Art Center branches out with tribute to trees
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Patrons of closed tailor shop want their clothes back
Page 9

Got chickens? Classes teach how to care for a flock
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Prep wrestlers look to take down a CCS title
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Looking ‘beyond everywhere’: Couple remains missing

Case mystifies locals as Marin County Sheriff’s Office extends search to Tomales Bay

A s time ticks on in the effort to locate Palo Alto residents Carol Kiparsky and Ian Irwin, who have been missing for nearly a week in the small Marin County community of Inverness, the number of searchers has waned.

On Wednesday, the dive team from the Marin County Sheriff’s Office spent hours looking for the couple in the high tide waters of Tomales Bay and found nothing, according to a deputy. “There’s not gonna be much going on out here,” Sgt. Brad Kashack told the Palo Alto Weekly on Wednesday morning, after he’d spent an exhausting Tuesday searching for the couple. Kashack said he didn’t go home to sleep until 1 a.m.

It was the fourth day of search operations in Inverness, a small unincorporated town 3.5 miles northwest of Point Reyes Station. Kiparsky, 77, and Irwin, 72, had rented a single-sided cottage on Via De La Vista, nestled in the woods of a ridgetop with a few homes widely spaced out from each other. Their car was still parked at the property. They were last heard from on Friday, and they were due to check out on Saturday. The couple missed an appointment on Sunday, according to the sheriff’s office.

The missing-persons search started off strong on Sunday afternoon when the sheriff’s office canvassed the area by ground and air. According to a deputy, “There’s not gonna be much going on out here.” Kashack told the Palo Alto Weekly on Wednesday morning, after he’d spent an exhausting Tuesday searching for the couple.

Kashack said he didn’t go home to sleep until 1 a.m. It was the fourth day of search operations in Inverness, a small unincorporated town 3.5 miles northwest of Point Reyes Station. Kiparsky, 77, and Irwin, 72, had rented a single-sided cottage on Via De La Vista, nestled in the woods of a ridgetop with a few homes widely spaced out from each other. Their car was still parked at the property. They were last heard from on Friday, and they were due to check out on Saturday. The couple missed an appointment on Sunday, according to the sheriff’s office.

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Caring for Others Gives Courage and Hope

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QUOTATION OF THE WEEK

I’m losing a little hope, to be honest.

— Burton Eubank, volunteer firefighter for the Inverness Fire Department, on finding missing Palo Alto couple. See story on page 5.

Around Town

WOAH BABY! ... It’s been a roller coaster few weeks for Baby, a 1-year-old bulldog-pit bull mix who was abandoned outside Palo Alto’s animal shelter on Jan. 24 full of deep lacerations and puncture wounds. Staff from the nonprofit now managing the shelter on East Bayshore Road, rushed Baby to an emergency veterinary clinic for treatment of what employees deemed to be “grave” injuries, possibly associated with Baby being used as “bait” in a dog-fighting ring. Despite the many stitches and fluid-draining tubes, the gentle canine went through recovery in good spirits, according to staff. And on Feb. 15, Pets In Need announced in a jubilant tweet that Baby has been adopted: “Baby Announced in a jubilant tweet that Baby has been adopted: “Baby the nonprofit now managing the shelter on East Bayshore Road, rushed Baby to an emergency veterinary clinic for treatment of what employees deemed to be “grave” injuries, possibly associated with Baby being used as “bait” in a dog-fighting ring. Despite the many stitches and fluid-draining tubes, the gentle canine went through recovery in good spirits, according to staff. And on Feb. 15, Pets In Need announced in a jubilant tweet that Baby has been adopted: “Baby went home! In just a matter of weeks he went from being injured, to recovery to being adopted. We are thrilled that he now has a family to dote on him. Thank you all those who sent messages of love and support for Baby during his journey with us. Happy tails, Baby!” Palo Alto Animal Control officers are looking into who left Baby’s case was one of them etc. for recovering from injuries, etc. while the nonprofit now managing the shelter on East Bayshore Road, rushed Baby to an emergency veterinary clinic for treatment of what employees deemed to be “grave” injuries, possibly associated with Baby being used as “bait” in a dog-fighting ring. Despite the many stitches and fluid-draining tubes, the gentle canine went through recovery in good spirits, according to staff. And on Feb. 15, Pets In Need announced in a jubilant tweet that Baby has been adopted: “Baby went home! In just a matter of weeks he went from being injured, to recovery to being adopted. We are thrilled that he now has a family to dote on him. Thank you all those who sent messages of love and support for Baby during his journey with us. Happy tails, Baby!” Palo Alto Animal Control officers are looking into who left Baby’s case was one of them etc. for recovering from injuries, etc.

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SECRET ROYAL VISIT ... Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, stopped by Stanford University on Feb. 11 for a brainstorming session with professors and academic scholars to inform their work in creating a new charitable organization, according to NBC’s “Today.” The couple flew from Canada to the Bay Area, where they were personally greeted by university President Marc Tessier-Lavigne, a palace source told “Today.”

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CITY HALL

Council eyes shake-up of commissions
City to consider adding, disbANDING and splitting commissions
by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto’s long-standing system of commissions could be heading for big changes in the coming months, as the City Council weighs adding new advisory boards for seniors and sustainability, disbanning one for libraries and splitting its most influential — and controversial — commission into two.

These are some of the changes proposed by Vice Mayor Tom DuBois and Councilwoman Alison Cormack, who as a council ad hoc committee were tasked with evaluating the commissions and addressing perceived flaws in the system, including a lack of guidelines for removing commission- ers. The pair released a report last week, which the City Council is set to consider on Feb. 24.

While DuBois and Cormack framed the proposed changes as “concepts” and not as recommen- dations, adoption of these ideas would significantly alter a system that has been largely static for decades. The Library Advisory Com- mission would be disbanded, consistent with the recommendations of some of the commission’s own members. And taking a cue from other cities, Palo Alto could add a Senior Commission and a Sus- tainability Commission, the latter of which would focus on climate and environmental initiatives.

Another proposed concept calls for turning the Planning and Transportation Commission into two commissions. This, the committee notes in the report, would align them with the city’s two de- partments; a new Office of Trans- portation was recently pulled out of the Department of Planning and Community Environment.

DuBois and Cormack, who were appointed to the ad hoc commit- tee by former Mayor Eric Filseth in December, have spent the past two months surveying current and former board members and com- missioners, comparing Palo Alto’s laws and procedures for commis- sions with those in other cities, and interviewing staff who work with commissions.

The feedback was a mixed bag. Of the 66 current and former commissioners who responded to the survey, most said they would recommend serving on a local commission (the average score on this question was 8 out of 10). But while they offered positive com- ments about the gratification of giving back to the community and working with staff, they also ex- pressed concerns about the process for setting agendas, public reaction to unpopular decisions and work- ing with other commissioners, ac- cording to the memo from DuBois and Cormack.

“Regrettably, there is concern about how a few board mem- bers and commissioners have treated staff and their colleagues over the years,” the report states. “While this behavior appears to be quite rare, the ad hoc commit- tee is concerned about the impact on our professional staff and the

As car break-ins surge, Palo Alto police laud drop in violent crime
Annual report highlights department’s trends, accomplishments
by Gennady Sheyner

According to the report, the de- partment responded to 29 assaults in 2019, the fewest number since 2015. That’s down from 38 assaults in 2018 and 40 in 2017. The num- ber of reported commercial and residential burglaries (not including car break-ins) hit its lowest point in at least a decade. The department responded to 179 burglary inci- dents in 2019, up from 119 in 2018 and nearly twice as many as occurred in 2011, when 937 were reported. The number of

(continued on page 12)

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robberies also went up from 30 in 2018 to 46 in 2019. “While crime tends to be cycli- cal in nature ... one thing that re- mains constant is that Palo Alto is a safe city that continues to have a very low rate of violent crime per capita,” the report states.

The annual report also showed a significant drop in both arrests and citations from the prior year. The number of citations, which spiked from 5,807 in 2017 to 8,245 in 2018, went down to 6,578 last year, according to the report. The number of arrests dropped from 2,602 in 2018 to 2,185 in 2019.

While the report provides an overview of each department divi- sion, it doesn’t mention two recent complaints that the department received, alleging excessive force by officers. In November, the City Council approved a $572,500 settle- ment to Gustavo Alvarez, resi- dent of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park, after his surveillance camera showed a police sergeant slamming him into a car windshield during the arrest and later mocking Alva- rez’s Spanish.

The sergeant, who retired shortly after the incident, was required as part of the settlement to write a letter of apology to Alvarez. The term also required the department to undergo two hours of LGBTQ sensitivity training.

The council also discussed in a closed session last week a com- plaint from Julio Arevalo, who also alleged that he was beaten by a Palo Alto officer near Happy Donuts on the night of July 9. A surveillance video from the donut shop shows police Agent Thomas DeStefano arresting Arevalo by pinning him against a railing and then bringing him to the ground before hand- cuffing him, fracturing his orbital bone (surrounding the eyeball) in the process. The council didn’t take any reportable actions.

While the annual report makes no mention of the two cases, it notes that out of more than 2,000 arrests, Palo Alto police used force in only 18 incidents. “This is a testament to the professionalism of our officers and their ability to de-escalate tense sit- uations and gain compliance with- out using force,” the report states.

The annual report also includes a section on the independent police auditor, who is charged with re- viewing all cases in which a Taser is used, as well as complaints re- ported by citizens or generated by the department itself. The auditor, the report states, is in place “to ensure that the Department’s investi- gations are conducted thoroughly and objectively.”

The report neglected to mention, however, that 2019 was the first year since at least 2012 in which the city didn’t publish a single audit. Historically, the city’s police auditing firm, OIR Group, has been releasing two reports per year. And in December, the City Council vot- ed to approve a new contract with OIG Group that explicitly excludes internal conflicts within the de- partment from the auditors’ review.

The report alsounderscores Po- lice Chief Robert Jonsen’s recent efforts to engage the community. This includes the launch in 2019 of Advanced Police Academy, a course for residents who had com- pleted the Basic Citizens Acad- emy, an eight-week program for community members wishing to learn more about police work. In addition, Jonsen’s advisory group made up of neighborhood repre- sentatives with whom he meets every other month helped the de- partment’s traffic team identify the locations where enforcement should be prioritized, according to the report.

“They discussed community concerns, specific locations, and the types of driving violations being ob- served,” the report states. “This collaboration allowed for di- rect community input to the team’s enforcement priorities. The team also provided feedback to the Chief’s Advisory Group on observations, challenges and recommendations for each location.”

From August through December 2019, the team visited six target loca- tions 198 times and issued 651 citations, the report states. It also notes that the number of collision reports in all categories (which in- cludes fatalities, injury, non-injury, bicycles and pedestrians) went down from 993 in 2018 to 836 last year.

“As we hire more officers to the Department’s ranks, we intend to increase the size of the Traffic Team to more efficiently address traffic concerns from our commu- nity,” the report states.

In his introduction to the report, Jonsen wrote that he expects the department to be “excellent in every- thing we do.”

“I expect us to proactively en- force the law and to serve this spe- cial community with professional- ism and respect,” Jonsen wrote. “I expect us to positively engage our residents, business owners, and visitors whenever we can. I value accountability and take full respon- sibility to ensure these expectations are met.”

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

**Online This Week**

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

**Woman escapes kidnapper**

A man who allegedly burst into a Mountain View home near the Palo Alto border Monday night and tried to drag a woman by the neck out to her car was arrested hours later, according to Mountain View police. (Posted Feb. 18, 2020, 1:35 p.m.)

**Woman in car during attempted break in**

Two men allegedly linked to 10 car burglaries in Palo Alto were arrested after a woman alerted authorities that they were breaking into her car at a downtown parking garage while she was sitting inside of it, Palo Alto police said Wednesday. (Posted Feb. 19, 2020, 6:26 p.m.)

**Collision kills man near freeway**

A man died in a collision with a car in an East Palo Alto neigh- borhood just north of U.S. Highway 101 on Friday night, police said in a community update issued Wednesday. (Posted Feb. 20, 9:44 a.m.)

**‘Sunny Day’ defendant sentenced**

Six years after San Mateo County prosecutors announced in- dictments against 16 gang members for four murders and multiple attempted murders and shootings in what became known as “Op- eration Sunny Day,” the last defendant was sentenced on Tuesday to eight years in prison, District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said. (Posted Feb. 19, 9:44 a.m.)

**Commissioner quits seeking chairmanship**

In a stunning move to avoid a potentially divisive and dead- locked election for the Palo Alto Human Relations Commissioner chairmanship, one of the two contenders, Steven Lee, on Thursday asked his colleagues to vote for the other nominee, the Rev. Kalorna Smith. (Posted Feb. 14, 5:27 p.m.)

**Buttigieg campaigns in Palo Alto**

Presidential hopeful Pete Buttigieg visited Palo Alto on Friday, Feb. 14, at what he called a "pivotal" moment in his campaign, coming off strong performances in the Iowa caucus and New Hamp- shire primary and with the Democratic field continuing to narrow. (Posted Feb. 14, 4:25 p.m.)

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C

ustomers of a Palo Alto tailoring business say they have been trying to get their clothing back for nearly three years, but the doors of Palo Alto Tailoring remain tightly shut, leaving them staring longingly through the glass doors. The little white stucco shop with blue lettering at 3700 El Camino Real and Barron Avenue closed in summer 2017, three customers told the Weekly. But despite their notes on and under the door, calls to the business owner and threats of a lawsuit, shop owner Sep Hines has not given their clothing back, they said.

The shop was a fixture in the Barron Park neighborhood for nearly 20 years. The three customers, two of whom patronized the business for nearly all of that time, said they are baffled by the mystery of why they can’t get their clothing and drapery, frustrated by the lack of communication, they are now considering small claims lawsuits, they said.

Alexis Davis had frequented Palo Alto Tailoring since 1999, she said.

“I even had a set of curtains hemmed in about 2005. When these got old and in need of replacement, I dropped off two sets of curtains in August 2016: a set of sheers and a set of silk curtains from Pottery Barn,” she said in an email to the Weekly.

Hines never notified her that her curtains were done, however. On several occasions, Davis stopped to inquire about her curtains, she said.

“The first time (Sep) needed clarification on what needed to be done — despite me telling her when I dropped them off and giving her my old curtain for measurement. Then she was mostly closed, but I managed to find her open about a year later (in August 2017), when I picked up my sheers. I have never recovered my very expensive silk blackout curtains from her,” Davis said.

The phone number listed on the ticket went to a fax machine. Beginning in summer 2016, Davis started to drop off notes at the store. She called Palo Alto Police Department, which said it was a civil matter and declined to help. She called the Better Business Bureau, which said they couldn’t help. She sought information from Santa Clara County through the store’s fictitious business name license and found the business was listed at what appeared to be an abandoned home in Los Altos.

Davis sent letters to the Los Altos address and dropped off letters at the storefront. Her certified letters were returned. Finally, Hines contacted Davis in August 2018 after receiving a letter Davis had placed under the store’s door threatening to sue Hines.

“She called and apologized profusely, said she had been through a lot and promised that her shop was going to re-open in September 2018. As she is a small-business owner, I wanted to give her the benefit of the doubt and said ‘OK, I’ll wait to pick them up when your store re-opens.’ But that never happened,” Davis said.

She created a Yahoo email account and posted a message on the business door asking if anyone wanted to join her in her efforts to reclaim goods. That’s how she found Monica Cappuccini and Wendy Harrison, other customers who were working through their own process to get their items back by leaving notes at the storefront, she said.

Davis said she doesn’t know how many other people might also be waiting for their items. “Looking through the windows, there are all sorts of items left abandoned in the store,” Davis said.

Cappuccini, who also was a customer from the beginning, said she lives nearby the tailoring shop and noticed right away when the store closed. There was no message on the door. Three of her favorite T-shirts are locked inside.

After the initial closure, Hines reopened after about six months and then promptly closed for good three weeks later — before Cappuccini had a chance to pick up her shirts, which Hines had promised to find, she said. She left many notes for Hines and called the business until the line was disconnected, she said.

Harrison, a customer for four years, had a similar experience. Her jacket and a dress remain inside the shop.

“I called the number, but it became disconnected. I’ve left messages in writing, either taped to the door or slipped through the crack under it about every two weeks since July 2017,” she said in an email.

On Nov. 22, 2019, Harrison sent a letter by certified mail explaining her intent to sue in Santa Clara County Small Claims Court.

“A attempt to deliver the letter was made twice and then returned to me as undeliverable. I also put a copy of the letter under the door, so I believe she knows of my intent to sue,” she said.

Reached by phone on Wednesday, Barry Hines, Sep Hines’ husband, said that he relayed a request for comment to his wife. He said she didn’t want to return the Weekly’s call but that she said something might happen in early March. She has had different plans regarding the shop, but he doesn’t know what they might be. In March, she might find a solution, he added. A call to the property owner, KSS Investment, LLC, was not immediately returned.

Got a good neighborhood story, news, upcoming meeting or event? Email Sue Dremann, Neighborhoods editor, at sdremann@paweekly.com. Or talk about your neighborhood news on the discussion forum Town Square at PaloAltoOnline.com/square.

Wendy Harrison, left, and Monica Cappuccini stand outside Palo Alto Tailoring, which took their clothes in for tailoring but then closed nearly three years ago, shattering with customers’ garments still inside. The El Camino Real shop has yet to give Harrison, Cappuccini and many others their clothes back.

BARRON PARK

Palo Alto Tailoring closed three years ago. Customers want their clothes back.

Owner goes silent after shop shutters, leaving patrons puzzled

by Sue Dremann
Injury
(continued from page 5)
student’s turn to operate the gun, he turned a valve to release pressurized air and “nothing happened,” the claim states.

“After several seconds, the gun suddenly discharged striking (the student) in his face and causing significant permanent injuries,” the claim states.

The incident permanently damaged the student’s retina, attorney Paul Van Der Walde said, and caused an orbital fracture, or a traumatic injury to the bone of the eye socket. The student was reportedly homebound for several months after the accident and has since left the school district.

Van Der Walde did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the settlement.

The total settlement includes attorney’s fees and reimbursement for medical expenses. It is also comprised of $475,000 in a series of payments to the former student over the next three decades, starting in 2023. The payments include $30,000 annually for the next five years; $500 monthly for 30 years; $1,000 monthly for 13 years; and a lump sum payment of $177,000 for medical expenses. It is also comprised of $475,000 in a series of payments to the former student over the next three decades, starting in 2023. The payments include $30,000 annually for the next five years; $500 monthly for 30 years; $1,000 monthly for 13 years; and a lump sum payment of $177,000 for medical expenses.

A hearing to formally dismiss the case is set for April. □

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

Missing
(continued from page 5)

The Marin County Sheriff’s Office’s dive team heads out to search the waters of Tomales Bay in Inverness on Feb. 19 for Palo Altans Carol Kiparsky and Ian Irwin. Authorities began the search on Wednesday about a mile north of the Inverness Yacht Club.

“We’ve covered a lot,” Eubank said of the extensive search. “We’ve gone beyond everywhere.”

But according to KGO-TV news, Irwin’s son, Jonas, told search and rescue teams on Tuesday, “They wouldn’t leave all their stuff, leave their car and just vanish.”

“This is a really weird time for our family. There is no playbook for something like this,” he said.

“My dad was somebody, who when he was really into the backpacking thing, would do snow camping and cut into ice and make fire. He is super resourceful.”

Kiparsky and Irwin’s Palo Alto neighbor Connie Cotton said that the pair are an active couple who enjoy hiking and walking.

“He’s been working on a project in his backyard recently,” she said of his University South neighborhood home.

The missing-persons case is highly uncommon for the normally peaceful Inverness, which has clearly paved trails mostly surrounded by impenetrable thicket. Eubank described the community as one with an “open door policy” and very few crimes, leaving many locals perplexed by what could have happened to the couple. The volunteer firefighter recalled the last missing-persons case in the town was about four decades ago and involved two girls who were later found.

“It’s not that easy to get off trail,” said Richard Blair, an Inverness resident of 30 years. His wife, Kathleen Goodwin, agreed.

“You can’t just casually go through the woods,” she said.

The two-story home where Irwin and Kiparsky had stayed, surrounded by wooden decks, an expanse of green lawn and tall evergreens, was quiet on Wednesday, aside from the hum of nearby construction and wildlife. There were no traces of an active investigation or the media firestorm that had invaded the secluded neighborhood earlier in the week when news surfaced of the missing couple.

Sgt. Schneider said searches will continue at least through Monday, Feb. 24. □

Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee can be emailed at lle@pawekly.com. Chief Visual Journalist Magali Gauthier contributed to this report.

Universal Design: Aging and Living in Place
Thurs., March 5, 6:30pm-8pm
Learn to implement home updates that provide accessibility for all ages and abilities. If you’re wanting to stay in your home, as you gracefully age, you’ll learn how to design and remodel your home for today, and tomorrow.

In Pursuit of the Perfect Kitchen or Bathroom
Sat., March 7, 10:30am-12pm
Kitchens and bathrooms are the two spaces where you spend the most time and end your day, so shouldn’t they be designed with the ultimate in comfort, beauty and functionality?

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Page 10 • February 21, 2020 • Palo Alto Weekly • www.PaloAltoOnline.com
Stylish living awaits in this elegant and spacious single-family home in the desirable Arbor Real community.

- 5 bedrooms and 3.5 baths arranged over three levels
- Approximately 2,893 square feet
- Fantastic location overlooking lush green park
- Built in 2008 and freshly updated
- Open-concept great room features gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, plus island with counter seating, and a surround-sound-equipped family room with fireplace
- Fully fenced brick patio
- Second level has a beautiful master suite with luxurious bath
- Balcony overlooks community lawn
- Third level has second master suite, which is also ideal for an office or au pair quarters
- Attached 2-car garage
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a flurry of concerns, the council halted construction in the fall of 2018, having completed five of the nine planned phases and spending $6.4 million in the process.

Since then, the city’s newly created Office of Transportation has been gathering data, surveying residents and considering ways to address residents’ concerns. The data, which the office released last week, offers both sides some ammunition. On the one hand, bicycle traffic has grown from 6.7% before the project to about 21% after, a 50% increase. The new report, however, does not specify whether these are new bicyclists or people who used to bike on other streets. The ratio of bicyclists to total vehicle volume grew from 6.7% before the project to 11% after, a rate that the report described as “remarkable.”

But the rate of collisions has also increased: Ross averaged about 3.6 collisions per year before the project, and 6.4 million during the process. Ross — the report notes: “Another stop on Ross Road, however, would negatively impact the attractiveness of the street as a bicycle boulevard.”

The city’s decision to modify the intersection was informed by recent surveys of residents. Among those whose homes front onto the bike boulevards, 47% of the respondents said they believe that the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians has increased, while 31% said it has decreased. Of the respondents, 41% said they believed that safety has decreased for bicyclists and pedestrians, while 31% said it has increased as is.

Many concerns were also aired during a July 2018 community meeting on the Ross Road bike boulevard, which brought more than 100 people. Some, like Louis Road resident Bill Higgins, lauded the improvements and urged the city to create similar projects elsewhere in the city. Others, like neighbor Terry Martin, claimed the changes made conditions less safe. Martin called the Ross Road project “an epitome of incompetence.”

In addition to modifying the roundabout, the new plan suggests adding a speed hump on Ross, south of Mayview Avenue (which is parallel to East Meadow, one block over), to account for the closer proximity of those living next to them. Of the respondents, 41% said they believed that safety has increased. Of the respondents, 41% said they believed that safety has decreased for bicyclists and pedestrians, while 31% said it has increased as is.

The ad hoc committee recommended creating a handbook that outlined roles and responsibilities for board members and commissioners, including expectations for each commissioner, conflicts of interest and recusals, attendance policies, how and when appointees can be removed, and roles of the staff, chair and council liaison.

The committee also recommended two types of training for new commissioners: an “on-boarding training” for all commissioners that would familiarize them with the state’s open-meetings law (known as the Brown Act) and other information about how to be a “good” commissioner, and a special training for new chairs and vice chairs to help them transition into their roles. Another recommendation is to create “annual workplans” for each commission, which the City Council would then approve. Such workplans, the ad hoc committee argued, “will improve the accountability and transparency of issues that may be unreported or undisclosed or have not come to the point of a petition yet.”

The ad hoc committee can be emailed at gsheyner@paweky.com.
COURT NOTICE

March 1, 2020

Page 2

Edward F. O’Day III
April 12, 1944 - January 25, 2020


Growing up in Menlo Park, Ron attended Bellarmine High School, became an Eagle Scout, and went on to graduate from Sacramento State University with a degree in drama and fine arts. He served in the Marine Corp Reserves. Ron became a successful sculptor while living in Houston, Texas. He also worked in the securities industry for over 20 years. He loved sailing, keeping his Venture 21 in San Francisco Bay.

Ron retired to Huntington Beach, California where he spent the remainder of his life writing and painting. He was a voracious reader, the heavier the better, War and Peace for example. Ron was appreciated by his friends for his wit and intellect.

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www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • February 21, 2020 • Page 13
An excellent path forward
Editor
We are writing in response to the article about the compromise Castilleja School has proposed. For the last nine years, our family has lived near Castilleja on Emerson Street, and we think the recent alternative that the school put forward is an excellent path forward that addresses neighbors’ concerns, mitigates the impacts outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Report and allows the school to increase educational opportunities. When we moved to Palo Alto from Washington D.C., we chose our neighborhood partly because our children could walk to Walter Hays Elementary School. Now as both neighbors to and parents at Castilleja, we want to express our support for Castilleja’s thoughtful revision. The smaller garage conserves trees and maintains two homes for affordable housing for educators; both of these are priorities in Palo Alto. The school has addressed the traffic impacts with distributed drop-offs, and the new conditional-use permit will not permit any new car trips to campus, so concerns about increased traffic are unfounded.

We truly hope that this significant change is met with appreciation and respect. All of these processes involve give and take, and Castilleja has just given a great deal in response to valid concerns. Now we hope this can begin the new conversation that allows the school to move forward with adjusted goals.

These investments, and re-investments, in our community reflect confidence in Palo Alto’s capacity to evolve and embrace the future. People want to work, play, learn, and raise families here. Castilleja’s desire to invest in a state-of-the-art place to teach and learn is similar to what other Palo Alto schools and the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo have done.

Cindy Chen and Bob Kocher Emerson Street, Palo Alto

The solution’s here
Editor
I noticed that state Senator candidate Josh Becker proposes “the state could offer a contract to the first company to produce ‘carbon-negative’ cement, or cement made using carbon dioxide.”

When the U.S. Navy threatened to demolish the historical Hang One at Moffett Field, she was successful in persuading the Navy to change its plans. She also helped keep NASA at Moffett Field. She has authored groundbreaking legislation in multiple policy areas, such as a digital signature bill that revolutionized e-commerce and a bill to eliminate lead in drinking water.

Eshoo stays close to and listens to her constituents. She keeps us well-informed of her work in Congress, and her values as a legislator are aligned with the values of people in the Bay Area.

Claude Ezran
Ponce Avenue, Palo Alto

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

Should the city of Palo Alto split its Planning and Transportation Commission into two separate boards?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paloaltonews.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@paloaltonews.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number on all submissions.

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For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lee at llee@paloaltonews.com or 650-223-6520 or Editor Jocelyn Dong at editor@paloaltonews.com
Housing is in short supply in Silicon Valley, especially affordable housing. Unfortunately, no amount of the current sort of government efforts in this area will change the situation. As an article in the Weekly recently noted, there are builders who have permits ready to go for residential multi-unit developments — and they’re not building them because the numbers “don’t pencil out.”

The market forces at work were first understood when McKinsey studied the paint industry decades ago. They found that when there’s a couple percent too little supply to meet demand, market prices jump up to where the highest-cost producer makes good money, and all the lower-cost producers go to the bank. Conversely, when there’s a couple percent too much supply, the market price drops to where the lowest-cost producer barely scrapes by and everyone else loses lots of money. This reality about markets has now been built despite governmental requirements to include such units. Developers avoid building these units any way they can, via so-called community benefit negotiations and such.

Many years ago, I wrote a guest opinion about how it was quixotic to continue to harp on the jobs-housing imbalance in Palo Alto — because when you study the numbers, as my article did, you find that several dozens of 50-story buildings would need to be built to get the balance right. And that obviously isn’t going to happen.

This time I’m writing to note that even if it did, if in 2021 a tweaked SB50 shows back up and passes and 4-5 story buildings are allowed helter-skelter in heretofore low-density residential neighborhoods, the outcome still wouldn’t solve the problem. Developers still won’t develop units on which they can’t make money, given the land and construction costs (which of course would escalate further if there were to be more building projects) in the area. And if developers could/did build, it would absolutely destroy any quality of life that any of us has. Traffic and pollution would be awful, schools and parks would be overwhelmed. The next step you’re seeing in this is the fact that soon we’ll have to pay tolls just to use what’s currently still the commuter lane — and all day long, not just at commute hours.

Unlike in many geographies, we don’t have any land into which to expand our footprint. If we just densify maximally, we can all look forward to multi-hour traffic jams at least twice a day. I suppose our governments could eat up open-space districts for housing, if they can figure out a way to do it legally. This, too, would overwhelm schools and parks and services, as well as taking a hammer to quality of life. And even then, as noted, what we get built wouldn’t be affordable housing.

Do any of us want this other than governments seeking to continue growth in tax revenues and builders seeking to build?

As a human being and citizen, I don’t want any of this and suspect many readers can now say the same. For years, I fully supported all the growth — but now that quality of life is being reduced more and more, we need a solution. And there is a solution. The people who brought us this situation, the burgeoning tech industry who hired all these employees to the area, for which many are for sure grateful, is at the heart of the solution. They now need to embrace hiring elsewhere, expanding their campuses into more and more of the country’s cities of 500,000 to 1 million or more people. And they’ll be able to offer many existing employees the option of moving to those places, affording much bigger homes and enjoying much lower costs of living. And the tech giants will be able to hire people more economically in those locations — so it benefits them, too. Eventually, this will take pricing pressure out of the system, or at least stop it from growing and possibly substantially reduce it. It’s simple: It’s demand reduction rather than supply expansion.

You may have seen announcements this month that Google is planning to triple its Canadian headcount and that Amazon is planning a huge expansion in the northwest, What about cities in mid-America that have good universities, services, and land aplenty? It’s good to see Microsoft adding heads in Charlotte and San Antonio. Getting these companies to expand elsewhere is, in fact, the only real solution — and one they seem to be starting to see themselves. The proposed headcount-based business tax (I hope it gets set really high!) is but one useful tool that governments can use to accelerate these huge companies’ desire to expand elsewhere rather than here.

Over time, that’s the solution. The only solution.

It’s that, or increasingly lousy quality of life.

Palo Alto resident Andy Robin likes facts. He can be reached at werdna9@aol.com.
Following in the footsteps of last year’s nature-themed exhibitions that focused on the sky and encounters between humans and non-human animals, the Palo Alto Art Center is currently making like the Lorax and speaking for the trees. “This community cares deeply about its trees,” Art Center Curator Selene Foster pointed out at the opening celebration for “Rooted: Trees in Contemporary Art.” After all, she said, “We are named after El Palo Alto, a tall tree.”

Through a variety of works by 20 artists, “Rooted” explores trees as subjects, materials and symbols, from fairy-tale whimsy to scientific accuracy.

“The Woulds,” by Andy Diaz Hope and Laurel Roth Hope, is a multimedia installation that invites visitors into an enchanted and enchanting geometric forest of colors, wood, mirrors and glass, and a soundscape of bird song.

The woods are a common fairy-tale theme, often representing a transformative experience or journey, Roth Hope said at the opening gala. “We wanted to create a mythological forest someone can travel through and possibly be changed (by).” Originally commissioned by San Francisco’s Contemporary Jewish Museum, “The Woulds” takes inspiration, according to Diaz Hope, from a Jewish folktale in which multidimensional-perceiving sparrows sing to souls as they come down to Earth from the tree of life in Heaven.

“We tried to envision a forest seen through the eyes of these sparrows,” he said.

In Azucena Hernandez’s pyrographic “Ember” series, on view in the Glass Gallery, wood also serves a soulful — and poignantly somber — purpose. Begun in 2015 in honor of Dia de los Muertos, the series depicts the victims of institutional violence and racism, their portraits burned into slices of wood. It is a series that, to Hernandez’s chagrin, continues to expand.

“As long as you feel anything, if you look at the portraits and you remember the faces, remember the names, that’s my goal,” she said at the opening event, noting that it’s important that her subjects are seen as real people, not merely statistics or names in the media.

“I think it’s very symbolic, the fact that they are on wood,” she said, “because they were cut down too soon.”

Jamie Vasta uses glitter — which she noted is commonly associated with messy children’s projects and thought of as a “cheap, throwaway thing” — to create powerfully compelling imagery, including “Inferno,” which depicts a raging wildfire, creating an interesting contrast between the festive, sparkly material and the traumatic subject matter.

James Chronister’s oil-on-canvas paintings of thick woodlands, “Summer 8” and “Deinze,” are difficult to distinguish from photographs at first glance, so meticulous is the detail in the black paint/white background landscapes based on photos taken while hiking with family in his native Montana.

“It’s kind of like California is the place I came to remember what Montana was like,” Chronister, who’s now based in San Francisco, mused.

New Mexico artist Scott Greene’s “UV Celltree” and “Fake News” take a humorous look at the “new invasive species” of phone towers disguised as trees, made to blend in with the natural environment (with questionable results). In some of his paintings, the towers have become ecological “snags,” or dead trees that become habitat for new life.

Maria Elena Gonzalez’s “T2 23-33” was created by using rubbings of the bark of birch trees as musical notation, capturing, as it were, the language and music of the trees (sadly, there’s no way to play it at the Art Center).

“When people would ask me if I was a composer I’d say, ‘No, it’s the tree that’s the composer.’ I facilitate that tree to sing to us,” Gonzalez told the opening-night crowd. “You’re looking at the composer: nature.”

Stephen Galloway’s large-scale “The Royal Woulds” by Scott Greene, part of the “Rooted” exhibition, depicts a phone tower disguised as a tree, which has become an ecological “snag” (habitat for new life).
Palo Alto is not the only Peninsula city named after a tree, nor is it the only one with arboreal art on display this month. “You are the Tree,” a new installation in the Art Kiosk space on downtown Redwood City’s Courthouse Square, considers how the flourishing of natural imagery in places where you wouldn’t expect it but also being portrayed in ways you don’t quite understand, or are not familiar to you straight off.” He said he hopes his work helps generate questions and results in viewers becoming more engaged when looking at the natural world.

For all the intriguing works of art on display, the goal of “Rooted” is indeed also to help people appreciate the diversity and beauty of the real, live trees around them and the importance of a healthy urban canopy.

Local oak trees, in all their acorn-dropping glory, receive special attention thanks to the work of artist and educator Ann McMullin, whose oak depictions not only line the wall near the adult studios and in the lobby “nook” but are also contained in a free booklet offered to exhibition goers. In “Oaks of Palo Alto,” produced by the Art Center in partnership with Canopy, the Palo Alto-based urban-tree nonprofit, McMullin’s illustrations cover both the native California oaks (valley and coast live oaks are endemic to Palo Alto) and the cultivated species found in the city.

Native oaks are adapted to our climate, critical for wildlife, hold historic and cultural significance and are one of the key components of establishing resilient landscapes in the mid-peninsula,” according to the booklet. One of Canopy’s major endeavors is its Great Oak Count, which surveys the local native-oak population.

“I was really honored to do this project,” said McMullin, who’s also a Palo Alto Art Center instructor. “I started out my art life as a scientific illustrator and it was such a pleasure to do it again.”

Other tree-appreciation tools include a planned March 15 Arbor Day celebration for families, and Canopy’s printed Tree Walk guide to the Art Center’s grounds and its surrounding area, with which visitors can take a self-directed stroll and learn more about the trees they may pass everyday and yet know little about (fun fact: The most common street tree in Palo Alto is the southern magnolia). As the ancient proverb quoted on the back of the guide states, “No shade tree! Blame not the sun but yourself.”

Oak and Other Stories” is installed in the window spaces in front of the Art Center and in its courtyard. At the opening gala, he said he tries to create unexpected encounters “where there is natural imagery in places where you wouldn’t expect it but also being portrayed in ways you don’t quite understand, or are not familiar to you straight off.” He said he hopes his work helps generate questions and results in viewers becoming more engaged when looking at the natural world.

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In new Redwood City artwork, the community is the tree

With emphasis on the contrast of disruptive innovations and resurgent interests in slow-by-hand/craft industries,” according to Manske and Wylde’s artist statement.

The work’s title is not merely symbolic: This tree truly is made up of pieces of the community. The colorful, textured “bark” of the stump was made by contributions from 25 local organizations, business and laborers, including costume fabric and prop scraps from Dragon Productions Theatre Company, beeswax from the Redwood City Public Library’s rooftop hives, water from Redwood Creek, beer grains from local breweries, coffee grounds from the city’s cafes, kitchen scraps from restaurants, plants from nurseries, hair from salons and numerous other industry byproducts (an extensive downloadable guide as well as detailed process photos are available at preneo.org/youarethetree). The collected bits and pieces were painstakingly turned into pulp, then applied to a paper machine and hardware cloth frame. By proudly displaying this patchwork quilt-like mix of source material, “You are the Tree” means to celebrate the community’s cultural diversity and labor force, Manske said.

The installation, on view through March 8, also aims to inspire viewers to think critically about what resources are worth sacrificing for others and to consider the environmental cost of human expansion and development.

“The green triangle on the stump’s surface represents the remaining 5% of coast redwood trees. Ninety-five percent have been harvested,” Manske pointed out to the Weekly.

“You are the Tree” asks the community to consider its role in maintaining a sustainable ecosystem, and how the damage from our byproducts might be creatively mitigated. In this city, as in others built on exploitation of natural resources, the human community is inseparable from the landscape it was named after. You — we — are the tree, and we all bear responsibility for its fate.

—Karla Kane
Sound and fury of ‘Macbeth’ roll West Bay Opera stage

Strong cast, high drama and impressive musical direction make show a must-see by Renee Batti

Are you familiar with Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” and planning to see a performance of West Bay Opera’s production of Giuseppe Verdi’s opera of the same name? An excellent decision — and knowing the Shakespearean plot, you won’t be surprised by the dominant color presiding on the well-ordered stage: red. Raging red. Blood red.

The story of the Thane of Cawdor and his wife, Lady Macbeth, is a bloody tale indeed, a petri dish in which Shakespeare unleashes naked ambition and power lust to mingle with human hearts unguided by a moral compass. The results are not pretty. But even the ugliest aspects of human nature can be transformed into greatness, a feat accomplished on a historical scale by Shakespeare and Verdi, and on a more transitory but nevertheless grand scale by our local opera company, which is staging its gripping production at the Lucie Stern Theatre through Sunday.

While the tale of the Macbeths and their evil deeds is anything but uplifting, the telling of it soars in this production, thanks to a stellar lead cast and the skilled stage and music direction that local opera goes have come to expect.

Verdi’s “Macbeth,” which premiered in 1847 in Florence, Italy, was the first of three operas the composer wrote based on Shakespeare’s plays. Like the original play, it contains riches of witches, the unwelcome ghost of the murdered Banquo at a banquet, and, of course, that damned spot.

Taking the lead roles are singers new familiar to West Bay audiences: baritone Krassen Karagiozov and soprano Christina Major. They are both huge talents who command an equally huge stage presence.

Major made her debut with West Bay as Donna Anna in Mozart’s “Don Giovanni” and went on to perform the challenging role of Norma in Bellini’s opera of the same name. Earlier this season, she performed the role of Lucrezia Contarini in Verdi’s “I due Foscari.” With each performance, her star quality shone, and her portrayal of Lady Macbeth is no exception.

Verdi was said to dismiss the notion of beautiful vocalization in the character of Lady Macbeth. He was after a voice that signaled a brutality, a window into the heart of evil. It’s hard to imagine that any great singer of Major’s caliber would intentionally sing in a “hoarse, stifled, hollow voice,” as Verdi desired. But his call for a voice capable of expressing even the ugliest aspects of human nature is answered magnificently in her performance.

And it is fitting that the loveliest expression of her great vocal gift floats ethereally from the stage in her aria, “I Una macchia e’ qui tuttora” (“The spot is still here”). Lady Macbeth is guilty of hideous acts, but it is only toward the end of this story that she feels piercing guilt; it is remorse, conveyed in wrenched but exquisite music and singing, that reveals Lady Macbeth as human, flawed though she is. Karagiozov’s tremendous vocal gifts are on full display in his portrayal of Macbeth. Near the conclusion of the opera, his deeply moving laments “I Pria, rispetto, amore” and “I La vita! ... che importa?” showcase aspects of his skills — a range of expression — that earlier scenes of arrogance and belligerence kept hidden.

This production is but the latest feather in Karagiozov’s West Bay cap. Other roles he has memorably performed are Enrico in “Lucia di Lammermoor,” the title role in “Rigoletto,” and Escamillo in “Carmen.”

The only problem with baritone Benjamin Brady’s portrayal of Banquo is that it is too brief. Banquo, alas, is murdered early on. Brady’s stage presence is commanding — even as a ghost — but his is a sonorous and expressive voice we want to hear more of.

Tenor Dane Suarez as Macduff also turns in an impressive performance, both in his singing and commanding presence on the stage.

This production also features dancers, in scenes choreographed by Kara Davis, who enhance the menacing tone of the story. They are witches and spirits, a trio of which slither their way into the banquet in which the ghost of Banquo appears to Macbeth, giving it an added dimension of foulness and creepiness.

Also worthy of applause are a robust performance by an orchestra powerfully conducted by Jose Luis Moscovich, West Bay’s general director; the stage direction of Ragnar Conde; set and projection design by Peter Crompton; costumes by Callie Floor; and lighting by Steve Mannshardt.

Renee Batti is the editor of the Weekly’s sister paper, The Almanac. She can be emailed at rbatti@almanacnews.com.
With the owner of The Oriental Carpet preparing to retire this year, everything in stock at the downtown Menlo Park store is on sale – with the steep discounts ranging from 50% to 80% off. Owner Bruce Good amassed an incredible collection of high-quality hand-knotted rugs in his nearly four decades in the business, and he has more than 2,500 pieces left to sell in his Santa Cruz Avenue store. The store’s entire inventory is priced to sell.

“As I get closer to retirement, there will be more reductions – but less choice,” said Good. “The best pieces will go quickly.”

He’s seen some customers come in and buy a rug for every room in the house, he said. All the rugs the store sells are hand-woven and knotted from traditional producers and cooperatives in Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Nepal. The store has pieces in every standard size and offers an array of designs including traditional, contemporary and “transitional” – rugs that can be formal or casual, depending on the furnishings they’re paired with. The store offers rugs made from wool, silk and viscose, a material that looks and feels like silk but is more affordable.

Good says the majority of the rugs he sells are made of wool, which is the strongest and hardiest material. Viscose offers the soft feeling of silk but is easier to clean.

“I personally really like it,” he said. “You can put it into a family room without worrying about it.”

The store’s selection also includes a large number of antique rugs. Collectors appreciate how a rug’s colors soften over the years, giving the piece a fine and distinctive patina. The traditional handcrafted method makes the rugs both beautiful and durable, said Good. The Oriental Carpet has been serving Peninsula residents for 46 years, helping homeowners and designers achieve the look and feel that a beautiful, high-quality carpet can bring to a room. Good said the handcrafted rugs last forever – but his sale won’t. If you’re looking for an attractive rug at an even more attractive price, now is the time to go shopping.

Come check out their selection at their showroom at 707 Santa Cruz Ave. or call (650) 327-6608 for more information.
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January is a reliable dead zone in the hospitality industry. With diners resolving to get back on track after gorging their way through the holiday season, many bars and restaurants remain stubbornly quiet for the first few weeks of the new year.

This axiom seemed to hold as I walked down Redwood City’s Broadway Street on a dreary winter evening last month, passing over a dozen nearly empty eateries. Yet when I pulled open the door to my assigned destination — Kemuri Barú, a 5-year-old Japanese tapas eatery — I discovered a packed restaurant that somehow managed to skip the holiday hangover and keep the party going (on a Tuesday night, no less).

Kemuri’s design is austere and brooding, its not. Kemuri is modeled after Japan’s izakayas, gastropubs that serve drinks and light snacks. The communal style of shared plates encourages socializing, ensuring that the room gets a lively lift from an energetic, mostly younger crowd. (And, yes, that means that the decibel reading heads skyrocket during peak hours.)

The restaurant offers its share of trendy cocktails, like the salty hickory-smoked Manhattan ($14), but it’s Kemuri’s Japanese-influenced libations that rise to the top. Notable entries from co-owner Katsu Tazawa’s list include the Tokyo mule ($12), which injects yuzu, a tart and aromatic Asian citrus fruit, into the standard vodka and ginger beer recipe, and the umesu ($12), a refreshing blend of gin, lime, Japanese plum and sugar cane syrup.

I was particularly fond of the shiso wasabi margarita ($12), which spiked traditional margarita ingredients — Julio Blanco tequila, agave and lime juice — with wasabi paste and powder. Served in a wasabi salt-rimmed glass, the drink had a pleasant, mild kick — not the bracing burn I anticipated — and scored points for originality.

Beer lovers won’t be disappointed by a rotating lineup that stagers standbys like Asahi and Sapporo with less familiar brews like Harajuku Girl. There’s also an impressive array of sake — some quite rare — and Japanese whiskies.

Kemuri co-owner and head chef Takeo Moriyama is influenced by both traditional Japanese and contemporary California cooking. There is much to discover on the extensive small plates menu that blends these complementary styles.

During my inaugural visit, my guests and I were deep in conversation when we absent-mindedly took our initial bites of the first small plate to arrive: corn tempura with seaweed salt ($10). As dueling sweet and salty flavors tangoed across my tongue, one of my companions squared her shoulders, widened her eyes and uttered an emphatic “Wow!” This was a promising start. Additional wow-worthy dishes would follow. After consuming every stray forkful, we moved on to salads and starters. The skewed mini heirloom tomatoes ($8) were delightful. Served at the peak of ripeness, they were placed atop delicate bits of prosciutto and drizzled with a top-notch white truffle oil. The Kemuri garlic pizza ($7) delivered a clever and tasty twist on traditional pie. Mozzarella, scallops, garlic and bonito flakes were layered over a crust made from golden fried wontons.

Atsuage ($8) featured a hearty portion of deep fried tofu and vegetable tempura served with a smoked soy dipping sauce. I became a cauliflower convert after sampling crispy florets topped with a tempting combination of olive oil, umami garlic sauce and pine nuts ($8). The beef tataki and kale salad ($15), by contrast, was a disappointment. While the greens were fresh and crunchy, a spicy wasabi dressing overpowering the bland slices of washu beef carpaccio.

Kemuri spotlights items from its binchotan grill. Binchotan, a type of white charcoal made from oak, burns at extremely high temperatures (about 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit, according to the menu). The coals are clean burning and additive free, allowing items to preserve their natural flavors and enable quick sears keeping the need for the prominently positioned “help wanted” sign. While servers attempted to identify the dishes that would take additional time to prepare, several estimates were well off the mark. The grilled pork chop that was supposed to take 20 minutes arrived at our table 45 minutes later. Some lengthy lags aside, employees were eager and upbeat, boosting the good-time vibe.

Japanese cuisine is often pigeonholed into sushi and ramen. Kemuri explores Japan’s vast culinary heritage through a modern lens, providing a dining experience that’s fresh and deeply satisfying. Freelance writer Edward Gerard Fike can be reached at egfike@gmail.com. Kemuri’s salmon aburi is served with citrus wasabi butter sauce.
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Saturday & Sunday
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Jazz, Lattes, & Gourmet Snacks

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

*As ranked by REAL Trends 2019 Team Volume list. Published in the Wall Street Journal in June 2019.

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933774 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
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For video tour & more photos, please visit: www.435SantaRita.com
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OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Jazz, Lattes, & Gourmet Snacks

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, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

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650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
WANT TO BECOME A PALO ALTO MEDIATOR?

The City of Palo Alto is seeking applicants to serve as volunteer mediators for the Palo Alto Mediation Program. All who live or work in Palo Alto or Stanford are invited to apply.

The Palo Alto Mediation Program assists residents in resolving disputes under terms they control, instead of going to court or doing nothing. Typical cases include tenant/landlord, neighbor/neighbor, consumer, workplace, and other disputes. The program services are free and are available to anyone who lives, works, or owns property in Palo Alto. More info is available at www.paloaltomediation.com.

Mediators typically spend six to ten hours each month working on various aspects of the mediation process – case development, conciliation, mediation, serving on committees and attending evening program meetings on the third Thursday of the month.

Applications must be postmarked by March 16, 2020. Successful applicants must complete a 36-hour community mediation training by the start of their two-year term in July. There is a course offered by Mediation 2.0 in April that meets this requirement. For more information or to request an application, please contact pamediation@housing.org or call 650-856-4082.

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— E.K.

UMAMI BURGER CLOSING ...

Umami Burger has closed after nearly seven years in Palo Alto. The 452 University Ave. burger eatery has closed after seven years in Palo Alto. The owners hope to be open in Palo Alto later this year after a remodel of the building. — E.K.

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Eating Out

SEPHERA EXPANDS DOWNTOWN ...

Sephora is expanding into downtown Palo Alto as part of the French beauty retailer’s aggressive plan to open 100 new locations across the country by the end of 2020. The company is currently revamping the vacant storefront at 507 Emerson St., which Frachte frozen yogurt occupied until last December. This will be Sephora’s second Palo Alto location: The company already operates a store at Stanford Shopping Center. The downtown Palo Alto site will be powered by 100% renewable energy, like all of the other new stores, according to a company announcement on Feb. 4. — L.T.

NEW YORK-STYLE PIZZA COMING ...

... Inspired by the many slice shops of New York City, the owners of State of Mind Public House and Pizzeria in Los Altos are opening their own take in Palo Alto. State of Mind Slice House will open later this year at 3850 El Camino Real, where Fowl Play Roadside Chicken closed in December. The location is meaningful for co-owners and brothers Lars and Andrew Smith, who grew up in the surrounding Barron Park neighborhood. The Smiths and co-owner Amy Betz opened State of Mind in 2018 with slow-proofed pizza, ’90s arcade machines and California beer on tap. They always planned to open more than one location, Lars said, and started looking more seriously in the last six months. They were particularly inspired after a trip to New York City last fall to recreate the city’s “slice shop culture.” There will be round and square pizzas available by the slice, whole, grab-and-go salads and hopefully, beer and wine. The owners will import some State of Mind dishes and introduce some new ones as well. The owners hope to be open in Palo Alto later this year after a remodel of the building. — E.K.

THE PALO ALTO MEDIATION PROGRAM

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Visit Palo Alto Mediation Program on Facebook.

Local food & retail happenings

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NOW SHOWING

1917 (R) • **1/2
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Bad Boys for Life (R) • **
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Bheeshma (Not Rated)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Brahms: The Boy II (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

The Call of the Wild (PG)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Dolittle (PG)
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Downhill (R) • **1/2
Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Fantasy Island (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

The Gentlemen (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Harley Quinn: Birds of Prey (R) • ***
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

JoJo Rabbit (PG-13)
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.

Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13) • ***
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Just Mercy (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Knives Out (Not Rated)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Little Women (2019) (PG) • **1/2
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (PG-13) • **1/2
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Sonic the Hedgehog (PG)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

The Lodge (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

My Boyfriend’s Mews (Las Pildoras De Mi Novio) (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Parasite (R) • ***1/2
Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

The Photograph (PG-13)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

Rashomon (Not Rated)
Stanford Theatre: Fri. - Sun.

The Gentlemen (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

The Lodge (R)
Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

Call for Nominations
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Tall Tree Awards

Nominations are due Friday, February 28, 2020
in the following categories:

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- Outstanding Nonprofit
- Outstanding Citizen Volunteer
- Outstanding Professional or Business Person

The Nomination Form is available at
www.paloaltochamber.com
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ENTRY DEADLINE: March 27, 2020 at 5pm

ALL stories must be 2,500 words or less

Sponsored by:
A new biography from Bay Area journalist Roland De Wolk says Leland Stanford was a ruthless capitalist who cheated taxpayers — and became the godfather of modern tech.

How much do you really know about the founder to one of the nation’s most sought-after universities? Was he truly the godfather of Silicon Valley or just a cutthroat capitalist with an interest in new technology? (Better yet ... could he be both?)

De Wolk brings that polarity into focus in “Ameri- can Disruptor: The Scandalous Life of Leland Stanford.”

Stanford’s legacy is far more complex than one- note historical takes and jugger- naut PR machines would have you believe. He was an uneducated anti- intellectual, yet defined himself as “a technolo- gist” and wanted Stanford Univer- sity to thrive as a trade school. He played a major role in vanguard America into peak ascendancy, yet had few qualms bilking taxpayers out of millions of dollars in the process (before going on to be a U.S. Senator). And those are just a few of the threads that De Wolk pulls to weave an engaging and highly relevant portrait of a pro- foundly influential, turbulent and “scandalous” life.

Earlier this month, De Wolk spoke to the Weekly’s sister publication, The Six Fifty, about his new biography for further insight into some of the many facets of Leland’s legacy, and the nuance for connecting him to modern Silicon Valley.

Tell me about your initial spark of interest that motivated you to write a life biography of Leland Stanford?

I’m a history grad of UC Berke- ley, and my interests have been pretty wide ranging. I have spent my entire adult life being a re- porter, oftentimes down in Silicon Valley. I was at Stanford about five years ago working on a story... and I was thinking about Le- land Stanford, who I realized that I knew very, very little about for some reason. I understood that he was the principal player in the university and had something to do with railroads, but I thought, “I don’t know anything about this guy.” And I started poking around and found that there is very little written about him. So that was sort of the first spark because even though I was engaged in another project at the time, I was thinking, “maybe there’s a book in there.”

But what would be the hook? What would be the way to get people interested? Because the rub on Leland Stanford is that he was boring, stu- pid, inconsequent- ial and that didn’t ring right to me — my kind. He told me that there was something very wrong about that perception.

I think I very much had that particular viewpoint. But now, in getting through your book, I would say that his life was re- ally quite the roller coaster and that it reads like a multiple-act Shakespearean tragedy.

Yes, I couldn’t agree with you more. And as I was researching it was almost revelatory, I thought: “What a life!” And a life of some signifi- cance, not just to Califor- nia and the West, but to the United States and arguably the world.

It made me wonder why he didn’t get this kind of attention before. You have the Vanderbilts, Carnegie, the Rockefellers ... and I think I could argue pretty con- vincingly that they were not as consequential and perhaps even of less significance than Leland Stanford.

Without a Leland Stanford there would have been no Carn- eegie, because that steel fortune was based on the railroads. There would be no Rockefeller because he wouldn’t have been able to move his oil around. Stanford em- ployed thousands and thousands of more people. The effect of the Transcontinental Railroad can’t even possibly be gauged compared to a guy who had an oil company, or a guy who made some steel.

Can you touch on a place where you believe your book breaks new ground on his life and legacy?

Absolutely, and if I had to choose one it would be when the federal government finally got fed up with Stanford’s increasing an- nouncements saying that not only did he think he shouldn’t have to repay the American taxpayers for what would be the billions of dollars of loans he signed for and had agreed to pay back, but that the taxpayers owed him more money. To me, there’s no question that this was one of the greatest scandals in American history. This is a very contemporary is- sues today: We keep making these same stupid mistakes over and over again as Americans because we don’t seem to appreciate histo- ry, the way that other countries do.

You make the case for Stan- ford as a godfather of Informa- tion Age innovation ... yet you’ve also received some criticism for drawing too straight of a line from Stanford to modern Sil-icon Valley, and I would like to get your response on that?

Stanford is very much the un- nitizing godfather of Silicon Val- ley. Obviously, I’m not saying that Stanford is Robert Noyce or Fred- erick Terman. What I’m saying very clearly is that without Leland Stanford our history in America would be significantly different as far as tech is concerned. There are multiple reasons that Silicon Valley is located where it is, but one of the major reasons is Stan- ford University. And if there is no Leland Stanford, there is no Stan- ford University.

Where do you think Ameri- can history should land when it comes to Leland Stanford and his legacy?

I think he ought to be para- mount with those other celebrity names (Carnegie, Rockefeller, Vanderbilt) that the East Coast folks think are so important. These guys pale in comparison to Leland Stanford, so at the very, very least, he deserves that same sort of scrutiny and respect. I could argue that he can be first among them, but he at least needs to be on the same bookshelf. He needs to have the same kind of at- tention. The consequences of his life should not be lost.

I hope this book will start not only the recognition of Leland Stan- ford, but the understanding that the weight of history was tilted to the west and we need to recognize its importance and what it means for our future.

Read the full story at TheSixFifty.com.

Editor’s Note: This interview was edited for length and clarity.

Charles Russo, editor of The Six Fifty, can be reached at cruso@thesixfifty.com.
A local nonprofit offers classes to help home hen keepers tend their flocks

by Heather Zimmerman

A rt more than 40 years ago, Isabelle Cnudde bought a small flock of chickens for her backyard to ensure that she had a humane source of eggs. Little did she know that within a few years, she would be helping to educate others about keeping chickens — and even teaching some of her own hens a card trick.

Through Clorofil, the nonprofit animal “micro-sanctuary” she founded, Cnudde regularly offers chicken care classes for newbies and those considering backyard chickens, as well as people who already have chickens at home.

The sustained popularity of backyard chicken coops in Silicon Valley over roughly the past decade is a phenomenon that’s garnered national attention in the New Yorker and Washington Post (though mostly for flashier aspects, such as ornately decorated coops or the fancy meals served to some birds).

By now, most local cities have some provision on the books for keeping a small number of backyard chickens. But in support of the Tour de Coop — an annual self-guided bike ride/tour of area chicken coops, Palo Alto and Mountain View, for example, both require permits for keeping chickens. walnut creek, and the city of Sunnyvale, across the bay, each requires a permit for keeping chickens.

Despite Cnudde’s training prowess, Clorofil’s chicken-focused classes won’t support backyard birds into little avian card counters, though Cnudde has posted a step-by-step card trick how-to on YouTube. However, her trick — in which a hen learns to identify a specific card, like the Queen of Hearts, from a lineup of cards — highlights what Cnudde suggests might be a lesser known aspect of keeping chickens: The birds are smarter than people might think, and are entertaining pets with personalities all their own.

“They really are companion animals. They’re very fun little creatures and pretty smart. You don’t know until you are living with them,” she said.

The Clorofil micro-sanctuary at Cnudde’s home in Los Altos’ Loyola Corners neighborhood currently has eight chickens in residence. In addition to experience with her own birds, Cnudde acquired her knowledge about chicken well-being as a volunteer helping to rescue hens from industrial farms with the organization Animal Place. In fact, that’s how she expanded her own home flock, adopting rescue chickens.

She now encourages those interested in keeping chickens to adopt rescue birds, rather than buy chicks.

Cnudde’s own original flock was made up of three chickens she purchased at a hatchery, but when one hen was killed by a hawk and she needed to bring in another bird to fill out the flock, she said she began to wonder about chicken adoption. Online research on that topic led her to Animal Place. Her now-substantial experience with chickens has given her a great appreciation for the creatures.

“I realized they are amazing animals. I was vegetarian when I started to have chickens and that was part of why I wanted them. They have taught me a lot,” she said, noting that she’s now a vegan because of her experiences.

Clorofil offers two chicken care classes. “Gearing Up for Pet Chickens” is for beginners, as well as those who are trying to decide if keeping chickens is a good fit for them. The class covers the very basics: how to house, feed and care for chickens.

“I’m trying to be really down-to-earth, realistic, not sugarcoat anything. Having chickens is hard work. It’s a long-term commitment, and those considering backyard chickens, as well as those who are trying to decide if keeping chickens is a good fit for them. The class covers the very basics: how to house, feed and care for chickens.

“Basically it was a strict quarantine for all the birds,” Cnudde said.

Cnudde recently leads the classes at local community or recreation centers and when the classes are close enough to home, she may bring one of her hens to class to demonstrate the finer points of performing a chicken health check. When the class is more far-flung, such as a recent session she offered in Aptos, she brings a stuffed chicken model instead. She also relied on the model for demonstration during a statewide outbreak of a poultry disease in 2019, leaving her hens at home.

“Basically it was a strict quarantine for all the birds,” Cnudde said.

She is also available by appointment to do home consultations. For anyone considering chickens, she said, it’s important to think about the time and work they will likely require.

“Consider the long-term commitment: it’s a 10 years average. Ginger, my very first hen, is about 11 now. You don’t get hens to get cheap eggs. You do it because you enjoy it. It really takes time and resources,” Cnudde said.

Home & Real Estate Editor Heather Zimmerman can be emailed at hjzimmerman@pawzweekly.com

If you’re interested

Clorofil’s next local classes take place in April and May at the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. For more information about classes or to find chicken resources, visit clorofil.org.
**Absolutely Adorable!**

3BR/2BA home sparkles with natural light from abundant windows and added skylights. Additional family room with double glass pocket doors can easily function as a 4th bedroom. You will love the remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, hardwood floors, mini split heater/air conditioners, and additional upgrades. Wrap around yard with patios on both sides offers easy outdoor entertainment, while the over-sized garage includes generous workshop space. Conveniently situated near major employers, schools, shopping and transit corridors. Don't miss this opportunity!

2374ThompsonCt.com

**Lynne Mercer**

License #00796211
Lmercer@compass.com
www.Lmercer.com
650.906.0162

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CLASSIC CHARM, MODERN AMENITIES IN CRESCENT PARK

640 Fulton Street, Palo Alto

Emanating classic Palo Alto charm and steeped in modern amenities, this 4-bedroom, 3-bath, two-level home in coveted Crescent Park is ready to meet a variety of household needs. Offering 2,163 sq. ft. of living space (per county) on a 4,335 sq. ft. lot (per county), this home enjoys timeless features and appointments including a wraparound porch, crown moldings, wainscoting, and intricately curved entryways. Bright, light, and inviting, this delightful home has been updated to cater to a contemporary lifestyle, with sparkling baths, a superb kitchen, and office space for all work-from-home requirements. Adding the finishing touch, the home’s location puts you just moments to the excitement of University Avenue, within easy reach of Bay Area commute routes, and grants access to top-rated Palo Alto schools (buyer to confirm eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 1:30 pm - 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, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.640Fulton.com

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

中文請詢燦雅小姐 Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
COMFORTABLE LIVING AND A CONVENIENT LOCATION

33 Lorelei Lane, Menlo Park

Offering 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and 1,100 sq. ft. (per county) of comfortable living space on a 5,000 sq. ft. lot (per county), this delightful home stands ready to meet a variety of lifestyle needs. Vaulted ceilings and transom windows create a light, bright atmosphere throughout, beginning in the fireplace-warmed living room, and continuing on into the remodeled kitchen. Find plenty of room for outdoor entertaining in the large backyard, which boasts ample patio space. Enjoy the convenience of a location that puts you close to Flood Park, near the headquarters and offices of Facebook, and mere moments to U.S. 101 for Bay Area commuting. Adding the finishing touch, children may attend acclaimed schools including Encinal Elementary, Hillview Middle, and Menlo-Atherton High (buyer to verify eligibility).

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Menlo Park, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.33Lorelei.com

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中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822  |  DRE #01933274
Modern Technology, Supreme Luxury in Old Palo Alto

Gorgeous Italian design blends seamlessly with the very best in modern luxury and technology in this 6-bedroom, 5-bath home, boasting 3,350 sq. ft. of living space (per permits) over three levels on a lot of 5,000 sq. ft. (per county) in sought-after Old Palo Alto. Recently completed in September 2019, no expense was spared in crafting this exquisite residence. Hardwood floors, walnut doors, sculpted wall panels, and marble baths enrapture the senses and surround you in elegance. Spacious formal rooms ideal for entertaining, a flexible floorplan, soundproofing, and seamless indoor/outdoor living spaces ensure this home meets the demands of a modern lifestyle. Plus, CAT 7 wiring puts everything you need in the palm of your hand, as appliances, home security, thermostat, and entertainment are all controlled via smart phone/tablet. With a location close to everything Palo Alto has to offer, and with access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools, this home is the epitome of Silicon Valley living.

For video tour & more photos, please visit:
www.142Kellogg.com
Offered at $4,988,000

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday 1:30 pm - 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, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

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中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Incredible Opportunity in Palo Alto

320 Fernando Ave, Palo Alto 2 Beds, 1 Bath | $1,600,000

This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home is one of the best values in town. So many possibilities to create your dream house on this 5,250 square foot lot (per Assessor). Located in the Ventura neighborhood, ideally located less than a mile from California Avenue with easy access to multiple commute routes. Neighborhood schools include Barron Park Elementary, Fletcher Middle (previously known as Terman Middle) and Gunn High (buyer to verify placement with PAUSD).

Beautifully Updated Home

1064 Clark Avenue, Mountain View 3 Beds, 2 Baths | $2,000,000

This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on the Mountain View/Los Altos border has been updated throughout with new flooring, freshly painted interior and fixtures. Galley-style kitchen with built-in Sub-Zero refrigerator, two greenhouse windows, gas cooktop and additional multi-function counter space. The living/dining area has a fireplace and sliders that lead out to the newly landscaped backyard. The laundry area with utility sink and washer and dryer is located in the attached 2-car garage. Convenient location is just down the street from El Camino with its many shopping and dining options. Neighborhood schools include Bubb Elementary, Graham Middle and Los Altos High. (buyer to verify placement with school district).
MODERN, LUXURIOUS, AND AN UNBEATABLE LOCATION

164 Sand Hill Circle, Menlo Park

Offered at $1,988,000

Luxurious living awaits in this chic and sophisticated townhome, where a bright, airy ambiance carries throughout a floorplan infused with modern style. Offering 2 bedrooms and 2.5 baths across 2,120 sq. ft. of living space, this renovated home features porcelain tile floors that extend through contemporary spaces, including an expansive living room, a dining room warmed by a linear fireplace, and a sparkling chef’s kitchen with high-end appliances. Two bedroom suites provide comfort and convenience, while a flexible-use loft presents an ideal place for an office or fitness room. Enjoy indoor/outdoor living on the spacious deck, perfect for al fresco dining while enjoying views of the nearby Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club. Adding the finishing touch is a location that puts you close to the exciting amenities of Sharon Heights, near Venture Capital firms along Sand Hill Road, and just moments to Interstate 280 for Bay Area commuting.

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics* using MLS Data: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Menlo Park, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.164SandHill.com

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中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
CRAFTSMAN STYLE AND A BRIGHT, INVITING AMBIANCE

3330 Alameda de las Pulgas, Menlo Park

Light, bright, and luxurious, this 4-bedroom, 2-bath home presents gorgeous Craftsman style, sumptuous appointments, and a floorplan ideal for a modern family, all across 2,020 sq. ft. of living space (per county) set on a 6,655 sq. ft. lot (per city). High ceilings, crown moldings, and brilliant wood floors create an enticing ambiance that continues throughout this home. The spacious living room features a wall of custom built-ins, while the open dining room flows seamlessly into the chef’s kitchen with high-end appliances from Bosch and JennAir. Find flexible-use space plus a bonus room with storage upstairs, accessed by a charming spiral staircase. The backyard features plenty of space for entertainment and play, highlighted by a large synthetic lawn. Topping it all off is a location just moments from the excitement of downtown Menlo Park, near the Venture Capital firms of Sand Hill Road, and with access to sought-after Las Lomitas schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Menlo Park, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.3330Alameda.com

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中文諮詢請聯繫Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
650 Santa Rita Avenue, Palo Alto

English Manor Style in Old Palo Alto
The allure and elegance of a traditional English manor spring to life in this fabulous home, boasting timeless appointments, a spacious floorplan, and a coveted address in Old Palo Alto. This 3-bedroom, 3.5 bath home offers 2,330 sq. ft. of living space (per floorplan) on a large corner lot of 7,920 sq. ft. (per county). Dormers, arched entryways, coved ceilings, and fine crown moldings pay homage to the home’s heritage, while spacious formal rooms, a superb chef’s kitchen, office space, and comfortable bedrooms stand ready to accommodate a modern lifestyle. Revel in alfresco enjoyment in the private backyard, perfectly suited for entertaining. Enjoy one of the Bay Area’s most sought-after neighborhoods that puts you close to everything Palo Alto and the surrounding area have to offer. And topping it all off, this home offers access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

For video tour & more photos, please visit:
www.650SantaRita.com
Offered at $4,988,000

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, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.
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MODERN, LUXURIOUS, AND CLOSE TO IT ALL IN SILICON VALLEY

975 Reed Avenue, Sunnyvale

Updated craftsman style blends seamlessly with the best modern amenities and timeless luxury in this beautiful 2,314 sq. ft. home (per county), set on a lot of 6,014 sq. ft. (per county) in desirable Sunnyvale. Extensively renovated and expanded in 2015, this 4-bedroom, 3.5 bath home, offers light, bright interiors, highlighting stylish appointments such as hardwood floors, crown moldings, and lofty double-tray ceilings that create an enticing ambiance throughout. Comfortable gathering spaces abound, including the living room with a centerpiece fireplace, while ambitious chefs will find inspiration in the superb kitchen with stainless-steel appliances. The master suite provides a private, peaceful refuge, while also featuring access to the backyard with ample patio space for outdoor enjoyment. Topping it all off, this home enjoys a location close to top Silicon Valley companies such as Apple and LinkedIn, as well as major Bay Area commute routes and Caltrain.

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

*As ranked by REAL Trends 2019 Team Volume list. Published in the Wall Street Journal in June 2019.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.975Reed.com
EXPANDED EICHLER DAZZLES IN CENTRAL MENLO

565 Olive Street, Menlo Park

Offered at $3,988,000

Bright spaces reveal classic Eichler charm in this expanded 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom home of 2,790 sq. ft. (per county) on a lot of 10,174 sq. ft. (per city) in a prestigious neighborhood in Menlo Park. Natural light floods through floor-length windows and skylights to highlight parquet floors that flow through the family and contemporary living rooms, dining space, and a well-appointed kitchen. The master suite, plus four secondary bedrooms and a home office with outdoor access, provide versatile living arrangements. The detached garage with storage space, extended driveway, and large yard add convenience. You'll appreciate the short drive to downtown Menlo Park, Palo Alto, and the Stanford Shopping Center, while children may walk to highly-rated schools including Oak Knoll Elementary, Hillview Middle, and bike to Menlo-Atherton High with its renowned advanced placement program (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team, the #1 Team in Menlo Park.*

*Search Criteria as compiled by BrokerMetrics® using MLS Data: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019, Menlo Park, All Residential Properties.

For more information, video tour & more photos, please visit: www.565Olive.com

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中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun 電話：650.785.5822 | DRE #01933274
1023 Forest Avenue, Palo Alto

The Grand Dame of Crescent Park
The grace and elegance of the Victorian era blend seamlessly with the very best of modern amenities in this stunning Queen Anne Victorian home, an architectural masterpiece in prestigious Crescent Park. Boasting 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths on 4,516 sq. ft. of living space (per independent third party measurement) on a 9,984 sq. ft. lot (per county), this home affords a rare opportunity to own a piece of Bay Area history while still enjoying a contemporary lifestyle. Alluring appointments such as coved and coffered ceilings, antique windows, and embossed wall coverings whisk you away to a bygone era, while the brilliant kitchen, updated baths, and superb master suite are firmly rooted in the present. Third-level bonus space includes a kitchen and bath, offering flexible use for a variety of household needs. Adding the finishing touch, this home enjoys a location close to the excitement of downtown Palo Alto, and provides access to top-rated Palo Alto schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

For video tour & more photos, please visit:
www.1023Forest.com
Offered at $5,488,000

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday 1:30 pm - 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, 2009 - December 31, 2019, Palo Alto, All Residential Properties.

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### Palo Alto Weekly Open Homes

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#### Atherton
- **163 Greenoaks Dr**
  - $2,950,000
  - Sun 1:30-4:30
  - Compass: 862-3256

- **67 Melanie Ln**
  - $8,500,000
  - Sun 1-4
  - Compass: 888-8388

- **200 Selby Ln**
  - $2,499,000
  - Sat 11-5/Sun 1-4
  - Compass: 888-0434

- **45 Valley Ct**
  - $7,500,000
  - Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/5.5 BA
  - Compass: 888-0434

- **87 Patricia Dr**
  - $10,495,000
  - Sun 2-4
  - 5 BD/6.5 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 319-6461

- **40 Selby Ln**
  - $5,000,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 5 BD/4 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 855-9700

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#### Burlingame
- **407 Occidental Av**
  - $2,998,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 4 BD/3 BA
  - Compass: 867-4860

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#### Foster City
- **790 Vespucci Ln**
  - $1,888,888
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/3 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 400-7409

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#### Los Altos Hills
- **11564 Arroyo Oaks Dr**
  - $4,849,000
  - Sat/Sun 2-4
  - 4 BD/3.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 869-0899

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#### Palo Alto
- **200 Selby Ln**
  - $2,499,000
  - Sat 11-5/Sun 1-4
  - 4 BD/3 BA

- **10776 Mora Dr**
  - $3,788,000
  - Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/2.5 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 722-1065

- **2624 Palo Hills Dr**
  - $4,665,000
  - Sun 1-4
  - 5 BD/3.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 917-2433

- **520 Rhodes Dr**
  - $3,750,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 3 BD/2.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 690-1379

- **920 Sharon Park Dr #68 (C)**
  - $1,680,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 2 BD/2 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

- **150 Alma St #210 (C)**
  - $1,098,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 2 BD/1.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 690-1379

- **11768 Manz Ln**
  - $8,995,000
  - Sun 2-4
  - 8 BD/8.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 917-2433

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#### Menlo Park
- **520 Fulton St**
  - $3,488,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/3 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

- **320 Fernando Av**
  - $1,560,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 3 BD/2 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 400-2918

- **640 Forest Ave Unit C (C)**
  - $1,488,000
  - Sun 1-4
  - 2 BD/2 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 790-5904

- **101 Alma St #405 (C)**
  - $1,750,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/2.5 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

- **1023 Forest Ave**
  - $5,488,000
  - Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/3.5 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

- **33 Lorelei Ln**
  - $1,488,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/2 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

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#### Portola Valley
- **20 Fostitt Ct**
  - $3,288,000
  - Sat/Sun 2-4
  - 4 BD/3 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 415-377-2924

- **25 Los Charros Ln**
  - $6,250,000
  - Sat 1-4/Sun 2-4
  - 4 BD/4.5 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 619-6461

- **80 Golden Oak Dr**
  - $5,685,000
  - Sat/Sun 2-4
  - 5 BD/5.5 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 415-377-2924

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#### Redwood City
- **115 Otis Av**
  - $2,095,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/3 BA
  - Compass: 740-2970

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#### San Carlos
- **434 Portal Dr #301 (C)**
  - $1,498,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 2 BD/2.5 BA
  - Compass: 269-8566

- **742 Crestview Dr**
  - $4,150,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/4.5 BA
  - Compass: 787-0839

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#### San Jose
- **7150 Rainbow Dr #21**
  - $799,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 2 BD/1.5 BA
  - JLee Realty: 857-1000

- **291 Cresta Vista Way**
  - $988,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 3 BD/2.5 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 325-6161

- **1901 Mcbain Av**
  - $3,300,000
  - Sat/Sun 2-4
  - 4 BD/4.5 BA
  - Coldwell Banker: 208-2388

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#### Sunnyvale
- **975 Reed Av**
  - $1,986,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/3 BA
  - Compass: 740-2970

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#### Woodside
- **4253 Jefferson Av**
  - $3,495,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/3.5 BA
  - Compass: 740-2970

- **2128 Stockbridge Av**
  - $2,749,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 3 BD/2 BA
  - Compass: 786-5445

- **16 Stadler Dr**
  - $2,955,000
  - Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30
  - 4 BD/3.5 BA
  - Golden Gate Sotheby’s International Real Estate: 415-806-8230

- **187 Hardwick Rd**
  - $5,988,000
  - Sat/Sun 1-4
  - 6 BD/5.5 BA
  - DeLeon Realty: 900-7000

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### Weekly Express

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**Legend:** CONDO (C), TOWNHOME (T).
Menlo-Atherton’s Anna Smith is competing in her fourth Central Coast Section girls wrestling tournament this weekend. She’s never finished lower than third. Photo by Bob Dahlberg.

PREP GIRLS WRESTLING

Making her final round

by Rick Eymer

Anna Smith remembers being out of control as a freshman, when she finished third at 113 pounds in the Central Coast Section girls wrestling championships. These days, her approach to meets is much more cerebral, far more calculating and a lot more fun.

This is Smith’s last go-around and she wants to finish her decorated career at Menlo-Atherton with a flourish by placing at the state meet.

To qualify for state, Smith has to do well this weekend at the CCS championships in San Jose and that’s where her focus lies.

“I’m much calmer and under control,” Smith said after winning the Peninsula Athletic League title at 134 pounds last weekend. “As a freshman I was scrappy and out of control. I wasn’t sure what I was doing.”

Smith has been to the state meet, even won a few matches. This year is a little different. As a senior, she understands it’s supposed to be fun.

“I only have a couple of weeks left but I’m not stressing about anything anymore,” Smith said. “I’m just going to have fun and enjoy what I have left. I’m not going to overanalyze.”

Smith is in the top seed at 131 pounds, where she placed second last year. Smith won the CCS title at 116 as a sophomore.

The CCS tournament is scheduled to begin Friday at 6 p.m. at Independence High (617 North Jackson Avenue, San Jose). The boys open at 10 a.m.

On Saturday, nine mats will be used for the boys and girls session at 10 a.m. Finals will feature one match for boys, one for girls and run concurrently beginning at 7 p.m.

Menlo-Atherton is the three-time defending CCS champion and will bring a full complement into the weekend’s proceedings. Each year has been more competitive than the last and M-A will have to compete with Half Moon Bay and Silver Creek, among other schools, to finish among the top three.

M-A has six other wrestlers seeded among the top six, including junior Hanna Hendrickson (170) and freshman Kiedy Tabaldo (101), who are seeded second.

Sophomore Alexis Bensoussan (121), Alex Lujan (150), Isabella Episodio (189) are seeded fifth and Alejha Broussard is seeded sixth at 111. Zoe Zehnder is an alternate at 137.

Palo Alto’s Ella Jauregui at 121 and Gunn’s Mikayla Silverman at 150, are also top seeds. Jauregui won the SVCAL title by beating a wrestler she had lost to on three other occasions. Silverman won a round-robin tournament to earn her league title.

“I’m hoping to make it to state and I’m going to work hard this week,” said Jauregui, who won four of six matches at last year’s tournament, just missing going to state. “Hopefully I can place at state. I’m still looking at it one match at a time and I’m always looking to improve.”

Paly’s Alexandra Lee was bumped up a weight class and is seeded sixth at 131 pounds. Paly’s Amelia Clough is seeded third at 189 and Zoe Wong-Van Haren is an alternate at 116.

Smith came on board at M-A just as the program was developing into a powerhouse. Then senior Chelsea Wilson won a state title in 2017 and current Menlo College freshman Folaoshade Akindola won a state title last year. Smith is an integral part of that development.

“Anna leads by example,” M-A coach Phil Hoang said. “You look at her and she’s goofy and funny and belongs to 4-H. Her personality off the mat doesn’t translate to what she does on the mat.”

Hendrickson also started as a freshman, joining the wrestling team from water polo at Smith’s invitation. “I look up to Anna and her work ethic,” Hendrickson said. “Her and all the graduated seniors really pushed me.”

After winning three of her five matches at last year’s CCS meet and just missing the podium, she’s set herself a goal of qualifying for the state meet.

Hendrickson and Bensoussan serve as co-captains. Their main concern is to keep the team focused and give maximum effort. It’s a successful formula.

“We want to keep a positive attitude in practice and give 100% to everything.”

Tabaldo has been invited to compete with the Junior Olympic team and has set high expectations for herself. She’s been tutored by the U.S. Olympic coach.

“Her family, her mom, has put a lot of time and energy in supporting her,” Hoang said. “She’d probably tell you this part of the year is her offseason. She considers it getting ready for the real season (which extends into the summer and beyond).”

Woodside’s Hali Newman at 152 and Alison Richter at 162 also qualified for the CCS tournament.

PREP BOYS WRESTLING

Loving the spotlight

Palys’ Schwarzbach draws motivation as No. 1 seed

by Rick Eymer

alo Alto’s Adar Schwarzbach loves being the front-runner. He wants all eyes on him. It’s invigorating and motivating. Being the top seed at 145 pounds for the Central Coast Section boys wrestling championships works into his mindset.

(continued on page 42)
Prep boys (continued from page 41)

“I like having a target on my back,” Schwarzbach said after beating Gunn’s Calvin Cai (seeded third at 145) for the SCVAL title. “I want everybody to know I’m the No. 1 guy and everybody is gearing for me.”

Palo Alto has a good chance to finish among the top five at CCS, which gets underway Friday at 10 a.m. (the girls first session is 6 p.m.) at Independence High in San Jose, thanks to Schwarzbach, Dana Haydarpoor (seeded third at 152), Cade Creighton (No. 2 seed at 160) and Halo Lynch (No. 5 at 170).

Macguire Ferrell (195), Sacha Williams (120), Dean Hall (182), and Max Felter (132) are also competing for the Vikings.

Haydarpoor, Creighton and Ferrell each won league titles. Williams finished second, Hall was third and Felter fifth.

Creighton pinned his opponent in the third period and Ferrell, just returning from injury, recorded a first-period pin.

“I came here to win but I am training through this tournament,” Creighton said. “I’m still testing out moves I’d like to hit at CCS. It’s still important to stay in the moment.”

Ferrell made his season debut against Wilcox on January 30. He’s been working on his stamina over the past two weeks and was able to avenge a loss during the dual meet season en route to winning his title.

Gunn’s Phillip Doan is seeded sixth at 152. Teammates Armin Abolhassani (170), Neil Hanson (220) and Justin Lin (120) are also competing.

Menlo-Atherton’s Miseteni Eke is seeded fifth at 220 pounds and will be joined by Cyrus Durham (172), Bryan Bekemeyer, Caleb Prouty (147), Davud Khalilov (115), Joshua Jimenez (122), Julian Kim (128), and Francisco Causor (140).

Woodside’s Quinton Verkler (184), Jonathan Ureel (140) and Reilly Duncan (154) also qualified for the CCS tournament.

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