President Hotel buyers renew conversion effort

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Palo Alto ready to compete for CCS volleyball title

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Arts  Bold paintings and more on view at Cantor Arts

Seniors  Study: Thinking of retiring? Wait until 70

Home  How to help kids ‘catch’ the gardening bug
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New President Hotel owner presses ahead with plan

AJ Capital hosts open house, submits new legal arguments in attempt to win city’s approval for contentious conversion

by Gennady Sheyner

The development firm that last year bought the historic President Hotel apartment building in downtown Palo Alto with the intention of converting it to a hotel made a renewed pitch for the highly contentious project on Tuesday night, even as critics continued to assail the proposal as ill-conceived and illegal.

Adventurous Journeys Capital Partners (AJ Capital), which bought the building at 488 University Ave. in June 2018, hosted an “open house” Tuesday with the goal of showcasing the merits of a project that has created a torrent of community opposition. The informal gathering brought residents, consultants and former mayors to the back room of Il Fornaio, a restaurant around the corner from the iconic downtown building. As visitors mingled at the buffet, chatted with the project team and studied postcards with renderings of comparable projects, about a dozen residents outside the restaurant waved signs — including “We Don’t Need no Stinkin’ Hotel” and “AJ Capital puts profits over people. Shame!”

The dueling messages have by now become the norm for the project, which has galvanized significant opposition and resulted in the eviction of residents from the building’s 75 apartments. In addition to political pushback, AJ Capital continues to face numerous zoning hurdles, including a provision that the council adopted in April explicitly banning the conversion of “grandfathered” downtown buildings (those that were built before current development standards were adopted) from residential uses to non-residential ones. The law, (continued on page 8)

Efforts made to save dawn redwood

Arborist: Tree at the downtown post office was neglected and dying

by Sue Dremann

Ailing dawn redwood outside the downtown Palo Alto post office, a tree whose species dates from the time of the dinosaurs, may be saved thanks to concerned residents, city staff and a local nonprofit who have rallied to protect it from continuing neglect.

The tree, which is on federal property at 380 Hamilton Ave. at Waverley Street, was planted in 1949 from seeds collected at one of the last remaining dawn redwood groves in China. Residents and others have tried to get the postal service to care for the tree for more than a year with no success. Through a concerted effort, city staff was finally able to repair a broken irrigation system and engage the postal service this year to care for the tree in the future.

The Palo Alto dawn redwood is “a very visible and beloved tree with an interesting history,” said Catherine Martineau, executive director of urban forestry nonprofit Canopy.

The dawn redwood, scientific name Metasequoia glyptostroboides, is one of the rarest trees in the U.S., the species was not known until 1941 when Japanese paleobiologist Shigeru Miki found fossils dating back to the Mesozoic Era, 252-66 million years ago. Its leaves are “incredible,” said Martineau, who noted that the tree’s wide network of roots makes it a great “city tree” — it’s capable of surviving in the shade of other trees. One day in the bay

Ben Stevenson, left, and his son Lucas, 8, from Fairwood Elementary School in Sunnyvale, participate in a field trip to the Baylands Nature Preserve in Palo Alto in late October.

With school closures looming, Ravenswood district to hold series of public meetings

Community also will be able to give feedback through open office hours, survey

by Elena Kadvan

With declining enrollment putting increasing pressure on the Ravenswood City School District’s budget, school officials are starting to seek public feedback about closing one or two schools next fall.

The school board held a special meeting on Oct. 29 to discuss the budget and upcoming community meetings on school closures. The East Palo Alto district also plans to hold open office hours, at which interpreters will be available, and send out an online survey to collect further input on consolidating schools.

The district operates five elementary schools and one middle school, with enrollment of just over 2,000 students.

Yet “the district is operating as if we are a size of 3,000 students,” interim Superintendent Gina Sudaria said the board’s Oct. 24 meeting.

At the urging of the district’s interim chief business official, the board recently directed Sudaria and her staff to identify $750,000 in cuts from next year’s budget and $1.5 million the following year to keep the district financially solvent.

Closing a single school would save the district about $400,000, according to Sudaria. Other expenses that could be tightened (continued on page 10)

EDUCATION

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ON THE FRONT LINES ... Eight Palo Alto firefighters were among the more than 5,000 personnel working to extinguish the Kincade Fire that sparked north of Geyserville in Sonoma County on Oct. 23. The first strike team included fire Capt. Barry Marchialo, engine driver Jesse Wooton and firefighters Richard Lai and Adam Fortino arriving to Sonoma County on Oct. 26 in a regular fire engine, according to Battalion Chief Steve Lindsey. They were followed by a second strike team comprised of Capt. Hugo Godoy, engine driver Sunny Johnson-Gutter and firefighters Colin Fraser and Nate Neydorff who reached the Napa County side of the blaze on Oct. 28 in an off-road equipped engine. The fire has burned 76,825 acres and is 30% contained as of Wednesday morning, according to Cal Fire. Despite the recent progress and improved weather conditions, firefighters from Palo Alto and surrounding cities aren’t expecting to rest any time soon. On Wednesday, the Bay Area strike force was redeployed to Sire Valley in southern California to battle the “Easy Fire,” threatening 65,000 homes and expected to grow. The Kincade and Easy fires are just two of the many large blazes local fire personnel have traveled to in recent years. Last summer, a four-man team was sent to the Mendocino Complex Fire that burned over 450,000 acres (becoming the largest fire in the state’s history) in Northern California, and the over 13,000-acre Cranston Fire in Riverside County. In October 2017, Palo Alto crew were sent to North Bay to assist crews in extinguishing the Tubbs Fire in the Calistoga area and the Mendocino Lake Complex Fire.

ANIMAL HOUSE ... The ambitious and much anticipated reconstruction of the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo received a boost from the city this week, when the City Council approved a $1 million contribution that will allow visitors to explore the tree canopy and mingle with animals that live up there. Another is “Loose in the Zoo,” a netted enclosure that will allow children to directly interact with birds, insects and other zoo critters. The city’s contribution comes from sales of “transfer development rights” (TDR), a mechanism that provides density bonuses for the rehabilitation of historic buildings and that allows the city to sell bonuses to developers. Last year, the council approved the sale of nearly $4 million of TDRs, which were associated with reconstruction of the Avenidas building on Bryant Street and the renovation of the College Terrace Library at 2300 Wellesley St. Kristin O’Kane, director of the Community Services Department, called the new features a “really fascinating piece of the new (Junior Museum and Zoo) ... where kids and families will be able to walk around and interact with families and do feedings.”

ARTFUL IMPACT ... For the first time in two years, notable contemporary American art paintings from the New York School will be available for public viewing at the Anderson Collection at Stanford University. The works were contributed by Atherton resident Mary Margaret “Moo” Anderson, who died on Oct. 22 at the age of 92 and whose family donated the core of their 20th-century American art collection to Stanford. The new additions, Willem de Kooning’s “Gansevoort Street” (c. 1949) and Jackson Pollock’s “Totem Lesson” (c. 1944), come as the museum marks its fifth anniversary. “By donating two of the most sought-after New York School paintings in recent years, Moo Anderson continued to exemplify her strong conviction that art is to be shared and to be lived,” Stanford University President Marc Tessier-Lavigne said in a press release. The two works were unveiled on Monday. The two pieces were last featured in the Bay Area through an exhibition in 2009.
A new Stanford University study has documented for the first time at the national level unequal rates of discipline and unequal rates of achievement and educational attainment. The study, led by lead author of the study, said Francis Pearman, an assistant professor at Stanford Graduate School of Education and lead author of the study.

Previously, the connection between the two was largely theoretical or studied only at the local level, within a single school district. Establishing a correlation has important implications for school districts, teachers and policy makers. The researchers found that a 10 percentage point increase in the black-white discipline gap in a school district predicts an achievement gap that is 17% larger than the average black-white achievement gap.

The relationship goes both ways, the researchers found. As the achievement gap between black and white students widens, so does the discipline gap. According to an announcement, this study, which was published earlier this month in a peer-reviewed journal of the American Educational Research Association, is the first to examine this relationship in both directions.

**In Palo Alto Unified School District, black, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, low-income and special-needs students are suspended at higher rates, according to California School Dashboard data. They also lag behind their peers academically, a chronic gap the district is working to address.**

"Our findings should caution against such moves," Pearman said. "The black-white achievement gap and the black-white discipline gap are in fact two sides of the same coin."

Other remedies could include adopting ethnic studies programs and culturally relevant teaching to close the achievement gap and using non-punitive discipline practices instead of ones that exclude students from school. Efforts focused on closing one gap could have "cross-over effects" on the other, Pearman said.

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

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**Online This Week**

These and other news stories were posted on Palo Alto Online throughout the week. For longer versions, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news.

Man allegedly slams dog to the ground

A 30-year-old East Palo Alto man seen allegedly slamming a small dog onto the ground while recording it with his phone has been arrested on suspicion of animal cruelty, Redwood City police said. (Posted Oct. 31, 8:08 p.m.)

Palo Alto man dies in head-on crash

A man killed in a head-on crash on state Highway 152 in southern Santa Clara County on Wednesday morning has been identified as 27-year-old Palo Alto resident Juan Oliveras, the California Highway Patrol said. (Posted Oct. 31, 10:13 p.m.)

Two brothers bring DIY spirit to Halloween

Tech billionaires and their over-the-top Halloween displays have turned the holiday into a mini-spectacle in Old Palo Alto, but neighbors Jesse and Josh Bingham are attracting their own fans with their DIY approach to haunting. (Posted Oct. 31, 8:25 a.m.)

Driver goes on road-rage ‘rampage’

A 66-year-old man allegedly attacked two drivers during separate road-rage incidents in Palo Alto on Oct. 25 in what police termed a “rampage.” He has been arrested, Palo Alto police said in a press release on Tuesday. (Posted Oct. 29, 12:09 p.m.)

City to educate public about road redesign

Despite spending a small fortune on planning alone and designing grade separation of the city’s rail tracks as an official council priority for 2019, city council members acknowledged that many of their constituents still don’t know that the project is happening. (Posted Oct. 29, 9:20 a.m.)

Burglars strike occupied home

Burglars smashed through a glass door and entered an occupied Palo Alto home on Saturday, awakening a couple and stealing personal belongings and cash, Palo Alto police said Monday. (Posted Oct. 28, 4:20 a.m.)

Philanthropist dies at 92

Mary Margaret “Moo” Anderson, who along with her husband, Harry, donated the core of her family’s 20th-century American art collection to Stanford University, died Tuesday, Oct. 22, at her home in Atherton at the age of 92, according to a news release from the university. (Posted Oct. 24, 11:11 a.m.)
However, also includes a waiver for those who wish to circumvent that restriction.

AJ Capital’s attorney, David Lanferman, has argued that the restriction violates the Ellis Act, a state law that limits the ability of cities to keep property owners from getting out of the rental business. He also argued in a Sept. 25 letter to the city that the law would not apply to the AJ Capital project because the building was already vacant when the restriction kicked in last May. As such, it did not have a “residential use.” In the same letter, Lanferman requested the waiver.

But Palo Alto resident Jeff Levinsky, a land-use watchdog who has been critical of the hotel proposal and who last year alerted the city to a little-known zoning provision that barred conversions of “grandfathered” downtown buildings to other uses (the city has since revised the law), challenged Lanferman’s argument that the since-amended law on grandfathered buildings is illegal.

“By his reasoning, any apartment building could simply cease renting out its units, declare itself out of the residential business, and then a day later apply for a new non-residential use by stating it has no ‘residential portion.’ In other words, he is arguing the entire law is moot, which is an interpretation courts are unlikely to accept,” Levinsky wrote in a report analyzing AJ Capital’s latest submission to the city.

Levinsky also told the Weekly that the project continues to exceed the city’s restrictions on floor area ratio (a measure of building density).

“It’s not fair for the other hotels in town for one hotel to just be able to avoid following the law,” Levinsky said.

How much parking is enough?

Parking is another point of heavy contention between the developer and project opponents. If the hotel were a new development, the zoning code would require the developer to provide 200 parking spaces. The President Hotel has only 10 spaces in the basement. AJ Capital is hoping to fill the gap by offering a valet program — using parking both on and off site — and by giving employees public-transit passes.

The developer had also commissioned a transportation study, which concluded in August that the city’s parking requirements are “substantially higher than the actual parking demand expected based on industry standards and locally surveyed parking demands for hotels.”

The study by the consulting firm Fehr & Peers estimated that actual demand for a 100-room hotel would be about 60 to 70 spaces. With the proposed valet program, the demand at President Hotel would be between 30 to 40 spaces, the study concluded.

Levinsky, however, highlighted the project’s parking plan as one of its most glaring flaws. Even with valets and “stacked” parking spaces, the developer would only be able to provide 18 spots in the hotel’s basement. Levinsky noted, citing an estimate from AJ Capital’s valet provider, All About Parking.

Even assuming that the developer gets a 25% parking reduction for restoring a historical source, as allowed by state code, AJ Capital would need to provide about 180 spaces and the 25% reduction for historical restoration.

With each space valued at $106,171, this means AJ Capital would owe the city at least $9.7 million in in-lieu fees. The company’s promotional book noted, citing an estimate from AJ Capital’s valet provider, All About Parking.

“We’re confident we can restore Hotel President to its original glamour,” he said. In its promotional brochure, AJ Capital pledged to fund local organizations, including ones focusing on money the developer told the Weekly said the company wants to become part of the “fabric of the community” by supporting nonprofits including the Palo Alto History Museum and Palo Alto Housing. While he declined to discuss the specific amounts of money the developer plans to give these nonprofits, the company’s promotional book states that AJ Capital plans to spend $2 million on contributions to local organizations, including $1 million to Palo Alto Housing, the nonprofit that is now developing a 59-unit apartment building for low-income residents at El Camino Real and Wilton Avenue.

The AJ Capital brochure also includes a list of partnerships, including with Downtown Streets Team, the Palo Alto Transportation Management Association and potential partners in Education. Stanford said AJ Capital decided to support these nonprofits after holding meetings with various organizations over the summer.

To date, however, the contributions are conceptual and purely prospective. Downtown Streets Team staff told the Weekly that the developer has offered a “pledge” but has not made a contribution. And Palo Alto History Museum Executive Director Laura Bajuk said the funding is contingent on the hotel project getting approved. As such, she is not counting on the proposed contribution as part of fundraising total for the museum, which is scheduled to open in both Building on Homer Avenue.

Levinsky pointed to a footnote in AJ Capital’s brochure stating the company’s “pledge” to Palo Alto’s downtown is “to-be-confirmed,” “subject to change” and “contingent upon the hotel being issued a building permit.”

The developer had also argued under its commitment to the nonprofits. He compared it to AJ Capital’s offer last year of financial aid to tenants “to pay payments that were contingent on tenants not protesting against the project.”

“I don’t know if similar quid pro quo conditions apply to these new proposed contributions,” Levinsky wrote.

Other residents offered a broader criticism of the AJ Capital proposal: It is taking away homes at a time of a significant housing shortage. Outside the building, Palo Alto resident Winter Dellenbach led a group of about 10 people who held signs and flyers, including “Go to AJ Capital and say, ‘No thanks, thought you were for the people’” and “Palo Alto is not Pal-A-Town.”

Dellenbach said the goal of the demonstration was to highlight the loss of housing at President Hotel and to bring attention to the fact that AJ Capital can still take a different path that would work out well for both the city and the developer: the preservation of housing.

“They can profit from it. The community can benefit from it. And they wouldn’t have to go through this tortuous process and trying to convince people that the project is sound and right and is a benefit to them. We feel that it is not,” Dellenbach said. “What Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL … The council plans to hold a study session with the Palo Alto Youth Council. The council will then hold a hearing in accordance with the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA) for financing of construction, development and furnishing of a proposed Downtown Streets Team building at 400 Terramor St; consider revisions to the city’s building code; consider a requirement for all-electric construction starting 2022; and discuss next steps for placing a tax revenue measure on the November 2020 ballot. The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 4, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

BOARD OF EDUCATION … The school board will vote on whether to form a bond advisory committee; discuss tentative agreements with the teachers and classified employees’ unions and the Palo Alto Middle School Association (PAMSA); Caltrain rail crossings and several board policies; and hear an informational report on later school start times. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5, at the district office, 25 Churchill Ave.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD … The board plans to discuss topics for its upcoming joint study session with the City Council. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.
is going on with this open house is really a view that’s based on a ‘house of cards’ and not really on housing the people.”

The Tuesday meeting also at-tracted several former President Hotel residents, most of whom vehemently oppose the AJ Capital project. Some said they had moved out of Palo Alto or other local apartments but now face much steeper rents. Susan Powers, a former tenant who works at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, said she had rent-works at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, said she had rent

Michelle Kraus sees things differently. A former President Hotel tenant who last year helped organize residents in opposing the planned evictions, she now works as an adviser to AJ Capital, using her background in public affairs. She told the Weekly that her new job “fits with what I do profession-ally.” She also suggested that the project can be good for Palo Alto.

“It was not a great building. And these people are willing to step up and do what has to be done. Who else is going to do that?” Kraus said.

She also dismissed the notion that her new role may conflict in some ways with her prior role, which included dealing with the tenants’ legal counsel. The tenants, she said, “did a good job in taking care of each other until the end.” She said she didn’t be-come an adviser for AJ Capital until late June, well after the evic-tion period.

Her changing role didn’t sit well with everyone. Powers told Kraus at the meeting that she and other tenants were “heartbroken” to see Kraus involved in the hotel conversion.

“Why are you on the wrong side of this?” Powers asked Kraus.

“Stay tuned. It isn’t all that it appears,” Kraus replied.

“It appears to me like it’s pretty much what it seems to be,” Pow-ers said. “I felt like I got socked in the gut when I heard you were on the other side of this.”

Michelle Kraus sees things differently. A former President Hotel tenant who last year helped organize residents in opposing the planned evictions, she now works as an adviser to AJ Capital, using her background in public affairs. She told the Weekly that her new job “fits with what I do profession-ally.” She also suggested that the project can be good for Palo Alto.

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Her changing role didn’t sit well with everyone. Powers told Kraus at the meeting that she and other tenants were “heartbroken” to see Kraus involved in the hotel conversion.

“Why are you on the wrong side of this?” Powers asked Kraus.

“Stay tuned. It isn’t all that it appears,” Kraus replied.

“It appears to me like it’s pretty much what it seems to be,” Pow-ers said. “I felt like I got socked in the gut when I heard you were on the other side of this.”
Ravenswood (continued from page 5)

The board discussed on Oct. 24 whether to close one or two schools, debating the merits of being more aggressive or easing into what will be a difficult, potentially divisive decision. Most favored the former. “We have to face it,” board member Ana Maria Pulido said. “It looks like a monster, but we have to face it.”

The district could potentially close one school next fall and a second campus the following year. The upcoming community meetings on school consolidation will be held at Ravenswood Middle School at 2450 Ralmar Ave., East Palo Alto. The meetings, all of which will have the same agenda, are scheduled for the following dates:
- Saturday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, Nov. 4, 6-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m. to noon.

Child care and interpretation will be available. The district plans to document and publish all feedback from each meeting. Office hours at the district office (2120 Euclid Ave., East Palo Alto) will take place the week of Nov. 4-8.

Sudaria plans to bring to the board a recommendation on which school or schools to close by late November or early December. The district plans to then host informational sessions at the potentially impacted schools.

The board is set to make a final decision on school closures at its Dec. 12 meeting.

"Making Right Decisions"

an inspirational talk with Leida Lessa

- FRIDAY Nov 8th
  7:00pm English
  Christian Science Reading Room
  439 California Ave,
  Palo Alto 94306
  Childcare provided

- SATURDAY Nov 9th
  1:00pm English
  Cubberly Community Center
  4000 Middlefield Rd, Room H1
  Palo Alto 94303

- SATURDAY Nov 9th
  2:30pm Spanish
  Tommera decision corrects
  Cumberly Community Center
  4000 Middlefield Rd, Room H1
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Does prayer make a difference?

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the rail corridor so that train tracks do not intersect with local roads — a problem that the city has been studying for years. Given that Palo Alto has the second-busiest Caltrain station on the corridor, the benefits of improving local intersections extend well beyond Palo Alto, Tanaka argued.

‘There’s a lot more we need to do as a state, a region and a city to address the homelessness and housing crisis we have.’

— Marc Berman, assemblyman

“The payback is not just for Palo Alto, but everyone in the region — everyone who has to come to Palo Alto to work. It makes it more feasible for people to live farther from jobs,” Tanaka said.

While Berman said he will continue to fight for grant funding for the rail-corridor redesign, he was less assertive when Fine asked him about the prospect of allowing cities to charge tolls on major streets. Fine pointed to East Palo Alto, which has floated the idea of turning University Avenue into a tolled road.

“It’s definitely an interesting concept and something that could help communities like East Palo Alto and Palo Alto where you have certain corridors that are just jammed,” Berman responded.

Berman also supported Palo Alto’s recent adoption of a “carbon neutral” electric portfolio. This, he argued, makes Palo Alto “the perfect kind of test bed” for phasing out natural gas in new construction — an idea that the council will consider on Nov. 4.

At the same time, Berman echoed Newsom in criticizing the state’s electric utilities companies, which he blamed in large part on the wildfires that are continuing to devastate large swaths of California.

“It seems like half our state is on fire right now,” Berman said. “The current structure of our utility system is not meeting the needs of our 40 million residents. The fact is that decades of neglect and greed that have permeated through these companies have led to a situation where their current utility infrastructure isn’t able to withstand the increased and heightened weather events that we now find ourselves having because of climate change.”

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@paloweekly.com

FOOTHILL-DE ANZA Community College District Board of Trustees

seeks applicants for its Audit and Finance Committee

Candidates appointed to the volunteer Audit and Finance Committee shall act in an advisory role to the Board in carrying out its oversight and legislative responsibilities as they relate to the District’s financial management. Applicants must reside in the district’s service area, which includes the cities of Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and portions of San Jose, Santa Clara and Saratoga. Applicants may not be an employee, contractor, consultant or vendor of the district. The Audit and Finance Committee Board Policy 6401 (BP 6401) are available for review at http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.net/Public or by calling (650) 949-6100.

Currently, two committee members are needed for four-year terms in the following category:

• At-large representative

In this capacity the Audit and Finance Committee will:

• Review and monitor budget and financial material and reports related to financial matters, including bonds, certifications of participation and other funding instruments, to come before the Board of Trustees.

• Monitor the external audit selection and engagement process.

• Review independent audit reports and monitor follow up activities.

• Assist in the completion of annual reports of the Work Study Committees.

• Review annual reports of the Audit and Finance Committee.

• Review and monitor the annual report on internal controls.

• Monitor the training and development of the Audit and Finance Committee.

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter detailing their qualifications, and noting which of the above categories they would represent, to any of the following:

E-mail: chancellor@fhda.edu

Mail: Office of the Chancellor

Foothill-De Anza Community College District

12345 El Monte Road

Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Fax: (650) 941-1638

Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20. For more information, please call (650) 949-6100 or email chancellor@fhda.edu

FOOTHILL-DE ANZA Community College District Board of Trustees

seeks applicants for its Measure C Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee

Candidates appointed to the independent, volunteer Measure C Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee review and report to the public on the district’s Measure C bond expenditures. Applicants must reside in the district’s service area, which includes the cities of Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and portions of San Jose, Santa Clara and Saratoga. Applicants may not be an employee, contractor, consultant or vendor of the district. The Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee bylaws are available at www.measurec.fhda.edu or by calling (650) 949-6100.

Currently, two committee members are needed for two-year terms in the following category:

• (1) At-Large representative

• (1) FHDA Auxiliary organization representative (foundation or advisory council)

This committee is responsible for reviewing expenditures related to the district’s $490,800,000 general obligation bond, Measure C, approved by the voters on June 6, 2006.

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter detailing their qualifications, and noting the above category they would represent, to any of the following:

E-mail: chancellor@fhda.edu

Mail: Office of the Chancellor

Foothill-De Anza Community College District

12345 El Monte Road

Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Fax: (650) 941-1638

Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 20, 2019. For more information, please call (650) 949-6100 or email chancellor@fhda.edu

CALLING ALL DOGS!!!

Volunteers Needed for Pet Therapy Program

Stanford Health Care is seeking pet therapy teams (handler and dog) to visit patients at the bedside, families in waiting areas, and assist in lowering stress levels among staff. If you feel your dog can demonstrate basic obedience, has the desire and aptitude to be around strangers and other animals, is comfortable in new environments and would pass a veterinarian health screening, your dog may be eligible to volunteer in many capacities. Adults are required to meet Stanford volunteer guidelines.

Stanford Health Care’s PAWS (Pet Assisted Wellness at Stanford), in conjunction with Pet Partners is holding a free information session on Saturday, January 11th from 1pm-2pm in Palo Alto.

No pets please – humans only.

Timothy Anthony Kennedy

October 1, 1926 – October 24, 2019

Timothy Kennedy, 93, a 44-year resident of Menlo Park, died October 24, 2019. He was born October 1, 1926, in Dublin, Ireland. He graduated from Queens University Belfast with a degree in philosophy. He moved to California in 1962 to study for the priesthood at St. John Seminary in Camarillo. He was ordained a priest in 1966 for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and served for nine years in the Archdiocese. He met the love of his life, Sheila O’Connell, in 1972, and they were married in 1975. After moving to the Bay Area, he worked as a social worker with Children’s Protective Services for the County of San Mateo until his retirement in 1993. He was an active member in his parish community, the Church of the Nativity, and served as a lector, Eucharistic minister, in the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and worked with people who were joining the church through the RCIA. Tim was a regular lector on the Catholic TV mass with his wife Sheila as well. Tim had a variety of interests, primarily family, as well as reading, gardening, and all things Ireland. Predeceased by his parents, Timothy and Bridget and brothers, Gerard and Cornelius and sister, Mary Josephine. He is survived by his wife Sheila, of Menlo Park; his 3 wonderful children; daughter, Maureen Anchondo of South San Francisco, son Tim Kennedy (Maria), of San Jose, and his son Pat Kennedy (Nikki), of San Jose. He also has eight lovely grandchildren, Kristen, Carmen, Cara, Kaja, Cassie, Sofia, Isabella and Timothy. Tim’s great smile, openness to everyone he met, and joy in living will be missed by all who loved him. A prayer Vigil will be held on Monday, Nov. 4th at 7:00 p.m. and Funeral Mass on Tuesday, Nov. 5th at 11:00 a.m. Both services will be held at The Church of the Nativity at 210 Oak Grove Ave. Menlo Park. Memorial donations may be made to the Nativity St. Vincent de Paul Society 210 Oak Grove Ave. Menlo Park or The Catholic TV Mass, One Peter York Way, San Francisco, CA 94109.
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Robert Walker Miller
November 1940 – December 2014

November 3
Please raise a toast to
Robert Walker Miller
Happy Birthday
The world is a more beautiful place because of you.
11-1940 – 12-2014
We’ll miss you forever
Joan and Kristine

Cheryl Lita Eitner-England
December 10, 1958 - September 24, 2019

After battling Stage IV Metastatic Breast Cancer for 3 years, Cheryl Lita went home to be with her Lord and Savior.

Lita was born in Redwood City, and lived in Menlo Park for 31 years. After she married her husband, Garoon, she lived in Union City for 30 years. Besides her husband, she is survived by her daughter, Mica England, also of Union City. She also survived by her four brothers, Max, Dan, Al, and Bill Eitner, all living on the San Francisco Peninsula, as well as her aunt, Denise Cox Boyd and several cousins, living in Northern California.

Lita graduated from Menlo-Atherton High School, Menlo Park, in 1977. She graduated from San Jose State University With Great Distinction earning a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology in 1981 and received a second Bachelor’s Degree With Great Distinction in Television and Film in 1986.

She published two Young Adult Historical Fiction Novels, Bullmina the Courageous Bulldog in 2004, and its sequel, Bullmina the Courageous Bulldog to the Rescue in 2010. In 2016 she published a new book of poetry, "Sun Chasers: Poems of Joy, Peace and Love". Decades later she met the love of her life, John Beatty. They eventually settled in Portola Valley and quickly developed many cherished friendships. They spent many years traveling with friends, playing tennis, golf, entertaining and truly enjoying this life. Marilee was a long time Peninsula Volunteer, who loved being with “The Ladies” enjoying bridge games and lunch dates always keeping connected to the friendships she adored. She never forgot a birthday, anniversary or thank you and a card was guaranteed to be in your mailbox with her return address.

She is survived by her beloved daughter Jill Morehead, son Dean Morehead, step-daughters Susan Hites, Tracy Todd, Nancy Noble (Reno Bruce), 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Her consistent companion Lola became her rock and deeply trusted caregiver. Words can express the immense gratitude the family feels towards her care team, Lola, Stale, Les, and Regina for their unwavering loving care and the outstanding Mission Hospice team, especially our beloved Anna Woods.

The family will hold a private memorial service. In honor of Marilee, please support Mission Hospice - San Mateo with a donation. www.missionhospice.org

Marilee S. Beatty
Marilee S. Beatty passed away peacefully on Oct 20th surrounded by abundant love. She was 85.

Marilee was 3rd generation San Franciscan, a distinction that made her very proud. She attended Lowell High School, SF City College then Cal Berkeley. Following Cal, she had a brief career in retail, which no doubt, was the foundation for her love of shopping. Marilee married Bob Morehead and together they raised two children in Tiburon. Decades later she met the love of her life, John Beatty. They eventually settled in Portola Valley and quickly developed many cherished friendships. They spent many years traveling with friends, playing tennis, golf, entertaining and truly enjoying this life. Marilee was a long time Peninsula Volunteer, who loved being with “The Ladies” enjoying bridge games and lunch dates always keeping connected to the friendships she adored. She never forgot a birthday, anniversary or thank you and a card was guaranteed to be in your mailbox with her return address.

She is survived by her beloved daughter Jill Morehead, son Dean Morehead, step-daughters Susan Hites, Tracy Todd, Nancy Noble (Reno Bruce), 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Her consistent companion Lola became her rock and deeply trusted caregiver. Words can express the immense gratitude the family feels towards her care team, Lola, Stale, Les, and Regina for their unwavering loving care and the outstanding Mission Hospice team, especially our beloved Anna Woods.

The family will hold a private memorial service. In honor of Marilee, please support Mission Hospice - San Mateo with a donation. www.missionhospice.org
Wrong time, wrong place

Chicago-based boutique hotel firm thinks it can overcome opposition with pledges to nonprofits

It’s not clear whether Adventurous Journeys Capital Partners (AJ Capital) did a terrible job at researching the zoning obstacles they would face when buying the 75-room President Hotel in downtown Palo Alto. In one of these obstacles, the company just could not sway Palo Alto officials and residents into approving their conversion of an apartment building back into a hotel.

But the privately held firm, which has developed some 20 hotels in the western United States, has a brochure describing the vision for the renovation of the now-empty University Avenue apartment building and hosted an “open house” Tuesday at Il Fornaio to chat up the public and answer questions. Guests, many of whom oppose the conversion, enjoyed free wine and appetizers as a handful of protesters carried signs outside.

Among the promised recipients of a million dollars is Palo Alto Housing, the nonprofit housing developer that would be leading the opposition to the loss of rental housing that would result from the President’s conversion to a hotel. Other nonprofit organizations that AJ Capital’s philanthropy is expected to benefit are the Downtown Streets Team, Palo Alto Partners in Education, the Palo Alto History Museum and the Palo Alto Transportation Management Association.

None of these organizations have announced support for the President Apartment project, and several said the donations being pledged were not being viewed as firm commitments because they were contingent on AJ Capital being issued a building permit. A fortune-telling brochure describes a similar process. Offers of cash in exchange for zoning changes may have been a successful strategy for AJ Capital in other projects, but it would be unprecedented in Palo Alto. While development proposals are usually required to mitigate their impacts through fees and, sometimes, negotiated infrastructure improvements, community benefits unrelated to the development have been limited to special “planned community” developments where such benefits were required. Partially because of the appearance that developers were just paying money for the right to exceed zoning requirements, this practice was halted by the City Council several years ago.

Facebook has made many donations to nonprofits in the east Menlo Park and East Palo Alto communities prior to seeking approvals of its various developments from the Menlo Park City Council, hoping that such philanthropy will create goodwill among residents. But besides these and other legal obstacles, the conversion to a hotel requires a city-wide vote under the state’s eminent domain law.

City zoning requires 100 parking places for a hotel of this size, and only 10 spaces currently exist. That total can be cut through the use of valet parking and incentives for tenants occupying an historic building, but even with those measures there would be a large parking deficit and potential in-law parking fees could reach $10 million.

In addition to the parking problem, the city passed an ordi- nance last year limiting the conversion of residences to non- residential uses. AJ Capital argues this doesn’t apply to them because it took effect after all the tenants had moved out, rendering the apartments no longer a residential use. Such logic would mean that any apartment building property owner could simply allow a building to become vacant and then proceed with converting it to non-residential use. That is clearly not the intent.

But besides these and other legal obstacles, the conversion would mean the loss of approximately 20 apartment units, a large citywide trench and tunnel separation option under consideration.

City Council staff and the latest incarnation of the Citizen Advisory Panel (XCAP) are indeed considering grade separation options for three of Palo Alto’s at-grade crossings in order to improve traffic flow and increase options for bicycle and pedestrian safety. However, as of March, 2010, all proposals for Churchill that required “buyings” have been eliminated from consideration on that account. The necessity of taking property, along with the expense, is what doomed the popular cityside trench and tunnel options. Indeed, the only grade separation option under consideration for Churchill that does not require property seizures is the viaduct.

I have noticed this particular suggestion — that all grade separation designs, including a viaduct, require takings — in a number of Weekly articles about the rail crossing issue. Unfortunately, I have had it repeated by some of my neighbors as well. I am dis- appointed that the Weekly has not been following the very challenging work of sorting through rail crossing options closely enough to get facts right from the mouth of right. As a regular observer of the CAP and XCAP, I would say the issue is challenging enough without our primary news source whipping up anxiety with a false threat of eminent domain.

Susan Newman
Portola Avenue, Palo Alto

What do you think?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you.

We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at lle@paweekly.com or 650-225-6800, or Editor Jacelynn Dong at editor@paweekly.com.
Traffic Study: a rhyme for our time

by Evelyn Preston

Who has devised this mind-blowing maze, narrowed goals and kept us together? A modern labyrinth choked and blocked with increasing traffic loads? Left turn lights help a bit, though the lane’s too short; Note tire-marked cement where cars tried to abort When barred from home driveways with no U’ees allowed, Cut-off homeowners add to the crowding crew.

And if Silicon Valley’s the center of high tech innovation, Why aren’t more traffic signals set for high tech synchronization? When we’re told we ought to ... ditch the auto, We shun most transit modes ... to stay on roads. Yet when it comes to choice ... we still give voice To what’s not real ... then take the wheel.

Beware of the biker’s, so elusive at dark; Never miss them at curbside where cars also park; Pray they show pinpoints of light, hope for bright red! Dodge drab-clothed pedestrians, a hazard to dread.

Long, low planters clutter the middle, making less room at most corners; But flowers and plants can’t compensate for all the space we’ve lost.

Aim early for the foothills, play late at the beach; What a shame they’re so incredibly hard to reach. Even short P. A. trips demand staying power, Often snaking along under 25 miles per hour.

But we love the Bay Area bounty, in spite of quakes and who-knows-when rain; But flowers and plants can’t compensate for all the space that we’ve lost.

Drive through the time prime to keep us on our toes. Instead we do everything else while we speed along without care, Eat, drink, talk and tap on our phones as if of the dangers unaware.

The old system’s erased, replaced by the New Green; Perhaps buying back what we’ve lost might soon be seen. When during fuse congestion, whether night or day, Would tax-strapped councils decree that drivers must pay?

Like cruising express lanes, FasTrak’s the future “new normal”—in fact. Opting to live life in the “fast lane,” we’ll all need a cash app for that!

When we’re told we ought to ... ditch the auto, We shun most transit modes ... to stay on roads. Yet when it comes to choice ... we still give voice To save-the-air zeal ... then take the wheel.

We used to only see trucks on the Oakland side, Now big rigs here threaten to jack-knife and collide! And loose State laws add lane-splitters to our woes. We shun most transit modes ... to stay on roads. Yet when it comes to choice ... we still give voice To what’s asked for ... but can’t take the wheel anymore.

Evelyn Preston is a former Palo Alto teacher and a 25-year investment adviser who now writes.

Read more opinions online

Palo Alto Online's bloggers are writing about everything from innovation and politics to the environment and family. Here are excerpts from the latest posts from a few of our bloggers. Discuss these and other topics with them at PaloAltoOnline.com/blogs.

'I Don’t Want to Say This to My Partner…'
by Chandrama Anderson
Posted Oct. 25, 2019

I hear this phrase from clients on a regular basis. You don’t want to say the hard things out loud. There are a number of reasons for this:
I can’t not know it myself once I say it to him/her.
I am afraid of hurting him/her.
I feel like a bad person for feeling/thinking this.

There are a few reasons why it is important to say the scary stuff.

'Done with Gender'
by Laura Stec
Posted Oct. 20, 2019

I keep hearing about kids changing their gender and keep wondering why. Then last weekend happened. I was at a local watering hole Sunday when a guy asks me to dance. The meeting was uneventful — we boogied only a minute before the song ended, thank you exchanged, and we turned away.

About a half hour later I leave, when I see my dance partner coming straight at me. Face scrunches with rebuff, talk to the hand, and I block by opening my car door. I slip inside; he bellows, “I have no one to talk to,” and while backing up he sweetens the deal with, “I’m single!”

Why don’t city officials love my car?
by Diana Diamond
Posted Oct. 29, 2019

I love my little hybrid gas-sipping silver car, but it’s unrequited love. City officials don’t adore my car the same way I do. They’d prefer to see me walk or bike; they keep on spending transportation money on more bike lanes and narrower roads, and once streets go on a diet, their attitude seems to be “problem solved!” — when it really isn’t (think Charleston and Arastadero roads in Palo Alto where commute congestion clogs intersections daily).

Hurtling into the 21st century. Or not.
by Sherry Listgarten
Posted Oct. 27, 2019

I live from the past most of the time. I expect many of you do as well. What I mean by that is our experience and expectations are largely colored by the past rather than some vision of the future. It makes sense since all we know is the past; it forms the basis of our memories, our attachments, our habits. I was reminded of this orientation the other day, when my (teenaged) daughter was upset that I had put the Halloween pumpkin in a new spot.

There’s generally nothing wrong with this perspective. We enjoy a sense of stability and have less day-to-day stress by maintaining continuity from past to present.
Paintings that make connections

Painter Jordan Casteel’s “Returning the Gaze,” her first solo museum show, is all about recognizing and reflecting relationships. As the title suggests, the subjects of her large, richly textured and brightly colored portraits are often staring straight at the viewer, inviting conversation and demanding acknowledgement. In some of her work, the image is a faceless, close-cropped detail, such as a hand resting on the top of a skateboard, but the effect is no less conversational. The exhibition, making its West Coast premiere at Stanford University’s Cantor Arts Center, features 29 paintings from the past half-decade. The exhibition will be on view until Feb. 2, 2020.

The “Brothers” series, Casteel said at a recent press preview, explores “what male-to-male relationships look like intergenerationally; how to represent the black male as a vulnerable, intimate being, as I have known them.” In “Marcus and Jace,” for example, an adult man has his arm wrapped tenderly around a sleeping boy.

Casteel created the “Visible Man” series toward the end of her MFA program at Yale University. These subjects are nude, a choice Casteel made in order to further emphasize the vulnerability and humanity of black men, whose bodies, she said, have historically been villainized, marginalized and victimized. They’re also shown with objects they intentionally chose as meaningful, such as in “Ato,” in which the subject poses in a chair that had belonged to his grandmother, next to a photograph of his mother.

In some pieces, she pushes against stereotypes and assumptions by painting skin tones in unnatural shades of green, blue and red.

“Every time people say I only paint black men, I push them to see beyond that,” she said, “because I see so much of myself within this work; the feminine does not seem absent.”

After Yale, Casteel moved to New York, finding a sense of home in the “vibrancy and energy” of Harlem, chronicling the landscape of neighbors and neighborhood landmarks that make up the community. Her most recent work, a series of zoomed-in paintings inspired by moments on the subway, evolved from curiosity about how she might be able to present an engaging scene without the piercing eye-contact of many of her portraits, she said. These pieces are no less powerful at reflecting authentic human moments, such as in “Lean,” in which a “Do not lean on door” train sign is juxtaposed with the figure of a child leaning in to an adult’s leg.

According to curator Aleesa Pitchamarn Alexander, “What Jordan’s practice is really asking of us is to stop and make a connection with a painting that is really a connection with the artist’s community.”

Masters of photography

Photography has a long and distinguished history at Stanford. The latest addition to the museum’s impressive photographic holdings, 1,000 prints by seven notable American artists, is a gift from the Capital Group Foundation. Rather than a large scale, blockbuster-type exhibition displaying the entire gift, the museum has chosen to present the new acquisitions in a series of smaller shows that will focus on just a few artists.

For the inaugural exhibition, “West x Southwest: Edward Weston and Ansel Adams,” the museum has selected two iconic photographers whose output is indelibly linked with the American West. (“West x Southwest” will be on view until Jan. 6, 2020. The second show in the series, “John Gutmann, Helen Levitt, Wright Morris,” will open Jan. 20, 2020, followed by a show of work by Gordon Parks in May.)

Majestic images of Yosemite are what most people associate with Ansel Adams but he also traveled around the desert Southwest,

Edward Weston’s “Chandler (on the cowshed wall),” above, and Jordan Casteel’s “Marcus and Jace,” top, are currently on view at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University.
capturing dramatic landscapes in New Mexico and Arizona. His “St. Frances Church” is a stark depiction of an adobe structure, its slab walls solidly rooted into the sand. In another image, “Aspens, Northern New Mexico,” Adams invokes a chiaroscuro effect, with tree trunks appearing like streaks of light against a deep black background of forest. And while Adams is mainly known for his landscape work, two portraits of friend and fellow F64 Group founder Edward Weston are wonderfully insightful, showing Weston looking at Edward Weston are wonderfully insightful, showing Weston looking at Edward Weston while Adams is mainly known for his portrait work when he moved away from the impressionistic style of pictorialism and became an advocate of “straight photography.” A trip to Mexico resulted in a new focus on detail, which can be seen in a series of still lifes of everyday objects on a table top. Weston would take many nude photos of friends and lovers but the lone example here is quite minimal — the broad back of a seated woman. Shape, whether the human form or that of a green pepper, was fascinating to the artist.

Zabriskie Point in Death Valley was visited by both men and viewers may enjoy comparing how the textures of the dunes and patterns of light and shadows were so skillfully captured by these two masters of black-and-white photography.

**Stanford’s cabinet of wonders**

If it wasn’t for the untimely death of teenage Leland Stanford Jr., who created his own museum collection in the top floor of his family’s San Francisco mansion, Stanford University may never have existed.

It was the desire of his grieving parents, Jane and Leland Stanford, to honor their bright and curious son’s memory that led to the founding of what eventually became the Cantor Arts Center (and, of course, the university itself).

Curated by 2019-20 Diekman Contemporary Commissions Program Artist Mark Dion, Cantor’s new, ongoing exhibition (opening in conjunction with the museum’s 125th anniversary), “The Melancholy Museu: Love, Death, and Mourning at Stanford,” brings together more than 700 objects collected by the Stanford family, including toys, stuffed birds and other natural history specimens, jewelry, ancient artifacts and personal items, to help tell the Stanford story. It’s a story of so much loss, to Dion’s estimation, the tragic loss of a beloved only child ultimately led to the founding of Silicon Valley, changing the course of history. By examining the material culture Stanford Jr. found meaningful as well as how his parents chose to commemorate his life, Cantor visitors get a glimpse into their perspective on the world, as well as a tribute to the campus museum, which was critically damaged by both the catastrophic 1906 and 1989 earthquakes.

“The museum’s first century of existence was steeped in sorrow and destruction,” as Susan Dackerman, John and Jill Freidenrich Director at the Cantor, puts it in her essay on “The Melancholy Museum.”

The exhibition of objects, spanning two rooms, includes a specially designed Victorian-style mourning cabinet. Visitors are invited to open more than 50 drawers filled with all sorts of treasure, making it an interactive experience of discovery.

Dion, according to the exhibition’s press materials, uses archaeological and other scientific means of collecting and exhibiting specimens and is known for organizing objects in unexpected ways (the mourning cabinet is organized according to the classical elements: fire, air, earth, water and ether).

Stanford undergraduate and graduate students contributed to the massive project, including to the extensive, essay-filled field guide that accompanies the exhibition.

As visitors can encounter such tidbits as an eric’ spirit photograph, a plaster paw imprint, confetti thrown to Leland Stanford Jr. from an Italian prince during a Roman carnival and an “imitation finger,” the effect of the exhibition proves both quirky and poignant.

*Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane can be emailed at kkane@paweekly.com. Freelance writer Sheryl Nonnenberg can be emailed at nonnenberg@aol.com.*
Eating Out

The Scots have left the historic Alhambra building in downtown Redwood City and the Irish have moved in. Martins West Gastropub served its last fried haggis this past summer, pulling up stakes after a decade in the beautiful 1896 building. Local lore says gunslinger Wyatt Earp once tossed back drinks here while his wife sang and danced in the Alhambra’s upstairs playhouse. But the Wild West long ago gave way to wild rents and endless construction on ever-gentrifying Main Street. As they closed the books on their gastropub, Martins West’s owners cited labor shortages, rising costs and other familiar challenges for the region’s family-owned restaurants.

Nevertheless, Erik Barry, owner of Mountain View’s St. Stephen’s Green and native of County Wexford, saw an opportunity. He lured back to the Bay Area his former St. Stephen’s Green general manager (also from County Wexford), inherited much of the Martins West staff and set about establishing the only Irish pub in downtown Redwood City.

Like most right-thinking people, I love Irish pubs. They pretty much capture in one warm and convivial place that’s all good and right in the world: community, humor, good drink and soulful music. And in this case some pretty tasty food as well. Alhambra Irish House follows in the gastropub tradition of its predecessor. (The term “gastropub” was coined in England about 25 years ago, denoting a public house that showcases food well above the quality of typical pub grub.)

The Alhambra’s exposed brick walls, wide plank floors and long, redwood bar harken back to the building’s 1890s saloon days. The soaring ceiling, TV screens and loud music (modern pop stuff, not traditional Irish music) create buzz—a little too much for my liking. I prefer not having to shout over my pint, but there’s no denying it is a lively place, especially for the after-work crowd.

Four months into operations, the Irish House still looks a lot like Martins West. They’re slowly moving toward a more Irish-themed décor and vibe. Renovations, extended hours, more tap beers and live music are all in the works. General manager Des Whelan said that the upgrades likely will roll out slowly over the course of several months given the building’s historic status and attendant need for city approvals. So, while the Irish House hasn’t yet achieved full Irish-ification, Barry and Whelan are leveraging their St. Stephen’s Green experience to make a fine contribution to the craic in Redwood City. They host team trivia contests on Tuesday evenings and happy hour runs from 4:30–6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Meals start with fresh, grainy soda bread, served with pats of Kerrygold butter. The recipe is Whelan’s and he should be famous from here to Dublin for it. Sweetened with honey, this dense-but-moist version of Ireland’s iconic bread has no baking soda-bitterness to it. It is almost like cake. A bruschetta-style appetizer on the happy hour menu ($8) was another winner: crusty bread toasted with sweet heirloom

Alhambra Irish House keeps the fun alive in historic downtown space

Story by Monica Schreiber | Photos by Sammy Dallal

Top: James Hill enjoys a Guinness at Alhambra Irish House in Redwood City. Above: Alhambra Irish House’s burger with Irish cheddar, caramelized onion, tomato, pickles, arugula and paprika aioli.
tomatoes, fresh mozzarella and a garlicky almond pesto.

Of course they offer shepherd’s pie ($18), a comforting but otherwise unremarkable bowl of ground lamb and beef, peas and gravy topped with mashed potatoes. The fish and chips ($22) showcased an impressive slab of Icelandic haddock — damn near the size of a leprechaun’s surfboard, I’d say. The fish was too greasy, but it was flaky and substantial, and the chips were crispy and piping hot.

The succulent, if slightly messy, Alhambra burger ($17) was topped with Irish cheddar, caramelized onion, heirloom tomatoes, pickles, arugula and paprika aioli. The accompanying side of fries was enough for two. I’m not sure what possessed me to order mushroom and pea tagliatelle ($17) in an Irish pub, but it was perhaps my favorite dish, a generous bowl of pasta and fresh peas made decadent with cream, shallots and Irish whiskey.

Candied bacon ($7) from the bar snacks portion of the menu sounded naughty and intriguing, described as being glazed with Irish whiskey and maple syrup. The four slices of bacon we received tasted only slightly sweet, not all that different from standard-issue breakfast fare. The house-made salt and vinegar potato chips ($6) proved the better choice for a bar snack.

The menu currently showcases 14 draft beers ($8-9), including the classics you’d expect — Guinness, Harp and Smithwicks — and a nice selection of lesser known Irish and West Coast brews. Expect the on-tap selection to grow markedly in the coming months.

In addition to several whiskey flights ($17-$21), each one showcasing three whiskies or bourbons, there’s also a solid cocktail menu. I recommend the Irish Mule ($12), made with Tullamore D.E.W, a triple blended and very smooth whiskey, ginger beer and squeeze of lime. It happens to be the only cocktail that gets the half-off treatment at happy hour. Ask for light ice.

An Irish pub absolutely must have friendly and convivial service and for the most part, the Irish House is delivering on that front. A meal at the bar on a Friday evening was enhanced by friendly chit-chat with the folks behind the bar, all of whom seemed genuinely excited by what is in store for Wyatt Earp’s old hangout.

Freelance writer Monica Schreiber can be emailed at monicahayde@yahoo.com.
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Many colors and sizes to choose from.
Few filmmakers working today display the combination of storytelling command, visual and editorial craft and perverse edge that distinguishes Bong Joon-ho, the writer-director of “The Host” returns with “Parasite,” an income-inequality comedy that’s also a tin-turked thriller. Bong masterfully constructs a comic first act destined to implode in a suspenseful second act. With a skilful cast, dazzling confidence and Fincher-esque control of design, photography and pacing, Bong delivers wild ride entertainment that’s funny, squirming, horrifying and poignant all in service of a zeitgeist-y story of working-class frustration.

It’s a dog-eat-dog world, where plans will always be disrupted by the chaos of nature and the predictability of human nature. “Parasite” implicitly poses the question of who is truly living off of whom in today’s economy that, if it continues on its current course, seems destined for class warfare. When populism fails at the ballot box, can violence be far behind? The stakes established, Bong hurtles into his unapologetic comic thriller with reckless abandon, following the allegorical fantasy where it wants to go. “Parasite” suggests that struggle tightens the bonds of family — but an untested family, warm in the lap of luxury, and a cloud of ignorance. Deliver a shock to that system and the pain and wilderment may be undurable, irreversible.

Rated R for language, some violence and sexual content. Two hours, 12 minutes. — Peter Canavese
ENGLISH STORYBOOK CHARM IN COMMUNITY CENTER

707 Kingsley Avenue, Palo Alto

Delightful curb appeal and a bright, light atmosphere are hallmarks of this enchanting home, which rests on a lot of over 4,500 sq. ft. (per county) in the vibrant Community Center neighborhood. Boasting all the charm of an English storybook cottage, this home of 1,260 sq. ft. (per county) welcomes you with a fanciful garden entrance, while inside, enticing details such as glazed art tiles, built-in cabinetry, and a coved ceiling honor the home’s heritage and create unmatched ambiance. Offering 2 bedrooms and 2 baths on the main level, this home also includes versatile upstairs bonus space that includes a bathroom plus a private outside entrance. Topping it all off, it’s just a short walk to Rinconada Park, a short drive to the amenities of downtown Palo Alto, and this home offers access to acclaimed schools Addison Elementary, Greene Middle, and Palo Alto High (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday & Sunday
1:30 - 4:30 pm

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Palo Alto.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.707Kingsley.com

Michael Repka | Managing Broker | DRE #01854880
650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
MODERN DESIGN AND TIMELESS LUXURY IN BARRON PARK

886 Chimalus Drive, Palo Alto

Contemporary design, luxurious appointments, and elegant living space – this wonderful 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home offers all of this and more, plus over 2,500 sq. ft. of living space (per county) on a 6,749 sq. ft. lot (per county GIS map) in the coveted neighborhood of Barron Park. Tremendous natural light and high, detailed ceilings create a bright, airy ambiance that carries throughout this home, highlighting numerous designer touches such as arched entryways, crown moldings, and dazzling light fixtures. Spacious formal rooms invite entertaining on a grand scale, while the eat-in kitchen with a suite of Thermador appliances has everything needed for the home chef. Enjoy the comfort of the private master suite that accesses the landscaped backyard, where a fire pit and patio provide a tremendous venue for outdoor enjoyment. Modern amenities include radiant heated floors in every bathroom, integrated speakers in numerous rooms and the backyard, plus a whole-home intercom system. Adding the finishing touch, this home’s location is within walking distance of Bol Park, close to Palo Alto’s “second downtown” on California Avenue, and offers access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Palo Alto.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMemes® using MLS Data: January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.886ChimalusDrive.com

Michael Repka | Managing Broker | DRE #01854880
650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
Want to retire more comfortably? Work longer. A Stanford University study on the financial benefits of delaying retirement until age 70 found that seniors can gain a significant amount of Social Security income to help offset drawing down their retirement savings.

The May 2019 joint report by the Stanford Center on Longevity and the Society of Actuaries studied how middle-income retirees can best maximize their financial power so they’ll have enough to live on as they age.

“Viability of the Spend Safely in Retirement in Retirement Strategy” found that working even a few extra years can mean a significant increase in retirement income. Most of the increased income comes from delaying Social Security benefits and not drawing down savings from your retirement account.

The “spend safely in retirement strategy” starts with the assumption that most older workers will fall short of commonly recommended retirement income goals — unless they can continue to work into their late 60s or 70s.

But there are ways to manage even retirement income. The spend-safely strategy anticipates that middle-income retirees will rely heavily on Social Security benefits. A previous 2017 study by the researchers found that among middle-income retirees who use the spend-safely strategy to build a retirement income, Social Security benefits represent between two-thirds to more than 80% of the portfolio. The dominance of Social Security benefits in the portfolio dampens the volatility in total retirement income from more aggressive investments, such as having a large proportion of stocks. Social Security benefits protect against the risks of longevity, inflation and market risks. The main drawback is if political winds shift and reduce Social Security payouts, the authors wrote.

The study examined 202 different retirement-income strategies.

They also looked at five hypothetical models: people who retired completely at age 62 and started Social Security benefits; those who kept working part or full time until full-retirement age 66 1/2; and those who worked part or full time until age 70 before taking the benefits and drawing from their savings.

In one scenario, a 62-year-old, middle-income couple retiring in 2019 has a combined $100,000 household income and $350,000 in retirement savings. Their retirement income would be $70,755 if they worked full time until age 70. If they worked full time until age 66 1/2, their retirement income would drop to $51,526. Retiring at age 62, they would have to live on just $37,585. The amounts are not adjusted for inflation.

(continued on page 27)
Seven days a week (October 1 – March 31, except Thanksgiving and Christmas); Monday to Friday (April 1 – September 30, except holidays)

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Senior Focus

Announcing Part Three of the Kensington Place Brain Health Speaker Series: PREVENT

Thurs, Nov 14, 2019 • 5:30-6:30pm • Bloomingdales at Stanford Shopping Center

Kensington Place is a memory care residence that exclusively serves individuals with memory loss and their families. Our team has built strong relationships with progressive industry leaders who are making a difference in the lives of people living with dementia and who are searching for a cure. Please join us for a presentation by Dr. Frank Longo, a George E. and Lucy Becker Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences at Stanford. Dr. Longo will discuss the science behind a potential cure for Alzheimer’s and will share measures that could possibly PREVENT the disease.

RSVP to info@kensingtonplacedwoodcity.com or call (650) 363-9200.
Retirement

(continued from page 24)

Starting with more money doesn’t necessarily mean retirees will be better off as they age, the researchers found. An affluent couple with a $200,000 combined pre-retirement income and $1 million in retirement savings by age 60 would have a retirement income of $69,481 at age 82 and $128,156 if they worked full time until age 70.

Although a seemingly better financial outcome, the affluent couple would also fall short of their common retirement income goals. They would be taking proportionately more income from their savings compared to the middle-income couple. As a result, they have more income subject to the savings-eroding factors, such as longevity, investment and inflation risks, the report found. The researchers suggest the more affluent couple could benefit from refining their strategy or finding alternatives to the spend-safely model.

Many retirees have inadequate savings, the analysis looked at strategies for boosting retirement income. A large portion of retirement income would come from Social Security, so retirees might put much of their savings in investments such as stocks — the theory being they have little to lose and potentially much to gain with significant earnings, the researchers pointed out. They won’t need a 100% income replacement because retirees don’t pay Federal Insurance Contributions Act payments and Medicare taxes, which amount to almost 10% of payup to the Social Security Wage Base ($132,900 in 2019). Medicare taxes kick in at 1.45% if the income is above the Social Security Wage Base, and are more for higher incomes. Retirees also pay significantly less for state and federal taxes, since a large portion of Social Security income is exempt from income taxes and taxpayers ages 65 and older have larger tax deductions.

The full report can be found online at tinyurl.com/y6haadm7 or at longevity.stanford.edu.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.

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Living Well

NOVEMBER 2019

Nov 1
Avenidas Rose Kleiner Center Open House 10-11am; tours; 11am-12pm, caregiver support group. 270 Escuela, Mountain View. Call 650-289-5499 for more info. Free.

Nov 2

Nov 3

Nov 5
Collage Club every Tuesday, 9:30-11:30am, Avenidas Rose Kleiner Center, 270 Escuela, Mountain View. RSVP required. Morning coffee included. Free.

Nov 6
Current Events 1:30pm every Wednesday, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Bring your own project and supplies. Drop-in, free.

Nov 7
Avenidas Village Coffee Chat 2pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Space is limited. RSVP required. Call 650-289-5405. Free.

Nov 8
Club Avenidas (Needlework Club) every Friday, 2-4 pm, Avenidas@Cubberley. Bring your own project. Light instruction only. Drop-in, free.

Nov 10
Sound Bath 10am, Avenidas@450 Bryant. RSVP required. Call 650-289-5400. $25/$30

Nov 12
Read Aloud 21st Century Playwrights begins, Tuesdays, 2-4pm, 11/12-12/17, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Call 650-289-5400, $120/$130

Nov 13
Book Club: Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng, 2-3,4pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Drop-in, free.

Nov 14
Bottle Art class begins Thursdays, 11/14-12/12, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Call 650-289-5400. $20/$25 + materials

Nov 15
Social Bridge every Friday, 1-4pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Call 650-289-5400 for more info. Drop-in, free.

Nov 18
Presentation: “Year-End Tax Planning” 2-3:30pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. RSVP requested. Call 650-289-5400. Free.

Nov 19
Avenidas Village Coffee Chat 2pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Space is limited. RSVP required. Call 650-289-5400. Free.

Nov 20
Presentation: The California Voter’s Choice Act 10:30-11:30am, Avenidas@450 Bryant. RSVP required. Call 650-289-5400. Free.

Nov 21
Avenidas Hikers 9:30am every Thursday. Email Susan at Susanj1942@gmail.com for trailhead info or to schedule. Free

Nov 22
Annual Holiday Sale handmade hats, scarves, jewelry and more, 10am-2pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Presentation: “Designing Avenidas” 11:30-12:30pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. RSVP requested. Call 650-289-5400. Free.

“Future Perfect” 2-3:30pm, Senior Planet@Avenidas. RSVP required. Email msp@seniorplanetavendas.org, free.

Nov 25
Classical Chinese Mah Jong every Monday, 1-4pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Call Sylvia 650-327-6216. Free.

Nov 26
Avenidas Walkers 11am – every Tuesday. Call 650-387-5256 for trailhead info or to schedule. Free

Nov 27
Mindfulness Meditation every Wednesday, 2-3pm, Avenidas@450 Bryant. Drop-in, free.

Nov 28
Avenidas closed

Nov 29
Avenidas closed

To find out more about Avenidas Village, feel free to call, stop by or attend one of our monthly Coffee Chats. Thursday, 11/7 at 2 pm Tuesday, 11/19 at 2 pm

To register, call (650) 289-5405 or visit www.avenidasvillage.org

Avenidas Village

450 Bryant Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301

For complete schedule or info about Avenidas events, call 650-289-5400.
For many years, Rosalind Creasy kept up a unique garden-to-table tradition with the children in her Los Altos neighborhood. With the kids’ help, Creasy would plant winter wheat in her front-yard garden, harvest it and bake it into bread.

“Kids would come over and plant the wheat. Then they’d come back on the Fourth of July; they’d come that morning, early, harvest the wheat, thresh it on the drive-way and put it on a wheelbarrow,” she said.

After her gardener used a leaf blower to blow away the chaff, Creasy would place the wheat in a grain-grinder attachment on her kitchen mixer, make flour and then bake the bread, all with an assist from little hands. “The children would bring the warm bread to the neighborhood,” she said. “It was like a sacrament. We ended up with this amazing connection with bread. We’ve grown the wheat and produced the bread,” she said.

Creasy, a renowned author, photographer and pioneer in edible landscaping, emphasizes the point that our culture has lost touch with our food. The intense flavors and bright colors that come with a home garden, particularly with heirloom varieties, can help re-create that connection, she said. When kids are helping tend the garden, the possibilities for connection — and fun — are pretty much limitless.

Hidden Villa farm in Los Altos Hills is exploring those possibilities with a rare chance to hear Creasy speak on Nov. 3. The community farm is hosting a free “Gardening With Kids” class with Creasy. Though the topic focuses on sparking children’s imaginations in the garden, the class is for grown-ups only.

The class at Hidden Villa came about through its homesteading program.

“That is how Ros met one of our farmers and just had a connection. Then we saw her incredible garden and wanted to do everything we could to share her skills,” said Jessica DuVal, director of communications for Hidden Villa.

Hidden Villa offers a variety of classes geared for young families, and Creasy has a long connection to the community farm, starting about 30 years ago, she said, when farmers at Hidden Villa planted a rainbow demonstration garden for her.

For this class, even those with not-so-green-thumbs shouldn’t fear. It doesn’t take a project on the scale or skill level of making homegrown wheat into bread to pique children’s interest in gardening — and to use a garden to encourage a child in their unique interests. Though for beginners especially, Creasy recommended planting herbs because they’re easy to grow, they’re edible, and they have a variety of scents that children can explore.

“I call them edible plants with training wheels,” she said.

Creasy was a groundbreaking in championing planting an edible garden in the front yard, rather than a lawn, in the early 1980s.

“I had a front-yard garden in Los Altos, which at the time was considered heretical. I took out the lawn and put in a vegetable garden. It was a magnet for neighborhood children who kept wanting to come in and see what was going on,” Creasy said.

Gardening with the many young visitors to her front yard taught Creasy that letting the children guide the process was often the most effective way for them to experience the garden. If an interesting bug appeared during a planned activity, for instance, the activity might suddenly be set aside for an exploration of what bugs could be found in the yard.

“I realized that I couldn’t have any rules — gardening is taught, not taught,” Creasy said, noting that in her own upbringing, her father had given her a vegetable garden at age 5 and encouraged her to plant what she wanted where she wanted.

To draw children into a fun experience in the garden, if you can, use it on their individual interests, Creasy said. The best plants to use, she said, are simply “ones that they like.”

“Are they really artistic? Put in different colors of poppies and learn the color spectrum. If they’re more the scientist type, or interested in bugs, we could talk about ‘what flowers are we going to put in to attract the bugs’?” she said.

In the spring, it could be fun to grow a garden of natural Easter egg dyes using various colors of beets. In fact, Creasy emphasized the importance of color — something she finds sadly lacking in the current Silicon Valley aesthetic right now.

“There are just a hundred things you can do. You have to get out of this street jacket that ‘it’s got to be a little plot,’” she said.

Creasy has written numerous books on gardening and cooking, among them this introduction to organic gardening for children.
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*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

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Christy Giuliacci 650.380.5989
christyg@compass.com | DRE #01506761
This charming three-bedroom cottage in South Palo Alto, with lovely curb appeal and a cozy front porch, has a spacious living room with fireplace, a wonderful sun-lit dining room with large windows and door to a pergola-covered patio, hardwood floors, new lush front and rear lawns, and an attached garage. The home of 1097 sq. ft. is nestled on a 6009 sq. ft. lot and conveniently located close to Mitchell Park with its wonderful Library, Community Center, and Magical Bridge Playground. Excellent Schools: Fair Meadow Elementary, JLS Middle, and Gunn High.
25850 Westwind Way, Los Altos Hills

Stylish Living in a Peaceful Setting
Absolutely stunning inside and out, this light and bright Los Altos Hills home offers luxurious living on a private lot of nearly 1.26 acres (per county). Stylish appointments are everywhere you turn in this 5-bedroom, 4.5 bath home, which boasts spacious formal rooms, an incredible kitchen, office space, radiant heated floors throughout, and a recreation room housing a theater-quality projection system, all on 4,873 sq. ft. of living space (per county). Personal accommodations include the superb master suite with a custom, spa-like en suite bath. Enjoy a true indoor/outdoor lifestyle thanks to folding glass doors that seamlessly connect the family room to an inviting deck. Walk the expansive grounds that include a Japanese garden, as well as an elevated flagstone patio offering views of the Bay. Topping it all off, this fabulous location puts you just moments to the excitement of downtown Los Altos and offers access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

For video tour & more photos, please visit:
www.25850Westwind.com
Offered at $5,988,000

Open House
Saturday & Sunday
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Los Altos Hills.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018, Los Altos Hills. All Residential Properties.

Michael Repka, Managing Broker, DRE #01854880 | 中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun 電話: 650.785.5822 DRE #01933274
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Your Realtor & You
REALTORS’ Share Tips to Prepare for Public Safety Power Shutoffs

According to PG&E, the effects of climate change are making California’s wildfire season longer and more intense, threatening homes and people’s lives. In order to prevent tragedies like the deadly Camp Fire, the company plans to continue to proactively shut off electrical power to households during days of strong winds and extreme fire danger.

“These shutoffs can happen any time of day or night as weather conditions change, so it is important to prepare as much as you can and have an emergency plan,” says Alan Barbic, president of the Silicon Valley Association of REALTORS® (SILVAR).

Below are steps recommended by PG&E, SILVAR and other sources, to help homeowners prepare before a shutoff occurs:

• Create a safety plan for your family, including pets. This includes emergency contact information and an emergency supply kit with enough water and nonperishable food to last your family for a week.
• When there is no power, Wi-Fi and other devices that rely on electricity to function won’t work, so keep mobile phones and other devices charged. Better yet, have an external battery charger that can charge your phone and other devices.
• Have a battery-operated radio so you can listen for news updates.
• Have several flashlights available and store extra batteries for your flashlights and portable radio.
• Keep cash on hand, preferably in small bills, since ATMs and credit card machines may not function during an outage.
• Keep your gas tank always at least half full since pumps at gas stations may not be operable.
• If your garage door does not have a battery backup, learn how to manually open it.
• If you live in a unit that has elevators or electronic key card access, talk with your building manager about how they will deal with a possible outage.
• During a power shut-off your refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours and a full freezer will keep its temperature for about two days if they are kept closed. Use coolers with ice or freeze water in plastic containers to keep food cold.
• If you rely on electric or battery-dependent medical technologies such as breathing machines, a power wheelchair or scooter, and home oxygen or dialysis, make sure you have a plan in place for an extended power outage.

Information provided in this column is presented by the Silicon Valley Association of REALTORS’. Send questions to Rose Meily at rmeily@silvar.org.
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Despite of many misconceptions, overseas Chinese buyers still comprise a large part of the buying pool for homes in Silicon Valley. In order to reach more of these buyers, DeLeon Realty CEO Michael Repka and Listing Manager Audrey Sun will again be hosting our annual participation booth at the prestigious Luxury Property Showcase (LPS) in Shanghai from December 6-8, 2019, as well as the Hong Kong Smart Expo from November 23-24, 2019. **List your home with DeLeon Team by 11/15/2019** to receive maximum exposure to tens of thousands of Chinese buyers at these elite events!
ATHERTON
58 Northgate $3,495,000 Sun 2-4 Compass 456-5971
87 Patricia Dr $10,795,000 Sun 2-4 5 BD/3.5 BA Coldwell Banker 566-5553
46 Selby Ln $5,800,000 Sat/Sun 12-3 6 BD/5.5 BA Coldwell Banker 855-9700
246 Greenoaks Dr $7,650,000 Sun 1-4 6 BD/5.5 BA Compass 465-6210
1 Holbrook Ln $4,849,000 Sun 2-4 6 BD/5.5 BA Compass 743-0734

CUPERTINO
10584 White Fir Ct (C) $988,000 Sat/Sun 12-3 2 BD/2 BA
Coldwell Banker 857-1020

EAST PALO ALTO
2712 Georgetown St $879,000 Sat 1-4 3 BD/1 BA Coldwell Banker 704-3064

LOS ALTOS
1070 Mercedes Av #20 $975,000 Sun 2-4 2 BD/1 BA Coldwell Banker 343-2755
487 Tyndall St #5 (C) $998,000 Sun 12-3 2 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
1065 Highlands Cir Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Sereno Group Realtors 388-0029
1265 Thurston Av Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/2.5 BA Sereno Group Realtors 388-0029
485 Knoll Dr $5,999,000 Sun 12-3 6 BD/5.5 BA Sereno Group Realtors 465-7628
1855 Esberg Rd $5,286,000 Sun 2-4 6 BD/5.5 BA Sereno Group Realtors 847-9382

LOS ALTOS HILLS
26880 Ortega Dr $4,248,000 Sat/1-4 3 BD/2.5 BA Sereno Group Realtors 207-0226

MENLO PARK
675 Sharon Park Dr #320 (C) $869,000 Sat 1-4 2 BD/1 BA Coldwell Banker 203-8444
770 17th Av $1,257,000 Sat/Sun 12-3 3 BD/1 BA Coldwell Banker 900-7000
770 Forest Ln Sat/Sun 2-4 Compass 743-0734
707 Kingsley Av Sat/Sun 12-3 3 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 900-7000
710 Lemon St Sat/Sun 12-3 3 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 900-7000

MOUNTAIN VIEW
725 Mariposa Av #205 (C) $749,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 1 BD/1.5 BA Coldwell Banker 790-1018
263 Moore Dr $2,250,000 Sun 2-4 2 BD/1 BA Sereno Group Realtors 208-5961
505 Cypress Point Dr (C) $799,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 Compass 619-2732
2110 Stanford Av Sat/Sun 1-4 2 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 207-1055

PALO ALTO
181 Addison Av $4,750,000 Sun 1-4 6 BD/4 BA Coldwell Banker 334-0268
136 Coleridge Av $2,480,000 Sun 2-4 2 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 900-7000
729 Green Leaf Rd $1,200,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 Compass 334-2220
224 N. California Av $1,888,000 Sun 12-3 2 BD/1 BA Zane MacGregor 520-6290
820 Altair St Sat/Sun 12-3 2 BD/2 BA Sereno Group Realtors 898-7246
2102 Old Page Mill Rd $3,095,000 Sun 1-4 3 BD/1 BA Coldwell Banker 207-1055
3421 Orinda St Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Keller Williams Realty 630-2147
550 Santa Rita Av $4,888,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
734 Seneca St $8,479,000 Sun 2-4 3 BD/2 BA Compass 400-8424

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2881 Bryant St Sun 2-4 4 BD/4.5 BA Coldwell Banker 860-3570
270 Channing Av Sun 2-4 4 BD/2.5 BA Coldwell Banker 860-3570
868 Chimalus Dr Sun/Sat/1-5 3 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
515 Jefferson Dr Sun 1:30-4:30 4 BD/3 BA Compass 330-5669
685 Lowell Av Sun 2-4 4 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 860-3570
5400 Middlefield Rd Sun 2-4 4 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 464-4558
417 Pepper Av Sun/Sat 12-3 4 BD/2 BA Compass 245-4460
435 Santa Rita Av Sun 1:30-4:30 4 BD/2.5 BA Zane MacGregor 520-6290
369 Churchill Av Sun 12-3 4 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
4051 El Cerrito Rd Sun 12-3 5 BD/3 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
741 Homer Av Sun 12-3 5 BD/3 BA Compass 908-6088
1483 Kings Ln Sun 12-3 4 BD/2 BA Sereno Group Realtors 303-5511
2388 Louis Rd Sat/Sun 12-3 5 BD/3 BA Coldwell Banker 900-7000
2330 Tass St Sat/Sun 12-3 5 BD/3 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
2001 Webster St Sat/Sun 12-3 5 BD/3 BA Keller Williams Realty 269-7589
903 Glenbrook Dr Sat 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Compass 464-6018
142 Kellogg Av Sat/Sun 12-3 4 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
1436 Harker St Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Interco 400-4208

PORTOLA VALLEY
14411 La Honda Rd $2,795,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 2 BD/2 BA Compass 642-1952
418 Blackwood Way Sat/Sun 12-3 6 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 415-816-6230
4157 Woolwood Dr Sat 12-3 3 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 400-7002
103 Hills Dr $2,400,000 Sun 2-4 3 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 868-7002
1892 Kings Mountain Rd Sat 12-3 6 BD/3.5 BA Compass 740-2970
310 Mountain Home Ct Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
516 Patrol Rd $3,295,000 Sun 2-4 4 BD/2.5 BA Compass 245-4460
205 Eleanor Dr Sun 1:30-4:30 3 BD/2 BA Compass 245-4460
320 Family Farm Rd $5,950,000 Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/3.5 BA Compass 207-7115

WOODSIDE
5558 Church St $2,795,000 Sun 2-4 4 BD/3 BA Coldwell Banker 354-9870
5400 Mountain View Rd $2,400,000 Sun 2-4 3 BD/2 BA Coldwell Banker 868-7002
161 Kings Mountain Rd Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Compass 740-2970
110 Corte Madera Rd Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA Compass 740-2970
1400 Willowbrook Dr Sun 12-3 3 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000
2000 Willowbrook Dr Sun 12-3 3 BD/2 BA DeLeon Realty 900-7000

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Palo Alto, Sacred Heart Prep remain in contention

by Glenn Reeves

Palo Alto, Gunn and Woodside all play their final game of the season Friday. Menlo-Atherton was also scheduled to do so, but was in-formation earlier this week that Aragon had decided to forfeit the game. So the Bears are 6-3 and 4-0 in the Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division heading into their regular-season finale Nov. 8 at The King’s Academy.

Here’s a look at Friday’s matchups:

Cupertino at Gunn, 7 p.m.: Gunn (7-1, 3-1) beats Cupertino and wins at Homestead the fol-low-owing week the Titans would finish no worse than tied for first place with Saratoga in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League El Camino Division. And in that scenario, by virtue of having de-feated Saratoga, Gunn would be regarded as the league champion for Central Coast Section playoff seeding purposes.

So the march to a league champions-hip continues with Friday’s Senior Night game.

Our seniors have gone through some ups and downs,” Gunn coach Jason Miller said. “Now they get to finish on an upswing in the changing culture of Gunn football.”

Cupertino (3-5, 2-2) is led by dual-threat quarterback Damarcus Rice and running back Taylor Baik, the team leader in rushing.

“Cupertino is the most athletic team we’ll have faced as far as team speed,” Miller said. “And they have a strong defensive line. They’re coming down from the De Anza (Division), so they’re used to playing a physical brand of football.”

The Pioneers are not completely out of the El Camino race, just one game behind tri-leaders Gunn, Saratoga and Homestead.

“I think they’re going to throw the kitchen sink at us,” Miller said. “We have to be prepared for a great effort from Cupertino.”

Mountain View at Palo Alto, 7 p.m.: This is a big game for Palo Alto (5-3, 2-2) which finds itself in fourth place in the SCVAL De Anza Division stand-ings. Third-place Mountain View (7-1, 3-1) is having its best season in years, in part thanks to having capitalized on a weak non-league schedule.

“This game is huge for us,” Palo Alto coach Nelson Gifford said. “They’ll pose a big challenge. I’ve been coaching against Mountain View coach Shelley Smith ever since I came back to the SCVAL. He’s familiar with me. I’m familiar with him. The games are always a battle.”

Paly is coming off a tough 29-22 loss to Los Gatos.

“After a loss it’s always a challenge,” Gifford said. “But we’re not looking back at Los Gatos. We’re talking about Mountain View, talking about what we can do to get better. We need to whittle stuff down and re-establish our identity. When our guys are focused they’re real good. I’ve got to make sure I don’t over-coach them.”

Sophomore quarterback Danny Peters has had an outstanding sea-son, completing 96 of 151 passes (63.6 percent) for 1,548 yards and 16 touchdowns. He encountered some adversity against Los Gatos, getting intercepted three times.

“That screen pass, put that one on me,” Gifford said. “Maybe one and a half of those are on him. But he also makes up for it with some awesome throws. He’s in the conversation as one of the top quar-terbacks in the league.”

This is a big game for us.”

Palo Alto ready to hit the court

‘It’s about playing for your friends,’ Gibson says

S hortly after accepting the girls volleyball coaching position at Palo Alto, veteran Coach Kendra met with his team and then had a separate meeting with his four seniors. His message was simple.

“He told us to see ourselves with the CCS Open Division championship trophy,” senior Rebekah Limb said. “He came in with a lot of confidence about Saratoga’s chances of winning.

The Open Division is relatively new to the Central Coast Section, established in 2016 to bring togeth-er the eight best teams, regardless of division, to form a super tournament. It’s been a success.

Entering its fourth year, the Open Division has become a sym-:bol of prestige, a guaranteed spot in the NorCal playoffs and a path to a possible state final. Every team starts the season wanting to be one of the participants.

Last year, Palo Alto became the first public school to win in the Open Division, beating St. Francis in four sets. The Vikings lost to the Lancers the previous season.

“He knew a lot about our team,” senior Grace Thayer said. “We didn’t know where he was coming from but we have friends who played for him in club volleyball and heard good things. He calls us ‘Warriors’ a lot, like we’re the War-rriors of the league, being the best historically. We had to play like the best.”

Palo Alto, which went unde-feated in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League, and Peninsula Athlet-ic League champion Menlo-Atherton meet in the first round of this year’s Open Division, and will play at 3 p.m. Saturday at Palo Alto. The Vikings are seeded third and the Bears are seeded sixth.

West Bay Athletic League champ-ion Notre Dame Belmont is also in, along with Menlo School, which tied for second but had a solid sec-ond half. WCAL champion Sacred Heart Cathedral is No. 1 seed and will play at No. 8 Sacred Heart Prep on Sat-urday. No. 5 Notre Dame travels to No. 4 St. Francis and No. 2 Mitty hosts No. 7 Valley Christian.

The Bear coaches are well aware of the private schools is the longevity of their coaches. That’s not case at Palo Alto. The seniors, despite win-nings a state title, have been led by four different coaches.

“It’s a tough deal for the seniors to have four coaches in four years,” Coach Kendra said. “I think they’re coming to terms now how they welcomed me. They had a great thing going before I showed up.”

Palo Alto appeared in its first CCS championship game in 2000,
The best part of the season is now
Top-ranked Cardinal looks forward to final weeks
by Rick Eymer

T he Stanford men’s water polo team has reached the championship portion of its schedule and it’s got everybody’s attention.

The top-ranked Cardinal, which has won its last 10 straight, travels to play defending national champion USC on Saturday at 1 p.m. in a rematch of last year’s title match.

“We feel we’re prepared,” Stanford senior goalie Andrew Chun said. “When we looked at the schedule, we looked at late October, November and thought that’s when the real season starts.”

Chun recorded a career-high 18 saves and Stanford, playing for the first time in two weeks, held off a strong challenge from visiting No. 5 Pepperdine to win a nonconference game, 12-11, on Sunday.

Pepperdine was coming off a victory over USC, which has won seven of the past 11 national titles. The Trojans were the national runner-up in the other years.

Stanford reached its first NCAA title match since 2008 and has been in four championships since last winning the title in 2002.

“We clearly know the next three weeks sets everything up,” Cardinal coach John Vargas said. “It’s an important piece of the season and the seniors appreciate it. We’re working for this moment, even if they may not know who will coach.

Senior Mia Gibbs, who will be attending, and playing for, Dartmouth (along with M-A’s Natalie Grover in the fall), has talked about the team culture all season and how they believe in themselves and each other and all they need is confidence.

“Sometimes when you’ve had some time off, you tend to play too quickly or not quickly enough.”

The Cardinal never trailed but Pepperdine never let Stanford get comfortable. AJ Rossman scored on a power play with 33 seconds left to put Stanford up 12-10 but the Waves answered 12 seconds later. The Cardinal was able to run out the clock afterward.

Andrew Chun earned Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Player of the Week honors after recording a career-high 18 saves in Stanford’s win over Pepperdine.

“Pepperdine is having a great season,” Williams said. “They were coming off that big win over USC and have something to prove. They took it to us. It’s something we can learn from.”

Maroco recorded 13 saves for a .520 save percentage and even stopped a shot from former SHP teammate Larsen Weigle, who settled for an assist as his statistical contribution.

“Once we get into a rhythm we’ll be all right,” Chun said. “Sometimes when you’ve had some time off, you tend to play too quickly or not quickly enough.”

Volleyball
(continued from page 41)

against St. Francis. The Vikings went another nine years before reappearing in 2009 against undeated Misty that went on to a state championship.

Palo Alto broke through, winning state titles in 2010-11 under Dave Winn, who currently coaches at Mountain View. The Vikings appeared in four CCS title matches since 2009 and before they made the Open Division.

“As soon as I accepted the job I began thinking about the potential,” said Crader, who has coached seven CCS champions at Menlo and Carlmont. “It would have been a disservice not to talk about the CCS Open Division.”

The seniors appreciate it.

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Football

Sacred Heart Prep at Burlingame, 7 p.m.: The Gators (6-2, 3-1) are coming off a big win against The King’s Academy and former coach Pete Lavrato that puts them in second place in the PAL Bay standings. Now they have to get up for a Burlingame team (3-5, 1-3) that is reeling after a 42-0 loss to Menlo-Atherton. Burlingame losing to M-A was not a surprise. The margin of victory was 21-0.

“Usually in the past they kept it close even when it was a physical mismatch,” SHP coach Mark Grieb said. “It doesn’t take away from how tough they are, how hard they compete. We’ve got to be prepared to play against a well-coached team. In the years I’ve been here I don’t think we’ve ever had a game against Burlingame that wasn’t close. Last year we had a defensive touchdown and a special teams touchdown and other than that didn’t do much. I know record-wise things haven’t gone our way but, they’re a good team.”

The Gators got a boost in the fourth quarter of the TKA game when standout running back Tevita Moimoi returned to action after sitting out with an injury incurred against Menlo-Atherton.

“I wasn’t planning to put him in at all,” Grieb said. “But he said, ‘coach, I feel good.’ Hopefully he’s feeling better this week.”

Menlo School at Sequoia, 7 p.m.: Both teams have got to feel like a hard-to-come-by win is possible in this game. Menlo (3-5, 1-3) is coming off a 21-10 loss to San Mateo in which it was unable to dig itself out of an early 14-0 hole.

“We soon realized how much better San Mateo runs their offense than our scout team does,” Menlo coach Josh Bowie said. “We were able to shut them down after the first two drives. Like so often this season we were our own best friend and worst enemy.”

Elliot Kinder will make his third start at quarterback as senior Kevin Alarcon has been ruled out for the rest of the season. “We trust Elliot can make the throws we need,” Bowie said. “Penalties hurt us against San Mateo. We can’t afford to play behind the sticks.”

Sequoia (3-5, 0-3), looking for its first PAL Ocean win, will run a pro-style offense with the comfort of your home.

“We have to be sound in every phase of the game,” Bowie said. “Every game we’ve been undersized, our 170-pound center outweighed by 80 pounds at the point of attack. But there’s no quit in our guys.”

South San Francisco at Woodside, 7 p.m. These are two teams going through difficult times. Woodside (1-7, 1-2) has lost 12 of 13 going back to the middle of last season. South San Francisco (0-8, 0-3) is on an 18-game losing streak that dates to the final game of the 2017 season.

“We’re definitely not taking any team lightly with our circumstances,” Andrews said. “If we have an off night they might come in and steal one. Our run defense was so good most of the game versus Mills and then it was back to the wild, wild west last week. We want to get back to playing sound football again with an emphasis on defense.”

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M-A’s Justin Anderson runs with the football as SHP’s J.P. Primel pursues him.

Across
1 They may be moved higher to prevent spreading.
11 Green beans, e.g.
14 Toadstool
15 Line from a permissive judge
19 They may be moved higher to prevent spreading
20 They may be moved higher to prevent spreading
22 Like notation in some high school classes
25 Filing material?
26 Manuscript enclosure, for short
31 Lucky Charms bit
35 X-___ large
38 Record label for acts like Cocteau Twins
39 “___ a real nowhere man”
41 Musk-making mammals
42 Trickster god of African folklore
44 Daughter of Cyrus and mother of Xerxes
46 Meal prep boxes
48 “I’ve had it up ___!”
50 Company that makes the Slip ‘N Slide and Frisbee
51 X-___ large
52 Earth Day setting
53 Dance-drama of Japan
54 Bars and clubs, say
56 Stop on the Trans-Siberian Railway
57 Company that makes the Slip ‘N Slide and Frisbee
58 Labels are for clothing. Labels are not for food.
60 “Largo al factotum,” e.g.
61 Too steep
62 Frisbee
63 Phrase
64 Like a field for horses, perhaps?
65 City that hosted the Winter Olympics 8 days after Elizabeth I took the throne
66 Sextant forefunders.

“Nothing Is As It Themes”—themeless this time. By Matt Jones

Down
1 Musk-making mammals
2 Rachel’s “The Favourite” costar
3 Radio staples
4 “When the Lights Go Down” critic Pauline
5 “___ on Jeopardy!” (“Weird Al” Yankovic parody)
6 70s prog rock supergroup, for short
7 Astronomer Kepler
8 Desester status
9 Greet (the new year)
10 Stays away
11 Rigid
12 “Harry Potter” librarian ___ Pince
13 “…chame la Culpa” singer Lovato
14 Boardroom fixture?
15 Han Solo
16 1400, for legionnaires?
17 Primel
18 Onetime “Fashion Emergency” host
19 Pandora releases
20 Like notation in some high school classes
21 Basement fixture
22 Make equal
23 “Grand Ole Opry Live” channel, once
24 Small, lightweight hindgut
25 Filming material?
26 Manuscript enclosure, for short
27 Czech Republic capital, to locals
28 Trickster god of African folklore
29 “George of the Jungle” creature
30 “13th” documentarian DuVernay
31 Lucky Charms bit
32 Unsure syllables
33 Yielded under pressure
34 Pandemic, some say
35 Lucky Charms bit
36 Stop on the Trans-Siberian Railway
37 World’s oldest active endurance car race
42 Concert add-on?
43 Patient observers, for short
44 Daughter of Cyrus and mother of Xerxes (hidden in LOS GATOS-SARATOGA)
45 Gothic arches
46 Meal prep boxes
48 “I’ve had it up ___!”
49 “___ back, tell a friend” (Eminem lyric)
50 Company that makes the Slip ‘N Slide and Frisbee
51 X-___ large
53 Dance-drama of Japan
54 Bars and clubs, say
56 Stop on the Trans-Siberian Railway
57 Boba not found in tea
58 Labels are for clothing. Labels are not for food.
59 First Atlantic hurricane “R” name to be used twice
60 “Largo al factotum,” e.g.
61 Too steep
62 Frisbee
63 Phrase
64 Like a field for horses, perhaps?
65 City that hosted the Winter Olympics 8 days after Elizabeth I took the throne
66 Sextant forefunders.

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59 First Atlantic hurricane “R” name to be used twice
62 Can can

Answers on page 21.
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