusion of the San Mateo County Office of Education. For 25 years, he's worked in various roles as a paraprofessional, teacher, counselor and education leader. Camacho served on the Board of Education for 11 years.

Bonini formerly taught kindergarten, first grade and second grade. She's also an attorney and has served on the school board for the San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District. She was elected to the county Board of Education in 2020 and was re-elected in 2024.

Mental health and student safety

Mental health and student safety are top priorities for parents as the county grapples with concerns over emotional well-being in youth and increased concerns over campus security. Candidates were asked about how they would expand the county's efforts to address campus safety and provide resources for mental health crises.

Camacho believes that the best way to ensure all students are safe and receive adequate mental health support is by serving as the coordinator between school



Michael Molcsan

Superintendent candidate Hector Camacho answers former PSVD trustee Amod Setler's question in front of a live and online audience at the Corte Madera School in Portola Valley on May 18.

districts, first responders and county health.

He added that he thinks mental health support should be provided in the same way the county developed the Big Five, an emergency plan adopted by all San Mateo County school districts and law enforcement agencies for campus security.

Camacho said the county's United for Youth Blueprint is an ongoing initiative that aims to address student mental health in this way and his focus is to continue the county's 2030 plan for improving mental health resources.

As a county board member, Bonini said she has been a strong advocate for mental health services. She also emphasized the importance of following the United for Youth Blueprint to reach the county's goal in providing accessible and affordable resources.

As a mother to a child with a disability, Bonini said she has experienced taking her child to the psychiatric emergency room and has witnessed the trauma that students experience. In times of crises, the county lacks spaces for youth under the age of 12, she said. Bonini said she would like to continue efforts to expand crisis support for local families by partnering with districts and finding out better ways to provide services.

AI and social media

With the rise of AI, school districts are faced with the challenge of navigating a new technology amid growing concerns around usage and data privacy.

For insight on how AI affects the younger generations, Camacho said he turns to the county's youth to hear their biggest concerns.

"They're concerned with how

it is affecting their ability to learn and access information, but also thinking about their future in the workforce that they're inheriting," he said. "It's another pressure that they're facing, and young people are already coming to school with a lot of pressure."

He recalled a conversation he had with a high school senior who had concerns about how AI could replace human interaction in the classroom. Camacho highlighted the importance of bringing students into the conversation about how AI can be integrated into their learning.

Amidst a teacher shortage, Camacho suggested that AI could be used to help educators complete non-student-facing tasks, so long as there are proper guardrails around data privacy. He acknowledged that some districts have already adopted AI policies but some have not, so it's

important for the county office to lead a plan that all school districts can follow.

Bonini added that some districts are being recognized for their AI initiatives, such as the San Carlos School District which recently received the J. Russell Kent Award for its AI Task Force.

"I feel like programs like that need to be extended throughout the other schools within our county, and our county offices (are) in the prime position to make that happen," said Bonini. "The reason that schools get Kent awards is that they are replicable programs, and that they are trailblazing an issue that we really need to focus on."

She said opening up conversations about AI and how it impacts mental health is a discussion that needs to be had with both parents and students.

Support local districts, small and large

With 23 school districts within San Mateo County, all have differing needs and receive different levels of funding. The smallest school district in the county has about 260 students while the largest has nearly 10,000. Candidates were asked how their leadership styles would deliver guidance and support to all local districts.

Camacho emphasized the importance of proactively communicating with each school district to get a better understanding of each of their needs.

See **SUPERINTENDENT**, page 14



Established 1965
The Almanac
Serving Menlo Park,
Atherton, Portola Valley,
and Woodside for over 60 years

NEWSROOM

Editor Andrea Gemmet, agemmet@almanacnews.com, 223-6537

Staff Writers

Arden Margulis, 223-6518
Jennifer Yoshikoshi, 223-6536

Print & Lifestyle Editor Linda Taaffe, 223-6511, ltaaffe@almanacnews.com

Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman, 223-6515, hzimmerman@almanacnews.com

Features Editor Julia Brown, 223-6531, jbrown@almanacnews.com

Food Editor Adrienne Mitchel, 223-6539, amitchel@almanacnews.com

Audience Engagement Lead Zoe Morgan, 223-6519, zmorgan@almanacnews.com

Lifestyle Assistant Editor Karla Kane, 223-6521, kkane@almanacnews.com

Visual Journalist Seeger Gray, 223-6530, 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

Photography Intern Michael Molcsan, mmolcsan@almanacnews.com

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

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown, 223-6562

ADVERTISING

Major Accounts Sales Manager

Connie Cotton, 223-6571

Multimedia Advertising Sales

Elaine Ogden, 223-6572

Real Estate Manager Neal Fine, 223-6583

ADVERTISING SERVICES

Advertising Services Manager

Kevin Legarda, 223-6597

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

■ **Newsroom:** (650) 223-6525
Newsroom Fax: (650) 223-7525

■ **Email news** and photos with captions to: Editor@AlmanacNews.com

■ **Email letters to:** Letters@AlmanacNews.com

■ **Advertising:** (650) 854-2626

■ **Start/stop paper delivery:** (650) 854-2626 or email circulation@AlmanacNews.com

■ **Submit Legal Notices:** AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices

■ **Submit Obituaries:** 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. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to AlmanacNews.com/become-a-member/ to start supporting The Almanac today.

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

Copyright ©2026 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



Become a member for as low as \$12 per month

Visit AlmanacNews.com/become-a-member/



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2026 Sudden Oak Death Blitz survey

The community can get involved in the 2026 Sudden Oak Death Blitz starting on May 23 at 10 a.m., when sampling materials for the survey will be available for pickup. The annual survey looks into the spread of sudden oak death (SOD) throughout the state. Participants must sign-up for a 30-minute online training at sodblitz.info before collecting sampling materials.

Local organizers encourage community members to sign up before starting the survey and taking the online training. Collection packets can be picked up at the SOD Blitz Stations located at Portola Valley's Historic Schoolhouse porch, 765 Portola Road in Portola Valley or near Woodside's Independence Hall, 2955 Woodside Road.

Each sampling packet allows for you to sample 10 trees. The free app, "SODmap Mobile," can help participants determine the exact location of the trees to sample. Trees that have previously been sampled can be seen on matteolab.org. Samples can be taken on private properties with the owner's permission and in public areas such as public roads, parks and open spaces.

Collected samples must be returned by May 26 at 6 p.m. For questions email local organizer Debbie Mendelson at sodblitz@gmail.com.

—Jennifer Yoshikoshi

Jim Irizarry, David Canepa face off in June primary for county elections chief

The June 2 primary pits the office's second-in-command against the former president of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

By Miranda de Moraes

Two candidates are running in the June 2 primary for San Mateo County Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and Chief Elections Officer, a countywide role that oversees elections, public records and property assessments.

Jim Irizarry, the office's second-in-command, is running against David Canepa, the former president of the board of supervisors, for the nonpartisan seat.

Since 2011, the position has been held by Mark Church, who decided not to run for reelection.

The County Clerk-Recorder's Office is in charge of duties like performing wedding ceremonies; maintaining real property transactions; issuing birth, death and marriage certificates; and filing fictitious business name statements. The assessor is responsible for determining the assessed value of all taxable property in the county.

The Elections Officer oversees voter registration, voter roll accuracy, polling and voting logistics and equipment, and elections overall, aiming to ensure they are conducted fairly and in accordance with the law.

Canepa, a fourth-generation county resident with over two decades of public service experience, said he is running to "modernize this office and restore confidence in how it serves our community."

Like Church, Canepa has also served as president of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and as a mayor, a similar resume that Canepa has leveraged as evidence of his readiness for the role. Canepa served as mayor of Daly City, while Church was mayor of Millbrae.

Canepa helps oversee the county's \$5.5 billion budget and 5,800 employees and says he understands accountability, sound management and collaboration. He is currently serving in his third term on the Board of Supervisors, meaning that if he wins, he would leave his seat two years early.

His vision as chief elections officer is to encourage maximum participation among eligible voters and to protect the integrity of the democratic process through accuracy, transparency and modern technology.



As an assessor, he said he would work to reduce backlogs, ensure fair property tax administration, and help homeowners, especially seniors, receive the exemptions they deserve.

As clerk-recorder, he intends to launch a free, online, public portal with access to millions of records dating back to the 1990s and to increase multilingual access to county documents.

Irizarry, a lifelong San Mateo County resident and the second-in-command to Church, is notably endorsed by Church, he said. He's administered over 35 elections, closed 13 property tax assessment rolls and expanded voter access to youth, seniors and underrepresented communities.

Irizarry is committed to leading the office through technological transformation by modernizing service delivery and tapping artificial intelligence, while protecting jobs, he said. He'd also like to see modest property tax reforms for senior and younger residents, promote housing affordability, safeguard the vote-by-mail system and improve property assessment transparency.



Courtesy Jim Irizarry and David Canepa

Jim Irizarry, left, and David Canepa, right, will go head to head at the ballot box on June 2 for the open Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and Chief Elections Officer position in San Mateo County.

Irizarry's other endorsements include county supervisors Jackie Speier, Noelia Corzo and Ray Mueller, and former Rep. Anna Eshoo, among other local leaders.

Canepa's campaign has been endorsed by over a dozen local organizations, he said, including San Mateo County Democrats,

San Mateo County Deputy Sheriffs' Association, and SEIU 521 — the labor union representing the office — as well as Civil Rights leader Dolores Huerta. ■

Email Staff Writer
Miranda de Moraes at
mdemoraes@almanacnews.com.

Man arrested after overnight standoff in North Fair Oaks

By Bay City News Service

A 34-year-old man was allegedly having a mental health crisis when he was accused of firing several gunshots inside and outside of a residence in San Mateo County on May 16, leading to a standoff with law enforcement that lasted overnight.

San Mateo County sheriff's deputies were called to the 500 block of Warrington Avenue in the unincorporated area of North Fair Oaks at about 10:30 p.m. after receiving reports that a man was shooting a firearm into the air, according to a

statement from the Sheriff's Office on May 17.

The man allegedly went into the residence that he shares with family members as deputies arrived.

A woman allegedly came out of the house shortly afterward and reported the suspect was armed and having a mental health crisis, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff's deputies also determined that the suspect was on probation and prohibited from owning firearms.

A crisis negotiation team, SWAT team, and a drone unit were deployed. Neighboring

residences were evacuated.

Gunshots were allegedly heard during the negotiations. Family members were all able to safely leave the house during the standoff.

After determining that the suspect was the only person inside by about 6:20 a.m. Sunday, chemical agents were used to force him to come out. He surrendered at that time without further incident.

He is facing multiple felony and potential felony allegations, including child endangerment.

A firearm was allegedly recovered from inside, according to the Sheriff's Office. ■

The Almanac
AlmanacNews.com

LET'S DISCUSS:

Read the latest local news headlines and comment on articles at
AlmanacNews.com

STEIN FOR CONGRESS

Vote Independent!
Bridge the Partisan Divide!

Stein's Policies Include:

- Ending rigged voting maps nationwide (gerrymandering)
- Fixing Social Security with a 3-part plan
- Work to provide services to our neighbors in need

The parties are busy fighting each other but who's fighting for you?

Elect an Independent who prioritizes your needs over party loyalty.



Visit VoteStein.com
Paid for by Jotham Stein for Congress LLC
FEC# C00932533





The humans behind the headlines: See our work in action

How do we decide what to cover in a sea of news?

Every day, our reporters and editors are inundated with news tips. They come over the phone, in emailed press releases, from regular sources, and merely by being a curious citizen of the world. How do we decide which tips merit attention?

There is no universally accepted definition of news. Famously, it's not news with dog bites man, but is if man bites dog. While the lesson — that the unusual is often more newsworthy than the everyday — is well taken, it isn't much help in the much more nuanced Midpeninsula (where we rarely bite our dogs).

Our reporters each have a beat. That means they pay close attention to weighty subjects within each community. For example, we know that affordable housing is a topic that resonates with many readers, so we're always on the lookout for developments. Each publication has its own editor and they all have long experience in their community. They are looking for stories that enlarge your understanding of your hometown. And these journalists work as a team, collaborating when local stories collide, contributing photos, charts and maps, posting news to social media, sending breaking news to your inbox, processing for the print newspapers — all in an effort to keep you informed so that together we can build better communities. That is the job.



Clay Lambert
Editorial Director, Peninsula Editorial Division



NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS
FOR THE MIDPENINSULA AND TRI-VALLEY

2026 Spring Membership Drive

Nonprofit news: by humans, for humans

We're kicking off our spring membership drive and doubling down on our commitment to you, our community. Every day, real human reporters are out in the field covering local stories and delivering accurate, fact-checked journalism you can trust.

Help Keep Local News Human

Independent, nonprofit journalism thrives only when our community steps up. Your membership powers our reporters and helps us mentor the next generation of journalists who will continue telling your stories.

Our mission is to inform, hold local government accountable, and strengthen the community — and we can only do it with your support. If you believe in this work, now is the time to join.

Special Spring Rates Through May 24

New members can join for \$9.99/month or \$119/year. Use code **spring26basic** for a discounted Basic membership or **spring26plus** for a discounted Plus membership.

Members receive:

- Unlimited access to all local news
- Local Scoop, our monthly members-only newsletter
- Invitations to special events
- Access to members-only giveaways

Support the humans behind the headlines: Become a member today!



<https://bit.ly/48vnwy7>

If you would like to pay for your discounted, annual membership of \$119, or 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.

The Almanac

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE MIDPENINSULA

almanacnews.com

**SUPPORT
LOCAL
JOURNALISM**

EmbarcaderoMediaFoundation.org



Five candidates up to bat for county Congressional seat

By Miranda de Moraes

Ahead of the midterms, President Donald Trump called on Texas last June to redraw its congressional maps to secure a Republican majority in the House of Representatives. California voters clapped back in November with new maps of their own, favoring Democrats. These redistricting efforts will affect California's congressional races, including San Mateo County's District 15.

The ballot will feature five candidates: incumbent Rep. Kevin Mullin, Anthony Dang, Mantosh Kumar, Charles Hoelster and Jim Garrity — all of whom are Democrats, except Hoelster, a Republican, and Garrity, an independent.

Rep. Kevin Mullin (D)

Mullin was born in San Mateo County and won the seat in 2022 with over 73% of the vote against Republican challenger Anna Cheng Kramer. Before his tenure in Congress, he represented San Mateo County in the California State Assembly from 2012 to 2022, serving as the Speaker Pro Tem from 2014 until his departure.

Mullin signed over 60 bills into law, many of which focused



Anna Hoch-Kenney

Voter Center Rep. Hamsa Rajaraman gives instructions to voter Bruce Rauhe as he fills out a form to vote at the San Mateo County Clerk-Recorder office in Redwood City in, 2024.

on elections and democracy reform, like All-Vote-By-Mail. He said he's committed to bipartisan cooperation and also passionate about climate resiliency, calling himself among the architects of the \$3.7 billion sustainability project that helped fund Caltrain's electrification and the creation of San Mateo County's OneShoreline sea level rise program.



Kevin Mullin

Anthony Dang (D)

Dang is a disabled veteran who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 2004 to 2008 and earned a master's at Harvard University in Public Administration. He grew up in Foster City, is the son of a Vietnam War refugee and lost his brother in the Iraq War — he himself survived a gunshot and two bomb blasts in the second Battle of Ramadi.

In office, Dang said he would focus on "accountability for the rich and powerful," as he's seen corruption "from the inside" while working at the Pentagon. Dang went on to work in the

defense industry, where he said he witnessed "waste and fraud on programs funded by taxpayer dollars," and was fired when he reported it.

"The wealthy and well-connected operate by a different set of standards, and the people who speak up pay the price," Dang said. "In Congress, I will fight for transparency in government spending, stronger whistleblower protections, and real consequences for those who abuse public trust."

Dang, who is raising a son with special needs, said he is committed to expanding disability services, strengthening protections under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and defending immigrant families from federal overreach "to protect the people this system was built to overlook."

Mantosh Kumar (D)

Kumar is most concerned with what he calls an affordability crisis that is outpacing wages for essential workers. He blames "PAC-funded, self-serving politics" and said he would fight for Medicare for All, repeal Trump's inflationary tariffs and hold insurance companies and county boards accountable for raising premiums and property taxes.

Kumar is explicitly interested in protecting workers from job losses related to artificial intelligence, working alongside Sen. Bernie Sanders to enact guard rails on businesses so they can't fire workers in the name of AI productivity. He intends to impose an AI displacement tax, transparency and use mandates, and environmental hard-caps on AI infrastructure — while also championing AI training programs at schools for students and teachers, tech firms for AI apprenticeships and community AI labs for hands-on learning.

"Inspired by Lincoln, FDR and JFK," Kumar said, "I will fight for you — affordable housing, healthcare, and a thriving economy — while battling the forces eroding our republic."

Charles Hoelster (R)

Hoelster, the sole Republican candidate, is a retired UPS supervisor who has lived in San Mateo County for over three decades. His top three objectives are to keep "men out of women's sports," impose term limits on



Anthony Dang

politicians, require voter ID at elections and "clean-up" voter rolls for all states.

Hoelster has been married 31 years, has three children and would like to create apprenticeship programs in high schools in all states. His campaign did not provide any additional information about him in time for publication.



Charles Hoelster

Jim Garrity (No party preference)

Garrity has served as a police officer for over 30 years and has spent the same amount of time living in San Carlos. Most concerned with the rising cost of living, Garrity is committed to fighting "reckless" federal spending and building more affordable housing by cutting permitting delays, protecting local zoning control and expanding public-private partnerships.

The candidate is also focused on funding law enforcement, addressing the fentanyl crisis and opposing policies that allow repeat offenders back on the streets.

As for immigration, he believes that undocumented criminals should be deported — "no debate." However, those who are trying to "better" themselves and their families should be "left alone."

Finally, Garrity promises to never vote to cut Social Security and Medicare, which he said are earned benefits. Committed to working across the aisle to secure long-term funding for these programs is important to Garrity, as he believes that "no one should go broke because they got sick or have to choose between care and bills."

While California's redrawn maps might impact representation at the margins, especially around county borders near Santa Clara or San Francisco counties, the county is still expected to remain strongly Democratic.

In the last two presidential elections, D-15's results were 26 percentage points more Democratic than the national average, according to the Cook Partisan Voter Index, landing California's 15th district as the 26th most Democratic nationally.

The primary will occur on June 2, and the general election on Nov. 3. ■



Jim Garrity



Mantosh Kumar

Palo Alto Citywide



YARD SALE

Saturday, June 6 from 8am to 2pm

Shop the Sale

A full-page map listing all participating sale locations and merchandise will be printed in the Friday, June 5 edition of the Palo Alto Weekly. The map and sale listings will also be available online at www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale in late May.

www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale
zerowaste@paloalto.gov
(650) 496-5910



EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES BY ERIKA

OPEN SUNDAY, 2:00 – 4:00pm



Luxury Compound with Resort-Caliber Amenities

600 MOORE ROAD, WOODSIDE

- Private resort on approximately 3.2 acres
- 7 bedrooms and 7.5 baths across multiple living structures
- Approximately 11,700 total square feet
- 2-bedroom, 2-bath family cottage and 1-bedroom, 1-bath guest house
- Detached 4-car garage
- Detached fitness center with half-bath and sauna
- Pool, spa, and fountain grotto
- Clay tennis and bocce court
- Pitch and putt golf practice area
- Extraordinary 3,000+ bottle wine cellar and tasting room
- Top-rated Las Lomitas schools

Offered at \$14,900,000
600Moore.com



Designer Transformation on 1.5 Acres Steps to Town

140 DEAN ROAD, WOODSIDE

- Whole-home designer transformation
- Park-like setting of approximately 1.5 acres
- Single-level living with 6 bedrooms and 4.5 baths total
- 2-bedroom guest house with full kitchen and laundry
- Approximately 5,600 square feet
- Attached 3-car garage with 2 EV outlets
- Pool, fireplace, barbecue center, and vast lawns
- Treehouse, playground, and trampoline
- Walk to Woodside Town Center
- Excellent Woodside Elementary School

Offered at \$12,500,000
140Dean.com



OPEN SUNDAY, 2:00 – 4:00pm



Boutique Customized Service with Strong Local and Global Presence

ERIKA DEMMA
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

650.740.2970 DRE# 01230766
erika@erikademma.com
erikademma.com



WOODSIDE'S #1 REALTOR
PENINSULA'S #5 REALTOR
OVER \$2.5 BILLION SOLD

COMPASS

SUMMER SPLASH

PUT YOUR HOME IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS SUMMER WITH DELEON

DELEON REALTY'S ANNUAL SUMMER SPLASH

This July, seize a rare opportunity to stand out when inventory is low and buyer demand is high! Summer Splash is designed to put your home front and center at exactly the right moment.

Our Summer Splash listings are powered by Silicon Valley's most comprehensive marketing campaign, spanning TV, radio, Chinese media, social platforms, and direct mail, all strategically aligned to drive attention, create urgency, and deliver exceptional results.

SUMMER SPLASH SELLER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Premium placement in the Summer Splash section of *The DeLeon Insight* (~80,000 homes)
- A multi-page feature booklet inserted in *The Almanac* and *Palo Alto Weekly*
- Targeted digital and social media campaigns
- Advertising across local and Chinese-language newspapers
- Global marketing outreach to international buyers
- Summer-themed experiences at select open houses to boost engagement

Sign up to list your home by
May 31 to take part!

SIGN UP TODAY Call 650.900.7000
or email info@deleonrealty.com



Ken DeLeon (DRE #01342140)

DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity



YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS



DeLeonRealty_USA



27500 LA VIDA REAL | \$36,999,000 | 5 Bd | 12 Bth
LOS ALTOS HILLS | 27500LaVida.com



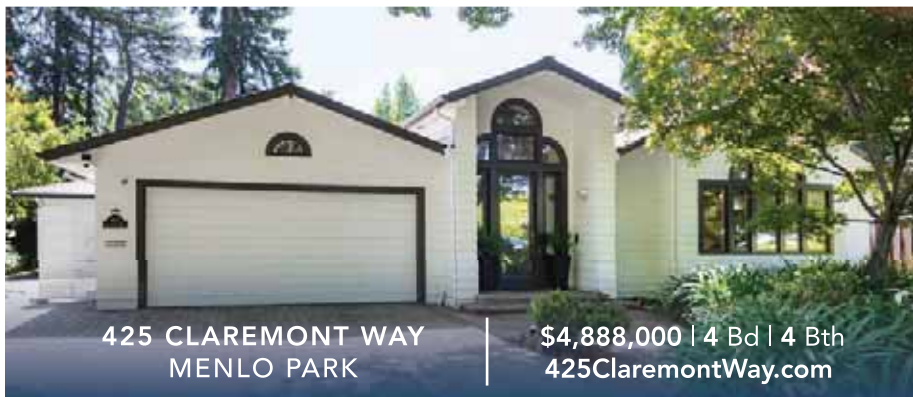
428 MAPLE STREET | \$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
PALO ALTO | 428Maple.com



34 ROBERTS WAY | \$5,488,000 | 4 Bd | 4 Bth
HILLSBOROUGH | 34Roberts.com



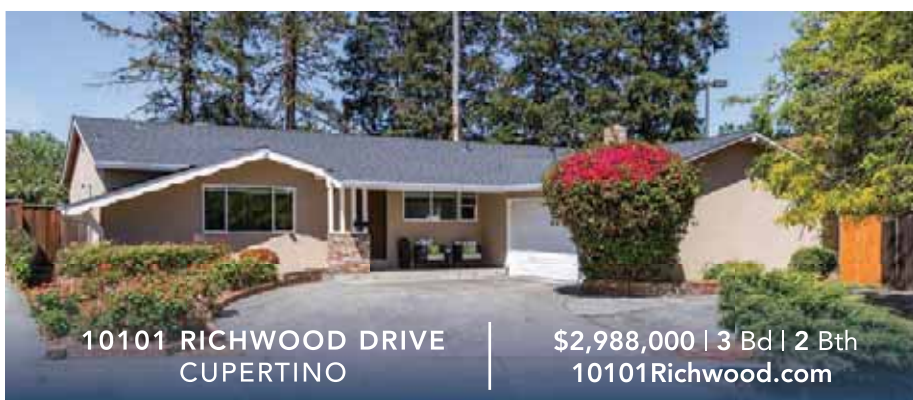
199 HARDWICK ROAD | \$6,988,000 | 4 Bd | 4.5 Bth
WOODSIDE | 199HardwickRd.com



425 CLAREMONT WAY | \$4,888,000 | 4 Bd | 4 Bth
MENLO PARK | 425ClaremontWay.com



85 BELBROOK WAY | \$13,988,000 | 5 Bd | 6.5 Bth
ATHERTON | 85Belbrook.com



10101 RICHWOOD DRIVE | \$2,988,000 | 3 Bd | 2 Bth
CUPERTINO | 10101Richwood.com



160 PHILLIP ROAD | \$11,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
WOODSIDE | 160Phillip.com

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

Call Us Today!
650.900.7000

Ken DeLeon, DRE #01342140 | Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 | Francis Lopez, DRE #02119541

DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity



Courtesy Maria Yap

Maria Yap (center) founded Peninsula Food Runners in 2013 with a mission to feed families across Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Peninsula Food Runners was among the 11 local nonprofits to receive a grant from The Almanac Holiday Fund this year.



Courtesy Ravenswood Family Health Network

Dr. Catherine Raney, a pediatrician at Ravenswood Family Health Network, treats a child.

Holiday funds grant over \$1 million

Almanac Holiday Fund beats last year's record grant total

By Embarcadero Media staff

With a record-breaking amount of money raised over the holiday season from readers, businesses and foundations this year, The Almanac has made grants of \$34,500 each to 11 local nonprofit organizations serving families and children.

\$1,086,500 was the combined giving totals to the holiday funds of The Almanac (\$379,500), the Palo Alto Weekly (\$640,500) and the Mountain View Voice (\$66,500).

The Almanac Holiday Fund began more than 25 years ago and each year selects nonprofits providing needed services to residents of Menlo Park, Redwood City, North Fair Oaks or East Palo Alto to share equally of the funds raised. This year, The Almanac and its readers supported the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, Ecumenical Hunger Program, Fair Oaks Community Center, Health Connected, Haven House, Literacy Partners Menlo Park, Peninsula Food Runners, Ravenswood Family Health

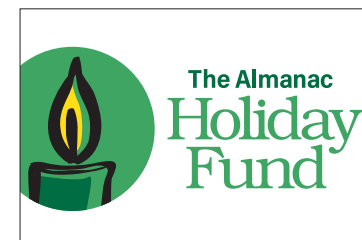
The Almanac has made grants of \$34,500 each to 11 local nonprofit organizations serving families and children.

Center, St. Francis Center of Redwood City, St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room and Upward Scholars.

"These organizations are leaders in consistently providing critical services to the community," said Embarcadero

Media Foundation president Adam Dawes. "Highlighting the work of nonprofits on the Midpeninsula is one of The Almanac's important missions and we are gratified for the outpouring of support our readers provide each holiday season for these local agencies," he said.

The nonprofit Embarcadero Media Foundation, which publishes The Almanac and Palo Alto Weekly, as well as the Redwood City Pulse and Mountain View Voice community news websites, covers all



the expenses of the campaign, so all the money raised goes to the recipient organizations. The Packard, Hewlett and Menlo Park Rotary foundations all provide support, as do several family foundations that prefer to give anonymously. ■

SUPERINTENDENT

continued from page 6

"The best county offices are not waiting for a fiscal crisis to happen, they're working alongside districts all along the way, so that we don't get to the spot of financial crisis," said Camacho.

An effective county superintendent is present in the community and has strong relationships with district superintendents, local organizations and families, he said. He added that he does not want the county office to become the last resort for schools in times of crisis, but rather a place that can provide ongoing support.

"You become an effective office by being in the community and understanding their needs from their perspective," Camacho added.

Bonini thinks that it's important for a county leader to always be listening and

conversing with district leaders about how they can support their schools' needs. She shared her experiences in advocating against the closure of a school for disadvantaged youth, highlighting the lack of support that is available for these students. She said she would support

other under-funded programs.

"Our reserves have grown, but we haven't found ways to use those reserves to serve students. These students need that," Bonini said. "There are many other types of programs that we aren't currently supporting that we could use some

of the reserves that we have to support those programs as well."

She acknowledged that funding is "inadequate" across the county, even in the best funded districts, and would like to prioritize helping schools allocate funds to better support other programs that need more support.

Improving literacy and academic performance

In San Mateo County, 42% of third graders are behind in English literacy, according to The Big Lift, a county Office of Education initiative aimed at improving student literacy skills. Candidates discussed what they would implement at the county level to support districts with literacy struggles. Camacho and Bonini both noted the need for professional development and encouraged schools to support each other.

Camacho said he thinks that the county office can help coordinate issues like early literacy by helping districts and schools partner with each other in sharing effective teaching strategies.

"I think it has to be a regional effort," he said.

Bonini spoke about offering literacy training and expanding these opportunities across districts. She explained a recent training in which superintendents, county board members and district trustees participated in a simulation that put them in the shoes of a student with a learning disability like dyslexia.

Bonini emphasized the need for continued awareness of literacy struggles and modeling teaching methods after effective strategies at other schools. ■



Michael Molcsan

Superintendent candidate Chelsea Bonini answers a question at the Corte Madera School in Portola Valley.

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



Seeger Gray

An aerial view shows buildings owned by Meta on Feb. 25. The vacant research park was to become the Willow Village development, but the project was put on hold on May 1.

WILLOW VILLAGE

continued from page 1

remains in effect until 2032. The project was set to include \$188 million in community amenities, including a grocery store, pharmacy and bank. It was also projected to bring about \$6 million in new tax revenue for the city. In a public comment on Monday evening, Belle Haven community member Pam Jones said she wanted to hear about Meta's intentions for the Willow Village property, which spans 59 acres in Belle Haven. "We still need housing, particularly senior housing and lower income housing. And as we all know, it is a well-documented food desert," Jones said of Belle Haven. "I'm looking forward to the conversations about how Meta will support the planned housing, the grocery store and neighborhood serving retail." Commissioners briefly highlighted concern about what the project's cancellation would mean for Menlo Park's Housing Element, a state-mandated plan

that articulates how Menlo Park will meet its share of regional housing needs by 2031. Commissioner Misha Silin said that Willow Village's housing units were a major component of the city's housing element pipeline. He added that, at the commission's March discussion of the 2025 progress report, "We said everything has to go perfectly in order for us to meet our goals. Now clearly that's not on track." "I encourage us as a community to come together and figure out what we can do as a city," Silin said. "And perhaps not rely so heavily on third parties that are acting in their own best interest." The Housing Element discussion was largely outside the scope of the commission's agenda for Monday's meeting, which focused on the annual review of Willow Village and three earlier Meta projects that required a development agreement. As part of the Willow Village development agreement, Meta would have had to complete 30 requirements that were tied to phases of the project and subject

to the commission's annual review. Twenty-four of the 30 terms of the Willow Village development agreement were listed as conditional or requiring no action, according to the staff report. Two requirements were listed as in progress or ongoing, and four were listed as completed. In a letter to Menlo Park City Manager Justin Murphy, Meta's Global Head of Real Estate Brian Zubradt wrote that the pause does not reflect the quality of the project or lessen the value of collaborative efforts. He wrote that Peninsula Innovation Partners, a Meta-controlled LLC, remains in full compliance with the existing Willow Village development agreement, and the company intends to continue certain community programs currently underway through the time period outlined in the agreement. "Meta's multi-million dollar investments in Menlo Park over recent years have supported vital initiatives such as the Belle Haven Community Campus, local job training, healthy food access for families, and teacher housing subsidies," Zubradt wrote. "Our dedication to Menlo Park and the community partnerships remains steadfast." According to Zubradt's letter, the community programs that Meta will continue are the local workforce training, career development workshops, job fairs, volunteer engagement, community organization fairs and career experience programs. The three other projects that commissioners reviewed were the East Campus project that was approved by the City Council in 2012; a West Campus project approved by council in 2013; and a campus expansion project approved in 2016. Most of the terms for these three projects were marked as completed for this year's annual review. ■

OBITUARIES

Local residents who died recently include:
Jose Mendoza Baez, 87, a longtime Redwood City resident and bakery owner whose flower and fruit tree-filled garden was honored by Redwood City with a plaque, who loved the outdoors, swimming, fishing and hunting quail, and who visited his beloved hometown of Aguililla, Mexico every spring, died May 6.
Paul D. Pinsky, 82, a Palo Alto resident who was born in Connecticut and, after earning his doctorate at Stanford University, co-founded National Evaluation Systems (NES). An outdoor enthusiast and photography lover, he

and a group of Stanford PhDs formed the Phuds softball team that played for 30 years. He died March 8.
Nicholas Hayes Ney, 73, whose career in private practice psychotherapy in Palo Alto and Redwood City was driven by his belief in people's capacity to become their best selves. He was part of Stanford's original addiction treatment program, and loved music, a good turn of phrase and dancing. He died April 21.
 To read full obituaries, leave remembrances and post photos, go to Lasting Memories at [AlmanacNews.com/obituaries](https://www.AlmanacNews.com/obituaries). ■

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, June 3, 2026, at 6:00 PM**, to consider:

ASRB2025-0028; GRAD2025-0004; XMAX2025-0011
170 Fox Hollow Road

Ken Linsteadt Architects Planner: Gillian Naegele, Associate Planner

Presentation and approval, conditional approval, or denial of a proposal, requiring Formal Design Review (ASRB2025-0028) to demolish an existing single-family dwelling, pool, and associated site improvements; and, to construct a new single-family main residence with an attached garage and attached studio Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), two detached ADUs, a detached trellis, a pool, and associated site improvements. The Planning Commission will also consider the request for approval of a Grading Exception for grading in excess of 1,500 cubic yards (GRAD2025-0004), and a Maximum Residence Size Exception (XMAX2025-0011).

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.

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.

TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADOPTION ORDINANCE SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026 AT 7:00 P.M.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 455

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY Amending the Town Zoning Code (Title 18 of the Portola Valley Municipal Code) to Add Regulations Related to Accessory Dwelling Units, Junior Accessory Dwelling Unites, Indemnification of Town, and Emergency Shelters by Adding Chapter 18.25 Standards for Accessory Dwelling Unites (ADU) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADU) and Chapter 18.82 Indemnification of Town; and by Amending Section 18.36.040 Accessory Uses and Determining the Project is Exempt Under the California Environmental Quality Act.

On May 13, 2026, the Town Council introduced an Ordinance which will amend the Town Zoning Code (Title 18 of the Portola Valley Municipal Code) to add Chapter 18.25 Standards for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) and Chapter 18.82 Indemnification of Town; and by amending Section 18.36.040 Accessory Uses.

The Council will consider the adoption of said Ordinance at its regularly scheduled meeting of May 27, 2026 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.

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, or at the meeting of Wednesday, May 27, 2026 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. 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: May 22, 2026

Veronica Dao
 Town Clerk
 Portola Valley

Sign up today for the **only food newsletter on the Peninsula at AlmanacNews.com/peninsula-foodist**

HOUSING PROJECT

continued from page 1

proposed by Christin New and David Mittleman has been denied over issues with building setbacks, slope stability and neighbors' concerns over wildfire risk and lack of emergency vehicle access.

New and Mittleman filed an appeal with the Town Council in November 2025 after the Planning Commission denied their setback exception, formal design review and maximum residence size exception. Now, the council is reviewing the proposal and will determine whether it can move forward despite Planning Commission opposition.

The council heard a dozen public comments on May 12, the majority from neighbors of the Still Creek property who oppose the project. The group wore yellow baseball caps as they voiced their concerns about the housing proposal during the meeting.

New inherited the 9.6-acre parcel from her father, who purchased the property in the 1970s. She and her husband's housing project would occupy two-tenths of an acre. The rest of the property is too steep to build on without excavation work and redwood tree removal, which the couple wants to avoid.

The design for 10 Still Creek Road includes a main residence and three additional dwelling units, which will house New and Mittleman's aging parents plus provide affordable housing to community members such as teachers, town staff and store clerks.

"Put simply, I want to build a house for my family on my property, and I want to build housing for those who could not otherwise afford to live in the area," said New during the meeting. "The additional housing that we can build is a way to keep valued members of the community here. People who cannot afford to purchase a property but nonetheless are rooted here."

The housing project offers two very-low-income housing units—more than any other pipeline project listed in Woodside's housing element, a blueprint for meeting state-mandated targets for new housing.

If the council decides to deny the project, the town will be "flirting with getting the (housing) element decertified," said Jeffrey Popell, a member of the local grassroots organizations Peninsula for Everyone and Yes in Redwood City.

Popell, a lifelong resident of Woodside, added that there is a strong "not in my backyard"



Seeger Gray

Story poles mark the outline of a multigenerational home Christin New and David Mittleman hope to build at 10 Still Creek Road in Woodside on May 19.

sentiment in town and as an advocate for affordable housing, he believes it's important to rebut NIMBY ideas.

The applicant's attorney claims that the recent Town Council hearing counts as the fifth hearing on the Still Creek Road housing project. Under the Housing Accountability Act, jurisdictions' decisions to approve or deny the project are limited to five hearings. Continued hearings count as one of the five hearings, according to the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

If the council is unable to make a decision by the fifth hearing, this could result in a lawsuit against the town costing about \$50,000 per unit in addition to legal fees, said Ryan Patterson, New and Mittleman's land use and real estate attorney.

"When you choose not to build housing for people who work in Woodside but cannot afford to live there, you put a burden directly on nearby communities like Redwood City, San Mateo and Menlo Park," said Jordan Grimes, founder of Peninsula for Everyone, at the meeting.

Neighbors' concerns

The neighbors of Still Creek Road brought in a forensic architect, former fire marshal and a Stanford University geophysicist to comment on the project.

Residents said they believe that the project could be downsized, that the site is too fragile to build on and that the project should be denied due to its potential risk to public safety.

Neighbors have also complained about the impact that

the house will have on their privacy as they drive past it on the way to their own homes. There are two houses beyond 10 Still Creek Road before it reaches a dead-end.

Addressing concerns that the project would increase fire risk in the area, Mayor Brian Dombkowski sought an explanation as to why it would be the "tipping point" for public safety.

'I want to build a house for my family ... and I want to build housing for those who could not otherwise afford to live in the area.'

CHRISTIN NEW

"The key is we've got to stop adding to the problem," said former Marin County Fire Marshal Keith Parker. He noted that the building's close proximity to the road and magnitude on a small footprint does not allow adequate defensible space.

"We are acutely aware of the fire danger in the area, which is why we developed a vegetation management plan independent of this project in 2024 and have gone above and beyond the requirements of today's fire safe building code," Mittleman said.

He and his wife are requesting a 30-foot setback exception, rather than the required 50 feet. Although this would bring their property closer to the road, it will prevent the removal of more trees, excavation of the slope, and the requirement to build a retaining wall.

The project's architect Jim Baranski explained to the council that the visual difference of a 50-foot and 30-foot setback are minor, but the "impact on the site is profound."

Charles Kissick, a geological engineer with Sigma Prime Geoscience, told the council that after many years of evaluating this project, "slope stability hazard is low," despite the neighbors' apprehensions.

Stanford geophysicist Simon Klemperer commented that "the proposed building footprint sits directly on active and dormant landslide deposits." He also added that an earthquake fault line runs through the project site and has previously caused buried pipelines to rupture.

Mittleman said that their project has been through multiple reviews and updates since they initially planned it in 2019. Their most recent revision in July 20205 was to comply with town code, town goals and state law, he said.

Conflict of interest claims 'unfounded'

New and Mittleman also filed a complaint against Planning Commissioner Alex Tauber, alleging he had violated the town's code of ethics and conduct and had financial conflict of interest in the outcome of the project.

According to the staff report, Tauber is a member of the Skywood Association Board and lives in close proximity to Still Creek Road. His neighbors are opposing the project.

An investigation by the town determined that all of New and Mittleman's allegations were unfounded.

The applicants alleged several reasons why Tauber should

have recused himself from the Planning Commission meeting reviewing the project, which he voted against. In the investigation into these complaints, the town attorney determined that Tauber was not obligated to remove himself in the consideration of the project.

New and Mittleman also alleged that Tauber had reason to recuse himself because the project would impact traffic along Skywood Way, a main street leading off of Highway 84 to both of their properties. This allegation was not supported by the investigation findings because the project would not substantially alter traffic levels for Tauber, who lives in a different subdivision and has no way to access the property from his road.

The complaint also alleges that Tauber's dual role as a Planning Commissioner and Skywood Association member "deprived the appellants of a fair and unbiased decision-maker," according to the report.

Tauber indicated that the board had not formally taken a position on the project and that he had not personally spoken to other members about the project before the Planning Commission's review.

"Woodside was incorporated in 1956 for one reason: to preserve our character. Central to that character is a culture of volunteerism, citizen-led government, and a basic code of trust, even when we disagree. 10 Still Creek has been inconsistent with our culture," said Tauber as he donned a yellow cap during the meeting.

The investigation report noted that Tauber was upset by the applicant's suggestion that he had acted unethically. He recalled a time in 2024 where Mittleman asked him to secure the votes needed to have a setback variance approved by the Planning Commission. Tauber allegedly declined and reported this to former Town Manager Kevin Bryant, who encouraged him to stop communicating with Mittleman about the project.

Town Council extends hearing

Due to the substantial amount of new information presented by experts and neighbors during the meeting, the Town Council unanimously agreed to extend the hearing on the housing project to May 26.

The decision was made to allow council members to thoroughly review all materials, some of which were only made available a few hours before the meeting. ■

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

ZONING RULES

continued from page 5

area designation along Santa Cruz Avenue. The proposal also includes allowing portions of some retail spaces to be converted to offices and modifications to the broader El Camino Real and Downtown Specific Plan, first adopted in 2012, which governs land use in Menlo Park's core commercial area.

The City Council is expected to make a decision at its June 23 meeting, and if approved, the change would take effect immediately.

Changes that affect Santa Cruz Avenue buildings

Under current rules, buildings on Santa Cruz Avenue face stricter limits on what kinds of businesses can operate compared with other downtown properties located off the main street. The proposal would allow tenants to seek permits for animal clinics, banks and business services on Santa Cruz Avenue. While prospective business owners would still need Planning Commission approval, those uses are currently prohibited.

The proposal would also relax rules that limit certain businesses on the first floor of Santa Cruz Avenue buildings. Salons, spas, barbers, fitness studios and non-surgical cosmetic services would be allowed to open on the first floor without a permit, instead of being banned from street-level spaces. The banks and salons currently operating on Santa Cruz Avenue predated the current restrictions.

Windy Hill argued that allowing gyms, wellness services and financial institutions downtown could increase foot traffic and help fill vacant storefronts. The firm said those businesses could also draw customers to nearby shops.

Allowing offices

The proposal would also allow parts of some ground-floor

retail spaces to be converted to offices. Offices would be limited to the back half of spaces and could not front on Santa Cruz Avenue. The conversion would require Planning Commission approval and pay fees to funds for public benefits.

Windy Hill says many existing spaces are too large for most retailers and too expensive for tenants. Even in occupied spaces, Spieker said, the rear portions of many downtown buildings are used for storage or clutter rather than as viable office space. Allowing the back half to be converted would create more flexible retail space in the front while increasing the number of office workers who patronize downtown businesses, he said.

Associate Planner Matt Pruter told the Planning Commission that, after discussions between Windy Hill and city staff, the office conversion should be very limited and apply only in select circumstances.

Windy Hill said Luminaire, the furniture store in its building, cannot afford to lease such a large space downtown. While the store wants to remain, it needs to reduce its footprint. At the same time, Windy Hill says it is concerned about vacancy issues affecting all of downtown.

"As invested tenants and property owners, we take pride in being part of the downtown community and are committed to maintaining and enhancing the vibrancy of Santa Cruz Avenue," Windy Hill wrote in its application. "However, we are increasingly concerned about the growing vacancy rates, empty storefronts and reduced sales that have affected our community in recent years."

Broader changes

As part of the proposal, Windy Hill is seeking to revise the city's definitions of restricted and general personal services. The goal is to allow newer



Courtesy city of Menlo Park

Menlo Park may allow more types of businesses along Santa Cruz Avenue, shown in purple.

aesthetic businesses, such as laser treatments, injections and IV infusions, to be grouped with uses like nail salons. Previously, those services were classified as restricted personal services, defined as uses that have a "blighting or deteriorating effect on the surrounding area," such as tattoo parlors and

check-cashing services.

These reclassifications would apply across the El Camino Real and Downtown Specific Plan, covering most of El Camino Real and downtown areas without a frontage on Santa Cruz Avenue.

The Planning Commission received 87 written public comments and 10 in-person

comments ahead of the meeting. City staff said the written comments were overwhelmingly supportive of the changes.

The City Council will now decide whether to approve the proposal. ■

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



GOOD
VIBES.
GREAT
PICKS.

THE HEAT IS ON!

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVES BY JUNE 7!

SCAN TO VOTE OR VISIT
[ALMANACNEWS.COM/
READERS_CHOICE](https://almanacnews.com/readers_choice)





Employment

Genesys Cloud Services, Inc. seeks Lead Software Engineer – Media Services Group in Menlo Park, CA to develop & deploy highly available, fault-tolerant software that will help drive improvements towards the features, reliability, performance, & efficiency of the Genesys Cloud platform. Telecommuting allowed for this position. Salary range: \$158,000 - \$168,000. Send resume to: Miriam.Graeff@genesys.com. Include job code JR110861 in reply. EOE.

Embarcadero Media Foundation is an independent multimedia news organization looking for talented and creative people to produce outstanding journalism and results for our advertisers through print and online. Learn more at tinyurl.com/EMF-careers.

The Almanac offers employment advertising. If you wish to learn more about the employment advertising options, please visit almanacnews.com/employment_ads/.

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS – LCAP and Budget

The Portola Valley School District will hold two separate public hearings on the following items:
 1.The proposed Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), including the Budget Overview for Parents cover page
 2.The proposed Budget for fiscal year 2026-27
 Date and Time: June 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm
 Location: District Office, 4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028
 Website/Zoom link: www.pvpsd.net
 Copies of the LCAP and Budget will be available for public review at the District office, 4575 Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 from June 1–June 4, 2026, between 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. To request a printed or electronic copy, please contact Connie Ngo at cngo@pvpsd.net or phone 650 529-2560. Members of the public and stakeholders may request to provide comment on the LCAP, the proposed budget, or any item therein by following the public comment instructions available on the District website.
 5/22/26
 CNS-4032565#
 THE ALMANAC
 (ALM May 22, 2026)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS – LCAP and Budget

The Menlo Park City School District will hold two separate public hearings on the following items:
 1.The proposed Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), including the Budget Overview for Parents cover page
 2.The proposed Budget for fiscal year 2026-27
 Date and Time: June 4, 2026, at 6:00 pm
 Location: 181 Encinal Avenue, Atherton, CA 94027
 Website/Zoom link: https://mpcsd.zoom.us/j/99497025718.
 Copies of the LCAP and Budget will be available for public review at the District office, 181 Encinal Avenue, Atherton, CA 94027 from June 1 -4, 2026, between 8:00 am–4:00 pm and will also be posted on the District website at https://district.mpcsd.org. To request a printed or electronic copy, please contact Jammie Behrendt at jbehrendt@mpcsd.org or phone 650 321-7140. Members of the public and stakeholders may request to provide comment on the LCAP, the proposed budget, or any item therein by following the public comment instructions available on the District website.
 5/22/26
 CNS-4038255#
 THE ALMANAC
 (ALM May 22, 2026)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS – LCAP and Budget

The Las Lomas Elementary School District will hold two separate public hearings on the following items:
 1. The proposed Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), including the Budget Overview for Parents cover page
 2. The proposed Budget for fiscal year 2026-27
 Date and Time: June 4, 2026
 Location: La Entrada Middle School MUR, 2200 Sharon Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025
 Website/Zoom link: https://www.llesd.org/
 Copies of the LCAP and Budget will be available for public review at the District office 1011 Altschul Avenue, Menlo Park 94025 from June 1 through June 4, 2026, between 9:00 am – 4:00 pm and will also be posted on the District website at https://www.llesd.org/. To request a printed or electronic copy, please contact Mei Chan at mchan@llesd.org or phone 650 854-6311. Members of the public and stakeholders may request to provide comment on the LCAP, the proposed budget, or any item therein by following the public comment instructions available on the District website.
 5/22/26
 CNS-4031717#
 THE ALMANAC
 (ALM May 22, 2026)

SOLIVANA WELLNESS
 SOLIVANA WELLNESS LAB
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 FILE NO.: M-303750
 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
 1.) SOLIVANA WELLNESS, 2.) SOLIVANA WELLNESS LAB, located at 1922 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA 94063. Mailing

Address:
 1401 21 Street, Suite R Sacramento, CA 95811.
 Registered owner(s):
 INNER LIGHT WELLNESS LLC
 1401 21 Street, Suite R Sacramento, CA 95811
 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
 This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 04, 2026.
 (ALM May 15, 22, 29 and Jun 5, 2026)

SIENNAHAZEL
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 FILE NO.: M-303853
 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
 1.) SIENNAHAZEL, located at 2032 Brittan Ave, San Carlos, CA, 94070.
 Registered owner(s):
 ANDREA AINING KOH
 2032 Brittan Ave
 San Carlos, CA 94070
 This business is conducted by: an Individual.
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 13, 2026.
 (ALM May 22, 29, Jun 5 and 12, 2026)

ROCKAWAY BEACH DENTAL GROUP
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 FILE NO.: M-303746
 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
 1.) ROCKAWAY BEACH DENTAL GROUP, located at 205 Rockaway Beach Avenue #8, Pacifica, CA 94044. Mailing Address: 2383 California Street, Suite 5 San Francisco, CA 94115
 Registered owner(s):
 BAY AREA DENTAL INC.
 2383 California Street, Suite 5
 San Francisco, CA 94115
 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
 This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
 Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/17/2025.
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on May 04, 2026.
 (ALM May 22, 29, Jun 5 and 12, 2026)

SEA DESIGN & BUILD
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 FILE NO.: M-303658
 The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
 1.) SEA DESIGN & BUILD, located at 763 Polhemus Road, Suite 1, San Mateo, CA 94402.
 Registered owner(s):
 SEA CONSTRUCTION, INC
 763 Polhemus Road, Suite 1
 San Mateo, CA 94402
 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
 This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
 Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/01/2026.
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of San Mateo County on April 23, 2026.
 (ALM May 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO COUNTY
 Case No.: 26CIV02974
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
 Petitioner: Ana Daisy Ramirez Estrada filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 ANA DAISY RAMIREZ ESTRADA to ANA DAISY CALDERON
 ANA DAISY RAMIREZ to ANA DAISY CALDERON
 ANA DEISI RAMIREZ ESTRADA to ANA DAISY CALDERON
 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: June 22,2026, 9:00am, Civil Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo County 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: April 23, 2026
 Stephanie Garratt
 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
 (ALM May 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2026)

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
 Case No. STK-CV-UPI-2025-0007326
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

Stockton Courthouse
 180 East Weber Avenue
 Stockton, CA 95201
 Plaintiff: KENDRICK THOMPSON, an Individual

Defendants: FENG GAO, an individual; WEN TIAN, an Individual; DOES 1 to 20
 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: FENG GAO YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: KENDRICK THOMPSON, an Individual.
 You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after the first publication of this summons to file a written response with the court and serve a copy on plaintiff's attorney. If you do not respond, the court may enter judgment against you.
 Plaintiff's attorney:

Ryan Naim, Esq.
 Gould & Jefferson LLP
 8484 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 605
 Beverly Hills, CA 90211
 (310) 899-9529
 (ALM May 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2026)

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
 Case No. STK-CV-UPI-2025-0007326
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

Stockton Courthouse
 180 East Weber Avenue
 Stockton, CA 95201
 Plaintiff: KENDRICK THOMPSON, an Individual

Defendants: FENG GAO, an individual; WEN TIAN, an Individual; DOES 1 to 20
 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: WEN TIAN YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: KENDRICK THOMPSON, an Individual.
 You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after the first publication of this summons to file a written response with the court and serve a copy on plaintiff's attorney. If you do not respond, the court may enter judgment against you.
 Plaintiff's attorney:

Ryan Naim, Esq.
 Gould & Jefferson LLP
 8484 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 605
 Beverly Hills, CA 90211
 (310) 899-9529
 (ALM May 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2026)

The Almanac is adjudicated to publish in San Mateo County.

- Fictitious Business Name
 - Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name
 - Name Change
 - Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution
 - Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
 - Notice of Bulk Sale
 - Legal Summons
 - Trustee Sale
- The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.**
 Visit [AlmanacNews.com/legal_notices/](https://www.almanacnews.com/legal_notices/)
 For assistance email LegalNotices@AlmanacNews.com.

MELAHN

continued from page 5

Melahn is advocating for more events downtown and connecting businesses owners through an association. If elected, she said she wants to continue that work from the council dais.

“If you look at San Francisco or Los Altos or Palo Alto, a lot of community events are typically a collaboration between the city and the community,” she said.

Melahn added that she also wants to see change to the types of businesses allowed downtown. Currently, some businesses like gyms face restrictions on where they can operate.

“I think that Menlo Park should update permitted uses for our downtown to meet the modern world and the way people shop and live in communities. I think it will really help drive (downtown) vibrancy and reduce vacancies,” Melahn said. “I spent a lot of time talking to business owners downtown, talking to people who want to open businesses downtown but aren’t able to because of our permitted uses.”

One of the most controversial issues facing downtown businesses is a city plan to build affordable housing and parking garages on several city-owned downtown parking lots. Residents will vote in November on a ballot initiative to require the city to get voter approval for future parking lot developments.

While Melahn declined to take a stance on the initiative or the plan to develop downtown parking lots, she said it is distracting the City Council from important work and dividing residents.

“I think that it’s really eating up a lot of the city’s attention and polarizing the community in a way that is not healthy. That being said, I think that we do need to build more housing in Menlo Park Park, and we do need to figure it out,” Melahn said.

She also said that she has worked on improving the city’s jobs-housing balance by advocating for more housing at the SRI International research

campus. The redevelopment project, approved in September 2025, includes some expansion of office and research space and 646 units of housing, with the option to add more units.

“It’s an extraordinarily important topic for the entire state. We need to meet our housing goals, there’s a housing crisis that we need to be contributors to a solution, and we need to continue focusing on other things as well,” Melahn said, adding that she would be supportive of housing development at the Veteran Affairs center in Menlo Park.

As a resident, Melahn said she has long advocated for the Menlo Park Safe Streets program and wants to continue that work if elected. She would also want to explore using Assembly Bill 43 to lower speed limits on some streets.

With Menlo Park facing a structural deficit, Melahn said she would evaluate options and look at potential impacts.

“With any conversation, particularly around the budget, there are thousands of decisions you can make but some are going to move the needle in a small way and some are going to shift things more dramatically,” Melahn said.

She said she thinks the city needs to look at both cutting spending and raising revenue and was supportive of the city’s effort to raise fees earlier this year.

The District 4 seat is one of three that will be on the November 2026 ballot. Incumbent Drew Combs, who represents District 2, which includes the Willows and Suburban Park, is seeking reelection and has one challenger so far.

District 1 incumbent Cecilia Taylor, who represents Belle Haven, has not responded to repeated inquiries asking whether she is seeking reelection.

Melahn’s campaign website is lauramelahn.com. Singer Charlotte Reed is also running for the District 4 seat; find her campaign website at charlotteformenlopark.com. ■

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

LEHUA GREENMAN



“All gave some; some gave all. Remember them this Memorial Day.”

650.245.1845 COMPASS



Fresh news delivered daily

Sign up today at
[AlmanacNews.com/express](https://www.almanacnews.com/express)

Poison in the secret sauce

Student investigative journalist Theo Baker's new book reveals a dark side of Stanford's relationship with Silicon Valley

By Heather Zimmerman

Before Theo Baker graduates from Stanford University next month, he will have already published his first book.

"How to Rule the World: An Education in Power at Stanford University," which was released on May 19, is based on Baker's investigative reporting for student newspaper The Stanford Daily during his freshman year uncovering alleged misconduct in research that led to Stanford president Marc Tessier-Lavigne stepping down. For that work, Baker also became the first student to win the prestigious George Polk Award for journalism. He has published work in The Atlantic, New York magazine and The New York Times, including a recent essay on student use of AI.

That's a lot of rare early-career milestones, but as Baker's book describes, Stanford is a place where extraordinary things happen, for good and for ill.

So much about a "typical" college experience gets upended just in the book's first chapter, capturing Baker's first days on campus as a freshman in 2022.

Baker introduces us to a subset of insider students with unfettered access to money and power, backed by adult "hangers-on" looking to snap up the most talented, most ambitious and youngest students who may become the next Sam Altman, or Sergey Brin and Larry Page.

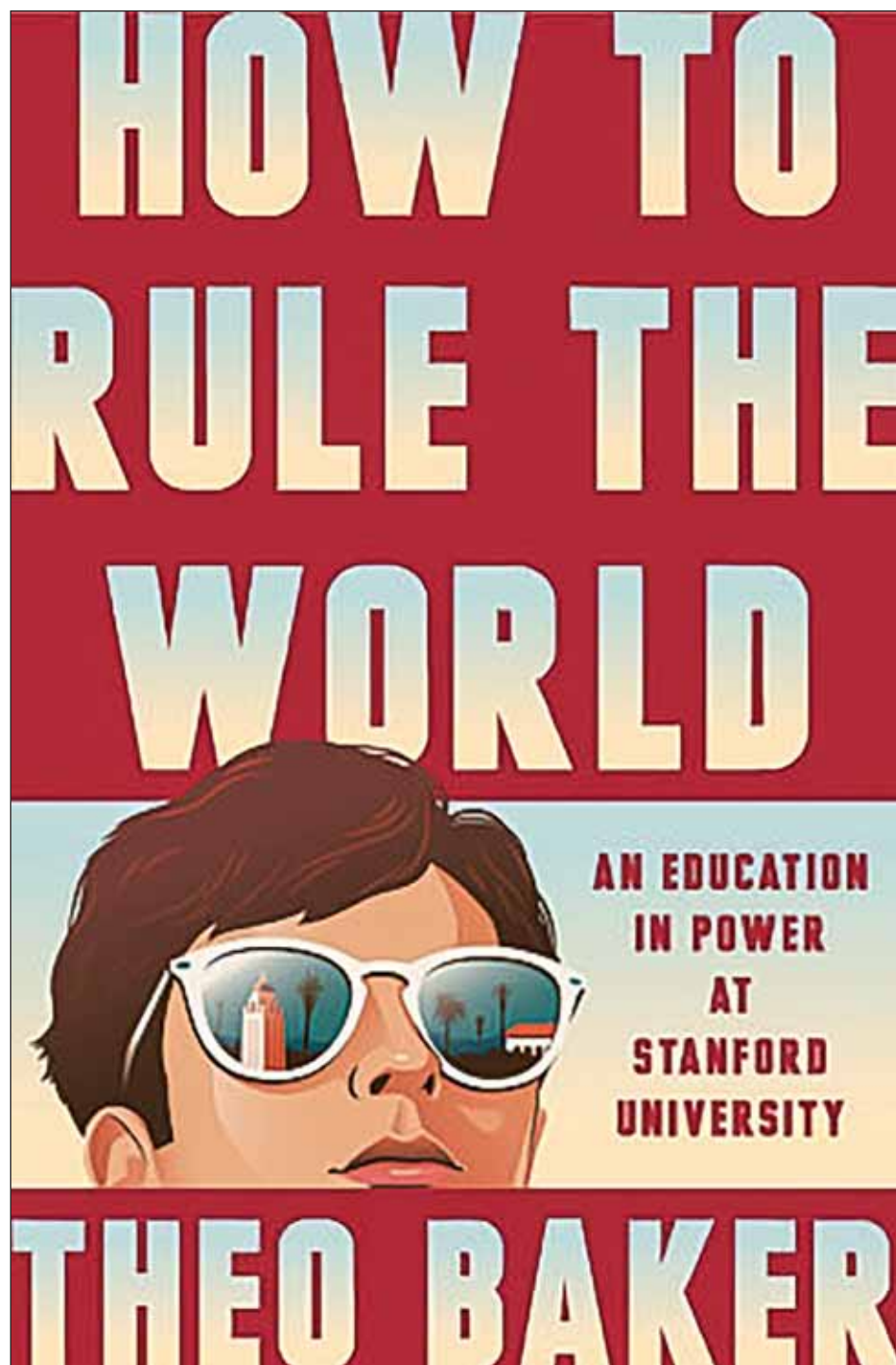
But Baker wasn't investigating these insiders; he was invited to join them. As the child of veteran journalists Susan Glasser and Peter Baker, initially he wasn't tempted to take up his parents' work — he writes that he joined The Stanford Daily "as a hobby" — and instead aimed to carve his own path by studying computer science.

It was that track that led him into the "Stanford Inside Stanford," where venture capitalists wine and dine Stanford's newest arrivals who show promise in tech skills — and lots of ambition. Throughout his freshman year, Baker took part in Tree Hacks, a hackathon and entrepreneurial group with serious insider clout and money.

The free-flowing booze and party atmosphere in such groups was otherwise deemed forbidden at the time by stringent campus rules that came to be known as Stanford's "War on Fun."

The repercussions of the War on Fun became Baker's first story for The Stanford Daily.

As his articles got noticed, Baker began to receive tips, including a suggestion to look closely at some images in research papers



Courtesy Penguin Press

The cover art for "How to Rule the World," by Theo Baker. In addition to capturing Baker's investigation that led to the resignation of the university president, the book examines how Silicon Valley has come to shape parts of Stanford's culture.

on which then-Stanford president Tessier-Lavigne was listed as an author, including some, it would turn out, tied to what had once been touted as groundbreaking Alzheimer's research with the biotech firm Genentech. It was a line of inquiry that eventually led to Tessier-Lavigne's resignation.

Throughout "How to Rule the World,"

Baker identifies how a longtime symbiotic relationship between the university and Silicon Valley has mutated into a secretive, competitive environment driven by profit — one where it becomes increasingly obvious how high-profile fraud scandals involving Stanford alums like Elizabeth Holmes or those in Stanford's orbit, such as Sam Bankman-Fried, were inevitable.

Baker will discuss "How to Rule the World" at Kepler's Books on May 29. We spoke with him ahead of the book's publication.

It was announced at the time of Baker's book deal in 2023 that Warner Bros. bought the film rights to "How to Rule the World." Baker said he wasn't sure about any progress on a film adaptation, and casting-wise, he demurred on who might play a 17-year-old version of himself. But he did say, perhaps a bit tongue-in-cheek, that he pictures Ralph Fiennes as a good fit to play Tessier-Lavigne.

This conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

The Almanac: You've been working on "How to Rule the World" for most of your time at Stanford. What was it like to revisit your reporting, to look back on it without the high-stress situations in which you originally had to work?

Baker: I think every reporter is grateful to have time to go more deeply into stories and to report out the things that you're just starting to learn about.

Certainly, I had a great time reporting this book. I did over 250 interviews over the course of reporting the book, with lots of people at every stage, from freshmen up to the accomplished billionaire CEOs. I think I had a sense of by the end of freshman year of how this place worked, and certainly over the course of reporting I think I learned a lot more, so I really enjoyed that process.

I'm also grateful, by the way, that three Stanford presidents and three Stanford provosts agreed to be interviewed for this book and provided their perspective, which was certainly interesting for me to try to get a better understanding of how all of this came to be.

The Almanac: What did you learn about yourself in writing the book?

Baker: A lot. The book gets very personal at times, and it's not always comfortable, obviously, to have a 17- and 18-year-old version of yourself frozen on the page for all time, but I think it was really a special thing to be able to dedicate the amount of time that I did to this book, that I was able to really sort of dig in, and to try to ask big questions and figure things out, and realize, in fact, that I wasn't just working on a single story about a single phenomenon — that what I was writing about was this whole place and this system, and that all of it ends up coming back and influencing every other aspect. That part was really, really cool for me to be able to see how all

See **RULE THE WORLD**, page 21

Western Ballet celebrates half a century with 'Don Quixote' ballet

Ballet company and school marks 50th anniversary with performance of famously demanding work

By Angela Swartz

Rich blues, greens and yellows, and layers adorn some of the intricate costumes designed for a Herculean production of "Don Quixote," a performance that will commemorate the 50th anniversary of Western Ballet at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts.

Founded in Palo Alto in 1976 and now based in Mountain View, the ballet company and school will stage a three-act, 2-hour-long show on May 22 and 23. The ballet, an adaptation of Miguel de Cervantes' novel about a man who reads so many chivalric romances that he decides to become a knight, is known to be technically demanding and logistically complex.

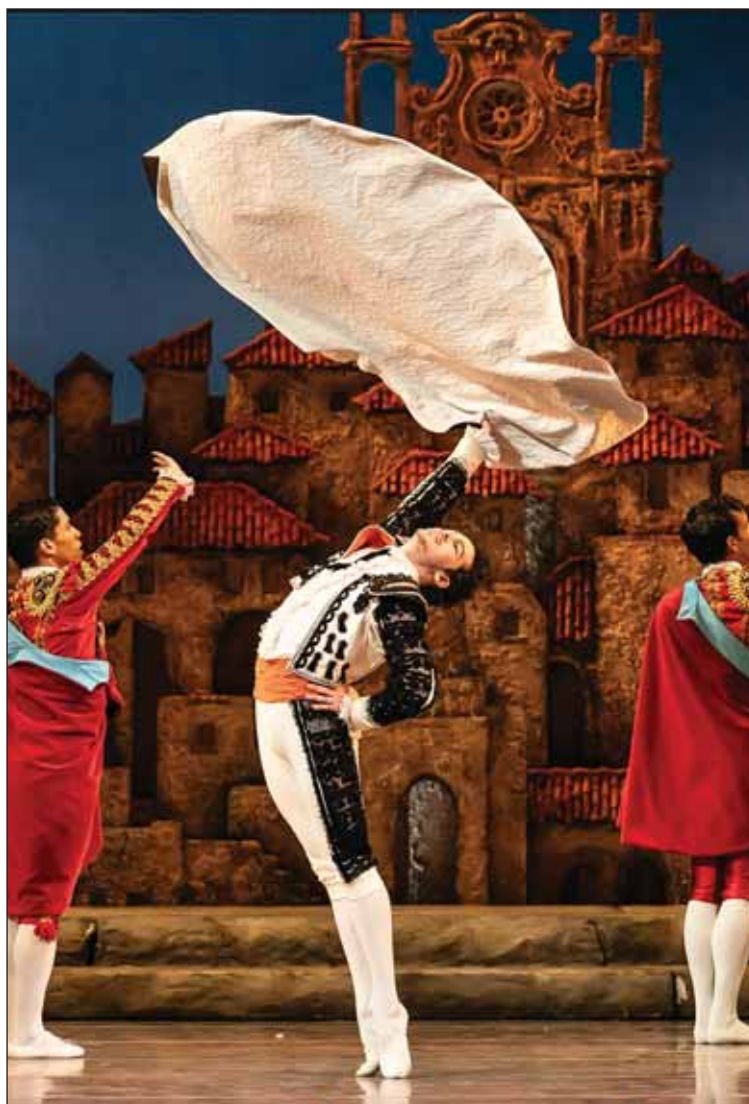
Western Ballet's production is based on a 19th-century ballet by classical dance master Marius Petipa, which was streamlined by another choreographer, Alexander Gorsky, in the early 20th century.

Alexi Zubiria, who has been artistic director at Western Ballet since 2007, said the production, which features 30 dancers, has been planned for many years. Zubiria previously danced "Don Quixote," which he describes as "vibrant" and "very funny."

"We like the comedic ballets a lot," he said. "There are some ballets we try to avoid that are a little bit more for an adult audience, like 'Romeo and Juliet.'"

Zubiria aims for shows that are audience-friendly so children can attend.

Eileen Zubiria, an instructor at Western Ballet and president of the school's board of directors, said this particular ballet brings out the best in their dancers. Nikisha Fogo, the principal dancer for the San Francisco Ballet, will play Kitri. Alejandro Olivera, Cincinnati Ballet's principal



Courtesy Western Ballet

To mark its 50th anniversary, Western Ballet is staging "Don Quixote," known as a technically demanding ballet.

dancer, will play Basilio, Kitri's love interest.

Alexi said the school, located at 914 N. Rengstorff Ave., has grown over the last half century. About 200 to 250 families attend per year. About 600 students would attend drop-in classes annually when he joined, but now it's about 4,000.

"It's a big community; that is the reason why we will not even think about moving away from this area," he said. "Our reputation is based on the community

that follows us, and attends our classes and shows."

Alexi said that interestingly, the tech industry has become a good source for male dancers in his productions. He recruits them when they drop into the school's classes.

"Guys are not afraid to come anymore when they become an adult, whereas when they're a teenager or tween, they don't want to be around the girls," he said.

Alexi said that to train adults



Courtesy Jennifer Wirtz

Western Ballet dancers rehearse "Don Quixote" in the studio.

to dance ballet for the first time, he has them face the bar holding both hands. Instructors provide technical input and teach proper ballet alignment, broken down into six body parts: the head, shoulders, arms, hands, torso, and legs/feet.

Maggie Zhang, a graduating high school senior, has been attending Western Ballet since she was about 3 or 4 years old and is one of the 30 dancers in "Don Quixote." She said this ballet showcases so many styles, from Act I's Spanish flair to Act II's more classical, dreamy atmosphere, along with pantomime scenes (stories told by expressive bodily or facial movements of the performers) woven throughout.

"I've learned so much dancing (in) various parts, and it's been wonderful to see everything come together after months of effort," she said in an email. "Come to see each magical character brought to life and be immersed in an amazing experience!"

Aside from the dance training, costumes, sets and backdrops also came together. Choreographer and designer Yanis E. Piki-eris created costumes for the production.

Peter Crompton created new sets and backdrops for the ballet. Alexi met with Crompton in September to draw the designs for the sets. Construction began in January and each backdrop took about a month to paint.

History of the school and dance company

Dancer, choreographer and instructor Richard Gibson started Western Ballet to make the art of classical ballet performances and education accessible to more people, according to the nonprofit's website.

Following Gibson, Alessandra Di Pierro directed the school for the next 20 years. Mark

Foehringer then served as artistic director from 1999 to 2006.

When Alexi Zubiria took over, he introduced the Nina Novak Ballet Scholarships and financial aid programs. He and Eileen noted that they don't turn away students who can't afford classes. Alexi began his ballet career in 1977 with the International Ballet of Caracas and became the group's principal dancer in 1980. Under Alexi, Western Ballet has produced "Snow White," "Red Riding Hood," "Puss in Boots" and "Beauty and the Beast." He aims to marry the classical repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries with contemporary choreography.

Eileen said that the school is helping create an appreciation of the arts.

Alexi noted that when students begin classes at Western Ballet, they immediately want to go see a professional ballet performance and will go to the San Francisco Ballet.

"We're helping the arts," Alexi said. "We're preserving classical ballet, which some people think is going away. We're doing our part here to preserve (it)."

Of the school's latest production, which has a strong comic undercurrent, Alexi said that attendees can expect to "be laughing from beginning to end." ■

Angela Swartz is a Contributing Writer.

stanford
JAZZ
FESTIVAL

BRANFORD MARSALIS
QUARTET
JUNE 26
DINKELSPIEL AUDITORIUM

tickets

Western Ballet stages "Don Quixote," Friday, May 22, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, May 23, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. \$63.50 for adults, \$52 for seniors (62 and over), students (21 and under) and children (12 and under). tinyurl.com/mvballetsdonquixote.

RULE THE WORLD

continued from page 19

these pieces fit together to create the sort of broader ecosystem.

The Almanac: You were able to keep one foot in the “Stanford Inside Stanford” world for a while, even as your reporting was really starting to rock the boat. How did you navigate interactions, like with your fellow saplings (first-year students) at Tree Hacks, for example?

Baker: I still have a deep well of affection for Tree Hacks, while I think also recognizing that there are issues with this construction, and I think that’s actually an attitude shared by a lot of people who are in the system. It’s just that usually you’re not writing about it.

I would say that what I hope this book does is provide a portrait of a very particular and peculiar moment in time at an institution that has come to wield so much influence.

I still love technology. I just started using the line that “tech is awesome, fraud is bad.” Of course, I think it’s really important to recognize the sort of second-order effects, and the reason that the sort of irresponsible construction of the system so frequently manifests itself in fraud, in deceitful practices, in ways that end up harming everyone involved, both those who are in Silicon Valley and people thousands of miles away with no idea that kids at Stanford are the ones who have an influence over how their technology is constructed.

The Almanac: You grew up as the son of two journalists. How did that experience shape your own reporting?

Baker: You obviously read about this in the book that I wanted to do something completely different, but I think I realized very quickly that journalism is almost more than anything else a temperament, right? When you see a thread, you want to pull on it and figure out what’s at the end you’re not going to sit around and wait for someone else to answer the question for you; you’re going to get off your ass and dig for it.

I just found the ability to report and write stories that I found interesting, and that I thought had value in my community, sort of irresistible. I realized it’s just an extraordinary thing to be able to do for your community, especially at a place like Stanford, where there are so many stories just waiting to be reported that need someone to go out and find and bring to the public.

The Almanac: What are your plans post-graduation?

Baker: Honestly, I haven’t gotten that far yet. It’s been such a mad dash to try to get the book out and still graduate in four years, and to do everything else



Courtesy Elena Seibert

Theo Baker was a freshman at Stanford University when his investigative reporting for student newspaper The Stanford Daily led university president Marc Tessier-Levine to step down. For his work, Baker became the first student to win the prestigious George Polk Award for journalism.

that I gotta get to graduation first, and then I’ll figure it out.

The Almanac: Journalism is often under attack in the U.S. and abroad, and you knew before you started with The Daily that it can be a very grueling job. What’s your advice to young people who are interested in becoming journalists?

Baker: I would say just try it, no matter who you are. If you’re going to college, being on a student paper is a really fun experience, for the most part. It can also be an important experience, but most importantly, it exposes you to different perspectives, it forces you to see and interact with things you might not otherwise see.

I think that everyone can benefit from a little bit of time understanding how journalism works, especially as journalism, as you say, has come under such furious assaults in recent years. So much of that is driven by the fact that people don’t know how journalists work or who they are.

Everyone would benefit from touching journalism a little bit more. There’s a reason that people fall in love with it. ■

Read more of this interview with Theo Baker at almanacnews.com/arts-culture.

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

Theo Baker discusses “How to Rule the World: An Education in Power at Stanford University” with Angie Coiro May 29, 6 p.m., at Kepler’s Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Tickets are \$48.24 general admission with book; \$21.99 general admission without book; \$11.49 student/low-income without book. keplers.org/upcoming-events-internal/theo-baker.

M

DON'T MISS SUMMER FUN AT THE MARSH MANOR PATIO!

LINE DANCING ON THE PATIO!

FREE LESSONS WITH “LINE DANCING LISA!” WITH MUSIC BY DJ SHIVERS

5 TUESDAYS, 6-8PM
5/26, 6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23



SUMMER MUSIC ON THE PATIO!

THURSDAY NIGHT SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

THURSDAYS, 6-8PM
JUNE THROUGH AUGUST



BREWERY HAPPENINGS ON THE PATIO!

FREEWHEEL BREWING CO.
TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS,
LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS,
OPEN MIC NIGHTS



FOOD OPTIONS ON THE PATIO!

ANY DAY!

FEAST & FLORAL
FREEWHEEL BREWING
LAVENDER 'N CREAM
LOS GALLOS TAQUERIA
STATE OF MIND PUBLIC HOUSE



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND CHECK EVENT CALENDAR ON THE MARSH MANOR SHOPPING CENTER WEBSITE!



3700 FLORENCE ST AT MARSH RD, REDWOOD CITY

Food & Drink



Garden *growing*

Meet the Peninsula's new 'vegetable garden coach'

By Karla Kane | Photos by Seeger Gray

Do you dream of a flourishing kitchen garden but can't quite seem to find your green thumb? Maybe you just need a little coaching.

The mission of San Mateo-based Backyard Nourish is right in the name — to help people grow food in their backyards or whatever space they may have.

Though many may like the idea of having an edible garden of their own, "people are intimidated by it. I want to simplify that," Backyard Nourish founder and "vegetable garden coach" Ritu Shrestha said.

While some urban and suburban homes may not have space for massive gardens — and most Peninsula folks aren't looking to become subsistence

homesteaders — Shrestha said there are benefits to growing food at home, even in small amounts. Not only does it encourage the eating of more fruits and vegetables — spending time outdoors and caring for a garden can also be a great boost to mental health.

"(The garden) nurtures you. It nurtures your body with the produce it provides and it nurtures your mind," Shrestha said.

Her services are highly personalized and depend on each individual's space and goals, she said. She provides education and coaching around best gardening practices, designs kitchen gardens and even offers hands-on management from season to season.

When helping plan a kitchen garden, Shrestha keeps practicality

and personal tastes in mind.

"I ask them what they buy at the grocery store every week. I only want to grow things they'll really eat," she said. For her own family, cherry tomatoes are a must. "I love snacking them right off the vine," she said.

The Peninsula's mild climate allows for year-round edible gardening, and there's something to suit every situation.

"The more I talk to the community, the more I realize (some) people think gardening is just for the summer," Shrestha said.

While classic favorites such as tomatoes, cucumber and basil do love summer's sunny warmth, "in general we have more cool weather than we have hot weather," she noted,



Ritu Shrestha, founder of Backyard Nourish, helps client Lisa Benatar tend her garden in Palo Alto.

allowing for cooler-season crops such as salad greens, cruciferous crops such as broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower, and much more. The region is also home to microclimates, and each garden space has specific soil and sunlight conditions, so a customized approach is key.

She prefers to foster diversity in the garden, planting borders with flowers and herbs among the vegetable beds and attracting pollinators and beneficial insects while avoiding the use of pesticides.

It's especially gratifying, she said, to take part in the full cycle of composting kitchen scraps and using that compost to grow

plants anew.

She sometimes hears from folks who would like to have a kitchen garden but don't think they have the time or space, especially if they live in a condominium or apartment.

"I have my little mini herb garden, and I show them all you need is a window sill if that's where you're at in the season of life," she said, recommending containers with herbs such as oregano, thyme, rosemary or cilantro.

"If you have a patio, put two planters with stakes and grow cherry tomatoes; you do not need a lot of space. Use vertical

Continued on next page

From software to sourdough: Menlo Park resident starts home-based microbakery Kirana Bakehouse

Vanya Weng specializes in made-to-order sourdough loaves in a variety of flavors

By Adrienne Mitchel

At a home in The Willows neighborhood of Menlo Park lives a sourdough starter named Albus. Created during a baking workshop at Le

Cordon Bleu Paris, Albus now plays an essential role in Vanya Weng's home bakery.

Since March, Weng has been baking fresh sourdough loaves in all sorts of flavors and selling them to Palo Alto, Menlo Park

and Atherton residents through her small business Kirana Bakehouse. Named after neighborhood grocery stores in India, Kirana Bakehouse specializes in made-to-order sourdough loaves with unique inclusions that change seasonally.

"When you order with me, you know that it's being made for you specifically," Weng said. "On demand, it's being made."

Orders can be placed on the Kirana Bakehouse website and will arrive at your doorstep two to three days later because each loaf goes through cold bulk fermentation for 24 to 30 hours.

"It's very slow, but that's what builds the flavor," Weng said. "That's also what helps keep it fresh for longer."

For those who enjoy savory bakes, Weng makes a loaf packed with everything seasoning, another tinted green with basil pesto and even one with sharp cheddar and pickled jalapeños. Sweet variations include a pink-hued sourdough made from freeze-dried strawberries and white chocolate chips and even one with milk chocolate dispersed throughout. For AAPI Heritage Month, Weng offered variations with scallions and chili oil, black and white sesame seeds, and matcha mango.

Loaves are priced at \$12-\$16, and Menlo Park and Palo Alto college students get 25% off every

loaf. If you have any specifications, such as a crispier crust, Weng is more than happy to customize. She recommends eating the bread within a week, or slicing it and freezing it for two to three months.

"(Bread-making) feels very calming and makes me pause," Weng said. "A lot of bread baking is just waiting, and especially when there's so much quick dopamine hits these days, I think I really want to be intentional about how I'm spending that time and taking things slow."

While flavor pairings are up to personal preference, Weng suggests trying the house white sourdough with avocado toast, eggs or tinned fish. The cheddar and cheddar and jalapeno varieties go well with butter, and the pesto loaf is nice with soft cheese, honey or sun-dried tomatoes, she said. For a not-to-sweet dessert, try the strawberry and white chocolate with creme fraiche and fresh fruit.

The idea for Kirana Bakehouse began when Weng went on a one-month sabbatical in France. A software engineer for a decade, she felt burnt out and decided to immerse herself in arts and baking, attending an oil painting workshop in Florence and a baking workshop in Paris.

"It's so easy to get sucked into the Silicon Valley bubble," she said. "Especially with the advent of AI and all these other things,

we're becoming more and more disconnected. Having a way of still being able to build real community, not just what we have online, started feeling more important to me."

So she started baking bread, using the sourdough starter she created in Paris, and delivering it to her neighbors. Not only did Weng get to practice her bread-making skills, she ended up forming strong ties with her neighbors. During a dinner at one of her neighbor's houses, her neighbor mentioned that Weng's bread delivery was the highlight of the family's week, and Weng realized she could start a business that had the potential to connect people and build community.

"Whether it's a community within the house, whether it's community within a neighborhood or between friends, I would love this to be a part of that, or somehow the reason for people to come together," she said.

In the future, Weng hopes she can use Kirana as an umbrella brand, with the bakeshop being just one facet of many. But for now, she's just enjoying being off a screen and working by hand. ■

Kirana Bakehouse, Instagram: @kiranabakehouse.

Email Food Editor Adrienne Mitchel at amitchel@almanacnews.com



Courtesy Kirana Bakehouse

Vanya Weng, owner of Kirana Bakehouse, poses for a picture at a bread-making workshop at Le Cordon Bleu Paris.

Continued from previous page

spaces. There are still things you can grow," she said.

Some people are put off by past failures, or discouraged because wildlife gets into the crops. Shrestha takes a more positive attitude toward sharing the bounty, whether it be with squirrels, deer or caterpillars.

"I am all for organic gardening. When I plant something, I know that a little bit of it is for the critters; we need them, it's part of the ecosystem," she said. "We can't be completely devoid of bugs and critters; then it's no longer a living ecosystem."

As a mom of two, helping expose children to gardening and teaching them about where their food comes from is one of her prime motivators. She recalled one of her children making a comment about something they were eating one day.

"My son said, 'Oh, that comes from Trader Joe's,'" she said. "What? Yes, it comes from Trader Joe's, but somebody grows it!"

Educating kids (and adults) through hands-on practice "is so important," she said. "We spend so much resources in teaching them all these other skills ... but we forget about the core thing that we need, which is growing food."

Shrestha's connection to gardening and farming has roots in her early life and family heritage.

"It comes from my childhood. I was always in the mud, in the soil," she said.

She grew up in Nepal, where "everybody has a little garden. No matter your socioeconomic status, we're all growing food," she said. "My grandfather was a farmer. He grew everything that we ate, from rice and lentils to all the vegetables." Her father worked as a banker but was still involved with farming and gardening as well.

"Me and my brother, we were always involved. I never say that I loved it — I did not!" she said with a laugh. The time and labor was demanding but, looking back, she appreciates the lessons she learned and the experiences she had.

She moved to the U.S. for grad

school and didn't have much time for gardening during that period. But when her family moved into their own home a dozen or so years ago, "the first thing I did was build a little garden," she said, cherishing the time spent in the fresh air and sunshine, working in the soil instead of staring at a screen. Before turning professional, she also helped family members, friends and neighbors with their gardening skills.

"I worked in tech for the past 20 years and last year, like a lot of tech folks, I was laid off, and I was burnt out as well. 'What can I do that actually I really enjoy?'" she asked herself. "The first thing that came was gardening."

Prices for her coaching and culinary garden design services differ project by project. She starts with a \$200 consultation, which is credited back to clients if they decide to hire her for further work.

"It's really important for me to go in there and look at their space, finding the best spot, the best sunlight," she said, noting that crops such as tomatoes,

eggplants and peppers thrive best with six to eight hours of sun a day. It's also important to see what kind of soil and drainage conditions are present.

"I'm happy to support people where they are. Sometimes people need more hands-on coaching. I would work with them for a whole season," she said. "A lot of times we don't know how to harvest, when is the right time to harvest something." In other cases, the initial consultation may be enough to get someone started on their kitchen garden plans.

Shrestha is based in San Mateo and works all over the Peninsula, ranging from South San Francisco down to Mountain View, although she said she's willing to go a bit farther. This is Backyard Nourish's first year in business, and she's planted about five gardens with clients so far and is in talks with more as she looks ahead to summer.

She volunteers at her children's school, leading seed-sprouting activities for Earth Day. In terms of business outreach, she puts up

flyers at coffee shops and gathering places and sometimes visits local farmers markets, handing out seeds and trying to spread the word about Backyard Nourish and on growing food at home in general, which she's realized is her passion.

"I can't not do this. It's very mission-driven," she said. "I really want people to grow something. Grow anything!" ■

For more information, visit backyardnourish.com or @backyardnourish on Instagram.

Email Assistant Lifestyle Editor Karla Kane at kkane@almanacnews.com

Dig into food news. Follow the Peninsula Foodist on Instagram @peninsulafoodist and subscribe to the newsletter at almanacnews.com/peninsula-foodist/ to get insights on the latest openings and closings, learn what the Foodist is excited about eating, read exclusive interviews and keep up on the trends affecting local restaurants.

DISTINCTIVE CRAFTSMAN ONE MILE FROM TOWN CENTER



JUST LISTED | **OPEN SUNDAY**
MAY 24, 1:30pm – 4:30pm

63 RIDGECOURT | WOODSIDE | OFFERED AT \$3,850,000 | 63RIDGECT.COM

- Picture-perfect Craftsman inside and out
- Rare street in the Glens with underground power lines
- Located at the end of the cul-de-sac just one mile from the Woodside town center
- 3 bedrooms, office, and 2.5 baths
- Approx. 2,375 total square feet
 - Home: 1,935 square feet
 - 2-car garage: 440 square feet
- Main living areas: foyer; living room with fireplace; dining room; kitchen
- Personal accommodations: primary bedroom suite with fireplace; office; two bedrooms; bath; half-bath; concealed laundry
- 2-car garage with second laundry, wiring for EV outlet, and outside access
- Freshly painted inside and out
- Fully fenced front and rear yards with expansive outdoor living areas and large spa
- Lot size of approx. 7,937 square feet in a park-like setting
- Excellent Woodside School (TK-8)



**HUGH
CORNISH
& ASSOCIATES**

Over \$3.8 Billion in Sales

#1 Coldwell Banker Agent, San Francisco Peninsula

#11 Coldwell Banker Agent, United States

#111 Agent in the United States, *RealTrends* 2025



HUGH CORNISH

650.619.6461

hcornish@cbnorcal.com

DRE# 00912143

hughcornish.com



CHRISTINA HENGEHOLD

415.722.6402

christina.hengehold@cbrealty.com

DRE# 02210414

hughcornish.com

The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service, and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor agents and are not employees of the Company. ©2026 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker Logo are registered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. CalRE #01908304.