Students join national gun-violence protest

Page 5
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Page 4 • March 16, 2018 • Palo Alto Weekly • www.PaloAltoOnline.com
Commission questions transparency of police-video policy

Human Relations commissioners want to delve deeper into issues of public access
by Sue Dremann

Members of Palo Alto’s Human Relations Commission are concerned over the public’s right to access police videos and audio as the city prepares to equip more officers with body-worn cameras.

Police officials unveiled on March 8 a draft of their revised Field-Based Video Policy to the commission, which covers the use of body cameras in addition to patrol-car-mounted cameras. The department recently completed a pilot program in which 10 officers wore body cameras. By June, the city wants to purchase an additional 50 cameras, and the department aims to revise its policy to include a section on body-worn cameras before fully equipping all officers.

The audio-video policy is scheduled for consideration by the city’s Policy and Services Committee and for deliberation and a vote by the City Council in the coming months. But some commissioners want to take a deeper dive into the policy and potential changes, perhaps even to ask the City Council to allow the commission to make formal recommendations.

 Commissioners Steven Lee and Deepali Brahmbhatt expressed particular concerns about transparency and public access to the recordings at the March 8 meeting. Commissioner Lee said he was “predominant to the idea” about the criteria by which police will or will not release the recordings. He also wants the city attorney’s opinion regarding whether state law gives the city discretion on its policy to provide public access to the videos.

“Sometimes municipalities have more discretion than may be suggested otherwise,” he said. Brahmbhatt wanted to know if the public will know they are being recorded. A person must be warned of a recording during a phone conversation, she noted.

Chair Valerie Stinger summed up the commission’s general feeling: “We are looking at an adaptation of a policy. I would like to see that it is consistent with access to the videos.”

Public Safety

Students join nationwide gun-violence protest
by Elena Kadvany and Sarah Kleerman

Hundreds of students across Palo Alto walked out of school on Wednesday morning to call for stricter gun-control measures, joining a nationwide wave of student activism sparked by the survivors of the mass shooting in Florida last month.

Students from Palo Alto High School and Castilleja School joined parents and community members in a large protest outside Palo Alto High School on Phillips Road — planned by students and organizers from across the country, the walkout lasted for 17 minutes — one for each student and teacher killed in the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Feb. 14.

Across the country, the walkout lasted for 17 minutes — one for each student and teacher killed in the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Feb. 14. The event was organized by Women’s March, a national activism organization.

At Palo, students held signs with messages like “fear has no place in schools,” “protect people not guns,” and simply, “Enough.”

Attendees said they were calling for expanded background checks, a mandatory waiting period for gun purchases and a federal ban on assault weapons. A flyer prepared by the Palo Alto City of PTAs offered a script for calling federal legislators to ask for these changes, paired with a list of local representatives and their offices’ phone numbers.

In California, assault weapons as defined under state law are already prohibited, with limited exceptions. California also requires anyone who wants to buy a handgun to pass a background check and for the seller to be aware that the buyer is not disqualified from owning a gun.

In denying Alcheck’s 2017 garage placement application, the city told him that the proposed structure would be too close to his neighbor’s home. The dispute between the city and one of its planning commissioners was particularly unusual because he had already been forbidden by the city in 2015 from building garages at his two new homes and instead opted to build carports. Then in 2017, he submitted another application to build garage structures.

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We can’t let this just be a moment in a history textbook that’s a footnote.

—Lucy Carlson, Castillo School student about gun-violence protest. See story on page 5.
Nonprofit revs up efforts to reduce traffic

A majority on the Palo Alto school board said Tuesday night that they prefer renaming two middle schools after people rather than after geographic locations, arguing that to not do so would be a missed educational and inspirational opportunity. The school board discussed a committee’s recommendation for eight new names for Terman and Jordan middle schools: six people and two locations. The board voted to rename the schools last year because Lewis Terman and David Starr Jordan advocated eugenics, an early 20th-century movement that promoted the reproduction of genetic traits of particular races over others.

The committee has recommended the following individuals as possible names: Ellen Fletcher, Frank Greene Jr., William Hewlett, Edith Johnson, Fred Yamamoto and Anna Zschokke. The geographic alternatives are Adobe Creek for Terman and Redwood Grove for Jordan.

“People are never perfect, but we believe the ability of individual lives to inspire our youth should not be lightly passed over,” said Leland Levy, co-chair of the advisory committee and former Palo Alto mayor.

Trustees agreed to weigh in on more detail on the specific names at its next meeting, on March 27, when they will take action. —Elena Kadvany

Affordable-housing zone sputters in Palo Alto

Despite widespread recognition that Palo Alto is experiencing an affordable-housing crisis, the city’s deeply divided Planning and Transportation Commission opted on Wednesday night not to approve a new zoning tool aimed at addressing the problem.

For the second time in the past month, members of the polarized commission struggled with the objective of creating affordable housing, which they sparred over best way to do so. After a long discussion and testimony from about 20 residents, most of whom supported the new policy, the commission voted 4-3 not to advance the “affordable housing combining district,” which would apply to commercially-zoned sites along El Camino Real and which would provide height, density, parking and other concessions for developments comprised entirely of below-market-rate housing.

Much like during their last discussion on Feb. 14, the commission split into two camps: those who felt the proposed ordinance needs much more refinement and those who believed it should be approved. Vice Chair Susan Monk, Michael Alcheck and William Riggs all fell in the latter camp and argued that the proposed district is a necessary tool to address the city’s housing shortage.

The proposal the commission debated Wednesday was somewhat different from the one it weighed on Feb. 14. Staff drafted a revised ordinance with stricter height regulations and parking standards (which would now be 0.5 spaces per bedroom, rather than per unit). And while the February version of the ordinance would have applied to units up to 120 percent of area median income, the more recent one limited it to 60 percent of that area median income and below.

While these changes assuaged some of the concerns, four commissioners felt the new ordinance still needs further refinement. —Gennady Sheyner

Nonprofit revs up efforts to reduce traffic

The new nonprofit charged with easing Palo Alto’s traffic congestion has a new leader, a growing bank account and fresh plans to expand its programs both in downtown and beyond.

The Palo Alto Transportation Management Association (TMA), which the city launched three years ago to tackle downtown’s worrisome traffic problem, has seen some success in its first two years by using transit subsidies, carpool programs and trip-planning assistance. According to a mode-shift survey conducted last May and June, the rate of service workers who drove alone in 2017 was 70 percent, down from 98 percent in 2016.

The biggest contributor to this trend is the TMA’s subsidized-transit program, which buys Caltrain, VTA or SamTrans passes for service employees. Today, 115 downtown workers use subsidized transit passes, according to a report from Christine Maley-Grubl, the association’s newly hired executive director. That’s up from 89 last fall.

But thanks to the City Council’s decision last year to allocate $480,000 for the TMA, the organization is hoping to raise the number to 200 this year.

The transit program alone could account for nearly half of the association’s goal of reducing solo driving by 30 percent from the number of cars that are driven alone in 2016, the rate of service workers who drove alone in 2017 was 70 percent, down from 98 percent in 2016.

The TMA also hopes to expand its two carpooling programs: Scoop and Waze.

The program may expand geographically as well. The TMA board Wednesday discussed bringing the transit program to California Avenue. The idea is worth pursuing, particularly if the organization is able to get some private funding and can partner with the recently established Stanford Research Park TMA. —Gennady Sheyner

News Digest

Board prefers to name schools for people

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Title IX coordinator requests help with investigations

Megan Farrell asks board to consider moving administrator to her office full time

Palo Alto Unified’s new Title IX coordinator has asked the Board of Education for a full-time administrator to be added to her office to investigate claims of sexual misconduct and discrimination in the school district.

“I’d like to see us do very good investigations that people feel comfortable with, that are very well-documented and that are done within 60 days,” Megan Farrell — who was hired last fall as the district’s first full-time Title IX coordinator — told the school board Tuesday night.

While the district has been addressing past failures to comply with law and policy, it is still struggling to meet legal requirements for timely investigations and proper documentation, she said in an update to the board about the district’s progress complying with Title IX.

The district has been under scrutiny from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights for several years. Last spring, the public disclosure of a 2016 campus sexual-assault report at Palo Alto High School sparked more concern in the community that the district was not meeting its legal obligations.

Farrell said she spends much of her time taking questions from administrators — in person and in phone calls before school starts in the morning, in evenings and throughout the day — about how to respond to incidents on their campuses.

Administrators have improved, she said, in more consistently meeting their legal obligation to inform students and parents who report alleged misconduct of their right to file a complaint under the Uniform Complaint Procedure (UCP), the district’s process for handling discrimination complaints.

The district still lacks standard procedures, however, with staff using different investigative practices, including forms “that they developed themselves or have been given by investigators,” Farrell said. Some staff document investigations but don’t include the paperwork in the proper file, she said.

An external law firm’s examination of the district’s handling of the 2016 sexual-assault report found inconsistent and even purposeful avoidance of documentation.

Farrell provided the school board with statistics showing both the scope of reports and the number still unresolved. The district has logged 148 reports of alleged discrimination, including sexual assault, harassment, bullying and racial incidents, both on and off campus, since the district launched in August a new internal system for documenting reports.

Of those, 36 cases resulted in the filing of a Uniform Complaint Procedure. Just over half of those have been resolved. Farrell said, with 17 still pending.

The majority of incidents stem from the elementary schools (38 percent) and high schools (20 percent); 20 percent occur in the middle schools.

The elementary reports are mostly “what I believe our educators would often refer to as developmentally appropriate behavior,” Farrell said, such as a student touching another student’s bottom or peeking under the bathroom stall at another student. She said elementary parents, when informed of their right to file a complaint under the UCP in such cases, often decline.

Out of 58 elementary complaints, only four resulted in a formal complaint, compared to 11 at the middle schools and 21 at the high schools.

She suggested that the dip in overall reports at the middle schools is due to students of that age feeling “reticent” to report for fear of potential social implications. The number of reports should be higher, she said, given national statistics that show bullying increases in middle school.

Board members Tuesday were largely encouraged by the district’s heightened focus on compliance.

“One of the best things this board has done has been to engage with this problem of (continued on page 10)
### Downtown Palo Alto

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<th>City/Neighborhood</th>
<th>Median Price</th>
<th># Sold</th>
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**Footnote:**
- **March 16, 2018 • Palo Alto Weekly • www.PaloAltoOnline.com**

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**Upfront**

Students met just before 10 a.m. in the school’s gym, where they were first led in a prayer by eighth-grader Marie Ros- siter. They then exited the school schoolyard and walked to Mid- dlefield Road, eventually looping back towards the school. In history class, they were talking about how these shootings were happening, and I heard about them on the news,” said Rossiter, who represented the solidarity of students with victims of school shootings.

The walkout was sanctioned by the Bishop Patrick McGrath of the Catholic Diocese of San Jose, according to Elizabeth Cauley, a social studies teacher at Seton.

“After it was sanctioned, the students took ownership of it and started planning it for them- selves,” she said.

During the 30-minute walkout, students held handmade signs that read “#NeverAgain” and “EnoughIsEnough,” alongside photographs of people killed in gun violence. Some students wore blue and white ribbons. Junior Tucker Biorn stood in front of his truck, adorned with the American flag.

In Palo Alto, the Crescent Park neighborhood, middle school students at St. Elizabeth Seton School also took part in the walkout.

“We just wanted to make a statement,” said seventh-grader Camila Escobedo. “We don’t feel safe in our schools anymore because of what’s happening, and (we think) that they should change the gun laws so that we can feel safer.”

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**Walkout (continued from page 5)**

to purchase a gun to submit an application through a licensed dealer to the federal Department of Justice, according to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. Federal law requires federally licensed firearms dealers — but not private sellers — to initiate a background check before selling a gun.

On Wednesday, Atherton resi- dent Laura Daaschbach Pitchford, whose sister was killed in a mass shooting in Seal Beach in 2011, told the crowd about numerous local connections to gun violence, from a Sacred Heart Preparatory graduate who was fatally shot in Oakland in 2013 to a Saint Fran- cisco High School alumnus who was killed at a veterans’ home in Va- nouver last week.

“This is not Parkland. This is Palo Alto, Atherton, Mountain View, Pleasanton — right here in our community,” she said. “Let’s push Congress to do what is right: to pass sensible gun laws to ensure we are safe from gun violence.”

Students urged their peers to continue their advocacy beyond one 17-minute protest.

“We can’t let this just be a moment in a history textbook that’s a footnote,” said Castilleja senior Lucy Carlson, who helped organ- ize the walkout.

She said in an interview before the protest that interested Castille- ja students have been working to inform themselves about relevant laws and issues to prepare for a next step of advocating for legisla- tive changes. The school held opt- in discussion groups, facilitated by teachers, during lunch last Fri- day to talk about youth activism, gun violence, the Second Amend- ment and other topics.

The Castilleja and Palo Alto school district administrations said they did not sanction a walk- out but supported the students’ right to protest. Some schools adjusted bell schedules to accom-modate the demonstration, includ- ing at Seton, and students who miss tests or quizzes will be allowed to retake them for full credit. Palo Alto Unified students who arrived late to classes after the walkout on Wednesday would be marked absent, interim Superintendent Karen Hendricks and high school leadership wrote in a message to students and parents on Tuesday.

In Palo Alto, two middle schools in the district administrations said they were first led in a prayer by eighth-grader Marie Ross- siter. They then exited the school schoolyard and walked to Mid- dlefield Road, eventually looping back towards the school.

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The Freidenrich family wishes to welcome all members of the Stanford community who knew and valued John as an individual, university volunteer, and benefactor, as we remember this cherished Stanford citizen.

Title IX
(continued from page 7)

non-compliance, to engage with the Office for Civil Rights to reach a resolution agreement, to undertake the investigations into the district’s performance on this, to staff this (Title IX) office. ... It’s clearly paying off,” said board President Ken Dauber, who in the past has been a vocal critic of the district’s handling of sexual violence and discrimination. “I think the community can take a lot of confidence in what it’s seeing.”

Only one board member, Terry Godfrey, addressed Farrell’s request for additional Title IX personnel directly, expressing her support.

Godfrey described last spring’s events as a “wake-up call” for the need for a dedicated Title IX coordinator who can focus on compliance full time.

Board member Todd Collins, citing Farrell’s comments on documentation, asked interim Superintendent Karen Hendricks to “clearly and unambiguously and universally send out a communication to the entire staff that makes it clear that our policy is to follow proper documentation.”

Hendricks said she is drafting a message that will “state those expectations.”

On April 13, the district will offer schools’ staff a Title IX “bootcamp” with Project IX, a nonprofit that provides violence-prevention training.

The Office for Civil Rights will be in Palo Alto on March 29 to review files, visit the high schools and hold public office hours. Farrell said the agency is still investigating three employee and three student cases, according to Farrell. The Office for Civil Rights indicated last summer that it would investigate the 2016 sexual-assault incident and another on-campus sexual-assault allegation at Paly from 2015.

Staff Writer Elena Kadvany can be emailed at ekadvany@paweekly.com.

CityView
A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council
The council did not meet this week.

Human Relations Commission (March 8)
Community Development Block Grant funding: The commission reviewed its recommendations to the Finance Committee regarding funding allocations for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for fiscal year 2019.
Yes: Unanimous

Board of Education (March 13)
Renaming: The board discussed eight proposed names for Jordan and Terman middle schools.
Action: None

Planning and Transportation Commission (March 14)
Housing: The commission approved a series of recommendations from its ad hoc committee relating to a proposed affordable housing combining district. These include having different criteria for projects catering to different income levels, maintaining existing height standards and basing parking rates on comparable properties.
Yes: Gardias, Lauing, Summa, Waldfogel
No: Alcheck, Monk, Riggs

Architectural Review Board (March 15)
Verizon: The board approved Verizon’s proposal to install wireless communication equipment at 11 utility poles and specified that they prefer a tapered shroud and box shroud as their preferred design for masking the equipment.
Yes: Furth, Lew, Thompson
No: Balfat, Gyoyer

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to meet in a closed session to discuss labor negotiations involving the Utilities Management and Professional Association of Palo Alto and the unrepresented limited hourly employees. The council will then consider approving the Palo Alto Utilities 2018 Strategic Plan, adopting a hydroelectric rate-adjustment mechanism and approve an annual update of the zoning code. The closed session will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19, at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

Regular meeting will immediately follow in the Council Chambers.

COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to consider objectives for an initial public opinion survey to support infrastructure funding needs. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

COUNCIL RAIL COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the recent community meeting on the Trench-Tunnel White Paper, discuss the master list of ideas for grade separation and hear an update on interagency activities. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

COUNCIL POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the status of audits for citywide cash handling and travel expense. It will also discuss the audit of cable franchise and public, education and government fees. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

City Council (March 13)
Interim budget: The board approved the district’s second interim budget report.
Yes: Baten Caswell, Collins, DiBlasio, Godfrey Abstain: Collins

Gun Violence resolution: The board waived its two-meeting rule and approved, with small edits, a resolution to lobby state and federal legislators for gun-control reform.
No: Baten Caswell, DiBlasio, Godfrey Abstain: Collins

School board members also approved the district’s handling of sexual violence, approved the district’s handling of sexual violence.

Upfront

Staff Writer Elena Kadvany

Public Agenda

Join us as we honor John Freidenrich, former chair of the Stanford University Board of Trustees, at a celebration of his life on Monday, March 19, at 2:00 p.m. at Bing Concert Hall.

The Freidenrich family wishes to welcome all members of the Stanford community who knew and valued John as an individual, university volunteer, and benefactor, as we remember this cherished Stanford citizen.

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Cameras
(continued from page 5)

written (police department) information... so it does not stand out as restrictive.”

Lee and Brahmbhatt sought to make the commission’s review of the policy more thorough and their comments potentially more formal. Lee suggested drafting a letter to Policy and Services and the council with the commission’s concerns and questions. Also, he recommended asking the council to direct the commission to work on the draft policy and make recommendations.

“This issue is a very hot issue and one that merits additional consideration by this commission. I think it’s one of the biggest policy areas that we can have a large impact on this year,” she said.

He asked the commission to agendize a follow-up discussion for the next meeting about a commission response to the council, if they choose to make one. Brahmbhatt seconded that motion.

She also suggested expanding the feedback loop on policy, noting that the police could put the policy on the city’s website for ed- its and comments from the public.

“Criminal attorneys could red line that policy and identify areas of problems for them. I think even if the City Council were to refer it back to us, I don’t think we are experienced to know all the inci- dents and all the ins and outs that go around the police work. We need criminal defense attorneys. That would make it more balanced,” she said.

Police watchdog Aram James, a defense attorney, attended the meeting to give his comments to the commissioners.

Currently, he said, policy allows for arrested persons to obtain video footage of an incident as part of the evidence-gathering practice when a case is going to court “but there is no similar right for a person, as an example, brutally beaten by the police, but not ar- rested, to obtain the same footage.”

“We the public pay for the cameras and should be entitled to view the footage where we believe the police have acted inappropri- ately, whether we were arrested or not. Often the police will re- lease body-worn camera footage, or footage captured by police car cameras, when the footage shows the police in a favorable light, while refusing to release footage police believe will expose police misconduct,” he said.

Capt. Zach Perron, head of the field services division, said that recordings are not released as part of Palo Alto police policy. California Public Records Act re- quests for recordings are vetted by the record manager, and, if neces- sary, by the city attorney, but they have discretion based on justification to release the documents. To his knowledge, the department has never released any video or audio recordings from the mobile audio-visual equipment, he said.

Video and audio were released after the fatal police shooting of William Raff, 31, on Christmas night 2015 — by the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Of- fice, not by Palo Alto police, Per- ron said. Raff, who suffered from severe mental illness, charged of- ficers with a table knife outside his Forest Avenue group home and was killed. The Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office found the officers were justified in shooting Raff and concluded that the death was a planned suicide.

Commissioner Jill O’Nan not- ed that police reluctance to release that video after the fatal incident created lingering issues.

“I, too, had some transparency concerns. I know that this is a complicated area with federal law, state law, local law sort of con- verging. But like many people of the public, I was perturbed by the Christmas night shooting a few years back, and I would like us to have a clearer policy around the release of recordings,” she said.

O’Nan was not in favor of re- leasing the Raff video generally and did not want to violate the privacy of Raff’s family, she said.

“But when questions from the community come up, there does need to be a way for us to feel like we can access information. ... For the county to have to come in and make that call outside of Palo Alto made it uncomfortable for some of us,” she said.

To Brahmbhatt’s question of citizens’ privacy, Perron said of- ficers are neither generally re- quired to advise or obtain consent from the public to record when in a public place — nor turn off the devices in a location where there is an expectation of privacy when they are lawfully present.

But officers often will tell people they are being recorded. Sometimes that knowledge has the added benefit of diffusing tense situations, he added.

“It’s a safe assumption to make in today’s day and age, especially in Silicon Valley, that if you’re coming into contact with a uni- formed police officer — you’re going to be recorded more than likely by at least one camera video and by one channel of audio, and that’s true of almost every police department these days in the Bay Area,” Perron said.

Officers are prohibited from re- cording conversations between a person in custody and their attor- ney, religious advisor or physician unless all of the persons to be re- corded give their explicit consent. Palo Alto police first started using audio/video recording tech- nology in its patrol vehicles in 2007. Currently, Palo Alto patrol cars are equipped with four cam- eras that shoot video and audio looking out from the vehicle and one camera captures video look- ing into the back seat.

Charlie Cullen, city director of technical services, said the body- worn cameras will help officers to record incidents that occur where the patrol car cameras cannot go, such as in a building or during a foot chase.

Officers are expected to make every reasonable effort to activate the video system during all con- tacts, including, but not limited to, enforcement or investigative activities, vehicle or pedestrian stops, consensual encounters, citi- zen flag downs, searches, making or attempting to make an arrest, use-of-force incidents, issuing citations or any dispatched or self-initiated call for service. Admin- istrative Services Capt. Andrew Binder said.

The cameras also automatically record when the patrol vehicle’s emergency lights, sirens or pub- lic-address system are activated, when the rear door of a K-9 unit or the rear door of a patrol vehicle is opened, if the car crashes and if the patrol vehicle speeds up to 80 mph, according to the draft policy.

The recordings are retained for two years and they cannot be erased or altered, Perron said. There are strict protocols for ac- cess and use and the video library

Upfront

The Palo Alto Police Department tested 10 of these Vista body cameras, created by Watch Guard, as part of a recently completed pilot program.
Recording the public
Palo Alto No notice is required, but recording devices must be turned off during conversations between suspects and their attorneys, their religious counselors or medical staff.
Menlo Park Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. Officers can turn off recording device when individual wants to discuss crime activity and wants privacy. Cannot record conversations when someone is making a personnel complaint.
Mountain View Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. Officers can turn off recording device during conversations with individuals, including confidential informants.

Release of recordings
Palo Alto Recordings must be released according to the California Public Records Act, pending review by the police records manager. Recordings that unreasonably violate a person’s privacy or sense of dignity should not be released. Restrictions under the separate Records Maintenance and Release policy include an individual’s photograph, personal identifying information, victim information; information regarding confidential informants, intelligence information and any information that could endanger the safety of the person involved or an investigation or relates to a minor or sexual assault victim, as examples. Exceptions include when requested through discovery in a court case or by court order. Menlo Park Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. All releases to be reviewed by the Custodian of Records under the Records Maintenance and Release Policy. Mountain View Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. Media inquiries are considered through the department’s New Media Relations policy. Recordings disclosed to the media may be edited to preserve the privacy of individuals unrelated to the case who were captured on the recording when they had a reasonable expectation of privacy or if they are minors. Sensitive recordings and internal investigations recordings may be restricted.

Preservation of recordings
Palo Alto Retained for two years. Recordings of serious crimes should be retrieved with supervisor present and handled as evidence. Only a records manager can make a copy. Strict rules on record keeping and tagging. Menlo Park Retained for a minimum of 2½ years when the recording involves a contact with a citizen; two years in situations of use of force, officer shootings, etc. Recordings of “non-events” can be destroyed after one year when a citizen requests it. Record logs of access and deletions must be kept permanently.
Mountain View Retained for six months to one year, depending on the category of the interaction. Generally the same as Palo Alto’s

Usage of recording devices
Palo Alto Devices should be on throughout all interactions in public spaces where there is no expectation of privacy and in private spaces when police are lawfully present. Officers can view in-car camera recordings during their shift. The officer can use the car and body recordings while writing up a report to improve accuracy. Supervisors can review recordings when investigating citizen complaints. In officer-involved shootings, officers review the associated audio and video in accordance with the Santa Clara County Chiefs’ Officer-Involved Shooting Guidelines.
Menlo Park Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. Specifies that officers should review the recordings as a resource. The policy refers to separate, specific guidelines for officer-involved shootings and deaths. Specifies guidance under the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths policy.
Mountain View Generally the same as Palo Alto’s. Deactivate during tactical discussions. Officers should notify crime victims if recording and cease recording if the victim requests. In areas of expected privacy, officers should ask for consent to record. This exception does not apply to crimes in progress or circumstances where the officer does not need a warrant.

Officer’s privacy
Palo Alto Surveillant recording of officers are not allowed unless for criminal or administrative investigations through a court order or department authorization.
Menlo Park Same as Palo Alto’s, but policy explicitly states personnel have no expectation of privacy.

Mountain View Same as Palo Alto’s.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann

Energy for a Healing Heart

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Three cities’ policies
How policies on police audio/video compare

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Ethics

(continued from page 5)

zoning code, Lait concluded.

Alcheck pushed back. In late November, attorney David Lan-

ferman of the firm Rutan & Tucker sent a letter to the city
demanding an “immediate issue-

ance of building permit” for each
together for the two properties. The letter from Lanferman argued that the language of the code does not
support Lait’s opinion that the
application should be denied.

According to Planning Di-

ector Hillary Gitelman, Al-
check’s attorney argued that the
newly constructed carports have
changed the predominant neigh-

hood pattern so that a garage
on the front of the parcel would
be allowed under a strict read-
ing of the code. In other words, the
new carports that Alcheck
constructed on the two proper-
ties where front-facing garages
were deemed illegal, he insisted,
Alcheck effectively made these garages
legal.

Gitelman told the Weekly that
while staff’s initial denial was
consistent with the intent of the
code, the actual language con-

siders existing carports without
any reference to when they were
constructed.

“When the code was drafted,
the city did not anticipate applica-
tions to replace a newly construct-
carport with a garage, so there
was no language speaking to this
case,” Gitelman told the Weekly in an email. “Accordingly,
staff acknowledged that under the explicit terms of the code, the
construction of the new carports
effectively altered the neighbor-
hood context and allowed garages
in the front half of the site.”

On Dec. 5, staff issued permits
for garages at both properties.
But in doing so, it specified that
Alcheck’s attorney argued that the
carports until March 15. Gitelman said that in issuing the permit, staff
still had concerns that the timing
of the conversion from carport to
garage “was effectively subvert-
ing the intent of the code related
to garage placement.”

“To address this concern, staff
believed it was appropriate to
approve the garage conversions
effective after a reasonable pe-

riod of time has passed since the
carports’ construction,” Gitelman said.

The dispute between Alcheck
and planning staff came at an
awkward time: On Nov. 29, the
commission was considering re-
vising the city’s zoning code, in-
cluding to clarify that the provi-

sion on “contextual placement” of
garages apply to carports as well.

This wasn’t the first time the
commission took up the issue. In
September and October 2015, the
commission had considered this
very same change but declined to
move ahead with it, arguing that the
change is a significant policy
revision.

“At the Sept. 9, 2015 meeting,
Alcheck was the prime proponent
for not changing the “contextual
placement” provision, which he
said will have “really significant
impacts on the way people lay
out their homes,” he proposed
including it on a list of “Tier 2”
items that the commission deems
significant enough to warrant
further discussion.

He reiterated that point at the
Oct. 28, 2015 meeting, when the
commission approved the omni-
bus zoning bill without making
any changes to this provision.

“The way it’s written allows
certain projects to proceed in a
way different than the way they
would be able to proceed after these
changes, and that is going to
affect people who are build-
ing homes,” Alcheck said at the
meeting. “Unless council said
to you, ‘We want you to correct
this garage-placement problem’
I don’t see why our planning
staff is making a decision on how
a project that could have hap-

pened before should not be able
to happen anymore. It just doesn’t
make sense to me.”

Planning staff disagreed and
made its case in a report last No-

vember. Allowing garages in the
front portion of the lot where a
garage was precluded “is anom-
alous to the historical application
of the code,” the report stated.

Moreover, staff has found
only a limited number of ex-
amples where building permits
were issued that allowed garages
in the front half of the lot when
the neighborhood pattern clearly
shows parking in the rear half,”
the report states. “To avoid any
misinterpretations, staff rec-
ommends adding text to clear-
ly indicate that garages must also
comply with the contextual place-
ment requirement that apply to
garages.”

Alcheck participated in the
Nov. 29 discussion without dis-
closing his pending projects and
recent conflicts with city planners

(continued on next page)
March 29 - Maundy Thursday
March 25 - Palm Sunday
March 30 - Good Friday
April 1 - Easter Sunday

555 WAVERLEY STREET, PALO ALTO, www.asaints.org

6pm Solemn Evensong of Veneration of the Cross followed by
530pm Light Supper
8am Holy Eucharist
10am Festival Eucharist with Reception
8pm Great Vigil of Easter
12noon Commemoration of the Passion
7pm Eucharist with footwashing

ALL SAINTS’ EPISCOPAL CHURCH
8:30 2018 Holy Week and Easter Services
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, March 25
Haydn’s Seven Last Words Liturgical Performance
10:00 am Palm Procession & Eucharist
Pastors Katherine Marshall and Bernt Hillesland

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 29
10:30 am Procession with Palms, Holy Communion

EASTER CELEBRATION, April 1
7:00 pm Fire, Stories, Water, Bread and Wine
8:00 pm Eucharist with footwashing

815 Portola Road, Portola Valley; tel. (650) 851-0224
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH & THE Episcopal Parish of Portola Valley & Woodside
CHRIST CHURCH
The Episcopal Parish of Portola Valley & Woodside
Sunday April 1: Sung Eucharist at 8am and 10am
815 Portola Road, Portola Valley; tel. (650) 851-0224
Easter Egg Hunt after 10am!
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- 4 Bedrooms
- 4½ Bathrooms
- Additional rooms include: breakfast room, library and family room
- Large remodeled kitchen with center island and lots of windows
- 2 wet bars, 4 fireplaces, dumbwaiter
- 2 walkout decks, view veranda and patio
- Downstairs media room with kitchenette, bathroom and private entrance
- 6 car parking, large garage and additional storage area
- Heated swimming pool, spa and changing room
- Walking distance to West Portal and easy freeway access to 280 south

$6,195,000

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### Pulse

**A weekly compendium of vital statistics**

### POLICE CALLS

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### VIOLENT CRIMES

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### VIOLENT CRIMES

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### THE WONDER OF TREES

**Saturday, April 7, 2018**

**A Benefit for Canopy with “Lab Girl” Hope Jahren**

**Tickets & info:** [CANOPY.ORG/GALA2018](http://CANOPY.ORG/GALA2018)

**Sponsored by:** Hotel Nia | Palo Alto Weekly | Palo Alto Online

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**Margaret Ma**

(1925 – 2018)

Margaret Feng-ya Chang Ma, a retired science librarian beloved by her family and friends, died on March 3 in Palo Alto. Margaret, 92, and her late husband, Dr. James Ma, were long-time residents of Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

Born in Changsha, China on September 4, 1925, Margaret was the granddaughter of Louise Van Arnam and Rev. Huie Kin, founder of the First Chinese Presbyterian Church in New York City. Her father, Fuliang Chang, and her mother, Louise Huie Chang, worked on China’s rural reconstruction, her father serving as General Secretary of the National Christian Council of China. Her parents’ example led Margaret to a lifetime of compassion, faith and service.

Margaret overcame the hardships of war and revolution to pursue an education and a career, successfully combining a family and professional life. She graduated from the esteemed Ginling College in 1947 and emigrated to the U.S. In 1948, she received her M.S. in Biochemistry from Ohio State University, and she and James married. James earned his Ph.D. and they moved to Pennsylvania. They lived in West Chester and Yardley, PA where they were active in the Quaker community, whose values of equality, simplicity and integrity guided Margaret throughout her life.

When the youngest of her four children entered preschool, Margaret began working at Princeton University’s East Asian library collection. The family moved to California in 1969, and Margaret earned her M.S. in Library Science at CSU Fullerton. She worked as a science librarian at Occidental Petroleum and Quadrex Corporation for 22 years.

Margaret was a devoted community member who served as a bridge between cultures and generations. She tutored foreign students at Stanford and served meals to the homeless, among many service activities. She is survived by her sister, Katharine Wang of Silver Spring, MD, daughters Louise and Kathryn (Sanford Kingsley) of San Francisco, son Philip (Jennifer Ong) of San Carlos, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her eldest son, Christopher (Nathalie Gilfoyle) of Washington, D.C., predeceased her.

Margaret inspired many with her resilience, graceful bearing, intellect, hard work, delight in the successes of others, and kindness to all.

A memorial service will be held on April 28 at 1 pm at the First Congregational Church, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, where Margaret was a long-time member. The family suggests that donations in Margaret’s memory be made to help the homeless at LifeMoves, 181 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025, or the International Rescue Committee or American Friends Service Committee.

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Housing — or the lack of it — is once again grabbing headlines and TV time in California, with a special edge of urgency in the Palo Alto/Silicon Valley region.

The six candidates for governor are being grilled on how they would address (few use the term “solve”) what is now almost universally called a “housing crisis.”

A recent annual conference on the trends and future of Silicon Valley warned that unless the crisis is addressed effectively it could mean the end of the golden era of Silicon Valley — as corporations and people relocate elsewhere where housing is cheaper and living is easier.

Here’s the crux of the problem: Statewide about 180,000 new housing units are needed each year just to keep up with population growth, according to the state’s Department of Finance.

But the state has been falling short of that number by about 80,000 units annually for the past eight years, the department estimates.


While the severe “jobs/housing imbalance” has been discussed in and around Palo Alto for decades, the talking has vastly exceeded the doing — at least, doing anything effective. Today we have highways flooded with long-distance commuters and land-use policies that allow or even encourage job-producing developments with no balance of housing.

A strong incentive to do something is simply the economic suffering caused by stratospheric housing costs. Yet barriers to action are formidable, ranging from an inability of cities and counties to form focused, effective working relationships with regional and state agencies to the neighborhood-level resistance to increased density and urbanization. There also are unspoken concerns about “those people” moving into neighborhods through affordable-housing projects, whether those be ethnic or racial minorities, existing homeless persons, seniors or others.

A major stimulant for today’s intensity about the subject is the McKinsey Report, published in October 2016. It called for construction of 3.5 million new housing units by 2025 to stabilize the state’s housing imbalance and meet future needs. In a March 8 forum in Sacramento, all six candidates for California governor focused on the topic of housing, with appropriate pledges to do something.

Republican candidates Travis Allen and John Cox called for tax-cut incentives and decreased regulations. Cox said he can build apartments in Indiana for $80,000 each compared to $700,000 each in San Francisco, or $40,000 in Sacramento and $300,000 in Fresno.

Democratic candidates Gavin Newsom, Antonio Villaraigosa and Delaine Easton and John Chung favored increasing affordable-housing tax credits, bringing back redevelopment agencies backed by a state trust fund for housing, housing bonds and revenue streams for housing.

Easton cited the need for new housing bonds and a reliable “revenue stream” to incentivize construction.

When pressed by the Los Angeles Times, Newsom was blunt about the goal: “I knew it was unprecedented and audacious. But it’s what must be done.

“A crisis of this magnitude requires ... an affordable housing ‘moonshot.’ We can’t stand by and do nothing as skyrocketing housing costs and the habitual undersupply of (housing) slowly erodes the California Dream and forces more families onto the streets and out of their communities.”

Villaraigosa matched the urgency: “It’s not about when the clock starts — what I am saying is time is up. ... This is a man-made disaster. It is making middle-class families poor, and making poor families homeless. I’ve also said we need educating and everyone at the table to find comprehensive, multi-faceted solutions” rather than “one-off policy proposals” that “often pit one interest against another.”

So here we are, facing a potential economic earthquake in Silicon Valley with no clear path ahead to avoid the unnatural imbalance of active and inactions occurring since the 1950s.

Longtime Palo Alto resident Gail Johnson recalls his experience, in response to one of my earlier columns on the housing crisis.

“...Yes it is a ‘crisis’ now (emphasized) if you work here and can’t afford to live here. The commutes are more daunting, much farther and slower, with more highway and local traffic congestion, and parking is also a big problem,” he wrote.

“The ‘away from home’ times are extend by three to four hours because of the congestion. Although we pointed out, long commuting isn’t a new phenomenon. Even going back to the 60s ... we came here in ’61 ... (the) cost of housing was a problem and long commutes were the norm.

“I worked for Kaiser Electronics, located on Page Mill Road in the Stanford Industrial Park. HP’s original plant, at the top of the hill, was our neighbor. We had about 300 employees at that time and only about a dozen of us lived in Palo Alto. Many drove from Sunnyvale, Cupertino and San Jose, and some lived in Fremont and commuted across Dumbarton Bridge every day. Others lived in Milpitas, and the distance record was held by a mechanical designer, Lloyd Evans, who who lived in Bonny Doon.”

Johnson recalled when he lived in a Brown & Kaufman tract home in south Palo Alto: “I could only dream about a big home in north Palo Alto, where the really rich and important/influential people lived. But it is also a fact that back in the early ’60s, teachers, firemen, policemen, craftsmen (plumbers and carpenters), pastors, small business owners, secretaries/administrators and others who were not high-income professionals could afford to live here, in my part of town.

“But we also had doctors, lawyers and company owners/executives in the early years of their careers living in our neighborhood. Race, ethnic, religious and economic diversity made our neighborhood a vibrant and exciting area to live in.”

Former Weekly Editor Jay Thorwaldson can be emailed at jaythor@well.com.
For many years, middle school students in the Ravenswood City School District — located in the heart of Silicon Valley, with some of the world’s top technology companies as its neighbors — had little to no formalized science instruction during their school day.

Ravenswood’s primary focus has been on literacy and math for a student population that is primarily low income and whose families are non-native English speaking. As a result, science largely fell by the wayside, leaving Ravenswood students unprepared for lab courses in high school, which widened the achievement gap between them and peers from better resourced middle schools.

But today, thanks to a volunteer-led effort and funding from the nonprofit Ravenswood Education Foundation, there is a fledgling but thriving science program that’s giving students hands-on experience, from frog dissections to physics experiments, in a way the East Palo Alto K-8 district never has before.

More than 10 years ago, Menlo Park resident Elizabeth Schar, a volunteer with the Ravenswood Education Foundation, was shocked to hear the foundation’s executive director describe a connection between the district’s lack of science labs and Ravenswood students’ low high school graduation rates.

“The theory was that the students didn’t do well in high school science labs because they lacked confidence and were embarrassed — not knowing what to do,” she said. “As a result, the students would start skipping science labs, which then led to skipping other classes and eventually led to failure to graduate.”

She helped to launch a church-funded initiative to upgrade non-functioning science labs for Ravenswood middle school students. (One lab had been turned into a girls’ locker room; one school had never had a lab; and other labs were “filled to the ceiling with junk,” Schar said.)

Now, the teachers have a goal of 20 labs per year — which is still far fewer than at more affluent schools, where students work in labs about 100 days a year, according to the Ravenswood Education Foundation.

But as the group from Menlo Church — all local engineers volunteering their time — worked to bring the labs up to date, they realized that the district needed not only the physical investment, but an educational one: preparation for teachers who had no training or experience in lab science, Schar said. She worked to recruit local science and engineering professionals, students and teachers to volunteer in the classrooms, helping middle school teachers with lesson planning and execution of the labs.

Over the years, as Ravenswood teachers have assumed more responsibility for the program, the volunteers have taken on a more supportive role — helping students understand directions, record data and draw conclusions, said Renu Nanda, executive director of the Ravenswood Education Foundation. Since its launch in 2009, the foundation has given millions of dollars to fund a range of enrichment programs, teaching and staff positions, mental health counseling and other investments in the Ravenswood school district.

Today, the education foundation manages a volunteer corp of about 30 to 40 people who are still providing critical support for teachers managing busy science classrooms. While Amanda Eskildsen, a lead science teacher at Los Robles Magnet Academy, is pulling the materials together and managing the classroom, the volunteers walk around and ask the kids questions about what they’re doing and get them to talk, Eskildsen said.

“That is just so huge for me,” she said. The volunteer is “really diving in and getting to the deeper concepts, which I don’t usually have time to do in that setting.”

Five years ago, Ravenswood students participated in about 10 science labs each year, on such topics as physics, chemistry and life and earth sciences. They learn about kinetic energy by rolling a marble through model rollercoasters, about ecosystems by creating biome shoeboxes in the makerspaces, about germs by testing the cleanliness of their own classrooms.

Now, the teachers have a goal of 20 labs per year — which is still far fewer than at more affluent schools, where students work in labs about 100 days a year, according to the Ravenswood Education Foundation.

The district has invested in curriculum development and teacher training, including paying Eskildsen to work over the summer and breaks this year to develop a science curriculum that’s aligned with the state’s new Next Generation Science Standards. Eskildsen is one of only two Ravenswood teachers in the entire district with a single-subject credential in science, which she recently obtained with the support of the district. She now leads monthly trainings for other middle school teachers, walking them through several labs.

Ravenswood also launched several years ago an annual STEM (science, engineering, technology and math) fair, with students’ projects judged by local scientists and engineers. The winners and their parents are invited to a “Dinner with a Scientist,” at which they eat and talk with local professionals about their career paths.

Ravenswood students also now participate in the San Mateo County STEM Fair. (The first year, in 2014, two fifth-grade girls went on to win first place for their...
Ravenswood

(continued from page 19)

engineering projects. A county judge thought Ravenswood was a new school because the district had never before been represented, Nanda said.) This year, two Willow Oaks Elementary School students won a special award at the county fair for a social-science experiment: They showed African-American, Latino and white Barbie dolls to other students and surveyed them about racial and other perceptions.

Every Ravenswood campus also now has a makerspace, which the education foundation launched with seed funding in 2014 and for which it now pays about half the cost, Nanda said. District leadership frequently champions the makerspaces as an example of the district’s growing emphasis on STEM.

“We changed the conversation about science — instead of it being an afterthought, it’s become a leading thought,” Schar said.

The district opened this fall its first standalone middle school, which school leadership and the science volunteers hope will help Ravenswood attract more credentialed science teachers. The district plans to build this summer a wing of science labs with funding from a $26 million bond voters passed in 2016.

“We’re going to have what pretty much other students in Silicon Valley have in terms of a science lab,” Superintendent Gloria Hernandez-Gill said in an interview. “We’re really excited about that.”

Ravenswood’s science program is almost entirely funded by the Ravenswood Education Foundation, which has spent nearly $1 million over the last six years on science materials and a new middle school science-lab-coordinator position. (The district still pays for the teachers.)

The investment is producing results: From 2012 to 2016, there was a 30 percent increase in the number of Ravenswood students earning a C or better in the first semester of their first year high school science class, according to the foundation.

Eskildsen said she’s also seen her students’ test scores go up in science.

Menlo-Atherton High School science teachers have noticed a difference in Ravenswood students as well. Crystal Gillfillian, who has taught science at Menlo Atherton for nine years, said the earlier exposure to labs means students arrive with the foundational understanding of scientific concepts necessary to succeed in high school and beyond.

“Just that exposure to the equipment, that scientific thinking — having a problem in front of them and having to do a hands-on experiment to figure it out, it just does wonders.” —Crystal Gillfillian, teacher, Menlo-Atherton High School

Ravenswood still has a long way to go before all its middle school students reach parity with their peers in neighboring districts.

Ravenswood still has no adopted science curriculum district wide, with individual teachers, including Eskildsen, working to fill in the gaps by purchasing materials on their own (and getting reimbursed by the education foundation) and developing new curriculum. When Eskildsen first started in Ravenswood four years ago, she was shocked to find neither formal science nor math curricula. The district adopted a math curriculum last year and aims to adopt one for science in the next two to three years, she said.

The district has only one set of science lab materials, shared among 18 teachers. (During her prep period, Eskildsen often drives to other campuses to drop off supplies.) Not every school has its own lab space; Los Robles students, for example, walk across campus to use a lab at the new Ravenswood Middle School. This makes on-the-spot learning or even completing unfinished labs difficult, Eskildsen said, particularly for new teachers or ones who are not as involved with the program as she is.

“Just that culture of… ‘I want to figure this out; let me go grab this and show you real quick’ — I can’t just on a whim do a demonstration like maybe I would if I were in a science lab when a question comes up,” she said.

Some teachers have also embraced lab science more than others. Eskildsen, for example, brings her students to the lab weekly and aims for about 30 to 40 labs per

Ricardo Silva, an eighth-grader at Los Robles Magnet Academy, prepares his science-fair project, which tests the projectile strength of a film canister filled with Alko-Seltzer and water when positioned at different angles.
Cover Story

F

ot many Ravenswood middle school students, science is now their favori
time during the school day. On a recent afternoon in Eskildsen’s class, eighth graders were putting the finishing touches on presenta-
tions for their science fair projects. Two girls teamed up to test how different helmet designs might protect athletes from concussions, while a group of boys sought to de-
termine the best angle from which to shoot a basketball.

Students Maria Chapu and Gaby Reyes chose to examine the health effects of cigarettes versus vaping, using a plastic bottle to mimic a hu-
man lung. They observed the smell and color of a cotton ball inside the bottle as evidence.

The science labs are “more fun” than other school activities, Chapu said. She said she appreciates the real-world, experiential learning. The girls quickly cited labs they had taken to the science labs, where they
make that progress, she said. For the district-wide science fair, Juan and Karla Garrido decided to study the effectiveness of different methods for cleaning up oil spills, using ma-
terials like raw fish, bird feathers and motor oil (paid for by the Ra-
venswood Education Foundation) in their experiments. They went on to win second place in the district’s science fair and a special award at the county STEM fair. Both are now freshmen at Men-
lo-Atherton, where their teachers tell Eskildsen that they are doing well in science.

About Ravenswood middle school students are exposed to the science program each year, down from about 1,500 in past years when enrollment was higher. Nan-
da said. The education foundation is looking next to help the district hire credentialed science teach-
ers for seventh and eighth graders at the new comprehensive middle school.

“Science is so important be-
cause it provides students a way to understand the world around them — making observations, identifying patterns, asking questions and problem-solving in a collaborative way,” she said. “REF looks forward to making these opportunities pos-
sible for our students, by building partnerships, engaging skilled vol-
teers and of course providing funding to fill the gaps.”

About the cover: Itzel Revuelta, an eighth-grader at Los Robles Magnet Academy in East Palo Alto, sets up her model of a truss bridge and tests its stability with added weights on an earthquake-simulating platform. Photo by Veronica Weber.

Cover Story

The agenda of complete titles including legal documentation can be viewed at the below webpage:
http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/agendas/default.asp

AGENDA—SPECIAL MEETING—COUNCIL CHAMBERS
March 19, 2018 AT 5:00 PM

Closed Session

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS, Employee Organizations: Utilities Management and Professional Association of Palo Alto (UMPAPA); and Unrepresented Limited Hourly Employees, Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

Special Orders of the Day

2. Proclamation Welcoming Exchange Students and Chaperones From Tsuchuara, Ibaraki, Japan

3. Mayor’s Green Business Leader Award

Consent Calendar

1. Approve and Authorize the City Manager or his Designee to Execute a Contract With U.S. Digital Designs in an Amount Not-to-Exceed $303,023 for the Acquisition of a Fire Station Alerting System as Part of the Fire Ringdown System Capital Improvement Program Project FD-14002

2. Approval of Amendment Number 2 to Contract Number S17166237 With Hillary Rupert for Sustainability Implementation Services to Extend the Term Through December 31, 2019 and Increase the Contract Limit by $187,200 to an Amount Not-to-Exceed $272,200

3. Approval of a Construction Contract With Waterproofing Associates, Inc. in an Amount Not-
to-Exceed $290,356 to Provide Construction Services to Replace the Existing J Wing Roof at Cubberley Community Center

4. Approval of a 5-year Contract With Manesco Corporation to Conduct Annual Walking and Mobile Gas Leak Surveys, Including Resurveys of Existing Leaks, for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of $437,710

5. Approval and Authorization for the City Manager to: 1) Execute an Electric Fund Construction Contract With J. K. Woods Construction Inc., in the Amount of $1,475,540 for Trenching and Installation of Utility Substructures for Underground Utility District No. 46 (Project EL-12001) in the Area of West Charleston Crossing El Camino Real to Arastradero Road up to Alta Mesa Avenue; 2) Execute the Specific Supplementary Agreement for Joint Participation in the Installation of the Underground Laboratories Between the City of Palo Alto, AT&T, and Comcast Corporation of CAIX, Inc.; and 3) Approve Budget Amendments in the Electric Fund

6. Approval of a Donation of $25,000 From the City Council Contingency Fund to Support North Bay Fire Relief, Resilience, and Recovery

11. SECOND READING: Adoption of an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Amending Chapter 2.22 (Human Relations Commission) and Chapter 2.25 (Parks and Recreation Commission) of the Palo Alto Municipal Code to use Gender-neutral Language and add Gender Identity to the Human Relations Commission’s Jurisdiction, and to Reflect the Community Service Departments’ Current Divisions (FIRST READING: March 5, 2018 PASSED 5-0)

Approval by the Planning and Transportation Commission. Exempt Under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (Continued From March 5, 2018).

Action Items

12. Approval of the City of Palo Alto Utilities 2018 Strategic Plan (Continued From February 26, 2018)

13. Finance Committee Recommendation That the City Council Adopt a Resolution Adopting a Hydroelectric Rate Adjustment Mechanism (Electric Rate Schedule E-HRA) and Amending the Electric Utility Rates Management Practices, as Part of a Comprehensive Hydroelectric Generation Variability Management Strategy

14. PUBLIC HEARING: Annual Code Update via Adoption of two ordinances; the First Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code (PAMC) Chapter 2.20 (Planning and Transportation Commission) of Title 2, Chapter 10.64 (Bicycles, Roller Skates and Skaters of Title 10, and Chapters 18.04 (Definitions), 18.10 (Low-Density Residential (RE), R-2 and RMD), 18.12 (R-1 Single-Family Residential District), 18.15 (Residential Density Bonus), 18.16 (Neighborhood, Community, and Service Commercial (CN, CC and CS) Districts), 18.26 (Special Purpose (FP, OS and AC) Districts), 18.30(G) (Combining Districts), 18.40 (General Standards and Exceptions), 18.42 (Standards for Special Uses), 18.52 (Parking and Loading Requirements), 18.54 (Parking Facility Design Standards), 18.76 (Permits and Approvals), 18.77 (Permitting of Permits and Approvals), and 18.80 (Amendments to Zoning Map and Zoning Regulations) of Title 18, and Chapters 21.12 (Tentative Maps and Preliminary Parcel Maps) and 21.32 (Conditional Exceptions) of Title 21, and the Second Amending PAMC Chapter 10.04 (Definitions) and Chapter 10.64 (Bicycles, Roller Skates and Coasters) of Title 10 (Vehicles and Traffic) to Prohibit the use of Bicycles and Similar Vehicles on Certain Sidewalks and Undercrossings and Establish Speed Limits on Shared-use Paths. The First Ordinance was Recommended for Approval by the Planning and Transportation Commission. Exempt Under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (Continued From March 5, 2018).

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Sp. Finance Committee Meeting will be held in the Community Meeting Room on March 20, 2018 at 6 PM to discuss: 1) Infrastructure.

The Sp. City Council Rail Committee Meeting will be held in the Community Meeting Room on March 21, 2018 at 8 AM to discuss: 1) Community Engagement Plan Update (Recap of Community Engagement Meeting on March 6, 2018); 2) Preliminary review of Grade Separation Ideas; and 3) Agreement with Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Relating to the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project - Recommend Council Approval.

The Sp. Policy & Services Committee Meeting will be held in the Council Chambers on March 21, 2018 at 9 AM to discuss: 1) Preliminary Recommendation and Policies and Services Committee Recommends the City Council Accept the Status Updates of the Audits for the Citywide Cash Handling and Travel Expense, Audit of Cable Franchise and Public, Education and Government (PEG) Fees and the Continuous Monitoring: Payments Audit.
L.A.S.T. Festival explores intriguing intersections between science and art
by Karla Kane

Scuruffi said, "It's a modern thing that we created a very specialized society." Scuruffi, a native of Italy, studied mathematics at university and has done extensive work on artificial intelligence and cognitive science, published numerous books and is a prolific historian and critic of pop, rock, avant garde and jazz music, among other artistic endeavors.

The L.A.S.T. Festival is an outgrowth of the popular LASER (Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous) series of lectures he founded back in 2008, which have since been expanded to cities and universities around the world. Though the talks have been successful, Scuruffi was not fully satisfied by the format.

"Art is meant to be experienced. Much of this is interactive, so artists giving a talk about it is sort of a contradiction in terms," he said. "Why not have a weekend-long event of art, science and tech where people can actually play?" Thus, the L.A.S.T. Festival, which usually involves a number of LASER alumni, was born.

"I pick the best speakers I know that are shaping our society today," Scuruffi said. The L.A.S.T. Festival seeks to break the "don't touch" taboo that surrounds many art installations and museum exhibitions by offering interactive, high-tech works for the public to encounter, in addition to live performances, workshops and the aforementioned lectures, with topics including artificial intelligence, machine learning, neuroscience, virtual reality, biomedicine and much more.

"I try to think, 'What are the topics that we really need to discuss?' Then I invite the best I can find; each one is a different story," Scuruffi said.

This year, the festival is connected to Stanford’s "Frankenstein@200" initiative, a yearlong series of programs, classes and events celebrating the anniversaries of Mary Shelley’s seminal science-fiction monster story about creating life in a laboratory and its continued ethical, scientific and cultural significance.

Some of the scientists presenting at this year’s festival, for example, will discuss the concept of "monsters" and what differentiates human consciousness from artificial. Some will cover the intersection between health care and technology, such as Michael Snyder, who will speak about wearable sensors that can predict and warn about illness.

Artist and professor emeritus Joel Slayton is the curator for the art exhibition portion of the festival. Though he’s directed many exhibitions and art organizations over the course of his career, he said that L.A.S.T. is something extra special. He kept a number of qualities in mind when selecting artists to be involved.

"I look for both emerging artists and mature established artists, and in this particular case there’s the context of the national accelerator at SLAC, the context of the Frankenstein@200 Initiative," he said, adding that more than 20 exhibition artists, plus several performing artists, will be involved, most of them funding their own travel to the event and working out of interest in the nonprofit festival’s ideas rather than for monetary gain.

All of the artists were asked to submit proposals that connected to the Frankenstein theme.

"The way that I framed that was to simply say that almost anything that we create can become monstrous. You hope for the best but you never know just how that will play out," he said. "The story of humankind is partly a history of all these twists and turns of technological innovation. All these artists are innovators, exploring this complex relationship of what it means to create something new and what the consequences are. I selected works that were mysterious and in some ways unpredictable."

One of the first he invited this year is experimental philosopher and conceptual artist Jonathon Keats, who’s presenting a project called “Free Will (Placebo),” which involves setting up a dispensary on site and fulfilling prescriptions for “a placebo for free will that may be taken orally.” This placebo “may or may not affect the way you view the rest of the festival,” Slayton said. "It’s an ironic but really beautiful concept and presentation."

Bio-artist Amy Karle will present her “Feast of Eternity,” a 3-D print of a human skull that utilizes crystallization mimicking cell growth, which will “represent the mystery, delicacy and preciousness of life.”

Kathleen Deck’s “Re-thinking Extinction” introduces a robotic California desert tortoise called “Robo-tort,” a mechanical reptile on a mission. The real tortoises are threatened with extinction thanks to human-created climate change and habitat destruction. Deck’s “monster” tortoise, it is hypothesized, could aid its flesh-and-blood counterparts by helping them migrate to cooler climes, thereby hedging northward.

Musical performances include work by percussionist Andrew Blanton, who sends audio drum signals through audience members’ cell phones — making each person a speaker in the show — and Rob Hamilton and Chris Platz of Stanford’s Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA).

The festival changes location each year, but this year’s residence at SLAC, with its long history of scientific breakthroughs and continued importance as a site of innovation, makes it particularly intriguing.

"It’s pretty amazing, this caliber of artists participating in something free and public," Slayton said, reflecting on L.A.S.T.’s growth over the past few years. "It started out small and it’s turning into something else, much like Frankenstein," he laughed, "and nobody knows quite what."
A ‘Skeleton’ with heart

Detroit-set play shows the plight — and humanity — of workers

by Kaila Prins

D espite the fact that it takes place nearly 2,500 miles away from the Bay Area, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley and Marin Theatre Company’s joint production of “Skeleton Crew” hits close to home.

Directed by Jade King Carroll, Dominique Morisseau’s searing, funny and dark play takes us into the lives of four car-factory workers who are trying to keep their heads above water while the economic tide turns against them. In 2008, Detroit, the “Mo- tor City,” was hit with a massive wave of unemployment as car-parts manufacturers shut down their factories and auto-assembly plants experienced a series of lay-offs. “Skeleton Crew” takes place at a plant — if the ramens on the shop floor are true — is about to undergo a massive layoff.

This co-production, which first opened in the North Bay last month before moving down to Palo Alto, takes us through the weeks leading up to the layoff, where the stakes are high for everyone and tensions are mounting.

Through a series of scenes that take place in the breakroom over the course of about two months, we come to know intimately four workers at this plant: Faye (Margo Hall), a sharp-tongued, hard-smoking union rep who is approaching her 30th year with the plant; Dez (Christian Thompson), a troubled but ambitious young man who is saving up to start his own repair shop; Shanita (Tristan Cunningham), a highly-skilled worker who loves her job — and also desperately needs her benefits for maternity leave; and Reggie (Lance Gardner), a supervisor who rose up to his rank from the factory floor and now has to navigate the politics of looking out for his unit while meeting the business’ bottom line.

When the media talks about factory workers, it normally reduces their lives to statistics about unemployment or working conditions. This play could easily have been heavy-handed or melodramatic, with characters who felt like pedantic metaphors for the working class. What “Skel- eton Crew” does so masterfully, however, is breathe life into these characters. Morisseau gives us the ability to not just sympathize with their theoretical plight, but also empathize with them as fully realized and complex people who are just trying to live their lives.

While a decade has passed since 2008, Morisseau’s play touches on the eerily pertinent themes of toxic masculinity, gun violence and workers’ rights. We hear the seeds of the conversations we’re having today about health care, benefits, and unions as we catch glimpses of a 2008 Obama

As audience members having lived through the 2008 recession, we watch this play with the horrible knowledge that, however bad things may seem for the workers now, things are about to get much, much worse. Yet, Morisseau defies us to find the bleakness in this story. There may be a darkness that runs through it but, through humor and humanity, she helps us find the light.

With grit, wit and a lot of heart, there is nothing bare-bones about this “Skeleton Crew.”

Freelance writer Kaila Prins can be emailed at kailaprins@gmail.com.

Shanita (Tristan Cunningham) and Faye (Margo Hall) are auto plant co-workers in Dominique Morisseau’s “Skeleton Crew.”
ATHLETICS

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Old Port Lobster Shack serves up satisfying Cape Cod-style shellfish

by Dale F. Bentson
Photos by Veronica Weber

T he best lobster roll I’ve ever eaten was last summer at the Kettle-Ho Restaurant and Tavern in Cotuit, Massachusetts out on the Cape. I was with Cape Cod natives and they, too, proclaimed the $32 lobster roll the standard of excellence.

In Redwood City, the Old Port Lobster Shack’s version wasn’t quite up to Kettle-Ho standards but it wasn’t that far behind.

The lobster chunks were fresh, mixed with mayonnaise and green onions, and served on a lobster roll, which was like a deep pocket hot dog bun without the ends cut open. The coleslaw was a tad too sweet for my taste but overall, it was pretty darn good lobster in the land where Dungeness crab reigns supreme. At $22.75 with french fries and coleslaw, I had no complaints at all.

That wasn’t the only good food at Old Port. The lobster bisque ($8.75 cup, $10.75 mug) was creamy, lobster-y, warm and lascious. The perfectly thickened New England clam chowder ($5.75 cup, $7 mug) had plenty of clams, potatoes and vegetables. My litmus test on clam chowder thickness is sticking a spoon perpendicular in the middle of the chowder. If it stays erect, the chowder is too thick. If it falls over quickly, it’s too thin. If the spoon slowly lists toward the edge of the bowl, it’s perfect.

The Ipswich fried clam roll ($23) had more clams than I could eat. The clams overflowed the lobster roll and filled the basket shared with french fries. The clam strips reminded me of those made famous by restaurant chain Howard Johnson (Hilo’s) way back when — lightly battered, quick fried and served hot.

The fried calamari ($11) was as good as any. The batter was just right, fried quickly. The greaseless calamari, served with two side sauces, was piled high and hot with plenty to share.

The grilled salmon burger ($9) came with a huge patty — easily a quarter-pound — that was lightly fried and served on a thick, toasted roll with lettuce. While filling, it didn’t scream salmon as other dishes screamed lobster, clams or calamari.

Better was the fried haddock sandwich ($13.75), served on a thinner roll with tomato, lettuce and red onion. It was easier to eat than the salmon and the crunchiness made for a satisfying sandwich.

The key lime pie ($5) was disappointing. While Old Port gets high marks for not adding artificial coloring to make the pie green, it was simply too dense, more like a New York cheesecake. The pie didn’t look or taste particularly fresh either and the graham cracker crust was mealy.

There is a lot going on in this little corner of a strip mall in Redwood City. Old Port moved two years ago here from its Veterans Boulevard location. Former owner Russell Deutsch announced in 2015 that the property had been sold and he was expanding to both Los Altos and San Francisco but neither restaurant materialized. Subsequently, he merged Old Port into his other Redwood City restaurant, Rack & Roll BBQ Shack, in Woodside Plaza. For this review, I focused solely on the lobster-shack side of the business.

Inside, the restaurant looks more lobster shack than barbecue pit. Customers order at the register before sitting at tables adorned with red-and-white checkered tablecloths and a bucket of condiments. Plates were ceramic but utensils were plastic. There’s a lobster tank toward the back but it was badly in need of cleaning. One can only hope the tasty lobster roll ingredients didn’t come from that tank.

Deutsch first opened Old Port Lobster Shack in 2006 and has since operated in various locations including San Jose, a pop-up in Palo Alto, a food truck, Rusty’s Roadside Grill in Portola Valley and an Old Port Lobster Shack in Portola Valley, which is still operating as of this writing.

Deutsch sold the business after he was charged in 2016 with sales tax evasion; the case is still winding its way through the San Mateo County court system. The new ownership group did not respond to interview requests.

Despite Deutsch’s hovering legal cloud, the food was worth seeking out at Old Port Lobster Shack. □

Freelancer writer Dale Bentson can be emailed at dfbentson@gmail.com.

Old Port Lobster Shack is located at 20 Woodside Plaza, Redwood City; 650-366-2400; oldportlobster.com. Hours daily: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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Alicia Vikander is Lara Croft in “Tomb Raider.”

‘Tomb’ much
Lara Croft gets a reboot in ‘Raider’

One can see the wheels turning — literally and figuratively — in “Tomb Raider” as young adventurer Lara Croft frequently finds herself twisting some hand-held puzzle box, bike racing around London or turning the wheel of some ancient machinery to unlock a door. And just as clearly, we can see the film’s producers deciding what will make this reboot of the two-film 2001-2003 Angeline Jolie franchise click with audiences: big-scale action, a few familiar character actors and a hard sell on the ostensibly sexy, smart, strong heroine, now embodied by Oscar winner Alicia Vikander (“The Danish Girl”).

Vikander’s Croft, a 21-year-old Londoner who can’t pay her bills, kickboxes for fun (and therapy?) when not dashing about on her bike delivering food for “SnackCycle.” It’s an ignominious fate for someone who grew up in the sprawling Croft Manor as the daughter of Lord Richard Croft (Dominic West), CEO of Croft Holdings and part-time globetrotting archeologist. He disappeared seven years ago, but Lara can’t accept that he’s dead and, as such, won’t claim her inheritance.

Just as she’s about to give up the ghost, Lara discovers the truth about her father’s final mission: to find and protect the tomb of Himiko from an ancient militant organization named the Order of Trinity. In flashback, Richard oddly claims, “All myths have a foundation in reality” to defend the notion that Himiko retains the power of a “touch of death.” In his mind, Himiko poses a global threat should her grave be opened, but all Lara cares about is the possibility that her father may still be out there, alive but lost to the world.

And away we go, on an action-adventure built for as many cliff-hangers as possible, many of them literal. One begins to suspect Vikander was paid by the dangle, as she clings to cliffsides, a construction crane, a rusted airplane perched over a waterfall and, of course, the crumbling innards of a tomb. Working with a $90-million budget, Norwegian filmmaker Roar Uthaug (“The Wave”) successfully gives the impression of a big production effectively realized, in spite of its poker-faced silliness.

Partly because Vikander’s skills don’t lie with charismatic comedy, this “Tomb Raider” doesn’t so much grab for fun as for thrills and melodrama, toggling mightily at the father-daughter plot thread.

In fleeting appearances, Dame Kristin Scott Thomas and Sir Derek Jacobi bring the gravitas, and Nick Frost brings the comic relief, but they’re only around long enough to make you wish they were around more. Mostly, this “Tomb Raider” amounts to an unaccountably skilled (or just extraordinarily lucky?) puzzle-solving warrior. And in a coup de grace of bad timing, we get to watch Lara enthusiastically learn that happiness is two-fisting guns.

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action, and for some language. One hour, 58 minutes. — Peter Canavese

MOVIES NOW SHOWING

7 days in Entebbe (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
A Farewell to Arms (1932) (Not Rated)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Black Panther (PG-13) ***1/2
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story (Not Rated)
 Guild Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Call Me By Your Name (R) ****
Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.
Death Wish (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Game Night (R) ****1/2
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Gringo (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
I Can Only Imagine (PG)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
I’m No Angel (1933) (Not Rated)
 Stanford Theatre: Saturday.
Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-13)
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

The Leisure Seeker (R) Aquarium Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Love, Simon (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Peter Rabbit (PG) ***1/2
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Phantom Thread (R) ***1/2
Aquarium Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Red Sparrow (R) **
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
The Shape of Water (R)
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.
The Strangers: Prey at Night (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Tumbled Lady (1931) (Not Rated)
Stanford Theatre: Friday.
Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri (R) ***1/2
Aquarium Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Tomb Raider (PG-13) **
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

A good bet

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tinyurl.com/CineArtsPaloAlto

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-Pete Hammond, DEADLINE
Book Talk

**SILICON VALLEY’S “SOPHIA”...**

Local entrepreneur Anna Yen provides a sharp and humorous insider’s perspective of Silicon Valley’s tech world in her debut novel "Sophia of Silicon Valley," which chronicles a woman’s journey storming the corridors of tech power and living in the shadow of its high-maintenance maestros. The satirical novel, based on the author’s own experiences during the most innovative times of Silicon Valley, provides an uncensored and entertaining insight into the world of tech and Wall Street and what it takes to survive. Yen, who has worked at a wide range of tech companies, including Tesla Motors and Pixar Animations Studios, and has co-founded several tech startups, is scheduled to celebrate the release of her book at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 26, at Kepler’s Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. For more information, go to keplers.com.

**SAN FRANCISCO NOIR...**

Bay Area native and New York Times bestselling author Christopher Moore will talk about his wise-cracking new novel "Noir," at Kepler’s Books on Wednesday, May 9. "Noir" is set in the dusty streets of post-WWII San Francisco, where Sammy "Two Tots" Tiffin, the barkeep of a local alehouse, finds himself caught in the web of an insidious plot. This light-hearted gourmshoe novel includes UFOs over Mount Ranier and a mysterious plane crash in the New Mexico desert while capturing the “weirdness” the author was seeking.

The event starts at 7:30 p.m., at Kepler’s, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. For more information, go to keplers.com.

**HOLLYWOOD SPIES...**

Palo Alto author Laura B. Rosenzweig’s book “Hollywood’s Spies: The Undercover Surveillance of Nazis in Los Angeles,” was named a finalist in the 2017 National Jewish Book Awards. Published by New York University Press, "Hollywood’s Spies" tells the story of how the Los Angeles Jewish community, financed by Jewish moguls in Hollywood, sent undercover agents to infiltrate and investigate Nazi groups operating in Los Angeles in the 1930s. The nonfiction book was a finalist in the American Jewish Studies category. Rosenzweig earned an master’s degree in education from Stanford University and a PhD in history from The University of California, Santa Cruz. She taught U.S. history and American Jewish history at UC Santa Cruz and San Francisco State University, and is currently a senior instructional designer for the UC Office of the President.

By Marley Arechiga

Channy Chi Laux was just 13 years old when she woke up to the sound of gunfire from the Khmer Rouge Communist regime that invaded her family’s hometown in 1975 and went on to kill an estimated 2 million Cambodians during a four-year reign that ended in 1979.

She and her family had braced themselves for that moment but nothing prepared her for the next four years of sickness, constant separation from her family and the fear — and sometimes longing for — death in the harsh living conditions of the labor camps, where she was forced to work.

During those years, Laux vowed that she would one day tell her story for her progeny and to ensure that others knew not only what of took place in Cambodia, but of the strength of her mother, Em, whose love motivated her to stay alive.

“While I was struggling through labor, the starvation and the sickness, I just couldn’t imagine I was gonna make it,” she said. “My best hope was to be with my mom before I die. That’s the least you can do for your mom.”

Laux, who now lives in the Bay Area, spent more than 30 years writing her newly published memoir “Short Hair Detention: Memoir of a thirteen-year-old Girl Surviving the Cambodian Genocide,” and is scheduled to talk about her experience during several book-signing events throughout the Bay Area, including a pending appearance at the Palo Alto Library.

Laux’s book tells a harrowing story of survival. Without warning, the Khmer Rouge removed her from her family and forced her to labor in rice fields with little food and next to no hope for a stable, free way of life with her parents and four siblings.

In her book, Laux describes eating small crabs raw to stave off hunger. At one point, she was plagued by malaria and had no modern medicine with which to treat it. Most gut-wrenching, perhaps, is the description of sexual assault she endured.

Amid the day-to-day drudgery of forced labor, and uncertainty of when her family might be reunited, Laux’s struggle with God — who she regularly blames for injustice and thanks for her blessings — permeates throughout the book.

Her direct writing style, which details her hardships with little to no embellishment, has the effect of making her experiences that much more disarming to the reader.

Ultimately, Laux managed to escape with her mother and sister, Chenda, to Thailand, where the United Nations International Emergency Children’s Fund (UNICEF), an international humanitarian program, helped them reunite with relatives and resettle in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1979.

After graduating from high school in Lincoln, she went on to earn bachelor’s degrees in computer science and mathematics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a master’s in applied mathematics from Santa Clara University.

She worked in Silicon Valley as an engineer for 30 years, and after her mother’s death in 2010, founded Apsara Foods, a company that sells Cambodian food products to retailers, restaurants and other food service businesses. The company was born out of a passion for cooking that her mother instilled in her.

For many years, Laux scribbled notes — sometimes only one word long — and for many other years did not write anything at all. It wasn’t until she was laid off from an engineering job in 2016 that she finally had the time to commit to finishing her book.

During a reading at Books Inc. in Palo Alto on March 7, Laux explained that the process of writing the book served as a form of therapy for her and is still helping her heal.

She said during her interview, the terrible things she experienced motivated her to tell her story but the act of writing and reading her own words made her also remember the kind things that happened along the way.

For instance, complete strangers sometimes treated her as their own child and two Khmer Rouge nurses took a liking to her, feeding her steamed rice and salted fish.

In addition to teaching her daughter and son (both in their early 20s) about her experiences and to be strong in the face of hardship, Laux hopes that the memoir encourages readers to respect one another’s differences.

She wants others to understand her daily struggles during her internment so that they are inspired to get involved in making the world a “better place for themselves and for their children.”

Laux has not returned to Cambodia since escaping the Khmer Rouge but her daughter has said she wants to visit with no one else but her.

Laux plans to appear at the Palo Alto Library in coming weeks.

For more information, go to library.cityofpaloalto.org.

Marley Arechiga is an editorial intern at the Palo Alto Weekly. You can reach her at marechiga@embracemediagroup.com.

After the Khmer Rouge took over Cambodia, Channy Chi Laux and her family lived together in this French village hat for six months before being separated.
**Home Front**

**FLORAL DESIGN CLASS ...** If you’ve always wanted to learn how to arrange flowers, Gamble Garden in Palo Alto is offering a class on floral design on **Friday, March 23, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Learn how to purchase, condition and arrange seasonal blooms through demonstrations and hands-on learning. You will leave class with an arrangement along with your new flower-arranging skills. Instructor Katherine Glazier is a flower arranger for Gamble Garden and she co-leads the floral design program at the Filoli estate. In her designs, she prefers to use seasonally and domestically grown material with an emphasis on the beauty of California-grown flowers. The cost is $99 for members and $129 for nonmembers. To register, go to gamblegarden.org.

**ALL ABOUT TOMATOES ...** Master gardener Laura Moncynski will teach novice gardeners how to grow and care for tomatoes in containers, raised beds or in the ground; the types and varieties that do well in our climate; and how to start from seed or transplant during a **free talk** hosted by the UC Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County from 7 - 8:30 p.m. on **March 28** at the Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos.

**MAKE A CUTTING BOARD ...** The Palo Alto Adult School is offering a new class, “Woodworking 2: the Coolest Cutting Board Ever.”

Over the course of two Saturday morning sessions, students will build a 12-by-18-inch cutting board with a curved laminated inlay. Students will make extensive use of a handheld router to cut wood following a curved template. The class will be held **Saturdays April 28 and May 5** from 9 a.m. to noon at the woodshop at Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. You must have taken or be enrolled in Woodworking 1 to enroll. To register, go to paadultschool.org.

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**DO-IT-YOURSELF**

**A color makeover**

Quick spray-painting gives old things new life
story by Nicole Macuil | photos by Veronica Weber

Have you always wanted to try spray painting and didn’t know where to start or were afraid to make a mess? Follow these steps to learn how to spray-paint and make your own beautiful planter just in time for spring.

Or, if you have something hanging out at your house that is old and rusting and in need of some TLC, you can easily make it look like new with spray paint. I had a wheelbarrow in my backyard, which I loved but just looked so old I didn’t want to put it out as decor, so I decided to spray-paint it and turn it into a planter. It’s fast and easy to make and makes a perfect garden decoration.

**MATERIALS AND TOOLS NEEDED:**
- Fast-drying spray paint (similar to Rust-Oleum)
- Wheelbarrow
- Plastic tarp
- Newspaper
- Gloves and face mask

1. Clean your object thoroughly and let dry. If it’s rusty and you’re going to keep it outside, you don’t have the clean the rust off, just wipe it down with a wet cloth to remove dust or the paint may get a funny texture.

2. Place a large tarp on the ground outside underneath your work area.

3. Put gloves on and face mask if you are using one as the paint has a strong odor. Start spraying. The key is to spray slowly from left to right in a straight line and then start again until the whole thing is covered. Shake the spray paint can vigorously to pre-
vent bubbling and spray from about one to two feet from the object.

Continue spraying evenly, making sure to cover the entire object. Most of the time you will not need to apply a second coat. Try not to let the paint overlap as it begins to bleed if there is too much paint in one spot. If it does start to bleed, quickly wipe off with a wet paper towel and then spray gently again to cover the area.

5. Once your object is fully dry (in about 15 minutes) you can tape newspaper over sections you’re finished with and spray with a different color.

6. Let your object dry again, waiting about 20 minutes to ensure the paint does not bleed. Remove newspaper.

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**FOR PLANTER:**
- Potting soil
- Flowers (I chose tulips)
- Pebbles
- Trowel or shovel

---

**FOR PLANTER:**

1. Fill your wheelbarrow with potting soil.

2. Using a trowel or shovel, make a hole where you will want to place your flowers.

3. Separate flowers and plant one at a time.

4. Press down on the soil around your flowers and add pebbles to cover the soil.

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Send notices of news and events related to real estate, interior design, home improvement and gardening to Home Front, Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box 1093, Palo Alto, CA 94302, or email elorenz@paloaltonweekly.com. Deadline is one week before publication.

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For video tour & more photos, please visit: www.0Alpine.com
Two spectacular, LARGE properties in a choice Palo Alto cul-de-sac a world apart from the bustle of the valley, yet only minutes to schools (Gunn High), parks, shopping, bike paths and easy access to commute routes.

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2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom
Offered at $2,788,000

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2404 Cipriani, Belmont  Just Sold
Updated starter home in sought after Cipriani Elementary school district
Lovely outdoor entertaining area
3 beds/1 bath
Sold with 13 offers for 27% over asking
LISTED FOR $1,310,000

29 Alverno Court, Emerald Hills  Just Sold
Gracious mainly one level townhome in a private gated community with pool and tennis court. Peaceful with golf course and retreat center nearby
2 master suites/2.5 baths
Sold with 4 offers over asking
LISTED FOR $1,695,000

462 Sand Hill Circle, Menlo Park  Currently Listed
Remodeled townhome overlooking the 13th green at Sharon Heights Country Club. Multi-level with community pool and spa
Award winning Las Lomitas Schools
3 beds/ 2.5 baths
LISTED FOR $1,775,000
OPEN Sat 3/17 & Sun 3/18   1:00-4:00 PM

264-266 Alameda de las Pulgas, Redwood City  Currently Listed
13,250 square feet with 40% lot coverage possible
Build your dream on this largely flat, open lot
LISTED FOR $1,700,000

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Offered at $4,198,000  |  4 Beds  | 3.5 Baths  |  Home ±2,569 sf  |  Partial Basement ±213 sf  |  Garage ±381 sf  |  Lot ±7,500 sf

Extensively remodeled and expanded, this beautiful home is a jewel within Old Palo Alto. With its thoughtfully designed open floor plan, separate bedroom/office wing and multiple patios, it’s ideal for entertaining as well as enjoying private space. The living room is warm and inviting and features a wood burning fireplace. Enjoy the California indoor-outdoor lifestyle while entertaining in the adjoining dining room with french doors opening to a private patio. The gourmet kitchen opens to a more casual dining area and light-filled family room with high ceilings and a gas burning fireplace. The French doors lead to a separate back patio entertaining area and professionally landscaped backyard.

The bedrooms are generous in size and include the master bedroom with a private side patio as well as a separate wing with three additional bedrooms including an en-suite. The wine cellar and additional storage are located in the partial basement; a welcomed bonus for Californians!

Top-rated Palo Alto schools and just blocks to Palo Alto High School! Convenient to Downtown, California Ave, Town & Country Village, Stanford and Cal Train.

Video tour and info at 160Churchill.com

OPEN SAT & SUN 1–4PM
Charming Home in Prime Barron Park

881 San Jude Avenue, Palo Alto

Located in Barron Park, this home features hardwood floors, spacious bedrooms, living room, and formal dining room. A sunken family room offers a panoramic view of the expansive, landscaped back yard. Located just short walks from Gunn High School, Terman Middle School, Barron Park Elementary School and Bol Park, the location of this house is ideal for family living!

- 2 Bedrooms with backyard views
- 1,050 square feet living space (as per seller)
- 7,194 square-foot lot (as per city)
- Charming design with space to expand
- Light and welcoming living room features a brick fireplace with artisan hearth
- Family room features decorative fireplace, new wall-to-wall carpeting, and opens out to rear patio
- Two-car garage with spacious workbench, mezzanine storage, new garage door system, and laundry area.
- Beautiful setting on quiet cul-de-sac
- Enchanting back yard landscape with mature fruit trees
- Covered porch offers dining and entertaining.
- Custom design with quality materials.
- Easy access to bikepaths leading to Stanford, Foothills, and Los Altos.

Offered at $2,498,000

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Palo Alto Schools

• Palo Verde Elementary
  • JLS Middle
  • Palo Alto High

Property Overview

• 4 bedrooms and 3 baths
• Approximately 2,497 square feet of living space, approximately 6,600 square foot lot
• Newly refinished hardwood floors, lofty ceilings, light-filled
• Fabulous kitchen and spacious family room
• Main-level bedroom and bath, ideal for guests
• Luxurious master suite with marble-appointed bath
• Landscaped backyard with slate terrace and level lawn
• Excellent location close to parks, Midtown shopping, Stanford University, Google, Facebook and commuter routes

Offered at $3,898,000

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Occupying over 1.34 acres (per county) of highland majesty, this estate boasts a splendid interior of 6 bedrooms, 6 full and 2 half-baths, and a flexible office. Insulated Concrete Form (“ICF”) construction provides unrivaled energy-efficient living, as well as sound, earthquake, and fire-proof advantages, while other high-end amenities include Savant home automation, radiant heated floors, integrated surround sound, and an attached three-car garage. From its setting, this residence enjoys the wonders that Northern California living has to offer, including views of neighboring vineyards and the San Francisco Bay. Outdoor recreation can be reached within moments along Hidden Villa trails, and sprawling Foothills Preserve, while The Village of Los Altos, and high-ranking schools are also close by (buyer to verify eligibility).

For video tour & more photos, please visit:

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27830 Elena Road, Los Altos Hills

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Tucked away on almost two acres of idyllic property, this enticing residence of 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, and an office offers prime opportunity for upscale entertaining. Opulent appointments include an extensive family room with a granite-topped wet bar, a chef’s kitchen, and stunning rear gardens. In addition, the interior has been outfitted with incredible amenities, including integrated surround sound, Anderson windows, and glazed cabinetry. This hidden paradise permits easy access to gorgeous Purissima Park, exclusive Fremont Hills Country Club, and convenient commuting along Interstate 280. Children may also attend some of the state’s top-ranking schools, including Nixon Elementary (#2 Elementary School in California), Terman Middle (#1 Middle School in California), and Gunn High (#1 High School in California) (buyer to verify eligibility).

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Summary of the Home:
• Approximately 5,590 square foot home and 3-car garage
• Approximately 25,200 square foot lot

Additional features of the Home:
• 5 Bedroom suites including a luxurious master suite
• Home office with custom cabinetry
• Attractive family room and additional upstairs homework/game room
• Gourmet kitchen with high-end appliances and walk-in pantry
• Formal and casual family dining rooms
• Powder room with marble vanity
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Sports Shorts

PREP REPORT . . . Palo Alto High opened defense of its SCVAL De Anza baseball title with a 6-4 victory at Los Gatos on Wednesday. Connor Burns drove in a pair of runs. Josh Kasevich recorded a pair of hits and Niko Lillios threw a complete game. Palo Alto (6-2, 2-1) hosts Los Gatos at 3:30 p.m. Friday. John McGrory had two hits and drove in four runs. Mathew Jackson added a pair of hits and drove in three runs and Sacred Heart Prep bested visiting Woodside, 12-4, in a nonleague game. The Gators (0-1) trail Los Gatos for an 11 a.m. game Saturday. Owen Crovelt, who plays in the Palo Alto Babe Ruth League, had two hits for Woodside. . . . Grace Williams scored seven goals to help the Gunn girls lacrosse team beat Leland, 23-3, in a SCVAL contest Wednesday. Andrea Garcia-Milla added four goals and three assists for the Titans (4-3, 4-1), who host Willow Glen at 7 a.m. Friday in the Skyline Division, Maya Bleivins scored five goals but host Priory lost to Sacred Heart Cathedral, 11-7. Cate Tomlinson scored three times and Kate Walsh added a goal for the Panthers (3-2, 2-2), who host Redwood in a nonleague match Saturday at noon. Jack Crockett scored three goals, David Schmaier and Silas Stewart each scored three goals for the Knights (2-3, 0-1), who host Oak Ridge in a nonleague game Saturday at noon. Sacred Heart Prep swept visiting Santa Clara, 6-5, Wednesday. Game time is slated for 7 p.m. . . . Teddy Vought scored four times and recorded an assist as host Sacred Heart Prep remained unbeaten with a 14-10 victory over Menlo in a West Catholic Athletic League boys lacrosse game played Wednesday. Tommy Barns added three goals and three assists for the Gators (3-0, 2-0), who host Redwood in a nonleague match Saturday at noon. Jack Crockett also scored three goals. David Schmaier and Silas Stewart each scored three goals for the Knights (2-3, 0-1), who host Oak Ridge in a nonleague match Saturday at noon . . . Sacred Heart Prep swept Wednesday’s SCVAL, boys volleyball match from visiting Santa Clara, 25-20, 25-17, 25-12. The Gators (2-4, 1-2) play Fremont on Friday at Dublin at 6:45 p.m. . . . Bill Kirkpatrick and Jackson Lee shared medalist honors, each firing a 35 in Menlo-Atherton’s 194-309 victory over San Mateo at the Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club.

ON THE AIR

Friday
College men’s wrestling: Stanford at NCAA Championships, 5 p.m. ESPN

Saturday
College women’s lacrosse: California at Stanford, 1 p.m. Stanford Live Stream
College women’s basketball: Gonzaga at Stanford, 3 p.m., ESPN
College men’s wrestling: Stanford at NCAA Championships, 5 p.m., ESPN
College men’s volleyball: USC at Stanford, 7 p.m., Stanford Live Stream

Monday
College women’s basketball: Missouri/Florida Gulf Coast at Gonzaga/Stanford, 3 p.m., ESPN

Time to ‘state’ their preferences

Championship Saturday will decide who advances to the CIF Finals

by Glenn Reeves

Palo Alto has gone 3-0 in the Northern California Division I boys basketball playoffs and earned a spot in Saturday’s NorCal final against Las Lomas. Tip-off is scheduled for 4 p.m. at Santa Clara University. A trip to the state finals hangs in the balance.

But the Vikings remember only too well what happened last year. To recap: Palo Alto, as a No. 9 seed, won three straight NorCal playoff games on the road -- at Fremont of Oakland, at Dublin and at St. Mary’s of Stockton -- to advance to the NorCal finals at Santa Clara University.

Just like this year. But here’s where the current team wants the paths to diverge. Last year Paly had a 13-point third-quarter lead in the NorCal championship game over James Logan, only to see the Colts come back for a 65-61 win in overtime. That Logan team started five seniors. Paly started four juniors. Now those juniors are seniors, part of an all-senior seven-player rotation. And they remember how it felt to come up short.

That game is a huge motivating factor,” Palo Alto coach Peter Diepenbrock said. “We have so many of the same players. The entire group used it as motivation all season.”

No. 2 seed Las Lomas (30-3) is coming off an 84-70 win over Mitty, the same Mitty team that eliminated Palo Alto in the CCS Open Division semifinals.

Palo Alto (26-3), the NorCal No. 8 seed, has defeated De La Salle and Menlo at home and No. 1 seed Heritage on the road. De La Salle and Menlo were both predominantly half-court teams, Heritage an up-and-down full-court team. Las Lomas, a high-scoring guard-oriented outfit, would definitely fit on the Heritage side of the ledger.

“It’s really not that much different,” Diepenbrock said of his team’s preparation for different style opponents. “You just focus on your team and how you want to play.”

Thus far in the playoffs the Vikings have averaged 66.7 points per game, shot 56.3 percent from the field and 43.7 percent from the arc (57.6 percent on 3-pointers). They outrebounded opponents by 7.2 per game and forced 12.2 turnovers per game.

“They’re not just for the freshmen but for the older guys who are transitioning into other careers. You have to take care of the opportunity. Any time you can lace up the shoes and go out and play, it’s fun.”

The Cardinal has won at least 11 of the 18 games played at Maples Pavilion.

“It’s the next step that could be tricky.”

Reid Travis scored 25 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and Stanford held off a late rally to beat visiting BYU, 86-83, on Wednesday night.

Stanford (19-15) played its first postseason game since 2015, when it won the NIT championship.

“A lot of teams are disappointed not being in the NCAA,” Travis said. “But there’s a lot of momentum building at this time of the year and not just for the freshmen but for the older guys who are transitioning into other careers. You have to take care of the opportunity. Any time you can lace up the shoes and go out and play, it’s fun.”

The Cardinal has won at least 11 home games yearly since going 9-2 in 2000-01, a season the Cardinal won 20 road games and reached the Elite Eight.

Michael Humphrey also recorded

STANFORD MEN’S BASKETBALL

Stanford takes road trip in search of postseason success

Cowboys feel slighted by snub from NCAA

by Rick Eymer

Stanford won its opening round game of the NIT tournament at home, which is not too surprising given the Cardinal has won 14 of the 18 games played at Maples Pavilion.

It’s the next step that could be tricky. Reid Travis scored 25 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and Stanford held off a late rally to beat visiting BYU, 86-83, on Wednesday night.

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For expanded daily coverage of college and prep sports, visit www.PALSportsOnline.com

(continued on page 51)

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • March 16, 2018 • Page 49
**NCAA WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**The journey starts at home**

First two rounds at Stanford this weekend

by Rick Eymer

The Stanford women’s basketball team looks to keep its home court magic alive this weekend when Gonzaga, Missouri, and Florida Gulf Coast come to town for the first and second rounds of the NCAA tournament. The Cardinal earned its 31st consecutive NCAA tournament bid Monday, when the NCAA Women’s Basketball Selection Committee announced the field.

Stanford (22-10), seeded fourth, will play in the other first-round matchup at 3 p.m. on Saturday when Gonzaga, No. 5 Missouri (24-7) and No. 12 Florida Gulf Coast (30-4) will play in the first other-round matchup at 12:30 p.m., with the winners meeting in Monday’s second-round contest at a time to be determined.

“Four great teams,” Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. “We’re working hard and looking forward to having a game on Saturday. Gonzaga came in here last year and beat us.”

VanDerveer is looking forward to hosting. No one wants to stop playing on their home court.”

Stanford’s 13 Final Four appearances are the third-most by any school entering this year’s tournament, and its 32 overall appearances rank third behind only Tennessee (37) and Georgia (33 appearances).

The Cardinal is 34-4 all-time in the NCAA tournament at Maples Pavilion and is on a 14-game winning streak. This season will be the 21st in which Stanford has hosted NCAA Tournament games in Maples Pavilion since staging its first in 1989 and the 20th in which the Cardinal has opened up its postseason at home.

“The freshmen are great but honestly, come tournament time, it’s the seniors,” VanDerveer said. “Those two seniors will lead the way.”

Tennessee is the only school that has a longer active streak of NCAA Tournament appearances than Stanford’s 31. The Lady Vols have earned a bid to all 37 NCAA Tournaments.

### Men’s basketball

(continued from page 49)

Reid Travis has scored 668 points this season, sixth on the all-time single-season list. He’ll look to add a few more against the Cowboys on Monday night.

Stanford, which has won its last nine straight nitrogen games at home, opened a 72-58 advantage with 6:15 left to play after Pickens hit a pair of free throws courtesy of a technical foul on the BYU bench. It was the Cougars who got charged up, scoring the next 10 points to draw within 72-68 with 3:14 remaining.

“We have to learn not to keep looking at the scoreboard and just continue to play,” Travis said. “That’s something we have to take away from this.”

Davis hit a 3-pointer with 1:49 left and the Cardinal opened an eight-point edge at 76-68 but BYU kept plugging away.

The Cougars, who led 39-35 at halftime, got within 85-83 with 1:19 to play on Bryant’s three-pointer. Chasson Randle ranks fifth in the all-time single-season scoring list Wednesday and is sixth place with 274 points on the season. Chasson Randle ranks fifth in the all-time single-season scoring list Wednesday and is sixth place with 268 points on the season.

Travis added 17 points and Oscar Da Silva had 13.

“They’ve had a fantastic season,” Stanford coach Jarod Haase said of Oklahoma State. “I know they thought they should have gone to the NCAA. They beat Kansas twice. I’m impressed.”

Travis skipped a few names on the all-time single-season scoring list Wednesday and is sixth place with 668 points on the season. Chasson Randle ranks fifth in the all-time single-season scoring list Wednesday and is sixth place with 668 points on the season.

Daejon Davis scored 12 points and recorded seven assists. Davis is Stanford’s assist leader record with 156, surpassing Brevin Knight’s mark of 150 established in 1993-94.

“That’s a big-time honor for the freshman assists record,” Haase said. “His presence in the second half of this game was important for our team.”

Elijah Bryant scored 28 points, including a key 3-pointer, for the Cougars (24-11), who beat St. Mary’s before losing to Gonzaga in the WCC tournament championship. Yoeli Childs had 10 points and 11 rebounds before fouling out.

The Cardinal’s 84 wins in the NCAA Tournament are third all-time behind Tennessee (124) and Connecticut (113) as are its 113 tournament games. Tennessee has appeared in 152 and Connecticut 131.

As a city, Stanford, Calif., has served as a host for 65 NCAA Tournament games, the third-most behind Knoxville, Tenn. (82) and Norfolk, Va. (67). Each of those games has been played in Maples Pavilion, which has hosted more NCAA Tournament games than any other facility except Tennessee’s Thompson-Boling Arena (66).

The Cardinal is a No. 4 seed in the NCAA Tournament for the third time. It advanced to the Sweet 16 from the same position in 2015 and the Elite Eight as a No. 4 seed in 2016. No. 4 seeds are 224-144 all-time in the tournament.

public hearing


2. PUBLIC HEARING: Recommendation of an Ordinance to the City Council Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 18.42.040 Pertaining to Accessory and Junior Dwelling Units. The Proposed Ordinance is Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in Accordance With CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3). For More Information, Please Contact Clare Campbell at clare.campbell@cityofpaloalto.org.

The Planning and Transportation Commission is live streamed online at http://midpenmedia.org/category/government/city-of-palo-alto and available on via cablecast on government access channel 26. The complete agenda with accompanying reports is available online at http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/boards/ptc/default.asp. For Additional Information Contact Yolanda Cervantes at yolanda.cervantes@cityofpaloalto.org or at 650.329.2404.
indications are that Paly is peaking, averaging a 10-point margin of victory in its three NorCal wins. "We've gotten better (as the season's gone on) and are just riding that momentum into the playoffs," said Max Dorward, after he shot 9 of 12 from the floor and scored a game-high 22 in the win over Menlo.

Dipenbrough termed the 54-47 win over Menlo as more of a defensive win. And defense has been the post-season constant for the Vikings, who have held all three NorCal opponents under 50. Another strong defensive effort will be needed against Las Lomas.

Pinewood vs. Mitty
Fresh off winning at St. Mary's as a heavy underdog for the second time in three years, Pinewood had to immediately turn its attention to Mitty (29-0), the top-ranked team in the nation and win handily.

Monarchs come all the way back and win handily.

The last meeting, a 76-62 loss March 2, is still fresh in Pinewood’s memory. In that game Ania McNicholas and Hunter Hernandez, Mitty’s supporting cast, stepped up and hurt Pinewood, combining for 35 points.

“We have to do a better job minimizing second chance points and be tougher handling failure,” Scheeppler said. “It’s not often in life you get a second chance. We do. We’re excited for the opportunity.”

Priory vs. Bradshaw Christian

Priory, like the Palo Alto boys, has the memory of a NorCal finals loss from a year ago as a motivation. Last year Priory lost to Eastside for the third time in the NorCal Division V final. Priory is in Div IV this year, Eastside in Division I.

Last year’s final was at Eastside. This year No. 1 seed Priory is playing at home in a 5 p.m. start Saturday against Bradshaw Christian of Sacramento.

“Priory and Bradshaw both benefited from aggressive non-league scheduling and the hard lessons learned from losing to quality teams. Priory (16-14) started the season 4-9. Bradshaw Christian (22-12) was 2-8 at one point.

No. 12 seed Bradshaw Christian, a team with only seven players listed on MaxPreps, is on a roll in the playoffs, winning big over Menlo as more of a defensive win. And defense has been the post-season constant for the Vikings, who have held all three NorCal opponents under 50. Another strong defensive effort will be needed against Las Lomas.

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WOODSIDE

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<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>1050 Canada Road</td>
<td>$13,500,000</td>
<td>Approx. 5 acres in Central Woodside, working equestrian center. Fantastic Woodside Value.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Preston Rd</td>
<td>$9,295,000</td>
<td>Custom-built home on 9.5 acres w/splendid views.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3330 Brittan Ave 1</td>
<td>$2,325,000</td>
<td>Sunny condo with open floor plan, stainless appliances, big patio, great local &amp; covered parking.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1181 Orange Ave</td>
<td>$1,999,999</td>
<td>3 bed, 2 bath home in the most desirable street in Emerald Hills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>269 Alberta Ave</td>
<td>$1,385,000</td>
<td>1.5+ Acre buildable, sunny lot with views!</td>
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<tr>
<td>301 Wayside Rd</td>
<td>$2,250,000</td>
<td>Magnificent country property bathed in sunlight.</td>
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<tr>
<td>501 Wayside Rd</td>
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<td>Magnificent country property bathed in sunlight.</td>
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<td>561 6Th Ave</td>
<td>$1,599,000</td>
<td>Sunny condo with open floor plan, stainless appliances, big patio, great local &amp; covered parking.</td>
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<td>1172 Farley Street</td>
<td>$1,999,999</td>
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<td>7 Colton Court</td>
<td>$2,895,000</td>
<td>Sunny condo with open floor plan, stainless appliances, big patio, great local &amp; covered parking.</td>
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<td>7,700 sq ft stunner on +/- a 1/2 acre on one of the most desirable st in Emerald Hills.</td>
<td>Sam Anagnostos 650.851.2666 CalRE #00798217</td>
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<tr>
<td>580 Old La Honda Rd</td>
<td>$2,295,000</td>
<td>Contemporary Retreat on 3.8 Ac has it ALL;</td>
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<td>3/2</td>
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<td>Big patio, great local &amp; covered parking.</td>
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<td>$3,985,000</td>
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